

IN BRIEF

**American history comes alive in performances**

Students at Rocky Heights Elementary School will present a play that contains information they learned about in their social studies and U.S. history units.

The entire group of third graders will present “American Dream.” The public is welcome to the free performances, which are Friday at 9 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. at Armand Larive Middle School, 1497 S.W. Ninth St., Hermiston.

Teacher Melissa Doherty said students have had fun while learning about the country’s history and are looking forward to sharing their knowledge through the performances. Each of the 90 students has their own part, she said, and have excelled in learning about their characters and practicing public speaking.

For more information, call 541-667-6600.

# True confessions: The writing’s on the wall

I think of myself as a fairly law-abiding citizen.

Other than speeding on occasion, I pretty much try to live according to things outlined in the 10 Commandments.

Maybe you’re a bit confused by my use of the words “fairly” and “pretty much.” I was relatively comfortable with my status as a decent human being until a recent office discussion was met with a moment of silence and blank stares.

I came late to the conversation so I’m not sure the level of true confessions my officemates were revealing. I shared about the time I broke into a house.

Before you call the po-

lice, double-check your alarm system or get a guard dog, let me explain. It was a friend’s house — yeah, yeah, I know, with friends like that ...

When Suzanne Tosten didn’t show up for work or answer her phone, I finally drove to her place. It was dark and quiet — you know, how you would expect to find a house if no one was home.

Clearly, I watch too much TV and my imagination ran wild. A painstaking process, I finally removed the window — only to end up dropping it.

Once inside, nothing looked out of the ordinary. There was no note (as if I write one when I leave the house).

It turns out that Suzy, her husband and dogs went on a Sunday drive in the mountains and got stuck in the snow. Out of cell phone range, they found a cabin, broke in and hunkered down for the night.

Appreciative to find a warm and dry place to stay, Suzy left a note and some cash at the cabin when they left.

And, I paid to replace Suzy’s window. I credit my parents with teaching me about honesty and doing the right thing.

Although, even with the best of parenting, kids start to make their own decisions and choices. Sometimes, it takes making a mistake and dealing with the consequences to learn lessons in life. Such was the case when I drew

on the bathroom stall at school — evidently, they call it vandalism or graffiti.

I was in second grade and was using the restroom in the junior high part of the building. There was writing on stalls and walls. In my 7-year-old mind, I thought it was what the bigger kids did — so I wanted to do it, too.

Obviously I didn’t think I was doing anything wrong. I very neatly and clearly wrote my first and last name. It didn’t take authorities long to track me down. My punishment included scrubbing down the entire area.

However, in recent years, I seem to have reverted back to my second grade self. Whenever I go home to visit my parents, I write on doors, under

shelves and in drawers.

The first time I did it, I wrote a message to my mom because she was feigning being upset that I hadn’t bought her a Mother’s Day card. Instead of cleaning it off, they left it there. My pops even painted around it when they re-painted the room.

Since then, it’s become a bit of tradition — I’ll write messages in obscure places and it’s like an Easter egg hunt. By the way mom, if you’re reading this — did you check under the toilet seat?

*Tammy Malgesini is the community editor. Her column, Inside my Shoes, includes general musings about life. Contact her at tmalgesini@eastoregonian.com or 541-564-4539.*



**Tammy Malgesini**  
INSIDE MY SHOES

## BOARDMAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

PO BOX 1 • 101 Olson Rd • Boardman, OR 97818 • 541-481-3014  
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## MONTHLY LUNCHEON

### MARCH 15, 2017

**Rail Safety and Energy Security focus on March 15, Boardman Chamber Meeting**

The Boardman Chamber of Commerce luncheon will be a forum on rail safety and energy security on Wednesday, March 15 from 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the Port of Morrow, Riverfront Center.

Invited presenters include Jared Larrabee, general manager of Vancouver Energy and Aaron Hunt, director of public affairs for Union Pacific Railroad.

Attendees will learn more about efforts to enhance West Coast energy security through the development of an oil distribution terminal in Vancouver, Washington at the Port of Vancouver USA. Presenters will also discuss rail safety upgrades and infrastructure improvements in Oregon and Washington to help facilitate retail transport of all commodities in a safe and efficient manner.

CG Public House and Catering (aka Country Gentleman) will be providing lunch. We will be enjoying lasagna, Caesar salad and bread. Luncheon cost is \$12.00 per person.

**To RSVP contact Boardman Chamber of Commerce by Monday • March 13th.  
541.481.3014 or info@boardmanchamber.org**

## FROSTBITE Golf Tournament

All funds go to

### Riverside High School Scholarships

Saturday • April 1st, 2017  
9:00 am Tee Off  
Shotgun Start/ Scramble

For Info Contact  
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Life Saving Awards - Adolfo Martinez and Nicholas Richardson  
Special Recognition Award - Linda Toms

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Hermiston Conference Center

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