

CLINIC: Took 10 or 15 minutes to get through line

Continued from 1A

filled-out form at a second. They then drove to one of four locations, where nurses administered shots.

It was just a prick, but putting the vehicle in park was advisable.

Flu season generally starts in October, peaks in January and dwindles in March or April. This year's quadrivalent vaccine protects against four strains of the flu virus, including two type A and two type B strains.

St. Anthony Infection Prevention Nurse Tracy Wart, who oversaw planning of the event, manned one of the stations on Monday at the convention center. Though the hospital has provided free flu shots for years, this was the first drive-through clinic. Wart and a couple of others traveled to La Grande to attend an Oregon Health Authority conference on mass vaccines.

"They talked about drive-through clinics," Wart said. "We'd heard about them. Walla Walla has done it this way for a couple of years."

She said the team started Monday with about 2,100 doses. By 10 a.m., almost 500 were gone. By close at 2 p.m., more than 800 doses had been administered. The rest of the stockpile remains for Tuesday's clinic which

runs from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.

At one of the stations, St. Anthony nurse Chloe Rossi and two nursing students, Isela Garcia and Monica Lemus, got mostly happy feedback from their stream of patients on wheels.

"They didn't have to walk through the hospital," Rossi said. "They could stay in their warm car."

The nurses stayed near a small propane heater between customers. They sipped coffee supplied by a couple coworkers on a side-by-side who refilled urns at nearby Dairy Queen.

The vehicles took about 10 or 15 minutes, depending on the traffic, to navigate the line. During the early rush, it might have taken a little longer. The team of 15 or so workers was gratified to see so many vehicles gathering before sunrise.

"They just kept coming," Garcia said.

Next year, the flu shot crew will likely tweak the system a bit. Additional signage might make the process more streamlined. More than a few people parked their cars and walked over to one of the shot stations, not realizing they could have stayed in their vehicles. Some entered and exited at the wrong places. The glitches, however, seemed slight.

Brad and Brooke Ward drove up about 10:15 in their red Ford Explorer. A nurse went to each window, rubbed alcohol on their exposed arms and injected the vaccine.

"I like this," Brooke said. "It's easy. You drive up and you're done."

Carolyn Rhinhart, of Lifeways, chauffeured an Uplander containing several clients from a residential treatment facility. A couple clambered out for easier access.

"It was quick and easy," Rhinhart said after her shot. "And it didn't hurt."

In another vehicle, Jacob Markgraf said he doesn't usually get a flu shot. This year, he had his young daughter on his mind and was taking precautions.

"She's only eight months old," he said.

He offered his arm with a slight grimace as the needle penetrated.

The free flu shots were available to people aged 18 or older.

Time will tell whether getting a flu shot will pay off. Mike Rickman, director of Pharmacy Services at St. Anthony, is waiting with the rest of us to gauge the effectiveness of this year's vaccine. Last year's version, only 19 percent effective, proved a poor match for a

new strain of H3N2 that emerged and circulated.

Dr. Thomas Frieden, director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, recently said, that "so far, the strains in this year's vaccine seem likely to match."

The dominant strains are identified each year by the World Health Organization. This year's vaccine contains H3N2 as one of the strains.

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

In addition to a regular vaccine, the drive-through clinic has high-dose variety on hand for people 65 and older if they wish.

"This is four times the dose of flu antigens than the regular flu vaccine," Rickman said. "There is a better immune response to the higher dose vaccine in the older population."

Those most at risk for sometimes-fatal complications of flu are people 65 and older or younger than five, pregnant women, the morbidly obese and those with long-term conditions such as asthma, diabetes and chronic heart disease.

Contact Kathy Aney at kaney@eastoregonian.com or call 541-966-0810.

EOTEC: City council wants monthly updates from the board

Continued from 1A

contractors helped design the project along the way, instead of bidding on a fully-designed project. The process is meant to address situations like EOTEC's where money was still coming in as the project got underway. But he said it had also caused problems.

It was hard to solicit donations without being able to show potential donors a comprehensive breakdown of costs. And it meant some problems popped up late. Once the board delved into all of the regulations and building codes for the livestock barns, for example, it pushed the cost up from \$14 a square foot to \$25 a square foot, which explained why the handout distributed at the meeting showed \$500,000 budgeted for the barns but \$1,375,000 needed to complete Phase I.

John Frew, CEO of project manager Frew Development Group, said EOTEC would still be completed next year if the additional \$2.2 million wasn't raised but many items, especially the rodeo arena, would not be up to the public's expectation of quality or size.

"There's not enough in the bank to finish those the way that was expected. So you either cut or find more money," he said.

Dennis Doherty, a former member of the EOTEC board, told the council that there was no stopping EOTEC at this point.

"What it boils down to is do you want to build a second-class facility or a first-class facility?" he asked.

He said it was important to remember that a one-time contribution to construction could help the project bring in more revenue, reducing the city's contribution to operating costs each year.

"If you build something that is shoddy, people aren't going to pay to rent your facility and they're not going to pay to come through the gate if they're not happy with what's there," he said.

City councilor John Kirwan said the feedback he had gotten suggested many in the community did not have faith in the EOTEC board to complete the project. He said if he was going to feel comfortable giving the board \$600,000 he wanted there to be more accountability to the city, including monthly updates to city council. The inter-governmental agreement forming EOTEC stated that the city could appoint a member of the EOTEC board and he said he would like to see someone volunteer to step down and allow city manager Byron Smith or assistant manager Mark Morgan to fill the role.

Board chair Ed Brookshier, who started out his time on the board as city manager, said his term was up at the end of the year and if he needed to step aside in order for the project to get the funding he was willing to do that.

City manager Byron Smith told the council that since more than \$8 million has been contributed by the state, he saw the \$600,000 as an appropriate local match. He said due to "wise decisions in the past" there were enough reserves in the city coffers to make it work.

"I think there are sufficient funds ... to meet the needs of this project," he said.

Mayor David Drotzmann described the money as a "small price to pay" for bringing a top-quality facility to Hermiston that would benefit the community and the county.

The council will have to approve a formal budget amendment at a later meeting, but after Kirwan made a motion to approve a \$600,000 contribution to EOTEC on condition of having a city administrator on the board, the council voted unanimously to pledge the money to EOTEC.

Contact Jade McDowell at jmcdowell@eastoregonian.com or 541-564-4536.

WINDMILL: Value estimated at a minimum of \$50,000

Continued from 1A

said an officer received a call Sunday at 1:29 p.m. to respond to a crash at Heritage Station. Police call logs show the driver who hit the windmill made the 9-1-1 call and claimed he may have fallen asleep at the wheel.

Roberts said the officer arrived and found Pendleton resident Gregory Booth, 67, drove his 1997 Ford Explorer through the fence on the west end of the Heritage Museum property adjacent to Southwest Frazer Avenue. The vehicle smashed into at least two of the windmill's four galvanized steel support beams. The windmill toppled, and its 12-foot-diameter fan of blades landed on the nearby display of an old barn.

"Booth was determined not to be impaired by drugs or alcoholic beverage before being cited for the misdemeanor offense of reckless driving," according to Roberts.

A tow company hauled away the Ford, but a side

mirror, a head lamp, other car parts remained at the site Monday, along with the bent and broken metal of the windmill. Bits of windshield glass crunched underfoot on the asphalt. Lund-Jones said she is waiting for an insurance appraiser to check out the scene before any cleanup, but knows the windmill has to come off the barn's roof for safety's sake.

Bob Byer of Pendleton said he helped deliver the windmill to Heritage Station in 1996 from its original location in Thorn Hollow. Byer said he was an engineer back then for Pendleton Grain Growers. Bringing the windmill to Pendleton required cutting about 10 feet from the support beams, he said, then hauling the structure in one piece.

He surveyed the wreckage Monday afternoon with Lund-Jones and said the fan could be repaired and the unique wooden water tank looked to be OK. Much of the warped steel could be straightened, though a good 10-12 feet of the legs would

have to go.

Such a short windmill, though, Lund-Jones said, would not be nearly so pleasing.

Byer said the railroad put up the windmill for its on-site employees around 100 years ago. Support beams show the letters O.W.R. & N. Co., for the Oregon-Washington Railroad and Navigation Company, which operated from 1910 until Union Pacific Railroad took over in 1936. Byer said the railroad later relinquished the windmill to the city of Pendleton, and in the mid-1990s the city donated the structure to

the historical society.

Byer pegged the value of the windmill at a minimum of \$50,000 and said he doubted there was another like it anywhere in the area. He said he always liked seeing the windmill at the museum and felt proud of the accomplishment to relocate it.

Lund-Jones said the historical society will have to wait for what the insurance company determines.

"For us, it's a huge loss," she said.

Contact Phil Wright at pwright@eastoregonian.com or 541-966-0833.

HEALTHY FRIDAYS
Free health screenings: blood pressure checks, weigh ins, body mass index, cholesterol and glucose.
Every Third Friday of the Month
November 20 • 9:00 - 11:00am
GSMC Education Department

EARLY PREGNANCY
One FREE class focusing on the first six months of pregnancy. Healthcare professional speakers will provide presentations on topics that include medication use, exercise, diet, breastfeeding and many other helpful subjects. Free, but please pre-register.
November 5 • 6:30-8:30pm
GSMC Conference Room Center 2

BIRTHING CLASSES
Two-day course to prepare each mother and birth partner for a knowledgeable, rewarding and sharing childbirth experience.
November 6 & 7
Friday: 6:30 - 8:30 pm,
Saturday: 9:30 am - 3 pm
GSMC Conference Room

BABYSITTING BASICS 101
For babysitters ages 10-15. Learn childcare techniques, children's developmental ages and what to expect, basic first aid and infant and child CPR.
November 21 • 9:00am - 3:00pm
GSMC Conference Room
\$30 - includes lunch & all class materials.
Must pre-register & pre-pay.

BREASTFEEDING CLASSES
One class covers breastfeeding benefits, pumping and much more. Come to this FREE class taught by a certified lactation consultant, and learn techniques that make for a successful experience. Free, but please pre-register.
November 4 • 12:00pm - 1:30pm
GSMC Conference Center 3 & 4

Working every day to promote a healthy community
GOOD SHEPHERD
HEALTH CARE SYSTEM
Education and Wellness Services 667-3509
For information or to register for a class, call (541) 667-3509 or email healthinfo@gshealth.org

Meet Your Cancer Crushing Team

Your Tri-Cities Cancer Center has invested in the latest radiation technology: the Edge™ radiosurgery system from Varian.

Sue Mandell, MD
Medical Director
Radiation Oncologist

Juno Choe, MD, PhD
Radiation Oncologist

Guy Jones, MD
Radiation Oncologist

TRI-CITIES Cancer Center Saving Lives Everyday...
7350 W. Deschutes Ave.
Kennewick, WA
(509) 783-9894 | tccancer.org

GRILLIN' FOR GRANTS
Thank You!
A big thank you to the community and our sponsors!

EDUCATION FOUNDATION OF PENDLETON
30th Anniversary 1985 - 2015

Tires LES SCHWAB
CHI St. Anthony Hospital
Gordon's ELECTRIC, INC. ELECTRICAL • COMMERCIAL RESIDENTIAL • INDUSTRIAL
Pediatric Specialists of Pendleton, LLC
WENAHU GROUP
WHEATLAND
EAST OREGONIAN ARCHITECTS

Jim & Karen Kullnat
Dr. Andrew Bower

www.educationfoundationofpendleton.org