

CITATIONS PILE UP FOR STANFIELD PET FOOD PLANT
REGION/3A



BACK ON TOP
LITTLE LEAGUE/1B



ROE V. WADE AND THE HIGH COURT
FAITH/9A

EAST OREGONIAN

FRIDAY, JULY 13, 2018

142nd Year, No. 190

WINNER OF THE 2017 ONPA GENERAL EXCELLENCE AWARD

One dollar




Your Weekend



- Have a swell time at Hermiston Funfest
- Celebrate Scottish roots in Athena
- Old-time fun at Heritage Days

For times and places see **Coming Events, 5A**

Weekend Weather

Fri	Sat	Sun
		
103/64	95/63	101/65

Watch a game



France vs. Croatia

World Cup Final, Sunday, 8 a.m., FOX/Telemundo

Initiative would require sixth graders study firearms

By **PARIS ACHEN**
Capital Bureau

SALEM — Gun rights advocates have a filed an initiative petition that would mandate a firearms safety instruction class in the sixth grade at Oregon public schools.

Initiative Petition 6 was filed July 11, by Ston McDaniel of Prineville and Jerrad Robison of Redmond for the Nov. 3, 2020, state-wide general election ballot.

Robison also is chief petitioner for a gun rights initiative in Deschutes County. The Second Amendment Preservation Ordinance would allow the county sheriff to block enforcement of local, state or federal gun laws the sheriff deemed as unconstitutional.

The proposal is the brainchild of Kevin Starrett, founder of the Oregon Firearms Federation, said Rep. Mike Nearman, R-Polk County, who is helping out with the initiative.

See **FIREARMS/10A**

Fire burns to edge of Weston

Fire chief 'knocked on doors like crazy' during evacuation

By **PHIL WRIGHT**
and **BRITTANY NORTON**
East Oregonian

Firefighters from multiple agencies contained a fire Thursday afternoon that burned right up to back yards in Weston.

The fire scorched a large swath of land southeast of town, including an unharvested wheat field, but did not destroy any homes.

Tom Roberts, Umatilla County emergency manager, said the blaze prompted a level 3 evacuation for residents on Hill and State streets, meaning they had to be ready to leave at a moment's notice. Several people took up garden hoses to



A fire Thursday afternoon burned fields and approached the city of Weston, but crews stopped the blaze from damaging homes.

try to create a buffer between their homes and the fire.

Weston resident Melanie Hearn said she was at a doctor's appointment in Walla Walla when she started getting phone calls from

family members who expressed concern about her house. She said her daughter, who no longer lives with her, got a call about the fire around 2 p.m. and traveled to her house to water down the back yard.

Hearn's home was one of several the blaze nearly affected with the charred field coming right up to her fence line.

"It's kind of a wake-up call," said Hearn, who started worrying about the insurance on her possessions.

Hearn said her family has seen fires from their back yard in the past, but nothing this close.

"Every year it's kind of worrisome," she said.

Raeana Mikel was babysitting at her sister's home overlooking the town from the top of West Mill Street. She said gloom come over the town and she went outside to investigate.

"There was just smoke everywhere," she said.

She said she watched as fire engines and other emergency vehi-

See **FIRE/10A**



Staff photo by E.J. Harris

Rolling out the green carpet

A machine is used to roll out sod in the cattle chute on Thursday as crews ready the Pendleton Round-Up Grounds for the Pendleton Whiskey Music Fest. For more on preparing the arena for Saturday's concert, see **Page 10A**.

PENDLETON

Deluxe packages could help cemetery cover costs



EO file photo

Willetta Powell and Tom Cooper use a backhoe to move a concrete grave liner while preparing a grave site Feb. 12, 2010, at Olney Cemetery in Pendleton.

Gravesites by man-made river near mausoleum would cost more, help parks department's budget

By **ANTONIO SIERRA**
East Oregonian

It took \$263,350 to staff and maintain the Olney Cemetery last year, but that wasn't nearly enough.

Liam Hughes oversees Olney as the director of the Pendleton Parks and Recreation Department, and he and his department are assembling a business plan he hopes will both boost the 50-acre cemetery's maintenance budget and decrease their reliance on property tax revenue from the general fund.

Hughes said the plan would introduce some new ideas, but was mostly about enhancing the features the

cemetery already has.

For instance, Olney established a memorial garden north of the mausoleum several years ago.

The garden featured a fountain with plots around it, an idea the parks department wants to extend further.

Hughes said the fountain plots sold like hotcakes, and under the business plan the parks department would build a man-made river in a small canyon that runs through the cemetery.

The canyon has steep sides and shallow ground, making it unsuitable for caskets, but the riverbanks could

See **CEMETERY/10A**

"We've always had a one-size-fits-all approach, but that doesn't always fit what people want."

— Liam Hughes, Pendleton parks director

