



66/45

SPECIAL PROSECUTOR NAMED TO PROBE TRUMP-RUSSIA TIES
NATION/7A



HERMISTON FFA WINS BIG AT STATE
REGION/3A



EAST OREGONIAN

THURSDAY, MAY 18, 2017

141st Year, No. 153

WINNER OF THE 2016 ONPA GENERAL EXCELLENCE AWARD

One dollar

PENDLETON

BENT, state, feds arrest four in drug raids

Search warrants served at Wicked Kitty, Thur's Smoke Shop and city residence

By PHIL WRIGHT
East Oregonian

and Bryson Thurman. Pendleton Police Chief Stuart Roberts in a written statement reported the Blue Mountain Enforcement Narcotics Team served search warrants at 11 a.m. at Thur's Smoke Shop, 34 S.W.

Emigrant Ave., Wicked Kitty Tattoo and Piercing, 132 S. Main St, and a residence at 409 S.W. 11th St.

Lybrand, 46, owns Wicked Kitty. Police arrested him there on probation violations, according to Roberts.

Lybrand is serving three years

See DRUGS/8A



Lybrand



Thurman



Servi



Hamilton



Staff photo by E.J. Harris

BMCC president Cam Preus looks on Wednesday in Pendleton as EOU president Tom Insko signs a memorandum to establish a fast track transfer program that offers students the benefits of being able to co-register and co-enroll at both of the higher learning institutions.

Seamless institutions

BMCC, EOU to allow co-enrollment, create fast track transfer program

By ANTONIO SIERRA
East Oregonian

The word of the day for Blue Mountain Community College and Eastern Oregon University was "seamless."

At a ceremony at BMCC's Pendleton campus Wednesday, the presidents of BMCC and EOU signed a memorandum of agreement that enables co-registration and co-enrollment at both schools.

Administrators from both

institutions made short speeches thanking the people who made co-enrollment possible, which they said would make the transfer from BMCC to EOU seamless.

With the Timberwolves mascot standing between BMCC president Cam Preus and EOU president Tom Insko, Insko said he was recently in Salem and heard other education officials talk about the difficulties of transferring students from commu-

See SCHOOL/8A



Staff photo by E.J. Harris

BMCC is the largest source of transfer students to Eastern Oregon University, averaging 28 transfers students per term and 32 co-enrolled students per term.

ATHENA

Mainstreet association buys old PGG store

Will host meetings to collect input on building's future use

By ANTONIO SIERRA
East Oregonian

Athena is one of several Eastern Oregon cities that is home to an empty Pendleton Grain Growers retail store. But there's hope it can be filled once again after the community literally took it back.

After raising a total of \$55,200 in donations to purchase and operate it, the Athena Mainstreet Association announced Tuesday that it bought the old PGG building on 459 W. Main St.

In an interview Wednesday, April Vorhauer-Flatt, an association board member and project coordinator, explained how concerned community members started gathering last year to figure out what to do with the vacant, 9,000-square-foot building.

"The longer a building sits, the more it falls apart," she said.

The association volunteered to lead the effort to purchase the building and put it under community control. It raised \$15,200 from local citizens, \$20,000 from the Port of Umatilla, \$10,000 from the Athena-Weston Education and Resource Enhancement program, \$5,000 from the Watts Fund and \$5,000 from Umatilla County for their campaign.

People have bandied about a number of ideas on how to re-use the building, including turning it into a gym, a civic center or keeping it as retail space. The association plans on hosting a series

"The longer a building sits, the more it falls apart."

— April Vorhauer-Flatt, association board member

See ATHENA/8A

HERMISTON

Man's life turned upside down after not reading instructions

Spent 20 minutes trapped feet up on inversion table

By KATHY ANEY
East Oregonian

Glen Taylor is just happy to be right-side up.

The Hermiston octogenarian spent a harrowing 20 minutes or so stuck upside down on an inversion table last Thursday evening. He'd purchased the device after watching an infomercial about health benefits of inversion therapy.

Advocates of inversion tables say hanging upside down can relieve back-aches, soothe arthritis, stimulate the immune system, improve circulation and otherwise counteract the effects of gravity. Taylor, who relies on a wheel-

chair and walker to get around, was intrigued with the idea. He deals with both diabetes and back pain and is a lung cancer survivor. He had polio as a boy.

He ordered a Teeter ComforTrak Inversion Table, which arrived several days later. A friend helped Taylor assemble the unit. The 82-year-old tested the table a couple of times with the friend spotting and liked how his back felt.

On Thursday night, Taylor, who lives alone, found himself in the mood for a little spinal decompression. He climbed

"I love the damn thing."

— Glen Taylor, does not plan to give up on the inversion table

See INVERSION/8A



Glen Taylor of Hermiston got stuck upside down in his Teeter ComforTrak Inversion Table and had to activate his Life Alert help button to contact local paramedics and police to help free him from his predicament.

Staff photo by E.J. Harris



7 29467 10001 5