

COMMUNITY

# Road projects taking place in area

Travelers can expect to see orange traffic cones and construction workers throughout eastern Oregon as about 30 Oregon Department of Transportation projects get underway for the summer.

A half-dozen road and bridge projects have already begun or will begin this month, as crews repair and resurface pavement, replace aging bridges and

culverts and perform other work to help keep highways safe and efficient, according to an ODOT press release.

Area projects being completed by ODOT:

- U.S. 395 (Umatilla-Stanfield Highway) — Upgrade traffic signals and intersection improvements in Hermiston area along U.S. 395 and OR 207. Lane restrictions, flaggers, mi-

nor delays can be expected. Work is ongoing. Completion: November 2015.

- OR 207 (Hermiston Highway) — Replace Hinkle Bridge (one mile north of I-84m, Exit 182), mile post 11.8.

Occasional flaggers, lane restrictions, minor delays. Work on this multi-year project is ongoing. Completion: November 2015.

- Powerline Road (Uma-

tilla County) — Realign section of Powerline Road and modify connection to U.S. 730 at west end of Umatilla River Bridge in Umatilla. Flaggers, delays up to 20 minutes at times, detour for Powerline Road access to U.S. 730 should be expected. Work to start early May. Completion: September 2015.

Construction time-frames are estimates and

subject to change. Additional updates will be shared throughout the construction season.

ODOT reminds motorists to slow down, pay extra attention and be prepared for flaggers and traffic pattern changes when they see those orange cones and construction signs. Traffic fines are double the amount in all work zones, regardless of the presence of con-

struction workers.

For updated traffic condition information, visit TripCheck.com. Road condition information is also available by phone by dialing 5-1-1 or (800) 977-6368. Outside of Oregon, travelers can call (503) 588-2941.

For updated eastern Oregon highway projects information, visit [www.tinyurl.com/ODOT-region5](http://www.tinyurl.com/ODOT-region5).

# Umatilla City Council to consider zone changes

Strip clubs, marijuana dispensaries would not be able to open downtown

BY SEAN HART  
HERMISTON HERALD

What started almost a year ago as a way to address strip clubs in Umatilla may finally come to fruition Tuesday with an

expanded focus affecting all commercial zones in the city.

The Umatilla City Council will hold a public hearing and potentially a vote on an overhaul to the city's zoning.

After a public hearing this week, the Umatilla Planning Commission recommended the council make the changes after working on the document for more than five months.

The proposal would change the zoning designation for several ar-

reas and specify each use allowed in each zone. The changes would only apply to new businesses, not those already in operation.

Adult entertainment businesses, such as strip clubs, and marijuana dispensaries would only be allowed in the general commercial zone and a new zone, highway commercial. With the zone changes and use restrictions, these businesses would essentially only be allowed in several areas on Highway 730,

between Umatilla River Road and Pollock Lane near McNary, and Highway 395.

Strip clubs would also be prevented from opening within 1,000 feet of a school and 600 feet of similar establishments. Similarly, marijuana dispensaries could not open within 1,000 feet of a school, public library, city park or another dispensary.

The meeting starts at 7 p.m. Tuesday at Umatilla City Hall, 700 Sixth St.

# Moreno-Mendez named Gates Millennium Scholar

Umatilla High School senior Anabel Moreno-Mendez was recently selected as a member of the Gates Millennium Scholar Class of 2015 by the Hispanic Scholarship Fund, the Umatilla School District announced Thursday.

For this prestigious scholarship, only 1,000 students were chosen across the United States from a pool of 52,000 applicants. They were chosen for their stellar academic achievement, adept leadership skills and commitment to community service.

Moreno-Mendez has attended Umatilla schools since kindergarten, starting her education as an English language learner, according to a district press release. She comes from a family of five children, and her father is a small-business owner in Umatilla.

Umatilla Principal Scott Depew describes Moreno-Mendez as "a hard-working, driven student who has had her sights on being valedictorian since seventh grade." At the Umatilla High School graduation ceremony on June 6, Moreno-Mendez will realize part of her dream, leading her high school class as valedictorian.

With a GPA of more than 4.0, Moreno-Mendez has taken all of the advanced courses her high school has offered, including honors and AP, according to the press release. She has participated in Battle of the Books, math competitions, been the goal keeper for the girls soccer team, participated in track and the robotics team and been a member of Key Club, National Honor Society and other high school clubs.

# CBMS Student Council honored for achievement

Umatilla's Clara Brownell Middle School was one of eight high schools and nine middle schools in the state receiving recognition as a high-achieving student council.

The award, sponsored by the Oregon Association of Student Councils, sets high standards for councils and honors them when they achieve them.

Councils begin by setting goals in the fall and work hard all year to achieve them, according to a press release. In order to receive the award, councils must be involved in community service, activities that promote school spirit and pride, sportsmanship, unity, recognition and involvement in leadership training.

"Student leaders have

the opportunity to make a tremendous impact on the climate of their school and the academic success of their student body by the activities they sponsor," said Sara Nilles, executive director for the association, in a press release.

The Oregon Association of Student Councils serves middle and high school student councils around the state and is a department

within Confederations of Oregon School Administrators.

The schools were recognized at the annual spring conference banquet April 26.

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## Blue Mountain Community College

*Alumni in the Spotlight*

**George Price, BMCC Class of 1983**  
**Retired Boardman Police Officer**  
**Boardman**

As a police officer, George Price had to be able to read people. Fortunately, he took a variety of sociology and psychology classes at BMCC while he earned his criminal justice degree in the 1980s. George says that he didn't have a very good GPA when he graduated from Hermiston High School, but through the support of faculty and staff at BMCC, he was able to raise his grades and graduate with over a 3.0 GPA. George's BMCC education led to career in law enforcement — locally, he spent 9 years with the Pilot Rock Police Department, and then after a short stint at a central Oregon sheriff's office, George spent the final 14 years of his law enforcement career at the Boardman Police Department, where he retired Jan. 1, 2015.

**Have you heard about the BMCC bond?**

BMCC wants to continue to provide a high-quality education for students so they can succeed like our many distinguished alumni! Check out the bond page on our website to learn more about how BMCC could continue to provide an affordable education for family-wage jobs, a safe and secure learning environment and protect the community's investment. Look for the bond on the May 19, 2015, ballot!

[www.bluecc.edu/about-bmcc/bond-measure](http://www.bluecc.edu/about-bmcc/bond-measure)

## 3rd Annual Mammoth Cup Golf Tournament

**Sunday, May 17**

**Wildhorse Resort Golf Course**

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**1-800-522-0255**

## 3rd Annual Cruisin' for Scholarships 2015

**Saturday, May 9th. 10am-2pm**

BMCC Central Lawn, 2411 NW Carden, Pendleton Oregon 97801

A car, truck, and motorcycle show with proceeds benefiting the BMCC Diesel Technology Program and student scholarships.

Awards given to winners in each category. Categories include: cars by decade, President's Choice, People's Choice, best motorcycle, and many more!

Car Registration: \$20, includes dash plaque and first 50 entries receive complimentary goodie bag. Registration begins at 9am, or register online prior to event at [www.bluecc.edu/alumni](http://www.bluecc.edu/alumni) Web registration fees will be collected event day check-in.

**Raffles, Music, BBQ, Car Wash and More!**

If you have questions or are interested in sponsoring this event, please call the BMCC Alumni Office at 541-278-5823