



How did this cyclist end up in the stocks?
CROC RIDE/6A



BUCKS SPRINT TO SEMIS
SPORTS/1B

EAST OREGONIAN

TUESDAY, MAY 30, 2017

141st Year, No. 161

WINNER OF THE 2016 ONPA GENERAL EXCELLENCE AWARD

One dollar

HERMISTON

No arrests, suspects in weekend fatal shooting

Victim was a 38-year-old man; police seeking 'person of interest'

East Oregonian

A Hermiston man was shot to death early Saturday morning at an apartment complex on Southwest 13th Place in Hermiston near West Highland Avenue, and police continue the search for a person they believe may be connected to the death.

Police were dispatched at 2:31 a.m. after receiving a report of

gunshots in the area of 525 S.W. 13th Place, the Viewcrest Apartment complex. While en route, police received an update that a man had been shot.

When an officer arrived at 2:35 a.m., he began administering CPR to James John Cragun, 38, who lived in the apartment complex. A medic, who arrived a short time later, began working on him but Cragun was pronounced dead at

the scene.

The area major crime team was activated, including officers from Boardman, Umatilla, Umatilla County, Morrow County, Oregon State Police and the Umatilla Tribal Police.

As of Monday afternoon, Hermiston Police Capt. Travis Eynon said there were no updates to the case and wouldn't confirm

See SHOOTING/9A



A member of the Oregon State Police forensic services division works at the scene of a fatal shooting Saturday at Viewcrest Apartments in Hermiston.

Staff photo by Tammy Malgesini

MEMORIAL DAY TRIBUTES



ABOVE: Anthony Bowman, of Veterans of Foreign Wars Let'er Buck Post 922, salutes the flag Monday during a Memorial Day ceremony at Olney Cemetery in Pendleton.
FAR LEFT: Rhys Lundquist, 9, listens during a the ceremony at Olney Cemetery.
NEAR LEFT: Two members of the U.S. Army Honor Guard present the colors in honor of Alvin "Bruce" Christopher, who died April 27, 2017. Christopher, who was 71, served in the U.S. Army.
For more on these services, see Page 3A.
Staff photos by Kathy Aney and Jayati Ramakrishnan

PENDLETON

District drafts new strategy to combat decline in enrollment, state funding

By ANTONIO SIERRA
East Oregonian

Whatever final form the Pendleton School District's strategic plan takes, district officials are insisting it won't just be left on a shelf.

Pendleton School Board chairwoman Debbie McBee said the district's previous strategic plan was well-intentioned but used sparingly.

District staff and elected officials are now charting a new path for the district amidst the continual uncertainty on education funding at the state level and Pendleton's declining school enrollment numbers. If implemented successfully, they believe that the plan will be heavily integrated into almost everything the district does.

"Our prior strategic plan required a lot of work and identified great information, but did not become a functional tool," McBee said. "With this one, we're taking a completely different approach, completely different focuses so we have this very usable and functional and measurable (plan). We'll be using this very actively."

The district convened a committee of educators, board members and district residents to help draft the strategic plan and met several times during the school year.

Aided by a consultant, interim superintendent Matt Yoshioka said the committee devised six initiatives that will set the goals for the strategic plan.

Yoshioka added that the initiatives could be consolidated and further refined before they're adopted, but the gist of the committee's priorities is there.

The initiatives recommend building the Pendleton School District brand; providing continual support for all staff; hiring, supporting and retaining effective educators; supporting holistic well-being;

See STRATEGY/9A



Fritsch



McBee



Yoshioka

Lost class ring comes home after 42 years

By KATHY ANEY
East Oregonian

Kurt Kildow remembers the exact moment he lost his Pendleton High School class ring.

It happened 42 years ago as Kildow skied down a run at Anthony Lakes Ski Area. Suddenly, he and another skier collided into a painful tangle of arms, legs, skis and poles. As the 17-year-old detached, he checked himself for injury.

"I sorted myself out," Kildow remembers. "Nothing was

broken."

Later, he realized he had lost his class ring during the crash. Since the bulky ring wouldn't fit inside his glove, he had tucked it into a shirt pocket where it likely stayed secure until the collision, when, Kildow figures, "The snap popped open and it flew out." The loss was a bummer, but the teen didn't dwell on it. Life went on. He graduated and headed to college.

Turns out, Kildow would see his class ring again — more than

See RING/9A



Contributed photo
Kurt Kildow's lost class ring is back on his hand 42 years after it went missing after he collided with another skier at the Anthony Lakes Ski Area.

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