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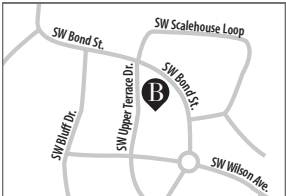
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LOCAL, STATE & REGION



Kathy Aney/East Oregonian

Marie Ekin, former middle school teacher and Blue Mountain Community College tutor, talks to college board members about character during the public comment portion of a meeting Monday before the board approved a plan that laid off five faculty members.

Blue Mountain Community College approves faculty layoffs

BY JOHN TILLMAN
East Oregonian

PENDLETON — The Blue Mountain Community College board voted Monday to approve the administration's budget that calls for laying off five full-time faculty members.

The college intends to lay off instructors in business, criminal justice, English, music and chemistry, according to Blue Mountain Faculty Association President Sascha McKeon.

College administrators met with the faculty union team for a final time Friday to negotiate layoffs in the new budget.

"The meeting was short and not unexpected," college President Mark Browning said. "The union did not bring any new ideas. They just wanted to know who is on the layoff list."

Layoff notices were expected to go out Tuesday, the president said.

McKeon, the union president, regarded the meeting as an implementation session.

"We came to the table for a polite conversation on options to save jobs," she said. "The administration didn't act on them back when there was time."

Browning said Blue Mountain Community College started with a \$2 million hole, \$1.3 million of which was personnel. He said a \$627,000 Amazon gift in lieu of Morrow County property taxes helped to reduce proposed layoffs from 10 to five.

"This has been a journey and process no one has enjoyed," the president said. "Reducing faculty is not something anyone wanted to do. But we have to face economic reality. We have significantly lower enrollment, and a fiduciary responsibility to craft a budget that reflects that fact."

CLACKAMAS COUNTY

Vote-count delay leaves state House race results uncertain

Associated Press

OREGON CITY — The results of a state House race are still unclear nearly a month after Oregon's primary election because of vote-counting delays in Clackamas County.

County Clerk Sherry Hall said election results won't be updated until June 13 — the state's election certification deadline — leaving the outcome of the Democratic primary for House District 38 up in the air. Hall told The Oregonian that she would wait until the statutory deadline to release final results because of confidentiality concerns due to the small number of ballots left to count.

The contest between Lake Oswego City Councilor Dan-



Gillian Flaccus/AP file

Signs criticizing election problems in Clackamas County are seen in this May 25 photo. A slow vote count resulting from a ballot-printing error has left the race for state House District 38 unclear.

iel Nguyen and school board member Neelam Gupta for the district that includes Lake Oswego and southwest Portland is incredibly close and

may go to an automatic recount. Nguyen led Gupta by just 14 votes with about 2% of votes left to be counted in Clackamas County as of

Thursday, when the county last updated its results.

The county also manually added incorrect results in the House race on the Secretary of State's website, an error that briefly made it look like Nguyen had a significant lead. The Secretary of State's office corrected the error after being alerted to the mistake by the media, the newspaper reported.

The delayed results are the latest blunder by Clackamas County's elections department. The outcome of several other races, including the Democratic primary for Oregon's 5th Congressional District, were delayed because vote-counting machines rejected tens of thousands of ballots printed with blurry bar

codes.

The county finished processing the majority of ballots on May 30, 13 days after Election Day. However, the county still had 2,404 ballots left to count, including 1,105 ballots that still needed to be duplicated, as of June 2.

Chrissy Erguiza, campaign manager for Nguyen, said the campaign is frustrated by the delay and eager to see the final results.

"All of us are really eager to see the final results, not just for the campaign, but for voters who want to know and should know the outcome," Erguiza said.

Gupta's campaign did not respond to a request for comment from The Oregonian.

LOCAL BRIEFING

to Makayla Oliver, the city's community relations manager, at moliver@bendoregon.gov.

City of Bend asking for communication via email

An issue related to Verizon's phone network is prompting the city of Bend to ask residents who need to reach the city to do so via email or in person.

Anyone calling a city phone number from a phone with Verizon service could not get through Tuesday, according to Anne Aurand, the city's communication director.

The problem is call routing issue with Verizon's network, according to the city.

The emergency line, 911, and nonemergency dispatch line, 541-693-6911, are not affected because they are not city phones.

Until phone lines are fixed, here is a list of contact information for different city departments:

Utilities and Public Works: utilitiesonline@bendoregon.gov, or visit in-person at 639 NW Franklin Ave., Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to

5 p.m.

Community and Economic Development Department: permitcenter@bendoregon.gov or walk in to the Permit Center at City Hall, 710 NW Wall St.

Bend Police: police@bendoregon.gov or visit the lobby 555 NE 15th St. from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

General questions: cssupport@bendoregon.gov

Those who don't have access to a computer may call the cell number 541-410-9341 and city staff will direct the message to the correct place.

There is no timeline for when the issue will be fixed by Verizon yet, according to the city.

Redmond woman dies after fall on Mount Shasta

A climbing guide from Redmond died after a fall while climbing Mount Shasta in California on Monday.

Jillian Elizabeth Webster, 32, was among five injured climbers who were airlifted from Avalanche Gulch in three separate rescue operations Monday, according to the Siskiyou County Sheriff's Office. Web-

ster was pronounced dead at a local hospital. The others survived.

Webster's fall was reported at 8:35 a.m. and involved two climbers and Webster, their guide, who were tethered together while ascending the mountain above Helen Lake, according to a release from the sheriff's office. One climber lost footing, causing all three to slide on snow and ice 1,500 to 2,500 vertical feet down the side of the mountain, the release said.

Webster was rendered unconscious from the fall, the sheriff's office said. A nurse, who was climbing nearby, administered CPR on Webster, who was then airlifted to Mercy Medical Center Mt. Shasta, where she was later pronounced dead, the release said.

The other two climbers were taken to area hospitals, where they are recovering.

Two other climbers injured in separate incidents Monday were also flown to Mercy Medical Center Mt. Shasta. Their conditions are unknown.

— Bulletin staff reports