

Battle of the Bars brings high spirits



Kathy Aney/East Oregonian

Raphael Hoffman samples a signature cocktail prepared by Rebecca McCormach and Jeralyn Dodge of the Helix Pub on Friday, April 1, 2022, at the Let'er Buck Room during Battle of the Bars. The drink, called the Drover Sour, contains Pendleton Whisky, lemon, simple syrup and red wine.

New candle shop in business in Pendleton

By JOHN TILLMAN
East Oregonian

PENDLETON — Few places of business smell as good as R.Rebellion candle shop, at 333 S. Main St. in downtown Pendleton.

Dawn Alderman and Shana Bailey opened their candle, gift and paper store for Christmas last year. The duo are also business partners in The Rustic Rose a visual design agency in Pendleton. R.Rebellion resulted from their shared love for home and interior design, letterpress stationery, brand and packaging design.

Alderman began with selling scents, doing business as Lavender Farms. She switched to making candles and gift items with Bailey in November 2020. “We started out with three scents,” Alderman said. “Now we have about 40, in 30 stores in the U.S. and Canada.”

“The candles are entirely hand-made,” Bailey said. “Even the wooden wicks. They crackle when they burn. The wax is made of all natural soy and coconut oils. It takes three days to make a candle.”

And the use does not end when the candle does. “The vessels are whiskey glasses, so you can drink out of them when the wax is gone,” she added.

Their website even features cocktail suggestions, and the business has a Pendleton-inspired collection, including one with the three stripes of a Pendleton Woolen Mills blanket.

They also sell the double-sided packaging paper with which they wrap their candles.

“We design, select and create every detail,” Bailey said. “Reuse and repurpose is at the heart of it all. Our branded wrapping paper is printed on newsprint, so it can be recycled, used as chicken or pet bedding, and even composted.”

Bailey on Thursday, March 31, was pouring candles inspired by Dolly Parton’s favorite scent. “Dolly favors men’s cologne,” Bailey said.

They rent to Buffalo Mercantile, an outlet for indigenous jewelry, art and decor, plus homeware and face and body products, at 339 S. Main, on the other side of the entrance to the Cozy Rooms from R.Rebellion. The business’ owner, Jessica Bishop, is from Pendleton.

“She belongs to the Merriman family,” Bailey said. “She was here during Round-Up.”

R.Rebellion was closed in January. Now it’s open Thursday through Saturday, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., but later on Fridays during the Pendleton Farmers Market.

Boardman resident opens Hermiston thrift shop

By ERICK PETERSON
East Oregonian

HERMISTON — Boardman resident Jasmine Landeros was able to be productive when she had COVID-19 last year.

“It was not fun. I wouldn’t want to do that again,” she said.

She said she suffered worse than many of the other people around her with COVID-19. It did, however, give her time to think and do some research. And she decided that, after her recovery, she would do something she and her mother had long dreamed — she would open a thrift shop.

“I’ve always wanted to be in business,” Landeros said.

The Rabbit Hole Second Hand Treasures, at 315 S.W. 11th St., Hermiston, is the culmination of their dreams.



Erick Peterson/East Oregonian

Jasmine Landeros poses Thursday, March 31, 2022, in her new Hermiston thrift shop.

She and her mother have been binge watching “Storage Wars” for years, she said, which documents storage auctions. Landeros said she felt inspired and thought she and her mother could

participate in auctions, too. Then, she said, they could build an inventory and open a store.

Without many storage locker auctions in the area, Landeros said she partic-

ipates in online auctions. Meanwhile, her mother attends in-person auctions to build their store’s inventory. Also, they have received many donations from people.

“This has given us a lot of stuff,” she said.

Racks of clothing fills one wall of their store. In addition, there are household goods, electronics, toys and more.

An employee of Community Counseling Solutions, she works only part time in her shop. Her mother works when Landeros cannot.

The Rabbit Hole is open 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Saturday. She added the store may expand its hours this summer.

Boardman corn grower prevails in Corn Growers Association contest

East Oregonian

BOARDMAN — The National Corn Growers Association named the winners of its annual Corn Yield Contest on March 23, with Eti Ena of Boardman placing first in his class and other area farmers recognized as well.

“This is quite an honor,” Linda Lambur, contest manager, said.

There were 7,213 entries representing 47 states for the contest, which judged yields from 2021. It is the 58th year of the contest.

Lambur said Ena received special distinction for having a yield of nearly 300 bushels per acre with his Pioneer

P1185AM hybrid. Though this yield is less than the average of other national winners, over 376 bushels per acre, Ena’s yield was much higher than the projected 2021 U.S. average of 177.

“(Ena) is over 100 bushels over the national average, which is very good for Oregon,” Lambur said, also noting Oregon is “not a huge corn-growing state.”

The NCGA issued a press release that announced Ena’s award and explained the purpose of the contest, quoting Lowell Neitzel, chair of NCGA’s Member and Consumer Engagement Action Team.

“The National Corn Yield

Contest provides a special two-fold opportunity — contribute to the knowledge that will help corn farmers thrive in the future while enjoying good-natured competition and comradery with their peers today,” Neitzel stated in the press release. “At its core, NCGA shapes dynamic, change-driven farmers, from the grassroots activists speaking up on policy issues to the dedicated farmer leaders who lead our organization.”

The press release also invites people to join the NCGA, which represents nearly 40,000 members, and take part in the 2022 contest. More information is at nnga.com.

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