

Good Shepherd Family Health Center welcomes a second provider

Good Shepherd has welcomed a second provider to its newly opened Good Shepherd Family Health Center.

JoDee Williams, Doctor of Nursing Practice, has joined Angie Hays at the center, located at the Good Shepherd Medical Plaza, 620 N.W. 11th St., Suite 103.

Williams said in a news release that her mother is a nurse and she always wanted to be a nurse to follow in her mother's footsteps of

healing. She pursued a doctor of nursing practice degree from Gonzaga University.

"I really enjoy the flexibility and complexity of being able to care for men, women, and children over five-months-old," she stated in a press release.

She said she thought Good Shepherd was "the perfect size" to be an integral part of an organization while building "lifelong generational relationships" with

patients.

"I believe establishing a relationship is key," she said. "I want my patients to know that I value them as a person. I want to have open communication so when patients have a concern they feel comfortable sharing it with me so we can work through any issues together. I'm really here to help guide and advocate for my patients through life's journey."

To schedule an appointment with Williams, call 541-667-3830.



Photo contributed
JoDee Williams has joined Good Shepherd Family Health Center, as a Doctor of Nursing Practice.

New mural at Hermiston Municipal Airport promotes region



Staff photo by E.J. Harris

A new mural greets travelers passing through the L.T. "Tom" Harper terminal building at the Hermiston Municipal Airport.

By **JADE MCDOWELL**
NEWS EDITOR

Hermiston Municipal Airport's new mural isn't just adding a splash of color to the terminal — it's also educational.

The mural will greet visitors who fly into Hermiston with a quick glance at some of the community's greatest assets. Through pictures and words the mural touts everything from Hermiston's school district to its agricultural productivity.

"Largest and fastest growing city in Eastern Oregon," cursive letters proclaim.

"10.5 " yearly rainfall," states a painted-on yellow and orange sun.

The mural was painted by Lisa Peppard, a Tri-Cities artist and owner of Artful Virgo in Kennewick. She was hired by the Greater Hermiston Area Chamber

of Commerce.

"The mural is a great addition to the expansion of the Regional Airport and the Hermiston Chamber of Commerce is thankful for the beautiful artwork that is proudly displayed for community members and visitors to see!" a news release from the chamber stated.

While the airport doesn't currently host commercial flights, it frequently receives out-of-town visitors flying in on corporate jets or small individually-owned planes.

The mural is part of ongoing improvements at the airport, implemented by Gorge Aviation after the company took over management of the airport last year. Other improvements include flying lessons, engine-repair classes for teenagers, monthly breakfasts for aviation enthusiasts and the addition of an on-site mechanic.

Director on Umatilla fire board launches write-in campaign

By **JADE MCDOWELL**
NEWS EDITOR

A director on the Umatilla Rural Fire Protection District board is hoping to keep his seat after accidentally missing the deadline to get on the ballot.

"I thought I had one more week, but I didn't," Robert Holden said.

Instead, former Umatilla city councilor Mark Keith has filed for position #5 on the board, currently held by Holden, and will be the only name on the May 21 ballot. There will be a space to cast a write-in vote, however, and Holden hopes voters will write in "Robert Holden II."

Holden has served on the board since 2012. Since then the district has passed a bond, purchased new equipment and added staff. He

said he joined because he wanted to serve the community. Now he says he wants to keep his seat for another term to see current projects through.

"We're striving to do good things for citizens and I want to continue to do that," he said.

Umatilla assistant fire chief Rob Tooley wrote an endorsement for Holden, noting that he came onto the board during a time of contention between board members and volunteers and helped those volunteers feel heard and valued.

"Robert Holden II knows what it takes to help keep the Umatilla Rural Fire District Board of Directors moving in the right direction, he supports the volunteers, and he's supported by the volunteers," he wrote.

The other candidate for the

seat is Mark Keith. Keith is a former Umatilla city councilor, a volunteer firefighter/paramedic and director of Encore Wellness 4 Life, a Umatilla medical clinic.

He said during his time on the city council he helped out the fire district in multiple ways, including making sure the city's out-of-commission fire hydrants were repaired. He said he is running because the board needs a perspective of someone who has served as a firefighter and paramedic in the district.

"What happens on the front line is not what gets shared in board meetings," he said.

Other candidates for the fire board include Darla Huxel for position #4, Fred Sheely and Kelly Payan for position #2 and Kyle Sipe for position #3.

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