

# FIRES: Have burned 123,775 acres in Oregon, Washington so far this year

Continued from 1A

to strengthen containment lines and mop up hot spots to prevent any flareups.

"The crews are working to really solidify some of those lines in anticipation of gusty winds and low relative humidity," Knight said.

Pendleton Fire Chief Mike Ciraulo was among the first firefighters to respond to the Weigh Station Fire, with high winds pushing the flames up and down hillsides. Crews did a burnout along Old Emigrant Road to keep the fire from spreading north, but Ciraulo said it managed to jump the four-lane interstate to the south.

From there, Ciraulo said the crews were forced to regroup. He described the situation as a bit chaotic, with the fire moving at a running speed and torching up whole groups of pine trees. The sound was like a train, he said.

"It could have been a lot worse," Ciraulo said. "It was one hell of a good firefight, and a good job done by all the crews."

As many as nine single-engine air tankers, one heavy air tanker, two helicopters, one air attack and one lead plane were called in to provide air support, along with three bulldozers and more than a dozen fire engines on the ground.

Many of the evacuees wound up at the Oregon Trail Store & Deli in Meacham where they planned what to



Staff photo by E.J. Harris

**Firefighters monitor a burnout fire off of the Old Emigrant Highway on Saturday while battling a fast-moving wildfire east of Pendleton.**

do next. Store owner Dixie Earle said phone lines were knocked out earlier in the day, and they could see plenty of smoke hovering in the distance.

"We're kind of at the center of town," Earle said. "We had people load up here and regroup, and figure out where they were going."

A nearly two-hour power failure in Union County may have also been attributed to the fire damaging power lines.

The Red Cross shelter is still available for anyone seeking assistance, and can be reached by calling 888-680-1455.

Meanwhile, a wildfire

near Dayton, Washington, also sparked Saturday afternoon, burning 550 acres and prompting evacuations. That blaze threatened as many as 125 homes, and is now mostly contained.

Another 700-acre fire is also burning south in Baker County, 10 miles from the small community of Unity. Dubbed the Rail Fire, it has reached 700 total acres. The cause is unknown.

Carol Connolly, public information officer with the Northwest Interagency Coordination Center in Portland, said there have so far been 30 large fires in Oregon and Washington this year, burning 123,775 acres.

As of last week, she said 83 percent of those large fires were human-caused.

Finer fuels, such as grasses and shrubs, are drying out quickly in the Northwest, she said. She encouraged people to be aware of local fire regulations, and careful to avoid starting any more preventable fires.

"If there is an ignition source, we do have the potential for large, catastrophic fires," she said.

The Northwest is also competing with other parched regions for national firefighting resources, Connolly added, and every human-caused fire takes some of those resources away



Staff photo by E.J. Harris

**A firefighting plane drops fire retardant on a wildfire burning near Interstate 84 on Emigrant Hill east of Pendleton.**

from other places that could use them.

"That's why it's critical," she said. "We just can't have these human-caused fires."

Fire season was officially declared in ODF's Northeast Oregon District on June 28, and certain restrictions on activities like campfires,

smoking and chainsaw use went into effect Friday. The majority of Eastern Oregon is listed in moderate drought, according to the U.S. Drought Monitor.

Contact George Plaven at [gplaven@eastoregonian.com](mailto:gplaven@eastoregonian.com) or 541-966-0825.

## PENDLETON

# Author collaborates with photographers in art exhibit

Opening reception Thursday 5:30 p.m.

By TAMMY MALGESINI  
East Oregonian

As a museum security guard, Peter Rock would often pass the long hours making up stories inspired by the artwork on display.

Years later as a successful author, Rock took the idea to another level with Rock during an opening reception Thursday from 5:30-7

The Guggenheim Foundation found the idea so intriguing that it awarded Rock a prestigious fellowship to pursue the project.

The finished work, titled "Spells," will be on exhibit in the East Oregonian Gallery at Pendleton Center for the Arts. Visitors will have an opportunity to view with Rock during an opening reception Thursday from 5:30-7

p.m. at the arts center, 214 N. Main St., Pendleton. There is no admission charge.

The project is a collaboration between Rock and five photographers. The author provides a sort of written narrative about the pieces, said Roberta Lavadour, arts center executive director.

"Visitors to the gallery will be able to read his printed words and listen to some audio files while viewing the exhibit," she said.

Rock said the process is something everyone does when viewing images with no context.

"We ask, 'What is going on here?' 'Who is that person?' 'What will happen next?'"

Rock was born and raised in Salt Lake City. He has a degree from Yale University and has taught fiction at Yale, the University of Pennsylvania, Deep Springs College and San Francisco State University. Rock currently lives in Portland, where he is a professor in the English department at Reed College.

His stories and freelance writing have both appeared and been anthologized widely. He received an Alex Award for his 2009 publication "My Abandonment." His most recent book is "Klickitat," a novel about mysterious writing, wilderness survival and the relationship between two sisters. A book project about "Spells" is set for publication by Counterpoint in March 2017.

In addition to the main exhibit, Diana Bones is the featured artist in the Lorenzen Board Room. The Pendleton artist will display some of her paintings.

The arts center is open Tuesday



Photo contributed by Peter Earl McCollough

**"Does it Matter," an image by Peter Earl McCollough, is part of an exhibit by Peter Rock that includes the author's commentary in written word and audio files. The public is invited to the opening reception Thursday at Pendleton Center for the Arts.**

through Fridays from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Saturdays from noon to 4 p.m. The exhibit remains on view through Saturday, Aug. 27. Admission is free.

For more information, call 541-278-9201 or visit [www.pendletonarts.org](http://www.pendletonarts.org).

For more about Rock, visit [www.peterrockproject.com](http://www.peterrockproject.com).

Contact Community Editor Tammy Malgesini at [tmalgesini@eastoregonian.com](mailto:tmalgesini@eastoregonian.com) or 541-564-4539



Photo contributed by Colleen Plumb

**"Polar Bears with Antennae," an image by Colleen Plumb, is part of an exhibit by Peter Rock that includes the author's commentary in written word and audio files. The public is invited to the opening reception Thursday at Pendleton Center for the Arts.**

## COMING EVENTS

- TUESDAY, AUG. 2**  
**TERRIFICALLY FREE TUESDAY**, all day. Children's Museum of Eastern Oregon, 400 S. Main St., Pendleton. (541-276-1066).
- ADULT OPEN GYM**, 6-7 a.m., Pendleton Recreation Center, 510 S.W. Dorion Ave. Half-court basketball. (541-276-8100).
- PRESCHOOL STORY TIME**, 10:30-11 a.m., Stanfield Public Library, 180 W. Coe Ave. (541-449-1254).
- BOARDMAN SENIOR MEAL SERVICE**, 12 noon, Boardman Senior Center, 100 Tatone St. Costs \$4 for seniors 55 or \$3 for adults. (541-481-3257).
- HERMISTON SENIOR MEAL SERVICE**, 12 noon, Hermiston Senior Center, 435 W. Orchard Ave. Costs \$4 or free for children under 10. Extra 50 cents for utensils/dishes. Meals on Wheels available. Transportation arranged by donation. (541-567-3582).
- PENDLETON SENIOR MEAL SERVICE**, 12 noon, Pendleton Senior Center, 510 S.W. 10th St. Costs \$3.50 or \$6 for those under 60. Pool, puzzles, crafts, snacks, Second Time Around thrift store 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. For Meals On Wheels, call 541-276-1926. (541-276-7101).
- CRAFTERNOONS**, 4 p.m., Pendleton Public Library, 502 S.W. Dorion Ave. Drop in for a group or individual craft project. (541-966-0380).
- INSIDE OUTSIDE THE LINES ADULT COLORING**, 6-7:30 p.m., Irrigon Public Library, 490 Main St. Materials provided. Bring snacks to share.
- PENDLETON KNITTING GROUP**, 6 p.m., Prodigal Son Brewery & Pub, 230 S.E. Court Ave. (541-966-0360).
- PENDLETON EAGLES BINGO**, 6:30-9 p.m., Pendleton Eagles Lodge No. 28, 428 S. Main St. (541-278-2828).
- STORY AND CRAFT TIME**, 6:30 p.m., Milton-Freewater Public Library, 8 S.W. Eighth Ave. For elementary school-age children. (Lili Schmidt 541-938-8247).
- UMATILLA COUNTY 4-H FASHION SHOW**, 7:30 p.m., Pendleton Convention Center, 1601 Westgate. More than 50 entries featuring garments constructed by youth in grades K-12 as part of their annual 4-H projects. Admission is \$3 at the door. (Patricia Dawson 541-278-5404).
- WEDNESDAY, AUG. 3**  
**ADULT OPEN GYM**, 6-7 a.m., Pendleton Recreation Center, 510 S.W. Dorion Ave. Half-court basketball. (541-276-8100).
- BABY BOOGIE & TAPPIN' TODDLERS**, 10-10:45 a.m., Hermiston Public Library, 235 E. Gladys Ave. (541-567-2882).
- STORY TIME**, 11:15 a.m. to noon, Hermiston Public Library, 235 E. Gladys Ave. (541-567-2882).
- PENDLETON SENIOR MEAL SERVICE**, 12 noon, Pendleton Senior Center,

- 510 S.W. 10th St. Costs \$3.50 or \$6 for those under 60. Pool, puzzles, crafts, snacks, Second Time Around thrift store 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. For Meals On Wheels, call 541-276-1926. (541-276-7101).
- STANFIELD SENIOR MEAL SERVICE**, 12 noon, Stanfield Community Center, 225 W. Roosevelt. Costs \$3.50 for seniors, \$6 for others.
- ADULT BEGINNING COMPUTER COURSE**, 9 p.m., Pendleton Public Library meeting room, 502 S.W. Dorion Ave. Free, but registration required. (541-966-0380).
- LEGO CLUB**, 4 p.m., Pendleton Public Library, 502 S.W. Dorion Ave. For all ages. Legos provided. (541-966-0380).
- MILTON-FREEWATER FARMERS' MARKET**, 4-7 p.m., Orchard Park, South Main Street (bottom of Milton Hill), 1224 Oregon-Washington Highway, Milton-Freewater. Food and craft vendors. (541-938-5563).
- BMCC POOL COMMUNITY MEETING**, 5:30 p.m., Big Mountain Community College McCrae Activity Center, 2411 N.W. Carden Ave., Pendleton. Learn about pool's issues and provide feedback on funding, maintenance and upgrades. (Cassy 541-278-3939).
- WEDNESDAY IN THE PARK CONCERT**, 6-8 p.m., Roy Raley Park, 1205 S.W. Court Ave., Pendleton. Features 1939 Ensemble, food vendors and a beer/wine garden. (541-276-8100).
- VEGAN/SUSTAINABLE LIVING POTLUCK SUPPER**, 7 p.m., call 541-969-3057 to RSVP and for driving directions. Bring a vegan dish and recipe. Gluten-free friendly group.
- THURSDAY, AUG. 4**  
**ADULT OPEN GYM**, 6-7 a.m., Pendleton Recreation Center, 510 S.W. Dorion Ave. Half-court basketball. (541-276-8100).
- PRESCHOOL STORY AND CRAFT TIME**, 10:30 a.m., Milton-Freewater Public Library, 8 S.W. Eighth Ave. (Lili Schmidt 541-938-8247).
- BOARDMAN SENIOR MEAL SERVICE**, 12 noon, Boardman Senior Center, 100 Tatone St. Costs \$4 for seniors or \$5 for adults. (541-481-3257).
- HERMISTON SENIOR MEAL SERVICE**, 12 noon, Hermiston Senior Center, 435 W. Orchard Ave. Costs \$4 or free for children under 10. Extra 50 cents for utensils/dishes. Meals on Wheels available. Transportation arranged by donation. (541-567-3582).
- PENDLETON SENIOR MEAL SERVICE**, 12 noon, Pendleton Senior Center, 510 S.W. 10th St. Costs \$3.50 or \$6 for those under 60. Pool, puzzles, crafts, snacks, Second Time Around thrift store 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. For Meals On Wheels, call 541-276-1926. (541-276-7101).
- SENSORY STORY TIME**, 12:30 p.m., Boardman Public Library, 200 S.

- Main St. Special story time for children from birth to age 4. (541-481-2665).
- SKILLS FOR LIFE**, 3-5 p.m., Pendleton Recreation Center, 510 S.W. Dorion Ave. Includes gym activities and life skills for middle and high school students. Free, but registration requested. (Danny Bane 541-379-4250).
- MAKERSPACE**, 4-5 p.m., Pendleton Public Library, 502 S.W. Dorion Ave. Children ages 3 and up create design and experiment with a variety of tools. STEM challenges and educational games.
- PICKLEBALL OPEN GYM**, 5:15-7 p.m., Pendleton Recreation Center, 510 S.W. Dorion Ave. Combination of tennis, ping pong and badminton. Ages 18 and up only. (541-276-8100).
- ARTISTS' RECEPTION**, 5:30-7 p.m., Pendleton Center for the Arts, 214 N. Main St. Peter Rock will be on hand to talk about his newest installation, "Spells," a collaborative project involving his writing and the work of photographers he admires. Refreshments, free. (541-278-9201).
- THE ARC UMATILLA COUNTY BINGO**, 6 p.m. doors open, bingo starts at 7 p.m., 215 W. Orchard Ave., Hermiston. (541-567-7615).
- FIDDLER'S NIGHT**, 6:30-8:30 p.m., Brookdale Assisted Living, 980 W. Highland Ave. Join jam session or just listen. (541-567-3141).



Staff photo by Alexa Lougee

**Firefighters work Monday morning to extinguish a house fire in Stanfield that claimed one victim.**

# HOUSE: Investigation still underway to determine cause

Continued from 1A

successfully kicked the door open, but said it was too hot to enter the engulfed home.

Other neighbors also reported difficulty getting through to 9-1-1. It was a busy morning for the fire district, as rescue crews were spread throughout the district on other calls, forcing Umatilla County Fire District 1 Chief Scott Stanton to drive the second engine.

"You know it's a busy day when the chief has to drive an engine," he said.

The fire department received the call at 9:21 a.m. and an engine from Station 24 in Stanfield arrived on scene at 9:26 a.m. and immediately began extinguishing the fire. A second engine from the district arrived to provide assistance.

A total of eight firefighters and a

**"You know it's a busy day when the chief has to drive an engine."**

— Scott Stanton,  
Umatilla County Fire District 1 chief

chief officer worked on the fire using hoses from the outside, but were unable to enter the house due to the amount of fire and the roof structures failing.

In the town of 2,000, neighbors watched on as smoke plumed into the blue August sky and crews worked to contain the fire. The victim's adult daughter lives in the same neighborhood and stood helpless as firefighters worked on the home.

The victim's name has not yet been released and an investigation is still underway to determine the cause.

**Bisnett Insurance**  
Safeco Insurance • Allstate  
Mutual of Enumclaw • Chubb • Travelers  
121 S. Main, Pendleton, OR  
541-276-1418 • 800-303-0419

**Main Street Service**  
Where One Call Insures it all

• Farm • Business • Home • Health  
• Ranch • Auto • Life • Crop

www.bisnett.com  
Office locations: Pendleton • Baker City • Milton-Freewater  
• Medford • John Day • Hood River • Lake Oswego  
• Kelchum, ID • Scottsdale, AZ

**HAIRPINS on 6th**  
Tues - Fri 9am - 5:30pm  
Saturday & Evening by Appointment  
311 SW 6th • Pendleton  
541-278-8099

**ROB MERRIMAN PLUMBING & HEATING, INC.**  
NEW CONSTRUCTION • REMODEL • REPAIRS  
DRAIN CLEANING • CAMERA & LOCATOR • BOILERS

4354 Westgate Pendleton, OR 97801  
434-276-7221  
HERMISTON 541-564-6393  
FAX 541-966-1199

The Chamber means business!

**PENDLETON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**

**UPCOMING RIBBON CUTTINGS**

**NEW MEMBER RIBBON CUTTINGS**

**Promenade**  
August 9th @ 12:15 p.m. • 1409 SW Emigrant Avenue

**Tonya's Lounge**  
August 18th @ 12:15 p.m. • 328 SW Court Avenue

**Imaginarium**  
September 8th @ 12:15 p.m. • 245 S Main Street

**Pendleton Lions Club**  
Celebrating New Trees at Pioneer Park  
August 11th @ 12:15 p.m. • 400 NW Despain Avenue

**WELCOME NEW MEMBERS**

**Episcopal Church of the Redeemer**  
Reverend Charlotte Wells, Rector  
241 SE 2nd St, Pendleton  
(541) 276-3809 • redeemerchurch1897@gmail.com  
www.pendletonepiscopal.org

**Hampton Inn**  
Ginny Patton, General Manager  
101 SW Nye Ave, Pendleton  
(541) 276-3500 • penorgm@fripdx.com  
www.pendletonhi.com

**Imaginarium**  
Gia Jensen, Owner  
245 S Main St, Pendleton  
(323) 580-3909 • lainielives@gmail.com

**Oktoberfest Pendleton**  
Jennifer Guenther, Treasurer  
(503) 943-9474 • oktoberfestpendleton@gmail.com

**Tonya's House**  
Shawn MacGregor, Executive Director  
PO Box 992, Pendleton  
(541) 276-2900 • tonyashouse1234@outlook.com  
www.tonyashouse.org

**UPCOMING CHAMBER EVENTS**

**Morning Buzz**  
8.3.16  
7:15-8am  
Oxford Suites Pendleton  
Coffee Sponsor

**CAPTURE PENDLETON Photo Contest**  
August 1-31, 2016  
www.pendletonchamber.com/capturependleton

**Next Chamber Luncheon**  
Meet the Happy Canyon & Round-Up Crew!  
Wednesday August 17th • 11:45 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.  
Pendleton Masonic Lodge • 1250 NW Garden Avenue  
\$13 Chamber Members Paid by 8/12, \$16 All Others  
all (541) 276-7411 for tickets

**ROUND-UP PRIVATE HOUSING HOSTS WANTED**  
DOWNLOAD HOST FORM AT [PENDLETONCHAMBER.COM](http://PENDLETONCHAMBER.COM)  
OR CALL (541) 276-7411 FOR MORE INFO!

**KUMA COFFEE HOUR 1290AM • 8.31.16 @ 8:30am**

We're waiting for you at...  
**Kick it Up After 5**  
Business After Hours Event  
hosted by  
**U.S. Cellular**  
1923 SW Court Avenue  
Thursday, August 11th • 5:30 to 7:00 p.m.

**RAYMOND JAMES FINANCIAL SERVICES, INC.**  
Member FINRA/SIPC  
Serving Eastern Oregon & Washington for over 24 years

Our Professionals Offer:  
• Retirement Cash Flow Planning • Consolidating Assets  
• Investment Management • IRA's ~ Roth IRA's ~ 403b's ~ 401k's

**John Cimmiyotti ~ Branch Manager**  
305 SW Dorion Ave. • Pendleton, OR 97801  
8797 W. Gage Blvd., Ste. C-103 • Kennewick, WA 98336  
541-276-9184 • 800-276-9184  
Web Site: [www.RaymondJames.com/JohnCimmiyotti](http://www.RaymondJames.com/JohnCimmiyotti)

**PENDLETON ATHLETIC**  
1980 36 YEARS 2016  
249 S. Main, Pendleton • 541-276-6988  
Cari Broker  
[www.deansathletic.com](http://www.deansathletic.com)

**CHI St. Anthony Hospital**  
Imagine Better Health...  
2801 ST. ANTHONY WAY, PENDLETON, OR 97801

**PENDLETON ART+FRAME**  
New Handcrafted Copper Jewelry  
Custom Framing with Creative and Personal Design  
Conservation Services ~ Shadow Box Object Framing  
Needlework ~ Mirrors ~ Photography  
Like us on Facebook

36 SW Court Ave, Pendleton • 541-276-3617  
Mon - Fri 10 am - 5 pm, Sat 10 am - 2 pm

**Thai Crystal**  
Visit the finest Thai Restaurant in the West.  
Located in the shadow of the County Court House  
Open 7 days a week • 541-278-4182  
210 SE 5th Street, Pendleton, OR 97801  
[thaicrystalrestaurant.com](http://thaicrystalrestaurant.com)