



# Hermiston Herald

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2019

HermistonHerald.com

\$1.50

INSIDE

**SPECIAL SECTION**

Tips to keep your home and family safe from fire, photos of area firefighters and more in a special section honoring firefighters. **Inside**

**TAX BREAK**

Amazon will pay \$40 million to the Greater Hermiston Enterprise Zone instead of property taxes, according to a recent deal. **Page A3**

BY THE WAY

**Smith elected to LOC board**

When the board of directors for the **League of Oregon Cities** convenes in 2020, it will include a representative from Hermiston.

The league announced last week that Hermiston city manager **Byron Smith** has been elected to its board of directors by the general membership.

Smith joins Pendleton city councilor **Paul Chalmers** on the 15-seat board, which is comprised of municipal elected officials and city administrators from across the state.

••• **Good Shepherd Health Care System** has hired geriatrician and internal medicine physician **Nu Nwe Tun, MD**.

Tun is the third internist to join Good Shepherd's Medical Group division, with two more hires planned for the near future. She is from Myanmar, a country in southeast Asia.

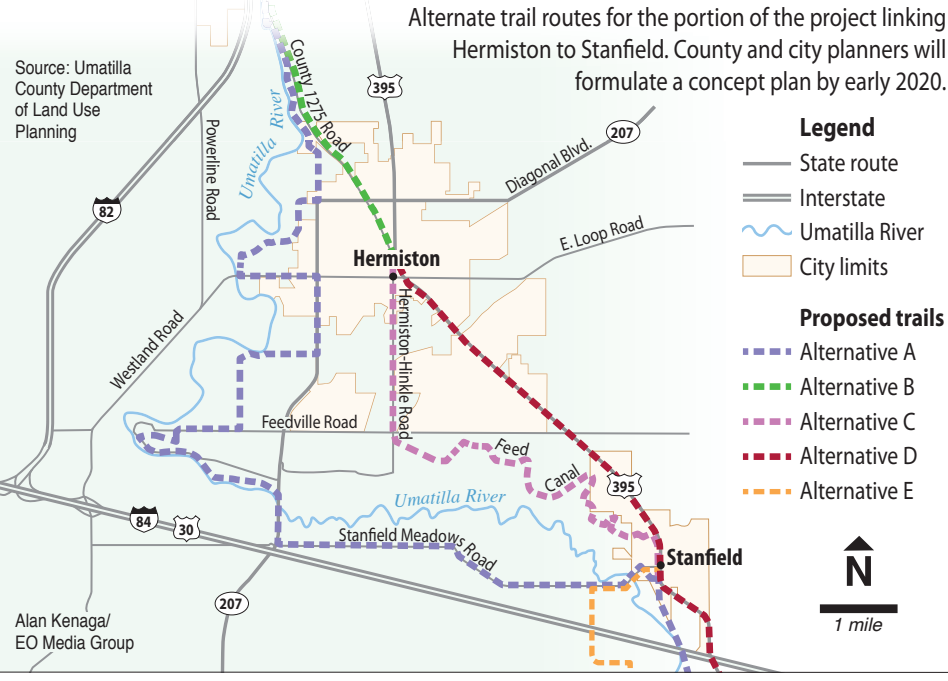
"I grew up with my godmother, a family medicine physician, who ran a clinic out of her home," she said in a news release. "I learned much from her knowledge and experience which ultimately inspired me to pursue internal medicine. The experience also instilled a passion in me for geriatric care and being a strong advocate for this age group."

See BTW, Page A2

County planners are working with National Parks Service to plan system of trails from Umatilla to Echo

# GOING WITH THE FLOW

**Umatilla River Trails Project, Hermiston to Stanfield**



**Kelly Nobles indicates to Esmeralda Horn, the development and recreation manager for the City of Umatilla, a section of the Umatilla River where he hopes the City of Umatilla will consider installing a bridge and using a section of his riverfront property for a trail.**

Staff photo by Ben Lonergan



**P**lans for the Umatilla River Trails Project are beginning to take shape.

"With the support that has come along for it, we're moving. This thing's got legs," Umatilla County commissioner Bill Elfering said.

The project would connect Umatilla, Hermiston, Stanfield and Echo through a network of recreational trails, which the county released possible routes for at four open house workshops last week. They hope to develop a concept plan early next year.

Using colored stickers, attendees were able to place unofficial votes for the different options.

"Nothing is set in concrete yet; we know some of these routes won't be possible," Elfering said at the Hermiston open house, which took place Thursday at the Hermiston Community Center.

The county is hoping to keep the string of trails as close to the river as possible, but some of the different route alternatives offer other possibilities, including trails that would run parallel with train tracks, highways or

See Trails, Page A14

## Four people in the race for county commissioner



Staff photo by Ben Lonergan

**Flags fly outside of the Umatilla County Courthouse in Pendleton last week.**

By **PHIL WRIGHT**  
STAFF WRITER

Four Hermiston residents are the early contenders in the primary race for the Umatilla County Board of Commissioners.

Dan Dorrان, Mark Gomolski, Jonathan Lopez and Patricia Maier look to serve in place of Commissioner Bill Elfering, who is not seeking re-election to the Position 3 seat on the county board.

Dorrان is a long-established local figure, having served on the county fair board for 20 years until he stepped down in 2017. He also served on the state County Fair Commission from 2014 to 2018 and on the board of directors for Hermiston's Eastern Oregon Trade and Event Center from 2011 to 2017.

He dove back into county business with a stint on the county's Charter Review Committee.

When he filed in September he told the *Hermiston Herald* that he didn't plan to start

an official campaign until after the November election, but he felt humbled that people in the county had asked him to consider running.

Gomolski, too, served on the charter review committee. He also is in his first term as a member of the Hermiston School Board and has served on Hermiston's Hispanic Advisory Committee since 2016.

He managed Elfering's campaign for commissioner four years ago, and the two remain friends. Gomolski said he wants to take the reins from Elfering.

"I know Bill has a lot of economic development plans in the works, and I would like to make sure those things come to fruition," Gomolski said.

Lopez also is on the Hispanic Advisory Committee and is a member of the Latino Business Network.

He and his wife, Jazmin Lopez, in January opened the student tutoring service Einstein

See Race, Page A14

