

# EAST OREGONIAN

FRIDAY, JUNE 1, 2018

142nd Year, No. 161

WINNER OF THE 2017 ONPA GENERAL EXCELLENCE AWARD

One dollar

## Your Weekend

- Old Iron Show at Roy Raley Park
- Umatilla County Pioneer Days in Weston
- Evan Egerer plays Saturday at Hamley's Steakhouse

For times and places see Coming Events, 3A

### Weekend Weather

Fri	Sat	Sun
74/49	82/56	85/51

Listen to a game

Listen to a game at [osaa.org](http://osaa.org)

- 2A softball state title Pilot Rock vs. Kennedy Friday at 1 p.m.
- 2A baseball state title Pilot Rock vs. Knappa Friday at 5 p.m.
- 5A softball state title Pendleton vs. Putnam Saturday at 10 a.m.

## STANFIELD

### Cops and bloggers

Police test creative tone with Facebook arrest report

By PHIL WRIGHT  
East Oregonian

The Stanfield Police Department received plenty of praise for its Facebook post accusing two suspects of breaking into cars and stealing cash and cell-phones. But the posting also drew accusations of taking an unprofessional and harsh tone.

The small town police department dropped the following post on its Facebook page Tuesday afternoon. The *East Oregonian* has not edited or altered the post.

"THE LONG ARM OF THE LAW reached out and grabbed him! Travis Landon (age 25) and his Hooligan accomplice decided to do some illegal shopping this weekend. (Also known as a vehicle prowl)

After getting into several cars, and taking cash and cell phones, this dynamic duo headed out of town. Little did they know the long

See BLOGGERS/8A

## HERMISTON

# EOT execs buy out business

Internet provider bought from Umatilla Electric

By JAYATI RAMAKRISHNAN  
East Oregonian

Umatilla Electric Cooperative announced Thursday that it has sold its subsidiary internet and phone provider, Eastern Oregon Telecom, to EOT company executives.

Joe Franell, EOT general manager and CEO, said the sale had been discussed for about four years, and that three executive officers



Franell

Officer Richard Holbo. A press release from UEC stated that the EOT executive team did business under the name Columbia Basin Development Group.

would share equal ownership of the company. The three officers are Franell, Chief Financial Officer Paul Keeler and Chief Operating

Franell said he could not discuss the terms of the sale, but said he hopes that it will eventually allow for all employees to have a stake in the company.

"Step one was to get ownership of the company," he said. "Our corporate attorney is looking at options for us."

The most formal option, he said, would be to form an "Employee Stock Option Program," or ESOP. Employee-owned companies such as Bi-Mart use this structure, he said. Other possibilities include allowing employees to pur-

chase stock options, or profit-sharing, which Franell said is not true ownership.

He said they have no set timeline for when employees will be able to have a stake in the company's ownership. He said when they do provide that option, the three current owners intend to remain equal partners.

Franell said the goal with taking over ownership of the company was to serve other areas not currently in the UEC footprint.

See EOT/8A

# END OF A CHAPTER



Kristi Smalley will be retiring after 36 years career with the Hermiston School District as a teacher and librarian in its elementary schools.

Hermiston librarian calls it a career

By JAYATI RAMAKRISHNAN  
East Oregonian

Kristi Smalley's first impression of Hermiston is not the one that has stuck with her.

Smalley will retire this June, after 36 years serving the Hermiston School District as a teacher and librarian for the elementary schools.

But she still remembers her initial reaction to finding out about a job opening in the town she has grown to love. It was August of 1982 and Smalley, then 21, was just out of college and applying to jobs in Colorado and Montana.

"My mom told me to apply for a job here," Smalley said. "I said, 'It smells like feedlots and that's where my dentist is.' That's what I equated Hermiston with."

But Smalley took the job, and two weeks later, was standing in front of a classroom full of first graders.

So began a long career working with kids, and handling the changes schools and libraries have seen in the past few decades.

As she prepares to step back, Smalley said retirement will require a mental shift.

"It was a hard decision to make," she said. "So much of my identity is 'I'm a teacher.' But I don't think you ever stop being a teacher. You just use that skill in a different way."

Smalley plans to use it doing the things she loves —

See LIBRARIAN/8A

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See BLOGGERS/8A

## PENDLETON

# Tonya's House director gets night in jail, must pay \$12K

MacGregor's crimes in late 2016 were the 'nail in the coffin' for nonprofit

By PHIL WRIGHT  
East Oregonian

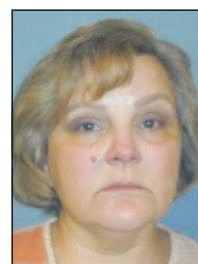
Shawn MacGregor showed up to circuit court Thursday to take a plea deal lacking any jail time after she bankrupted a Pendleton charity that helped teen

girls. She left in cuffs to spend one night behind bars.

MacGregor, 56, agreed to plead guilty to two counts of first-degree theft for stealing \$1,000 on two occasions from Tonya's House in late 2016. The nonprofit

provided temporary shelter and care for teen girls with no where else to go for 20 years, and closed last year.

MacGregor's attorney, Cameron Bendixsen of Hermiston, told Judge Lieuallen the deal called for her to serve



MacGregor

two years of probation, including 100 hours of community service per charge, take theft counseling, write a letter of apology to the Tonya's House board and pay \$12,029.30 in restitution. In exchange, the Umatilla County District

Attorney's Office agreed to dismiss seven more theft charges against MacGregor, including first-degree aggravated theft.

First-degree theft is a class C felony that carries a maximum penalty of five years in prison and \$125,000 fine. The plea deal includes a provision

See MACGREGOR/8A



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