

Eight contested races on May ballot

East Oregonian

Of the 136 seats up for grabs on local boards and commissions, only eight will be contested on the May ballot while 27 will be decided by write-in.

The Port of Umatilla board has three director positions on the ballot, with Joseph Frannell of Hermiston and Jerry Imsland of Pendleton competing for the same spot. Jerry E. Baker of Athena and Kurt Bendixsen of Hermiston are

each running unopposed for two other open seats.

Susan E. Plass of Pendleton is running against incumbent Bryan Branstetter, also of Pendleton, for the Blue Mountain Community College Board of directors, while three of the board's other zones have no candidates. Eddie de la Cruz of Hermiston is running unopposed for the Zone 5 seat.

The Hermiston School Board has two contested races: James T. Leitch and Josh-

ua Goller are running for the seat vacated by Greg Harris and Rob Lovett is running against incumbent David W. Smith.

In Milton-Freewater, Tina Kain and McKenzie M. Marly are running for the same seat on the school board and Wes J. Koklich and Gina Miller will compete for a seat on the ambulance district board.

Pilot Rock School Board will also have a race between Joey A. GrosJacques and Var Rigby.

Two Boardman men, Mark Pratt and Marty Broadbent, are running for an at-large positions on Umatilla Morrow Radio & Data District.

And Michelle M. Munro and Janie G. Cuellar, both of Hermiston, are running against one another for the Umatilla County Library District.

Election day is May 19 and ballots will be mailed out April 29. A full list of candidates is available on the secretary of state's website.

BUSINESS BRIEFLY

InterMountain ESD hires new communications specialist

PENDLETON — Michele Madril has been hired as the new communications specialist at InterMountain Education Service District.

Madril replaces Casey White-Zollman, who recently took a position as vice president of communications at Blue Mountain Community College. Madril will serve as the public information officer for the ESD and component school districts. She also will manage crisis communication responses and communicate inclement weather and delay notifications.

In her previous marketing and public relations career, Madril worked in advertising, magazine writing, television production and nonprofit organizations. She earned a bachelor's degree in journalism from the University of North Texas.

For the past six years, Madril has been a substitute teacher in the Pendleton School District and for five years worked as director of Christian education and family ministry at First Presbyterian Church in Pendleton.

Madril can be reached at michele.madril@imesd.k12.or.us or 541-966-3115.

Emily Waite hired as Boardman chamber executive director

BOARDMAN — The Boardman Chamber of Commerce recently hired Emily Waite as its new executive director.

Hailing from Texas, Waite has past chamber experience and brings lots of fresh new ideas to the Boardman chamber, said Anna Browne, board president.

A meet-and-greet open house is planned but no date has been set.

For more information, call 541-481-3014 or stop by the chamber office, located in the SAGE Center, 101 Olson Road, Boardman.

Luncheon features business safety tips and BMCC bond information

HERMISTON — The March Business to Business luncheon will include tips on how to protect your business from being victimized and information about the Blue Mountain Community College bond proposal.

Erica Sandoval of the Hermiston Police Department will discuss Prevention Through Environmental Design. The topic will provide tips on how businesses can fortify their property to minimize the likelihood of being victimized.

Also, Cam Preus, president of Blue Mountain Community College, will share details about the bond that will appear on the May 19 ballot. She will explain about the new facilities, overview of the bond and how it will benefit the students, faculty, staff and local citizens for years to come.

The no-host luncheon meeting is Tuesday at 11:45 a.m. at the Hermiston Conference Center, 415 S. Highway 395.

The meal is \$10 for members and \$13 for non-members. To RSVP, contact 541-567-6151 or info@hermistonchamber.com.

Business briefs are compiled from staff and wire reports, and press releases. Email press releases to business@eastoregonian.com

Milton-Freewater teen killed in car crash on I-84

East Oregonian

A 14-year-old Milton-Freewater boy was killed Thursday in a car crash that injured four other people on Interstate 84 near Ladd Canyon.

About 7 p.m., Fisher Schroeder was sitting in the center seat of a 2000 Ford Excursion that was pulling a travel trailer. Todd Schroeder, 54, was driving four passengers in the eastbound vehicle when it lost control and rolled over into the center median.

Fisher was ejected from the vehicle and pronounced dead at the scene.

Jerry Schroeder, 73, also of Milton-Freewater, was seriously injured in the crash and transported via air ambulance to Legacy Emanuel Hospital in Portland. The driver and two other juvenile passengers suffered minor injuries and were treated and released from Grande Ronde Hospital in La Grande.

Fisher was an eighth-grader at Rogers Adventist School in College Place, according to the Walla Walla Union-Bulletin.

The cause of the crash is under investigation, including the use of seat belts.



A 14-year-old Milton-Freewater boy died Thursday night in a wreck near milepost 277 of Interstate 84.

Photo contributed by Oregon State Police

HERMISTON

Rowdy teenagers at parks targeted by ordinance

By JADE MCDOWELL
East Oregonian

The Hermiston City Council will consider an ordinance Monday night to allow law enforcement to trespass people from city parks for "using park equipment in any manner other than its intended use and design."

According to the staff report attached to the ordinance, it came about because the police department has been getting regular complaints about some rowdy teenagers who are reportedly causing problems at McKenzie Park by littering, mock fighting, swearing, urinating in the cook shack and

misusing equipment. Police haven't been able to catch them in the act of doing anything illegal, and haven't been able to persuade the teens to relocate their hangout voluntarily, according to the report.

The ordinance would give officers the latitude to bar people from parks for 30 days for things like jumping bicycles and skateboards from the gazebo to the top of a picnic table, which the teens have been caught doing.

"Though this may not cause damage (which is what is needed for a vandalism charge), it is not what the picnic table was designed for,"

the report says.

On Monday the council will also consider a slew of budget adjustments involving interfund loans to pay for various city projects.

One resolution would transfer \$115,000 from the general fund to the reserve fund to pay for improvements to Victory Square Park.

Another resolution would create five new accounts in the reserve fund, including one for a skate park and one for a new entrance to Public Works off Elm Street.

The third resolution authorizes a list of expenditures not originally included in the 2014-2015 budget that will

cover increased personnel costs, equipment costs, maintenance, software and other unexpected expenses.

The supplemental budget can be examined online at www.hermiston.or.us or at city hall, 180 N.E. Second St.

The council will also discuss its goal-setting process and consider the annexation of property at 1855 N.E. Second St. Before its regular meeting the council will listen to a presentation by Blue Mountain Community College at 6 p.m.

IRRIGON

Freshman invited to medical conference

By JADE MCDOWELL
East Oregonian

This summer a freshman from Irrigon Jr./Sr. High School will rub shoulders with Nobel Prize winners and some of the top surgeons in the world.

Based on a nomination by school staff, Katlin Newdiger was invited to attend this year's Congress of Future Medical Leaders. The conference is designed to inspire young would-be medical professionals at a time when the American Association of Medical Schools is warning that America will face a shortage of 90,000 doctors by 2025.

The death of a classmate last fall inspired Newdiger to become a psychiatrist to help people with depression and prescribe medications that

can treat mental illnesses.

"I thought I wanted to be a nurse, or a nurse practitioner," she said, "but then a girl at school committed suicide, and I decided I wanted to become a psychiatrist to help people like that."

She said she doesn't know exactly why her teachers nominated her, but they know about her career aspirations and know she takes school seriously.

"I'm a straight A student and I aim for A pluses," she said.

While at the conference Newdiger said she will get to watch a surgery performed live and hear from a variety of speakers, including four Nobel Prize for medicine or

physiology winners, the U.S. Surgeon General and the surgeon who performed the world's first successful full face transplant. She will also get to rub shoulders with other future medical students.

"Being able to fly across the country and meet new people is really exciting for me," she said.

In order to be able to go, Newdiger needs to raise enough money for the \$985 tuition and plane tickets to Lowell, Massachusetts, before the conference's April 27 deadline.

Anyone interested in helping her with fundraising can call her at 541-561-6054 or email katlin.newdiger@gmail.com.



Newdiger

Blue Mountain Community College Alumni in the Spotlight



**Jordan McDonald, BMCC Class of 2007
President/Vice President Wtech Link
Pendleton**

Jordan McDonald knows that to own a successful business, you need to be able to communicate effectively and have a good foundation in reading and writing professionally. That's why he chose BMCC to earn his Associate of Arts Oregon Transfer and Associate of Science degrees. "I got a lot of great reading and writing skills from BMCC that I use regularly in my business. Since I was already in business with Wtech Link when I decided to start college, BMCC was the right choice since it's right in Pendleton — I could continue to run my business while going to school with a flexible schedule."

Have you heard about the BMCC bond?

BMCC wants to continue to provide a high-quality education for students so they can succeed like our many distinguished alumni! Check out the bond page on our website to learn more about how BMCC could continue to provide an affordable education for family-wage jobs, a safe and secure learning environment and protect the community's investment. Look for the bond on the May 19, 2015, ballot!

www.bluecc.edu/about-bmcc/bond-measure

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