

Athena library receives 10K grant

East Oregonian

ATHENA — The Athena Public Library announced Thursday, March 31, it received a \$10,000 grant as part of the American Rescue Plan: Humanities Grants for Libraries.

An emergency relief program, 200 libraries across the nation were chosen to receive funds to assist libraries that have been adversely affected by the pandemic. With funding from the National Endowment for the Humanities through the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, the Athena library will use funds to anchor itself in the community as a strong humanities institution, Kristin Williams, outgoing library director, said in a press release.

“We are so excited to be selected for this grant,” she said. “Our ability to offer programs was really impacted by the pandemic, particularly our ability to partner with the local school district.”

The library, Williams said, was approached by



East Oregonian, File

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some teachers from Weston McEwen High School who were looking for ways to bring theater experiences to their students. She said it sounded like a great idea, especially since students hadn't been able to participate in field trips or other educational enhancements.

The grant funds, Williams said, provide a chance to develop opportunities that haven't been available for

some time. In addition, she said with the Athena Public Library in a time of transition between library directors, the grant will give Stephanie Partida, the new library director, a “fun welcome to the community.”

Williams said the Athena library will use the grant funds for a couple of upcoming programs. The first is a Seattle Shakespeare Company production of

“Romeo y Julietta.” The play will be performed on April 26 during the school day for students. And then an evening performance will be open to the public at 7 p.m. at Weston McEwen High School.

“Libraries have faced significant hardships throughout the pandemic — from budget cuts to staff furloughs to building closures — especially in our communities of the greatest need,” ALA President Patty Wong said. “This crucial support from NEH will enable our beloved institutions, and the dedicated people who run them, to rebuild and emerge from the pandemic stronger than ever.”

More than 370 libraries applied for the grant, according to the ALA. For a full list of libraries selected, search www.ala.org.

For more information about the Athena Public Library, visit www.athenalibrary.weebly.com. For questions, contact 541-566-2470 or athenalibrary@cityofathena.com.



Ben Lonergan/East Oregonian, File

Members of the Hermiston High School jazz band perform Dec. 11, 2021, at the Hermiston Community Center. The HHS Band Boosters are hosting a community talent show as a fundraiser to support the school's band programs. Open auditions are April 12-13, 6-9 p.m. in the band room.

Got talent?

Community talent show auditions are April 12-13

By TAMMY MALGESINI
East Oregonian

HERMISTON — The Hermiston High School Band Boosters are hosting a community talent show. Any and all forms of talent are welcome to audition.

“We are accepting any sort of musical act, even comedy or dancing — anything that you could consider a talent is on the table,” said Mike Kellison, a band booster and beginning jazz band director at the high school. “We’re looking for magic or something fun like that. Any type of talent that can be featured, we would love to have someone do it.”

Auditions are April 12-13, 6-9 p.m. in the band room at Hermiston High School, 600 S. First St. People do not have to register in advance to audition. The performance is April 23, 6 p.m. in the school’s fine arts auditorium.

The show will be an open competition, Kellison said. All age groups and types of talent will compete against each other.

The event is a fundraiser for the HHS Band Boosters. Audience members can vote for the winners by placing donations in their favorite act’s corresponding box. The overall winners are the acts that garner the most donations on behalf of the band boosters. Organizers, Kellison said, still are in the process of determining prizes for the top three acts.

“Ultimately it’s all about raising money for the students to participate in music,” he said. “The winner will get bragging rights and some sort of prize.”

The HHS Band Boosters, Kellison said, provide support in various ways to students. The group assists with such things as registration fees for music festivals/competitions, travel expenses and the purchase of musical instruments for student use.

“We basically want to create opportunities for our students,” he said. “We want to help students become active or continue their journey in music.”

For more information, email Kellison at michael.kellison@hermistonhsd.org or search/send a message via www.facebook.com/hermistonbandboosters.

BMCC announces winter term honor roll

East Oregonian

PENDLETON — Blue Mountain Community College winter term 2021-2022 honor roll recognition went to the following full-time students:

President’s List: 3.75 — 4.0 GPA: Ellie Acord, Blair Aichele, Coy Aldrich, Jacob Allen, Allison Allstott, Nickolaus Armstrong, Samantha Atilano, Mersadees Avila, Emma Barclay, Megan Baskins, Kikona Bautista, Nathan Bean, Nathan Beath, Kaylyn Bell, Kelli Benage, Jayden Benson, Megan Billings, Mackenzie Bingham, Tulley Bloom, Kayla Boone, Kylie Borchert, Kaden Boyle, Eryn Britton, Gracie Broadfoot, Lorene Broncheau, Preston Brower, Russell Brown, Owen Burbank, Michael Caballero, Jessica Cain, Marissa Caldwell, Jessica Calvillo, Ryan Casaray, Magnolia Castaneda, Gwyneth Cheyne, Danielle Church, Mikki Clark, Emily Collinsworth, Alan Contreras, Macy Cordon, Liam Coyle, James Davis, McKinzie Dawson, Marivi De Robles, Wyatt Dial, William Dominguez, Elizabeth Durfee, Aeryn Elder, Haven Esik, Isabella Esparza-Clark, Nathaniel Farris, Hailey Fehrenbacher, Tena Ferguson, Michael Fielden, Lexie Flanagan, Keith Fleming, Jennifer Flores, Kyra Ford, Morgan Gaines, Jasmine Garcia Ramirez, Bianca Garcia, Izabella Garcia, Rylee Geddes, Zora Gehrke, Zoey Gilbert, Josie Giordano, Keegan Glenn, Gabriel Goad, Dustin Goldie,

Ayerim Gonzalez, Edith Gonzalez, Terra Griggs, Mellyssa Guenther, Kirsten Guldemond, Valorie Gustin, Jason Hall, Brady Harrington, Amanda Harris, Ann Hays, Simon Headings, Coady Hepton, Saranelly Hernandez, Jacob Holling, Katrina Holmes, Shannon Holmes, Eric Hoyos, Connor Hull, Alan Humphrey, Jimena Ibarra, Johanna Ibarra, Donyale Jackson, Jaijin Jimenez, Shakayla Johnson, Kathryn Jones, Lindsey Jones, Dilraj Kaur, McKenna Kendrick, Nolan Kennedy, Ernst Kern, Patrisha Klier, Ty Knutz, Brianna Kohr, Austin Koski, Kira Krumbah Kuhar, Kash Lang, Kaitlyn Ledgerwood, Natalie Legore, Hana Litzbeck, Rebeca Lomprey, Richard Lopez De Loera, Kelsey Lovercheck, Reilly Lovercheck, Emma Lowe, Arianna Lozano, Mariabel Marin, Carmen Markel, Dana Martin, Breana Martinez, Savanna Matott, Louis Maxey JR, Aleia May, Kiya May, Kathleen Mayberry, Madelline McClain, Brenda McCormick, Coxa McDermott, Araceli Medina-Perez, Faith Meine, Carlos Meza, Summer Miller, Jarret Mink, William Montee, Yolanda Montes-Cernas, Rylee Montgomery, Marcee Moore, Yarety Morfin, Katie Mosqueda, Chelsea Moutray, Trevor Murphy, Rebecca Murrill, Christine Nandy, Ivonne Navarro, Drew Nelson, Emma Odman, Mckaylee Orton, Olivia Page, Byron Patt, Kylea Paulus, Quinton Peterson, Eida Piercy, Kailee Ponce, Naomi Potter, Louis Powell, Trinity

Price, Makayla Rabourne, Matthew Ramirez, Maggie Ramoss, Noah Reaves, Andrew Reyburn, Jacob Reyburn, Emma Rice, Maria Richardson, Laramie Ricker, Romayne Ricker, Kyra Rico, Brenale Ritter, Rheanna Rivera, Katie Roach, Alit Rosales, Faith Rosen, Laura Sanchez, Olivia Sappe, Hannah Schvaneveldt, Alexia Siders, Kyle Sigston, Marina Simrell, Jaggot Singh, Maya Smith, Katelynn Sowa, Elyse Spears, Valerie Speir, Taliah St. Hilaire, Troy Stever, Colton Stewart, Brenda Stringham, Taylor Suko, Sebastian Szweda Mittelstadt, Bogdan Tanasa, Emily Taylor, Maria Tejada, Mckeeley Tonkin, Alberto Umana, Rebecca Upchurch, Alexis Waine, Sara Waldrop, Chelsie Walker, Chey Watkins, Hunter Weaver, Olivia West, Jessica Wheeler, Tommy Whiles, Jessalee Wilks Laurel Williams, Dysen Wilson, Morgan Wilson, Sarah Wollam, Jaelynn Wright, Noelle Wright, Jeremy Yopez, Keaston Young, Noelle Zacharias, Andrew Zellars, Kaylee Zimmerman.

Vice President’s List: 3.5 — 3.74: Jacob Airoidi, Lesly Anzora, Yazeli Ayala, Itzarely Bautista Gomez, Catherine Bose, Julia Boyett, Abigail Bozarth, Jaelyn Brainard-Adams, Tristan Brannan, Tiara Brumley, Kennedy Buckner, Alesha Cain, Esperansa Carrillo, Michael Carvalho, Jaden Chavez, Tyler Church, James Cornelius, Cole Cramer, Katelyn Crismon, Mariah Dahlen, Jade Davidson, Tyler Davis, Uriel Delaluz Garcia, Chad Doherty, Madi-

son Duker, Lena Eckstein, Victoria Edmonds, Maurissa Eshleman, Marco Estrada Gutierrez, Venises Estrada, Cristian Flores Bernal, Jennifer Flores-Lopez, Macaylah Force, Jordan Forsythe, Patricia Gaede, Victor Gamez, Ulysess Garcia, Uriel Garcia, Tyler Garrett, Elizabeth Gaskin, Cody Gerrard, Maxine Goldie, Hunter Gray, Robin Hagen, Teri Hamilton, Bailey Hillmick, Jennifer Hook, Jayda Hoston, Wyatt Hull, Andrew Huwe, Isaac Ibarra, Simon Johnson, Alexander Kehr, Crystal Klein, Katie Kline, Vincent Lewis, Christa Loomis, Daniel Madrigal Barrera, Morgyn Maxwell, Matthew McBride, Annabella McDaniel, Saleen McEntire, Wyatt McNary, Arlene Mejia, Dylan Miles, Meghan Montgomery, Jennifer Morgan, Avaley Mortimore, Lilly Naiser, Austin Nault, Emilio Nunez, Jake O’Brien, Marissa Olivas, Jack Olson, Fernando Ortega-Madrigal, Samantha Patterson, Samuel Patterson, Marissa Perez-Morris, Anthony Prutch, Hollie Putnam, Jason Rea, Bonne Rexroad, Nora Rivera, Eric Saldana, Dean Schiller, Carol Shilhanek, Binita Shrestha, Jonathan Smith, Nancy Soltero-Hernandez, Mariah Story, Morgan Styvar, Sarah Tachella, Ashley Taylor, Rebecca Tesch, Kristen Thompson-Graber, Ellie Van Doozer, Zachary Walsh, Blaise Warn, Taylor Wasserman, Crystal Wernlund, Rosa Wilkins, Anna Williams, Emily Williams, Kenzie Williams, Joshua Willingham, Spencer Zeller.

Wheat foundation announces scholarship winners

East Oregonian

PENDLETON — The Oregon Wheat Foundation recently announced its scholarship recipients, with each receiving \$1,500 to support studies at their selected university, community college or vocational/trade school.

Among the 12 Oregon high school seniors are four students from Umatilla and Morrow counties. They are Sydney Dodge and Kinley McAnally, both of Pendleton High School, Grace Ogden of Ione High School and Haylie Peterson of Ione Community Charter School.

Sydney Dodge plans to pursue a career as an agricultural lawyer. She intends to attend Colorado State University to major in agricultural science, communication and leadership, with a minor in law after the completion of her associate’s degree at Blue Mountain Community College.

She is the daughter of Chad and Jody Dodge of Dodge

Land & Cattle. She is active in 4-H, the Washington and National Junior Angus Associations, Oregon High School Equestrian Team, Reined Cow Horse Events and is a member of the National Honor Society. She is also extremely active in FFA, obtaining her State FFA degree.

Kinley McAnally will study agriculture business at Montana State University. She played volleyball and has been very active in FFA, serving as the FFA Chapter President.

The daughter of Maya Bates and Andy McAnally, she has spent countless hours on her family’s century farm — in the hayfields moving irrigation pipes, swathing, raking, moving hay and learning how to drive the combine for wheat harvest. She cites a true work ethic and passion for agriculture developed working with her grandfather at Straughan Farms. Her goal is to become an advocate for the agriculture community.

Grace Ogden will pursue a double major in agriculture

communications and animal science at Oklahoma State University. The daughter of Jarrod and Alison Ogden, she works farm labor and drives columbine at Ogden Farms and Weedman Ranches.

Ogden is active in 4-H as a County Ambassador, is a member of the National Honor Society, plays varsity volleyball and tennis and is Associated Student Body president. She has been a student intern with OSU Morrow County Extension and an intern for Rep. Greg Smith. She also is extremely active in FFA, serving as chapter president, district vice president and obtaining her State FFA degree.

Haylie Peterson will attend Blue Mountain Community College, with an emphasis on agriculture production. She is a Morrow County 4-H ambassador, a member of the National Honor Society, involved in Ione FFA, a member of the student body and is active in multiple sports, including varsity basketball,

volleyball and tennis.

The daughter of Treve and Liz Peterson, she works on the family operation, Rocky Bluff Ranch. In addition, Peterson most recently interned with Beef Northwest Feeders. She plans to return to the family ranch and farm after getting her degree.

According to a press release from the foundation, this year’s application process was very competitive with three times the number of applicants as in 2021. In recognition of the number of applicants, the foundation extended the number of state-wide scholarships to support more students.

“It is through the generous contributions of our wheat industry that the foundation has a healthy base of resources to support the next generation through these scholarships,” said Dale Case, Oregon Wheat Foundation Board chair.

For more information, contact 541-276-7330, info@owgl.org or visit www.owgl.org.

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Kenneth A. 'Ken' Elliott

March 10, 1931 - December 18, 2021



Kenneth A. “Ken” Elliott, former longtime Hermiston, Oregon, resident of Forest Grove, Oregon, was born on March 10, 1931, in Colton, California, to Dell and Edyth Elliott. He died on Dec. 18, 2021, in Forest Grove, Oregon, at the age of 90 years. When Kenneth was 10 years old, the family moved to Metzger, Oregon. While attending grade school, he met a girl named Margaret in the fourth grade whom he would later marry in June 1954. Kenneth enlisted in the Army in 1949 and was a paratrooper. He was discharged in July 1952 with the rank of sergeant.

He attended college in Klamath Falls at the Oregon Institute of Technology. Kenneth worked as a police officer in Scappoose, Oregon, just before joining the Oregon State police in 1960 and he retired as a senior trooper in 1985. Over the years he and his family were stationed in Pendleton, Burns and Arlington.

Kenneth was active in the Masonic Lodge (serving as a grandmaster from 1990 to 1991), Shriner’s, Red Cross of Constantine and other benevolent organizations. Kenneth’s deep singing voice was an integral part of the Hermiston First United Methodist Church choir. He enjoyed singing in the choir and at special events.

He and Margaret toured the country in their RV, including trips to Alaska and Canada. The highlight of their travels was a cruise through the Panama Canal.

Kenneth is survived by his wife of 67 years, Margaret Elliott; sons, Steve Elliott and his wife Kris Kruse-Elliott, and Fred Elliott and his wife Cynthia Statham.

Kenneth was preceded in death by his brother, Robert Elliott.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks for donations to the Hermiston First United Methodist Church, Care Partners Hospice or a charity of your choice.

A celebration of life will take place at the Hermiston First United Methodist Church on Saturday, April 9, 2022, at 11 a.m. with lunch to follow at the church. A private family burial was held at the Hermiston Cemetery, Hermiston, Oregon.

Please share memories of Ken with his family at burnsmortuaryhermiston.com

Burns Mortuary of Hermiston, Oregon, is in care of arrangements.

