



**SEX HARASSMENT COMPLAINT FILED AGAINST KRUSE**  
NORTHWEST/2A



**NUTCRACKER USHERS IN HOLIDAYS**  
COMMUNITY/6A



# EAST OREGONIAN

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2017

142nd Year, No. 22

WINNER OF THE 2017 ONPA GENERAL EXCELLENCE AWARD

One dollar

## Runoff needed to break tie vote

CTUIR board vice chair race knots at 370

East Oregonian

It's a cliché, but it's true: Every vote counts.

In the race for the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation's vice chair of the Board of Trustees, incumbent Jeremy Wolf received 370

votes and challenger Shana Radford also received 370 votes.

Chuck Sams, CTUIR spokesperson, said when the results came back Tuesday night, chair of the elections commission Andrea Hall started an instant recount.

"As soon as they saw there was a tie, they did a hand recount,"

Sams said. "That took almost another two hours."

The count confirmed the deadlock. Sams said tribal code calls for a runoff election to fill the seat. The election commission has to provide 90 days notice in advance of the runoff, which includes absentee voting. The

See CTUIR/8A



Wolf



Radford

Westland Irrigation District

## Bellinger keeps seat on board

First goal is to resolve ongoing litigation

By GEORGE PAVLEN  
East Oregonian

In what turned out to be a closely contested race, incumbent Jack Bellinger was re-elected Tuesday to the Westland Irrigation District board of directors, defeating challenger Ray Vogt by just 12 votes.

Bellinger, owner of Bellinger Farms in Hermiston, kept his seat by a narrow count of 107-95, according to unofficial results. The Westland board will meet Monday, Nov. 20 at 1 p.m. to certify the election and announce a winner.



Bellinger

The Westland Irrigation District delivers water to approximately 260 patrons in the Umatilla Basin. Only district members were allowed to vote in the board election, with voting weighted by land ownership. Anyone with up to 40 acres received one vote, while anyone with between 40 and 160 acres received two votes and anyone with more than 160 acres received three votes.

Vogt, who raises beef cattle and alfalfa on 24.5 acres, said he ran to improve transparency between the board and patrons, and to ensure small farmers like himself have a voice in major decisions moving forward, such as the ill-fated Central Project to secure mitigated water from the Columbia River.

"I just don't feel like the smaller farmers have been asked for their advice in any of those decisions," Vogt said. "The small guy has just as much right to his water as the big guy has to his water."

While Vogt said he will support Bellinger, he added that the tight race does show there are patrons out there questioning whether small farmers are truly being represented.

In an interview Wednesday, Bellinger said his top goal is to unite the district in the face of a lawsuit filed against the district last year by a group of patrons with senior water rights.

"We need to resolve this lawsuit so it's not hanging over our head," Bellinger said. "Until we do, I don't think our district can come together to do big things."

The lawsuit accuses Westland of  
See WESTLAND/8A



Staff photo by E.J. Harris

George Winter of Pendleton hand writes a letter Wednesday at Sisters Cafe in Pendleton, addressing it to members of U.S. Congress asking them to lower spending at the Pentagon. Winter is part of a group that meets once a week to write letters to their representatives in the House and Senate in Washington, D.C.

## Stressed? You're not alone

Americans worry about politics, nation's future

By KATHY ANEY  
East Oregonian

America is stressed out.

We worry about things like finances and work, but this year, we are most anxious about what lies ahead for our country.

"Sixty-three percent of Americans reported that our nation's future was a significant source of stress," said Vaile Wright, director

of research at the American Psychological Association, the organization that hired Harris Poll to conduct the Stress in America Survey. "That was higher than for money or work — which is what people usually report as their highest source of stress."

Some are calling this collective societal angst "post-election stress disorder."

According to the survey, 59

percent of us consider this point in history the lowest we have ever experienced. The feeling spans the generations and cuts across party lines. According to Wright, 56 percent of seniors, 72 and older, believe this time is the lowest they can remember, despite being alive during Pearl Harbor and World War II. The same goes for Baby Boomers (57 percent), Gen Xers (61 percent) and Millennials (59 percent).

### More inside

So what is an anxious American to do?  
Tips from therapists on PAGE 8A

As a result of all this stress, people report sleepless nights, friction with friends and family, irritability and the need to constantly check the news.

See POLITICS/8A

"I've seen increasingly more people, of all ages, reaching out every day because they are struggling with anxiety and sometimes feeling hopeless about the future of our country and really their future as an individual, in regard to their freedom and safety."

— Jennifer K. Fuller, Talkspace therapist



Photo by Matthew Ginn/Trillium Media Services

Pendleton's Nolan Hill dives in during the 2009 5A state swimming championships at Mt. Hood Community College in Gresham. The college uses an inflatable dome to surround the pool during the winter, and Pendleton is considering the feasibility of a similar dome at the Pendleton Aquatic Center.

### PENDLETON

## Swim association pitches dome concept to council

By ANTONIO SIERRA  
East Oregonian

The organizers behind the Pendleton Swim Association considered their options to find a new pool and decided there's no place like dome.

Tony Nelson, the coach for the swim association and the Pendleton High School swim team, and association president Fred Robinson went before the council at a workshop Tuesday and asked them if they would be open to erecting an inflatable dome over the Pendleton Aquatic Center pool that would allow for year-

round swimming. It could cost as much as \$1 million to do so.

The men made their case ahead of the swim teams' main facility — the Blue Mountain Community College pool — scheduled closure in June. Mayor John Turner, a former BMCC president, said his discussions with college staff show there's little desire to extend the pool's life after the deadline, especially considering the millions of dollars it would take to renovate the facility.

Nelson and Robinson said

See SWIM/8A

