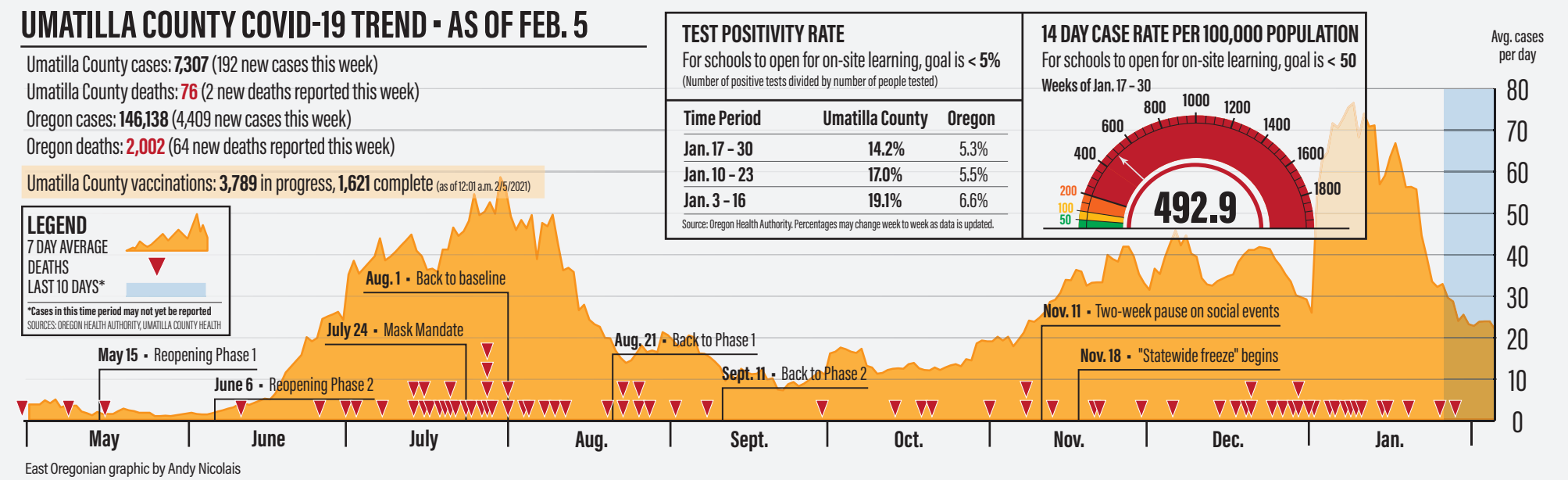




Brown announces committee appointments

SALEM — Chuck Sams of the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation will represent the area on the Pacific Northwest Electric Power and Conservation Planning Council for the next three years.

Sams, who replaces Ted Ferrioli, was one of a long list of names submitted by the governor's office for confirmation by the Oregon Senate this week.

Umatilla County Sheriff Terry Rowan was also submitted for confirmation for a four-year term on the Public Safety Standards and Training Board, replacing Bryan Wolfe of Hermiston.

The Senate Rules Committee is expected to consider the confirmations on Feb. 23.



Rowan



Sams

Camp Umatilla wins award

HERMISTON — The Oregon National Guard has been recognized for its cultural resources management at Camp Umatilla.

The guard received the Environmental Security Award for Cultural Resources Management for the 2020 fiscal year from the Army National Guard for its work in preserving the historical aspects of the site while upgrading it into a modern training facility.

Camp Umatilla is located west of Hermiston on part of the former Umatilla Chemical Depot. The army depot opened in 1941 as the United States prepared to enter World War II, and began storing chemical weapons in 1962. It was decommissioned in 2015, with parts preserved for Camp Umatilla, a wildlife refuge and industrial development.

According to a news release from the Oregon National Guard, the award recognizes the "remarkable efforts" of Jim Arnold and the rest of the Guard's Environmental Branch team to enter into an agreement with the Oregon State Historic Preservation Office and other stakehold-

ers for a preservation plan that included establishment of a 23-acre historic district at Camp Umatilla, comprised of 18 buildings from the early days of the depot.

"Without the prior relationships we have established over the years with the State Historic Preservation Office and positive government-to-government relationships with the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation, this agreement would have been much harder to accomplish," Arnold said in the news release.

At the same time, the National Guard has built a new Regional Training Institute at Camp Umatilla, including new barracks, dining facilities, day rooms, small arms ranges and troop maneuver areas.

Cayuse Holdings announces board officers

MISSION — Tribal enterprise Cayuse Holdings announced its board of directors and officers in a Monday, Feb. 1, press release.

The Washington, D.C.-based Cisco Minthorn, a senior director of government relations and senior counsel for Intel Corp., was named president of the board. An enrolled member of the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation, Minthorn has worked as an appointee in the U.S. Department of Commerce and for several congressional committees. He was initially appointed to the Cayuse Holdings board in 2019.

Shlomo Bibas was elected vice president for the third year in a row. An administrator for electronics company Celestica, Bibas has 30 years of experience in technology and business operations.

Sandra Sampson, the treasurer of the CTUIR Board of Trustees, will serve the same role with the Cayuse Holdings board. She has extensive experience working in the health services at the tribal, state and federal levels.

Rounding out the officer's slate is secretary Hank Humphreys, an executive with tech startup Algolia. His experience includes stints at IBM, Dropbox and Google.

The CTUIR started Cayuse Technologies in 2006 before spinning it off under the umbrella of Cayuse Holdings in 2018. Cayuse Holdings now oversees Cayuse Technologies and nine other companies and



Bibas



Humphreys



Minthorn



Sampson

is headquartered in Pendleton, with a regional office in Honolulu, Hawaii.

The CTUIR Board of Trustees appoints the members of the Cayuse Holdings board. The rest of the board includes Chuck Sams, the interim executive director of the tribes, Monte Hong, Leo Stewart, and Cayuse Holdings CEO Billy Nerenberg.

Umatilla County agrees to take on explosion site

UMATILLA COUNTY — The Umatilla County Board of Commissioners approved a resolution during their Wednesday, Feb. 3, meeting expressing the county's willingness to take on responsibility for a historical site at the former Umatilla Chemical Depot.

In 1944, when the depot was still in operation, an accidental explosion ignited inside one of the concrete "igloos" where bombs were stored, killing six workers. The Army is in the process of turning the former depot over to local control, and when the transfer is complete, the county has agreed to take over preservation and maintenance responsibilities for the site of the explosion.

County counsel Doug Olsen told commissioners the resolution before them was not the official agreement that will spell out the details of the county's responsibilities, but the Columbia Development Authority (a partnership between five local government entities) had requested the county voice its willingness now, as negotiations continue for transfer of the depot.

Greg Smith, director of the Columbia Development Authority, told commissioners the plan is to provide public access to the historical site, most likely through an easement on a future road

through the depot.

Rotary Club donates picnic shelter

HERMISTON — After Hermiston's Funland playground burned down in May 2019, the Hermiston Rotary Club wanted to be an "integral" part of the plans to rebuild.

Club members recently fulfilled that desire by donating and constructing a large new picnic shelter next to the site of the new playground currently under construction.

In a news release, the Rotary Club thanked the Hermiston Walmart Distribution Center and Rotary International's District 5100 for providing grant dollars to supplement a "generous" portion of funds from the Hermiston Rotary Club's members, as well as the members of the club who donated their time to build the new 28-foot by 24-foot covered picnic area.

Club President Jeremy Larson said it was Walmart's grants that "really kickstarted our efforts to make this project doable" by providing a down payment on a shelter kit the group purchased from Natural Structures of Baker City.

Hermiston Parks and Recreation Director Larry Fetter said in the news release that prior to the old Funland burning down, the picnic shelter next to it was in high demand for birthday parties and other gatherings. This additional shelter will allow more people to book picnic space.

"We are excited to see the new Funland Park develop before our eyes and are thankful for the Hermiston Rotary Club's leadership in making this shelter as a wonderful addition to the playground," he said.

—EO Media Group

City hall back on the agenda for Hermiston council

By JADE MCDOWELL
East Oregonian

HERMISTON — The Hermiston City Council plans to vote on awarding the bid for construction of a new city hall during its Monday, Feb. 8, meeting.

The vote was on the agenda at a previous meeting, but staff discovered the city hadn't yet completed a seven-day notice period required for bidders. Now that the notice period is complete, Griffin Construction, of The Dalles, remains the low bidder at \$8,660,000. Architects had estimated the project cost at about \$8,968,000.

The project will demolition of the old city hall and construction of a new, larger and more accessible building on the same site, as well as a renovation of a municipal parking lot across the street, and new water and sewer lines under the adjacent alley.

The council also plans to discuss a proposed public-private partnership with CGI Communications to place sponsored decorative banners on light posts around town.

According to the information in the agenda packet, the company would provide the banners, installation and maintenance at no cost to the city, and the city would retain artistic control over the banner design. The company would make money by selling sponsorships of the banner.

The name of the sponsoring company would be on the bottom of the banner, while the upper two-thirds of the banner would feature a decorative design of the city's choosing, such as a historical photo with the words "Downtown Hermiston" or a watermelon design in the style of the city's official logo.

The agenda also includes adoption of amendments to the water chapter of the city's municipal code. The amendments are part of an ongoing project to update the city's codes, and according to the agenda packet, the updates to the water chapter are only to bring it into compliance with state and federal law and won't substantially change the way the city conducts business.

The council meeting will take place on at 7 p.m. at the Hermiston Community Center, 415 S. Highway 395, and will be livestreamed on the city's YouTube channel. For the full agenda packet, see hermiston.or.us/meetings.

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