

**FALSE ALARM  
PROMPTS  
EVACUATION**  
BMCC/3A



**LODGE SALE  
FINALIZED**  
WALLOWA  
LAKE/2A

**INSIDE:  
HOME &  
GARDEN  
GUIDE**



# EAST OREGONIAN

FRIDAY, APRIL 15, 2016

140th Year, No. 130

WINNER OF THE 2015 ONPA GENERAL EXCELLENCE AWARD

One dollar

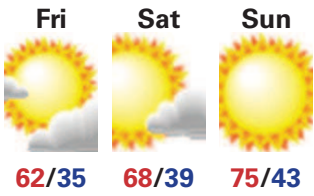
## Your Weekend



- **Dancing with your Pendleton Stars**
- **Household hazardous waste collection event**
- **Main Street Cowboys Spring Carnival**

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

## Weekend Weather



**Fri 62/35 Sat 68/39 Sun 75/43**

## PENDLETON Zac Brown Band to play in July

East Oregonian

Zac Brown Band will play in Pendleton July 16 as the headline act of the first Pendleton Whisky Music Fest.

Ticket prices for the event, which will be held at Pendleton Round-Up Stadium, have not yet been released. Tickets will go on sale April 22.

The three-time Grammy Award-winning group, from Atlanta, has released eight singles that reached the top of the Billboard Hot Country songs list, most notably "Chicken Fried" and "Toes." The eight-man group is currently touring North America as part of their "Black out the Sun" tour.

The festival will also include country musician Drake White, country singer Jackson Michelson, from Corvallis, and DJ Sovem-T.

"With an intimate venue and good entertainment, we know this will be an experience to remember for both our fans and the community," Pendleton Round-Up Association president Bill Levy said in a written statement.

Pendleton Whisky Fest is sponsored by Hood River Distillers as well as the Pendleton Round-Up Association, Happy Canyon Company, the city of Pendleton, Legacy Dodge and others.

In addition to music, interactive games and activities will be on site, according to a press release from the organizers, who said they hoped the event would become an annual festival.

# Feds bring murder charge in death of Pendleton man

By **PHIL WRIGHT**  
East Oregonian

Julian Darryl Simpson faces a first-degree murder charge for the shooting death of Antonio "Tony" Jimenez of Pendleton.

In addition, co-defendant Victor Joseph Contreras pleaded not guilty Wednesday to five counts that stem from allegedly shooting Beau Welch at the same party where Jimenez was killed.

Welch threw that party at his home on Willow Drive on the Umatilla Indian Reservation near

Pendleton on March 18. At around 5:30 a.m. the next morning, Welch became concerned when possible rival gang members started to get upset, according to an FBI affidavit. Welch, 31, and Jimenez, 27, tried to get the troublemakers to leave. The argument ended in Welch's driveway in a round of bullets that left Welch shot and Jimenez dead.

A federal grand jury on Tuesday indicted Simpson on charges of first-degree murder, possession of a firearm in furtherance of a crime of violence and felon in possession of a firearm. Prosecutors allege Simpson

used a .40-caliber Ruger pistol to shoot and kill Jimenez.

The U.S. Attorney's Office for Oregon filed the indictment Tuesday in U.S. District Court, Portland.

Contreras fired a Glock .40-caliber pistol and seriously injured Welch, according to court documents. The grand jury indicted Contreras on charges of assault with intent to commit murder, assault with a dangerous weapon with intent to do bodily harm, assault resulting in serious bodily injury, possession of a firearm in furtherance of a crime of violence and felon in possession

of a firearm.

Contreras pleaded not guilty to the charges during an arraignment Wednesday.

Court records also show U.S. Magistrate Judge Paul Papak set Contreras' five-day jury trial for June 14 in Portland. Contreras remains in the Multnomah County Jail, Portland.

Federal prosecutors have jurisdiction over the case because Simpson and Welch are members of the Confederated Tribes of Umatilla Indian Reservation and the shootings occurred on Indian lands.

## Perkins among streets targeted by Pendleton for repair



Staff photo by E.J. Harris

Workers with Pioneer Construction work on a section of road at the intersection of Southeast 12th Street and Byers Avenue on Thursday in Pendleton.

# Digging out of a rut

## City plans repairs with street utility fee money

By **ANTONIO SIERRA**  
East Oregonian

As revenue from the street utility fee begins to trickle in, the city of Pendleton is starting to plan street repairs for the upcoming construction season.

At a city council workshop Tuesday, city staff presented a list of streets that will be paved and crack sealed this year.

In an interview after the meeting Public Works Director Bob Patterson said the list isn't a final document, but rather a

list of streets that can be upgraded without fear that utilities under the pavement will soon have to be repaired or replaced.

Patterson said some of the streets in need of paving also have aging underground infrastructure underneath.

## More inside

For a list of proposed repair locations see **page 12A**

With the city council recently approving water and sewer rate increases to address underground utility needs, Patterson said that

See **STREETS/12A**

## WESTON

# County OKs wind farm plan

Development would build 4-6 turbines

By **GEORGE PLAVERN**  
East Oregonian

A California-based wind energy company plans to build four to six turbines on private farmland north of Weston, with construction to begin later this year.

The Chopin Wind Project will generate 10 megawatts and connect to Pacific Power's electrical grid via an underground transmission line. Developer BayWa Wind says it will break ground shortly before summer and aim to finish by fall. Turbines could range in height from 262 to nearly 300 feet.

Chopin has morphed into a much smaller project than when it was originally proposed in 2011. At the time, developers planned for 33 turbines and 99 megawatts, which raised concerns from a local conservation group over noise and effects on wildlife, the viewshed and property values. Umatilla County approved the turbines, but not a proposed 11-mile overhead power line.

Progress stalled. In the meantime, the county altered its setback standards for wind turbines located near

See **WIND/12A**

## STANFIELD

# Bryan Johnson resigns as principal, AD

Has accepted job as assistant principal and athletic director in Ephrata, Wash.

By **JENNIFER COLTON**  
East Oregonian

The principal, athletic director and head baseball coach at Stanfield Secondary School is changing from one team of Tigers to another.

The Stanfield School Board accepted the resignations of Principal Bryan Johnson and his wife, social studies teacher Katie Johnson, from the Stanfield School District on Wednesday. The Johnsons have worked for the district for a decade and will be returning home to Ephrata, Wash., where Bryan Johnson has accepted a position as assistant

"This community has been great for our family, and we've really loved it."

— **Bryan Johnson**

principal and athletic director. "The Stanfield School District is a great place to work," Bryan Johnson said. "The word I keep using is 'bittersweet.' I've used that word over and over. We're excited for the new opportunity, but we're going to miss it here."

See **JOHNSON/12A**



EO file photo

Stanfield coach Brian Johnson talks with the boy's baseball team during a past practice in Stanfield.



7 294671 10001 5