

LOCAL BRIEFING

Pacific Power Foundation grant boosts aid to BMCC students

PENDLETON — Pacific Power Foundation grant funding went to Blue Mountain Community College student employees who lost employment during spring term 2020, reimbursing them for lost wages.

The students were impacted by the unexpected transition to distance education and the nationwide shutdown at the time in response to COVID-19, said BMCC Grants Manager Bonnie Day in a release.

Emergency relief funds through federal coronavirus dollars are still available to students. Current students can find information and request Emergency Needs Stimulus Funds of up to \$300 at bluecc.edu/R.

CARES Act funding paid for lost wages by federal work study students, but didn't cover students employed by the college directly, she said. BMCC employed 31 students that fit this situation.

"Funding from Pacific Power Foundation

made it possible to provide a small stipend for each student employee to support personal costs," Day said.

The aid made a significant difference for BMCC students.

"Many applied the stipend toward rent, child care or textbooks. This funding provided financial security when most students needed help maintaining their lives while remaining in their college program," Day said.

Electric utility PacifiCorp created Pacific Power Foundation in 1988. PacifiCorp serves 1.8 million customers in six western states as Pacific Power in Oregon, Washington and California and as Rocky Mountain Power in Utah, Wyoming and Idaho.

Pacific Power Foundation awarded \$1 million in 2020 to local nonprofit organizations.

Through charitable investments, the foundation supports the growth and vitality of the communities served by Pacific Power and Rocky Mountain Power.

— Walla Walla Union-Bulletin

Wildhorse celebrates 26th anniversary



Ben Lonergan/East Oregonian

Fireworks light up the sky near Wildhorse Resort & Casino in celebration of the casino's 26th anniversary on Saturday, March 6, 2021, as a large crowd of people watches from their cars.

Scouts host shooting sports day

Event teaches about shooting sports in safe, controlled environment

By BEN LONERGAN
East Oregonian

PENDLETON — Marshmallows, dog food, BBs and arrows were among the many different projectiles flying through the air at the Pendleton Convention Center over the weekend.

The Blue Mountain Council of the Boy Scouts of America welcomed Cub Scouts from Hermiston to Baker City to the convention center for a Shooting Sports Day for Oregon Scouts on Saturday, March 6. According to Sheila Graham, who organized the event for the Boy Scouts, the event serves to teach kids about shooting sports in a safe and controlled environment and give them an opportunity to do something they enjoy.

"They love to do it. It's one of the things that attracts people to scouting. So if they're going to do it, we want them to do it safely," said Graham of shooting sports. "We want to make sure that they're taught correctly how to respect these things and how to handle them."

The kindergarten through fifth grade children rounded through a series of stations in small groups. First, they were given the opportunity to build a marshmallow catapult out of tongue depressors before moving on to an inflatable BB gun range.

At the BB gun range they were given a safety briefing and instruction before being



Ben Lonergan/East Oregonian

Kids draw back their bows during a shooting sports day put on by the Boy Scouts at the Pendleton Convention Center on Saturday, March 6, 2021.

turned loose with BB guns under the watchful eye of a rangemaster and a group of older Scouts.

"I liked it a lot," said Sam Lieuallen, 9, as he collected his paper target from the BB gun range before proceeding to the next station.

Following BB guns, Scouts moved outside to the Happy Canyon Arena where they learned about archery.

"We have NRA-registered rangemasters teaching safety," Graham said. "That way they know how to handle them before they start shooting things that can actually do damage."

The final station consisted of using slingshots to fire dog food at a line of targets designed to resemble IV bags.

Graham said the shooting sports day was originally planned for October or November 2020 before inclement weather postponed the day into 2021.

"Normally, all of this would be done at an outdoor day camp," she said. "The hardest

part was finding a venue that would be big enough and let us shoot inside."

The Pendleton Convention Center provided the space to spread out and allowed for the variety of projectiles they would be instructing with, Graham said.

In addition to venue challenges, Graham added the pandemic put additional limitations on how the event operated. Among those changes were the implementation of small groups and staggered start times throughout the day to keep contacts to a minimum, as well as sanitizing equipment between groups.

"Ideally, you don't have shared equipment, but because we can't bring a BB gun or a bow for every Scout we have to make sure that everything is wiped down in between," said Graham.



Pendleton graduate Kathleen Bradt shakes hands with Pendleton Principal Melissa Sandven after receiving her diploma on June 1, 2019, during a graduation ceremony in Pendleton. East Oregonian, File

PHS principal resigns to be closer to family

Melissa Sandven's three-year stint to end June 30

By ANTONIO SIERRA
East Oregonian

PENDLETON — Melissa Sandven's three-year tenure as the principal of Pendleton High School is coming to an end.

At a Monday, March 8, meeting, the Pendleton School Board is set to approve Sandven's resignation, which will go into effect June 30.

Sandven said she enjoyed her time in Pendleton, but with most of her family located west of the Cascades, she felt like she needed to return to the west side of Oregon.

"I couldn't go another year away from them," she said.

Sandven was hired to lead Pendleton High School in 2018 following a lengthy career in school administration.

After getting her start in Albuquerque, New Mexico, Sandven had administrative stints at schools across the Willamette Valley, including schools in Portland, Gresham and Sandy. She was the principal of Rainier Junior/Senior High School in Columbia County when she was selected to lead PHS.

Sandven said she will miss working with the high school staff and the 8-minute commute to work that contrasted heavily with her commutes in the valley. But overall, she was proud of her time in Pendleton.

When she first arrived at Pendleton High School, Sandven said the school often felt siloed, with teachers in each department tending to congregate and collaborate only among themselves. She began having teachers meet with their peers in other departments, a move she said led to more trust and camaraderie among the faculty.



Sandven

Sandven said some of the changes administration was making to school culture were beginning to bear fruit, but the COVID-19 pandemic "threw a wrench" into the school's progress.

Still, Sandven praised teachers for continuing to work from their classrooms once most educational activities moved online, and staff's work to bring back students sooner than many other schools across the state.

Pendleton High School will expand its in-person offerings on March 29, when Pendleton's secondary schools begin their "hybrid" schedule. After announcing her departure, Sandven said she reassured her staff that she would work "24/7" for the Pendleton School District until her contract ends in June.

The district is already advertising the principal position, which will have a yearly salary of \$125,566.

According to the job ad, the district is hoping to attract an experienced candidate for the position. Preferred qualifications for applicants include seven years of classroom teaching and five years of experience in public school administration. Whoever is hired will also be the principal of Hawthorne Alternative High School, an alternative school that has struggled with low graduation rates.

Superintendent Chris Fritsch will have the final say in who replaces Sandven, and he'll be looking for someone with "outstanding communication" skills and a comprehensive knowledge of school operations.

"This is going to be a great opportunity for somebody," he said.

The application period will end on April 2 and Fritsch said he hopes to identify their top candidate for principal by May 1.

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EO-11211
NOTICE OF ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION

Pursuant to Oregon Revised Statutes 305.583 (9) and (10), notice is hereby given that on March 2, 2021, the City of Boardman, Morrow County, Oregon (the "City") adopted a resolution (a) classifying the tax levy to be imposed to pay the principal of, premium, if any, and interest on the City's proposed issuance of general obligation bonds in the aggregate principal amount not to exceed \$20,320,000 as not being subject to the limits of section 11 or 11b, Article XI of the Oregon Constitution, and (b) specifying the authorized uses of the proceeds of the general obligation bonds. Any individual may contact the City Manager of the City at PO Box 229, Boardman, OR 97818, telephone (541) 481-9252, to obtain a copy of the resolution. Judicial review of the classification of the taxes or the specification of authorized uses may be sought within 60 days of the date of the resolution.

CITY OF BOARDMAN
MORROW COUNTY, OREGON

WILDHORSE RESORT & CASINO
3/5-3/11
Cineplex Show Times

Theater seating will adhere to social distancing protocols
Every showing \$7.50 per person (ages 0-3 still free)

Raya and the Last Dragon (PG)
1:40p 4:40p 7:40p

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Chaos Walking (PG-13)
1:20p 4:20p 7:20p

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Tom and Jerry (PG)
2:00p 5:00p 8:00p

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News of the World (PG-13)
1:00p 4:00p 7:00p

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