



EAST OREGONIAN

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WHEELER COUNTY

Voters recall Judge Perry



Perry

Gov. Brown will appoint replacement

By **GEORGE PLAVERN**
East Oregonian

Voters in Wheeler County have recalled Judge Patrick C. Perry, less than four months after a group of local officials asked him to resign. Perry was removed from

office following a special election Monday, with 406 votes in favor of the recall and 208 opposed. The results were verified Tuesday by Secretary of State Jeanne Atkins, and Gov. Kate Brown will appoint someone to fill the vacancy through

the end of the year.

The recall is effective immediately. A spokesman for Gov. Brown's office said the position will be filled as quickly as possible, and the seat will be added to the November ballot for a six-year term. Anyone interested has until Tuesday, Aug. 30 to file for the job.

More inside

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Boyd Britton beats recall
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Perry was elected county judge in 2012, presiding over juvenile and probate
See JUDGE/8A

PENDLETON

City drops SeaPort, chooses Boutique

By **ANTONIO SIERRA**
East Oregonian

SeaPort Airlines will no longer have a port in Pendleton.

Following eight years as the city's Essential Air Service provider, the Pendleton City Council unanimously voted to select a bid by Boutique Air of San Francisco over the incumbent Portland-based airline at a meeting Tuesday.

Boutique will provide 21 round-trip flights per week from Pendleton to Portland with an option to add an additional round trip, which could go to either Seattle or Boise, Idaho.

Boutique is requesting an annual \$2.27 million EAS subsidy, which is paid for through the U.S. Department of Transportation. The company will be on a two-year contract.

Although several members of the council thanked SeaPort for its service and expressed remorse over the split, no one argued that the city should remain with its current airline.

"Boutique seems like it has a better track record," Mayor Phillip Houk said. "It seems to me like it was an easy decision from everybody that's acquainted with the facts. I feel bad for (SeaPort) as well as appreciate the time spent with us, but I think you have to do what's right and best for the community."

Boutique sold itself as a high quality alternative, touting its reliability, customer service and the fleet of Pilatus PC-12s it uses to transport passengers.

Because the Pilatus is a faster plane with a sealed cabin, Boutique officials told the airport commission that they offered a quiet, smooth flying experience that could get passengers to Portland in about 45 minutes.

SeaPort operated the Pilatus when it first arrived in Pendleton, but switched to the Cessna Caravan several years ago, a plane that the airport commission agreed was a slower, rougher aircraft.

Chrisman vetted Boutique's claims by talking with airport managers from EAS cities in California, Arizona, Utah, New Mexico and Alabama.

"There was a lot of consistency in their responses, almost to a man and woman," he said. "They talked about the high-quality equipment and planes, how folks felt like they're rock stars riding in these things. The on-time performance was another thing they keyed on."

See AIRLINE/2A



Staff photo by E.J. Harris

River Engum of Pendleton, center, teaches a class about robotics to the group of campers on the right as other campers observe and take notes on the session during the Greater Oregon Science Technology Engineering and Math camp Tuesday in Umatilla.

Campers get technical



Staff photo by E.J. Harris

Campers watch as a robot gets tested during the Greater Oregon Science Technology Engineering and Math camp Tuesday in Umatilla.

Two-day summer camp gives teens hands-on STEM training

By **ALEXA LOUGEE**
East Oregonian

While other teens are enjoying the last few carefree days of summer, 11 students met in a science classroom littered with tubs of Lego-like parts, miniature laptops and robots.

High school students from around the region met in Umatilla this week for a Greater Oregon Science Technology Engineering and Math camp.

School administrators from Umatilla, Stanfield, Hermiston, Boardman, Pendleton, Pilot Rock, La Grande and Crane

selected a student ambassador to come to the two-day camp.

Students were trained in how to survey their schools to identify successful STEM learning experiences, and to help provide feedback to make STEM teaching opportunities more student friendly. Umatilla superintendent and STEM advocate Heidi Sipe trained the students on tips for being a professional communicator, including making eye contact and offering positive correction.

See STEM/2A

PENDLETON

All are welcome

Businesses display stickers of inclusion

By **KATHY ANEY**
East Oregonian

Unless you're looking for it, you might miss the new sticker on the front window of the Great Pacific Wine & Coffee Co. In rainbow letters, the six-inch-wide sticker reads "Welcome Everybody. We proudly support full and equal access!"

Also included on the cling-style sticker is a matrix barcode that directs to the Oregon law that bars discrimination because of race, color, sex, national origin, marital status, age or

"We're not out to make people feel uncomfortable. We want to make people more comfortable. That's what this is all about."

— **Vickie Read**, PFLAG member

sexual orientation in a place of "public accommodation."

Most of those entering Great Pacific in search of a latte or

See STICKERS/8A



Staff photo by E.J. Harris

One of the first Pendleton businesses to display the PFLAG "Welcome Everybody" sticker in the window of their establishment was The Great Pacific Wine & Coffee Co. on Main Street in Pendleton.

