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EAST OREGONIAN

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140th Year, No. 8

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HERMISTON

City gives EOTEC \$600K

By JADE MCDOWELL
East Oregonian

The Hermiston city council agreed to give the Eastern Oregon Trade and Event Center \$600,000 Monday, on the condition that a city administrator be given a seat on the project's board.

The contribution is the first step in the EOTEC board's plan to fill a \$2.2 million budget shortfall. The board also plans to ask the

Umatilla County Board of Commissioners for \$600,000 and board member Dan Dorran said local hoteliers were willing to contribute \$1 million if the city and county stepped forward. The hotelier money would be raised through a city-sponsored revenue bond that would be paid back by the hoteliers at a rate of approximately \$100,000 a year.

The city's decision came after two hours of discussion

in which councilors expressed support for EOTEC but also questioned how the project had ended up behind the previously announced 2016 completion date and more than \$2 million short.

Doug Smith said original talk of a \$30 million or more project completed in time for the 2016 county fair came across as just hype.

"I hate to say it but I feel the results so far have been kind of dismal," he said. "What do

we have? A half-constructed building and pipes."

Other councilors asked the board why certain problems hadn't been addressed sooner and why there had not been more work to bring in money from private donations and sponsorships.

Dorran said that he took "100 percent responsibility" for encouraging the board to go with a process where

See EOTEC/7A



Staff photo by Gary L. West

John Frew, CEO of Frew Development, talks about the Eastern Oregon Trade and Event Center during a joint work session between the Hermiston City Council and the EOTEC authority board. Next to Frew (left to right) are EOTEC board member David Bothum, vice chairman Dan Dorran and chairman Ed Brookshier.



Staff photo by E.J. Harris

OHSU nursing student Robert Gillespie of La Grande gives a seasonal flu shot to Jacob Markgraf of Pendleton at a drive-through flu shot clinic Monday in Pendleton.

Drive-through clinic



Staff photo by E.J. Harris

OHSU nursing student Robert Gillespie of La Grande leans into Christie Elder's car at a drive-through flu shot clinic Monday in Pendleton.

Free flu shots attract 800

By KATHY ANEY
East Oregonian

People in this drive-through lane didn't get spiced lattes or French fries. They received something that might be even better: A hedge against the annual misery of coughing, sneezing, body aches and chills.

Hundreds of people got flu shots Monday from the comfort of their cars.

A line of vehicles snaked around the Pendleton Convention Center parking lot at 7 a.m. when St. Anthony

"We haven't yet gotten into the thick of flu season. We'll have to wait and see if they got it right this year."

— Mike Rickman, director of Pharmacy Services at St. Anthony

Hospital's first drive-through flu shot clinic. Motorists navigated through a trio of stations, getting a clipboard and information sheet at the first and dropping off the

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West meets east during legislative excursion

Hansell stresses importance of rural, conservative side of state

By GEORGE PLAVERN
East Oregonian

Bill Hansell didn't mince words when emphasizing the importance of bringing five democratic lawmakers from western Oregon to the state's more rural, conservative east side.

"This could be historic," said Hansell, the local Republican senator from Athena. "It's very important they see what we're trying to do here."

Hansell, along with Rep. Greg Barreto, R-Cove, invited their legislative colleagues from across the political aisle over for a field trip Monday to Hermiston and Boardman, where they toured Stahl Farms, the former Umatilla Chemical Depot and Port of Morrow. The goal, Hansell said, was to give them a firsthand look at the region and better understanding of how they can help the natural resources-based economy grow.

"I want them to see the potential of what we can do and how we can do it," Hansell said. "Agriculture is key, but it spins off into all the supporting industries."

Five legislators flew in Monday morning to the Hermiston Municipal Airport, including: Senate Majority Leader Ginny Burdick, D-Portland; Sen. Betsy Johnson, D-Scappoose; Sen. Chris Edwards, D-Eugene and chairman of the Senate Environment and Natural Resources Committee; Sen. Lee Beyer, D-Springfield; and Rep. Caddy McKeown, D-Coos Bay.



Hansell



Barreto

See EAST/8A

PENDLETON

SUV topples historic windmill

Originally located in Thorn Hollow

By PHIL WRIGHT
East Oregonian

An errant driver Sunday in Pendleton took out a windmill that has stood for more than 100 years.

The man who brought the windmill to the museum, though, said he was hopeful it could rise again.

The windmill was an iconic

30-foot-tall, 6,000-pound feature of the Umatilla County Historical Society's Heritage Station Museum, 108 S.W. Frazer Ave. Society executive director Barbara Lund-Jones called the loss of the windmill a blow to the museum's very identity. The society uses the image of the museum and windmill on its letterhead and business cards.

Pendleton police Chief Stuart Roberts in an email

See WINDMILL/7A



Staff photo by E.J. Harris

A driver crashed through the fence and into a windmill topping the structure Sunday at the Umatilla County Historical Society's Heritage Station in Pendleton.

