

EAST OREGONIAN

FRIDAY, JUNE 10, 2016

140th Year, No. 170

WINNER OF THE 2015 ONPA GENERAL EXCELLENCE AWARD

One dollar

Your Weekend



- Emily Yang fundraiser at Nookies in Hermiston
- "The Milton project" at Arts Portal Gallery
- "Young at Heart" fundraiser concert, dinner

For times and places see Coming Events, 6A

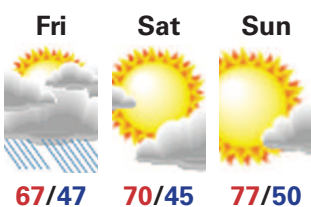
Catch a movie



Woody Harrelson stars in the magician heist sequel, "Now You See Me 2."

For showtime, Page 5A

Weekend Weather



Court: No right to carry concealed weapons in public

By PAUL ELIAS
Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO — Dealing a blow to gun supporters, a federal appeals court ruled Thursday that Americans do not have a constitutional right to carry concealed weapons in public.

In a dispute that could ultimately wind up before the Supreme Court, a divided 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals said local law enforcement officials can place significant restrictions on who is allowed to carry concealed guns.

By a vote of 7-4, the court upheld a California law that says applicants must cite a "good cause" to obtain a concealed-carry permit. See GUNS/12A



Bernard and Julianne Lind waited for more than a year for DNA evidence to be processed by the OSP crime lab in Pendleton that dealt with a burglary at their Umatilla home. Later, that evidence was thrown out after a lab analyst became the focus of an investigation into the theft of narcotics.

Robbed of justice

Crime lab investigation leaves burglary victims without evidence

By JADE MCDOWELL
East Oregonian

On television, if DNA results from the crime scene come back with a match, the case is solved. The bad guy caves under the evidence and confesses. The jury returns a guilty verdict. Credits roll.

Unfortunately for Bernard and Julianne Lind of Umatilla, real life is more complicated than network TV. It doesn't matter that DNA evidence links a career criminal to the burglary of their property. That's because the evidence was processed by Oregon State forensic analyst Nika Larsen, who is under investigation for stealing drugs from the crime labs she worked for, including Pendleton's.

According to the Umatilla County District Attorney's office, a jury would possibly view the DNA evidence as possibly tainted, even though the evidence was not illegal drugs. So the case has been dismissed.

"This is not a drug situation, this is a robbery, and we know who did it," Bernard said. "It's horrible, absolutely horrible."



The Linds continue to have problems with burglars. Last week someone attempted to kick in this door to a storage building at the Lind's home, according to Bernard Lind.

The Linds understand that the items that were stolen — which included furniture and family heirlooms — are probably never coming back and the people who did it will likely never be prosecuted. But at this point, they say, they at least want everyone to know the repercussions of the alleged lab

thefts and for someone to be held accountable for making sure it never happens again.

"At the end, the word is justice," Julianne said. "Somehow, we need justice."

Their ordeal started back

See EVIDENCE/12A

PENDLETON City budget \$8.77M short

By ANTONIO SIERRA
East Oregonian

The Pendleton City Council recently adopted a \$58 million budget for the next fiscal year, but it's not nearly enough.

Although the figure represents an almost \$5 million increase from the year before, city officials say it falls well short of funding all the city's needs.

The city recently released a document that compares the amount of money requested by department heads against the money that was set to be budgeted. Across several departments and funds, city leaders said they would need an additional \$8.77 million to operate optimally.

City Manager Robb Corbett said the idea to compare requests with the actual budget grew out of the city council's more serious discussions about the costs of running the city. While it has long been common knowledge that many needs were left untended, Corbett said this exercise would show the council and the public the exact dollar figure it would take to meet those needs.

If they got their wish, the city's department heads would turn around and use much of that money to add more than 40 jobs to the payroll, including police officers, firefighters, utility workers and a children's librarian.

Leading the pack among departments requesting more personnel was the fire department, which asked for 15 more positions.

While adding 15 positions would increase the staff by more than 50 percent, Fire Chief Mike Ciraulo said the move would help the department meet minimum shift requirements set by the National Fire

See BUDGET/12A

COLUMBIA GORGE OIL TRAIN WRECK

Tribal leaders highlight risks of oil trains

By GILLIAN FLACCUS
Associated Press

MOSIER — Leaders of several Pacific Northwest tribes gathered Thursday near the site of last week's fiery oil train wreck in Oregon to condemn the shipping of fossil fuels through the Columbia River Gorge, a scenic homeland and sacred fishing ground for the Yakama Nation and others over the millennia.

"We do not want fossil fuels at all coming through the Columbia River Gorge — at all," said Yakama Nation Chairman JoDe Goudy. "We truly see what is at hand. ... We are sacrificing and putting at risk the long-term benefit and well-being of future generations, our children, our grandchildren, those yet to come."

A 96-car train carrying volatile crude oil from the Northern Plains' Bakken region to Tacoma, Washington, derailed June 3 along the Columbia River, which forms most of the boundary between Washington and Oregon. No one was hurt, but four cars caught fire, prompting the evacuation of a



JoDe Goudy, chairman of the Yakama Nation, speaks to residents during a news conference held by Pacific Northwest tribes to condemn the transport of fossil fuels by rail through the Columbia River Gorge Thursday in Mosier. The fiery derailment of a Union Pacific oil train on June 3 led to evacuations and fear in this tiny river town and local tribes are also concerned about damage to the Columbia River.

nearby school, forcing the closure of an interstate, and enraging local officials and residents. Some of the oil made it to the river, where it was captured by absorbent booms, officials said.

The Yakama and other tribes

have opposed the movement of oil and other fossil fuels through the Columbia Gorge, a canyon carved out of the region's volcanic rock by the river and by violent Ice Age floods. Oil trains pose grave threats to public safety, the environment

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— JoDe Goudy,
Yakama Nation Chairman

and their treaty-reserved fishing rights, the tribes say. Union Pacific Railroad spokesman Justin Jacobs said the company takes the concerns seriously, but the railroad is federally obligated to transport crude oil and other commodities for its customers.

Davis Yellowash Washines, chairman of the Yakama Nation

See TRAINS/2A



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