

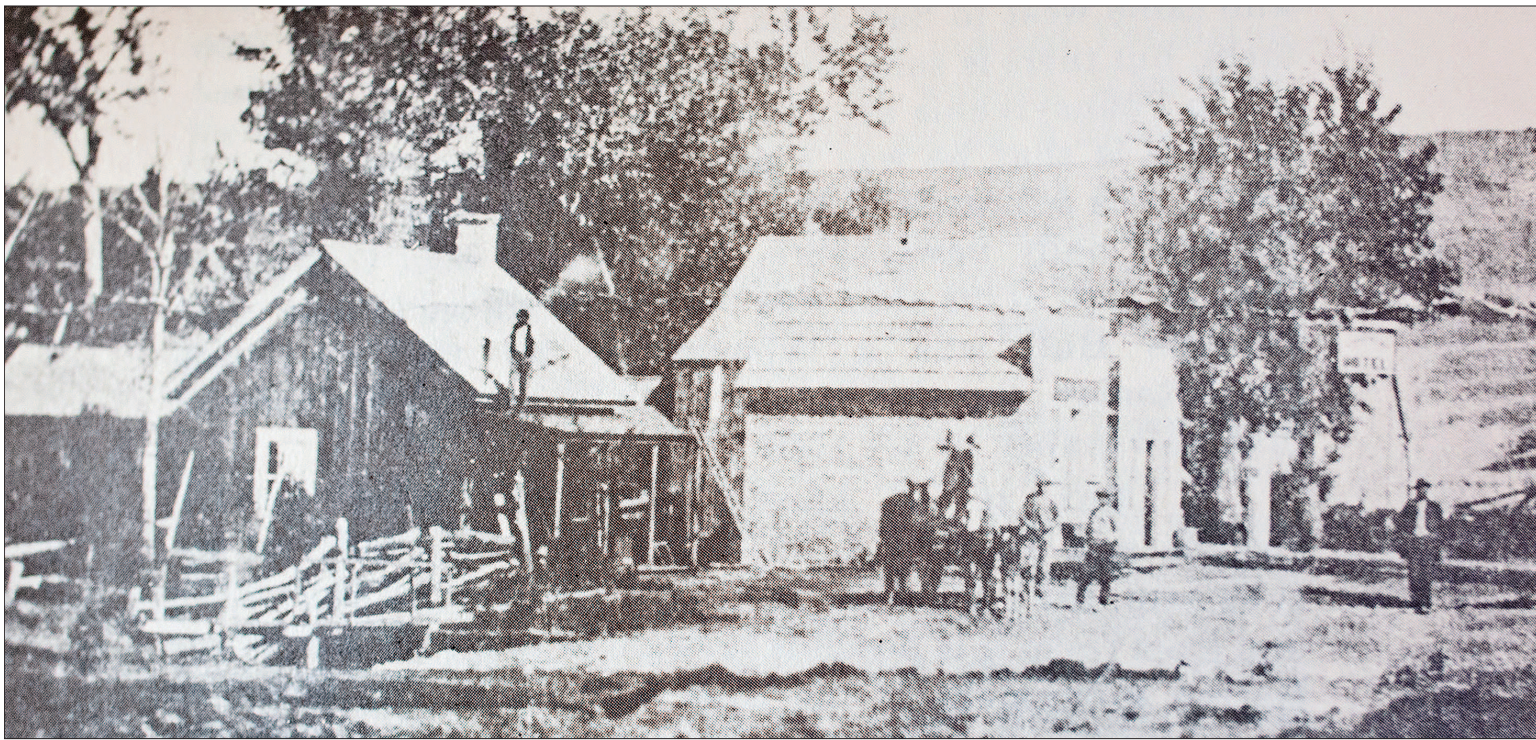
EAST OREGONIAN

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WINNER OF THE 2020 ONPA GENERAL EXCELLENCE AWARD

\$1.50



Oregon Historical Society/Contributed Photo

This 1869 photo shows the Goodwin Hotel at right and the home of Lot Livermore on the left. The man standing to the far right is believed to be Moses Goodwin. The hotel stood just south of Goodwin's toll bridge across the Umatilla River.

Legislative redistricting hearings set this week

Salem moving ahead despite no maps, no data and uncertain future

By GARY A. WARNER
Oregon Capital Bureau

SALEM — Despite no redistricting maps or data to show voters, the Oregon Legislature is moving ahead this week with hearings on plans for redrawing 2020 political districts.

Ten hearings are planned, two for each congressional district. First up is the 1st Congressional District in Northwest Oregon on Tuesday, March 9, then the 2nd Congressional District that covers all of Oregon east of the Cascades on Wednesday, March 10.

The COVID-19 pandemic has upended the once-a-decade redrawing of legislative and congressional districts. The U.S. Census Bureau has said the pandemic made collection of population data difficult or impossible at times.

The data was required by federal law to be sent to the states by April 1 to begin drawing maps. Now it will not arrive until Sept. 30.

The unprecedented delay has set off a constitutional crisis in Oregon and at least 23 other states.

The autumn delivery date will be well beyond all of Oregon's constitutional and statutory deadlines for submitting maps. Both the Legislature and the Secretary of State, which have authority to draw maps at different points during the usual process, are shut out by the drawn-out timeline.

The fate of 60 House, 30 Senate and five or six congressional districts

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A CASE OF SERENDIPITY

Gift of land from Moses Goodwin marks the beginning of Pendleton community

By KATHY ANEY
East Oregonian

PENDLETON — Happy 200th birthday, Moses Goodwin.

Pendletonians might remember Goodwin as the man who gave Pendleton its beginning by deeding 2.5 acres as a townsite in 1868.

Goodwin might never even have settled in the area if not for a bit of serendipity.

According to an account by late Athena historian and author Mildred Searcey, a grizzled Goodwin, his wife, Aura, and two children were headed to Idaho by wagon when they stopped for the night near the Umatilla River.

This was just another leg in the Goodwin's life journey. They had traveled to the West on the Oregon Trail to Vancouver where they had farmed and operated a hotel, but frightened by conflicts with Indians, the couple headed to Idaho. On the way, they stopped at Abram Miller's sod-roofed cabin looking for a night's rest. Abram and Nancy Miller invited them inside for a meal. During the evening, Miller told Goodwin he was unhappy with his place. When Goodwin offered a pair of matched mules for the 160 acres, Miller accepted.

The cabin, sitting on the corner of present-day Main Street and Court Avenue, was known as Goodwin Station.

"It wasn't long before Goodwin's place became known as the Cat Ranch," wrote Searcey. "It was said that it was not unusual to see 20 or 30 cats, all tame, and all with pet names, following 'Uncle Mosey' about the premises."

Besides his fondness for felines, various accounts paint Goodwin as a man with a head for business, as well as a well-honed taste for liquor. He and Aura opened a hotel just south of the Umatilla River on Main

"As Mayor of Pendleton I feel a direct connection to the man who founded Pendleton, Moses Goodwin. So I thank him for this legacy and feel honored to follow in his footsteps as we celebrate his 200th birthday."

— Pendleton Mayor John Turner, who proclaimed Goodwin's birthday, Feb. 15, 2021, as Moses Goodwin Day

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Kathy Aney/East Oregonian

Moses Goodwin, who died at age 49, is buried at Olney Cemetery.

EOU freezes undergrad tuition for 2021-22

East Oregonian

LA GRANDE — Eastern Oregon University announced it will not raise tuition for current undergraduate students in 2021-22.

The EOU Board of Trustees in a special meeting on Friday, March 5, voted unanimously in favor of holding tuition flat for all returning undergraduate students, on-campus and online, the university reported in a press release. Trustees will vote on graduate tuition rates when they reconvene in May for the board's regular meeting.

"This is something we can do for our students hardest hit by the pandemic," said EOU President Tom Insko. "As Oregon's Rural University, meeting students where they are is core to our mission and particularly this year we need to do all we can to carry out that mission and make higher education as affordable as possible."

The decision came earlier than typical tuition announcements, Insko said, to provide greater certainty for students and an extended opportunity for prospective students to make an informed decision. National trends show many students spending more time deciding whether to invest in higher education as the COVID-19 pandemic stretches into its second year.

Nearly two-thirds of EOU students are from low-income households, identify as ethnically

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Retirement marks end of era for CUJ

Longtime editor Wil Phinney steps down after spending 46 years in the industry

By ANTONIO SIERRA
East Oregonian

PENDLETON — Looking back at his career, Wil Phinney tends not to think of himself as a journalist or reporter.

Instead, he prefers a far more old-fashioned title: newspaperman.

For 46 years, Phinney helped put out a newspaper on a regular basis, the last 24 at the *Confederated Umatilla Journal*. In December 2020, he put out his last.

Phinney, 64, said he had been trying to retire for a while, but the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation, the owner of

"I TOLD THEM ALL TO GET NEWSPAPER WORK OUT OF THEIR SYSTEMS, BUT I'M ENCOURAGED THAT THEY STILL READ THE NEWS."

— Wil Phinney, about his three daughters



Ben Lonergan/East Oregonian

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