

# EAST OREGONIAN

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**PENDLETON**

## Officer shoots man near busy intersection

By PHIL WRIGHT  
East Oregonian

A Pendleton Police officer shot a man who ran from an altercation Wednesday night near Walmart.

Pendleton Police Chief Stuart Roberts said an ambulance took one victim to St. Anthony Hospital, Pendleton, and as far as he knew the shooting involved only one officer. No officers were injured. The officer, who was not immediately identified, is on an automatic 72-hour leave.

Roberts also said Oregon

State Police would handle the investigation.

Monte Ludington, Umatilla County deputy district attorney, went to the scene in place of District Attorney Dan Primus, who is at the Oregon District Attorneys Association conference in Glenden Beach.

The shooting occurred around 8:45 p.m., near the busy intersection of Southwest 20th Street and Court Avenue in Pendleton. Witnesses said a person ran from the Walmart parking lot to Southwest 20th, where an officer

shot the person. One witness said she saw the shooting but did not want to speak to a reporter. Other witnesses said they heard multiple shots, perhaps as many as seven.

Medical supplies remained in the middle of the street just north of the access road to Taco Bell and the nearby Walmart.

Pendleton police, the Umatilla County Sheriff's Office and Oregon State Police troopers all responded to the scene.

Please visit [www.eastoregonian.com](http://www.eastoregonian.com) for updates to this breaking news story.



Police officers stage near the scene of an officer involved shooting on Southwest 20th Street near the intersection of Court Avenue on Wednesday in Pendleton.

Staff photo by E.J. Harris



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Michael R. Johnson, vice-chairman of the General Council, is sworn in Wednesday along with other newly-elected officeholders at the Nixyaawii Governance Center in Mission.

## BOT, councils say 'I do'

### CTUIR members pack the house for swearing-in ceremony

By ANTONIO SIERRA  
East Oregonian

The audience spilled out into the lobby at the Nixyaawii Governance Center Wednesday to witness the swearing in of the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation Board of Trustees, the General Council and two youth councils.

Tribal Chief Judge William Johnson directed the members as they swore to uphold and protect the Treaty of 1855 between the federal government and the Walla Walla, Cayuse and Umatilla tribes and the CTUIR constitution.

Gary Burke will serve another term as board chairman and made a few remarks afterward. Burke said a

two-year term was too short to expect major changes, but he expected to begin seeing improvements.

"It takes time to make the plan right," he said.

Burke said the board needed support from the General Council and youth councils to explain some decisions to tribal members.

While Burke is a veteran of the

board, CTUIR voters installed a new person to lead the General Council — Willie Sigo IV.

Speaking in both Umatilla and English as Thomas Morning Owl translated, the former CTUIR Language Department employee said he put his whole heart into his

See CTUIR/8A

## Audit: OHA fails to detect improper payments

By CLAIRE WITHYCOMBE  
Capital Bureau

SALEM — Following news that the state may have improperly paid or allocated about \$186.4 million in Medicaid funds, a state audit has found that the Oregon Health Authority lacks sufficient processes to detect and prevent improper payments.

It also recommends possible fixes, saying that, among other findings, OHA should adopt certain best practices, improve data matching and integrity, and boost oversight of Medicaid providers.

The long-anticipated review was released Wednesday morning by the Oregon Secretary of State's Office, after months of negative news about the state health agency's handling of eligibility and payment issues in the Medicaid program.

Medicaid is a health care program for the poor and other qualifying groups, jointly funded by the state and federal government. Although the federal government shoulders much of the costs, it's up to the states to administer the program, which is used by 1 million Oregonians.

See OHA/8A

## Food processors air grievances at Cleaner Air Oregon



The Lamb Weston frozen potato facility at the Port of Morrow in Boardman in January 2015.

### State could add more regulations by July 2018

By GEORGE PAVEN  
East Oregonian

While few people attended Tuesday's public hearing in Pendleton about proposed regulations for industrial air polluters, one industry in particular was on hand to express its displeasure with Cleaner Air Oregon: food processing.

According to the state employment department, food processing makes up 6 percent of overall employment in Umatilla County and a whopping 28 percent in neighboring Morrow County. Food processors accounted for 3,426 jobs between the two counties in 2016, along with \$143 million in combined payroll.

But Craig Smith, director of government affairs for the Northwest Food Processors Association, said those companies face another layer of burdensome regulations under the Cleaner Air Oregon rules, spearheaded by Gov. Kate Brown to lower health risks posed by industrial air emissions.

"We don't like this rule at all," Smith said. "It's way too broad, and the cost of the program will be enormous for very little benefit."

Smith was one of 14 people who attended the hearing Tuesday at the Pendleton Public Library, and half of those were employees of the Oregon Health Authority and Department of Environmental Quality, which are working to develop the rules. Similar meetings were held Nov. 15 in Medford, Nov. 16 in Coos Bay and

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