

TV

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by themselves.”

He added their achievement was made even better because of the strength of the competition. ALTV’s contest entry placed second to a larger California school with greater resources.

Six students, a mix of sixth through eighth graders, discussed their work, the award and their feelings following their recent accomplishment.

One of the broadcasters present was Aspyn Inners, 12. An anchor on the program, she said she has strong feelings for broadcasting. She first got involved because of a friend who also was in it. She started taking the classes, he said, and then “fell in love” with the program and the field.

Now, she said, her work is about more than an opportunity to spend time with friends and is more meaningful than winning awards.

“I think (journalism) is about telling a story and putting it in front of people for them to see,” she said.

She added she feels a great responsibility to do this work and make sure she is telling stories truthfully.

The friend who introduced her to the class was Sofia Rodriguez, also 12. She anchored the Christmas program with Aspyn. Sofia said, though, that anchoring is not a full-time job for anyone. Students, she said, rotate through several different positions, which teaches them about different aspects of creating a show.

She did admit to having a favorite position.

“I love anchoring,” she said.

She stated she would like to be an anchor as a career. It was especially exciting for her that ALTV won an award for a program, she said, because she helped anchor it.

“I was super stoked about it,” Sofia said the victory.

Sharing her classmates’



Armand Larive Middle School students and their instructor begin a broadcast recording March 1, 2022. The class recently won national recognition for one of its shows.



Rob Doherty, Armand Larive Middle School teacher, shows off the ALTV website on March 1, 2022.

excitement for journalism, Matea Sepulveda, 14, spoke of the stories she has been able to create with ALTV.

“I’ve done a ton of stories about important topics, like lockdowns and wearing masks at school and how people feel about it,” she said.

She added that ALTV is a “really fun place to be” and that she is very fond of her teacher and classmates.

Juliette Goyer Rondon, 12, also said she is enjoying herself and learning a great deal.

“I’ve learned how to take good shots, lighting, volume and stuff like that,” she said.

The technical part of the job is gratifying, she said, but her focus remains on telling important stories. She said she likes to find important topics and spread awareness of them to others.

Jaideny Orozco, 11, expressed her own feelings about what she has learned.

“I’ve learned a lot — like how we should respect other people, but also how to shoot videos and edit on



Armand Larive Middle School student Matea Sepulveda positions the camera just ahead of a broadcast March 1, 2022, at Hermiston school.

other software apps.”

Jaideny, a relative newcomer to the ALTV, said she is enjoying the company of older classmates. Naima Velasco, 14, for instance, has been in the broadcasting program for more than three years.

Naima said her work has changed during the past few years. Her school was closed for much of the pandemic, so she had to be more independent. She filmed with a small Chromebook, which

she used also for editing.

“It was a complex process,” she said.

She added the whole world became more complex during the past few years, and this is one reason she finds journalism exciting.

“Personally, I like to focus on stories outside of school,” she said. “I get to thinking about what we haven’t heard of yet, what is going on and what people want to hear about in our community.”

Splice

Continued from A1

keep their servers cool and local government officials willing to trade tax breaks for jobs. Google built a data center in The Dalles while Facebook and Apple targeted Prineville for their own facilities.

When Amazon Web Services established a presence in Boardman in 2010 and Umatilla in 2012, it often operated under the name of a subsidiary: Vadata Inc. When Amazon planned its expansion into Hermiston in 2019, the city council and Umatilla County Board of Commissioners agreed to abate 15 years of property taxes in exchange for a flat \$40 million.

In recent years, Amazon has shed some of its secrecy and upped its public investments.

In 2021, Amazon announced more than a half-million in donations to community organizations across Umatilla and Morrow counties. Later that year, AWS cut the ribbon on its Think Big Space, a career technical education space at the SAGE Center in Boardman.

Nayeli Contreras, the director of Blue Mountain’s Hermiston Center, said the collaboration between Blue Mountain and Amazon has been in the works for years but the coronavirus pandemic delayed an in-person class. She said the class aligns with BMCC President Mark Browning’s goal of having the college work more with the region’s employers on job training.

Contreras said she hopes Blue Mountain will collaborate with Amazon on future classes, even if they are in areas other than fiber optic splicing. She added she’s kept a list of students who registered for the class but weren’t able to attend so she can reach out to them for future opportunities.

MARCH 26-27

Saturday 9:00 am–5:00 pm
Sunday 9:00 am–3:00 pm

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SEEKING QUALIFIED PROVIDERS

CAPECO is issuing a Request for Proposals (RFP) for qualified contractor(s) to provide Nutrition Program services, including Home Delivered Meal and Congregate Meal services within Morrow and Umatilla Counties.

Home delivered meals are critical to maintaining independence and provide socialization to people who may feel isolated or lonely at home.

Congregate meals are an opportunity to socialize and gain support through community while CAPECO provides nutrition education.
This service is more than just a meal; its purpose is to nourish the whole person.

Request a copy of the RFP packet by contacting Jody Warnock, CAPECO Program Director, jwarnock@capeco-works.org 541-278-5668

PROPOSALS DUE MARCH 31, 2022

COMMUNITY ACTION PROGRAM of EAST CENTRAL OREGON

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