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DANIEL WATTENBURGER
Comment

Are all dad jokes bad jokes?

When I was a kid, every time I asked my dad for the time, he had the same response: “Why, you got a date?”

He had an audience of one — two, if my brother was around — and I can’t remember a time he ever got anything more than a groan from either of us. But there it was, in his pocket, ready to pull out when given the setup. Like clockwork, so to speak.

It wasn’t his only go-to joke. And, as I’ve come to find out, he wasn’t making them up on the spot. It turns out classics like answering the complaint “I’m hungry!” with “Nice to meet you, Hungry” or the follow-up “Could you make me a sandwich?” with “Poof, you’re a sandwich!” are passed around like some kind of sacred scroll among dads.

Or maybe they’re just passed from fathers to sons, where they germinate for decades until we’re the ones with the wristwatches and strength to open the mayonnaise jar.

For some reason, mothers don’t seem to have the same reflex. A mom can let such softballs pass them by, oblivious to the crackling comedic potential.

I think that is because mothers are more likely to relate to their children on an emotional level, while fathers connect first by imparting information, direction and guidance.

When asked for food, a mother’s first step is toward satisfying her child’s need. A father’s first step is to turn the request on its head,

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Staff photo by E.J. Harris

Oregon State Police fish and wildlife trooper Ryan Sharp speaks with Randy Beehler as he fishes off a jetty near the Umatilla marina on the Columbia River. Sharp was patrolling the Columbia River on Thursday, checking anglers for compliance with state fish and game regulations.

Outdoors made easier

Oregon trimming down hunting, fishing regulations for 2019

By PHIL WRIGHT
East Oregonian

Make them simpler. That’s the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife’s aim for big game regulations for the 2019 hunting season.

Hunters for years told the state agency its regulations were too complicated. They joked about needing a lawyer to understand them.

Nick Myatt said the department has heard those refrains. He’s the ODFW Grande Ronde watershed manager based in La Grande, and leading the team tasked with trimming them down.

“Regulations are often added and seldom removed,” Myatt said. “It takes an effort like this to look at the bigger picture that

we’re providing to our customers, the hunters.”

ODFW about five years ago started simplifying fishing regulations, and that work is nearing its end with new rules for salmon and steelhead. But big game regulations, Myatt said, needed the biggest reworking.

Corum Delyria of Enterprise is on board with that. He said he hunts most everything he can, and he gets frustrated with the pile of state regulations.

“Honestly, there’s a lot of stuff in there that just should not be there,” he said.

Delyria doesn’t understand some equipment rules, such as hunts that allow him to use his .44 Magnum handgun with a 10 1/2 barrel but not a lever-action carbine rifle that fires the same round of ammunition.

He also thinks the state should change when and how it sells game tags. ODFW requires hunters to buy a license and pay for



Corum Delyria of Enterprise shows the bear he killed on a hunt in Oregon a few years ago. Delyria would like the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife to simplify and revise hunting regulations and allow for the use of mechanical broadheads for archery hunts.

Photo Contributed by Corum Delyria

game tags. If the hunter does not draw the tag, they are out of luck. He said that should be the other way around.

“You put in for your tags and if you draw your tags, then you should not be able to buy the tags until you buy the license,” Delyria said.

Justin Buckley of Condon said he would like to see more useful hunting unit maps in the regula-

See REGULATION/11A

HERMISTON

Migrant school keeps kids on the move caught up



Staff photo by E.J. Harris

Fifth-grader Alex Corona, bottom right, loads pennies into a tin-foil boat during a science class for ESL students Friday at Sunset Elementary School in Hermiston.

Students’ families follow agricultural work

By JAYATI RAMAKRISHNAN
East Oregonian

A group of seventh- and eighth-graders were given one task: make a boat out of foil and plastic straws. And the goal? Hold as many pennies as possible without sinking the boat.

Though the boats were not always seaworthy, the students learned about buoyancy in one of several lessons at the migrant education summer school program in Hermiston.

Run by the InterMountain Education Service District, there are programs throughout the summer at different locations in Uma-

tilla and Morrow County, including Boardman, Hermiston, Irrigon, Milton-Freewater and Umatilla. Each program runs for about three weeks. The classes focus on reading and math instruction and, as of this year, science, for students between pre-kindergarten and eighth grade.

For students to qualify for the migrant education program, their families have to have moved in the past three years to find work in the fields of agriculture, forestry or fishing.

The classes are split up by grade level, with a fifth/sixth grade and seventh/eighth grade blend.

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