

STANFIELD

# Nuisance ordinance approved to cover bad odors

Rules for mobile vendors discussed as new business readies to open

By JADE MCDOWELL  
East Oregonian

Stanfield's city council passed a new nuisance ordinance Tuesday, but the city is giving 3D Idapro Solutions until the end of November to fix its odor problems before it begins levying fines.

"We already had an agreement with them so we will give them until the date we agreed," said Councilor Jason Sperr.

The company's dehydration plant has drawn complaints about odors from the raw potato waste lingering over town, particularly since a fire destroyed the plant's odor-reducing scrubbers in February. 3D Idapro Solutions has since promised a three-part solution to the problem that includes site grading, enclosing the plant's receiving area and installing new scrubbers by Nov. 30. Site

grading was completed last week.

Discussion of the problem prompted creation of a new, more clearly-defined nuisance ordinance that city staff feel would hold up better in court in the event the city decides to pursue legal action. The ordinance counts the odors as a "nuisance" if there is an oral or written complaint to the city by four or more people in a 12-hour period, or if a "qualified person employing appropriate technology" measures certain levels of hydrogen sulfide or ammonia in the air.

Each nuisance will be a Class A violation, carrying a presumptive fine of \$435 and maximum fine of \$2,000, and the court can impose additional fees to reimburse the city for abatement.

The ordinance also creates rules for noise-related nuisances. Noises measured at the property line above

50 decibels between 7 p.m. and 7 a.m. or 60 decibels between 7 a.m. and 7 p.m. are a violation. Exceptions include emergency vehicles, organized athletic events, aircraft and railroad operations regulated by the federal government and events that have been granted a special permit.

The ordinance was passed by a vote of 5 to 1.

On Tuesday the council also discussed, but did not pass, an ordinance regulating mobile food vendors. Currently the city does not have any mobile food vendors or regulations specific to mobile food vendors, but a resident recently obtained a business license for a food truck they plan to operate in Stanfield.

City Manager Blair Larsen presented an ordinance that was based on the city of Hermiston's rules for mobile food vendors

and modifications suggested by a committee of two city councilors.

Stanfield's version of the ordinance as discussed Tuesday does not include the \$500-per-year license fee contained in Hermiston's. It does include a list of other rules, including a requirement to be located within Stanfield's downtown district and at least 400 feet away from other mobile food vendors. Vendors are not allowed to provide any tables, chairs, shade canopies or other accommodations for eating on site. The unit must be fully self-contained with no extra propane tanks, water or sewer lines, swamp coolers, etc. It must follow visual standards that include a ban on flashing lights and "loud" colors.

Sperr, Councilor Sue Whelan and Mayor Thomas McCann disagreed with the total ban on things like shade canopies and seating. McCann said if those things were packed up and moved with the food truck every night he felt it would still make them

a "mobile" food vendor.

"As long as it's not any type of permanent structure I have no qualms about it," he said.

Councilor Pam McSpadden said she felt that defeated the idea of mobile food vending, however.

Whelan also said she disagreed with a provision that required the vendors to close by 8 p.m. McCann said that was done out of consideration for other establishments in town.

"Other restaurants would have a chance to get customers," he said. "It makes it fair for everyone."

The council agreed to continue looking for ways to improve the ordinance, and Larsen said that any vendor who set up in the meantime would still be required to start following any ordinance that was passed in the future.

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HERMISTON



Staff photo by Jade McDowell  
Hermiston Parks and Recreation director Larry Fetter, left, speaks at a ribbon-cutting ceremony for the Hermiston Desert Disc Golf Course.



Staff photo by Jade McDowell  
Disc golf enthusiasts take turns testing out the first hole of the Hermiston Desert Disc Golf Course after a ribbon cutting Wednesday.

## First nine holes of disc golf course open

Back nine holes to be installed in spring

By JADE MCDOWELL  
East Oregonian

Hermiston's disc golf enthusiasts can practice their craft in town after the opening of the new Hermiston Desert Disc Golf course.

The course opened Wednesday with a ribbon-cutting ceremony that drew a crowd of the sport's fans.

The new course, located across 11th Street from Good Shepherd Medical Center, is still a work in progress. The more technically difficult back nine holes won't be installed until spring, and the plaque bearing a map of the course has not been installed yet. But within minutes of the red ribbon being cut, several players were already trying their luck with the nine baskets currently installed.

Hermiston Parks and Recreation director Larry Fetter said when disc golf enthusiasts Scott Zielke, Matt Richmond, Ginger Colgman and others first approached him about the idea of a disc golf course in town, he thought the department could simply start "putting baskets out" anywhere, but they soon taught him about the importance of proper course design, measuring distances and setting par in order to make the course a national-



Staff photo by Jade McDowell  
Scott Zielke cuts the ribbon on the first tee of the new Hermiston Desert Disc Golf Course.

ly-rated one with the potential to draw in out-of-town players and tournaments.

The group managed to get a \$15,000 grant from the Good Shepherd Community Health Foundation and to set up agreements with Good Shepherd and the Hermiston Irrigation District to use their land.

"It was not an easy thing," Fetter said.

Both Annette Kirkpatrick of

Hermiston Irrigation District and Kelly Sanders of Good Shepherd said that their organizations were happy that their unused land would now be used for an activity that will encourage people to get outside for some exercise and fresh air.

"Maybe some lunchtime you'll see me out there," Sanders said.

The first tee of the course — marked by a large cement rectangle with the number 1 on

it — is located near the wooden arch marking the start of the Oxbow Trail off Elm Avenue. Each tee faces the basket that players must try to land a disc in using the fewest throws possible. Players must supply their own discs, but the course is free for the public to use.

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HERMISTON

## McLeod's Bargain Bin opens on Main Street

East Oregonian

One of Hermiston Main Street's empty storefronts has been filled by McLeod's Bargain Bin.

The store at 256 E. Main Street sells new and used clothing, toys, purses and other items. It opened Saturday.

Store owners Corey and Alyssa McLeod said they have been thinking about opening a bargain store for years, and felt the time was right now that three of their children have moved away from home.

"I have six kids, so I have always had to be thrifter and know how to make every dollar stretch," Alyssa said.

She is putting her bargain-hunting skills to use with McLeod's Bargain Bin to find good deals on merchandise that can be re-sold in the store. She said the store doesn't do consignment on miscellaneous items but does buy in bulk. Beyond what is already featured in the store, customers are encouraged to request specific items for the McLeods to hunt down good deals for.

Store hours are 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Wednesday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Saturdays and 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Sundays.



Staff photo by Jade McDowell  
Alyssa and Corey McLeod have opened McLeod's Bargain Bin at 256 E Main St. in Hermiston.

## Non-ag burn ban lifted for Umatilla County

East Oregonian

Umatilla County's non-agricultural burn ban ended Wednesday at 11:59 p.m. The county board of commissioners voted Wednesday morning to lift the ban.

Burn day protocol remains in effect. Farmers and other residents who wish to burn still must check the county website for daily burn determinations at [www.co.umatilla.or.us/deptwebs/jail/burnday.htm](http://www.co.umatilla.or.us/deptwebs/jail/burnday.htm) or call the county's burn line at 541-278-6397. Burn Day determinations also are on Facebook at Umatilla County Smoke Management.

Ending the ban does not apply to land under the jurisdiction of the state of Oregon, the federal government, and the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation, as well as areas inside fire districts.

Open burning in the unincorporated areas and outside of fire districts requires a permit. Contact the county planning department at 541-278-6252 or the county website ([www.umatillacounty.net](http://www.umatillacounty.net)) for downloadable permit applications.

Umatilla County has permitting jurisdiction over all agricultural field burning greater than two acres and all orchards. Additionally, the county has jurisdiction over residential burning outside of fire districts.

Rural fire protection districts have jurisdiction within their boundaries for residential burning (less than two acres, burn barrels, and more) and fire protection, including permitting.

For more information about Umatilla County's smoke management program, or to report illegal burning, call the county planning department at 541-278-6252 or the county dispatch at 541-966-3651 after 5 p.m. and weekends.

## Umatilla County hires new planning director from within

By PHIL WRIGHT  
East Oregonian

Umatilla County hired Bob Waldher as its new director of land use planning.

Waldher succeeds Tamra Mabbott, who left the position in August for a newly-created job as the city of Umatilla's community development director.

The county board of commissioners hired Waldher as director on Monday.

Waldher joined the planning department in June 2015 as a senior planner, and earlier this year became assistant director. Mabbott made an annual salary of \$89,592 when she left the county and her new job pays \$96,624. Waldher as a new administrator will make \$77,916.

Larry Givens, county board chair, said two candidates applied for the job, and Waldher was the superior candidate. Commissioner George Murdock said the county was fortunate to have a planning director with Waldher's skills and experience.

Givens and Murdock also said Waldher has earned kudos for his service on the technical advisory committee of the Walla Walla Valley Metropolitan Planning Organization and from clients in the community.

Hiring Waldher also ensures some stability in the department.

Givens said the planning staff already "think the world of him," and "have a tremendous amount of respect for him."

Waldher seems to still be getting used to the title.

He delivered a staff report on a land use matter during Wednesday morning's board of commissioners meeting and chuckled after introducing himself as the planning director.

Givens a moment later told him, "Congratulations."

"Thank you," Waldher replied, and continued with that report.