

5J School Board Candidates

By Emily Braswell

When it comes to electing citizens, it can be helpful to put a face with a name. It can also be helpful to get to know each of the candidates and maybe get a feel for their perspective with regard to issues, their general knowledge and the way they interact with others. I contacted each of the four candidates running for the three open School Board positions in the May 19 special elections and asked them to answer five questions which would help voters understand more about who they may be electing. They were also asked to submit a photo of themselves.

Position #1, Position #2, and Position #5 are the three School

Board, District 5-J positions that appear on the ballot most voters have already received. Chris Hawkins, incumbent in Position #1 is running unopposed for re-election. Melissa Irvine, recently appointed the School Board to fill the vacancy caused by Kyle Knight's resignation, is also unopposed for Position #5. Incumbent Andrew Bryan is the only one with a challenger, Austin C. Mitchell for School Board Position #2.

The questions asked of the candidates were the same and each individual was given ample amount of time to submit their answers, which are shown and are edited from each individual's response.

Position #1 – Candidate 1

Name: Chris M. Hawkins
Location: Haines
Occupation: Sergeant with Oregon State Police
Occupational Background:
Highest Education: High School Diploma
Certifications: Certified Farrier
Previous Gov't Experience: Oregon State Police – Sergeant Board of Directors – Baker 5-J School District

Occupation: Realtor
Occupational Background: Educational Consultant
Highest Education: Bachelor's Degree
– University of New Mexico
Prior Gov't Experience: Baker City Council
Board of Directors – Baker 5-J School District

Position #2 – Candidate 1

Name: Austin C. Voelching-Mitchell
Location: Baker City
Occupation: Student (DOB 02/16/1996)
Occupational Background:
Highest Education: High School, currently in 12th Grade
Prior Gov't Experience: (Space left blank by candidate)

Position #5 – Candidate 1

Name: Melissa A. Irvine
Location: Baker City
Occupation: N/A
Occupational Background:
Washington State CPA (currently inactive), Management and accounting experience in public accounting, real estate and banking
Highest Education: B.A. in Business Administration
Certifications: CPA
Prior Gov't Experience: 2 years on Baker 5-J Budget Board

Position #2 – Candidate 2

Name: Andrew C. Bryan
Location: Baker City

Responses from Chris Hawkins

1. What do you see are three biggest problems facing the 5J School District? What are its strengths?

Three biggest problems:
1. implementing new curriculum 2. implementing new testing 3. maintaining a stable budget. Our greatest strength is our district personnel.

2. What are your biggest strengths as an individual and how you will use them to address and solve problems?

I listen well and have the ability to make impartial decision based on facts and not emotions.

3. Why do you wish to serve as a school board member?

I wish to serve on the school board to help maintain a productive and healthy learning environment.

4. What budget experience do you have?

I am currently a Sergeant with the Oregon State Police and assist in budget process for the Oregon State Police.

5. How do you manage conflict?

I listen to all parties involved in a conflict and use policy to fairly resolve conflict.



Submitted photo
Position #1 Candidate Chris Hawkins

See CANDIDATES on page 10

Answers to last week's puzzles

8	1	5	9	2	6	4	3	7
4	6	2	7	3	5	1	8	9
3	7	9	1	8	4	2	5	6
5	2	8	6	9	3	7	4	1
1	3	6	4	5	7	8	9	2
7	9	4	2	1	8	5	6	3
9	5	1	3	4	2	6	7	8
6	8	3	5	7	1	9	2	4
2	4	7	8	6	9	3	1	5

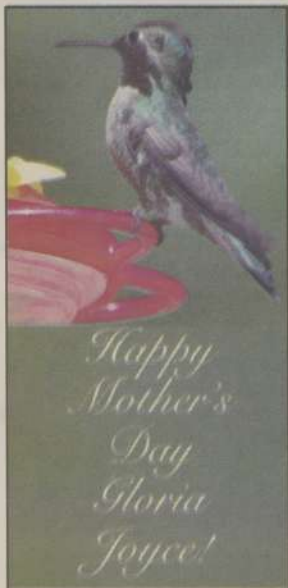
S	P	E	C	S	S	A	I	T	P	A	S	S	
A	L	L	O	W	T	R	O	W	A	B	E	L	
C	O	S	T	A	A	U	T	O	C	O	D	A	
S	P	E	E	D	L	I	M	I	T	E	V	E	
D	E	N	I	N	S	E	R	T	I	N	S	E	
S	T	A	L	E	R	A	M	I	E				
E	E	R	I	E	R	E	C	E	P	T	O	R	S
L	A	U	D	B	E	A	R	D	T	R	E	E	
F	R	E	E	T	R	A	D	E	D	E	A	L	T
D	A	I	R	Y	B	U	R	L	Y				
W	A	G	E	R	S	L	A	B					
E	P	I	C	L	E	G	I	T	I	M	A	T	E
N	A	G	A	I	M	A	M	O	I	L	E	D	
D	R	U	M	N	I	L	E	U	N	P	E	G	
S	T	E	P	G	R	A	V	S	I	S	S	Y	

Sudoku puzzle sponsored by

Embroidery
By
Blue Mountain
Design Works
Baker City

Jackets
Hats
Scarfs
Shirts
Sweatshirts
Logos

BHS Bulldog items
1920 Court Street, Baker City
McElroy Printing
Also located here.
541.523.2621



Our Lifestyle
STARTS WITH A SMILE
at
SETTLER'S PARK

Senior Lifestyle, A FAMILY OWNED COMPANY, is committed to creating environments designed to delight our residents and their family members. Our dedicated team of professionals bring our mission and core values to life. We invite you to visit and SEE THE DIFFERENCE FOR YOURSELF.

Please join us for a

MOTHER'S DAY TEA SUNDAY, MAY 10TH AT 1:30PM

Celebrate Mother's Day with your friends at Settler's Park by joining us for tea and wearing your favorite Mother's Day Hat.



CALL 541-249-4006 TO RSVP BY MAY 7TH
OR TO SCHEDULE A PERSONAL TOUR

SETTLER'S PARK
a Senior Lifestyle community

ASSISTED LIVING | MEMORY CARE
2895 17TH STREET | BAKER CITY, OR 97814
WWW.SENIORLIFESTYLE.COM



Friends of Haines Auction Fundraiser May 16, 2015

At the Frontier Restaurant in Haines

Dinner at 6 p.m.

Enjoy a Steak Dinner with all of the fixin's
Auction begins at 7:30 p.m.

Tickets are \$23

Pre-purchase is strongly recommended

Call Alita at 541-403-2142 or Garla 541-403-0969

Purchase tickets at **Frontier** or
Haines Sell Rite (they plan to be open May 1)

Door Prizes • Raffles
Live and Silent Auction

