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EAST OREGONIAN

JUNE 25-26, 2016

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WINNER OF THE 2015 ONPA GENERAL EXCELLENCE AWARD

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Riding High Ministries presents 'living parable' to inmates



Todd Pierce, founder of Riding High Ministries, of Shelley, Idaho, works on saddle breaking a horse as a group of inmates watch Wednesday at TRCI in Umatilla.

Staff photo by E.J. Harris

Wrangling faith

By JADE MCDOWELL
East Oregonian

horse, however, was having none of it.

She ran around and around the makeshift pen in the hot sun, ignoring Pierce's attempts to calm her and eliciting the occasional groan from the inmates as she skillfully dodged the lasso yet again.

"I would imagine this ain't her first rodeo," Pierce said, drawing chuckles from the audience.

"We've all got our own personalities, our own fears, our own issues," he continued. "Hers aren't

See PARABLE/14A



Todd Pierce comforts inmate Jamaul Jenkins while the two pray together Wednesday at TRCI in Umatilla.

Staff photo by E.J. Harris

HERMISTON

EOTEC gives Frew the reins to meet deadline

By JADE MCDOWELL
East Oregonian

If Frew Development Group's role in the Eastern Oregon Trade and Event Center doesn't change, there is no point in renewing its contract in August. That's what the company's CEO told the EOTEC board Friday.

"We don't want to waste your money and time," John Frew said.

Frew appreciated the passion behind the project, he said, but they were "literally a village building a structure" and the endless rounds of meetings with stakeholders over every detail are hindering progress.

"If you pursue perfection and forfeit practicality you're never going to get it done," he said.

The project is expected to be completed in time for the Umatilla County Fair in August 2017. The current fairgrounds in downtown Hermiston will be turned over to the Hermiston School District on Jan. 1, 2017.

Frew Development Group was hired in 2013 as EOTEC's project manager. For horizontal construction such as underground utilities and for the recently-completed event center building, Frew also was named the construction manager. Those projects, Frew said, were delivered "pretty

See EOTEC/14A

"If we keep going as we're going, we're never going to get there, or at least not next year."

— Ed Brookshier,
EOTEC board member



Frew



Brookshier

PENDLETON

Children's museum crowns two new wiener winners

Jennifer Costley wins eating contest

By ANTONIO SIERRA
East Oregonian

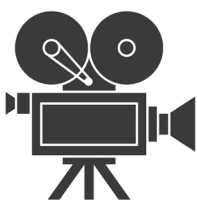
Two champions were crowned at the kickoff events at Wiener Weekend Friday, both competitors having the speed, focus and guts to achieve greatness.

Jennifer Costley, the assistant librarian at the Pendleton Public Library, won the inaugural hot dog eating contest over four other competitors.

Costley downed seven hot dogs in three minutes to take the prize, a result she attributed to her trial run earlier in the week.

"I practiced and it was horrible and that's how I learned how to eat the hot dog before the bun," she said.

Costley is a member of the board for the Children's Museum of Eastern Oregon, which uses the events of Wiener Weekend as a fundraiser. Contestants signed up



More online

For video of the races visit eastoregonian.com

sponsors to donations based on how many hot dogs they ate.

With 53 sponsors, Costley had ample motivation to consume as many franks as possible.

Costley's hot dog gobbling prowess resulted in more than \$600 for the nonprofit.

13-year-old Jacob Carlisle

See DOGS/14A



Contestants chow down while competing in the hot dog eating contest during the Dogtuna 400 wiener dog races Friday in Pendleton.

Staff photo by E.J. Harris



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