



PENDLETON

Working every day to be the premier city in Eastern Oregon

February 2022



Uber and Elite Taxi

In late January, the City Council was asked by a small group of Uber drivers if we would approve a change to the City's Taxi Ordinance to allow "ride-sharing" services like Uber to operate in Pendleton. For the most part, Uber or Lyft don't operate in rural America because small towns don't usually match up well with their business model. The local Uber drivers are convinced, however, that they could successfully operate in Pendleton alongside our current taxi provider, Elite Taxi.

Pendleton has a Taxi Ordinance that awards a contract for taxi services to a company that guarantees operations for 22 hours a day/ 365 days a year. Any taxi company could successfully operate during the few weeks each year when our city is flooded with tourists. The Taxi Ordinance intends to ensure we have reliable taxi services available in the late night and early morning hours during the entire year. The City of Pendleton also contracts with Elite Taxi to provide drivers for our *Let er Bus* public transportation program and our *Dial a Ride* program. Elite also provides service to customers who use the City's taxi tickets and they serve customers who need some kind of ADA service, such as a wheelchair-accessible vehicle. Elite Taxi has held the taxi contract (without much competition) for the past four decades. They have both loyal fans and some dissatisfied customers alike.

On the 8th of February, the City Council held a work session to examine the idea of allowing Uber to work in Pendleton. Both the Uber drivers and Elite Taxi took part in the discussions and both parties agreed that, under certain conditions, they could operate together. I was very impressed by both sides' willingness to work out a compromise arrangement. City staff will help facilitate discussions on how the two parties can work together and figure out how the City's taxi ordinance might be amended to allow this to happen. We will probably have a six-month pilot program to see if our compromise actually works and then re-examine our transportation options. I think this whole taxi-related affair is an excellent example of a local government working with business owners and individuals to solve problems or provide new opportunities.

John H Turner, Mayor

COUNCIL MEETINGS

February 15

City Council 7 pm
PDC Meeting 6 pm

March 1

City Council 7 pm
PDC Meeting 6 pm

March 15

City Council 7 pm

All meetings in the Council Chambers
FOR A FULL LIST OF MEETINGS VISIT

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

CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS

John Turner	Mayor	541-922-8605
Jake Cambier	At Large	541-969-2252
Steve Campbell	At Large	541-379-0130
Kevin Martin	Ward 1	541-969-6744
Carole Innes	Ward 1	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

500 SW Dorion Ave. Pendleton, OR



FROM THE CITY MANAGER

The Pendleton Children's Center received a gift of the Pendleton Senior Center, which closed its doors for reasons unknown. The City will support PCC any way we can. For many years The City supported the Pendleton Senior Center by paying their property insurance because they asked for our help.

The Aquatic Center saw an increase in attendance over the summer. Recreation Supervisor Jeff Hamilton provided an overview of the 2021 season to Council updating them on how the facility operated. The pool opened early in 2021 to accommodate the Pendleton Swim Association, which did not have local access to a pool since the closing of BMCC pool. Staff worked hard at the aquatic center putting in over 184 hours (combined) each day workday.

A fun side note, the aquatic center invested in a soft-serve ice cream machine which paid for itself in 2021. The concession stand sold 6,311 ice cream cones, paying for the machine in one summer!

The concession stand increased by its sales by \$25,601 in 2021. Revenue minus expenses were up \$13,665.

A bus storage facility is scheduled to be built up at the airport to house the buses used for local transportation, which will be paid for by the State of Oregon. This grant-funded program will allow employees to have access to restrooms, breakrooms, and other amenities.

Thousands of people utilize local transportation services through the City's transportation program, we need a sheltered space for the vehicles, to protect them from elements and extend their life cycle.



"Biggest event space in Pendleton with well trained staff and problem solving-ready."

Shauna Recommends

The Pendleton Convention Center

Pendleton Convention Center

1601 Westgate Pendleton, OR 97801

Phone: [\(541\) 276-6569](tel:5412766569)

LIFE

is the greatest journey you will ever be on.

PENDLETON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT UPDATE

The Pendleton Convention Center hosted the First Citizen's Banquet on January 28th. Two City Council Members, Carole Innes and Jake Cambier, were named Woman and Man of the Year, and the City received a Tourism Excellence Award for the "Get Wild In Pendleton" Summer Campaign. Not too shabby for a City that once had a not-so-business-friendly reputation. Pendleton is now very pro-growth and very pro-business.



As of April 2021, over 1,000 restaurants had permanently closed in Oregon, and that number is likely higher now. Pendleton lost none, which was due in great part to the tireless efforts of the Pendleton Chamber of Commerce and Charles Denight, Associate Director of Pendleton Development Commission.

The COVID period has been devastating to small business, particularly lodging and hospitality. The Chamber Staff and Charles relentlessly hunted down and promoted every financial assistance opportunity that was out there to help keep our businesses alive...and it worked. Many towns were not so forward-thinking and they are now paying the price. The belief has always been that the American downtowns that stayed vibrant and busy would undoubtedly be the fastest to recover, and even grow. That is being proven out by the continued development of new second story lodging downtown and the new SEARS Homegrown store going into the former JC Penney's space on Main Street. The Moto Lodge, formerly Knight's Inn, is under renovation using a local company, McCormack Construction.

The Airport Radisson Hotel and Restaurant should open in May 2022, also being built by McCormack Construction.

There has been steady investor/developer interest in other hotels, housing developments, and the redevelopment of older commercial buildings in the downtown.

A new childcare facility is making great strides and was recently gifted the old Senior Center, which will help boost available workforce.

Pendleton Bike Week is coming back this summer, and Backfire Station and Moto Lodge have discussed new events that could bring many new adventure bike riders to town in the coming years.

The City is also submitting a Good Jobs Challenge grant to the Economic Development Administration to accelerate the training of local workforce.

Steve Chrisman, Economic Director

THE PENDLETON UAS TEST RANGE

January is typically slow, so not a lot to report from the UAS range this month. We are expecting a marked increase in UAS operations as we move into the better weather of springtime. We are happy to welcome several new clients (under NDA) that have signed leases on new hangar spaces.



There are approximately 40 open UAS jobs at the airport at the present time.

For more information on the UAS opportunities contact **DARRYL ABLING** at 541 966 0281.

AIRPORT UPDATE

The airport has been in the construction and project planning state of mind in January. We've been working closely with our engineering firm and the



FAA to get the Runway 29 Hot Spot Mitigation Project designed and through the necessary process for construction later this year. We finalized the design and construction bid for the Terminal Remodel Project that the City Council approved at their February 1st meeting. We also received word from the FAA that our next AIP Project after the Runway 29 project has received funding which is great news for the airport.

Boutique had a difficult January managing the bad weather – whether it was snow, freezing fog or low visibility (here and in Portland), the winter weather forced more flight cancellations than we normally see. Fortunately, the weather has been nice for the last few days and their operations are on track. Boutique is also looking for qualified Customer Service Representatives to run their counter operations here at the airport. It's a good part-time job that comes with travel benefits.

Looking forward to warmer weather, good visibility and the increased activity that comes with spring!

John Honemann Airport Manager - Eastern Oregon Regional Airport & Pendleton UAS Range

Beacon of the Sentinels, Pendleton's Military Tribute

When the crew from Denver slid the 12-foot, 1-inch diameter bolts through the massive basalt columns, the threaded steel shafts slid perfectly into the 3-foot holes drilled into the concrete foundation two weeks earlier. Such was the experience of installing Pendleton's new \$150,000 military tribute in July 2021. It went very smoothly despite the tension of the weeks prior.

It took an entire community—not to mention sources outside the community—to finally put the *Beacon of the Sentinels* in place. That was the name given to the military tribute by nationally recognized artist Michael Clapper. The artist, from Denver, had been selected in a process unfolding over several months that began in May 2018, when members of the Pendleton Arts Commission began looking for artists.

But the push for a military tribute began a year earlier in March 2017, when Johnny Blagg, a member of Pendleton VFW Let'er Buck Post 922, approached the Arts Commission for funding. Blagg, who would be drawn into a years-long process, began with a concept for bronze medallions and basalt columns that would honor the US military's five services. Then he joined the Arts Commission. And ultimately, his quest led to a much larger project.

By December 2019, the Arts Commission had solicited qualifications from artists in the US and Canada who had experience with public art. Americans for the Arts, a national arts non-profit, had a robust system of distributing requests for qualifications to artists. Over two dozen artists responded. From New York to Texas, Chicago to Los Angeles, artists shipped their stories of public artworks to Pendleton.

By February 2020, three finalists had been selected. The three, James Dinh and Jeanine Centuori of Los Angeles, and Michael Clapper, were invited to Pendleton, where they were escorted through Pendleton and Umatilla County, exposing them to the awesome geography from the Blues to the Columbia. They were also booked to provide presentations to art classes at Pendleton High School.

Of the three, James Dinh initially looked the strongest to the Arts Commission. He had just been selected as a finalist for the Native American Veterans Memorial at the National Museum of the American Indian on the Washington Mall. Members of the Pendleton Arts Commission loved the design. And Dinh was a landscape designer turned public artist. His work would enhance the small public park that was to become the site of the military tribute. *(continued on next page)*



Beacon of the Sentinels continued

But ultimately the Arts Commissioners selected Michael Clapper. Following the visit to Pendleton, the three artists were assigned to design the art they would propose for Pendleton. Each submitted their designs. Clapper's came closest to a concept that honored all the military branches, which fit the initial concept of three years earlier. His design also was judged best in taking advantage of the existing park design.

Once the art was selected, the Arts Commission tackled fundraising. Sources varied from a local foundation to a regional foundation and included an award of a nearly \$40,000 veterans memorial grant from the Oregon Parks Department. The Pendleton Development Commission also contributed. Finally, the Arts Commission opened up its fundraising to the entire community, selling anyone the opportunity to engrave a name on a memorial brick at the site. To date over 200 individuals, organizations and businesses have contributed \$44,000 to the brick fundraising campaign. The bricks will be installed at the site beginning this April. Bricks will continue to be available for purchase at www.pendletontribute.com.

In July 2021, Michael Clapper and his crew showed up from Denver, simultaneously with a truck delivering the steel towers and another with the tall basalt columns so carefully drilled straight down their middles. At the same time, a local crane operator took up a position to be able to move the massive stone columns, steel towers, and other components of the Beacon. Over several days the pieces came together. Finally, the art concept that had excited the local art enthusiasts of the Arts Commission was in place and ready to receive admirers.

The *Beacon of the Sentinels* is located in what the Arts Commission has begun calling Beacon Park, a small park at the east end of Pendleton where Hwy 11 comes down the hill, just before it reaches SE Court Avenue. Members of the Arts Commission and the VFW are excited about the chance to share this art with the community, commemorating the service of all those who have ever served in any branch of America's amazing military.

A list of major contributors and supporters:

Altrusa International of Pendleton
City of Pendleton Arts Commission
City of Pendleton Community Development Department
City of Pendleton Facilities Department
City of Pendleton Parks and Recreation Department
City of Pendleton Public Works Department
Gordon's Electric
McLaughlin Landscaping
Oregon Parks Department, Oregon Heritage Division
Pendleton Foundation Trust
Pendleton Lions Club
Pendleton Round-Up Foundation
Samuel S. Johnson Family Foundation
VFW Let'er Buck Post 922



JOB OPPORTUNITIES



COMMUNICATIONS SPECIALIST



Accepting applications for a part-time position for a Communications Specialist, who will be responsible for planning and implementing an effective communications plan; production and dissemination of professional communication materials related to City news, services, and events; and facilitating community engagement through a seamless flow of internal and external communications. Position requires 3 or more years of experience in public relations, communications, journalism, or a related field with an emphasis on producing print and electronic communications. A degree in communications, marketing, business, public relations, or a related field, and experience in graphic design would be preferred but is not required. The successful candidate will demonstrate that they are self-motivated, and have advanced communication skills. See the job description below. The wage is \$28 - \$31 per hour with limited benefits. Applications are available [HERE](#) or at City Hall, Personnel office, 500 SW Dorion, or by calling 966-0201. Completed applications returned no later than February 28, 2022, to the same address or to human.resources@ci.pendleton.or.us. Equal Opportunity Employer.

PART-TIME ELECTRICAL INSPECTOR



Applications are being accepted for a part-time electrical inspector. Must have a current OIC and Oregon SEI or A-level electrical certifications or be an Oregon licensed journeymen with a min. of 4 years of experience with the ability to be trained. Salary range is \$30-\$40/hr. DOE, no benefits. Applications are available [HERE](#) or at the Personnel Office, 500 SW Dorion Avenue, Pendleton, OR 97801; (541) 966-0201. Open until filled. Equal Opportunity Employer.

ENGINEERING TECHNICIAN



Applications are being accepted for an Engineering Technician with the City of Pendleton's Community Development Department. Position performs technical and surveying work relating to public improvement projects such as streets, water, stormwater, and sanitary sewer systems. May assist or serve as the project manager on engineering projects; help to oversee construction projects/contracts for the installation and construction of public utilities and street improvements; prepare cost estimates and bid documents; resolve field engineering problems, and ensure regulatory compliance. Requires a degree in civil engineering, civil engineering technology, construction technology, or a related field. Experience in the field is preferred, but any satisfactory equivalent of education and experience may be considered. Additional progressively responsible experience in the construction or engineering field will determine placement. Requires experience with AutoCAD, and experience with Civil 3D is preferred. Must have a valid driver's license and be able to pass a criminal background check. The salary range is \$3,963-5,557 a month DOE plus excellent benefits. Completed applications must be returned to human.resources@ci.pendleton.or.us. Applications are available [HERE](#) or at the Personnel Office, 500 SW Dorion Avenue, Pendleton, OR 97801; (541) 966-0201. Open until filled. Equal Opportunity Employer.

Applications for all jobs are available [HERE](#) or at City Hall, 500 SW Dorion, Pendleton OR 97801.

Return applications with cover letter highlighting qualifications to Human Resources at the same address

or human.resources@ci.pendleton.or.us. Open until filled. The City of Pendleton is an Equal Opportunity employer.



THE NEWEST ROTATING LEARNING EXHIBIT IS NOW READY FOR PLAY HERE IN THE LIBRARY!

5 Little Monkeys Jumping on the bed includes:

Doctor's office dramatic play corner

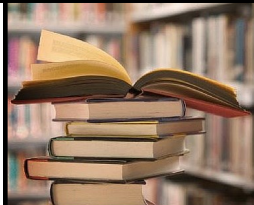
2 sets of doctor dress up costumes and a set of scrubs

Count the monkeys scale and activity cards

5 Little Monkeys flannel board story telling activity

All rotating learning exhibits were made possible by a generous grant from the Wildhorse Foundation.

SO MANY BOOKS
So little time!



STORYTIME

Wednesday & Thursday at 10:15 am

Both Wednesday & Thursday Story times feature the same books and activities.

All Ages welcome, however activities and books are geared toward children 6 and under.

**WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 23
AT 4:30PM**

Bring a parent, guardian, or friend and learn to make three friendship bracelet designs.

Participants will leave with supplies to continue creating at home.

DIY: FRIENDSHIP BRACELETS



CRAFTERNOON

Join us each Tuesday at 4:30pm
in the National Parks Area at the library
Ages 3-12

The last Tuesday of each month will be a STEM themed Crafternoon with fun activities to challenge the mind and encourage a love for science, technology, engineering and math!



LET'S KNIT!

The library now offers knitting supplies for checkout as part of our growing Library of Things.

Next month we will begin offering knitting programs to showcase the items.

If you are interested in learning more about knitting, what we have available for checkout, or find yourself stuck on a project, please fill out the google form [HERE](#) and we will get back to you about our first class!



PARKS & RECREATION

YOUTH ACTIVITIES (Going on In February!)

Tot Time Monday and Wednesday mornings from 10 am - 11 am at the Pendleton Rec Center. Cost is \$2 a child and includes access to bounce house, play equipment, mats, and much more! A great, safe place for your child to run and play!

Itty Bitty Sports Sampler The perfect introduction to organized sports for your 3-4 year old children! Taking place Sundays at the Helen McCune Recreation center, we will provide all the equipment and introduce your child to throwing, catching, batting, and kicking in a safe and welcoming environment!

Birthday Parties Celebrate with us! The Recreation Center offers Birthday Party Packages to help you throw your children a birthday full of memories! Packages include 90 minutes in the Gym for recreational activities and 45 minutes for cake, ice cream, food, and presents in the Foundation Room. Upgrades available if desired.

DROP IN ACTIVITIES

Skills for Life This activity is open and free to all middle and high school aged students. Partnered with Lost & Found Youth Outreach, this program takes place at The Rec Center and offers a variety of gym activities before switching to a life skills group. Topics of discussion include success at school, cultivating a positive self-image, helping others, and lots more! Happening Thursdays from 4-6 pm.

Special Needs Open Gym With help from our volunteers this program is free of charge and offers a safe, stress-free space to exercise. The gym is closed to the general public with music, equipment, and lots of space provided to get moving! Sundays from 12 - 1:30 pm at the Rec Center.

Mother Son Superhero Training Putting a new twist on the traditional Mother-Son event - this year we are offering a Mother-Son Superhero training course! Featuring an obstacle course, superhero crafts, refreshments, and more! This event will take place Saturday, March 12, 2022 at the Helen McCune Recreation Center from 5 pm - 8 pm. And don't worry mom's - there will still be a chance for a special Mother- Son dance or two.

Tumbling Beginning March 22nd is a new session of tumbling! With classes for ages 18 months to 7 years it is the perfect introduction to the sport of gymnastics. Children will learn a variety of age appropriate movements in a fun, playful environment!

GET OUT & GET ACTIVE

PARKS & RECREATION

DID YOU KNOW YOU HAVE ACCESS TO...



22

The wide variety of amenities offer an endless variety of outdoor recreation and leisure. Stop by one soon for a BBQ with your family or a pick-up game with friends.



11

From Disc Golf to Pickleball, Ice Skating or Skateboarding, we have you covered. Catch a show at the Vert or take a dip in the Aquatic Center. You'll always find a space to keep you moving.



60

Pendleton offers over 60 miles of trail, including the Pendleton Adventure Trails and Pendleton River Parkway. Whether you want to walk, run, or ride - we have you covered.



4

The Pendleton Aquatic Center boasts a fun-filled zero-depth wading pool, 50-meter pool, and a dive with two diving boards and slides.



Good music, new friends, and a classic gymnasium out of the weather. A safe and comfy way to get your exercise no matter the time of year.

Due to the generous donation of time from some walking volunteers, we are now able to offer this program FREE of charge. Start your day off right and get walking!

The gym will be open Monday - Friday from 8:30 a.m. - 9:30 a.m. unless otherwise posted.

All Ages | At the Rec Center

Mon-Fri 8:30-9:30am | FREE