

Teen contracts  
bubonic plague  
REGION/3A



**RYAN BECOMES  
54TH SPEAKER  
NATION/8A**



**WAR ON 84  
PREVIEW  
FOOTBALL/1B**

# EAST OREGONIAN

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 30, 2015

140 Year, No. 11

WINNER OF THE 2015 ONPA GENERAL EXCELLENCE AWARD

One dollar

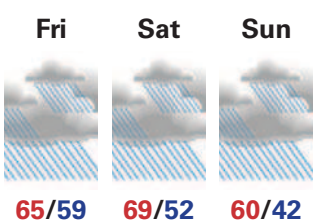
## Your Weekend



- **Halloween parties and trick-or-treating**
- **"Nosferatu" at the Vert Auditorium, Friday**
- **Fall Festival, Sunday, at Hermiston Jr. Academy**

For times and places see **Coming Events, 6A**

## Weekend Weather



## Watch a game



**Hermiston vs. Pendleton**  
Friday, 7 p.m., at Pendleton Round-Up Grounds

## Journalist sues Baker City police

Pendleton court  
will hear lawsuit

By **ANTONIO SIERRA**  
East Oregonian

A journalist filed a lawsuit against the Baker City Police Department at the U.S. District Court in Pendleton Thursday, alleging the police chief and his officers retaliated against him after he wrote an editorial critical of the department.

According to a complaint filed by Portland law firm Sussman Shank on behalf of the plaintiff, the police department continually harassed former (Baker City) Record-Courier reporter Brian Addison and provided false information that led to his dismissal from a job he took after he left the newspaper.

Central to a lawsuit is an editorial Addison wrote on March 6, 2008 entitled "How About a Favorable Interpretation of the 4th Amendment?"

In a copy of the op-ed included with the complaint,

See **LAWSUIT/8A**

## ODFW backs delisting wolves

Less than one percent chance species would go extinct over next 50 years

By **GEORGE PLAVERN**  
East Oregonian

Oregon's wolf population has recovered to the point where it no longer needs protection under the state endangered species act, according to Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife.

In a staff report released

Thursday, the organization recommends the Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission remove gray wolves from the state endangered species list Nov. 9 when the commission meets in Salem.

Eastern Oregon ranchers have anticipated delisting wolves for months, though environmental advocates say the agency's recom-

mendation isn't supported by science, law or public opinion.

ODFW's own staff scientists say the wolf population should continue to grow steadily, and there is less than a 1 percent chance the species would go extinct over the next 50 years. There are at least 81 wolves and 16 groups or packs located throughout the state.

However, environmental groups argue the findings are based on flawed modeling and have not been reviewed by an outside independent scientific panel as required by law.

Amaroq Weiss, West Coast wolf organizer with the Center for Biological Diversity, said the ODFW analysis paints an overly optimistic picture of wolf survival into the future without endangered

See **WOLVES/8A**

## Where do the children play?



**35%**

Hermiston residents under age of 20

**26%**

Oregon residents under age of 20

**200**

Increase in students in school district

**\$300K**

Money set aside for park improvements, eventual skate park

A group of teens hang out in the gazebo in McKenzie Park after school in May in Hermiston.

EO file photo

## Young population drives growing need for programs

By **JADE MCDOWELL**  
East Oregonian

The rest of the country may be worried about a "silver tsunami" of aging Baby Boomers. But in Hermiston, it's a flood of young people who are stretching some resources to the limit.

Thirty five percent of Hermiston's population is under the age of 20, far outpacing the state average of 26 percent, according to data compiled for the city's new Livable Hermiston committee. The group has been tasked with prioritizing a list of livability projects for the city to work on. And teenagers in town say Hermiston's adults should pay attention to the needs of its younger population.

"Usually they just try to tell us 'Oh, there's school activities,' but that's not enough," Hermiston High School senior Cynthia Macias said.

Macias said she would like to see some sort of youth center or other "hangout" place for teenagers in Hermiston. Her friends agreed, noting that now teenagers congregate at parks, the

**"At the bowling alley there's always adults there, too, so it's awkward."**

— **Sara Ortiz**, sophomore at Hermiston High School

movie theater or bowling alley, even though the parks are weather-dependent and movies can get expensive.

"At the bowling alley there's always adults there, too, so it's awkward," sophomore Sara Ortiz said.

Other suggestions were an indoor pool, more sports fields and a trampoline center.

Hermiston has increased funding for its Parks and Recreation department in recent years. For the current fiscal year, the city set aside nearly \$300,000 for park improvements and eventual construction of a skate park.

Parks and Recreation director Larry

See **YOUNG/10A**



Staff photo by Kathy Aney

**Cory Bowe, 10, and Jantzen Wrathall, 12, practice lines Wednesday for Hermiston Park and Recreation's "The Little Town of Christmas." The young cast will perform on Dec. 10 and 11 at Armand Larive Middle School.**

## HERMISTON

## Woman dies after wreck on Highway 395



Staff photo by Sean Hart

**Hermiston Fire & Emergency Services personnel extricate Jacelyn Black, 36 from a vehicle involved in a wreck at the intersection of Highway 395 and Baggett Lane north of Hermiston Oct. 19. Black died Oct. 25 from her injuries.**

Traffic volume down north of Hermiston, but number of crashes remains steady

By **SEAN HART**  
East Oregonian

A stretch of Highway 395 that was once a designated safety corridor claimed another life this week. And another person remains in serious condition after an Oct. 19 collision north of Hermiston.

Jacelyn Loyce Black, 36, Hermiston, died Oct. 25 in Richland. She was the passenger in a 2003 Honda Civic driven by Jami Lynne Masters, 52, Boardman, who remains in serious condition after being transported by air ambulance to Kadlec Regional

Medical Center in Richland. Masters was a caregiver with the Eastern Oregon Support Services Brokerage who provided support to Black, who had Down syndrome.

While traveling south on Highway 395, their vehicle collided with a 2010 Toyota Scion driven by Elizabeth Cervantes, 22, Hermiston, who attempted to turn left onto Baggett Lane, Oregon State Police Sgt. Seth Cooney said. Cervantes was also transported to a hospital by ambulance.

Almost exactly one week later — at 5:30 p.m. Oct. 26 — it happened again. Sonia Mota-Sotelo was traveling south on the highway in a 2004 Ford Focus when Ashley Brooks, 27, La Grande, attempted to turn her 2001 Ford Focus onto Baggett Lane from the

See **CRASHES/10A**



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