

PHOTO OF THE DAY



Contributed photo by Sheri Harper

Dozens of volunteers got together in Stanfield on April 27 for an "I Love My City" event. Residents picked up litter, cleaned windows, weeded and performed other beautification projects around the community. Pictured are two of the volunteers searching for garbage along a canal.

Ballot returns at less than 9 percent in Umatilla County

BY HERMISTON HERALD

Ballots for the May 21 election are dribbling into Umatilla County.

County elections manager Kim Lindell said her office has received 3,678 ballots out of 43,874 for a return rate less than 8.4%.

"It's going really slow," she said.

Just six seats out of 122 seats on ballots in the county for next week's election feature a competition between two candidates. Most of those are school boards.

Echo School Board member Connie Caplinger faces a challenge from Emily Spike.

Umatilla School Board member Toby Cranton drew an opposing bid from Jennifer Armstrong, the co-owner of Encore Wellness 4 Life, a Umatilla medical clinic. Cecili Longhorn, Stanfield Public Library director, is running for an open Stanfield School Board seat

against Jim Griffin. And Athena-Weston School Board incumbent Jennifer McClure-Spurgeon faces Shannon Hoehna. McClure-Spurgeon is the mayor of Weston, and Hoehna is the owner and food safety consultant for SH Consulting, Weston.

Fire district boards round out the contested races.

Kelly Payan is running against incumbent Fred Sheely for a seat on the Umatilla Rural Fire Protection District Board of Directors, and incumbent Spike Piersol has a challenge from Sebastian Sanchez for the Umatilla County Fire District Board of Directors.

Morrow County has a better turnout. County clerk Bobbi Childers said her office sent 6,325 ballots and as of Monday accepted 1,154, about 18.3% return.

"We do have a tax measure and have a contested race for Port of Morrow

for port commissioner," she said.

Morrow County voters will decide on renewing the 39-cent levy to fund the hospital in Heppner, three clinics across the county and county-wide ambulance services. Morrow County residents John Murray and Debbie Radie are contending for Position 5 on the Port of Morrow Board of Commissioners.

Write-in votes could decide most of the races, which primarily consists of school boards and small taxing districts. If no one files for a seat, county elections officials look to the write-ins to determine the winner, then contact winners to find out whether the person accepts the position.

If the winner declines, the board, council or commission in charge of the seat makes an appointment.

Ballots are due to county elections offices or drop boxes by 8 p.m. the night of the election.

Umatilla couple dies in house fire

BY HERMISTON HERALD

A Umatilla couple died inside their burning home Sunday evening in what appeared to be an accidental fire.

Roger Frances, 67, and Ruth Frances, 68, were found deceased inside the home they owned at 125 John Day St. The fire is still under investigation, but a news release from the

Umatilla Police Department stated it "is believed that this is no more than a tragic accident."

Umatilla Rural Fire District and Umatilla Police Department responded to a 911 call about the fire about 5 p.m. Sunday. Upon entering the residence personnel located the Franceses, who were declared deceased on scene.

The news release stated

that actual fire damage to the building was minimal but it sustained "significant" heat and smoke damage. Oregon State Fire Marshal, Hermiston Police Department and Umatilla County Fire District are assisting with the investigation.

Roger Frances previously worked as Umatilla's public works superintendent for 25 years, retiring in 2013.

more information, call 541-567-7615, visit www.thearcumatilla.org or search Facebook.

Theater offers sensory-friendly viewing

The lights are up a little and the volume is down for a sensory-friendly of "Pokemon: Detective Pikachu."

The unique accommodations are presented in conjunction with The Arc Umatilla County and Hermiston Stadium 8 Cinema. The special viewing is Saturday, May 18 at 10:30 a.m. at the theater, 355 W. Theater Lane. Tickets are \$5.50. The animated action adventure features the voice of Ryan Reynolds as Detective Pikachu.

A nonprofit organization, The Arc advocates for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities. For

New Hope hosts baccalaureate service

A baccalaureate service to honor the class of 2019 is planned at New Hope Community Church.

The public is invited to attend and celebrate with students. The event is Wednesday, May 15 from 7-8:30 p.m. at New Hope, 1350 S. Highway 395, Hermiston. Refreshments will be served.

For more information, call 541-567-8441 or 541-567-4486.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Republicans suggest voting strategy for upcoming elections

To the editor:

We recommend voting for everyone on your ballot that has filed for the position they wish to hold. Following is our recommendation where there are two or more candidates for the same position.

For positions where no candidate has filed and you wish to fill the position, we recommend contacting your friends and neighbors who live in your area and have them write your name in. You just might win that

position!

- Athena-Weston School District, 29RJ, Director, Zone 4: Jennifer McClure-Spurgeon
- Echo School District 5R, Director, Position 2: Emily Spike
- Stanfield School District, 61R, Director, Position 2: Cecili Longhorn
- Umatilla School District, 6R, Director, Position 3: Jennifer Armstrong
- Umatilla County Fire District #1, Director, Position 3: Spike Piersol
- Umatilla Fire District 7-405, Director, Position 2: Fred L. Sheely

Suni Danforth, chair

Umatilla County Republican Party
Milton-Freewater

COURTS

Suits Filed

PENDLETON — The following suits have been filed in Umatilla County courts (interest, court costs and fees not listed):

- Portfolio Recovery Associates LLC vs. Jake Haynie: seeks \$3,673.17.
- Bank of America N.A. vs. Shelby Kay Harns of Hermiston: seeks \$3,393.96.
- Jeremy Scherrer of Boardman vs. Edgardo Aguilar Sanchez of Hermiston: seeks \$3,199.50.
- Capital One Bank vs. Teresa Drury of Stanfield: seeks \$2,477.91.
- Capital One Bank vs. Gordon Zulauf of Hermiston: seeks \$1,815.33.
- Quick Collect Inc. vs. Timothy and Mary Elizabeth (Beth) Collett of Umatilla: seeks \$834.07.
- Jefferson Capital Systems LLC vs. Sean L. Aiken: seeks \$1,510.88.
- Portfolio Recovery Associates LLC vs. Raul Ibarra Perez: seeks \$1,962.84.
- Lakeview Loan Servicing LLC vs. Olga G. Izquierdo of Hermiston and all others claiming right, title, lien or interest: seeks \$192,087.11.
- LVNV Funding LLC vs. Tim McCarty: seeks \$1,742.65.
- Crown Asset Management LLC vs. Daniel G. Weitzel of Hermiston: seeks \$2,425.02.
- Eastern Oregon Trade & Event Center vs. Philadelphia Indemnity Insurance Company and Randy Hull: seeks \$28,480.
- TD Bank USA vs. Velana O. Trejo (Velana McMinn, Velana Schuler) of Hermiston: seeks \$1,272.44.
- Credits Inc. vs. Sandra Garcia Garduno and Felix Rios of Umatilla: seeks \$9,276.48.

•Credits Inc. vs. Ramon B. Leon of Hermiston: seeks \$1,291.86.

Judgments

PENDLETON — The following judgments have been rendered in Umatilla County courts (interest, court costs and fees not listed):

- Capital One Bank vs. Derek L. Portillo of Hermiston: judgment for \$4,350.63.
- Discover Bank vs. Lamont Prophet of Hermiston: judgment for \$4,907.86.
- Ray Klein Inc. vs. Rena L. Blouin: judgment for \$3,533.36.
- United Finance Co. vs. Kaari Larson and Lacy Brooks of Hermiston: judgment for \$4,047.25.
- Ray Klein Inc. vs. Elyn P. Clausen of Hermiston: judgment for \$339.98.
- Credits Inc. vs. Ana Arechiga of Boardman: judgment for \$479.65.

Marriages

PENDLETON — Marriage licenses have been registered in Umatilla County for:

- Shawn Alan Hensley, 30, and Michelle Lane Adams, 40, both of Hermiston.
- Daniel F.L. Robinson, 22, and Asia Reann Gould, 21, both of Irrigon.
- Jose M. Rangel, 49, and Benezote Gomes, 41, both of Hermiston.
- Brandon Nicholas Wood, 24, and Andrea Amanda Martinez, 23, both of Hermiston.
- Gerardo Guzman-Ceniceros, 40, and Alejandra B. Aviles Gonzalez, 27, both of Hermiston.
- Eric Lee Taft, 35, and Hailey Nicole Barnett, 26, both of Hermiston.

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