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EAST OREGONIAN

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WINNER OF THE 2016 ONPA GENERAL EXCELLENCE AWARD

One dollar



Staff photo by Kathy Aney
Chris Van Dyke talks Monday evening during a gathering of the Umatilla County Democrats at the Community Room at Pendleton City Hall.

Democrats test waters in red second district

Van Dyke stops in Pendleton, considering run for Walden's seat

By **ANTONIO SIERRA**
East Oregonian

Democrats not only intend to challenge Republican U.S. Rep. Greg Walden, they're

lining up to do it. With 309 days remaining until primary elections are held in Oregon, Bend communications consultant Chris Van Dyke visited

Pendleton Monday while he considers a run against the longtime incumbent.

The self-described "lifelong Democrat" met with the Umatilla County Democratic

Party at Pendleton City Hall Monday, telling the nearly 40 people assembled for the meeting that he was traveling Oregon's second congressional district to listen to resi-

See **DEMOCRATS/8A**

HERMISTON

Maiocco to leave for active duty

School Board will select interim superintendent

By **JAYATI RAMAKRISHNAN**
East Oregonian

Hermiston School District Superintendent Fred Maiocco, who is also a brigadier general with the U.S. Army Reserves, announced Monday that he will take a leave of absence to serve a tour of duty. He will leave July 24 and serve 15 to 18 months in Europe.



Maiocco

"I just bought a new house. I certainly look forward to coming back."

— **Fred Maiocco**, Hermiston School District Superintendent

Maiocco will be assigned as the commander, 7th Mission Support Command, a forward-deployed, consequence management and civil affairs unit based in Kaiserslautern, Germany. He will also serve as the deputy commanding general for the 21st Theater Sustainment Command, coordinating logistical support to U.S. forces in Europe, Africa and the Middle East.

Maiocco last deployed overseas in 2011, to Kuwait and Iraq for 18 months. He was promoted to brigadier general in 2014.

Along with announcing his imminent departure and requesting a leave of absence, Maiocco advised the board of their options for the coming months. He said the board had the option to not approve the leave of absence, at which point they would enter negotiations, and look for a full-time superintendent. The board could also immediately appoint an interim superintendent from within the district, or open the position up for

See **MAIOCCO/8A**



Staff photo by Kathy Aney
John Odden, of Bend, spins around and gets ready to release a 56-pound weight Saturday during the Caledonian Games.

Searching for Scottish heritage in Athena

By **EMILY OLSON**
East Oregonian

In a tartan-clad tent in "clan village," folks ask Dale Turnbull about everything from castles and the caber to haggis and the highlands.

But the Pendleton resident's favorite questions, the ones that

make his eyes light up, center on his genealogy.

"My great-grandfather immigrated from Scotland in 1828," he said. "My mother kept us entertained by telling us those stories — who we are, where we came from. It built this sort of linkage."

Turnbull has had a passion for

researching family history ever since. He's read eight books on Scottish history. He's traveled to Scotland twice. He even named his dog "Callie" — short for the Latin word for Scotland: Caledonia.

"Your family, in every respect, is your only link to the past and your only bridge to the future,"

he said, quoting "Roots" author Alex Haley. He's constantly on the lookout for members of his clan. And at Athena's Caledonian Games, he often finds a few.

For over a century, the games have been more than a way to celebrate Scottish culture;

See **ATHENA/8A**

HERMISTON

Ready, set, mow

Lawnmower races, music, art, car show keep families busy

By **JAYATI RAMAKRISHNAN**
East Oregonian

While some used their lawnmowers to cut their grass Saturday afternoon, others used them to drag race down Main Street.

The Outlaw Lawn Dragsters took over a block of the street on Saturday to stir up a little excitement at Hermiston's 11th annual Funfest.

"The fact that you can spend not a lot of money and still go pretty dang fast — it fulfills your need for speed,"

said James Buchanan, a Boise, Idaho resident who has traveled to the Funfest for several years to race.

Buchanan and his 17-year-old son, Dakota, were two of five racers on Saturday. The two enjoy working on their vehicles, which, at this point, are lawnmower in name only.

"You use motorcycle or snowmobile motors," Buchanan said. "Basically the name is just for how it used to be."

Buchanan said he spent about \$2,000 on his vehicle, and it has been running for 10 years.

He and his son lined up at the starting line, revving their engines in anticipation. When the announcer

See **FUNFEST/8A**



Staff photo by Kathy Aney
A racer roars down Main Street on a lawnmower dragster Saturday during Hermiston's Funfest.



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