



**BULLDOGS  
BEAT BUCKS  
IN DOUBLE  
HEADER**  
BASEBALL/1B



WEEKEND EDITION  
**THE ART OF POWWOW**  
LIFESTYLES/1C



**VIOLENCE AWARENESS  
ON THE LINE** REGION/3A

# EAST OREGONIAN

APRIL 30-MAY 1, 2016

140th Year, No. 141

WINNER OF THE 2015 ONPA GENERAL EXCELLENCE AWARD

\$1.50

**PENDLETON**

## Finding a fire station location

Staff searching for new site for proposed \$8.4M building

*East Oregonian*

The Pendleton Fire Department is going back to the drawing board to find a new location for a proposed replacement to Fire Station No. 1, but city staff still wants to move ahead with a bond campaign for the November ballot.

The council will consider a resolution to create the ballot measure for the \$9.85 million bond at a meeting Tuesday.

**More inside**

**Council could lift EOCI work ban Page 3A**

In a report to the city council, Fire Chief Mike Ciraulo wrote negotiations between the city and St. Anthony Hospital have broken down over donating land at the old hospital site on Southeast Court Avenue to build a new fire hall.

While neither completely closed the door on placing the fire station on the property, both

See FIRE/12A

## MONEY BUSINESS

Despite global declines, local banks still value branches



Staff photo by E.J. Harris

Teller Mirna Angulo places cash into an envelope for a drive-thru customer Wednesday at the Bank of Eastern Oregon branch office in Boardman.

**PENDLETON**

## Sunridge Estates properties could cost the city

Property tax bill about \$151,000

By PHIL WRIGHT  
*East Oregonian*

The city of Pendleton needs almost \$1.1 million to recoup its losses on 21 foreclosed empty properties that were part of a 2011 local improvement district.

The city, however, might get back only a portion of the amount.

The lots are in the Sunridge Estates development in the south part of Pendleton off Tutuilla Road. As people bought lots and built houses there, they paid the property tax. But these 21 lots have not sold, grass and weeds are about the only thing growing on them and the property taxes are four years past due. County tax assessor Paul Chalmers, who also is a Pendleton city councilor, said the property tax bill for all the lots is about \$151,000.

See TAXES/12A

## Online banking not a detriment to Eastern Oregon branches

By JADE MCDOWELL  
*East Oregonian*



Staff photo by E.J. Harris

Regional banks, like this Banner Bank in Stanfield, have been able to maintain a small-town presence long after larger banks have pulled out of smaller markets.

A former Barclays executive made a bold prediction last fall that the world could lose half of its neighborhood bank branches in the next decade, but local banks say don't expect them to start closing down branches anytime soon.

Antony Jenkins made the case that the rise of online banking apps would cause 20 to 50 percent of local bank branches to close in the next 10 years.

Whether that proves to be true globally, banks based in and around Eastern Oregon take a different view when it comes to their own branches.

Gary Prophter, executive vice president and chief operations officer for Bank of Eastern Oregon, said the rise of online banking services has had an effect on the bank, but not in a way that causes branches to close.

"I would say it has changed the way we've

See BANKS/12A

**MILTON-FREEWATER**

## Officer-involved shooting sends suspect to hospital

*East Oregonian*

A high-speed chase ended with shots fired Thursday night in Milton-Freewater, sending one suspect to the hospital with non-life threatening injuries, according to a press release from Umatilla County District Attorney Dan Primus.

The incident started with a traffic stop at about 7:15 p.m., when officers from the Milton-Freewater Police Department pulled over a 2007 Ford Focus on Grant Road and Turbyn Road. The driver failed to comply and sped away, firing a weapon back at the pursuing officers.

Police disabled the vehicle on North Main Street between Northwest Sixth and Northwest Seventh Avenues, and the suspect got out and continued to shoot at officers. At that

point, officers shot back at the suspect and he was hit in a lower extremity. The suspect was taken into custody and transported to Providence St. Mary Hospital in Walla Walla.

Three officers from the Milton-Freewater Police Department have been placed on administrative leave while Oregon State Police investigates the use of deadly force. No other information was immediately available on the suspect.

Agencies assisting in the investigation include the OSP Criminal Services Division, Pendleton Police Department, Hermiston Police Department, Boardman Police Department, Umatilla County Sheriff's Office, Morrow County Sheriff's Office, Walla Walla Police Department and Walla Walla County Sheriff's Office.

**PENDLETON**



Staff photo by E.J. Harris

## Goating all out

A goat rears up on its hind legs preparing to head-butt another goat as the animals graze along the River Parkway on Friday. The goats have returned for their annual brush abatement duties along the Umatilla River in Pendleton.



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