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REGION/3A



**HERMISTON
KICKS OFF FALL
SPORTS SEASON**
SPORTS/1B

EAST OREGONIAN

FRIDAY, AUGUST 25, 2017

141st Year, No. 224

WINNER OF THE 2017 ONPA GENERAL EXCELLENCE AWARD

One dollar

Your Weekend



- Pendleton Block Party with Hillstomp
- Mega Sports Camp at Salvation Army
- Drive 4 UR School Fundraiser, Hermiston

For times and places see Coming Events, 6A

Weekend Weather

Fri	Sat	Sun
82/52	89/56	93/64

HERMISTON Delayed psychiatric hospital applies for state approval

By JAYATI RAMAKRISHNAN
East Oregonian

Umatilla County's main mental health service is seeking approval on plans to open a psychiatric hospital in Hermiston.

Lifeways, Inc., will be reviewed by the Oregon Health Authority to open Aspen Springs Hospital, a 16-bed psychiatric hospital under construction at 1212 W. Linda Ave., Hermiston. The OHA will make a decision by Nov. 22.

Lifeways broke ground on the facility in July 2016, and the hospital was scheduled to open this spring. Lifeways director of communications Rick George said the plans were stalled by some issues with other facilities' applications.

"We expected it to be a faster process, but two other projects were going on the other side of the state, which pushed us back," he said.

"The state handles all of those (processes)," he said. "An organization like Lifeways has to go through several steps. Apply, answer a series of questions about why they want to open a facility, what they're trying to do."

He said that NEWCO, a psychiatric hospital

See LIFEWAYS/10A

ODFW to kill Meacham wolves

Pack responsible for four livestock attacks in eight days

By GEORGE PLAVERN
East Oregonian

The Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife has authorized killing two more wolves in north-east Oregon, this time from the Meacham pack in Umatilla County following a string of four attacks on cattle over the last eight days.

All four attacks happened to calves owned by the same livestock producer on the same private pasture in the Meacham area east of Pendleton. The latest incident was confirmed Saturday, Aug. 19 by ODFW.

On Thursday, the agency approved killing two wolves from the Meacham pack to limit further

predation. Wildlife officials have already killed three wolves this summer from the Harl Butte pack in Wallowa County after repeated conflicts with cattle.

Curt Melcher, ODFW director, said it is important to limit wolf-livestock problems, and lethal control is a needed tool when non-lethal deterrents are

not enough. "While it's disheartening for some people to see ODFW killing wolves, our agency is called to manage wildlife in a manner consistent with other land uses, and to protect the social and economic interests of all Oregonians while it conserves gray wolves," Melcher said.

The recent decisions to kill See WOLVES/10A

HERMISTON



Cyndie Traner, owner of C and R Mercantile in Hermiston, has been a driving force in recruiting businesses to the West Third Street in Hermiston.

Redefining downtown

Businesses opening on Southwest Third Street extend downtown across tracks

By JADE MCDOWELL
East Oregonian

When Hermiston residents talk about the need to revitalize downtown, Cyndie Traner is working to expand their definition of "downtown."

The word tends to bring to mind a few blocks of Main Street housing such longtime staples as Hermiston Drug. But Traner owns C and R Mercantile, one of a growing number of businesses finding a home on the other side of the tracks.

"You don't necessarily have to be on

395 and Main Street," she said.

The Quonset hut where Traner sells vintage clothing, kitchenware and other items sits along a two-block portion of Southwest Third Street that recently became home to gourmet salad shop Veg Out and boutique Creations with Santana. The neighborhood — located behind Bi-Mart — is also home to a salon, accountant, attorney, translation service and a taco truck, with a Mexican bakery around the corner.

Where the street intersects with

See DOWNTOWN/10A



Skylar Prewitt makes a salad as Jennifer Baros places an order on Wednesday during the lunch rush at Veg Out in Hermiston.

PENDLETON

What to know about REACH and the Rec Center

By EMILY OLSON
East Oregonian



Staff photo by E.J. Harris

REACH Pendleton has asked the Pendleton City Council to lease the Pendleton Recreation Center.

REACH Pendleton has asked the Pendleton City Council to lease the city-owned Pendleton Recreation Center, which occupies the former McCune gymnasium. Their request has sparked concerns — and some misconceptions — from members of the community. Here's a guide to who the group is, what they hope to accomplish and why some people are concerned:

Who is REACH?

REACH Pendleton, or Reaching Every Adult and Child through Hope, became a 501c3 nonprofit in December 2016. According to the organization's website, REACH aims to "bridge the gap between the youth of our community and the needed

resources" through "hands-on participation and strategic partnerships."

Seven members sit on REACH's Board of Directors:

- John Airoldi, physical therapist at CHI St. Anthony Hospital
- Luke Britt, youth pastor at Pendleton Church of God
- Cynthia Holmes, radiologist at CHI St. Anthony Hospital
- Joe Jackson, relationship manager at REACH Pendleton
- Nate Jackson, lead pastor at Pendleton Church of God
- Tim Pilch, general contractor at Level Best Contracting Inc.
- Tim Van Cleave, senior pastor at

See REACH/6A



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