

**Kremlin: Russia election boycott may be illegal**

MOSCOW (AP) — The Kremlin hinted Tuesday at possible legal repercussions for Russian opposition leader Alexei Navalny over his calls for a boycott of the March presidential election.

President Vladimir Putin's spokesman, Dmitry Peskov, wouldn't comment on the Election Commission's decision to bar Navalny from running but said the "calls for boycott ought to be carefully studied to see if they are



**Navalny**

saying that the ban shows "Putin is terribly scared and is afraid of

breaking the law." As expected, Russia's top election body on Monday

formally barred Navalny from a presidential run. Navalny, an anti-corruption campaigner and Putin's most prominent rival, promptly put out a video statement

running against me." He called on supporters to stay away from the vote in protest.

Meanwhile, Putin's backers convened Tuesday to formally nominate him for presidency after he announced that he will run as an independent.

Prominent lawmakers, film actors, musicians and athletes gathered at a Soviet-era exhibition hall to endorse him.

Putin, who has been in power for 18 years and is expected to easily win another six-year term, has so far refrained from campaigning.

**Syria rebels reject Russian talks**

BEIRUT (AP) — Syrian rebels and opposition groups on Tuesday rejected Russia's proposed peace talks, accusing Moscow of failing to pressure its ally, President Bashar Assad, to end the conflict.

In a series of statements, 40 rebel groups, including some of Syria's most prominent, as well as political opposition groups, said the talks expected next month are an attempt to "circumvent" the U.N.-led process, which has made

virtually no progress since it began in 2014.

The rebel groups said Moscow has asked them to give up their demand for Assad to step down.

"We reject this, and we affirm that Russia is an aggressor that has committed war crimes against Syrians," the statement signed by 40 rebel groups said. "Russia has not contributed with a single move to alleviate the suffering of the Syrian people and it has not pressured the regime it claims it guarantees to move an inch toward any real path toward a resolution."



CHAMBER of COMMERCE  
**HERMISTON**



hermistonchamber.com  
**(541) 567-6151**

Put your money where your life is. Think local. Shop Hermiston.

**WE ARE MOVING!**

**CLOSED**  
Dec. 20 - Jan. 1

**OPEN**  
January 2



*Cornerstone Plaza*  
**1055 S. HWY 395 SUITE 111**

*Chamber Events*

**Hermiston Chamber Business Connection**  
on KOHU 1360  
Nookies Hermiston Brewery  
Tuesday's at 8:30 am

**Croatia Explorer Preview**  
Wed., Jan. 3rd 4:00-5:00pm  
Hermiston Community Center

**Leadership Class 21**  
Tues., Jan. 9th 7:30am

**Chamber Ambassadors**  
Wed., Jan. 10th 7:15am

**Latino Business Network**  
Wed., Jan. 10th 9:00am

**Breakfast of Champions**  
Thursday, Jan. 18th 7:00am  
Hermiston Community Center

**Business to Business Breakfast & Oregon Water Coalition Annual Mtg.**  
Tuesday, Jan. 23rd 7:30am  
Hermiston Agriculture Research and Extension Center  
2121 S. 1st Street, Hermiston

HERMISTON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE TRAVEL CLUB PRESENTS



*Croatia Explorer*



Join us for an information meeting on this exciting trip to Croatia!  
**Wednesday, January 3rd 4:00-5:00pm Hermiston Conference Center**

Complete Collection Service

**CREDITS**  
INCORPORATED

Licensed • Bonded  
No Collection • No Fee



**Tim Mabry**  
President

461 E. Main  
Hermiston, OR 97838  
**(541) 289-9107**  
www.creditsinc.com



**Mid Columbia Producers, Inc.**

345 N. 1st Place, Hermiston, OR 97838  
541-289-5015 • www.mcpcoop.com



**BBSI**

- Temporary Staffing Services • Recruiting
- Human Resource Management
- Risk Management • Payroll Administration
- Worker's Comp Insurance

1055 S. Hwy 395, Ste 333 • Hermiston, OR  
(541) 567-9670 • Fax (541) 567-4427

251NE Eldridge Drive, Boardman, OR  
(541) 481-2666 • Fax (541) 481-2239

WWW.BARRETTBUSINESS.COM

**NOW ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS**

WIN A WEEK IN WASHINGTON D.C.!

**DEADLINE JAN. 9, 2018**

Apply online at:

UmatillaElectric.com



**Umatilla Electric Cooperative**  
A Division of Barrett Business

Hermiston Office  
750 W. Elm Ave.  
Hermiston, OR 97838  
Toll Free 1-800-452-2273

Boardman Office  
400 N.E. Eldridge Drive  
Boardman, OR 97818  
(541) 481-2220

**HAVE A SAFE & HAPPY NEW YEAR!**

**2018**

**OSOKLEEN**  
CLEANING & RESTORATION

**HOME • COMMERCIAL**  
**24 HOUR EMERGENCY**

541-567-3781  
1-800-238-1223  
905 Diagonal • Hermiston  
www.osokleen.com

**KEEP IT LOCAL!**

Complete Collection Service  
**CREDITS**  
INCORPORATED  
Licensed • Bonded  
No Collection • No Fee  
461 E. Main  
Hermiston, OR 97838  
(541) 289-9107  
www.creditsinc.com  
Tim Mabry  
President

**ELMER'S IRRIGATION, INC.**  
"Proudly serving & investing in the future of our communities"  
**Hwy 395 • Hermiston**  
**541-567-5572**

**P4 & More Computers**  
541-567-6562  
182 E. Main • Hermiston

**American Printing**  
Since 1985  
541.567.8073  
53 W Beebe Ave, Hermiston, OR

**AFFORDABLE FAMILY EYEWEAR**  
Hermiston's Best Value in all Eyewear  
541-567-3790 • 541-567-3791 fax  
1045 N. 1st • Hermiston, OR  
-MARCIA LANBER-  
www.affordablefamilyeyewear.com

Call to add your business to Keep it Local:  
• Jeanne Jewett at 541-564-4531  
• Audra Workman at 541-564-4538

**CAROLLEEN LOVELL**  
Certified Public Accountant, LLC  
541-567-1780  
www.carolleenlovell.com  
635 SE 4th St. • PO Box 747  
Hermiston, OR 97838