

COMMUNITY

Newsletter covering Oregon government debuts

Oregon Capital Insider, an electronic newsletter covering Oregon government, began distribution Friday.

Oregon Capital Insider provides specialized news for individuals and businesses that require a deeper understanding of the trends, issues and personalities in state government. The newsletter will provide timely intelligence and indepth reporting delivered to subscribers Friday mornings, and at other times breaking news demands.

Based in Salem, the newsletter is a collaboration between two family-owned media companies: EO Media Group and Pamplin Media Group.

A team of veteran journalists produce Oregon Capital Insider.

- Peter Wong is an award-winning reporter who has covered Oregon state government and politics for newspapers since 1989.

Wong joined Pamplin Media Group and the Portland Tribune in April 2014 after having been a reporter for the Salem Statesman Journal for more than 14 years. Before that, he worked at the Medford Mail Tribune as that



EO MEDIA GROUP FILE PHOTO
Three reporters cover state government for the Oregon Capital Insider newsletter. They are, from left, Peter Wong, Hillary Borrud and Mateusz Perkowski.

newspaper's capital bureau chief.

A graduate of the University of Southern California's school of journalism, Wong has won awards for his work from the Oregon, California and Pacific Northwest newspaper associations, as well as from the Society of Professional Journalists.

- Hillary Borrud joined

EO Media Group in 2014 after seven years at the Bend Bulletin where she reported on city, county and state issues. Previously, she was a reporter for the Daily Press in Victorville, Calif.

Borrud is a member of Investigative Reporters and Editors, where she received a Rural Computer-Assisted Reporting Fellowship in 2013.

Borrud received a master's degree from the Graduate School of Journalism at Columbia University.

- Mateusz Perkowski is a legislative reporter for EO Media Group's Capital Press in Salem. He has covered agriculture and natural resource issues for that weekly agricultural newspaper since 2006.

After graduating from

Portland State University in 2004, Perkowski worked as a freelance writer for several publications before joining Capital Press full-time.

Oregon Capital Insider brings together two companies with a wide geographic footprint in Oregon.

Pamplin Media Group owns 25 twice-weekly, weekly and monthly newspapers covering Portland and its suburbs, as well as communities in the Willamette Valley and Central Oregon.

EO Media Group includes nine daily, weekly, bi-weekly and monthly publications serving communities in Eastern Oregon, including the Hermiston Herald, and the Oregon Coast. It also owns the Capital Press, which covers agricultural issues in the Northwest, and the Chinook Observer on the southern Washington coast.

The companies created Oregon Capital Insider to counter a decline in independent news coverage of state government.

"While statehouse news coverage is diminishing in Oregon and across the nation, our media groups have chosen to invest in increased scrutiny of state government," said Steve Forrester, president of the EO Media Group.

Mark Garber, president of the newspaper division for Pamplin Media Group, said both companies are owned by long-time Oregonians.

"That's why they are willing to invest in better coverage of state government even while other news organizations are cutting back," he said. "Both companies also have a strong tradition of balanced and responsible journalism."

To subscribe, go to oregoncapitalinsider.com.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Port of Umatilla seeking letters of interest

Milton-Freewater resident Marjorie L. Roff resigned her position as a Port of Umatilla Commissioner Feb. 10 after serving for approximately 24 years. Her resignation creates a vacancy on the five-member Board of Commissioners.

Persons interesting in being appointed to serve out the remainder of the term, which ends June 30, should send a letter of interest, experience and qualifications to: Port of Umatilla, P.O. Box 879, Umatilla, Oregon 97882, or hand deliver a letter of interest to the Port of Umatilla office, 500 Willamette Ave., Umatilla,

by no later than March 6. For more information, call port General Manager Kim Puzey, 541-922-3224.

Garden club meeting on tap

The Blue Mountain District Garden Club will meet at 9 a.m. March 21 at Umatilla City Hall, 700 Sixth St., Umatilla. The hosts are the Umatilla and Condon garden clubs. A salad lunch will be provided for \$5 per person. The guest speaker is Karen Hutchinson-Talaski, who will talk about her trip to China last fall. Anyone interested in learning more about garden clubs should attend.

Chamber luncheon Tuesday

The Hermiston Chamber of Commerce monthly Business to Business Luncheon will begin at 11:45 a.m. Tuesday at the Hermiston Conference Center. Chuck Sheketoff, a founder of the Oregon Center for Public Policy, will be the guest speaker for the luncheon. Sheketoff will talk about how the OCPP works with businesses across the state, how it helps set policy that helps working class residents and its legislative priorities. For more information about the event and to RSVP, contact the Hermiston Chamber of Commerce at 541-567-6151, or go to www.hermistonchamber.com or info@hermistonchamber.com. Cost is \$10 for members and \$13 for non-members.

Morrow County Veterans Services hosting informational event

Morrow County Veterans Services will host a veterans benefits roundtable at 10 a.m. March 19 at the Stokes Landing Senior Center, 195 Opal Place, Irrigon. Topics of discussion will include changes in veterans burial benefits, survival benefits and government markets. For more information, call MCVS, 541-922-6240.

EAT SHOP PLAY

Exploring Pendleton, Milton-Freewater, Mission, Pilot Rock & Walla Walla

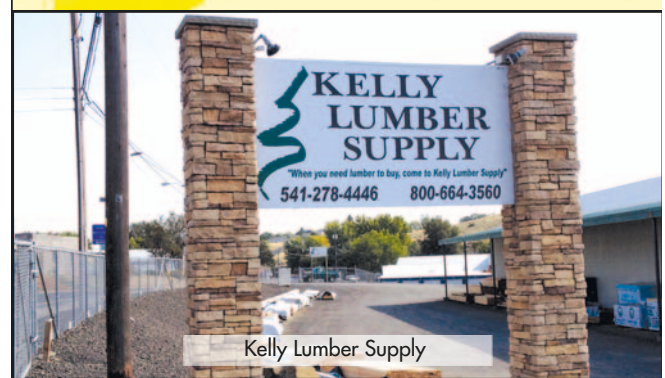
Supporting local businesses, will also support members of your own community that pay taxes, serve on committees, teach our children, and serve our needs.

Every dollar that is spent locally helps retain our local businesses, and benefits the future of our community.

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