BOARDMAN

Improved rating for fire district could cut insurance costs

By JADE MCDOWELL
East Oregonian

The Boardman Rural Fire Protection District got some good news for residents last week.

The district announced that its Insurance Services Office rating had improved from a 5-9 to a 3-3y, effective June 1.

Chief Marc Rogelstad said "many" insured properties in the region will see savings due to lower insurance rates.

"Not all companies will change, unfortunately, but some will," he said.

He encouraged residents of the district to contact their insurance provider with any questions about how their rate may be affected.

Insurance companies use ISO ratings to determine how effectively a fire department/district might respond in an event of a fire at the insured property. The ISO looks at dispatch systems, water systems and components of the fire district, such as response times and equipment quality.

A 10 rating would mean no protection while a one would indicate excellent protection. A rating in the three range puts Boardman above the majority of districts in the country, according to a graph provided by Boardman Rural Fire Protection District.

Rogelstad wrote in a letter to district residents that the improved rating was due to "recent additions and upgrades to operating programs and apparatus."

"A federal grant assisting paid staff for seven days per week coverage is now established within the fire district budget," he wrote. "Installing a full-time Training Officer proved effective with detailed planning and execution of training improvements."

The district also purchased a new ladder truck in 2015 with funds from the Columbia River Enterprise Zone and implemented a fire prevention program, which includes hydrant testing and business inspections.

Rogelstad said volunteer staff are also an important consideration in the ISO rating. He encouraged anyone who is interested in volunteering to contact him at the fire station.

He thanked Boardman businesses, the Port of Morrow and the city of Boardman for providing the support needed for the fire district to reach its goals.

Development board signs off on cultural preservation agreement

By JADE MCDOWELL
East Oregonian

Columbia Development Authority director Greg Smith is optimistic about a memorandum of understanding that the CDA board has sent to the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation for review.

Getting approval for the plan to mitigate for cultural, historical and religiously significant parts of the former Umatilla Chemical Depot is the last major hurdle for transfer of the depot to local control.

"We are really close," Smith said.

Transfer has been delayed by several years as the Columbia Development Authority has negotiated with the Army over everything from the price (free) to water rights and asbestos cleanup.

The Oregon Military Department has taken control of 7,500 acres for training purposes, but the bulk of the land — including a future wildlife preserve and industrial land being eyed by major corporations for development — is still in control of the Army.

For the past year the CDA has worked to come up with a required plan for preservation of culturally significant resources, such as the portions of the Oregon Trail that run through the depot.

If the memorandum of understanding approved by the CDA board on Friday is also approved by the tribes, the State Historic Preservation Office and the Army's Base Re-alignment and Closure department, Smith said the depot should essentially be ready for transfer, minus a few housekeeping items.

Smith said the deal would transfer the northern section of the former Oregon Trail and another culturally significant site to the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation, while the CDA would preserve a southern part of the Oregon Trail for visitors.

The southern section would include a football field-sized portion of the trail for viewing, educational kiosks, parking and picnic tables.

He said the plan would not prevent the CDA from opening up portions of the depot to economic development after the transfer.

"Land that has been designated industrial remains industrial," he said.

"In terms of having the ability to develop the property, nothing changes."

Smith said the CTUIR had been involved with the drafting of the memorandum of understanding — including using their attorney as a scribe — and so he was "optimistic" that their board would sign off on the "win-win" agreement.

He said he also thought it likely that the appropriate state and federal agencies would approve the locally negotiated agreement.

COMING EVENTS

TUESDAY, APRIL 9

BOARDMAN SENIOR MEAL SERVICE, 12 p.m., Boardman Senior Center, 100 Tatone St., Boardman. Cost is $4 for seniors 55 and over or $5 for adults. (541-481-3257)

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. (Tori Bowman 541-276-5073)

HERMISTON SENIOR MEAL SERVICE, 12 p.m., Harkenrider Center, 255 N.E. Second St., Hermiston. Cost is $4 for adults, free for children 10 and under, $4 for Meals on Wheels. (541-567-3582)

SKILLS FOR LIFE, 3 p.m., Pendleton Recreation Center, 510 S.W. Dorion Ave., Pendleton. Gym activities at 3 p.m., life skills at 4 p.m. for middle and high school students. Registration requested. (541-276-3987)

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. 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)

RAISING A CHILD: ABUSE PREVENTION LECTURE SERIES, 6-7 p.m., Pendleton Public Library, 502 S.W. Dorion Ave., Pendleton. Free lecture series includes Start By Believing: Ending the Silence in Sexual Assault (April 9); Protecting Your Child Through Parenting (April 16); Human Trafficking in Our Community (April 23); and Internet Safety for Parents (April 30). Free. (Marisa Remington 541-276-6774)

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, APRIL 10

WALKING FOR WELLNESS, 8:30-9:30 a.m., Pendleton Recreation Center, 510 S.W. Dorion Ave., Pendleton. Free. (541-276-8100)

BABY & ME LEARN & PLAY, 10-10:45 a.m., Hermiston Public Library back entrance, 235 E. Gladys Ave., Hermiston. For 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. (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, 502 S.W. Dorion Ave., Pendleton. Registration is required. (541-966-0380)

VEGAN/SUSTAINABLE LIVING POTLUCK SUPPER, 7 p.m., location varies, Pendleton. Call to RSVP and for driving directions. (541-969-3057)

THURSDAY, APRIL 11

WALKING FOR WELLNESS, 8:30-9:30 a.m., Pendleton Recreation Center, 510 S.W. Dorion Ave., Pendleton. Free. (541-276-8100)

PRESCHOOL STORY TIME, 10:15-11 a.m., Pendleton Public Library, 502 S.W. Dorion Ave., Pendleton. Stories and activities for young children. (541-966-0380)

PRESCHOOL STORY TIME, 10:15 a.m., Hermiston Public Library, 235 E. Gladys Ave., Hermiston. For children from 3-6 years old. (541-567-2882)

PRESCHOOL STORY AND CRAFT TIME, 10:30 a.m., Milton-Freewater Public Library, 8 S.W. Eighth Ave., Milton-Freewater. (Lili Schmidt 541-938-8247)

BOARDMAN SENIOR MEAL SERVICE, 12 p.m., Boardman Senior Center, 100 Tatone St., Boardman. (541-481-3257)

PENDLETON SENIOR MEAL SERVICE, 12-1 p.m., Pendleton Senior Center, 510 S.W. 10th St., Pendleton. (Tori Bowman 541-276-5073)

HERMISTON SENIOR MEAL SERVICE, 12 p.m., Harkenrider Center, 255 N.E. Second St., Hermiston. (541-567-3582)

SENSORY STORY TIME, 12:30 p.m., Boardman Public Library, 200 S. Main St., Boardman. For children from birth to age 4. (541-481-2665)

MILTON-FREEWATER KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION, 4:30-6 p.m., Gib Olinger Elementary School, 1011 S. Mill St., Milton-Freewater. Parents of kindergartners who will be five years old on or before Sept. 1, 2019, should bring child's legal birth certificate and immunization records, and proof of address. (Kari Ferguson 541-938-8700)

Defense to argue Boardman police sting was entrapment

BOARDMAN — The defense for the young Indianapolis man Boardman police arrested in a sexual luring sting could argue entrapment.

Kai Christopher Larkins, 20, pleaded not guilty in late December in Morrow County Circuit Court to the single felony of first-degree online sexual corruption of a child. Boardman police reported arresting Larkins for planning to meet with an underage local girl for sex. Police caught Larkins at the airport in Portland after a sting operation.

Larkins' defense attorney, Daniel Stephens of Hermiston, filed a notice with the court on March 12 on his intent to rely on the defense of police entrapment, according to state court records.

Stephens also notified the court he would show evidence that Larkins has a mental disease or defect.

Larkins has been back home since his family bailed him out in early February.

The case has a pretrial conference Thursday morning, and Larkins has the court's permission to call into the proceeding.

Diabetes Education Series

Diabetes Self Management Series

April 10th, 17th, 24th & May 1st
5:30pm to 7:30pm
Advance Registration Required
Most Major Insurances, Medicare, Medicaid
For more information or to register
541-278-3249

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

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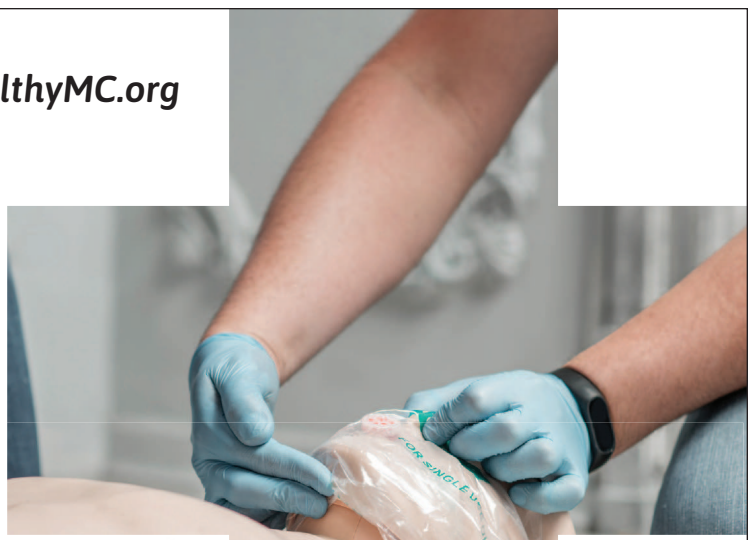

CPR
Public Class
with Tom Sanders, Respiratory Therapist

Thursday, April 18th
1:00pm - 4:00pm
Pioneer Memorial Clinic
Conference Room
564 E Pioneer Dr.
Heppner, OR 97836

CPR can be the difference between life and death, yet too many adults are apprehensive about stepping in during a medical emergency, either because they fear handling a victim or lack the knowledge of giving CPR.

More Information
Call 541-676-2930

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