

# Dorran, Beers emerge from primary for Umatilla County commissioner

By ALEX CASTLE AND JADE MCDOWELL  
STAFF WRITERS

Dan Dorran of Hermiston and HollyJo Beers of Milton-Freewater emerged from a crowded field during the May 19 primary to advance to the November general election in the 2020 race for Umatilla County commissioner.

Dorran finished first in the primary with 34% of the vote and 5,482 total votes received, while Beers came in second with 24% of the vote and 3,935 total votes received.

The two bested a trio of candidates from Hermiston to advance, with Pat Maier collecting 13% of the vote for third, Jonathan Lopez receiving 10% for fourth, and Mark Gomolski finishing fifth with 8%.

“We’re really happy and humbled with how things went,” Dorran said of his campaign, noting he was excited to receive as significant a portion of the vote as he did despite four other candidates entered in the race.

Though confident entering May 19, Beers said she still felt pleasantly surprised by the result and was looking forward to the opportunity to continue her campaign into November.

“I’m very excited about it,” she said. “I’m delighted and humbled by all the people who supported me.”

Both Dorran and Beers voiced some disappointment in the county’s overall voter turnout, which was reported at right around 36% of the 45,240 eligible voters. Regardless, the two will have months more of opportunity in a smaller, more concentrated campaign before voters will make their final choice between them in November.

Hermiston Mayor David Drotzmann ran unopposed in the primary, securing his seat as mayor for another four years. Municipal Judge



Staff photo by Ben Lonergan

Ballots await sorting at the Umatilla County Elections office ahead of the ballot deadline on May 19.

Thomas Creasing also ran unopposed.

## State legislature

State Sen. Bill Hansell, R-Athena, survived a primary challenge on election night, but still has to face off against a Democratic challenger in November.

Hansell, who is in his eighth year of office, received 92% of the vote in the Republican primary against Garrison Lee Alger, a Pendleton carpenter. On the Democratic side, Mildred O’Callaghan of Joseph ran unopposed, sweeping up 97% of the vote.

Hansell said he was “gratified” by the wide margin of victory.

“Whenever you throw your hat in the ring, you’re always very pleased when it’s chosen,” he said.

Hansell’s Democratic challenger, O’Callaghan, acknowledged that it would be tough for a Democrat to win District 29, but she said she wanted to see Democrats provide more opposition to Republicans in red counties, and to spark increased voter turnout for Democrats in November, when a presiden-



Beers Dorran

tial election is on the line.

Rep. Greg Smith, R-Hepner, didn’t have a primary challenger for his seat representing House District 57, but he will face off with a Democratic opponent in November.

Smith received 99% of the vote as he ran unopposed to keep the seat he has held for 10 terms after being elected in November 2000. This is the first time he has had a Democratic opponent since 2010.

He will run against Roland Ruhe, a Democrat from Irrigon who owns a construction business. Ruhe ran unopposed in the primary.

## Morrow County

The next Morrow County commissioner will be decided in November.

Incumbent Jim Doherty staved off a competitive primary challenge from Joel Peterson on election night,

coming in first in the nonpartisan race with 41.56% of the vote compared with Peterson’s runner-up finish with 38.25%.

But the two will have to face off again in a November runoff because neither received more than 50% of the vote.

SaBrina Bailey Cave came in first in the race for treasurer, with 30.6% of the vote, while only 16 votes separate Jaylene Papineau and Erik Patton in unofficial results released on election night. Papineau edged out Patton with 684 votes to his 668, sending her into a runoff with Bailey Cave in November.

In the race for judge for the Morrow County Justice Court, incumbent Glen Diehl ended up with 42.2% of the vote. He will face off in the November general election against Theresa Crawford, who received 39.7%. With a third-place finish at 17.8%, Kelly Doherty will not be on the ballot again in November.

Diehl was appointed as Justice of the Peace in November 2019 after the retirement of Judge Annetta Spicer.

# Hermiston School District to host ‘honor walk’ for seniors

By JADE MCDOWELL  
NEWS EDITOR

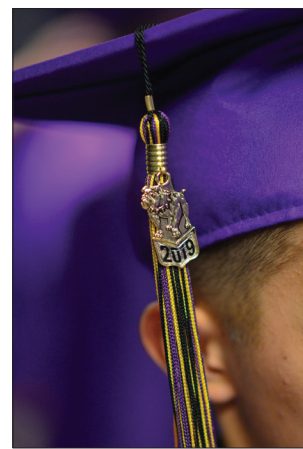
Hermiston seniors may not have a traditional graduation ceremony to look forward to, but the school district is providing an opportunity for them to experience the cheers of friends and family while donning a cap and gown.

Hermiston School District announced Wednesday that the district, in partnership with the city of Hermiston, will host an “honor walk” for the Class of 2020 on Friday, May 29 at 7:30 p.m. followed by a fireworks show at 9:30 p.m.

“During this difficult time, it is important to honor the students experiencing this memorable situation, which caused their senior year to be cut short,” the district stated in a news release.

Seniors dressed in their cap and gown can line up on the south side of Hermiston High School and walk a parade route that will go west on Highland Avenue, around West Park Elementary School at Seventh Street, and down Orchard Avenue to return to the high school.

Hermiston Police Department will shut down traffic along that route starting at 7:15 p.m., allowing seniors to walk spaced apart on the road, and members of the public can cheer them on from the sidewalks. Indi-



HH file photo

A Bulldogs tassel hangs from graduate René Ceniceros’ mortar board at the Hermiston High School commencement ceremony in Kennewick, Wash., in 2019.

viduals are asked to do so “safely and respectfully” and to follow social distancing guidelines by staying 6 feet apart from people who are not in their household.

The evening will end with a fireworks show at 9:30 p.m. from the Hermiston Butte, which people can also enjoy from their homes, vehicles, or spaced apart on sidewalks.

The school district will hold a virtual baccalaureate, a nondenominational religious service that schools traditionally hold for graduates, on June 1 at 7 p.m., accessible by tuning in to a livestreamed video on the Hermiston School District YouTube channel.

**WE ARE OPEN!**  
**DRIVE THRU & LOBBY PICK UP ONLY**

**ALL AMERICAN FOOD™**

**77522 S. Hwy 207 Hermiston**  
Located at Space Age Travel Center & Comfort Suites, Exit 182 on I-84

# Umatilla to hold May 30 graduation

HERMISTON HERALD

Umatilla High School seniors will celebrate graduation on Saturday with a drive-in ceremony, parade and fireworks.

Graduation will start at 6 p.m., with students and their families listening from their cars in the parking lot of Umatilla High School. Afterward, they will parade through town about 7 p.m., followed by a fireworks show courtesy of the City of Umatilla.

According to a news release from the district, 93 seniors will be graduating, including a record number of students graduating with their Associates of Arts Transfer Degree from Blue Mountain Community College along with their high school diploma. The previous record was six, and this year 12 students have earned one.

Elizbeth Burres, Patri-

cia Burres, Yarectzy Carrillo, Bryan Cervantes-Ortiz, Briana Duron Gutierrez, Rosy Madrigal-Rodriguez, Yarectzy Morfin, Marisol Munoz-Ordaz, Erika Ricardo-Ochoa, Darian Smith, Ethan Smith and Naomie Wyckoff will all celebrate their high school graduation May 30 and their

BMCC graduation June 11.

Superintendent Heidi Sipe credited the success of the early college program at the high school to the vision of the school board and high school principal Bob Larence, who “has worked to build a culture of success at UHS.”

**MAY IS HIGH BLOOD PRESSURE AWARENESS MONTH**

**Blood pressure higher than 130/80 mm Hg can cause serious health problems:**

- Heart disease
- Kidney disease
- Stroke
- Dementia

**Have your blood pressure checked at least once a year.**

**What steps can you take to lower your high blood pressure?**

- 1 Set Targets**  
Work with your doctor to set blood pressure numbers that are healthy for you.
- 2 Take Control**  
Eat healthy, stay active and strive to maintain a healthy weight.
- 3 Work Together**  
Engage in heart healthy activities with others.

**UPCOMING VIRTUAL CLASSES:**

**Fall Prevention Seminar**  
May 28 • 2-3pm

**Exercise & Nutrition for a Healthy Life**  
June 3 • 12-1pm

\*Computer or smart phone required to attend classes\*  
Contact 541-667-3509 or healthinfo@gshhealth.org to register

Working every day to promote a healthy community

**GOOD SHEPHERD**  
HEALTH CARE SYSTEM  
Education and Wellness Services 541.667.3509

Facebook Instagram LinkedIn Twitter

**Energy Saver Loans**  
Low-cost loans to power your life.

Finance energy efficiency with low interest rates at

1.99%

On-Bill Financing  
Terms and conditions apply. Contact Umatilla Electric Cooperative for details.

**UMATILLA ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE**

**Hermiston Office**  
750 W. Elm Ave.  
Hermiston, OR 97838  
(541) 567-6414

**Boardman Office**  
400 N.E. Eldridge Drive  
Boardman, OR 97818  
(541) 481-2220

[www.UmatillaElectric.com](http://www.UmatillaElectric.com)

**TODAY. TOMORROW.**

# TOYOTA

0% APR FINANCING FOR 60 MONTHS

with \$16.67 per \$1,000 borrowed

**2020 TUNDRA**

**2020 RAV4 Gas**

**2020 Camry**

**TOYOTA**

BuyAToyota.com

**ToyotaCare**

Prototypes shown with options. Extra-cost color shown. On select 2020 models. Terms available on approved credit through participating dealers and Toyota Financial Services. Not all customers will qualify. Void where prohibited. Offer valid on all new Toyota Certified Used and untitled Toyota vehicles including dealer demonstrators with 20,000 miles or less financed through Toyota Financial Services (TFS). Used non-Certified Toyota vehicles are not eligible. Payments deferred for 90 days from date of purchase. Offer available on contracts up to 72 months and is available only through TFS to qualified buyers. Interest accrues from date of sale. Restrictions apply. For approved Tier 1+ through Tier 3 credit customers on special (subvented) deals. Must be approved for financing through TFS on any new Toyota or Toyota Certified Used vehicle. Offer excludes leases. \*ToyotaCare covers normal factory scheduled service for 2 years or 25,000 miles, whichever comes first. Offers may vary by region. See participating dealer for details. Offer ends 06/01/2020.