

# Rural program aims at catching colon cancer

By JAYATI RAMAKRISHNAN  
STAFF WRITER

Residents of some of the most rural parts of Eastern Oregon can now get easier access to colon cancer screenings. The Eastern Oregon Healthy Living Alliance is offering free screening kits to people in Gilliam, Morrow and Sherman counties. People between the ages of 50 and 75 can pick up a kit from one of several different locations in the three counties.

Test kit allows people to take the test, which checks for blood in the stool, in the privacy of their own home, and then return the kit at a designated location.

Colorectal cancer is preventable, according to the organization's press release, and a person can minimize their risk by getting screened regularly.

John Adams, executive director of the Eastern Oregon Healthy Living Alliance, said the organization looked at all the counties in the area and their health needs.

"Based on population and identified need, we're trying to share resources," he said.

The Healthy Living Alliance focuses on much of the same coverage area as the Eastern Oregon Coordinated Care Organization, which provides services for Medicaid-eligible people in 12 Eastern Oregon counties, including Umatilla County.

Adams said rural counties in Oregon were a priority because of their aging populations.

"Throughout Eastern Oregon, there's higher rates of older adults

than the state average," he said.

According to the 2010 census, about 15 percent of Morrow County residents are 65 and older, while about 25 percent in Sherman County and 27 percent in Gilliam county fit that demographic.

Adams added that one in three Oregonians from ages 50 to 75 are not screened as recommended, and that eastern Oregon's rates of screening are even lower.

The rate of new colorectal cancer diagnoses in Morrow County is 43.2 percent, he said, as compared

to a state rate of 37.1 percent. He said the rate of mortality in Eastern Oregon communities from 2009 to 2013 was 18.9 percent, as compared to 14.5 percent statewide.

In Morrow County, kits can be picked up at:

- Columbia River Health Services Clinic, 450 Tatone St., Boardman
- Pioneer Memorial Clinic, 130 Thompson St., Heppner
- Ione Community Clinic, 365 W. 3rd St., Ione
- Irrigon Medical Clinic, 220 NE Main Ave., Irrigon



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### Boardman Chamber of Commerce

Announces 2018 Frostbite Golf Tournament Scholarship Recipients

Boardman Chamber of Commerce is a proud supporter of Riverside Jr/Sr High School and their students.

## CONGRATULATIONS!



Left to Right (Back Row): Gustavo Amaya, Kevin Madrigal, Misael Madrigal, Fabian Meza, Paul Diaz

Left to Right (Seated): Abigail Hernandez, Ruby Barrera

Proceeds from the 2018 Frostbite Scholarship Golf Tournament gave the Boardman Chamber of Commerce the opportunity to award seven \$1,000 scholarships to just a few of the expletory RHS students graduating in 2018.

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\$260 Base Entry Fee

(\$50 Big fish option pot)

(\$50 Big Stringer option pot)

\*100% Payout of Option Pots

\*80% Payout of Base Entry

Prefishing allowed until 4 pm on Friday, July 13<sup>th</sup>.

Drivers meeting held under the Boardman Marina pavilion in the day use park on July 13 at 5:00 pm with dinner served at 4:30 pm.  
6 fish Limit with 2 over 24"

30 Minute Early Bird Drawing for entries paid by Friday July, 6<sup>th</sup>.

Entry Drop offs are High Desert Marine, Sportsman's Warehouse, Griggs, and Boardman Chamber of Commerce or Mail them to:

CRWAA  
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STE A-101/128  
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