

## Funny money supports Special Olympics athletes

### Comedy festival raises funds for local program

By TAMMY MALGESINI  
East Oregonian

HERMISTON — Organizers with Hermiston/Pendleton Special Olympics Local Program No. 510 might not be laughing on their way to the bank, but they certainly have bright smiles on their faces.

Kristi Smalley, the nonprofit organization's communications manager, said it recently received a major boost in funding,

thanks to Midway Bar & Grill. Owner Stuart Rice handed over a check for \$3,500 — proceeds from the 2022 Melonville Comedy Festival — to help support the local program.

The comedy festival has provided support for the local Special Olympics program for many years. And when Warren Smith, who coordinated the event stepped back several years ago, Rice, whose establishment had been providing bar service during the show, increased his involvement.

"I think this is an important event in raising money for our local Special Olympics athletes," Rice said.

Smalley expressed appreciation to Rice for the generous donation. In addition, she said the money comes just in time to help support local athletes as they return to in-person training in bowling after a two-year hiatus.

Training sessions for Hermiston-based athletes begin Friday, March 11, 10-11:30 a.m. at Desert Lanes Family Fun Center, 1545 N. First St., Hermiston, and Pendleton-area athletes will practice Saturday, March 12, 10-11:30 a.m. at Quaking Aspens Lanes at the Wildhorse Family FunPlex, Mission. Athletes must have a new

medical form and COVID-19 waiver form on file. The first 40 athletes who register and submit forms can participate.

Special Olympics provides year-round training and athletic competitions for people of all ages with intellectual disabilities. There is no charge for athletes to participate.

For more information about Special Olympics Oregon, including forms, search [www.soor.org](http://www.soor.org). For questions about participating or volunteering locally, call/text Angela Schneider, local program coordinator, at 541-314-0166 or search [www.facebook.com/hermistonpendleton](http://www.facebook.com/hermistonpendleton).

## People of the world share a common spiritual DNA



MARC MULLINS

### MARC'S REMARKS

Each year, on March 17, St. Patrick's Day commemorates Ireland's patron saint. The man who would come to be known as Saint Patrick was born in Roman Britain around 386 A.D. and died on March 17, 461 A.D. The Irish have observed the anniversary of his death as a religious holiday for more than 1,000 years.

In the centuries following Patrick's death, the mythology surrounding his life became ever more ingrained in the Irish culture. Perhaps the most well-known legend of St. Patrick is that he explained the Holy Trinity (Father, Son and Holy Spirit) using the three leaves of a native Irish clover, the shamrock.

As a child, I loved the thrill of looking for the occasional four-leaf clover in a cluster of three-leaf clovers. I spent many summertime afternoons down on my knees searching for that treasured find which, at the time, I thought would bring me good luck.

As an adult I've taken great pride in my Irish ancestral heritage. On a trip to Ireland, eleven years ago, I met many from the Mullins' clan while on a visit to the town of Kilkenny. One of those I came across and spent an entire afternoon with — Tom Mullins with his wife

Chippy — looked and acted in many ways like my dad's younger brother, my uncle Kayo.

Imagine my surprise when I later discovered that my wife, Wendy (whose maiden name is Olson), has more Irish DNA than me! Some time back we both underwent DNA tests. Her results came back showing that she is some 17% Irish, while mine came back showing considerably less than that. It appears that my ancestral heritage goes back to France, as I've discovered ancestors traced back through my father's lineage whose surname at the time was Des moulins. It seems that some from this Huguenot clan fled to Ireland and settled in Kilkenny to escape religious persecution. There they eventually changed their name to Mullins.

Chagrined as I was to find out that I am not more "Irish" in my DNA, I'm grateful that I share something in common with all of humanity. Hebrew and Christian scripture teaches that God created humankind in God's own image (Genesis 1:27). Therefore, people throughout the world share a common spiritual DNA. We all are people of God and members of the family of God. In this and in all times it's good to affirm this and live in such a way as to treat others with the greatest of love, respect and kindness.

*Marc Mullins is pastor of the First Christian Church of Pendleton, where he also utilizes his gifts as a musician, singer and songwriter.*

## COMMUNITY BRIEFING

### Local gun show packs in vendors

PENDLETON — Billed as Eastern Oregon's largest gun show, this weekend's event will feature more than 100 tables of guns and accessories.

The Pendleton Gun Show opens Saturday, March 12, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Pendleton Convention Center, 1601 Westgate. It continues Sunday, March 13, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Admission is \$5 for adults and free for kids 10 and under.

The Pendleton City Club previously operated a sportsman show, which morphed into the gun show a handful of years ago. Proceeds from the event goes to support local youth activities. For more information, visit [www.facebook.com/pendletongunshow](http://www.facebook.com/pendletongunshow) or call 541-276-6569.

### Share a wee bit o' fun with assisted living residents

HEPPNER — With pandemic restrictions still in place at Heppner's Willow Creek Terrace Assisted Living, the staff there is

getting creative in helping residents enjoy this weekend's Wee Bit o' Ireland festivities.

JoAnna Lamb, Heppner Chamber of Commerce executive director, encouraged people who are getting their Irish on to share their experiences virtually. She said with a little leprechaun luck, the facility residents can hopefully view activities, including the Great Green Parade and musical entertainment.

If you plan on having a wee bit o' fun this weekend in Heppner, consider sending a link of your livestreams or Facebook Live to [info@willowcreekterrace.com](mailto:info@willowcreekterrace.com). For questions, call the facility at 541-676-0004 or the chamber at 541-676-5536.

### Library district seeks public input

PENDLETON — The Umatilla County Special Library District is conducting a community needs assessment.

The purpose of the project is to gather qualitative information, data and statistics about the makeup and needs of the residents of the library district to inform future

goals and efforts. In addition to providing information for the UCSDL Strategic Plan, it will be shared with its members and partner libraries to provide current data for their planning.

The assessment will explore demographic information related to Umatilla County as a whole, in addition to the characteristics and needs of current library users who reside within the special library district's service area. The study will identify populations who may not be utilizing public library services.

The information will be collected through online and paper surveys that individuals can complete anonymously. In addition, Erin McCusker, library district director, will be conducting one-on-one interviews with community members.

Input from the public is critical to determine the future of public library services whether you use a public library or not. Knowing the needs of local residents helps the district in focusing its services to continually improve.

To complete the assessment, visit [bit.ly/3sXJpSk](http://bit.ly/3sXJpSk). The survey

will be open until April 1. For questions, contact McCusker at [director@ucslld.org](mailto:director@ucslld.org).

### Catholic Daughters to award scholarships

HERMISTON — A pair of \$750 undergraduate scholarships will be awarded by Catholic Daughters of America, Court No. 1692. To be eligible, students must be graduating or recently graduated high school seniors from Our Lady of Angels Parish in Hermiston.

Applications are available at the church office, 565 W. Hermiston Ave. The office is open Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. (closed from noon to 1 p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays) or email a request to Delia Fields, vice-regent, at [dorranfields@gmail.com](mailto:dorranfields@gmail.com).

Completed applications must be submitted to the church by April 7. Scholarship recipients will be notified by mid-May and then celebrated at the baccalaureate Mass later in the spring. For questions, call Fields at 541-571-4219.

— EO Media Group

VISIT US ON THE WEB AT:

[www.EastOregonian.com](http://www.EastOregonian.com)

## NAVIGATING A CHANGING TIME AND MEETING CUSTOMER NEEDS

Pacific Power remains dedicated to delivering safe, reliable, affordable power now and for years to come.

We recognize the impact that price increases have on our customers. As we make needed investments in our system and navigate economic trends, we will continue to take measures to keep our rates low and to capture savings for our customers.

On March 1, 2022, Pacific Power filed a general rate case requesting an overall rate change of \$82.2 million, or 6.6 percent, to become effective January 1, 2023. The company's requested change will be reviewed by the Public Utility Commission of Oregon and if approved, the expected impact on the average monthly bill for an average residential customer using 900 kWh per month would be \$13.01 per month. The primary reason for this filing is to support our wildfire mitigation efforts, including vegetation management, as part of our larger commitment to providing resilient, safe, reliable electricity for our customers.

We understand the impact that price increases have on our customers and will work to mitigate that impact as much as possible. Customers can visit [pacificpower.net/wattsmart](http://pacificpower.net/wattsmart) for energy- and money-saving tips and information. Energy Trust of Oregon also offers energy efficiency programs and information to Oregon residents and businesses. Contact Energy Trust of Oregon at [energytrust.org](http://energytrust.org) or 1-866-368-7878 for more information.

Copies of Pacific Power's rate request application are available at our main office, located at 825 NE Multnomah Street, Portland, Oregon 97232 and on our website at [pacificpower.net/rates](http://pacificpower.net/rates). Customers may contact Pacific Power for additional information about the filing by mail to Pacific Power's main office at the address above, or by calling 1-888-221-7070. TDD/TTY users can call the National Relay Service or 1-888-221-7070. Para un representante que habla español, llame al 1-888-225-2611.

Requests to receive notice of the time and place of any hearing on this application may be directed to the Public Utility Commission of Oregon at 201 High Street SE, Suite 100, Salem, Oregon 97301-3398 or by calling 1-800-522-2404.

The purpose of this announcement is to provide our customers with general information regarding the company's price increase application and the expected effect on customers. Calculations and statements contained in this notice are not binding on the Public Utility Commission of Oregon.

PACIFIC POWER

PUBLIC NOTICE DOCUMENT  
OREGON PRICE CHANGE APPLICATION

FREE ADMISSION

**MARCH 26-27**

Saturday 9:00 am–5:00 pm  
Sunday 9:00 am–3:00 pm

**DESCHUTES COUNTY FAIR & EXPO CENTER**  
REDMOND • OREGON

PRESENTED BY

Powered by Capital Press & EO Media Events

**Exhibitors**  
Many industry suppliers, retailers and service providers featuring new products, technology, and solutions.

**Seminars**

- Drought protection
- Water issues
- Animal care and nutrition
- What's new in the Ag Industry ...and much more

**Demonstrations**

**5 Buck Breakfast**  
SAT. MORNING 8–10 While supplies last  
Sponsored by McDonalds  
All proceeds to benefit Perfect Balance

**Good Food**

**KIDS' ZONE**  
PROJECTS AND FUN ACTIVITIES  
ALL THINGS AGRICULTURE

**Clint Johnson Working Dog Demonstrations**  
SAT. 11–NOON • SUN. 10–11

**Early Day Gas Engine and Tractor Display with Demonstrations**

For booth or sponsorship information contact Kasey Every at [kasey@every-idea.com](mailto:kasey@every-idea.com) or 541-383-2669.

MAJOR SPONSORS

**coagshow.com**

In conjunction with the High Desert Stampede PRCA Rodeo | [highdesertstampede.com](http://highdesertstampede.com)