



EO file photo

Chuck and Yvonne Bunker take to the dance floor as Vivian Larsen plays the piano during lunch in April 2015 at the Senior Center in Pendleton.

## CAPECO resumes lunch service at Pendleton Senior Center

Nonprofit still looking for permanent cook

East Oregonian

After undergoing its second hiatus in as many years, the Pendleton Senior Center is open again for lunch.

Vicki Muller, the Community Action Program of East Central Oregon director of food services, said the senior center's daily lunch program resumed on April 25 following a month of closure.

CAPECO operates the lunch program, which serves 25-40 seniors per day, while the facility itself is operated by a nonprofit board. When the meal program went dormant, the senior center opened sparingly.

The program originally suspended activity when it couldn't find a part-time cook, and Muller said CAPECO was able to restart the program when it made a temporary hire.

But the new cook is only willing to work on an on-call basis, meaning CAPECO is still looking for a permanent replacement.

Muller said she hopes that a new cook will be identified and pass a pre-employment screening within the next two weeks. She does not expect the transition between cooks to interrupt service.

Over the past two years, CAPECO has struggled to retain cooks and find suitable candidates to replace them, leading to gaps in the lunch program.

The nonprofit has explored outsourcing cooking duties to a commercial kitchen, but it hasn't found an organization willing to take on the task.

## Back-to-back fires in Hermiston scramble fire department

East Oregonian

Two fires that flared up during Tuesday night's storm in western Umatilla County stretched the fire department thin.

At 10:30 p.m., Umatilla County Fire District 1 sent a full response to the 3D Idaho Solutions dehydration plant at 405 Hoosier Lane, Stanfield, according to Battalion Chief JW Roberts.

The plant has had at least five fires in recent memory, Roberts said, and each one has required a "full, real-deal response" as smoke from the bag house fills the building. Damage to the building was limited, he said.

At about 11 p.m., a small barn caught fire at 1299 W. Highland Ave., Hermiston, and Roberts said all available personnel and a few from other agencies responded.

Roberts said the barn housed chickens and stored hay, and no one was injured in either fire.

The Umatilla Fire Department sent an engine to the UCFD1 headquarters in case of a third call, but Roberts said they didn't need to deploy them.

All told, UCFD1 responded to 20 incidents between 8 a.m. Tuesday and 8 a.m. Wednesday, Roberts said, which was above the average of 12 or so.

## Judge nominee apologizes for 'overheated' college writings

The Associated Press

PORTLAND — Ryan Bounds, the federal prosecutor nominated by President Donald Trump to fill a judicial vacancy in the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals, apologized Wednesday for the tone of opinion pieces he wrote as a college student that mocked multiculturalism.

Bounds, who grew up in Hermiston, said at his confirmation hearing before the Senate Judiciary Committee that the rhetoric he used in campus politics was often overheated, overbroad and not respectful of opposing viewpoints.

Bounds, a politically conservative assistant U.S. attorney in Portland, received his bachelor's degree from Stan-

ford in 1995 and his pieces ran in *The Stanford Review*.

*The Oregonian/OregonLive* reports the committee was split along party lines at Wednesday's hearing. Republican senators downplayed the significance of the old opinion pieces while Democrats quoted from some of the most alarming passages.

Sen. Christopher Coons, D-Delaware, asked Bounds about one of his college opinion pieces that appeared critical of Stanford for expelling students accused of sexual assault.

Bounds said he was primarily cautioning the university against not affording due process to someone accused of an assault or lowering the standard of proof for such allegations.

## State Bar sparks concerns with statement critical of white nationalists

By PHIL WRIGHT  
East Oregonian

Local lawyers questioned the Oregon State Bar's move to weigh in on national politics in the pages of its official monthly bulletin. The bar stands by its statement but admitted pairing it with a subsequent statement from lawyer groups was a misstep.

The bar in its April bulletin published a "Statement on White Nationalism and Normalization of Violence." The statement affirms the bar "remains steadfastly committed to the vision of a justice system that operates without discrimination" and condemns the racist violence in last year's white nationalist march in Charlottesville, Virginia, and the attacks on the Portland MAX train.

"The current climate of violence, extremism and exclusion gravely threatens" the rule of law and an equitable justice system, according to the statement.

The president and president-elect of the bar's board of governors signed the four-paragraph statement, as did the bar's chief executive officer, a board member, the

bar's director of diversity and chair of its diversity and inclusion committee.

The adjacent page of the 64-page bulletin displays a "Joint Statement of the Oregon Specialty Bar Associations" in support of the bar's piece. But the supporting expression, which the bar board did not approve, also criticizes President Donald Trump for making racist comments and catering "to this white nationalist movement, allowing it to make up the base of his support and providing it a false sense of legitimacy."

Presidents and chairs of the Oregon Asian Pacific American Bar Association, Oregon Filipino American Lawyers Association, Oregon Chapter of the National Bar Association, Oregon Hispanic Bar Association, Oregon Women Lawyers, OGALLA-The LGBT Bar Association of Oregon and Oregon Minority Lawyers Association signed the supporting statement.

Local attorneys agreed racism and violence are deplorable, but said in general the bar should stay out of politics.

Morrow County District

Attorney Justin Nelson said bar members are diverse, but the bar's action has the effect of tying all its members to the statements. He said he understood some members were irked the bar used their dues to talk politics and suggested the bar could have conducted an email poll or the like to get a sense of what members wanted.

"It was like it came out of the blue," Nelson said. "It's surprising it wasn't asked for."

Mike Breiling of Pendleton said he "agrees 100 percent" with the bar's condemnation of white nationalism and its violent acts, which obviously run contrary to the rule of law. But he said he takes issue with the supporting statement because it "draws a number of questionable conclusions," including to the degree that Trump and his supporters endorse racism or hold racist notions.

"I think the vast majority of Trump supporters don't believe that," Breiling said, and the bar has no place taking sides with either political party.

Breiling is running for the local circuit court, as is Rob Collins of Pendleton. Collins said the bar's statement toes the line on politics and the law.

White nationalism takes the position that certain members of society are second-class citizens, which is anathema to what the Constitution holds, Collins said, and even the most conservative voices would not support normalizing violence. In that light, he said, the bar is making legal arguments.

Still, he said, white nationalism is political and the bar is not a political lobbying group.

"Whether this crosses that line — I'm not sure," Collins said. "But it's a question to be asking."

The bar received a wave

of letters — supportive and critical — on the statements and published several in the May bulletin. Bar spokesperson Kateri Walsh said 22 of the bar's 19,700 members have asked in writing for refunds of their dues because of the second statement. Those members will get a partial refund.

Bar President Vanessa Nordyke in a message also in the May newsletter stated the board acknowledges setting the two statements side-by-side "did a poor job of differentiating" between them. But first Nordyke made it clear the board stands behind its statement.

"It was developed over several months and carefully considered within the context of our organizational mission and our obligations to our members and the pub-

lic," Nordyke wrote.

Walsh also reaffirmed the statement is consistent with the bar's mission to promote access to justice and adherence to the rule of law.

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The apostle Paul said, "All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God? (Romans 3:23). That makes us guilty as charged. What is the penalty for our sin? "The wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord? (Romans 6:23)

What could we say in our defense? "God demonstrates His own love towards us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us" (Romans 5:8)

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If you haven't done so before, tell Jesus that you believe He died as your substitute and accept the free and undeserved gift of forgiveness. That's the only way to be right about your wrong, to be accepted by God, and to be sure of heaven.

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