

CAPECO in need of storage space to handle excess food donations

By JADE MCDOWELL
NEWS EDITOR

The Community Action Program of East Central Oregon needs more storage space to hold an increase in food donations.

The Pendleton-based regional food bank is preparing for an increase in food donations from federal, state and local sources, but they need to borrow some storage capacity from somewhere in the community in order to accept those donations.

“It’s one of those problems that is good to have,” said Tori Colvard, food and nutrition program manager.

Colvard said CAPECO has the ability to pay a rental fee for the space, but they need dry storage, cooler storage and freezer space beyond what they already have at their warehouse near the Pendleton airport.

CAPECO CEO Paula Hall said layoffs spurred by COVID-19 have created significant financial need in Eastern Oregon. Oregon’s congressional delegation has risen to the occasion by helping get more food from the United States Department of Agriculture directed to area food banks; the state of Oregon has directed millions of additional dollars to the Oregon Food Bank and local organizations, such as Farmers Ending Hunger, have pledged to increase



CAPECO’s Pendleton food warehouse sits well stocked on May 1. The food bank is looking for additional storage space, specifically refrigerated space, for storing donated food.

Staff photo by Ben Lonergan

their donations.

“As we’re seeing an uptick of need, we’re also seeing an uptick of folks responding to that need,” she said.

That response is expected to increase in the coming weeks, and the current influx is already straining CAPECO’s storage capacity. So the organization is asking for leads on “food-safe” spaces that can handle shipments beyond what the Pendleton warehouse has room to accommodate.

“We just want to have

that system in place so that we’re not in a position of having to say no to a donation for the community,” Hall said.

Freezer storage is the top priority, followed by dry storage and refrigerated storage. The space must be able to hold at least 10 pallets (about half a semitruck load) of food. It needs to be a safe place to store food, although CAPECO can help with some measures, such as pest control.

Since CAPECO’s warehouse is in Pendleton, a

Pendleton location would be ideal, but Hall said they could also make something in the greater Hermiston area work.

As CAPECO also receives monetary donations to purchase food on their own, Hall said they will prioritize spending that money locally, such as buying produce from area farms and orchards.

If anyone has a space they believe will work, they can call Colvard at 541-278-5693 or email tcovard@capeco-works.org.

Heidi Sipe appointed to national council

By JADE MCDOWELL
NEWS EDITOR

Umatilla School District Superintendent Heidi Sipe has been appointed to a national task force to assist school districts through COVID-19 closures.

Sipe is one of 27 school superintendents from across the country to be selected for the COVID-19 advisory panel put together by The School Superintendents Association, also known as ASAA.

The panel’s first (virtual) meeting will address online learning and how schools can reopen safely once their state allows them to do so.

“Forty-one states are recommending that schools remain closed for the balance of the academic year, including Georgia, Texas and Florida,” said ASAA Executive Director Daniel Domenech. “Some of these states are taking the lead

to reopen for business. We know, however, that schools will have to reopen eventually and when they do, it will be in an environment where the virus will be present.”

The association has also been hosting webinars and created an online resource platform for school districts to “share communications strategies, resources and ideas, engage with colleagues across the nation and grow professional learning communities.”

Sipe is one of two Oregon superintendents on the task force, along with Gustavo Balderas, superintendent of the Eugene School District 4J and the 2020 National Superintendent of the Year.

She said one positive that has come out of the pandemic is the way people have worked together to find creative solutions, and she left the panel’s first meeting on May 4 feeling uplifted.

“I’ve already learned much from my colleagues across the nation, and I’m excited to continue working with them,” she said.



Sipe

Governor’s Arts Awards seeking nominations

HERMISTON HERALD

In celebration of the uplifting power of art and its value to Oregonians’ quality of life, Gov. Kate Brown announced a call for nominations for the 2020 Governor’s Arts Awards.

Established in 1977, the awards are held periodically as funding allows. A call for 2020 nominations is now posted on the Arts Commission website.

A partnership between the Office of the Governor and the Arts Commission, the Governor’s Arts Awards recognize and honor individuals and organizations that have made significant contributions to the arts in Oregon. Awardees will be honored during an evening Governor’s Arts Awards ceremony on Saturday, Sept. 12, at the Chehalem Cultural Center in Newberg.

The 2020 Governor’s Arts Awards are funded in part by The Harold & Arlene Schnitzer CARE Foundation with event support from the Chehalem Cultural Center.

“Art is a fundamental ingredient of any thriving and vibrant community,” Brown said. “Art sparks connections between



EO file photo

Nixyaawii freshman Tyanna Broncheau rolls out ink onto a roller in preparation to make a print in May 2017 at the Crow Shadow Institute for the Arts outside of Mission. Crow’s Shadow received the Governor’s Arts Award in Portland in 2017, capping a year where the art studio also celebrated its 25th anniversary.

people, movements, and new ideas. To put it simply, art makes life better. I am thrilled to celebrate Oregon’s best artists and art supporters through the Governor’s Arts Awards.”

The Governor’s Arts Awards are open to any individual, organization or

community that currently resides in or has a significant presence in Oregon and has made outstanding contributions to the arts in the state. The 148 past recipients of a Governor’s Arts Award are not eligible; past recipients can be viewed at [https://www.oregonarts-](https://www.oregonarts-commission.org/programs/governors-arts-awards)

[commission.org/programs/governors-arts-awards](https://www.oregonarts-commission.org/programs/governors-arts-awards).

Nominations must be received by 5 p.m. on Tuesday, May 26. Recipients will be notified by July 13 and must be available to participate in the Sept. 12 award ceremony (in person or virtually).

BRIEFS

OSEA scholarship deadline extended

HERMISTON — Oregon School Employees Association Chapter 10 is extending the application deadline for its college scholarship for high school seniors to May 22, 2020.

The \$500 award that is being offered is to be used at an accredited college or university. It is open to a graduating senior at any high school who has a family member or guardian, who is an active member in good standing with OSEA Chapter 10. OSEA Chapter 10 membership consists of classified employees of the Hermiston School District, including — but not limited to — instructional assistants, office staff and custodians.

For more information about this scholarship, or a copy of the application form, contact Michelle

Kane at michelle.kane@hermiston.org or the student counseling office at Hermiston High School. Applications must be sent to Kane at West Park Elementary School, 555 S.W. Seventh St., Hermiston, OR 97838 by May 22.

Spokane community colleges name winter honor rolls

SPOKANE, Wash. — Community Colleges of Spokane recently listed students on its honor roll for winter quarter, which ended in March. Students must have a grade point average of 3.0 or above to be listed on the honor roll.

Brianna Rice of Hermiston was among those named to the Spokane Falls Community College honor roll. Laura Ponce of Boardman earned a place on the honor roll at Spokane Community College.

SFCC serves about 7,600 students. It is renowned for its theater, music and fine arts as well as exceptional STEM programs. About 60 percent of its graduates transfer to four-year colleges and universities. Other students pursue career or technical degrees or certificates. SFCC has campuses in west Spokane, Fairchild Air Force Base and Pullman.

SCC is known for its programs in career and technical training as well as its apprenticeship programs, but it also offers associate degrees that are transfer-ready for those going into universities. SCC serves about 22,000 students annually.

Community Colleges of Spokane is a dynamic, 12,300-square-mile state community college district that includes Spokane Community College, Spokane Falls Community College and six rural education sites,

serving residents in Pend Oreille, Stevens, Whitman, Ferry and parts of Lincoln counties.

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