Issues for 2nd Quarter 2023

Filed: June 29, 2023

The following issues were identified as being of significant interest to the KOHU coverage area during the quarter:

- The City of Umatilla begins a multi-year water system change
- Blue Mountain Community College Foundation scholarships
- Vector Control beings mosquito control efforts for the year
- Hermiston SD and BMCC graduation and the Class of 2023

# The following programs aired on AM 1360 KOHU during the Odds and Ends Program from 8-8:30 a.m.

#### April 7, 2023

# City of Umatilla Manager Dave Stockdale

The City of Umatilla has initiated the process of moving its population away from its deep wells to a water system that utilizes municipal water rights from the Columbia River. City Manager Dave Stockdale explained that Umatilla had water rights to the John Day Pool - below the McNary Dam with output points on the Umatilla River and the Columbia River. Those rights would satisfy the current water usage for residents off of the wells. The city also has right for the Wallula Pool above the dam; those rights are six times the amount of current water usage. As a part of the change the agreements with Amazon Web Services has led to the company committing \$40 million in infrastructure changes that will allow the city to process the water from the Columbia river for public consumption.

#### April 10, 2023

# Blue Mountain CC Foundation Director Ken Daniel and Board Member Phil Hamm

Just a week and a half removed from the deadline for the spring cycle of scholarships from the Blue Mountain Community College Foundation, Director Ken Daniel and Board Member Phil Hamm joined the Odds and Ends program to explain the next steps in the process for the committee. They had 100 applications and have about 80 scholarships to give out totalling about \$100K. They highlighted a couple of alumni events in Pendleton and Hermiston on the schedule for the next month.

## May 30, 2023

### **Vector Control Director Randy Girard**

On the Memorial Day holiday Vector Control was able to fly their single prop plane to spray a wide swath of area between Irrigon and Umatilla and then into Power City. Director Randy Girard explained the aerial assault on the mosquitos usually was good for a week and a half and then they would have to assess if they needed to do it again. They were trapping and testing

and looking to get ahead of West Nile Virus and partnering with North Morrow Vector Control for the large applications by airplane.

# June 7 and 13, 2023 Hermiston, BMCC graduation focus

In the days leading up to graduations for the Hermiston School District and Blue Mountain Community College were featured on the Odds and Ends program. Coverage centered on the Class of 2023. In each of the different districts this particular class dealt with COVID 19 taking them out of the classroom at the end of their freshman year and for most of their sophomore year. The general trends were districts were seeing a higher percentage of the students they had in the classroom graduating but a higher percentage of this class disappeared - presumably to online school - during their high school career. This group was also far less likely to be college bound than their predecessors. At BMCC the class was a little bigger than the previous year but President Mark Browning was still looking for ways to grow the college.