

We can impact the world to be a better place



MARC MULLINS
MARC'S REMARKS

My wife, Wendy, and I recently returned from a trip to Italy, Austria and Germany. It was a wonderful journey, beginning with a visit to Rome and culminating with a visit to Oberammergau, Germany, where we attended the world-famous once-every-10-year passion play.

Two days into our journey, during a visit to the Vatican, we received the horrific news of a mass shooting that occurred in Buffalo, New York. Ten black people were killed and three others were injured as a result of this tragedy. Then, following our return home, there was another report of a shooting at an elementary school in Uvalde, Texas. Nineteen children and two adults died in that terrible incident that marked the 27th school shooting in the United States this year. Still, according to the latest news reports, incidences of shootings continue to escalate.

My reflections on events such as these described prompt me to ponder the question, "What will the world be like for the next generation?" What amount of love, respect and kindness will be left in this world that is so afflicted by mental illness, hostility, gun violence and war?

The situation may seem futile, but I am convinced that we can make a differ-

ence. No matter how great or small a difference it might be, we can impact the world to be a better place as we do our utmost to demonstrate love and respect for others, even those different from ourselves.

In the early first century the Apostle Paul wrote a letter to a church he founded in Philippi. That letter, which is found in the Bible, contains instruction that is good for us all to apply to our lives. Here is a snippet as found in Philippians 2:3-5 (from the New International Version of the Bible):

"Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others. In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus."

Some may think it far-fetched to imagine that we can make much of a difference in the face of hostilities, shootings and even war. However, for every action there is a reaction, and positive, loving actions can result in positive, loving results.

Christine Todd Whitman, former governor of New Jersey, once said, "Anyone who thinks that they are too small to make a difference has never tried to fall asleep with a mosquito in the room." Absolutely. No goodness that we impart to others will go unnoticed or wasted. Love and kindness always will make a difference.

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

Pendleton rolls out the Pride weekend

By TAMMY MALGESINI
East Oregonian

PENDLETON — A pair of events are planned in Pendleton this weekend to help commemorate Pride Month. In addition, Pendleton Mayor John Turner made a proclamation declaring June 11, 2022, as "Pendleton Celebration of Pride Day."

In the proclamation, which the city council adopted April 15, Turner urges "all residents to respect and honor our diverse community and celebrate and continue to build a culture of inclusiveness and acceptance."

Kicking off the fun is Let 'Er Drag, hosted by Tatiana Rexia, the evening features DJ Ricochet and talent from Pendleton and the Tri-Cities. Billed as a night of "queens, kings, drinks and fun," the drag show is Friday, June 10, at Electric Sundown, 14 S.E. Third St., Pendleton.

The doors open at 7 p.m., with the show starting at



East Oregonian, File

8 p.m. Those ages 18-20 are welcome from 7-9 p.m., and the 21 and older crowd can party until midnight. Full bar service is available. Tickets are \$15 at the door or \$10 if purchased in advance via pflag.pendle-

tontickets.com. The event is hosted by PFLAG Pendleton, which provides support to family and friends of the LGBTQ community. For more information, search www.facebook.com/PFLAG.Pendleton.

at the park. The parade starts at 11:30 a.m. and will head towards Museum Park, 108 S.W. Frazer Ave. Vendor and information booths will run from 11:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

United Pendleton Pride describes its group as a queer and Black, Indigenous and People of Color — BIPOC — community in Eastern Oregon. They are dedicated to inclusiveness with a mission of supporting people's ability to live without fear of prejudice, discrimination, violence or hatred. For more information, search www.facebook.com/up.pride.50.

HHS graduate soars with ag award

Bob Coleman recognized for use of drones

By TAMMY MALGESINI
East Oregonian

HERMISTON — For a second year in a row, Bob Coleman received the \$2,500 John F. Walchli Memorial Ag Entrepreneurs Award. The 2016 Hermiston High School graduate was first recognized in 2020-21 for use of a drone in his agricultural monitoring service.

According to a May 31 press release from board member Mike Mehren, Coleman utilizes a drone to photograph and monitor crops. The voluminous information collected, he said,

is fed into a program that Coleman designed, which condenses it into practical and usable data.

"Using this technology, not only saves many man hours spent in the field but also allows correction of problems created by heat, cold, wind, disease, parasites and imprecise water use," Mehren said. "Changes can be made quickly and efficiently to improve the health and yield of each crop."

In his spare time, Coleman manages many of the crops grown on his family's farms. The young entrepreneur, Mehren said, plans to add thermal imaging to the drone, which will further increase and improve data collected.

Coleman, who earned an agricultural business degree

from Oregon State University, initially began using a drone as a tool on his parent's farms. Coleman is able to view crops in about 1/10th the time that it would take a person using a vehicle, Mehren said.

In addition, utilizing advanced imaging technology reveals crop issues that aren't visible to the human eye. Mehren said the idea for developing the monitoring service grew when neighboring farms and others learned of its capabilities.

The John F. Walchli Memorial Ag Entrepreneurs Award, Mehren said, was created to provide support to young men and women living in west Umatilla County to achieve personal business goals in the field of agriculture. The recipient is selected based on initiative, innova-

tion and accomplishments rather than academic performance. The winner, Mehren said, can use the cash award at their discretion; it does not have to be used for tuition or educational expenses.

The award's namesake, John Walchli, died in September 2018. He began his farming career raising watermelons while attending Stanfield High School.

Walchli and his wife, Marge, moved to the Hermiston area, where they expanded their farming operation to include potatoes, asparagus, wheat, alfalfa, cattle and bison. Also, Walchli was known for his generosity and giving back to the community.

For more information, contact Mehren at 541-561-4762 or mehrens@eotnet.net.

Field Test CANDIDATES WANTED

You may be qualified to participate in a special Field Test of **NEW** hearing instrument technology being held at a local test site!

An industry leader in digital hearing devices is sponsoring a product field test in your area next week, and they are selecting **15 qualified candidates** to participate!

They are interested in determining the benefits of GENIUS™ 5.0 Technology in eliminating the difficulty hearing aid users experience in complex environments, such as those with background noise or multiple talkers. Candidates in other test areas have reported **very positive feedback** so far.

We are looking for additional candidates in **Hermiston and the surrounding areas.**

Product Test Sites:

Hermiston

955 SE 4th St, Ste B
Hermiston, OR 97838
(541) 716-5092

Pendleton

29 SW Dorion Ave
Pendleton, OR 97801
(541) 224-8661

In an effort to accurately demonstrate the incredible performance of these devices, specially trained representatives will be conducting testing and demonstrations during this special event. In addition to an audiometric hearing evaluation, candidates will receive a fiber-optic otoscope exam, a painless procedure that could reveal common hearing problems such as excessive wax or damage to the eardrum, as well as other common causes of hearing deficiencies.

Qualified Field Test Candidates:

- Live in Hermiston or the surrounding area
- Are at least 55 years of age or older
- Have experienced some level of hearing difficulty, or currently wear hearing aids
- Don't currently work for a market research company
- Must Call Before **June 15th, 2022** and Mention Code: **22JunFT**



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Will be tested and selected same-day.

We have also been authorized to offer **significant discounts** if you decide to take the hearing instruments home. If you choose not to keep them, there's no risk or obligation of any kind.†

TO PARTICIPATE:

- 1) You must be one of the first 15 people to call our office
- 2) You will be required to have your hearing tested in our office, **FREE OF CHARGE**, to determine candidacy.
- 3) Report your results with the hearing instruments to the Hearing Care Specialist over a three week test period.

Qualified candidates will be selected on a first-come, first-served basis so please call us **TODAY** to secure your spot in the Product Field Test. Participants who qualify and complete the product test will receive a **FREE \$100 Restaurant.com Gift Card*** as a token of our thanks.

AVOID WAITING - CALL AND MENTION CODE: 22JunFT

*One per household. Must be 55 or older and bring loved one for familiar voice test. Must complete a hearing test. Not valid with prior test/purchase in last 6 months. While supplies last. Free gift card may be used toward the purchase of food at participating restaurants where a minimum purchase may also be required. See restaurant.com for details. Not redeemable for cash. Promotional offer available during special event dates only. †Pursuant to terms of your purchase agreement, the aids may be returned for a full refund within 30 days of the completion of fitting, in satisfactory condition. See store for details.