

ASTRA Club sparkles with service project

By TAMMY MALGESINI
East Oregonian

PENDLETON — Families and children impacted by foster care in Oregon recently received a helping hand from the ASTRA Club of Pendleton. The Pendleton High School youth service club is sponsored and supported by Altrusa International of Pendleton.

According to a press release from PHS, club officers Lucy Oyama, president; Kyle Liscom, fundraising committee chair; Kendall Moore, vice president and service committee co-chair; and Ethan Harrison, service committee co-chair; wanted to explore opportunities to obtain a grant. Additional funding, they determined, would allow the club to engage in a larger service project.

During their first board meeting in the summer of 2021, the group discussed several ideas. After further investigation, they reconvened and Liscom shared information he learned about Every Child Oregon.

Originally called Embrace Oregon, the initiative began in



Ronda Thornburg/Contributed Photo

Kyle Liscom, Pendleton High School senior, helps pack an Every Child Oregon Flash Box on Feb. 7, 2022, as part of an ASTRA Club project.

2012 to provide support to the Oregon Department of Human Services Child Welfare, which oversees the foster care system in the state. One of the projects features “flash boxes,” which are 12-gallon totes that are filled with a variety of items, such as puzzles, board games, arts and crafts supplies, batteries, gift cards for restaurants, stores, movie theaters, bowling alleys and other activity-based

venues. In addition, necessities, items for foster parents and nonperishable foods or snacks can all help fill a box. The boxes are distributed to foster children and their foster families through Every Child Oregon.

“We talked about it and decided that the Every Child Oregon Flash Boxes would be able to reach the most people, involve many of our own

members in making a difference and would serve our own community,” Oyama said.

Charging forward, Liscom completed the grant application. After it was submitted, the Altrusa International Foundation awarded the club \$1,700 to help fund the majority of the project.

“He had never written a grant before but he did a great job with that,” said Debbie McBee, ASTRA advisor and a member of Altrusa.

Using the grant money and an additional \$300 in club money, the students purchased items to create and fill flash boxes. On Feb. 7, ASTRA Club members met and assembled 10 boxes for the project.

Since Every Child Oregon is a statewide program, Oyama said ASTRA members could be providing help to families that live locally — making the service project seem more significant because it could impact someone in their neighborhood or school.

“Sometimes doing a project like this opens students’ eyes to the needs outside of their own little bubble,” she said. “And I believe that many students will begin to under-

stand that serving others in need is something they can do easily.”

ASTRA is an acronym for Ability, Service, Training, Responsibility and Achievement. The local ASTRA Club, founded in 2005, is the largest service group at Pendleton High School. McBee

beams with pride when sharing about the positive activities and service to the community that students are involved with.

“We have a truly amazing group of young adults in our community who are doing amazing things to help people locally and internationally,” she said.

COMMUNITY BRIEFING

Boardman chamber sets annual membership luncheon

BOARDMAN — For a chance to catch up, be sure to attend the quarterly in-person luncheon of the Boardman Chamber of Commerce.

Also serving as the annual general membership meeting, the no-host gathering is Wednesday, March 16, 12-1:30 p.m. at the Port of Morrow Riverfront Center, 2 Marine Drive N.E., Boardman. Provided by Midway Bar & Grill Catering & Events, the meal costs \$15.

To ensure there is enough food, those planning to attend must register by Monday, March 14 via www.boardmanchamber.org. For questions, contact 541-481-3014 or info@boardmanchamber.org.

Climate group heats up with global warming program

PENDLETON — Catherine Macdonald will provide an overview of the Oregon Global Warming Commission during the upcoming Climate Conversation Program hosted by the

Eastern Oregon Climate Change Coalition.

Macdonald, the commission chair, also is the U.S. natural climate solutions director for The Nature Conservancy. She will discuss several recent commission projects and share how people can get involved.

Held virtually, the free program is Tuesday, March 15 at 7 p.m. Those interested are invited to request the Zoom login information by emailing eastoregonclimatechange@gmail.com.

The global warming group was established by the Oregon Legislature in 2007. The commission is charged with providing biennial reports regarding progress toward meeting the state’s greenhouse gas emission reduction goals.

Referred to as EOC3, the local coalition was founded in 2017 with the goal of facilitating education, collaboration and adaptation to the changing climate. The group provides an opportunity to share an open and respectful climate change conversation. While its website is currently under construction, additional information is available by searching “EOC3” on Facebook.

— EO Media Group

Marguerite Evelyn Moore

March 26, 1929 - February 25, 2022

Marguerite Evelyn Moore, 92, died peacefully on Feb. 25, 2022, in her home at the Edgewood Point Assisted Living Community in Beaverton, Oregon.

Marguerite was born in Heppner, Oregon, on March 26, 1929, to Walter E. Moore and Georgia M. Loughney Moore. Her parents moved the family to Pendleton, Oregon, in 1934. She attended St. Joseph Academy in Pendleton from the first through 12th grades. She was the valedictorian of her high school senior class.

Music was bred into Marguerite and her siblings by their mother. Marguerite and her two sisters learned the piano, all learned to sing and harmonize with one another. Marguerite’s mother was the Chief Hostess volunteer at the USO during WW II. Marguerite and her two sisters performed at the USO for the troops that came through Pendleton, enjoyed dancing with them, playing piano, singing on and off stage and hosting them at her parents’ home.

Marguerite attended the University of Oregon and majored in business administration. She married James Chisholm in 1952. They resided in Hermiston until 1957 when her husband was transferred to Salem.

Marguerite worked for the state of Oregon at the State Capital in Salem for many years during the Governor Mark Hatfield and Governor Tom McCall eras. She was the personal and confidential secretary to the Director of the State Department of Finance who was appointed by and reported to the governor. She held several executive secretary positions while working for the state. She moved to Portland in the early-’70s and was employed by Sedgwick James in the Commercial Lines Dept. until she retired in 1996.

Marguerite cherished spending time with family and especially with her nieces and nephews. She had a great sense of humor and loved a good joke. Her interests were reading, including the newspaper, and staying apprised of local, national, and world news and politics. In her earlier years, she liked going out after work on outings with friends and co-workers, exploring Portland, dining out, dancing,

walking, shopping, art galleries, museums, concerts in the parks and enjoying many cultural experiences that Portland has to offer.

Her favorite genres of music were jazz, Big Band and pop, and she loved going to Portland Symphony Pops concerts. She traveled throughout the United States and abroad. She played the game of bridge for over 50 years and participated in multiple bridge clubs. She was an avid Portland Trail Blazer fan and followed a variety of sports teams.

Marguerite was a member at St. Michael the Archangel Catholic Church in Portland for 35-plus years. She volunteered at their community service programs, including their food pantry. She moved to Beaverton in 2017 and became a member at St. Cecilia Church. She was a supporter of numerous charitable organizations.

Marguerite was preceded in death by her parents; her brother, Larry (Rosemary) Moore, formerly of Salem, Oregon; sister, Mary (Francis D. “Fritz”) Squires, formerly of Longview, Washington; and her sister, Patricia (Joe) Standerfer, formerly of Pendleton, Oregon.

Marguerite is survived by five nieces, four nephews, two great-nieces, four great-nephews, two great-great-nieces and one great-great-nephew.

Crown Memorial Center in Tualatin will be providing the arrangements. Private interment will be at Olney Cemetery in Pendleton. Graveside service will be scheduled at a future date in Pendleton.

Memorial remembrances may be made to Society of St. Vincent de Paul, P.O. Box 42157, Portland, OR 97242-0157.

The family would like to thank the Brighton Hospice nurses and staff for their wonderful care, kindness and compassion shown to Marguerite during the last few weeks of her life. Thank you for your professional support and dedication to your patients.

Thank you to the staff at the Edgewood Point Assisted Living Community for their dedication, hard work, daily care and support they provided to Marguerite for the past five years. All of your efforts in taking care of Marguerite are truly appreciated.



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