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Marysville

THE ADVOCATE

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Candidate list final for city, school election

By Chris Pannbacker

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Filings for city and school board seats picked up in recent days, but not enough to make an August primary necessary. Marshall County voters will elect city representatives and school board members in the Nov. 4 general election. The candidate filing deadline was noon Monday. All wards in the city of Marysville have at least one candidate, as do the open positions on the Marysville USD 364 Board of Education. Here is a summary of the filings:

Marysville

Mayor — Todd Frye, incumbent, two-year term.
City Council — Ward 1, Kyle Goracke, incumbent, and Vernita Peeks; Ward 2, Michelle Reinhart; Ward 3, Lori Snellings; Ward 4, Jeff Keating, incumbent, all four-year terms.
Snellings currently represents Ward 2, but had to file in Ward 3 due to redistricting that was completed after she began her current term. Incumbent Colleen Behrens did not file for another term in Ward 3.
Treasurer — Ken Kickhaefer, incumbent, two-year term.
USD 364 — Position 4, Liberty Price-Obley, incumbent; Position 5, Tyson Anderson; Position 6, Travis Pralle, incumbent, and Emma Holle. Incumbent Pam Dankenbring, who currently holds Position 5, did not file for another term. All USD 364 terms are four years.

Area towns

Axtell — Mayor, Wynn Buessing, incumbent; city council, Andy Torrey and Edward Farrell, incumbents. All are four-year terms.
Beattie — Mayor, Rob Olmsted, incumbent, two-year term. City coun-

See **Election, 3A** ►

Reinhart files for City Council

By Chris Pannbacker

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Michelle Reinhart, 59, filed Monday morning for a Ward 2 seat on the Marysville City Council. No one else filed for the seat. That seat is currently held by Lori Snellings, but because of redistricting she could not file in Ward 2. She has filed for the Ward 3 seat. Reinhart said she has always had an interest in government “but more, I want to see our community prosper.” “We are a great place for new families to come to live or visit,” she said. The most important issues facing the city, Reinhart said, are streets, housing and child care. Finding ways to help



Michelle Reinhart

See **Reinhart, 3A** ►

Title sweep complete



Amanda Parker

At the finish in Saturday's 4x100-meter relay, Axtell's Rilyn Buessing, left, holds off Frankfort's Carter Olson to win in 43.60 seconds. Frankfort was second in 43.61. Axtell's time was a school record. Frankfort's time tied the school record. The event was part of the two-day state track and field meet in Wichita. See Sports, page 1C. Axtell won football, basketball and track state titles this school year.

Big Blue River Days to feature new events, old favorites

Big Blue River Days returns to downtown Marysville on Friday and Saturday with a full slate of activities, expanded offerings and a few surprises. Organizers say this year's festival has been shaped by community feedback and designed to bring more people downtown and keep them engaged throughout the weekend. At the core of the festival are two events that have long defined the

weekend: the 34th annual AutoFest car show and the Kansas City Barbeque Society-sanctioned Big Blue BBQ. Thirty barbecue teams will fire up their smokers and compete in this year's cook-off, filling the downtown with the aroma of ribs, brisket and burnt ends. The car show continues to grow, bringing polished chrome, classic engines and vintage style to the heart of Marysville.

One of the additions this year is the People's Choice Sauce Contest. Anyone can enter their own barbecue sauce — no competition team required. It's open to home cooks, backyard grillers and anyone who thinks their sauce has what it takes. Entries are \$25 and must be submitted by 10 a.m. Saturday. Festival-goers can get in on the action by purchasing a \$10 tasting

See **Big Blue River Days, 5A** ►



FAR LEFT: Olavee Raub, a Waterville native and Ellis County resident, recently opened a new practice in Hanover. She currently serves as the city attorney for Ellis and LaCrosse in western Kansas and works at her office in Hanover every other week.
LEFT: Former Marshall County Attorney Meghan Voracek, Seneca, practices law in the area with her father and drives to Marysville from Nemaha County to serve as a court-appointed attorney in Marshall County.

2 local attorneys address challenges of practicing in rural Kansas

This story is part of the Advocate's continuing look at the shortage of rural attorneys.
By Ariona Cook
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A recent Kansas Supreme Court report revealed that rural areas across the state struggle to attract and retain attorneys. Financial,

practice and cultural restraints are said to be the leading barriers that have caused this shortage. Marshall County, for instance, has about one attorney per 1,000 people, according to the report. For some area attorneys, rural areas were not top of mind when looking for a place to settle. Olavee Raub, a Waterville native and Ellis County resident, recently opened a new practice in Hanover. However, she hadn't always planned

on returning to the area after she graduated from Washburn Law School. “We very much enjoyed living in Topeka and I had fully anticipated staying in that area, but I ended up in northwest Kansas. I love that environment. There's so much more camaraderie. More so than what I have seen in Topeka and Wichita.”

See **Attorneys, 8A** ►

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