



**HEAVY
PARADE
SECURITY**
NATION/2A



**Tip of the
hat to meal
volunteers**
OPINION/4A



**MUSTANGS
READY FOR
STATE FINAL**
FOOTBALL/1B

EAST OREGONIAN

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 2015

140th Year, No. 31

WINNER OF THE 2015 ONPA GENERAL EXCELLENCE AWARD

One dollar

Your Weekend



- **Breakfast with Santa at Pendleton Rec Center**
- **After Turkey Worky exercise in Hermiston**
- **Christmas Bazaar at Wildhorse**

For times and places see Coming Events, 6A

Catch a movie



Sylvester Stallone reprises the role Rocky in the new boxing drama, "Creed."
For showtime, Page 5A
For review, Weekend EO

Weekend Weather

Fri	Sat	Sun
28/14	28/17	31/15

Watch a game

vs.

Heppler vs. Kennedy
2A State Championship
Saturday, 6 p.m., at Kennison Field, Hermiston

HERMISTON Small Business Saturday offers holiday shopping

By **JADE MCDOWELL**
East Oregonian

First there was Black Friday. Then there was Cyber Monday. Now small businesses are hoping to join the post-Thanksgiving shopping rush by adding Small Business Saturday to the mix.

Hermiston Chamber of Commerce president Debbie Pedro said the chamber has been distributing canvas tote bags, pins and fliers to try and encourage people to check out the gift selection at their local small businesses on Saturday.

"I look at it as being a great kickoff to the holidays," she

See BUSINESS/3A

HERMISTON

Family traditions

Volunteers return year after year to share holiday meal

By **SEAN HART**
East Oregonian

Wearing an apron and armed with tongs to serve turkey to hundreds in Hermiston, Sam Johnson celebrated Thanksgiving the same way he did when he was child.

The 23-year-old said he and his wife Karina now live in Rexburg, Idaho. While back in town for the holiday, he said it felt natural to spend part of the day volunteering at the Community Fellowship Dinner.

"We've done this since I was a kid," he

said. "I love it. It feels great to come and do this."

Once the plates were loaded with turkey, mashed potatoes, stuffing, vegetables and rolls, James Furches was among the volunteers delivering the free food to the tables. Furches, 17, said this is the sixth Thanksgiving he has helped with the meal. After his older brother volunteered seven years ago, he and his mother signed up the following year and have been back ever

See VOLUNTEER/3A



Staff photo by Sean Hart

From right, Sam Johnson and his wife, Karina, serve meals at the Community Fellowship Dinner on Thanksgiving Day at the Hermiston Senior Center. Sam Johnson said his family has volunteered at the dinners since he was kid, and although he and his wife now live in Rexburg, Idaho, the family tradition lives on.



Staff photo by E.J. Harris

Rian Roggiero, top left, gets a soda for her daughter, Charlie, 5, at the children's table during a Thanksgiving meal with her family Thursday in Athena.

Thanksgiving reunion



Staff photo by E.J. Harris

Rian Roggiero, third from left, negotiates a crowded kitchen with two plates of food during a Thanksgiving meal with family Thursday in Athena.

Mother reconnects with family after finishing cancer treatment in isolation

By **KATHY ANEY**
East Oregonian

On a holiday where people give thanks for their blessings, not many were more thankful than Rian Roggiero.

Thanksgiving Day marked the end of a lonely journey of healing for the Athena woman. Roggiero, who has thyroid cancer, recently underwent surgery followed by radioactive iodine treatment to destroy remaining cancer cells. Because her body would temporarily give off radiation, her four children moved into their grandparents' house across town for two

weeks.

The single mom normally cherishes her quiet time, but the days in isolation ticked by slowly.

Roggiero received the radioactive iodine treatment Oct. 18 in Seattle. The therapy, called remnant ablation therapy, came a couple months after surgery to remove her thyroid. After adhering to a low-iodine diet for a month, she had two injections of a thyroid-stimulating hormone and took about 32.3 millicuries of radioactive iodine in pill form. With instructions to drink eight ounces of water every

See REUNION/8A

Dust storm crash survivor counts her blessings

Woman out of surgery for crushed vertebra

By **GEORGE PLAVERN**
East Oregonian

Thanksgiving marked the first day of rehab for Tiffany Dodd, who is just thankful to be alive.

Nine days after surviving an 11-vehicle wreck on Interstate 84 during a blinding dust storm, Dodd can once again move her right hand and fingers. Doctors are hopeful the surgery to repair a shattered vertebra in her neck heals properly, otherwise it will take a second procedure to re-fuse her spine.

Dodd, 31, also suffered a fractured



Dodd

skull in the accident, after she was rear-ended heading east on I-84 toward Pendleton. Emergency crews had to use the Jaws of Life to rescue Dodd from her smashed Ford Taurus. She was rushed first to St. Anthony Hospital before being sent to Kadlec Regional Medical Center in the Tri-Cities, where she was transferred out of the intensive care unit Wednesday.

Dodd remains in a neck brace and has trouble even sitting up in bed without

See DODD/8A



Photo contributed by Paula Morris

Tiffany Dodd's Ford Taurus was rear-ended during a dust storm the night of Nov. 17 on Interstate 84 near Echo Road.



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