

FISHING: Will include handicapped parking and a paved pathway

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pond sits to Clearview for the project. The Marshalls have allowed public access for years. The pond sits in Pendleton’s industrial area west of Lippert Components on Westgate Drive and is visible to motorists driving west on Interstate 84. The public often uses two rough-hewn docks on the western edge of the pond for fishing and birdwatching.

The idea of transforming the pond into a wheelchair-friendly place originated first in the mind of Donnie Cook, then the city’s park and recreation director. Cook, a fisherman, worried about people with disabilities not having the opportunity to fish.

“I’m an able-bodied person and I still have trouble getting down to the river sometimes,” he said. “There’s no place for them to go.”

He mentioned the pond to Umbarger as a possible place for an accessible fishing dock. The pond, he told Umbarger, already had signs

inviting people to fish.

Umbarger, who loves fishing and once owned a fishing tackle company, wasn’t a hard sell. When multiple sclerosis invaded his life at age 23, he found ways to keep fishing. The 53-year-old uses an iBot wheelchair with gyroscopes and two sets of power wheels to cruise over rough ground. An 18-inch battery-powered Aviva Fishin Buddy trolls his fishing line and hauls in his catch. However, Umbarger knows not everyone in a wheelchair has the resources or will to pull this off.

So, it didn’t take long for him to catch Cook’s vision. Umbarger contacted Gale Marshall.

“I had a sit-down with Gale and said, ‘It’d be kind of nice if we could make that pond handicapped accessible.’”

His vision included a dock leading to a floating platform. There would be edges to prevent wheelchairs from rolling off and railings on which to rest fishing poles. The area would



Staff photo by E.J. Harris

The pond has been open to public fishing with the hopes now of allowing greater access to those with mobility issues.

include handicapped parking spots and a paved pathway to the dock. The project could also include a handicapped-accessible blind for birdwatching. The pond would also be open to other members of the public.

When Umbarger gets excited about something,

his enthusiasm is infectious. Marshall soaked it in. He and his wife talked it over and readily agreed to allow the improvements. Then they went one step farther. Not only would they allow the development, they would deed the property to Clearview.

“Elaine and I talked about it,” Gale said. “The problem with us owning the land is the difficulty in getting grants and funding for the improvements.”

Help has come from other quarters, too. The city of Pendleton is waiving permit fees and will help pour

concrete for a pathway and also create the handicapped parking spaces. The county donated the services, too. County surveyor Matt Kenny surveyed a partition plat necessary when partitioning a larger tract of property. Umatilla County Planning Director Bob Walders helped with city applications.

Umbarger must find funds for the project. A solar-powered aerator will cost about \$5,000. He must finance the handicapped accessible dock and platform. Those wishing to give donations can drop them at the Clearview office or mail them, he said.

“We’re a 501(c)3, so it’s a write-off,” he said. “If someone donates a platform or a party barge, they can take it off on their taxes.”

Umbarger marvels at the generosity of the Marshalls and how smoothly the pond project has gone so far.

He sat in his iBot near the edge of the pond on Friday morning and looked out across the water at dragonflies, cattails and a little island. A kingfisher flew overhead. A fish jumped.

DEBATE: EOU would be a possible debate site

Continued from 1A

to debate Walden in all 20 counties of District 2 to give as many voters a chance to see the candidates as possible.

Regardless of the number of debates, McLeod-Skinner said she would like to see them formatted as either a moderated debate with a neutral moderator or a town hall-style debate where members of the audience can ask questions.

If the two parties can secure a debate in Eastern Oregon, McLeod-Skinner suggested Eastern Oregon University as an ideal sponsor.

McLeod-Skinner said she expects Walden to honor his word and schedule some debates, noting that the U.S. House of Representatives was currently in recess and he was making time for a fundraiser in Wilsonville Monday night, which *The Oregonian* reported to include Speaker of the House Paul Ryan.

Neither Walden’s campaign or legislative office returned requests for comment.

Governor’s race

While Eastern Oregon could play a role in the District 2 debate schedule, it doesn’t appear a likely setting for the race between Gov. Kate Brown and her Republican challenger, state Rep. Knute Buehler of Bend.

Christian Gaston, Brown’s campaign spokesman, wrote in an email that the three hosts will be Children First, and television stations KOBI and KGW.

Although the final details are still being determined, KGW and Children

First are in Portland while KOBI is in Medford.

“I think it’s important to note that television debates are closed events and are not open to the public, so the physical location doesn’t matter as much as the statewide reach of the event online and on broadcast,” he wrote. “We will work with all three hosts to make sure that they are open to rebroadcast with partners statewide and that the event is available online for everyone in the state to watch.”

Monica Wroblewski, Buehler’s campaign communications director, said the campaign continues to request a 10-debate schedule, two debates for each congressional district.

If Brown were to agree to such a schedule, Wroblewski said a location in Eastern Oregon would be included.

Both Brown and Buehler’s campaigns have confirmed that they’ll be making future appearances in Eastern Oregon as a part of the campaign trail, but it likely won’t be in a debate setting.

The Westward Ho! Parade during the Pendleton Round-Up is a standard stop for office holders and political challengers alike, and both gubernatorial candidates plan to participate.

McLeod-Skinner also plans to attend, and although Walden’s campaign didn’t return a request for comment, the congressman has been a regular presence at the non-motorized parade.

Contact Antonio Sierra at asierra@eastoregonian.com or 541-966-0836.

3-D: The gun quality often depends on the printer

Continued from 1A

A 3-D printed gun’s quality often depends on the sophistication of the printer and the quality of the plastic used.

In 2013 Defense Distributed posted downloadable files of 3-D printer designs of a one-shot pistol called the Liberator to its website, Defcad.com.

Days later, the U.S. State Department demanded Defense Distributed’s founder, Cody Wilson, take down the designs, arguing he had violated federal export laws by making the designs accessible in other countries without a license.

Wilson and others sued in 2015, alleging the government’s policy on 3-D-printed guns was unconstitutional.

In May, the U.S. Department of Justice offered to settle with the plaintiffs and said it would change fed-



Courtesy Wikipedia

The Liberator, a one-shot pistol made on a 3-D printer. Oregon has joined a lawsuit to block a court settlement that will allow the plans to be posted to the internet.

eral rules regulating firearm exports and allow the company to post the designs starting Aug. 1.

Defense Distributed now aims to create a repository of gun designs and to relaunch

Defcad.com, according to a recent profile of the company and Wilson in the magazine Wired.

The lawsuit filed Tuesday by nine state attorneys general seeks an injunction that

COMING EVENTS

TUESDAY, JULY 31
BOTTLE & CAN RECYCLE DAY, 1-4 p.m., BottleDrop, 740 W. Hermiston Ave., Hermiston. People are invited to donate cans and bottles to benefit Agape House. They can be taken to BottleDrop or Agape House. For pick-up service for large quantities, call 541-567-8774. (Dave Hughes 541-567-8774)

CRAFTERNOONS, 4:15 p.m., Pendleton Public Library, 502 S.W. Dorion Ave., Pendleton. Drop in for a group or individual craft project. All ages. (541-966-0380)

PENDLETON EAGLES TACOS AND BINGO, 6 p.m., Pendleton Eagles Lodge, 428 S. Main St., Pendleton. Regular packet \$10, special packet \$5. Proceeds donated to local charities. Public welcome. (541-278-2828)

INSIDE OUTSIDE THE LINES ADULT COLORING, 6-7:30 p.m., Irrigon Public Library, 490 N.E. Main St., Irrigon. Materials provided. Bring snacks to share. (541-922-0138)

PENDLETON KNITTING GROUP, 6 p.m., Prodigal Son Brewery & Pub, 230 S.E. Court Ave., Pendleton. (541-966-0380)

STORY AND CRAFT TIME, 6:30 p.m., Milton-Freewater Public Library, 8 S.W. Eighth Ave., Milton-Freewater. For elementary

school-age children. (541-938-8247)

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 1
EARLY MORNING BASKETBALL, 6-7 a.m., Pendleton Recreation Center, 510 S.W. Dorion Ave., Pendleton. All ages. Free. (Casey Brown 541-276-8100)

“UNDERSTANDING MEDICINES IN OLDER ADULTS: CARE TEAM PRINCIPLES”, 9 a.m.-4 p.m., Oxford Suites Pendleton, 2400 S.W. Court Place, Pendleton. Class is designed to help professional caregivers and others who care for aging Oregonians optimize resident care through teamwork, medication review and positive communication. Free, but pre-registration is requested at www.OregonCarePartners.com (Julia Smith info@oregoncarepartners.com)

BABY & ME LEARN & PLAY, 10-10:45 a.m., Hermiston Public Library back entrance, 235 E. Gladys Ave., Hermiston. Engaging children and getting them excit-

ed about music, improving motor skills and sparking creativity while supporting early literacy development. For children ages newborn to 4 years and parent/guardian. (541-567-2882)

STORY TIME, 11:15 a.m., Hermiston Public Library, 235 E. Gladys Ave., Hermiston. (541-567-2882)

STANFIELD SENIOR MEAL SERVICE, 12 p.m., Stanfield Community Center, 225 W. Roosevelt, Stanfield. Cost is \$3.50 for seniors, \$6 for others. (541-449-1332)

PENDLETON SENIOR MEAL SERVICE, 12-1 p.m., Pendleton Senior Center, 510 S.W. 10th St., Pendleton. Costs \$3.50 or \$6 for those under 60. Pool, puzzles, crafts, snacks, Second Time Around thrift store 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. For Meals On Wheels, call 541-276-1926. (Tori Bowman 541-276-5073)

ADVENTURE TIME STORY TIME, 2-3 p.m., Hermiston Public Library, 235 E. Gladys Ave., Hermiston. Stories and activities for

developmentally disabled children and adults. Free. (541-567-2882)

ADULT BEGINNERS’ COMPUTERS, 3-4 p.m., Pendleton Public Library meeting room, 502 S.W. Dorion Ave., Pendleton. Registration is required. Classes tailored to the needs of the attendees. (541-966-0380)

ADULT & TEEN COLOR CLUB, 5:30 p.m., Pendleton Public Library, 502 S.W. Dorion Ave., Pendleton. A relaxing hour of coloring. Supplies provided. (Mary Finney 541-966-0380)

WEDNESDAYS IN THE PARK, 6 p.m., Roy Raley Park, 1205 S.W. Court Ave., Pendleton. Regional band will perform a free concert for all ages. Concessions available for purchase. (541-276-8100)

VEGAN/SUSTAINABLE LIVING POTLUCK SUPPER, 7 p.m., location varies, Pendleton. Bring a vegan dish and recipe. Gluten-free friendly group. Call to RSVP and for driving directions. (541-969-3057)

Please Welcome



Gwen Libby, MD
Family Medicine Physician
Now Scheduling Appointments
541-966-0535

Dr. Libby is originally from Hilton Head, South Carolina and graduated from Furman University in Greenville, SC. She attended medical school at the University Of South Carolina School Of Medicine, and completed her residency in Family Medicine at the University of Alabama, Huntsville. She then spent three years at Western Family Care/Lander Medical Clinic in Riverton, Wyoming. Dr. Libby is Board Certified, American Board of Family Medicine. She has a passion for rural medicine and looks forward to living in Pendleton with her husband Brandon and daughter Sophie Belle.

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Diabetes Self Management Series



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Most Major Insurances,
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For more information or to register
541-278-3249

Melissa Naff, RD, LD, CDE
Diabetes Educator • 541-278-3249

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