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Taylor County Moving for a Cure
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BRIAN WILSON/THE STAR NEWS

A crowd of 300 came to the Medford Curling Club on May 18 for the Dancing with the Medford Stars event hosted by Feet-N-Motion Dance Studio. Above, Payton Neitzel with Father Patrick McConnell and (right) Citori Gebert with Pat Sullivan were among the crowd favorites. See page 11 for more pictures from the event.



Here we go again

County veterans benefit specialist quits, claims harassment, bullying

BY BRIAN WILSON
NEWS EDITOR

There is additional staff upheaval in the Taylor County Veterans Service office as Veterans Benefits Specialist Nikki Sherman publicly announced her resignation as of May 22.

The announcement came in the form of an email that was sent on Sunday night to community members, Veterans Service office staff from surrounding counties, and local media.

Sherman referenced past actions of county leadership to dealings with the office which led up to the resignation last summer of former county veterans service officer Shellie Shaw, and was cited by previous veterans service officer Dan Judnic in his surprise resignation earlier this year after serving only a few months in the position. The email also includes information about

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Parents call for answers from school board

Dwayne Parkinson wants answers about bullying policy enforcement

BY BRIAN WILSON
NEWS EDITOR

Dwayne Parkinson wants answers. In an approximately 20-minute-long presentation during the public comment portion of Monday night's Medford School Board meeting, Parkinson called for board action on a dozen open records requests dealing with board policies and the authority of the administration in regard to parents wanting to meet with their children's teachers.

Parkinson's issues with the district go back more than a year and he said he felt he was being treated differently because he has been critical of the district's actions in the past.

According to Parkinson, two children punched and threw down his elementary school child last year. He said that from his child's perspective the students involved only had to stay inside for one recess day.

Earlier this school year, Parkinson's son missed a math question and was held in for recess to work on it with the teacher.

Parkinson questioned how missing part of an assignment had the equal level of punishment with what the students received for punching and kick-

ing his child. Parkinson said he emailed the teacher asking about it, and noting "there appears to be a gap between the teaching and learning style." He said his son has been struggling all year in the class and stated that his son says he hates school and is calling himself "dumb."

Parkinson continued that when his son received the report card he said it was not good and that he disagreed with the teacher's conclusions. He said he wrote another email stating there is a problem with how the students are being taught.

In response, Parkinson said he received an email saying that the teacher did not feel safe meeting him one on

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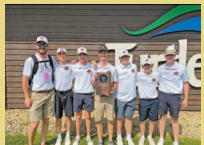


Staffing turmoil continued this week with the resignation of Veterans Benefits Specialist Nikki Sherman. She is the third person to resign in the two-person office in the past 10 months.

PAGE 12: Premier Beef show brings strong competition



SPORTS: Medford golf team are regional champions



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