

# Amsberry replaced as superintendent of EOCI

By **KATHY ANEY**  
STAFF WRITER

The Eastern Oregon Correctional Institution has a new superintendent.

Sue Washburn begins her new role on Monday, according to Colette Peters, director of the Oregon Department of Corrections.

Current superintendent Brigitte Amsberry will retire at the end of the month under a cloud. Amsberry, who took the helm at EOCI in July of 2017, was placed on leave in early September and until recently was the subject of an internal human resources investigation. In addition, interim Superintendent Richard McGraw is also under investigation. No details are available about the investigation into McGraw.

Before coming to EOCI Amsberry was superintendent of Two Rivers Correctional Institution in Umatilla for about a year.

The DOC isn't expounding on the reasons for her sudden retirement or the nature of the investigation, which is concluded, according to DOC Communications Manager Jennifer Black. As of Oct. 18, Amsberry was duty stationed at home with pay. Amsberry started her corrections career in 2000 as a registered nurse at EOCI and worked her way up to the superintendent's office.



Amsberry

In a DOC news release, Peters said, "We would like to thank Ms. Amsberry for her long career at DOC."

Washburn's corrections career started in 2005 when she was hired as human resources manager at the Two Rivers Correctional Institution in Umatilla and later became TRCI's food services manager and then acting assistant superintendent of general services. Most recently, she served as superintendent at Powder River Correctional Facility in Baker City. The minimum

security facility has a capacity of 286 inmates. EOCI, a medium security prison, houses about 1,700 inmates.

"I look forward to joining the amazing team at EOCI, meeting community members and supporting all the employees, contractors and volunteers," Washburn said. "These individuals give their all to keep both the institution and the community safe. While I have sincerely been blessed to work at Powder River Correctional Facility and will miss the people and this community, it is my honor and privilege to begin this new adventure."

Washburn has a background in finance, human resources, and public safety management. Before hiring on with the DOC, Washburn worked at Blue Mountain Community College and in public safety. Washburn studied human resource and public safety management at Portland State University and Eastern Oregon University.

Washburn's monthly salary is \$9,463.

## McNary Heights student tops at Elks Hoop Shoot

HERMISTON HERALD

Layla Chavez of McNary Heights Elementary School won the girls 10-11 year old division of the Hermiston Elks Hoop Shoot on Dec. 1.

Chavez made 17 of 25 free throws, the best of any competitor on the day.

The winner of each division will compete in the Northeast Oregon District Hoop Shoot on Jan. 6 at Sandstone Middle School in Hermiston. The district winners advance to the state event Feb. 16 at Sil-

verton Middle School in Silverton.

Alexia Sanguino of West Park Elementary was second behind Chavez, making 13 of 25 free throws. Makenna Makens (5 of 25) of Highland Hills was third.

Girls 8-9: 1, Sofia Rodriguez (West Park Elementary) 12-25. 2, Rosie Corona (McNary Heights), 11-25. 3, Isabel Bane (McKay Creek) 8-25.

Girls 12-13: 1, Kaydence Emery (Irrigon Middle School) 7-25.

Boys 8-9: 1, Carter Sharp (Stanfield Elemen-

tary) 15-25. 2, Bennette Atkins (Irrigon Elementary), 14-25. 3, Grayson Kincaid (West Park Elementary) 14-25.

Boys 10-11: 1, Jose Juarez (West Park Elementary) 13-25 (5-5 in shoot-off). 2, David Garcia (McNary Heights) 13-25 (2-5 in shoot-off). Giovanni Villarreal (Sunset Elementary) 12-25.

Boys 12-13: 1, Jaysen Rodriguez (Armand Larive) 12-25 (2-5 in shoot-off). 2, Paul Sanchez (Irrigon Middle School) 12-25 (1-5 in shoot-off).

### BRIEFS

#### Republican group elects new officers

Suni Danforth of Milton-Freewater was recently elected as the new chair of the Umatilla County Republican Central Committee.

Others voted into two-year terms include vice chair Tony Justus of Pendleton, third delegate Eli Stephens of Pendleton, treasurer Don Marlatt of Umatilla, and secretary Marlene McClintock of Milton-Freewater. Also chairs of precincts include west county, Paula Otzenberger of Hermiston; central county, Wayne York of Pendleton; and east county, Ann Jolly of Milton-Freewater.

The group looks forward to working together to further build the committee. Area Republicans are invited to attend meetings to learn more about getting involved. They meet the first Tuesday of the month at 6:30 p.m. in the community room at Pendleton City Hall 500 S.W. Dorion Ave. For more information, contact Danforth at suni.danforth@gmail.com.

#### Air museum remembers Pearl Harbor Day

An open house at the Pendleton Air Museum will coincide with Pearl Harbor Day.

World War II veteran Bob Stangier and Dorys Grover of the civilian auxiliary will be on hand to talk with visitors. The free event is Friday from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. at 21 S.W. Emigrant Ave., Pendleton. The public is invited to drop in for cookies, hot beverages, to share stories and to view the new displays. There will be other veterans at the museum in the afternoon, including those who served during the Korean War, Vietnam, Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Desert Storm.

Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day is Dec. 7, 1941. It honors those who lost their lives when the Japanese bombed the United States naval base. President Franklin D. Roosevelt referred to it as "a date which will live in infamy."

For more information, contact pendletonairmuseum@gmail.com or 541-278-0141.

#### Hospital auxiliary sets annual craft and bake sale

The Good Shepherd Medical Center Auxiliary is hosting its annual Baked Food & Craft Sale.

Just in time for the holiday season, the sale is Wednesday, Dec. 12 from 7:30

a.m. to 4 p.m. in Conference Room 5-6 at the hospital, 610 N.W. 11th St., Hermiston. The event serves as a fundraiser with money going to provide scholarships to area students pursuing a medical career and to purchase medical equipment for the hospital.

Auxiliary member June Rosenberg said there is a wide assortment of holiday treats. In addition, she said there are some great cooks among the membership.

For more information, contact Rosenberg at juner1942@gmail.com.

#### Red Cross seeks 'hero' nominations

Who inspires you? The American Red Cross is seeking nominations to honor ordinary people who have done extraordinary things in the community.

The Hero Awards recognizes people in seven categories:

**Community Hero:** someone who displayed leadership and commitment to the community by making a positive and significant impact

**First Responder:** an individual or group who serves the public as a paramedic, firefighter or in law enforcement who went above and beyond the call of duty to save a life

**Give Life:** a person's commitment to blood and platelet donation played a significant role in ensuring the health of patients

**Military:** an active, reserve or retired member of the Armed Forces or ROTC or a civilian that has made a significant impact on the military community

**Voluntary Service:** someone who has displayed exemplary commitment to voluntary service resulting in a significant impact on the community

**Good Samaritan (adult) and Youth Good Samaritan (under 21):** a person who displayed courage and compassion when encountering an unusual, significant or unexpected incident

Those being nominated must reside or work in Oregon or southwestern Washington, or the heroic act or humanitarian service must have occurred in the region. In addition, it must have occurred in the past year. Nominations must be submitted by Saturday, Dec. 15 at [www.redcross.org/Heroes2019](http://www.redcross.org/Heroes2019).

Sponsored by the Red Cross Cascades Region, an awards breakfast will honor the recipients. The event is Friday, March 22 at the Hilton, 301 W. Sixth St., Vancouver, Washington.

For more information about the breakfast or the nomination process, contact Amelia Holmes at 503-440-3701 or [amelia.holmes2@redcross.org](mailto:amelia.holmes2@redcross.org).

## Umatilla County upgrades vaccine refrigerators

HERMISTON HERALD

Umatilla County Public Health is getting two new refrigerators to store vaccines.

Public Health gives about 2,600 vaccines a year, according to Alisha Southwick, the department's deputy director, and the refrigerators storing the vaccines are 10 years old. One refrigerator is in the clinic in Hermiston and the other is at the department's office in Pendleton. She said the Wildhorse Foundation provided a \$10,000 grant to cover the cost of the upgrade.

Public Health received bids from four vendors. Southwick said, and selected two

K2 Scientific models. They cost a total of \$8,590, including delivery, and have the most amount of cubic feet storage. Two other vendors also offered bids below \$10,000, according to a memo from Southwick, but those refrigerators were too small.

The county board voted 3-0 to approve the purchase. Commissioner Bill Elfering advised Southwick the Wildhorse Foundation requires her to give back any difference between the grant money and the actual cost. Southwick said she planned on asking the foundation if her department could spend the remaining \$1,410 on new thermometers to monitor the temperatures of the refrigerators.

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