

EAST OREGONIAN

WEDNESDAY, JULY 20, 2016

140th Year, No. 198

WINNER OF THE 2015 ONPA GENERAL EXCELLENCE AWARD

One dollar

Pendleton softball team heads to West Regional tournament



A mix of emotions wash over players on the Pendleton 11/12-year-old all-star team as they board airplanes bound for Portland on their way to the Little League softball West Regional tournament in San Bernardino on Tuesday at the Eastern Oregon Regional Airport in Pendleton.

Staff photo by E.J. Harris

State champs sendoff

Community covers costs of trip to San Bernardino

By **KATHY ANEY**
East Oregonian

A crowd gathered Tuesday evening at the Eastern Oregon Regional Airport to send off Pendleton's most recent celebrities — the state champion 11/12-year-old Little League Softball all-stars.

The team would soon head to Southern California for the West Regional tournament. A cake adorned with bat and ball stood ready for cutting. The frosting read "Good Luck in San Bernardino."

The players arrived at the airport with plenty of exuberance and some trepidation since three of the girls had never before flown. But excitement ruled the day.

"They feel like celebrities," said Coach Kristan Garton. "They feel so special."

"I'm super excited," said third baseman Daisy Jeness. "It's going to be a great experience."



The Pendleton 11/12-year-old all-star team line up for photos underneath the bucking horse at the Eastern Oregon Regional Airport on Tuesday in Pendleton.

Staff photo by E.J. Harris

The emotions of heading to a major tournament lingered just under the surface.

"We're prepared," said center fielder Delaney Duchek, "but I'm nervous."

Garton said the community provided an ocean of support,

helping defray team expenses. Seaport Airlines donated the use of two planes for the Pendleton-Portland leg of the journey. An anonymous \$1,000 donation covered the rental of a 15-passenger van the team will use during the

10 days in San Bernardino. DG Gifts donated labor to add "Oregon" and the players' names to their jerseys." Safeway and Cash & Carry donated party food and the

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PENDLETON

Voters will have say on marijuana

Council picks old hospital as preferred site for fire station

By **ANTONIO SIERRA**
East Oregonian

Three referendums on marijuana sales are now in the hands of Pendleton voters, but not before a health scare during Tuesday night's city council meeting.

Pendleton City Council received passionate testimony from several members of the audience before unanimously voting to pass a series of ordinances and resolutions that officially places medical and recreational marijuana sales and a local 3 percent tax on the November ballot. All three issues will be different questions on the ballot.

People from the audience testified that marijuana helped them treat everything from thyroid cancer to bipolar disorder. It got serious when Pendleton resident Randy Wolf started convulsing in the audience shortly after testifying that he used marijuana to treat seizures and other ailments.

Fire Chief Mike Ciraulo was in the audience and began tending to Wolf before escorting him out.

While he couldn't comment on what afflicted Wolf, Ciraulo said Wolf declined transport to a hospital and left city hall with his husband.

Other members of the public talked about how allowing marijuana retailers would hurt the black market and bring revenue to the city.

Mike Mullins and Jenifer Valley of Happy Valley spoke about how their marijuana business employed a couple dozen people and kept its money at a local credit union, a point of concern for some councilors who worried that local marijuana businesses would not be able to keep their money in a federally insured bank.

In other council news, the Pendleton City Council unanimously selected the old St. Anthony Hospital site as their preferred location for a new fire station.

The council made the decision after weighing the pros and cons of St. Anthony with the old Pendleton Cinema location.

Fire Chief Mike Ciraulo pointed out that while the Pendleton Cinema site was slightly cheaper to develop and would generate faster response times, the St. Anthony site had more room for training and parking.

The estimated cost of acquiring and developing the St. Anthony property is \$2,010,000 while the estimate for the old Pendleton cinema ranged between \$1,735,000 and \$1,965,000.

City Manager Robb Corbet noted that these estimates didn't include the cost of construction.

Councilors Paul Chalmers, Chuck Wood and Neil Brown all leaned toward the St. Anthony site because it wouldn't take commercial real estate off the market and its space for parking and training, among other reasons.

This sentiment was echoed by Fred Bradbury and Jill Thorne of the Pendleton Downtown Association, who said a downtown fire

See **COUNCIL/8A**

BOARDMAN

Port to expand wastewater use for irrigation

By **GEORGE PLAVEN**
East Oregonian

The Port of Morrow is expanding its capacity to recycle industrial wastewater for local farmers to irrigate their crops.

As the port continues to grow, General Manager Gary Neal said there has been a sharp increase in the amount of wastewater generated by food processors and data centers at the East Beach Industrial Park.

"You can grow basically any crop with that process water."

— **Gary Neal**, Port of Morrow general manager

The nutrient-rich water is already used to water nearby farmland under a permit with the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality, but in order to keep up with the

See **WATER/8A**



Staff photo by E.J. Harris

Webb Cold Storage comes down

An excavator is used in the demolition of the Webb Cold Storage building as a man uses a hose to suppress dust on Tuesday in Pendleton.

