



Four angels pose Sunday night during the Living Nativity at Roy Raley Park in Pendleton as one of multiple stations telling the story of Jesus' birth, death and resurrection. **More photos on Page 3A.**
Staff photo by Kathy Aney

EAST OREGONIAN

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 22, 2015

140th Year, No. 48 WINNER OF THE 2015 ONPA GENERAL EXCELLENCE AWARD One dollar

BOARDMAN

PGE takes over Carty

Utility to assemble new project management team

By **GEORGE PLAVERN**
East Oregonian

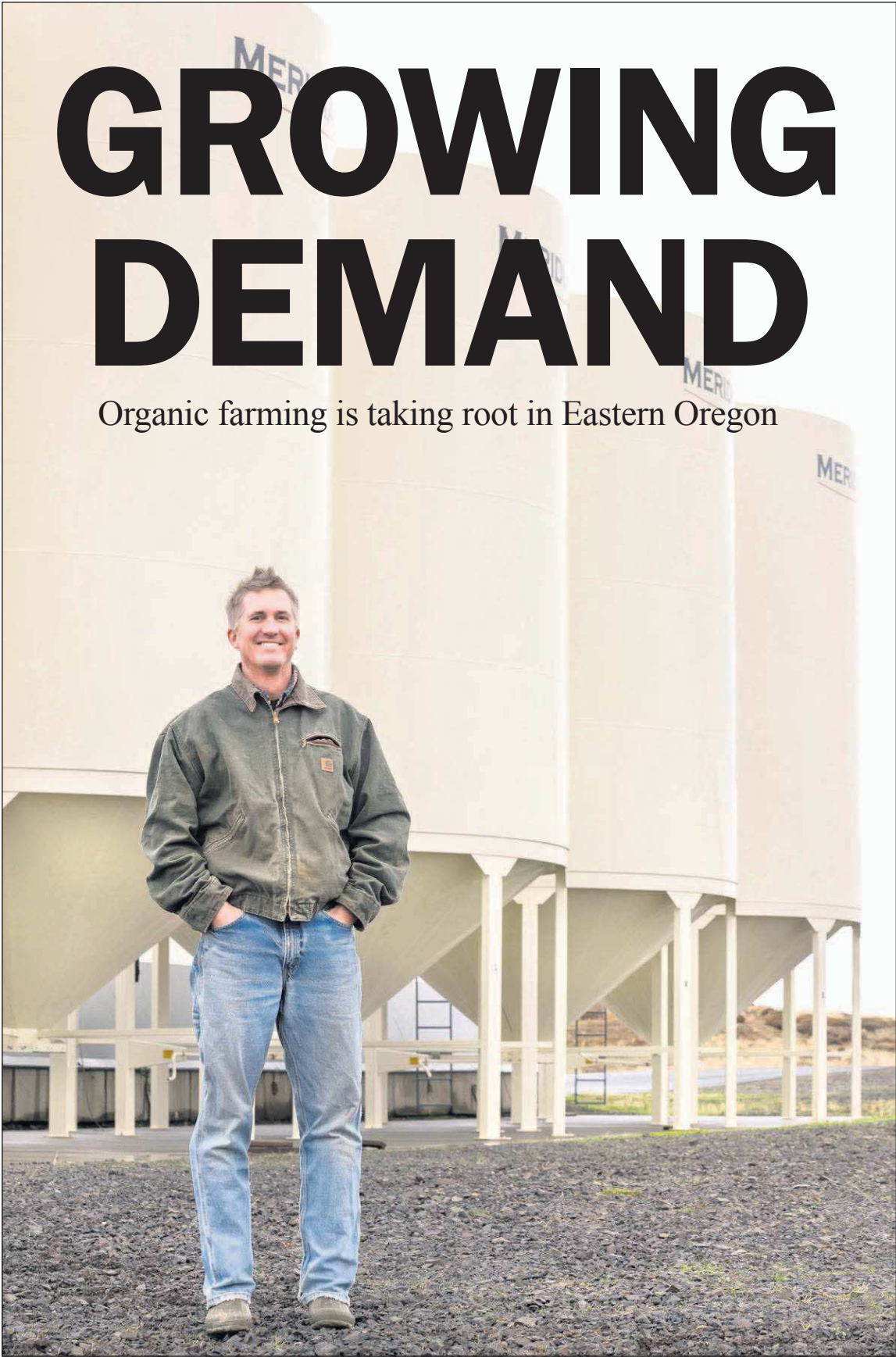
Portland General Electric has fired the general contractor in charge of building the Carty Generating Station near Boardman and will assume control of the project's final construction.

Abeinsa, an affiliate of the Spanish multinational corporation Abengoa, was selected by PGE to build Carty in 2013. Abengoa is now in talks with creditors to try and avoid becoming the largest bankruptcy ever recorded in Spain.

PGE provided interim financing to pay for construction at Carty in the weeks leading up to Monday, Dec. 14, when Abeinsa began turning approximately 500 workers away from the site. On Friday, PGE declared Abeinsa in default of their agreement and removed them from the project.

The Carty Generating Station is a 440-megawatt, natural gas-fired power plant

See **CARTY/8A**



ABOVE: Certified organic farmer Eric Nelson stores part of his crop in grain storage bins on his acreage north of Pendleton. **RIGHT:** Bins of fresh, organic peppers beckon shoppers at the Safeway store in Pendleton.

Organic food industry made \$39B nationally in 2015

By **GEORGE PLAVERN**
East Oregonian

Eric Nelson knew it wouldn't be easy when he decided to go organic on his family's 900-acre wheat farm north of Pendleton.

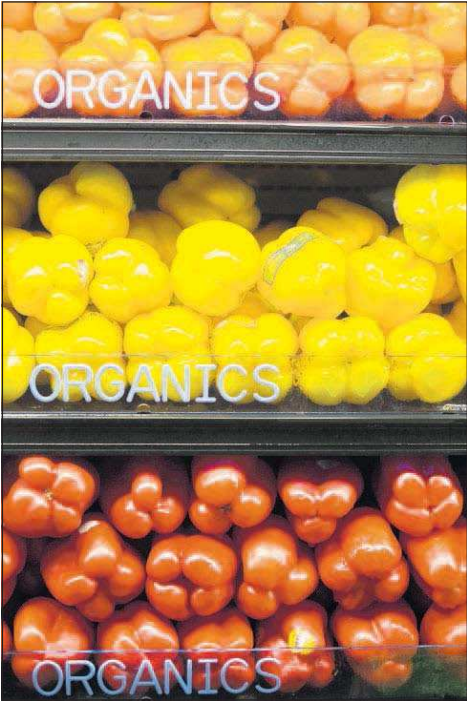
Nelson, a fourth-generation farmer, talked it over with his father — former state Sen. David Nelson — who wondered how they would control weeds without herbicide, or how they'd afford

organic fertilizer and still turn a profit. But Nelson had faith it would work, and in 2008 Nelson Grade Organics harvested its first organic crop.

"I'm very comfortable with what we have done, what we're doing and where we're going," Nelson said. "For me, I see no need to go back."

Overall, the number of organic farms has declined

See **ORGANICS/8A**



PENDLETON

Main St. bronzes chosen

Art committee makes decision after receiving paper ballots

By **ANTONIO SIERRA**
East Oregonian

The "Mother of Pendleton" and a fixture at the Round-Up Indian village will be the last people to receive the bronze treatment on Main Street.

After nearly three weeks of balloting across Pendleton and the Umatilla Indian Reservation, the Pendleton Arts Committee counted the paper ballots and announced Aura Goodwin Raley and Clarence Burke as the winners.

At 126 votes, Burke won by a solid margin over his father, Poker Jim, while Raley's 84 votes barely edged out runner-up Bonnie McCarroll in a separate race.

Burke held the title of co-chief from 1936 to 1987, and has been regarded as one of the most photographed American Indians in history.

Raley's many accomplishments include helping found the city, operating a hotel and donating the land that would become Pioneer Park and the Umatilla County Courthouse.

Burke won over bronze depictions of Poker Jim (92 votes), the former chief of the Walla Walla tribe and the first chief of the Indian encampment at the Round-Up, and William Minthorn (36), a Cayuse chief and a Round-Up co-chief with Burke.

Burke will be placed on the 100 block of Main Street, across from the Jackson Sundown bronze.

Raley's victory came at the expense of John Spain (31), the 1911 Round-Up

See **STATUES/8A**



Raley



Burke

Voting results

100 block of Main Street
Clarence Burke..... 126
Poker Jim 92
William Minthorn 36

300 block of Main Street
Aura Goodwin Raley 84
Bonnie McCarroll..... 80
Ernie Gallaher..... 50
John Spain..... 31



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