

Riverside teachers use iPads to make science relevant to teens

BOARDMAN— Teachers at Riverside Jr./Sr. High School know that holding a teenager's attention in class can sometimes be a challenge, especially in today's fast-paced, technology-centric world. That's why science teachers have made an effort this year to show students how science can be relevant in their own lives, using activities and labs such as popcorn popping and building balloon and water bottle rockets to keep students engaged and excited.

In addition, staff have begun using iPads in science classes this year, with a full classroom set now available thanks to a Gear Up grant. iPad activities have included using the "Angry Birds" app to learn about projectile motion in physics. Students applied what they'd learned about the launch angle of a projectile to Angry Birds and suddenly found themselves beating their previous high scores on the popular game.

Other iPad uses in the science classrooms have been to allow students to conduct "virtual labs." In



Students at Riverside Jr./Sr. High School in Boardman use a guitar tuner app on their classroom iPads, tuning guitars and listening for the beats when the strings have different frequencies in order to learn about wave interferences. — Contributed photo

one instance, a physical science class was able to build elaborate roller coasters that helped them to learn about potential energy, kinetic energy and energy conversions. Most recently, students learned about wave interferences by tuning guitars and listening for the beats when the strings have different frequencies using a guitar tuner app on the iPads.

"The iPads are a great use for our education," said student Bryant Cardenes, a junior in one of the physics classes.

Next up, Riverside

physical science students will learn about wind energy and will build their own virtual wind turbines.

"It is important that our students learn things in science that will be relevant throughout their lives, and here in Morrow County wind power is a large part of our local economy," said Kaitlin Gustafson, a science teacher at Riverside. "As we enter the first half of the new year, we are hoping to continue doing relevant and interesting activities as well as further implementation of the iPads for learning about science."

Fishburn wears many hats as college foundation director

Heppner native Erin Fishburn is one busy woman these days.

Fishburn currently serves as the foundation director at Perry Technical Instituted in Yakima, WA. It's a position that requires Fishburn to juggle multiple roles, including "event planner, scholarship coordinator, alumni liaison, and student mentor, just to mention a few..." That's according to the Perry News, the college's campus and alumni newsletter, which featured Fishburn in its Winter 2013 edition.

Erin was raised in Heppner, the daughter of Earl and Peggy Fishburn.

After graduating from Heppner High School, she went on to earn a Bachelor of Science degree in community health from Portland State University. She worked with the American Cancer Society in Portland after graduation, until she and husband Nate Bergeson moved to Yakima when Nate enrolled in Perry Tech's instrumentation program. Fishburn says the plan was to stay there for two years, "but that was

12 years ago and we're still here!"

Fishburn officially joined the Perry staff six years ago, in 2007. Lately, though, she has a new responsibility... coordinating a \$7.5 million Capital Campaign for the foundation.

While the task of raising more than \$7 million would be daunting for most people, coworkers at Perry say she's admirably fitted for the job, with the tenacity to do what needs to be done.

"The thing that really stands out for me about Erin is that she never complains. She just does what it takes to get the job done," says Nicole Trammell Woolpert, Perry's marketing director.

"Erin is motivated, organized, and she has an extraordinary ability to envision tasks from start to finish," says Perry President Christine Coté.

While fundraising on that scale takes determination and coordination, Fishburn also has a softer side that's seen in her commitment to her family, especially her relationship with her five nieces and nephews. She also volunteers with the Junior League of Yakima and has organized Perry Tech employees to work on Habitat for Humanity projects.

It doesn't seem like all that would leave much free time, but what free time she has, Fishburn uses to keep in shape by running. She has completed six half-marathons. Plus—as if she isn't involved enough—for the past two summers, Fishburn has coordinated Perry's team in the Ragnar Northwest Passage Relay. The Ragnar is a 96-mile road run that takes runners from Blaine to the southern end of Whidbey Island in Washington State. The Perry teams have raised a total of \$18,000 for student scholarships.

"Erin not only has a passion for Perry and a vision for the school's future, she has a passion for life," says Coté. "That passion not only shows in the way she does her job, it comes out in the simple way she lives her life and in the way she treats her family and friends."

TOWN & COUNTRY

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done' attitude," they said.

Business of the Year

Pettyjohn's, owned by John and Shelley Wight, was selected as Business of the Year because, "The owners are not only astute business operators; they are good neighbors and true friends," said award presenter Bill Kuhn. Pettyjohn's recently celebrated 50 years in business; the Wights have owned it since 2003.

Kuhn listed several ways in which the business not only sells building supplies, but also helps to build up the community, including going above and beyond to serve its customers and making generous donations when needed.

"It is impossible to imagine our community without this business because they (are) so absolutely indispensable," said Kuhn. "Not only do we in Heppner need what they sell, but we need the businesses' generosity and vitality to be a thriving and complete community."

Woman of the Year

Woman of the Year Shelli Britt has made her home in Heppner for nearly 30 years. In that time, said presenter Joe Perry, she has not only raised a family and worked at the Bank of Eastern Oregon, she also has served the community through her involvement in Hope Lutheran Church and through numerous fundraisers, food drives and more, all with a positive attitude.

"Sometimes, in the storm, she is the calm. In the time of quiet, she is the presence of thankfulness. She never ceases to find the good. Her giggles are contagious, her smiles are bright and her love for God is respected," read Perry during the award presentation.

"Thank you for being an angel to me, my family and this community."

Man of the Year

"This year's theme is Heppner Magic - It's the People," said award presenter Pat Sweeney

when introducing Man of the Year Bob Kilkenny. "They must have been thinking of Bob when they came up with that."

Kilkenny is a true Heppner native, living his entire life within a 20-mile radius of the town. Aside from his work as a wheat farmer, Kilkenny, 85, has been continually involved in supporting local sports, the county fair and St. Patrick's church. He and his wife Eva have also provided backpacks and coats for local students and donated funds for student lunches. Despite his good deeds, Kilkenny has never sought recognition, preferring to work anonymously behind the scenes. In fact, Kilkenny was lured to the awards banquet under the pretense of presenting the award to Pat Sweeney.

"Hopefully he will forgive us this time for going against his grain (pun intended)," said Sweeney. "This is an opportunity to acknowledge how important and significant his role has been in improving the quality of small town living and the enjoyment that others receive because of him."

Citizen-Educator of the Year

The list of traits that earned Jeannie Collins the Citizen-Educator of the year is extensive, and includes both long hours on the job—often off the clock—and countless volunteer hours with everything from school functions, to fair and rodeo, to the Wee Bit O' Ireland celebration.

"When I moved to Heppner it became instantly apparent to me that she had a genuine interest and concern for helping out wherever she was needed within our schools and community," said presenter Matt Combe of Collins.

"She has always given of herself in every way possible to help assist students," wrote Greg Grant when nominating Collins. "Without people



John Wight of Pettyjohn's Farm and Builder's Supply



Shelli Britt



Bob Kilkenny

like her, our schools and community would be a much less desirable place to live, work and raise our children."

Lifetime Achievement Award

Though, as award presenter Jim Swanson said, their lifetime of service is a long way from over, Joe and Jeri McElligott were selected as co-recipients of the Town & Country Lifetime Achievement Award.

"These two prove that two opposites can become a positive. One is a Beaver and one is a Duck," quipped Swanson when introducing the McElligotts.



Joe and Jeri McElligott

Rivalry aside, the couple has a lot in common. The McElligotts are both lone graduates. Apart from raising five children, cattle and wheat, they are both deeply involved in their community. Joe McElligott volunteers in the Lone Education Foundation, Lone Fire Department and St. William's church, among others.

"However, his passionate contribution to our community has been his strong leadership for lone schools," said Swanson, citing "countless" hours as school board chairman during the formation of the Lone School District.

Swanson described Jeri McElligott as the "go-to person when something needs to be organized, coordinated, or just plain 'get it done.'" She served many years on the Lone Booster Club and in St. William's Church, and worked with the Lone Youth Group arranging trips to Portland to serve in homeless shelters and soup kitchens, even volunteering to live as a homeless person herself so she could teach others what it was like.

"She wanted to make sure our kids were compassionate to, and not afraid of, these people," said Swanson. "What an eye-opening experience for them!"

"She wanted to make sure our kids were compassionate to, and not afraid of, these people," said Swanson. "What an eye-opening experience for them!"



Jeannie Collins

Sheriff's Report

November 15 (cont.):

-MCSO received report from an Irrigon woman that she could hear yelling, could see subjects climbing a fence and messing around boats near Hwy. 730, Irrigon. A deputy responded and determined that there was a large gathering at a residence near the location, but no sort of disturbance or violations.

-MCSO Deputy advised he was out with a vehicle blocking the lane on W. Fourth Rd. and Washington Lane in Irrigon. The subjects were feeding a cow in the pasture.

-MCSO, Irrigon Ambulance received report of a domestic disturbance in progress in Irrigon. A woman reported that a man attacked her and she could not see out of her eye. She said he was inside the house and she was outside. The subject was transported.

-Ione Emergency Services received report that a man had fallen and could not get up. She said he just needed help. The subject was transported.

November 16:

-Morrow County Sheriff's Office arrested Frank Matthew Thompson, 20, for

DUII Felony and Failure to Register as a Sex Offender. He was lodged at Umatilla County Jail with \$13,500 bail. He was also cited for Open Container.

-MCSO received report from a man in Irrigon of a suspicious vehicle parked down the road from his residence. He reported that two men got out of a blue Ford older truck, went behind his neighbor's boat and communicated with whistles. He said that they were loading something into the back of the truck.

-MCSO received report of a cow on the side of the road on I-84 Boardman, walking toward the road. OSP took the call and a MCSO Deputy assisted.

-MCSO received report from a Heppner woman that she received a "grandmother scam" phone call with the caller saying his friend died and he was trying to get money for plane tickets to Mexico to get the father of the friend down there.

-MCSO received report from a Heppner woman that a subject was burning without a permit. She reported that she was weary because she was in

a wheelchair, could not get out by herself and needed help. The fire department checked and advised it was a legal burn.

-MCSO received report from an Irrigon man that he was in Michigan and wanted to know what he could do about getting his property back, along with the ammunition that he said his sister gave to the sheriff's office.

-MCSO received a hang-up 911 call. On call back, the woman said she just put a SIM card in her phone and it dialed 911.

-MCSO received report from an Irrigon man that he had been letting a female stay with him for the past one-two weeks and he would like her to leave, but she refused. MCSO arrested Annabelle Miguel Wilson, 40, on a Hermiston Municipal Court warrant for Failure to Appear/ Disorderly Conduct and Criminal Trespass II. She was lodged at Umatilla County Jail with \$10,000 bail.

-MCSO cited Jacob Oliver Thomes for Violation of the Speed Limit, 87mph in a 65 mph zone.

Valentines Day February 14th

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