

TRUMP PLEDGES TO END POLITICAL LIMITS ON CHURCHES

FAITH/7A



NIXYAAWI BEATS ECHO IN OVERTIME

SPORTS/1B

Protests erupt in Romania

WORLD/8A

EAST OREGONIAN

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 2017

141st Year, No. 79

WINNER OF THE 2016 ONPA GENERAL EXCELLENCE AWARD

One dollar

Your Weekend



- Quilts of Valor National Sew Day in Pendleton
- Ugandan Kids Choir Concert at BMCC

For times and places see Coming Events, 5A

Weekend Weather

Fri	Sat	Sun
29/25	44/34	40/32

Watch a game



The Dalles vs. Hermiston
Friday, 7 p.m., at Hermiston

Sheriff's partners skeptical of pitch for new dispatcher

By PHIL WRIGHT
East Oregonian

Umatilla County Sheriff Terry Rowan wants to hire another dispatcher for his department's busy 9-1-1 and communications center.

But the multiple agencies that contract for dispatch services are not keen on paying for it.

The communication center had nine dispatchers in 2000, and they handled 9,468 emergency calls and 82,490 non-emergency calls, according to data from Lt. Kathy Lieuallen, the sheriff's communications commander. That's an average of about 10,217 calls per dispatcher per year.

The sheriff's office now employs 17 dispatchers, and in 2016 they fielded 29,606 emergency and 125,955 non-emergency

See DISPATCH/8A

Brown signs orders to thwart Trump immigration policies

By PARIS ACHEN
Capital Bureau



Paris Achen/Pamplin Media Group
Gov. Kate Brown announced efforts to resist the Trump administration's executive order temporarily barring refugees and visa holders for several predominantly Muslim countries.

SALEM — Gov. Kate Brown signed an executive order Thursday barring the use of any state resources to enforce federal immigration policy and called on the state Attorney General's Office to sue the Trump administration over the president's executive order on immigration.

"The president's recent executive orders that divide and discriminate do not reflect the values enshrined in the U.S. Constitution

or the principles we stand for as Oregonians or Americans," Brown told reporters Thursday. "I want to make it very clear that here in Oregon, where thousands have fought for and demanded equality, where millions have put down roots and become integral to our economy and to our culture; we will not retreat."

The governor said her order was a response to Trump's temporary ban on refugees and visa holders from several predominantly Muslim countries, but also a proactive step in antici-

More inside

Iranian infant needs visa waiver for heart surgery in Portland Page 2A

tion of further action by the Trump administration.

"We are hearing rumors of the fact that the federal government may consider creating a Muslim registry," Brown said. "This would forbid our state agencies and our state agency workers from participating in that."

See BROWN/8A



Staff photo by E.J. Harris
Pendleton School Board member Debbie McBee, left, goes over scholarship possibilities with senior Kristelle Isidro at the ASPIRE program on Thursday at Pendleton High School.

GET ON BOARD

Statewide campaign aims to get more people to run for school boards

East Oregonian

Each year, hundreds of volunteers from across the state raise their hands to coach, mentor, teach and campaign for their community's schools.

But when it comes to volunteering for Oregon's school boards, fewer hands get raised.

According to the Oregon School Board Association, nearly three-quarters of the seats for school boards, education service districts and community college boards were uncontested during the last round of board elections in 2015.

While the majority of these races drew at least one person, 8 percent of the seats drew no candidates at all. That year marked the lowest number of school board candidates in a decade.

The grim statistics spurred the association to launch a campaign to recruit more candidates to participate in the upcoming school board elections in May, spokesman



Staff photo by E.J. Harris
Pendleton School Board member Michelle Monkman helps senior William Royer fill out paperwork for college Thursday at the ASPIRE program at Pendleton High School.

Alex Pulaski said.

The association doesn't have any data as to why people aren't interested in these seats, a problem especially acute in rural Oregon,

but Pulaski said Oregonians might not know enough about how schools boards affect education policy to take the plunge. The association's "Get on Board" campaign

will attempt to reverse the trend by holding webinars on Feb. 9 and Feb. 15 that will explain the responsibilities of

See SCHOOL/8A

"One of the things I love about being on the school board is using policy and being able to influence people — whether it's teachers, parents or the children themselves."

— Debbie McBee, chair of the Pendleton school board

Cash for trash

30-year Metro garbage contract will soon expire

By GEORGE PLAVERN
East Oregonian

For nearly 30 years, trash day in Portland has meant payday in rural Gilliam County.

A fleet of 50 garbage trucks arrives every day from the big city to a remote, wind-swept plateau south of Arlington, home of Waste Management's Columbia Ridge Landfill and Recycling Center. The 12,000-acre dump employs 90 people — roughly 5 percent of the county's population — and kicks in millions of dollars annually to local coffers.

The landfill faces an uncertain future, however, as Portland now considers different alternatives for disposing of its solid waste. If that happens, it may cost jobs and significant revenue for Gilliam County, which uses host fees from Columbia Ridge to help pay for things like roads, small business loans and tax rebates for homeowners.

Portland's trash is regulated by Metro, an independently elected regional government that also runs the Oregon Zoo, Portland Expo Center and an array of city parks. When Waste Management opened Columbia Ridge in 1990, it secured 90 percent of all garbage Metro collects — up to half a million tons annually.

That contract is set to expire in 2019. Paul Ehinger, director of solid waste operations for Metro, said the council is weighing whether to continue its relationship with Columbia Ridge, or go in a different direction.

"It's a matter of what are the best choices we can make," Ehinger said.

The Columbia Ridge

See LANDFILL/3A



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