

**HEPPNER DROPS
STANFIELD TO
STAY UNBEATEN
FOOTBALL/1B**

The beauty
of Utah
LIFESTYLES 1C



PENDLETON:
City looks to catch up on
infrastructure costs **3A**

VIEWPOINTS:
Being transgender in
Eastern Oregon **5A**

EAST OREGONIAN

OCTOBER 17-18, 2015

140 Year, No. 2

WINNER OF THE 2015 ONPA GENERAL EXCELLENCE AWARD

\$1.50

PENDLETON

Old police station could go on the market

City also taking another look at dangerous dog ordinance

By **ANTONIO SIERRA**
East Oregonian

It has been five years since the Pendleton Police Department moved out of 109 S.W. Court Ave., and the city may now be ready to sell it.

Pendleton City Council will consider starting the process at its meeting Tuesday.

City Attorney Nancy Kerns wrote in an email Friday that an affirmative vote from the council would only be the beginning of multiple procedures the city would have to go through in order to sell it.

Kerns estimates the city could get as much as \$250,000 for the property, although she wrote that further work would be needed before staff could determine a sale price.

After the police department was relocated to its current location on Airport Road in 2010, the city leased the building to the Umatilla County Alcohol and Drug Treatment program. The Umatilla County Board of Commissioners recently voted to move that program to the Bowman building on Frazer Avenue, which is owned by City Councilor Al Plute, after city officials said they would raise rent by 25 percent.

Commission Chairman George Murdock said the city planned to eventually raise the rate to \$1 per square foot, which would cost \$8,450 per month.

Police Chief Stuart Roberts oversaw the transition between police stations, and he also will be on hand Tuesday to discuss amending the city's dog control ordinance.

According to a report written by Roberts, the amendment would give the police chief greater discretion to determine whether a dangerous dog would need to be euthanized, remove the city manager from the appeals process and make the

See **PENDLETON/10A**

HERMISTON



Staff photo by E.J. Harris

Third-grader Caorlos Flores whispers an answer into educational assistant Elizabeth Earp's ear while participating in a teletherapy session Friday at Sunset Elementary School in Hermiston.

A focus on the students

School district hiring specialists after leaving InterMountain ESD

By **SEAN HART**
East Oregonian

As Hermiston School District began its first school year after opting out of the InterMountain Education Service District, both agencies have tried to make the transition as seamless as possible.

Wade Smith, Hermiston's deputy superintendent, said the district is using the funds

it is receiving from the opt-out — about \$1.9 million that would have gone to the ESD — to provide similar services. The goal was to increase continuity for students by hiring employees directly, he said.

"We have been fortunate, due to planning and leadership, to ensure a smooth transition for all of our students and programs, and are reaping the benefits of having dedicated staff and leadership overseeing our programs and

students," Smith said.

Smith said the opt-out primarily impacted special education programs. Jon Mishra, Hermiston's executive director of special programs, said a special education director position was created this year to handle many of the day-to-day challenges. Former Rocky Heights Elementary School

See **SCHOOL/10A**

"Despite having a difference of opinion on some of these issues, we both share the common mission of serving our kids. And at the end of the day, that's what we're both doing."
— **Mark Mulvihill**, superintendent of the InterMountain ESD

BMCC hires architect for bond projects

East Oregonian

The Blue Mountain Community College Board of Education approved a contract with LKV Architects to design projects approved by voters in the May election.

The Boise firm will work with project manager Frew Development Group, hired

"All projects are expected to be completed by the fall of 2017."

— **Casey White-Zollman**, Vice President of Public Relations

after passage of BMCC's \$23 million bond.

"BMCC is excited to have Frew Development Group and LKV Architects on board

to help us make the bond projects a reality and develop facilities that will continue to deliver the high-quality education our community has

come to expect," said BMCC President Cam Preus.

LKV will work with stakeholder teams to design the three large projects — the Early Childhood Education/Workforce Training Center in Boardman, the Precision Irrigated Agriculture Center

See **BMCC/10A**

HERMISTON

80-year-old man hit, killed by garbage truck

Edmiston encourages people not to distribute images of the crash scene

East Oregonian

An 80-year-old Hermiston man was struck and killed by a commercial garbage truck Friday morning.

Hermiston police chief Jason Edmiston said officers responded to the 400 block of Southwest 11th Street to a report of a pedestrian being struck by a vehicle at 6:38 a.m. Officers found Leonardo L. Leal dead at the scene.

The initial investigation indicated Leal was attempting to cross Highway 207, or Southwest 11th Street, in the middle of the block while wearing dark-colored clothing, Edmiston said. He was struck by a Hermiston Sanitary Disposal vehicle operated by a 32-year-old male employee from Hermiston, he said.

Based on preliminary information, speed is not believed to have been a contributing factor, nor were there signs of any type of intoxicating substances, Edmiston said, adding the driver and company were forthcoming and cooperative. The driver called 9-1-1 and reported the crash.

Edmiston said the department will submit evidence to the crime lab for analysis, and a full report will be sent to the Umatilla County District Attorney's Office for review.

"It's a very sad day for the Leal family," Edmiston said. "This investigation will remain open until we receive lab reports back, which could be several weeks."

See **ACCIDENT/10A**



Staff photo by E.J. Harris

The perfect patch pick

Kindergartener Jayden Martinez picks out a pumpkin while on a field trip with his classmates from Sunset Elementary School at the Bellinger Farms pumpkin patch Friday in Hermiston.



7 29467 10002 2