



EAST OREGONIAN

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141st Year, No. 99

WINNER OF THE 2016 ONPA GENERAL EXCELLENCE AWARD

One dollar

Your Weekend



- **Battle of the Bars at the Let 'er Buck Room**
- **"Fiddler on the Roof" at Hermiston High School**
- **"Joseph & the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat"**

For times and places see **Coming Events, 6A**

Catch a movie



Ben Rothstein/Twentieth Century Fox via AP

Featuring Hugh Jackman's final turn as Wolverine, "Logan" is a gritty, R-rated take on the clawed mutant. For showtime, Page 5A. For review, Weekend EO

Weekend Weather

Fri	Sat	Sun
51/35	45/31	45/30

Federal agency kills wolf in Wallowa County

Incident deemed unintentional

By **GEORGE PLAVERN**
East Oregonian

The U.S. Department of Agriculture on Feb. 26 inadvertently killed a gray wolf from the Shamrock Pack in Wallowa County.

The wolf died after coming across what's known as an M-44, a spring-activated device that releases cyanide powder to poison target animals. In this case, USDA Wildlife Services was using the device to kill coyotes on private land to reduce conflicts with livestock.

M-44s are triggered when canids such as wolves or

See **WOLF/10A**

PENDLETON

Maroon 5 to headline Whisky Fest

Tickets for July concert go on sale March 10

By **ANTONIO SIERRA**
East Oregonian

In its inaugural year, Pendleton Whisky Music Fest was a little bit country. This year, it's a little bit rock 'n' roll.

The organizers announced this week that Maroon 5 will headline the festival, and it's not difficult to see why. One only has to look at the numbers.

- More than 20 million albums and 70 million singles sold worldwide
- Five singles that have been in the top

five of the Billboard Hot 100 charts

- Three Grammy Awards, three American Music Awards, four Billboard Music Awards, and four Teen Choice Awards
- More than 39 million likes on Facebook and 13.8 million followers on Twitter
- More than 1.8 billion views on the band's 2015 music video "Sugar"

"That's billion with a b," co-organizer Doug Corey said.

Corey and co-organizer Andy McNally said Maroon 5 will headline the second-year concert at the Pendleton Round-Up grounds on July 15.

Another number that matters to the organizers is the approximately 12,000 tickets

See **PENDLETON/10A**



Photo by Charles Sykes/Invision/AP

Adam Levine from Maroon 5 performs on NBC's "Today" show on June 25, 2014 in New York.

HERMISTON



Staff photo by E.J. Harris

Shoppers Cathy Michael, center, and Marilyn Gardner, right, talk with shop owner Brandi Howard about shoe styles while shopping at Andee's Boutique on Thursday in Hermiston.

Re-store downtown

Action groups looking to give Main Street a jump start

By **JADE MCDOWELL**
East Oregonian

If Main Street is considered the heart of a community, then Hermiston is rolling up its sleeves and preparing for some CPR.

Downtown stakeholders met this week to form five action groups ready to tackle challenges they feel Hermiston's downtown district faces.

"Hermiston has a lot of potential, but there is definitely some room to take some action," Main Street coordinator Emma Porricolo said.

Porricolo, who is partway through a year-long stint as a RARE (Resource Assistance for Rural Environments) student for the city of Hermiston, told the group that interviews with downtown business owners, managers and property owners

See **DOWNTOWN/10A**



Staff photo by E.J. Harris

Hermiston downtown stakeholders are attempting to tackle challenges confronting Main Street, like enticing more retail and restaurant businesses.

UMATILLA

Trott resigns as mayor

By **JADE MCDOWELL**
East Oregonian

Umatilla Mayor David Trott has resigned, citing irreconcilable differences with the city council.

Trott has been at odds with other city leaders since January, when he called a special executive session to discuss the performance of city manager R u s s P e l l e b e r g and the city council

chose to take no action on his concerns. In a lengthy resignation email sent to the council Wednesday night, Trott accused the council of putting "its collective head in the sand" and trying to quash any public discussion of problems Umatilla faces.

"Attitudes like this show a disdain and lack of respect for the public that the Mayor and Council represent," he wrote. "Our 'public' are not going to shrivel and melt away because of an open and honest public discourse between the Mayor and Council."

The council met in executive session on Jan. 25 at the request of Trott. Trott told the *East Oregonian* before the meeting that he felt Pelleberg had lied on his job application when he first applied to work for the city as public works director in 2013.

Pelleberg wrote that his reason for leaving Columbia Irrigation District in 2012 was "elimination of position." The



Trott

See **TROTT/3A**

HERMISTON

Fire station opening extends coverage east

By **JAYATI RAMAKRISHNAN**
East Oregonian

Firefighters spent the first full-day shift Wednesday at Fire Station 22 setting up the building and getting systems up and running.

It was a quiet day, but significant as the station at the intersection of E. Punkin Center and Diagonal Road moves into 24/7 mode.

"The station will provide service to a lot of people," said Umatilla County Fire District 1 battalion

chief Corey Gorham, looking at a map of the district's service area. "The majority of the population in rural areas are out this way."

The station is northeast of town, about halfway between the downtown fire station and Hat Rock State Park.

Gorham said the district hired six new firefighter/paramedics in order to meet the increased staffing needs that will come with the 24/7

See **FIRE/3A**



Staff photo by E.J. Harris

Umatilla County Fire District 1 now has full-time staffing at its Fire Station 22 at the intersection of E. Punkin Center and Diagonal Road east of Hermiston.

