

HERMISTON

Council to consider electric rate increase, budget

By JADE MCDOWELL
East Oregonian

Citizens who want to give input on a proposed electric rate increase and the 2016-2017 budget for the city of Hermiston will have their opportunity Monday.

The council will hold a public budget hearing at 7 p.m. at city hall, 180 N.E. Second St., on Monday before considering the budget for adoption.

The proposed budget includes

construction of the Harkenrider Center downtown to replace the current senior center and \$130,000 for the West Highland Trail project, which will create a paved pedestrian/bicycle trail from Riverfront Park to 11th Street parallel to Highland Avenue. It also includes money to repaint the water tower with the city's new "Where Life is Sweet" brand and \$70,000 to purchase a bus and begin a Dial-a-Ride program sponsored by the city.

Under the proposed budget, staff would gain a 2.25 percent cost of living raise.

After the public hearing the council will consider a series of resolutions that must be passed in connection to the budget, including adoption of a compensation plan and establishment of the reserve accounts.

On Monday the council will also consider approval of a rate increase for Hermiston Energy Services, which is facing increased costs

for capital improvement and for wholesale power from Bonneville Power Administration.

The changes to the various customer classes, which average to a 2.59 percent increase overall, would result in an additional \$3.50 for the average residential customer. The increase would stop Hermiston Energy Services from continuing to deplete its reserves to subsidize significant increases in the cost of wholesale power from BPA.

The resolution before the

city council would also approve restructure of the bond that paid for creation of Hermiston Energy Services, saving money on interest but also adding \$4.5 million in principal. The additional money will be used to improve Hermiston's power grid and reduce outages, starting with a new substation to cover territory east of Highway 395.

Contact Jade McDowell at jmcdowell@eastoregonian.com or 541-564-4536.

BOARDMAN

Love's adds third location in Oregon

East Oregonian

Road warriors crossing Eastern Oregon on Interstate 84 have a new place to stop and fill up their tanks.

Love's Travel Stops officially opened its newest location Thursday morning on Tower Road west of Boardman. The center includes a 24-hour convenience store, fuel pumps, tire repair shop and Carl's Jr. restaurant.

"We are very excited to expand our presence in Oregon and especially thrilled to become a member of the Boardman community," said company founder and executive chairman Tom Love. "This location gives us a great opportunity to serve members of the community, travelers and professional drivers."

Based in Oklahoma, Love's Travel Stops has more than 380 stores in 40 states nationwide. The chain



Staff photo by Gary West

Love's Travel Stops officially opened its Boardman location on Thursday.

has two other locations along I-84 in Oregon, in Ontario and Troutdale.

The 11,000-square-foot Boardman center has 16 fuel pumps, 95 truck parking spaces and seven showers

available for professional drivers. Spokeswoman Kealey Dorian said the facility cost roughly \$11 million, and has hired a staff of approximately 40 employees.

A ribbon cutting ceremony will be held at 10 a.m. Wednesday, June 15. Love's will also donate \$2,000 to the Boardman Community Development Association.

MILTON-FREEWATER

Death of 5-month-old under investigation

By STEPHANIE TSHAPPAT
Walla Walla Union-Bulletin

The Umatilla County Major Crime Team is investigating the Wednesday death of a Milton-Freewater baby, officials said in a news release Friday.

Walla Walla County Coroner Richard Greenwood said the 5-month-old boy died at Providence St. Mary Medical Center, Walla Walla, at 6:23 p.m. An autopsy is scheduled for 1 p.m. Saturday.

Milton-Freewater police

officials said the Umatilla County Major Crime Team was activated to investigate the death. Neither Milton-Freewater City Manager Linda Hall nor Umatilla County District Attorney Dan Primus, the designated spokesman for the team, returned a request for comment as of press time.

According to Greenwood, the baby was taken to St. Mary from an Elizabeth Street address by Milton-Freewater Rural Fire Department at 5:30 p.m.

PENDLETON

BMCC to break ground on new agriculture facility

East Oregonian

Blue Mountain Community College will break ground Monday on the third of three major construction projects approved by voters in its May 2015 bond measure.

The groundbreaking for the Facility for Agricultural Resource Management (FARM) is scheduled for 2 p.m., Monday, at the facility's future site next to the current agriculture center on the north side of the Pendleton campus. The public is invited to attend.

The FARM will house BMCC's agriculture programs, including agriculture production, crops and livestock, agriculture business, pest management, beef production, meat science, greenhouse production and veterinary assisting programs. The project is expected to

be completed late next spring

BMCC broke ground on its two other major bond construction projects earlier this spring — the Precision Irrigated Agriculture Center in Hermiston in April and the Workforce Training Center in Boardman in May. The Hermiston project has a projected spring 2017 completion, while the Boardman project is expected to be complete by winter 2017. BMCC will also begin work on upgrades to electrical and HVAC systems, as well as natural gas line repairs, this summer.

BMCC's \$23 million capital construction bond approved by voters included all of these projects, as well as additional safety, security and technology improvements, and improvements to the Milton-Freewater center.

BRIEFLY

Fire Department to hold practice burn Monday

PENDLETON — The Pendleton Fire Department will be conducting a practice burn in the launch area for the annual Fourth of July firework show west of Wal-Mart Monday, according to a department press release.

The department is using the burn as both a training opportunity and a chance to clear flammable vegetation from the launch area.

For questions, please call Capt. Dave Baty at 541-276-1442.

BMCC renews Preus' contract

PENDLETON — The Blue Mountain Community College Board of Education renewed President Cam Preus' contract for three more years at a board meeting Wednesday.

According to a press release, the members of the board praised Preus for her professionalism and her ability to develop relationships.

Preus attributed her success to the people who work under her.

"We could not have passed a bond, or have been so successful with our student success initiatives, or have improved relationships across campus without those who work with me and throughout the College," she said in a statement. "I'm also fortunate to have a Board that trusts and supports me."

Originally hired in 2013, Preus is now under contract through June 30, 2019.

Outing features historic Maxville

WALLOWA — Participants will have an opportunity to learn about the historic community of Maxville through Wallowa Land Trust's Into The Wallowa Outings & Lectures program.

Maxville, an old railroad logging town near Wallowa, was home to the only segregated school in Oregon. Gwen Trice of the Maxville Heritage Interpreter Center and local forester Bruce Dunn will share about the multicultural logging community that operated until the early 1930s.

Maxville: A Natural History of Place is Saturday,

June 18 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Transportation will be provided from Wallowa (register to obtain specific details). The event is free, but donations are appreciated.

For more information about upcoming programs or to register for Maxville, contact info@wallowalandtrust.org, 541-426-2042 or visit www.wallowalandtrust.org.

Historical society plans road trip

WALLA WALLA — A tour bus will take a group of people to the Saint-Jean Baptiste Day Celebration in Walla Walla.

The Morrow County Historical Society is coordinating the trip Saturday, June 25, departing from Boardman at 8 a.m. and returning about 3 p.m. Transportation is provided and there is no charge. Participants are encouraged to bring some money, as the Frenchtown Historic Foundation will offer a potato bar lunch.

In its fourth year, the event is held at the Frenchtown Historic Site at 8364 Old Highway 12, Walla Walla. It includes tours, a presentation about further restoration projects, music and entertainment.

For more information

or to reserve a spot of the bus, call Dave DeMayo at 541-676-8017.

Beep Baseball goes to bat for vision center

PASCO — Instead of asking if the umpire is blind, the baseball players will be.

The Seattle South King Sluggers, a visually impaired and blind team, will take on the Tri-Cities Dust Devils. An affiliate of the San Diego Padres, the Class A team will be blindfolded as they play Beep Baseball against the visually impaired team.

A modified game, an oversized softball beeps and the base posts buzz. Players will have spotters to help direct where the ball is. The purpose of the event is to educate the community about adaptive sports for the blind and visually impaired.

A fundraiser for the Edith Bishel Center, the event is Saturday, July 2 at 6:15 p.m. at GESA Stadium, Pasco. Tickets are \$25 for adults and \$20 for kids. The ticket includes the Beep Baseball game, dinner and upper box seating for the regular Dust Devils game against the Everett AquaSox that follows at 7:15 p.m.

Located at 628 N. Arthur St., Kennewick, the Edith Bishel Center serves the blind

and visually impaired in southeastern Washington and northeastern Oregon. It offers training, education, products and resources for the visually impaired community.

For more information or to purchase tickets, contact 509-735 0699, daniel@edithbishelcenter.org or visit www.edithbishelcenter.org.

Park rounds up yard sale

PENDLETON — One-stop shopping for people looking for treasures in planned in Pendleton.

A Community Yard Sale is set for Saturday, July 2 from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Roy Raley Park, 1205 S.W. Court Ave., Pendleton. Booth registration, which is \$20, is due by noon Thursday, June 30.

To register, visit www.pendletonparksandrec.com or stop by the parks office, 865 Tutuilla Road. For more information, call 541-276-8100.

Submit information to community@eastoregonian.com or drop off to the attention of Tammy Malgesini at 333 E. Main St., Hermiston or Renee Struthers at 211 S.E. Byers Ave., Pendleton. Call 541-564-4539 or 541-966-0818 with questions.

Thanking Our Sponsors

Our annual Old Iron Show is a vital regional and community event, free to all. The Umatilla County Historical Society thanks our 2016 sponsors, whose support carries on the tradition.

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We also thank the hard-working volunteers, who make this show possible.

HERITAGE STATION
The Umatilla County Historical Society Museum

**KICK 'N
CANCER**
New Beginnings
COMPASSIONATE SUPPORT
FOR CANCER SURVIVORS

4th Annual

Golf Classic

A HUGE thank you to everyone that gave their time, energy and dollars to the Kick'n Cancer New Beginnings (KCNB) Fourth Annual Golf Classic. All proceeds stay here in the Pendleton area and will benefit the KCNB Spirit Program. Because of your generous support and participation, we are able to offer a program where survivors of cancer can heal both physically and mentally and begin to resume their normal lives. Thank you to all the generous sponsors, donors, the Pendleton Country Club, golf participants, volunteers and media.

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And our 43 Hole Sponsors:
The Golf Tournament was a huge success and we thank you all!

If you know someone recently surviving cancer please refer them to our "Spirit Program". Please contact Deb Shampine at 541-276-0880 at the Roundup Athletic Club for more information.

Join us for a 90th Birthday

CELEBRATION

~ honoring ~

MARY ANN RYDER

Saturday June 18, 2016 2:00 to 4:00 PM

Roger's Fellowship Room
First Presbyterian Church
201 SW Dorian Ave • Pendleton Oregon

NO GIFTS PLEASE