



EAST OREGONIAN

FRIDAY, MAY 13, 2016

140th Year, No. 150

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Hansell, Barreto seek Dem. write-in votes

No Democrats filed to unseat incumbents

By **GEORGE PLAVERN**
East Oregonian

With Tuesday's primary election less than a week away, state Sen. Bill Hansell, R-Athena, and Rep. Greg Barreto, R-Cove, are reaching out to secure both the Democratic and GOP nominations for their respective seats in the Oregon Legislature.

Hansell, who represents Senate District 29, and Barreto, of House District 58, are registered Republicans running unopposed in their party's primary. Since no Democrats filed for either position, they have run advertisements asking for write-in votes on the Democratic ticket, meaning they could carry both parties heading into November.

The move would also prevent any other Democratic write-in candidate challenging for their seat, effectively paving the way for victory.

"It gives you basically a better chance of running the board," said Barreto, who is seeking his second term in office.

Union County Commissioner Jack Howard hopes to prevent that from happening. He is also seeking write-in votes from Democrats and Independents in order to wage a contested race against Barreto in November. In a Facebook post announcing his intention to run, Howard said it would be a mistake to simply re-elect Barreto without any debate.

It only takes a simple majority for write-in candidates to score the nomination. If Barreto comes out on top, he would have both "Republican" and "Democrat" listed next to his name on the election ballot, which he admits has already caused some confusion among constituents. However, he said he's not overly concerned, and it gives him another chance to talk about his platform and politics.

"It gives you the opportunity to basically explain what you're doing," Barreto said.

Hansell has adopted the
See **WRITE-IN/12A**



Staff photo by E.J. Harris

Weston-McEwen junior Hayden Scott flies a Cessna 172 with flight instructor Jon Ball of Walla Walla on Thursday in the skies over the Walla Walla River Valley. Scott will test for his pilot's license soon and wants to provide Honor Flights for veterans.

Such great heights

Weston-McEwen's Hayden Scott excels on land and in the sky

By **KATHY ANEY**
East Oregonian

Hayden Scott lives life at full throttle. By the time he graduates next year from Weston-McEwen High School in Athena, Hayden will likely have his pilot's license, an EMT certification, state track and field titles and a formal invitation to attend a United States military academy.

The teenager takes time out to sleep, but has few other idle moments. An experience at age 11 gives a glimpse into his single-mindedness.

Hayden had completed his way to the national Hershey's Youth Outdoor Track and Field Championships in Pennsylvania, only to come down sick on the day of the competition.

Weston-McEwen's Hayden Scott, right, leads the pack in the boys' 1,500-meter run during a track meet recently in Pendleton.

Staff photo by E.J. Harris



To see video of our photographer's flight with Hayden visit eastoregonian.com

Despite nausea and a high fever, the young athlete gave it all he had in the 400-yard dash and finished in the middle of the pack. When he bobbled at the finish line, Olympic sprinter and Hershey ambassador Carl Lewis rushed to help.

"When Hayden came across the finish line, he nearly collapsed," recalled Paul Scott. "Carl Lewis caught him."

As Paul and Kara Scott watched their son from the stands, Lewis kneeled down and asked Hayden how he was doing. The boy admitted feeling ill and said he thought he had a fever. Lewis reached out a big hand and pressed it against Hayden's forehead.

See **HAYDEN/12A**

Pole painter in high demand

75-year-old travels country climbing and coloring

By **ANTONIO SIERRA**
East Oregonian

Warren Hinrichs works in a niche industry. And he's still hanging on.

A few months each year, Hinrichs, 75, leaves his home in Spokane, Washington, and hops on the road with his dog Stitch. Hinrichs paints flagpoles, light poles and any other structures that might inspire fear of heights.

Aided by a rope and harness, Hinrichs was shimmying up the flag pole at the Umatilla County Courthouse in Pendleton Thursday.

Hinrichs started the job at the top, spray painting the ball atop the flagpole a fresh coat of gold. Then, with a brush, he painted the pole silver as he made his descent.

Hinrichs does about 100 jobs per year in states west of the Mississippi River. He is currently in the midst of a swing through Eastern Oregon, stopping in Pendleton before moving on to other cities like John Day, Canyon City and Burns.

High altitude painting runs in Hinrichs' blood — his father started doing such paint jobs in 1935.

Hinrichs joined the family business when he was 18 and took over in 1976, around the time he started working on the courthouse in Pendleton.

See **PAINTER/12A**



Staff photo by E.J. Harris

Warren Hinrichs, 75, of Spokane uses gold spray paint to coat the ball on the top of the flagpole in front of the Umatilla County Courthouse on Thursday in Pendleton.

Trump, Ryan pledge to work together

WASHINGTON (AP) — Straining to mend their party after months of chaos, Donald Trump and House Speaker Paul Ryan declared themselves "totally committed" to working together after a fence-mending personal meeting on Thursday. Ryan praised Trump as "very warm and genuine," and suggested that after initial hesitance he may well end up endorsing the GOP candidate for president.

"We will have policy disputes. There is no two ways about that. The question is, can we unify on the common core principles that make our party?" Ryan said. "And I'm very encouraged that the answer to that question is yes."

Trump, who used the day to launch a robust charm offensive with members of Congress, broadcast his own enthusiasm, on Twitter and on TV. "I really think we had a great meeting today, and I think we agree on a lot of things and it'll be a little process but it'll come along. I'm pretty sure," he said in an interview recorded for Fox News Channel's "Hannity."

The surprisingly fervent show of unity

See **GOP/12A**

