



Oxbow Trail
arch dedicated
REGION/3A



CARDENAS
LEADS THE PACK
CROSS COUNTRY/1B

EAST OREGONIAN

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2015

140th Year, No. 1 WINNER OF THE 2015 ONPA GENERAL EXCELLENCE AWARD One dollar

Your Weekend



- Pendleton Oktoberfest at the Round-Up Grounds
- Arlington Oktoberfest in downtown Arlington
- Grilin' for Grants dinner and auction, Saturday

For times and places see Coming Events, 6A

Catch a movie



Tom Hanks stars in the Steven Spielberg Cold War thriller, "Bridge of Spies."

For showtime, Page 5A
For review, Weekend EO

Weekend Weather

Fri	Sat	Sun
72/46	68/53	67/51

Watch a game

vs.

Hepner vs. Stanfield
Friday, 7 p.m., at Stanfield

U.S. troops to stay in Afghanistan into 2017

WASHINGTON (AP) — When President Barack Obama leaves office in 15 months, he'll hand his successor military conflicts in the two countries where he promised to end prolonged war: Afghanistan and Iraq.

There will be far fewer troops in each, and the American forces won't have a direct combat role. But for Obama, it's nevertheless a frustrating end to a quest that was central to his political rise.

"As you are all well aware, I do not support the idea of endless war," Obama said Thursday as he announced

See TROOPS/8A

Water the next hurdle for depot development

By JADE MCDOWELL
East Oregonian

Negotiations for water rights are the next hurdle the Columbia Development Authority is facing in the process to transfer the former Umatilla Chemical Depot land from the U.S. Army to the local reuse

authority.

Greg Smith, executive director of the development authority, told the board that the Army's Base Realignment and Closure staff have proposed giving the authority the use of two wells, totaling about 25 percent of the site's water capacity.

"That is not going to get us where

we want to be," he said.

Smith said he had expected an offer closer to 50 percent, based on a water study indicating that amount would not encroach on the National Guard's water needs for its portion of the depot land. He told the board he thanked the BRAC office for opening the conversation about

water but was firm that the two wells would not be enough to make it worthwhile for the reuse authority to take the land off of the federal government's hands.

"You've made it very clear to me that we want to be very professional

See DEPOT/8A



First-graders in teacher Bob Veitenheimer's classroom take cover underneath their desks while simulating what to do in an earthquake Thursday, while taking part in the Great Oregon ShakeOut earthquake drill at Grove Elementary School in Milton-Freewater.

Drop, cover and hold on

Oregonians prepare for the big one during ShakeOut earthquake drill

By KATHY ANEY
East Oregonian

Sliding tectonic plates will eventually wreak havoc on much of Oregon.

The Pacific Ocean floor moves steadily eastward along a 600-mile fault line called the Cascadia subduction zone. Earthquake experts say the big one will undoubtedly happen

"This will affect Oregon, California, Washington, Alaska and Hawaii. They will feel it in Idaho. The impacts are mind-boggling."

— Althea Rizzo, Geologic Hazards Coordinator

sometime — most likely in the next 50 years. The coming quake will trigger landslides, the collapse of bridges and buildings and a tsunami.

Telecommunications, energy, transportation and water systems will be disrupted. Thousands will die. The economy will take a \$32 billion hit.

When, not if, say the creators of the Oregon Resiliency Plan — a blueprint on how to prepare for the expected quake. Oregonians are starting to accept the likelihood of such a disaster. More than 530,000 state residents participated in Thursday's Great Oregon ShakeOut earthquake drill, compared with 390,000

See QUAKE/7A

PENDLETON

Public input requested to update transportation plan

By ANTONIO SIERRA
East Oregonian

Pendleton city officials and their consultants already have some ideas regarding how to update the city's transportation service plan, but they want public input before choosing which direction to go.

The city held its first open house for the update Wednesday, which was preceded by a committee meeting earlier in the day.

All of these meetings

are in service of updating the plan, with a focus on improving pedestrian, cyclist and transit accessibility.

Consultants fleshed out their ideas during the committee meeting, especially in the area of public transit.

Stephanie Wright, a senior associate with transportation consultant Nelson/Nygaard, provided information on the current state of Pendleton public transportation system — a hodgepodge of services shared by the city and the

Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation.

In addition to covering five counties and 14 cities in Eastern Oregon and Washington, Kayak Public Transit has several fixed routes that run through Pendleton.

While Pendleton's downtown is well covered, residential areas like North Hill and South Hill are virtually unreachable. Additionally, significant destinations like Blue Mountain Community

See TRANSIT/7A

HEPPNER

Bonds floated for new fire hall

Cost estimated at less than \$1M

By GEORGE PLAVERN
East Oregonian

Voters will soon decide whether to pay for a new \$975,000 fire hall in Heppner to serve both the city and the Heppner Rural Fire Protection District.

The proposed new station would be built just outside city limits at Highway 74 and Fuller Canyon Road, and would more than double the size of the current building.

But first, residents of both the city and outlying rural protection district must pass respective bond measures funding the project. City taxpayers would foot 60 percent of the bill, or \$585,000, and district taxpayers would cover the remaining 40 percent, or \$390,000.

See BOND/7A

