



ABOUT TOWN

Birthday party provides Medicare information

For seniors turning 65 soon, the Senior Health Insurance Benefits Assistance program would like to invite you to a fun and informative event.

The free event will provide basic information about Medicare, recipients rights and responsibilities, Social Security and Social Security Disability. The Medicare Birthday Party is Saturday, Oct. 1, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. in Conference Center No. 2 at Good Shepherd Medical Center, 610 N.W. 11th St., Hermiston.

For more information, contact 541-667-3507 or cherrera@gshealth.org.

Governor's race features first debate in Bend

The first debate between Gov. Kate Brown and challenger Dr. Bud Pierce is this weekend in Bend.

Presented by the Oregon Territory Chapter of the Society of Professional Journalists — including sponsorship by the *East Oregonian* — the questions will focus solely on issues facing Oregon's rural residents. Candidates will get 90 seconds for opening statements, then will field questions from a panel of journalists, including Tim Trainor, deputy managing editor of the *East Oregonian*; Emily Cureton, producer and host with Jefferson Public Radio; Erik Lukens, editor of *The Bend Bulletin*; and Pedro Quintana, reporter with KTVZ. Sara Roth, producer of longform and investigative projects for KGW.com, will moderate.

The event is Saturday from 6-7 p.m. at Riverhouse on the Deschutes, 2850 Rippling River Court, Bend. Due to space limitations, tickets are required. For general seating (free) or premium seats (\$20), visit www.eventbrite.com/e/spj-governors-debate-tickets-27499106568.

Grange hosts Saturday breakfast

Bring a hearty appetite for a breakfast at the Columbia Grange.

The meal will be served Saturday from 7:30-10:30 a.m. at the Columbia Grange, 32339 Diagonal Blvd., Hermiston. The price varies depending on what a person chooses to eat.

A business meeting will follow the breakfast. Everyone is invited to enjoy the meal and learn more about the grange and its activities.

For more information, call Scot Jacobson at 541-278-0615 or Doris Reid at 541-567-8663.

Volunteer Rosa Cardinas, of Boardman, loads boxes of food into a pickup truck Tuesday morning at Agape House.



AGAPE HOUSE;

TO THE RESCUE

Agape House marks 30 years of helping the community

By JADE McDOWELL
Staff Writer

After 17 years of working at the front desk of the Agape House, Adelina Torres is far from judging anyone who comes in to get an emergency food box to make it through the end of the month.

"Some people, when they come in for the first time, they cry because they feel embarrassed," she said. "I tell them it's OK, but sometimes they pick up the box and they go outside crying."

The nonprofit, which is celebrating its 30th anniversary with an open house on Sunday, serves several hundred Umatilla County residents per month with food, clothing, showers, firewood, job trainings, gas money and other help.

That knowledge doesn't always make the experience easier for those who find themselves in need of help.

On Tuesday morning Torres and her coworker Ovelia Munoz greeted clients as they trickled in. Some sat quietly in the chairs, waiting for a food box with an air of someone who has been there many times before. Others approached the desk hesitantly, sounding unsure of the procedure, or paced up and

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STAFF PHOTOS BY KATHY ANEY

Agape House Executive Director Dave Hughes looks up from his computer work Tuesday morning to answer a question from a volunteer.



Agape House expands its recycling program

With the opening of Hermiston's BottleDrop Redemption Center, Agape House now provides three ways people can donate recyclable cans and bottles to help fund its weekend elementary school food program.

•Drop cans and bottles directly at Agape House. For those with large numbers of cans/bottles or businesses that collect them, call Agape House for pickup service. Proceeds from cans/bottles donated this way also will go to Agape House's automobile gas program and other small needs.

•For those who have a personal BottleDrop account, people can donate from their recycling account at www.bottledropcenters.com. Click on "Fundraising," enter "Agape House" and enter the amount to donate. Donors will receive a confirmation email, which is tax-deductible.

•Stop by Agape House and pick up a special Fundraiser Blue Bag,

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UPCOMING EVENTS

- Sept. 25 from 2-5 p.m. the Agape House will be hosting a 30th anniversary open house with tours, information and refreshments at its building on 500 Harper Road in Hermiston.
- Oct. 8 from 8:30-11 a.m. is the Agape House's next parking lot sale of household goods.
- Oct. 15 will be the Columbia River "Best Dam" Power Run across the top of McNary Dam to raise proceeds for Agape House and Martha's House. Preregistration before 8 p.m. on Oct. 14 is \$25 and registration on race day is \$30. Check-in begins at 8 a.m. on Willamette Ave in McNary. The 10K starts at 9:30 a.m., the 5K at 9:45 a.m. and the Fun Walk at 10 a.m. Register online at columbianriverbestdampowerrun.itsyourrace.com/register.
- Oct. 22 is the last A Very Poplar Run through the Boardman Tree Farm before the trees disappear. Register for the kids' run, 5K, 10K and 15K online at east.biz/averypoplarrun. The first event starts at 9:45 a.m. at 77200 Poleline Road in Boardman.
- Oct. 29 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Agape House there will be a winter apparel sharing day for people in need of coats and other winter weather items.
- Nov. 12 is the Gobble Gobble Death and Trouble fundraiser, a murder mystery night over turkey dinner. Cost is \$25 and seating is limited. Call the Agape House at 541-567-8774.

ODD FREEWAY CHASE INVOLVING TEENS LEADS TO CHARGES

By PHIL WRIGHT
Staff Writer

A 28-year-old man and 17-year-old boy from Hermiston face multiple charges following a harrowing stop-and-go chase on Interstate 84.

Oregon State Police reported a 16-year-old girl from Stanfield and a 16-year-old boy from Umatilla were eastbound on Interstate 84 from exit 182 around 7 p.m. Monday in a red Jeep Grand Cherokee when a silver Mazda 6 passed them.

Christopher John Mallory and the 17-year-

old were in the Mazda, which slowed in front of the Jeep, eventually making it stop in the fast lane. Mallory and the teen got out, ran to the Jeep and tried to open the doors. The boy driving the Jeep took off, and the suspects gave chase in the Mazda.

The scene played out twice more, state police reported, before the victims crossed the median and tried to escape on I-84 heading west.

Mallory and the 17-year-old again pursued, passed the victims and stopped in front of

them. The juvenile suspect this time jumped on the hood of the Jeep. The victims again fled, and the teen fell, suffering minor injuries.

State police Sgt. Lisa Sater said the boy had pain in his left arm, left leg and both wrists. Mallory lives near Good Shepherd Medical Center, Hermiston, she said, and he and the teen walked to the hospital for medical treatment. That's where state police caught them.

Sater said a dispute between an ex-boyfriend and girlfriend, one in

each vehicle, led to the dangerous game of highway tag, which lasted about 30 minutes. The two 16-year-olds were not injured, she said, but were shaken.

Troopers cited the 17-year-old and arrested Mallory for reckless driving, second-degree disorderly conduct, and two counts each of harassment and recklessly endangering another person. The 17-year-old also faces a charge of second-degree mischief. Mallory is in the Umatilla County Jail, Pendleton.