

# Youth question Oregon gubernatorial candidates

The Associated Press

PORTLAND — Young people questioned Oregon’s main gubernatorial candidates on topics ranging from foster care to gun restrictions to bullying at the candidates’ first debate in Portland Tuesday evening.

Democratic Gov. Kate Brown, Republican Knute Buehler and Patrick Starnes of the Independent Party met at the event dubbed the

Debate for our Future.

The candidates sparred most intensely over the topic of education funding specifically related to underrepresented groups such as Native Americans.

Buehler said the single biggest failure of Brown’s administration was that not enough money was getting into the classroom because too much of it goes to state and local government em-

ployees’ pension plans.

Brown said she was proud of a measure that allowed tribal elders to teach native languages in public schools to all students and that by significantly investing in underserved communities, graduation rates have gone up.

Later, 15-year-old Rose Lawrence from Portland repeatedly asked the candidates what they would do

as governor to make schools safe for LGBTQ youth after saying she didn’t think the candidates had answered her question.

Brown mentioned among other ideas an anti-bullying policy for safe and secure schools and encouraged students to speak out. Buehler said he’d continue the good work of Brown on the issue and said students should report bullying directly to the

governor’s office. Both mentioned hiring more teachers and counselors and those that better reflect a diverse population.

“I would hire you,” Starnes told Lawrence to audience applause.

Buehler, a prominent Republican in the Oregon Legislature, beat two main rivals in the GOP gubernatorial primary. Buehler was the most centrist of the Republi-

can front-runners.

Brown was first appointed governor in February 2015 after John Kitzhaber resigned. She easily was elected in her own right in 2016 to finish out the term of Kitzhaber, who resigned amid accusations of influence peddling involving his fiancée.

The next two debates are scheduled for Oct. 4 in Medford and Oct. 9 in Portland.

## OREGON IN BRIEF

### Oregon widow sues dead husband’s alleged lover for \$1M

PORTLAND — An Oregon widow has filed a \$1 million lawsuit against a woman she believes was having an extramarital affair with her husband.

The Oregonian/OregonLive reports the lawsuit was filed Friday in Benton County Circuit Court.

In the suit, Lana Dong claims that the circumstances of the affair between her husband and Anh Tram Gia Phan led to her husband’s death.

Dong claims in the suit that Phan was negligent for not doing a better job of hiding the affair.

The lawsuit says on Dec. 5, 2017, Phan’s ex-husband caught the philandering pair at Phan’s Corvallis nail salon.

The suit claims the ex-husband beat Mitch Xuan Dong with a baseball bat and stabbed him. He died a week later.

Phan’s ex-husband, Than Duy Kim of Albany, was charged with murder and has pleaded not guilty.

Phan declined to comment on the suit.

### Woman sentenced to seven years in kidnapping case

SALEM — A Salem, Oregon, woman arrested along with her boyfriend for allegedly kidnapping and attempting to murder a woman has been sentenced to six years and 10 months in prison.

The Statesman Journal reports that Eva Villarreal, 37, pleaded no contest this week to the lesser charges of second-degree kidnapping, second-degree assault and third-degree assault for her role in the attack.

Villarreal and her longtime boyfriend Juan Robert Garza, 39, were arrested on suspicion of driving Garza’s childhood friend into the countryside, cutting her, strangling her, hitting her on the head with a flashlight, attempting to tie her up with zip ties and throwing her in a car trunk.

### Three killed in Oregon crash

GATES — Three people were killed and another two were seriously injured after the SUV they were traveling in crashed east of Salem.

KOIN reports the crash happened Monday shortly before 7 p.m. near Gates.

According to the preliminary investigation, a silver GMC Envoy carrying the five occupants was traveling west when it left the roadway and hit several trees.

The driver and one passenger were taken to local hospitals with serious injuries.

Two occupants were ejected from the car and pronounced dead at the scene. A third occupant remained in the SUV and also died at the scene.

The Oregon State Patrol says speed and alcohol are being considered as factors in the crash.

### Several injured in collision between bus and minivan

WALDPORT — Authorities say a man driving a minivan was seriously injured and some students suffered minor injuries when the minivan collided with a school bus south of Newport in Waldport.

The Oregonian/OregonLive reports the crash happened Tuesday morning when minivan driver Kenneth J. Hall crossed into oncoming traffic and hit the bus head-on, according to the Lincoln County Sheriff’s Office.

The sheriff’s office says Hall of Waldport was flown to a Corvallis hospital for treatment of serious injuries.

The sheriff’s office says some of the students on the bus suffered minor injuries.

The crash is under investigation.

## Darryl Sandberg, PA Board Certified

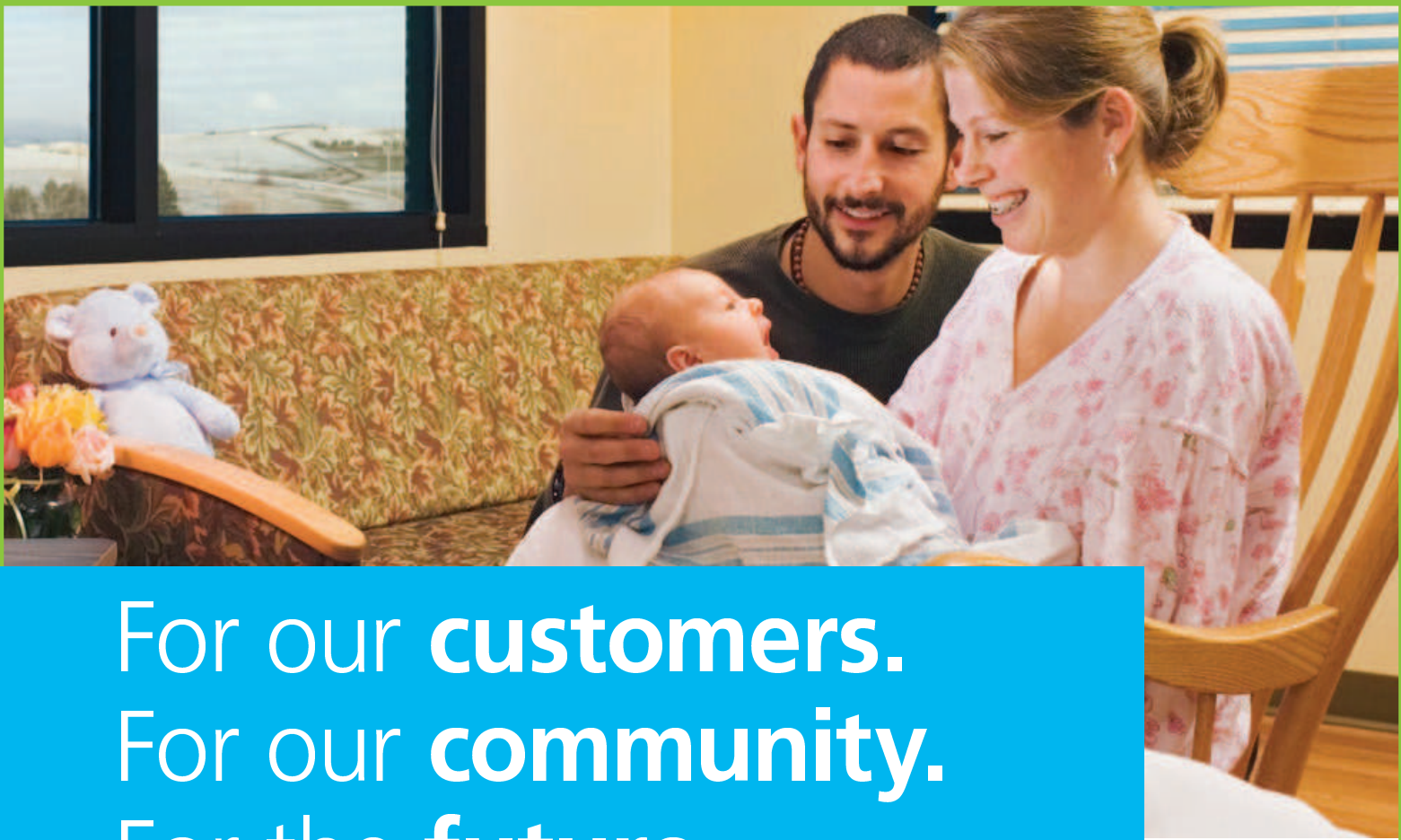
Please join us in welcoming Darryl to Union County.

Darryl provides Primary Care for patients at the GRH Union Clinic  
142 E. Dearborn St. Union, OR  
541.562.6180— more info at grh.org



Darryl Sandberg comes to Oregon from a clinical practice in Colorado. Prior to that he spent two years as Brigade Physician Assistant for the U.S. Army Airborne & Ranger Training Brigade, Fort Benning, GA. Darryl has an extensive U.S. Army service record, serving in various capacities and multiple deployments from 2008 through 2016. In 2007, he received his Master of Science in Physician Assistant Studies from the Rosalind Franklin University of Medicine and Science, Illinois.

Darryl is Board Certified.



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Avista has a long, proud history of serving our natural gas customers in southern and eastern Oregon. But we can’t rest on that achievement. The energy industry is undergoing transformational change, and consolidation is changing the playing field for smaller utilities like ours.

Our proposed merger with Hydro One provides a unique opportunity. It not only preserves our nearly 130-year legacy, but also better prepares us for the future.

We’ll continue to run our business and serve our customers as we always have: operating as a standalone company, from the same headquarters in Spokane, overseen by a board of directors with regional representation. Since we’re a regulated utility, state utility commissions – not Hydro One – will set Avista’s rates.

We’ll also continue philanthropic efforts in our communities. In fact, Hydro One has committed to nearly doubling our current levels of contributions. Additional funding would also be provided for energy efficiency and low-income programs.

For more information, please visit [myavista.com/hydro-one](http://myavista.com/hydro-one).

