

**PILOT ROCK**

**City considers disbanding planning commission**

East Oregonian

The Pilot Rock City Council votes Tuesday night on a proposal to suspend the city planning commission.

The small town about 15 miles south of Pendleton has not had a full planning commission since 2014, when the city council approved a plan to reduce the membership from seven to at least four. Mayor Virginia Carnes said it is difficult enough to maintain the city council, which is swearing in four members, while trying to keep a planning commission going has been frustrating.

City reporter Teri Porter in a memo to the council stated the membership now stands at four, including herself, and

another member is likely to resign.

"Notice has been posted on and off for the past two-and-half years trying to recruit another member," according to the memo. "The latest notice has been posted for two months solid without one citizen interested in serving."

The city council would take on the duties of the planning commission in its absence. The council also could resurrect the commission if Pilot Rock citizens show interest.

Pilot Rock City Council meets Tuesday at 7 p.m. at city hall, 144 N. Alder Place. The council also plans to appoint officers and consider a fleet safety program and a volunteer policy manual.

**BRIEFLY**

**Skateboarding teen injured after car hits him**

HERMISTON — A Hermiston teen was injured when he was struck by a car Friday night while riding his skateboard down North First Place between West Harper Road and West Elm Street.

Hermiston Police Chief Jason Edmiston said that according to witnesses, the 15-year-old boy, Costa Maldonado, was riding his skateboard in the middle of the roadway and was wearing dark clothing when he was hit by a vehicle, driven by 19-year-old Nicolas Magana of Hermiston.

Maldonado was taken to Good Shepherd Medical Center for treatment.

Edmiston said the cause of the crash is still under investigation.

**Free classes provide tools for caregivers**

A pair of Powerful Tools for Caregivers classes will be offered in the new year.

One that focuses on adults with chronic conditions will be presented in Mission. The self-care sessions for family caregivers runs for six Thursdays from 2:30-4 p.m. starting Jan. 12 in the Cayuse and Umatilla rooms at the Nixyaawii Governance Center, 46411 Ti'mine Way, Mission. To register, call Anita at 541-278-5664.

Sessions that focus on family or caregivers of children with special needs are offered in Hermiston. The six weekly sessions begin Tuesday, Jan. 24 from 4:30-6:30 p.m. at Good Shepherd Medical Center. To register, call 541-667-3509.

Coordinated through Community Action Program of East Central Oregon, there is no charge for either program. For more information about classes offered through CAPECO, contact Helena Wolfe at hwolfe@capeco-works.org.

**Oldies Night returns to 1957**

MILTON-FREEWATER — Was 2016 a bad year? Don't want to face 2017? Why not go back to 1957 instead? Oldies Night at Milton-Freewater starts out the new year Saturday beginning at 6 p.m. at Wesley United Methodist Church fellowship hall, 816 S. Main St., with an expanded song list.

BJ the DJ will spin 75 songs from that year, including hits from musicians as varied as Elvis Presley, Frank Sinatra, Nat King Cole, Harry Belafonte, Jerry Lee Lewis and Margie Rayburn. Included with the music is background information on the songs, artists and writers. And The Frogs will offer light refreshments.

Admission, as always, is free, and the music is suitable for all ages. For more information, email Bob Jones at dubuquer@charter.net or call 541-938-7028.

**Chamber seeks award nominations**

HEPPNER — The Heppner Chamber of Commerce is accepting nominations for the annual Town and Country Community Awards.

The award categories include Man of the Year, Woman of the Year, Business of the Year, Youth of the Year, Citizen-Educator of the Year and Lifetime Achievement. Forms are available at the Bank of Eastern Oregon, Heppner City Hall, Community Bank and the chamber office.

Completed nomination forms must be submitted by Friday, Jan. 13 at Kuhn Law Offices, the Heppner Chamber of Commerce or via email at heppnerchamber@centurytel.net.

The awards banquet is Feb. 9 at 6 p.m. at the Morrow County Fairgrounds. Tickets will be available at a later date.

For more information, call the chamber at 541-676-5536.

**Madison Farms storage shed burns**

By JAYATI RAMAKRISHNAN  
East Oregonian

No one was injured in a blaze that destroyed a large storage building at Madison Ranches in an early Saturday morning fire.

The Echo Volunteer Fire Department got the call at 6:09 a.m., and sent 10 crew members out to the site, three engines and two water tenders. Members of the Umatilla Fire District 1, as well as crews from other departments in both Umatilla and Morrow counties, assisted them.

The building that burned was located near the junction of Highway 207 and Oregon Trail Road about 9 miles west-southwest of Echo and about 11 miles south of Hermiston.

Echo Fire Chief Delbert Gehrke said he doesn't suspect any foul play in the start of the fire.

"Some type of ceiling-mounted electric heater — that's what we're guessing," he said.

Gehrke said it took crews about two and a half hours to get the flames under control.

Jake Madison of Madison Ranches said the building was not salvageable and will have to be replaced.

"A portion of our storage building was burned," he said. "It was pretty substantial. It made a steel building melt down. Probably a 60-by-60 (square foot) piece of the building was lost."

Madison said the cause of the fire is still under investigation, and he doesn't know yet what the cost in damages will be, but he was relieved



A storage building at Madison Farms near Hermiston was severely damaged in a fire on Saturday. Photo contributed by Echo Rural Fire Protection District

no one was injured.

"It could have been much worse," he said. "We're very grateful for the quick response from all the fire departments, from both Umatilla and

Morrow counties."

Contact Jayati Ramakrishnan at jramakrishnan@hermistonherald.com or 541-564-4534.

**PENDLETON**

**Arts center offers youth art, music classes**

By TAMMY MALGESINI  
East Oregonian

Free classes youths starting up Jan. 11 and 12 will feature everything from learning to play guitar to working with clay and collages.

Pendleton Center for the Arts offers art and music workshops through its Art Rocks Teens (A.R.T.) program. Youths ages 13-18 can participate free of charge. In addition to the sessions offered at the arts center, 214 N. Main St., Pendleton, a satellite guitar class will be available in Hermiston.

Upcoming classes in Pendleton include:

- Cut and Paste Collage: four Wednesdays beginning Jan. 11 from 3:30-5 p.m. Youths will get creative with cut out images from magazines. Collage art can elicit dreamy designs, images and narratives that you'd never come up with on your own (think Hannah Höch and the Dadaists). Participants will make some collages that can be used for posters, T-shirt designs and more.
- Working with Clay: 11 Thursdays beginning Jan. 12 from 3:30-5 p.m. Participants can step into the third dimension with a workshop that provides depth in sculpting, building and constructing with clay. No experience is necessary.
- Beginning Guitar: For



Brian Purnell instructs a teen in a free after-school class in the Alice Fossatti Ceramics Studio at Pendleton Center for the Arts. Clay, collage and guitar classes are starting up next week through the free Art Rocks Teens program.

Brand New Beginners: eight Wednesdays beginning Jan. 11 from 3:30-5 p.m. Participants can build a solid foundation playing the guitar through learning basic chords, strumming

patterns, and how to tune and re-string your instrument.

•Guitar 2: For Experienced Beginners and Beyond: 11 Thursdays beginning Jan. 12 from

3:30-5 p.m. Guitarists can meet with other musicians to practice songs and styles of their choice. In addition, bass players are welcome to join the sessions. Some instruments are available for student use.

Youths in the Hermiston area can learn to play guitar during free classes at the Hermiston Public Library.

Beginning Guitar: For Brand New Beginners offers weekly sessions beginning Wednesday, Jan. 11 from 4-5:30 p.m. at 235 E. Gladys Ave. The weekly sessions run through March 8.

Participants will gain a solid foundation for playing the guitar. A variety of music styles will be covered, including rock, country, folk and blues. No music experience is required. Both acoustic and electric guitars are welcome. For those who don't have their own guitar, loaner instruments are available for the duration of the class.

Parental permission forms are required for participation, which can be picked up at the first class.

For more information about the A.R.T. program offerings, contact Bonnie Day at info@pendletonarts.org, 541-278-9201 or visit www.pendletonarts.org.

Contact Community Editor Tammy Malgesini at tmalgesini@eastoregonian.com or 541-564-4539

**POWERFUL TOOLS FOR THE CAREGIVER:**  
Caring for Children with Special Needs: Build a toolkit for taking better care of yourself while caring for your child, grandchild or other child with special needs. Learn how to reduce stress and relax, communicate effectively, reduce guilt and anger, make tough decisions, set goals and problem solve. **FREE.**  
**Tuesdays • 4:30 - 6:30pm**  
**Starting Jan. 24 through Feb. 28**  
Call 541-667-3509  
GSMC Conference Room 7 (by the GS Education Dept) includes book "The Caregiver Help"

**PREVENT TYPE 2 INFO SESSION**  
One out of every three American adults has prediabetes - and 90% don't know it! Learn how the Prevent T2 program can help prevent or delay the progression to type 2 diabetes. (Prevent T2 classes will be scheduled to meet participants needs.) **FREE.**  
Attend one of the times listed below  
**4:00pm - 5:00pm OR 6:00pm - 7:00pm**  
**Wednesday, January 11**  
Must pre-register, call 541-667-3509

**LIVING WELL: BETTER CHOICES, BETTER HEALTH**  
Have you been diagnosed with high blood pressure, heart disease, arthritis or another long-term health condition? Find practical ways to living well by making a step-by-step plan to improve your health...and your life. 6 weekly **FREE** classes, open to patients, caregivers/support person or both. Pre-registration required.  
**6 weekly sessions**  
**Starting Jan. 26 • 4:30-6:30pm**  
OR starting April 6 - 2:30-5:00pm  
Must pre-register, call 541-667-3509

Information or to register call (541) 667-3509 or email healthinfo@gshealth.org www.gshealth.org  
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**JANUARY 2017 EVENTS**

**Oregon Truffle Festival**  
FRESH TRUFFLE MARKETPLACE  
With or without wine tasting  
Sunday, January 22 • 11am-4pm • Newberg, OR  
Sunday, January 29 • 11am-4pm • Eugene, OR  
THE JORIAD™ TRUFFLE DOG COMPETITION  
Thursday, January 26 • 9am-Noon • Eugene, OR  
OREGON TRUFFLE MACDOWN  
Thursday, January 26 • 6:30-9pm • Eugene

Something fun for everyone at OTF 2017!  
TICKETS & INFO: oregontrufflefestival.com

COPPER TO GOLD: PENNY TASTINGS EVERY DAY IN JANUARY  
\*Visit us online for winter hours and closures.

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2015 PACIFIC NORTHWEST WINERY OF THE YEAR  
WINE PRESS NORTHWEST  
TRAVEL AWARDS 2015

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