

**SENKERIKOVA  
VOTED PLAYER  
OF THE YEAR**

**SPORTS/1B**



**CONGRESS  
AVERTS  
SHUTDOWN**

**NATION/6A**

**A tip of  
the hat to  
Pendleton  
Police 4A**

# EAST OREGONIAN

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 22, 2017

142nd Year, No. 47

WINNER OF THE 2017 ONPA GENERAL EXCELLENCE AWARD

One dollar

## Your Weekend



- J.D. Kindle, Saturday at Virgil's at Cimmiyotti's
- Save your bacon Sunday at the Arts Center
- Christmas Eve dinner at convention center

For times and places see Coming Events, 5A

Catch a movie



Frank Masi/Sony Pictures via AP  
Four high schoolers must beat a magic retro jungle video game to return to the real world in "Jumanji: Welcome to the Jungle."

For showtime, Page 5A  
For review, Weekend EO

### Weekend Weather

Fri	Sat	Sun
35/21	29/15	26/19

Watch a game



Umatilla vs. Nixyaawii  
Friday, 5:30 p.m.,  
at Nixyaawii

## UN denounces U.S. recognition of Jerusalem as Israeli capital

UNITED NATIONS (AP) — The U.N. General Assembly voted overwhelmingly Thursday to denounce President Donald Trump's recognition of Jerusalem as Israel's capital, largely ignoring Trump's threats to cut off aid to any country that went against him.

The nonbinding resolution declaring U.S. action on Jerusalem "null and void" was approved 128-9 — a victory for the Palestinians, but not as big as they predicted. Amid Washington's threats, 35 of the 193 U.N. member nations

See ISRAEL/8A

As the midterm elections approach next year, Umatilla County's largest political group will hold no primaries and field no candidates.

This group casts the widest of tents and houses a wide spectrum of political views, but it's more of a designation than a party.

By ANTONIO SIERRA  
East Oregonian

"Our generation is moving away from labels."

— Marin Kennedy, Pendleton High School Senior

According to Oregon Secretary of State data, 2017 marked the first year non-affiliated voters surpassed Republicans as the largest group of registered voters in Umatilla County. Non-affiliated voters had been the second largest group, moving past

Democrats in 2014.

In October, there were 15,909 non-affiliated voters, good for 38 percent plurality in the electorate.

The growth in the ranks among the non-affiliated was aided by Oregon's "motor voter" law, legis-

lation that automatically registered people to vote whenever they obtained or renewed their driving license.

Voters that were registered through this process were sent a card in the mail that would ask them which party they wanted to register with. If they didn't send the card

See POLITICS/3A

## Condon woman gets 23 months for killing three in crash



A May crash near Fossil that caused the death of three motorcycle riders and multiple injuries to others was ruled criminal by the Gilliam County District Attorney's Office.

Hit group of bikers on way to a rally in May

East Oregonian

The May crash in Wheeler County that claimed three lives was criminal, Sheriff Chris Humphreys and District Attorney Gretchen Ladd stated, in spite of what other law enforcement agencies found.

And Lisa Niehaus, 50, of Condon, will do 23 months in state prison for the crime.

Niehaus pleaded guilty Nov. 21 to three counts of fourth-degree assault, two counts of third-degree assault and three

counts of criminally negligent homicide. The judge sentenced her to 23 months in prison.

Ladd in a joint written statement with Humphreys called the case one of the most catastrophic in her career.

"The charging decision was a difficult one," according to Ladd. "Even the Oregon State Police and prosecutors at the Department of Justice are divided on whether this was a traffic ticket for careless driving or criminally negligent homicide. We believe now, as then, that this was a crime. Criminally negligent homicide requires prosecutors to prove in court

See CRASH/8A

