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McKrola to attend D.C. youth tour

Blue Mountain Eagle

Grant Union High School's Madi McKrola is one of four students selected to join students from across the country traveling to the nation's capital for the National Rural Electric Co-op Association's Washington, D.C., Youth Tour.

June 7-14, McKrola will join Baker High School's Jayme Ramos, Silvies River Charter School's Chase Wilcox and Imbler High School's Gracey Smith to represent Oregon Trail Electric Cooperative for a one-week, all-expenses-paid trip to Washington, D.C., to celebrate the 2018 youth tour, joining 2,000 students from across the country.

The delegates will visit famous historical sites, meet with congressional leaders and learn leadership skills. The students will also create podcasts and digital photo projects as they learn about electric cooperatives and current issues in energy and climate change legislation that face their communities.

Applications for the 2019



Madi McKrola

tour will be available beginning November 2018 for juniors in high school.

Oregon Trail Electric is a nonprofit electric cooperative serving 23,000 members

in Baker, Grant, Harney and Union counties. Youth Tour funds come from unclaimed capital credits and their earnings and do not affect electric rates.

BRIEFLY

Tree School East set for April 21

The Oregon State University Forestry & Natural Resources Extension Service will present Tree School East April 21 at Baker High School in Baker City. Tree School East is a one-day mini-college for woodland owners, professional foresters, ranchers or anyone else interested in Oregon's natural resources. This year will feature 29 classes, from in-depth forest management trainings to broader natural resource management and appreciation, including multi-aged forest management, protection from forest insects and diseases, controlling invasive weeds, how to survive in the wild, timber harvesting with small-scale equipment, geology of northeast Oregon, drone technology for woodlands, farms and ranches and chainsaw operation and maintenance. For complete information on the event and how to register, call the OSU Baker County Extension Service office at 541-523-6418 or email Extension Forester Bob Parker at bob.parker@oregonstate.edu.

Parks grant committee seeks members

The Oregon Parks and Recreation Department is seeking candidates to serve on the Local Government Grant Program advisory committee. The two open positions are for a city representative for cities with a

population less than 15,000 and for a citizen representative for the public at large. The program awards more than \$5 million annually to outdoor recreation projects throughout the state. The advisory committee consists of 10 members that meet annually in June to review applications. Members typically serve four-year terms. The annual application review is a three-day meeting in Salem. Member's travel expenses are reimbursed by OPRD. Contact coordinator Mark Cowan at mark.cowan@oregon.gov for more information or an interest form.

Oregon State Police launches new non-emergency number

People can now contact Oregon State Police dispatch for non-emergencies by dialing *OSP (star OSP).

*OSP (*677) is a mobile phone direct call number established to provide the public with a quick, easy-to-remember number to use for nonemergency reporting of traffic safety, highway hazards and obstructions, minor crashes and requests for assistance. *OSP is not an emergency number, and 9-1-1 still remains the emergency number to call for an emergency. *OSP rings directly into the Oregon State Police dispatch center and is answered by a live dispatcher 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

The Department in collaboration with Oregon Department of Transportation and Oregon's cellphone providers have secured this number to make it easier to contact OSP for nonemergency police services and road hazards.

Currently, Verizon, AT&T, Sprint, T-Mobile and US Cellular have worked with the department to facilitate this service. It is the department's goal that, as this program develops, other cell providers will partner with us in this venture to provide access to all cellphone users.

For members of the public who do not have cellphone service, or have providers that do not currently support this access number, they can still dial the department's toll free phone number 800-452-7888.

New blankets, stuffed animals sought for foster children

Student Jeffrey Hensley is collecting items for a senior project, Comfort for Kids. Hensley requests donations of new blankets and stuffed animals for foster children going into new homes. Items may be dropped off at Etc., Dairy Queen, Grant County Automotive, Chester's Thriftway and Squeeze In from Feb. 15 to March 15. All donations will be taken to the Department of Human Services to be delivered. For more information, contact Hensley at 541-620-0975.



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Born and raised in John Day, Attorney Donald Molnar is honored to return home and serve the residents of Grant County. Mr. Molnar is a graduate of Grant Union High School, Lewis and Clark College, and Lewis and Clark Law School. He has been an attorney in private practice since 2005.

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