

Tribal board to look at resolution on cultural sites on depot land

East Oregonian

MISSION — The Board of Trustees for the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation will meet Monday to discuss a joint resolution with the Columbia Development Authority that could speed along the process of gaining control of former chemical depot land west of Hermiston.

Greg Smith, the executive director of the CDA, and others met with five trustees Tuesday asking for the CTUIR's help to convince the Army to finalize turning over the land. In its earliest iteration the CDA hoped to have the land under its control in 2015, but it has faced multiple delays for a variety of reasons.

One issue that has slowed the process is the presence of archaeological relics and sites on the property, including the Coyote Coulee, which was identified by the tribes as religiously significant. A lithic flake — a piece of stone chipped off by percussive force during the making of tools like arrowheads — was also discovered on site, as was a firepit and two sections of Oregon Trail ruins.

Smith said the CDA is

willing to do whatever is necessary to protect the cultural sites, including putting up fencing, allowing access to tribal members or even installing kiosks. He asked for direction from the BOT on how to proceed, as well as a co-signed letter in support of the project.

"If we have a joint resolution and take it to the Army, we have the support of our congressional delegation," Smith said. "We're 99.9 percent of the way there, we just need to put it in writing."

The CTUIR is one of five partners in the development authority, which also includes Umatilla and Morrow counties and ports.

Kathryn Brigham, the BOT secretary, said her main concern is protecting the cultural resources and keeping open communication with the CDA, though she expressed concern that the authority had unfairly blamed the tribes for slowing the process and hoped for more open conversation in the future.

She said the board would meet with staff Monday to get up to speed on the resolution, but declined to have another representative of the CDA present.

Hermiston DMV gearing up for move

HERMISTON — The Hermiston DMV office will close March 7-9 as it moves to a larger office nearby.

The new office is in the Hermiston Plaza at 810 S. Highway 395, and will have both a bigger lobby and more parking space.

The old office will close at 5 p.m. on March 6 and the new one will open at 8 a.m. March 12.

The DMV opened in its current location in 1981

with four counters to serve customers and added a fifth counter in 1999. Over the following two decades, the area's customer needs outgrew the office's lobby and parking lot capacity, according to a press release.

Customers can visit OregonDMV.com to find office hours and locations and renew your vehicle registration, file a change of address or file notice of the sale of your vehicle.

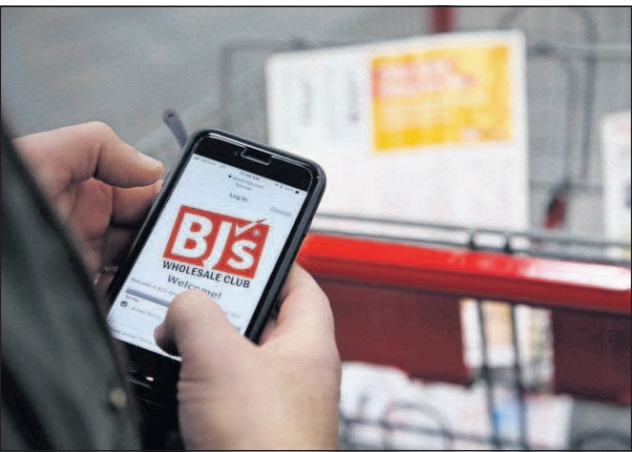
Stores make push in scan and go tech

NEW YORK (AP) — Shoppers at self-checkout lanes scanning all their groceries after they're done shopping? Old school. More stores are letting customer tally their choices with a phone app or store device as they roam the aisles.

For customers, scanning as they go can be faster and make it simpler to keep track of spending. For stores, the big expansion of this technology coming this year costs less than installing more self-checkouts.

Like many changes in retail, the expansion of scan-and-go comes from retailers trying to make store shopping more convenient and hang on to customers used to Amazon, which just opened a cashier-less store in Seattle. And like other automation technologies, it shifts more of the work to shoppers while freeing up employees for higher-value tasks. That's especially critical as stores look for ways to make their workers more efficient as they wrestle with rising wages.

The convenience of scan-



AP Photo/Stephan Savoia

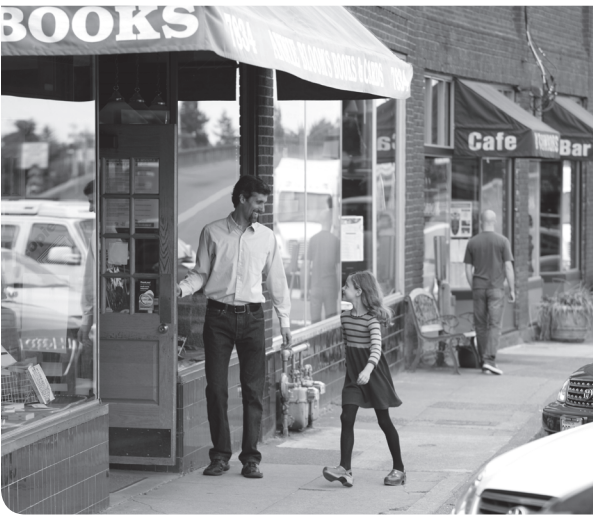
In this Tuesday, Feb. 13 photo Tony D'Angelo logs into the stores Wi-Fi to download the BJ's Express Scan app on his cell phone before beginning his shopping at the BJ's Wholesale Club in Northborough, Mass.

ning while she shops is what Kari Malinak likes. She just started using the technology at a Walmart in Fort Worth, Texas.

"I'm a persnickety shopper," Malinak said. "I can't stand it when they bag my produce. It gets all bruised. I like to have control. And I like the quick and easy aspect." She says she also likes the idea of having a running total of

spending as she shops.

The technology, while slightly different from chain to chain, allows shoppers at stores like Kroger and B.J.'s Wholesale Club to scan UPC codes on items as they shop. It can be used for lots of products beyond just groceries, and people change their minds about something, they can delete items and change quantities before they check out.



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Thank you Eastern Oregon, Morrow and Umatilla Counties and the East Oregonian for over 40 great years!

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