

EDUCATION

Continued from Page A1

or comprehension questions specific to the lesson on the tablets.

Highland Hills principal Jake Bacon said when he observed Carlson teaching, all the students were able to respond to her questions with the use of the app.

Outside of school, Carlson said the app can benefit students in daily communication.

“I could see it being really useful for kids who want to order something at a restaurant,” she said. “For a person who can’t communicate in traditional ways, that’s huge.”

Across town, Armand Larive Middle School teacher Lori White wanted a way to help her students be able to make their voices heard on stage.

White, a language arts teacher, began teaching theater at the school a few years ago and wanted to purchase some microphones and headsets for students to use during performances.

They started with three headsets, but that limited the number of students that could be on stage at any time.

“The class is very popular,” she said. “Last term I had 48 kids sign up.”

Two years ago, she said, she applied for a HEF grant and was able to purchase seven headsets, and with this year’s grant, she bought four more.

The headsets are also used by other teachers throughout the district, she said.

This January, White said, the students will perform a comedy-murder mystery.

White said the drama program has been a place for students who may not have found one elsewhere.

“Some kids don’t do music, they don’t do sports — there are kids who want to be a part of something, they want to perform, but they’re not in those other niches,” she said. “And kids who may not fit the normal mode of what people think are actors, they come out and are spectacular.”

White received \$1,200 from HEF for the headsets.

The Hermiston band programs also received funds from HEF, to help provide uniform curriculum at the middle and high schools.

HEF awarded band directors Daniel Allen, Cristian Mata and Sean McClanahan \$4,031 to purchase a set

of warm-up books for both middle schools and the high school.

“The books have exercises that work on scales, patterns, tuning,” McClanahan said. “There are 10 to 15 different techniques, and it works on those in all the different key centers.”

He said the uniform curriculum across grade levels will make it easier for students to learn those techniques, and instructors to teach them.

“There are just more tools at your disposal to help the band with different concepts, whether figuring out rhythm, chords, or keeping sound in check,” he said.

Between instruments, sheet music and travel, most school music programs have a lot of funding needs. Meeting those needs can be especially difficult in rural areas, or with smaller programs.

McClanahan said the band teachers regularly apply for grants to keep up with the needs for their students and instruments.

“Our percussion that get used for marching band tends to take a really bad beating,” he said. “What we had before was not built for that. The instruments were falling apart.”

Last year, he said, they used grant money to buy some larger instruments that are often difficult for families to afford, like a bass and a French horn. The grant, along with money he was allotted by HHS principal Tom Spoo, allowed him to purchase \$32,000 worth of supplies and repairs.

He said keeping up with maintenance needs is a struggle for most music programs.

“I came from a small district before here,” he said. “It’s a similar situation. Instruments are old, they need repairing. You make do with what you have.”

Armand Larive Middle School band director Cristian Mata also received a grant, which will allow him to purchase a new xylophone for the school’s concert band. Mata received \$2,265 for that purchase.

The Hermiston Education Foundation, which is funded by community donations and gifts, supports academic and artistic programs throughout the district through its grant programs, and provides scholarships to four Hermiston High School seniors each year. This year, they awarded \$20,839 in grant money.

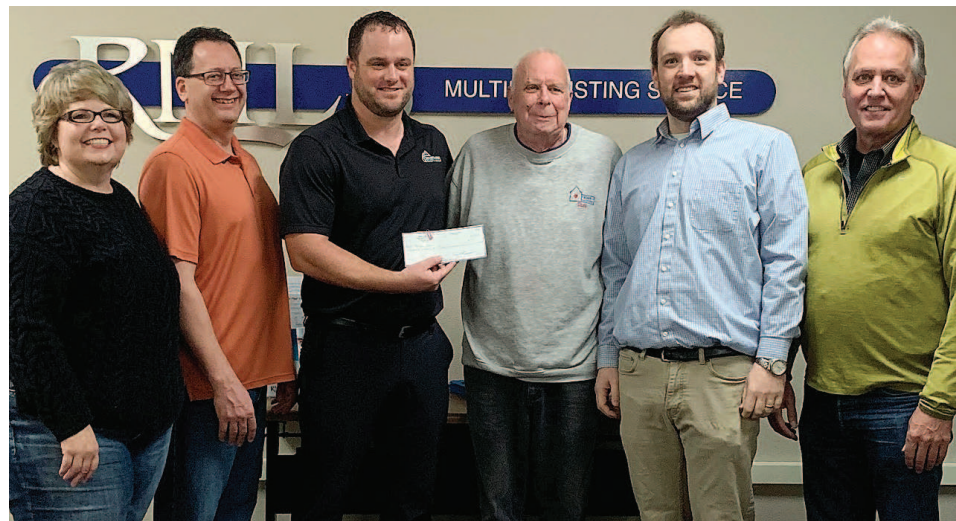
Realtors board has equity in Agape House

The Columbia Basin Board of Realtors held a fundraiser to help support Eastern Oregon Mission, the parent organization of Agape House and Martha’s House.

Members of the group collected donations during “Peace and Good Will,” the Hermiston Community Christmas Concert. The Dec. 7 effort, held at Hermiston High School, brought in \$2,529.

The realtors’ association expressed appreciation for the generous support from the community, said Bennett Christianson of Christianson Realty Group, who also serves as the Columbia Basin Board of Realtors president.

“It is our pleasure to do what we are able in order to reciprocate that support and stand alongside amazing local charities, such as the



Contributed photo

Realtors Tami Rebman, left, and Mike Boylan (American West Properties), Columbia Basin Board of Realtors board president Bennett Christianson (Christianson Realty Group), Agape House executive director Dave Hughes, Agape House board president Daniel Wattenburger and realtor Dean Kegler (American West Properties) celebrate a fundraiser to benefit the Hermiston-based nonprofit organization.

Agape House,” he said. “As an organization, we believe in what the Agape House is doing to help those in need

and feel honored to be a part of it.”

Agape House and Martha’s House serve individ-

uals and families in need. For more information, call executive director Dave Hughes at 541-567-8774.



Switch and Get

LATEST PHONES FREE



SAMSUNG Galaxy S9

Promotional pricing requires Total Plan with Unlimited Plus Data, new line, port-in, credit approval, qualified Smartphone purchase and Device Protection+ and comes via monthly bill credit on a 30-month Retail Installment Contract. Taxes, fees and additional restrictions apply.

DENTAL Insurance
Physicians Mutual Insurance Company

A less expensive way to help get the dental care you deserve

- If you're over 50, you can get coverage for about \$1 a day*
- Keep your own dentist! You can go to any dentist you want
- NO annual or lifetime cap on the cash benefits you can receive
- No wait for preventive care and no deductibles - you could get a checkup tomorrow
- Coverage for over 350 procedures including cleanings, exams, fillings, crowns...even dentures

FREE Information Kit
1-877-599-0125
Or www.dental50plus.com/25

*Individual plan. Product not available in HI, MT, NH, NM, RI, VT, WA. Acceptance guaranteed for one insurance policy/certificate of this type. Contact us for complete details about this insurance qualification. This specific offer is not available in CO, NY, NC, call 1-800-969-4781 or respond for similar offer. Certificate C250A (03/2009), PA, C2500; Insurance Policy P150 (GA: P150GA; NY: P150NY; OK: P150OK; TN: P150TN). 6098E-0917 MB17-AM008E

Imagine The Difference You Can Make

DONATE YOUR CAR
1-844-533-9173

FREE TOWING
TAX DEDUCTIBLE

Help Prevent Blindness
Get A Vision Screening Annually

Heritage for the Blind

Ask About A FREE 3 Day Vacation Voucher To Over 20 Destinations!!

EARTHLINK INTERNET
HIGH SPEED INTERNET

Enjoy big-time internet speeds without spending big bucks!

Get Connected for as low as **\$14.95/mo.**

Get Connected for as low as **\$49.99/mo.**

CONTACT YOUR LOCAL AUTHORIZED RETAILER
855-977-9436

Authorized Dealer
EarthLink

Your Family Deserves The **BEST** Technology... Value... TV!...

Upgrade to the Hopper* 3 Smart HD DVR

- Watch and record 16 shows at once
- Get built-in Netflix and YouTube
- Watch TV on your mobile devices
- Hopper upgrade fee \$5/mo.

\$59.99 MONTH for 12 months

Add High Speed Internet **\$14.95/mo.**

Subject to availability. Restrictions apply. Internet not provided by DSL and will be billed separately.

190 Channels

CALL TODAY Save 20%! 1-866-373-9175

dish

Things we want you to know: New consumer or small business (20 lines or less) Total Plan line with Unlimited Plus Data and port-in required. Purchase of a qualifying device via 0% APR 30-month Retail Installment Contract (RIC), credit approval and Device Protection+ required. Tax due at sale. All data on Unlimited Plus Plans automatically shifts to 2G speeds when each line reaches 25GB. The speed you receive will depend on many factors, including, but not limited to, your data plan terms, the device you use, your distance from a cell tower, topography and the amount of users on the network at the time of your session. A Regulatory Cost Recovery Fee applies; this is not a tax or government required charge. Additional fees, taxes, terms, conditions and coverage areas may apply and vary by plan, service and phone. Offers valid at participating locations only and cannot be combined. See store or uscellular.com for details. Device Protection+ starts at \$9.99/month per Smartphone. A service fee/deductible per approved claim applies. You may cancel anytime. Property insurance is underwritten by American Bankers Insurance Company of Florida and provided under a Master Policy issued to U.S. Cellular. You will be the certificate holder on U.S. Cellular's Master Policy for loss/theft benefits. Service Contract Obligor is Federal Warranty Service Corporation in all states except CA (Sureway, Inc.) and OK (Assurant Service Protection, Inc.). Limitations and exclusions apply. See an associate or brochure for complete details. Offer applies to base memory model only. Offer Details: **iPhone Xs:** Regular price \$748.80 or \$24.96/month, bill credit amount is \$24.96/month; **Samsung Galaxy S9:** Regular price is \$783 or \$26.10/month, bill credit amount is \$26.10/month; balance comes via monthly bill credit on a 30-month Retail Installment Contract; 0% APR, \$0 down. Bill credit applied within three bill cycles and ends when balance is paid. Line must remain in good standing with required price plan for entire 30-month RIC. Customer may lose bill credit if price plan is changed. In the event of cancellation of service, customer will be responsible for the entire Retail Installment Contract balance. The early upgrade program is not available with this offer. **Kansas Customers:** In areas in which U.S. Cellular receives support from the Federal Universal Service Fund, all reasonable requests for service must be met. Unresolved questions concerning services availability can be directed to the Kansas Corporation Commission Office of Public Affairs and Consumer Protection at 1-800-662-0027. Limited-time offer. While supplies last. Trademarks and trade names are the property of their respective owners. © 2018 U.S. Cellular