

STANFIELD

New downtown codes become law

Sets standards for paint colors, awnings and more

By **JADE MCDOWELL**
East Oregonian

The city of Stanfield is hoping for a more cohesive, attractive downtown after the city council voted a new set of development codes into law on Tuesday night.

The codes include standards for paint colors, awnings for pedestrians, HVAC systems screened from view, prominent windows and other elements that city manager Blair Larsen said were meant to create a “more walkable downtown.”

“If you plan it, hopefully they will come,” he said.

The new standards will apply to new developments and changes to current developments. If a downtown business wants to repaint their building, for example, they would have to check with city hall to make sure the color fits in with the city’s chosen color palette for downtown.

The approved palette isn’t meant to turn all of

Stanfield’s buildings into the same color, Larsen said, but rather to control for very bright, loud colors that don’t fit with Stanfield’s historic buildings.

“We have a pretty big palette of colors, so it wouldn’t be hard for someone to find a color they like,” he said.

Larsen said the new standards are not something the city wants to “ram down people’s throats,” but rather work with them to help their property fit into a more aesthetically pleasing, pedestrian-friendly downtown.

The city has a facade grant program for downtown buildings that Larsen said would apply to new paint, awnings, and other improvements suggested by the code. The deadline for this year’s grants, which provide up to a 50 percent match, is January 31.

Grant applications and the new development codes can be found online at www.cityofstanfield.com or at city hall, 160 S. Main St.

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

BRIEFLY

CDA to meet Friday in Umatilla

UMATILLA — The Columbia Development Authority will meet Friday in Umatilla to discuss the newly completed water deal with the Oregon National Guard and the remaining steps toward local control of the former Umatilla Chemical Depot.

The meeting is 1 p.m. Jan. 6 at the Port of Umatilla office, 505 Willamette St., in Umatilla.

It will be the board’s first meeting since the U.S. Army sent a letter to the CDA agreeing to a deal that would give the CDA water rights for 73 percent of the water available, with the remaining controlled by the Oregon National Guard. The months-long negotiations over water were one of the last major hurdles to the transfer of the land from the Army to the CDA.

Also on the agenda will be an update on the cultural resource/archaeological study that still needs to be completed, results of a cheatgrass bacteria field trial, a wastewater exception with the city of Umatilla, a draft of a memorandum agreement with the Army’s Base Realignment and Closure office, an executive session and a discussion titled “Where do we go from here?”

The board will welcome new administrative assistant Joleen Horning and new board chair Don Russell.

Petsense opens January 19

HERMISTON — Petsense is opening its doors in Hermiston on Jan. 19.

The pet supply store will hold a grand opening celebration, including raffle drawing, on Jan. 21 at 9 a.m.

Petsense is a national retailer that carries a wide variety of supplies for household pets including dogs, cats, fish, reptiles and birds. It also provides grooming services, training services and vet clinics.

The Hermiston location at 1930 N. First St. (constructed next to Big 5) is 5,400 square feet. The store, managed by Nikki Johnson, plans to employ about eight associates including groomers. Applications for sales associates, groomers and trainers can be filled out online at petsensellc.com.

West coast market manager Nikki Cordray said in an email that Petsense is a “place for pet lovers” that works to promote responsible

pet ownership through community involvement and education.

“Our mission is to operate stores that are exciting and fun, staffed with friendly, knowledgeable associates passionate about making the pet lover’s shopping a world class experience,” she said.

Spin-In celebrates St. Distaff’s Day

PENDLETON — Drawing on a 500-year-old tradition that marks the end of the Christmas break, Pendleton Center for the Arts will celebrate St. Distaff’s Day.

During medieval times, the day would mark the time when women would resume their normal household chores, which included spinning fiber for use in making garments. A distaff is a tool used to wrap fiber around to keep it out of the way while spinning. Spinners around the world celebrate by gathering to spin fiber and enjoy each others’ company.

The event is being held in conjunction with the regular monthly Saturday Spin-In from 1-4 p.m. at the arts center, 214 N. Main St., Pendleton. Fiber enthusiasts are invited to gather around the fireplace to knit, crochet, spin and visit. Everyone is welcome, whether working on a project or not.

For more information, call 541-278-9201.

Grand Geiser hosts winemaker dinner

BAKER CITY — A special winemaker dinner showcases Lodmell Cellars of Walla Walla.

Winemaker Kristie Lodmell will be on hand during the event, which features a five-course dinner with selected wine pairings. In addition, a special barrel sample of Lodmell Cellars Late Harvest Port-style Syrah/Merlot will be available.

As part of a fourth generation Walla Walla family, Lodmell left a corporate career in the sciences that took her across the globe. She returned to her roots on the family farm and vineyard where she served as an assistant winemaker since 2007. She took over as head winemaker this past summer.

Limited seating is available for the event, which is Saturday at 7 p.m. at the historic Geiser Grand Hotel, 1996 Main St., Baker City. The cost is \$75. For more information or reservations, call 541-523-1889.

BOARDMAN

KidWind Challenge coming to Riverside

Workshop for educators to be held Saturday

By **GEORGE PLAVEN**
East Oregonian

A national program dedicated to teaching kids about the benefits and mechanics of wind energy is coming to Boardman.

The KidWind Challenge, where students design, build and demonstrate their own functioning wind turbines, will hold a competition March 18 at Riverside Junior-Senior High School. Challenges are also slated for Portland, Seattle, Medford and Ellensburg, Washington across the Pacific Northwest.

Jon Roschke, regional director for the KidWind Project, will lead a workshop for teachers Saturday at Riverside to provide materials and develop lesson plans.

“It’s just really fun, hands-on learning for the kids,” Roschke said.

The teacher workshop is scheduled from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. It is sponsored by EDP Renewables, which operates two wind farms in Eastern Oregon — one in Arlington, and one in Union.

Roschke, who lives in Portland, also has ties to the wind energy industry. He spent two and a half years working for a wind manufacturer in Newberg, and started his own renewable



The KidWind Challenge, where students design, build and test their own functioning wind turbines, is coming March 18 to Boardman.

Photo contributed by KidWind Project

energy consulting company in 2011.

In 2013, Roschke received a \$30,000 grant from Facebook to hold four KidWind workshops around the state, including one in Pendleton, which he said was highly successful.

“I’ve been trying to find more ways to fund activities in Eastern Oregon,” Roschke said. “I love to be in an area where wind is a big issue.”

KidWind was founded in 2002, based in Saint Paul, Minnesota. Approximately 11,000 students, from sixth through 12th grade, have

competed in the KidWind Challenge, including 1,334 during the 2015-16 school year.

The goal of the program, Roschke said, is to teach the importance of wind energy through affordable, available resources.

“I like to just answer some of the myths and misconceptions of wind,” he said. “There’s a lot of pros and cons to every energy source. To have that conversation is something I love.”

Renewable energy is something that will impact students’ lives for years to

come, Roschke said, and the KidWind Challenge is something that can get their creative juices flowing.

“Learning doesn’t just have to be by reading a book,” he said. “You can actually be building something.”

For more information about the KidWind Challenge, contact Roschke at 503-989-6824. Registration ends Friday for Saturday’s teacher workshop.

Contact George Plaven at gplaven@eastoregonian.com or 541-966-0825.

PENDLETON

EOU professor pieces together art exhibit

Opens with Jan. 12 reception at Feves gallery

By **TAMMY MALGESINI**
East Oregonian

Trained as a painter during undergraduate studies, Cory Peeke took a few years off from school and began dabbling in collage art while living in San Francisco.

“It was an expensive place to live,” he said. “I couldn’t always afford art supplies, so I started collecting things I could find and incorporating it into my work.”

The La Grande man said he enjoys the art form for much the same reason he enjoys curating — he loves images. Peeke has been the director of Nightingale Gallery at Eastern Oregon University — where he also teaches art — since 2003.

With his tongue seemingly firmly planted in his cheek, Peeke states in his biography, “I stick stuff to other stuff ... and kid myself about the rest.” Some of his collage work — the word collage is derived from the French word “coller,” which means “to glue” — is featured in an upcoming exhibit at the Betty Feves Memorial Gallery at Blue Mountain Community College.

Titled “this page intentionally left blank,” the show opens with an artist’s reception Thursday, Jan. 12 from 4:30-6:30 p.m. in the Pioneer Hall gallery at 2411 N.W. Carden Ave., Pendleton. There is no admission charge.

Peeke describes collage art as a technique where a variety of images are combined and assembled to create one new image. The artist collects old books and catalogs, often from estate sales and thrift stores.

“You will find stuff people throw away,” he said, and then laughed. “I do some dumpster diving on occasion.”

Peeke admits he has stacks and stacks of mate-

rials. Although, he said, it’s not very well organized.

“That’s part of the fun of it,” he said. “I start digging for something and I end up finding things that spark another idea. It’s kind of like a treasure hunt.”

Creating a project, Peeke said, is more of an organic process. He used to conceptualize an idea in his mind. However, he recognized the end product was rarely what he had envisioned when he started.

“Now I sit down with things ... and kind of go from there without a clear agenda of what I want to do with it,” he explained.

The art form, Peeke said, has gone through a sort of reinvigoration. He has done some writing for Kolaj, a magazine published in Canada that’s dedicated to artists working in the medium of collage.

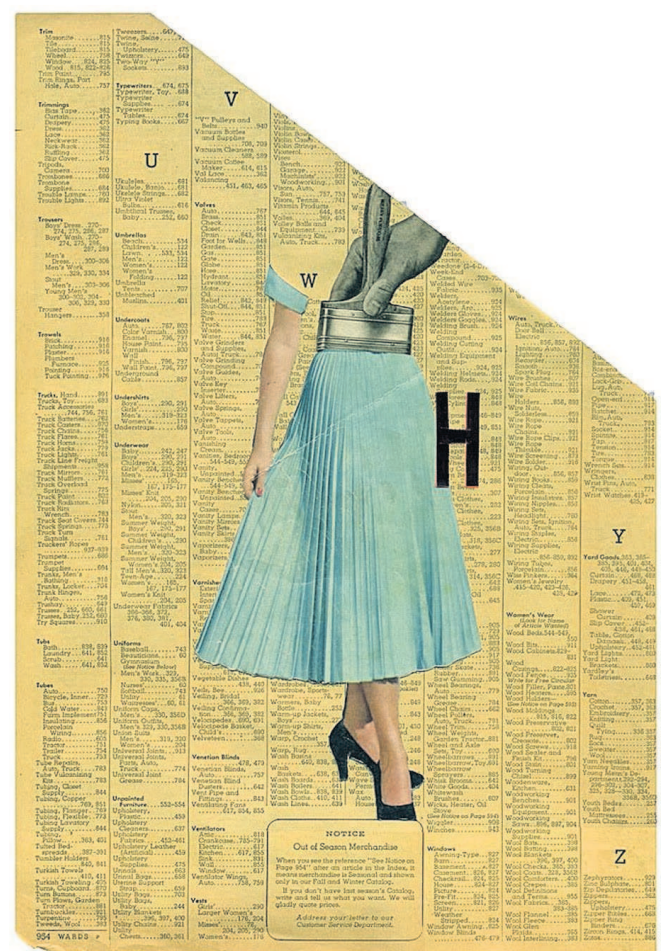
He said the publication includes an international circulation, which suggests there’s definitely an interest in collage as an art form. In addition, there are many collage groups on social media. Peeke has done collaborative work with other collage artists after meeting electronically.

“Considering we’re analog people, we depend on the digital world to connect,” he said.

The exhibit runs through Thursday, Feb. 9. Betty Feves Memorial Gallery is open Monday through Thursdays from 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. and by appointment by calling 541-278-5952.

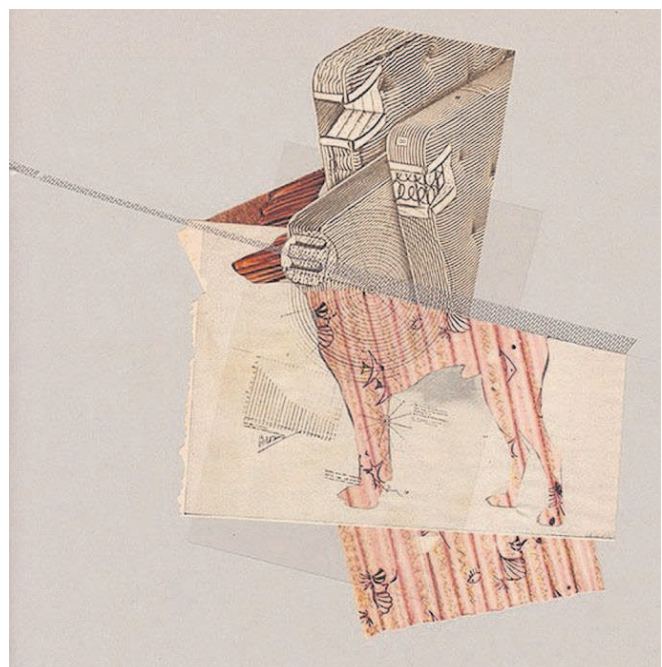
For more information about the gallery, visit www.bluecc.edu/community/feves-art-gallery. For more information about Peeke, visit www.facebook.com/corywpeeke or www.corypeeke.com/home.html.

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



Contributed image

Collage art by Cory Peeke, director of the Nightingale Gallery in La Grande, opens Jan. 12 at the Betty Feves Memorial Gallery in Pendleton.



Contributed image

Collage art by Cory Peeke, director of the Nightingale Gallery in La Grande, opens Jan. 12 at the Betty Feves Memorial Gallery in Pendleton.

Heppner gears up for St. Patrick’s Day

HEPPNER — The leprechauns are getting ready for this year’s Wee Bit O’Irland festival in Heppner. Heppner chamber executive director Sheryll Bates is seeking input on when to schedule the first meeting — dates to choose from are

Jan. 11, 12, 18 or 25. The gathering would start at 6 p.m. at Heppner City Hall, 111 N. Main St. Pizza and beverages will be provided.

For more information, contact Bates at 541-676-5536 or heppnerchamber@centurytel.net.

Email press releases to news@eastoregonian.com

Collectorswest.com

GUN & KNIFE Shows

You Never Know What You'll Find At A Collectors West Gun & Knife Show!

January 7th & 8th
Hermiston
Conference Center

\$7 • Sat: 9a-5p, Sun: 10a-3p • Info: collectorswest.com