

# HERMISTON TRIES TO GO OUT ON TOP

SPORTS/1B

WEEKEND EDITION



WHEN IS YOUR CHILD READY TO SKI? 4C

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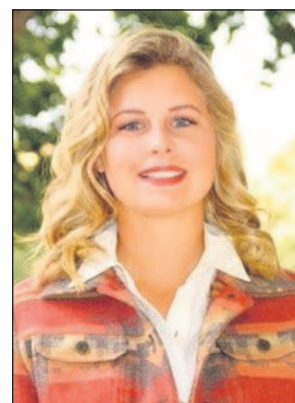
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Cindy Traner, owner of C and R Mercantile Co. in Hermiston, walks through her store Tuesday. After five years in operation, Traner is shuttering her business and moving on.

Staff photo by E.J. Harris

## PENDLETON



Betsy West

## Round-Up names 2018 queen, court

By ANTONIO SIERRA  
East Oregonian

The thematic consistency of a potential Round-Up queen's name isn't considered during the selection process, but it certainly doesn't hurt Betsy West.

West, 21, has the perfect cowgirl name but also has the experience to back it up.

An Athena native, a press release states that West has spent so much time on a horse she can't remember her first ride on the front of her parents' saddle.

"After a long weekend away from home, going out to the barn and thanking my horses for a great parade, or getting on my filly was my favorite way to wind down and relax," she said in a statement. "I receive so much clarity and joy from being horseback."

As both a horsewoman and Round-Up royalty, West's roots run deep. Her sister, mother and great grandmother were all Round-Up princesses while her father was a competitor. On top of that, her family breeds and trains quarter horses.

West is a student at the College of Idaho, where she's studying health sciences. Her accomplishments while in Caldwell includes the Howard Berger Travel Scholarship to document history at ancient Chinese temples.

West and the rest of her four-woman court were announced at Doug Corey's home in Athena. The ladies will now embark on a promotional tour at events throughout the Northwest and make more than 200 scheduled appearances.

Josilyn Fullerton, 18, of Dayton, Washington, has been on horseback since she was six and has carried pennants at the Round-Up in addition to her help pushing calves and with the Children's Round-Up.

She also comes with rodeo court experi-

### More inside

Stockholders get special seat at Round-Up table  
REGION/3A

# RISKY BUSINESS

## Small businesses face big hurdles to survive

By JADE MCDOWELL  
East Oregonian

Cyndie Traner heard a lot of words of support for her business over the years, but words don't pay the bills.

That's what she told people who came into the C&R Mercantile in Hermiston for the vintage shop's going out of business sale this week.

"People come in once a year and say, 'See, I support your business,' but you're not showing me with your actions," she said. "Actions speak louder than words."

It's a theme she said she has heard from other friends who have closed their small businesses over the years — people want the business to stick around as an option, but they don't spend money there often enough to keep the doors open.

Eventually, some business owners like Traner decide they're done.

"I lost a lot of time with my



An empty store front has replaced Crazy Mikes Video on West Highland Avenue in Hermiston.

Staff photo by E.J. Harris

husband," she said. "I lost a lot of money building something for my community that I could have been building up my own home. I just got tired of doing so much for so little in return."

According to the federal Small Business Administration, about a third of businesses fail within

the first two years and only half make it past five. Those odds are what have helped inspire "shop local" and pro-small business movements like Small Business Saturday, which encourages people to shop at a small business the Saturday after Thanksgiving.

Traner can name a lot of

"You need some kind of support to get through the low times. As a business owner you're the last one to get paid, if you even get paid."

— Susan Bower, Eastern Oregon Business Source

businesses that have come and gone in the last few years around Hermiston — home decor shop Indulge, florist Bloomz, barbecue restaurant Sharon's Sweet Treats and Catering, clothing shop Bare Necessities, craft store Defining Details, UFO Gaming, Crazy Mike's Video and steakhouses Stockman's and Stet's, to name a few.

Often those spaces don't stay empty for long, however, as a new group of entrepreneurs decide to take a gamble on opening up their dream business. UFO Gaming has

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## PENDLETON

# Love of literature and the call of the cattle barons

## At 96, Dorys Grover publishes fourth book

By KATHY ANEY  
East Oregonian

As a student in a one-room McKay Creek schoolhouse nearly nine decades ago, Dorys Grover recalls getting in trouble on purpose.

Her teacher would send her to the dreaded closet where naughty students went to ponder their wrongdoing.

"I spent a lot of time in the closet," Grover said. "I liked it because all the new books were there."

That reverence of the written word has stuck with her, and at age 96 she still fires up her laptop and writes every day.

The words add up. This fall, she released her fourth book, "Oregon

Pioneer Cattle Barons," after 10 years of writing and research. Now, she is working on a novel.

When she isn't writing, she reads. Books fill shelves, her nightstand and an entire closet.

Her interest in cattle and horses came naturally while growing up in a ranching family.

"I've always been interested in cattle," she said. "And I rode on horseback to school for eight years. Six miles in snow, rain or wind."

She might have soaked in some of her grandfather's pioneer spirit, too. Oliver Purl Bowman came as a baby by wagon train to Emigrant Springs in 1862. On 4,000 acres there and in the Tutuilla Creek area, Bowman raised cattle and sheep. He opened Pendleton's Bowman Hotel in the mid-1950s.



Pendleton author Dorys Grover, standing at the front gate of her family ranch near Pendleton, has penned a new book called "Oregon Pioneer Cattle Barons" about influential cattle ranchers in the state.

Staff photo by E.J. Harris

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