

**SEPTEMBER 2020** 

#### **CITY UPDATE**

I thought I would share some of the things that are going on around Pendleton with you. In spite of our frustrations with being partially shut down, quite a lot is happening. After months of isolation, City Hall is now open each workday from 8:00 am to 1:30 pm and we expect it to be open 8:00-5:00 soon. The City has been working with the County to provide \$5,000 grants to businesses using CARES Act money. Approximately \$745,000 in City/County CARES Act dollars have been committed to 149 grants to Pendleton businesses in the latest round of business grants.



Street repairs are underway, and if you live near SE Byers, you have been watching a major rebuilding and widening project for a couple of months. Lower than expected bids allowed us to

repair more streets than we planned with our limited budget. The Pendleton Development Commission (Urban renewal) is planning to use more of its available funds to repair streets within the urban renewal district. This will free up money in the annual street repair budget to repair more streets that are outside the urban renewal district. Despite the gas tax failing to pass last May, the City still retains its goal of putting \$2.2 million into street repairs each year. Our efforts to gain new revenues for streets are on hold for now, because we don't want to put an extra strain on businesses or taxpayers during the present economic downturn.

The Airport is using its \$3 million EDA grant and its \$16.8 million in CARES Act grants to pay off all its debt, build more hangars, repair the taxiways, renovate the Terminal building, buy heavy equipment, and build new UAS test pads. We have to spend all of the CARES Act money in four years or lose it, so we are moving quickly to get bids on these projects. The City is putting in a new water pumping boost station to allow enough water at the Airport for fire flow and expansion of the industrial park. Because we added 100 new jobs at the Test Range, the State has forgiven \$500,000 from a loan in 2017 to build the flex hangar that was used by Airbus (another company is currently renting that hangar). Also, Dusty Pace is in the process of building four new hangars using private investment dollars.

The housing picture is still bright, but as you might guess, progress under COVID is slower than we want. The 36 apartment units by Roosters are progressing on schedule, and the Pratt Company is still working on converting the old Forest Service building to 33 units. We met last week with the company that is still planning on building apartments on Westgate below BMCC. The first phase of that project is for 108 apartments, and the complex will have a pool, exercise room, and community room. I expect that complex of a planned 204 units to be built over about three years. The City used state grant dollars to purchase the remaining property by Olney Cemetery from Saj Jivanjee and have a sale agreement to sell it to Chrisman Homes, who are working with the State to build low income ("affordable") apartments on that property. Right now, the State has pulled back some of the financing dollars, so that project might be moving slower than projected. In addition to apartments, single-family homes are going up all over town, especially in the Sun Ridge area.

The recent Black Lives Matter march and its Counter-protest attracted a lot of attention, so I want to use this opportunity to congratulate the law enforcement community for its professional management of this event. We still have several areas of concern, such as the loss of revenues from cancelled tourism events, how to manage the homeless population, loss of State capital construction grants for FARM II and the jail renovation project, and trying to keep our small businesses healthy. We will continue to keep trying to solve these difficult problems and I will use this column to keep you informed.

Stay Safe,

Mayor Turner

#### **COUNCIL MEETINGS**

October 6 City Council 7 pm October 20 City Council 7 pm PDC Meeting 6 pm November 3 City Council 7 pm



http://www.pendleton.or.us/

#### **CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS**

John Turner	Mayor	541-922-8605
Jake Cambier	At Large	541-969-2252
Paul Chalmers	At Large	541-276-7111
Kevin Martin	Ward I	541-969-6744
Carole Innes	Ward I	541-276-0644
McKennon McDonald	Ward 2	541-969-3345
Sally Brandsen	Ward 2	503-351-6624
Dale Primmer	Ward 3	541-240-1117
Linda Neuman	Ward 3	541-969-1188

#### **CITY OF PENDLETON**

Administration	541-966-0201
Airport	541-276-7754
Attorney	541-966-0206
Convention Center	541-276-6569
Community Dev.	541-966-0203
Facilities	541-966-0201
Finance	541-966-0207
Fire	541-276-1442
Library	541-966-0380
Municipal Court	541-966-0209
Parks/Rec/Cemetery	541-276-8100
Police	541-276-4411
Public Works	541-276-3078



Meeting will be via ZOOM Information found under meetings.

#### **BOARDS, COMMITTEES, COMMISSIONS**

## Are you interested in participating in city government?

The City of Pendleton has many boards, committees and commissions for which a member of our community has opportunity to volunteer.

Airport Commission

Air Quality Commission

Arts Committee

**Budget Committee** 

**Convention Center Commission** 

Historic Landmarks Commission

Housing and Neighborhood Improvement Committee

Library Board

Parks & Recreation Commission

Pendleton Development Commission (Urban Renewal)

Planning Commission

Solid Waste Advisory Board

**Transportation Committee** 

Tree Commission

#### **Committee/Commission Appointments**

To be considered for appointment to a vacant position on a City Board, Committee or Commission, please complete the <u>APPLICATION</u> and submit it to the Mayor's office at City Hall, or via email to: <u>donna.biggerstaff@ci.pendleton.or.us</u>



#### ADDITIONAL BUSINESSES REOPEN IN PHASE 2, SAFETY GUIDELINES STILL IN EFFECT

UMATILLA COUNTY – Umatilla County was been approved to return to Phase 2 in Oregon's reopening plan effective Friday, September 11. The announcement came after the county reported 62 new COVID-19 cases in the preceding week.

Phase 2 does not change guidelines on public health and safety precautions. Face masks and social distancing are still required in public places to help reduce the spread of coronavirus. Social gatherings remain limited to 10 people.

In Phase 2, additional businesses and activities are permitted, including recreational sports, movie theaters, bowling alleys, and swimming pools. Restaurants and bars are permitted to stay open until 10 p.m. and large gatherings are capped at 50 people with physical distancing indoors or outdoors.

"We are very excited to return to Phase Two," said Joseph Fiumara, Umatilla County Public Health Director. "This shows that community efforts to reduce the spread of COVID-19 are having an impact. We want to remind everyone to continue to be diligent so that Umatilla County can remain open. Continue to wear your face coverings, practice physical distancing, and stay home when you are sick."

Moving to Phase 2 reopening for businesses and gatherings requires fewer than 100 new cases per 100,000 people per week as well as meeting six criteria for hospitalizations, testing, and tracing capabilities.

While more businesses will be able to reopen in Phase 2, reopening schools will require a substantial decrease in new cases. Current guidelines require Umatilla County to report fewer than 8 new cases per week for three consecutive weeks to return K-12 students to the classroom, as well as a positive test rate of less than 5 percent.

For updated information and resources regarding Umatilla County's reopening efforts, visit <u>www.umatillacountyrecovery.com</u>





The City of Pendleton salutes those who are fighting together to get the many numerous fires in our state under control. To everyone supporting and assisting those who are being impacted, THANK YOU!

To those who answered the call Thank you.

#### **VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT: SHERRY ZWEIG**

Sherry Zweig has been volunteering with the City of Pendleton in the Police Department since April, 2017. She has received the President's Volunteer Service Award, a national award given for completing a required number of service hours annually three times since beginning her volunteer service with the City.

#### What motivates you to volunteer?

At 72 I didn't want to obligate myself to full time work, but I didn't want to sit at home. I needed something to do to get out of the house and I wanted to help in an area that might not have many volunteers. I used to work in security at Fred Meyer, so volunteering at the Police Department was a good fit with my background.

#### What do your volunteer activities involve?

I help the Police Assistants with clerical support, which includes a lot of filing and shredding of documents as well as putting case files together. It helps them with their heavy work load to do some of the tasks that are time consuming.

#### What makes this volunteer experience a meaningful use of your time?

Especially during these unprecedented times, I feel like it's a way for me to support first responders at a time when they really need it. It makes me feel good to help that sector that works so hard to protect us.

#### What do you think is the impact of your volunteering at the City?

I'm able to relieve some of the work load for the Police Department, freeing them up to do other tasks. Even something simple as doing shredding for them allows them to focus on the more important aspects of their job.

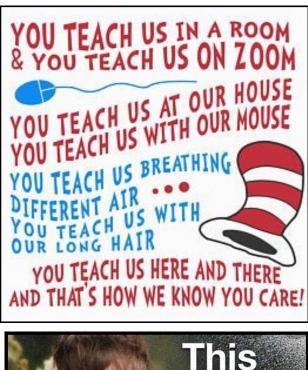


#### Volunteer Opportunity:

The Municipal Court is in need of a volunteer to assist with scanning closed court cases into digital files. This activity would be ongoing, 2-4 hours per week, with flexible hours depending on the volunteer's schedule and availability. Due to the sensitive nature of the work, volunteer is required to be fingerprinted and pass a Criminal Justice Information Services (CJIS) background check as part of the application process.

**Interested in volunteering but not sure where?** We can help find a good match for you. Call 541-966-0244 and speak to our Volunteer Coordinator Tiffany Hegarty. City of Pendleton volunteer applications are available at the library, City Hall administrative offices, or can be downloaded <u>HERE</u>.

#### **DISTANT LEARNING ~ WE REALLY ARE ALL IN THIS TOGETHER!**



years school yearbook photo

An apple for the teacher is really nothing new except when you remember that parents are teachers too!

Thank you for being an amazing "Co-Teache during our distance learning time! Every parent right now





STARTING SCHOOL IN PERSON STARTING SCHOOL ONLINE

HOMESCHOOLING

TEACHERS: I'LL DO DISTANCE LEARNING

#### ME: I CAN'T EVEN CONNECT MY TV TO THE INTERNET

#### TO RETURN TO SCHOOL IN UMATILLA COUNTY WE MUST MEET THE FOLLOWING GOALS

- Reduce new weekly cases to less than 23 for three consecutive weeks to allow K-3 students to return to the classroom.
- Reduce new weekly cases to less than 8 for three consecutive weeks to allow K-12 students to return to the classroom.
- Reach <5% positive test rate to allow students in the classroom.



If the schools are closed for too long, the parents are gonna find a vaccine before the scientists...

### The Pendleton Public Library

#### Hello Library Lovers,

he Pendleton Public Library is committed to issuing a Public Library Card to every school-aged child in our community between the ages of 6 and 17. With a Pendleton Public Library card, your child can access the library's online resources such as FREE eBooks, audiobooks, educational databases, and testing resources.

The school closures caused by COVID-19 prevent students from accessing their school library and this puts them at a disadvantage in a time when access to books and information is more important than ever.

To help bridge this gap we are prepared to do the following:

Give every child between the age of 6 and 17 a clean slate on their existing library card (meaning waive all late fines and lost item charges).

Vo longer hold individuals responsible for the fines generated on a family member's card.

Allow parents whose children do not currently have cards to register for a child's card online.

Mail physical cards to each child registered.

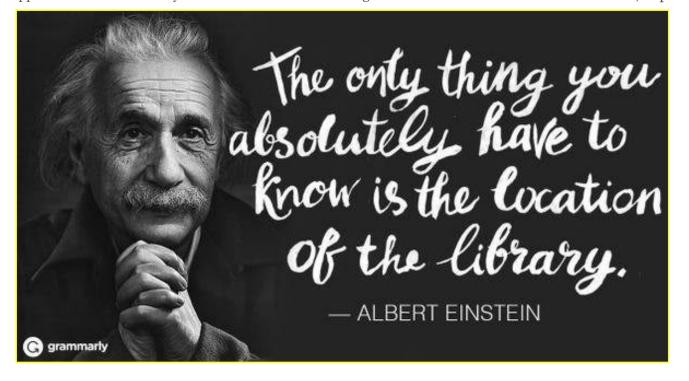
Send Youth Services Librarian Briana White to EVERY Google Classroom in the district to explain to each class of students how they can use their card and what advantages it offers them.

All you need to do to register your child for a library card is click the link below and fill out the online application. Cards will be mailed within a week of receiving your application. In addition to our online resources, these cards will be valid for use within the library and we encourage you to bring your student in to see us!

Wishing you and your family a wonderful school year,

#### Jennífer Costley,

Pendleton Public Library, Director Student Card Application: <u>HERE</u> \*Note: Applications for adult library cards and children under the age of six still must be filled out and turned in, in person.



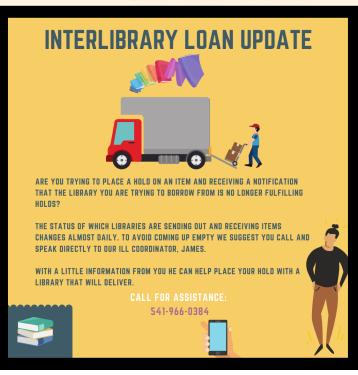


# WELCOME BACK

RE-OPENING REGULAR HOURS SEPTEMBER 21ST

PLEASE RETURN ANY OUTSTANDING ITEMS TO OUR OUTDOOR BOOK DROP AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. FINES WILL RESUME AFTER WE RE-OPEN.

SEE YOU THERE!





PENDLETON PARKS AND RECREATION



Monday - Friday

7:45am - 3:30pm

\$120 per week

Structured Day Camp Fun Activities K - 6th Grade Scholarships Available

Located at the

Recreation Center

To Register, call 541-276-8100 or visit us online at pendletonparksandrec.com