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SPORTS/1B



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COMMUNITY/6A



EAST OREGONIAN

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WINNER OF THE 2018 ONPA GENERAL EXCELLENCE AWARD

One dollar

PENDLETON

Developer to deliver pitch for Westgate apartments

East Oregonian

Under a proposal from a Clackamas construction company, Pendleton's housing market would receive a significant boost.

The Pendleton City Council will meet for a workshop Tuesday night, where members will hear a proposal from I&E Construction to build a 204-unit apartment complex on land the city owns on Westgate.

Renderings and plans submitted by I&E show a large-scale complex that would sit on land formerly occupied by the Eastern Oregon Training Center before the city acquired it in 2016.

The complex would include 72 two-bedroom, two-bathroom units, 36 studio units, 36 one-bedroom, one-bathroom units, 36 three-bedroom, three-bathroom units, and 24 two-bedroom, two-bathroom units. Floor plans range from 549 square feet to 1,204 square feet.

Other amenities include a 399-space parking lot, a recreation building, a play area, and a swimming pool.

City Manager Robb Corbett said city officials met I&E President Karl Ivanov several years ago and stayed in touch about Pendle-

See WESTGATE/8A

PENDLETON

Turner leaves downtown association

By ANTONIO SIERRA
East Oregonian

Molly Turner rose from intern to executive director of the Pendleton Downtown Association in eight months, and a little more than a year after her ascension, she's moving onto a new job.



Turner

The nonprofit announced Monday that Turner would depart at the end of August so she can take a position with Blue Mountain Community College.

In an interview, Turner said she was grateful for the opportunity offered by the association, but was "not the best for the current role," suggesting someone with a background in business would offer a better fit for the position.

See TURNER/8A



Photo compilation by E.J. Harris

Pendleton on Tuesday, Aug. 14, 2018, on the left, and Pendleton on Monday, Aug. 20, 2018. Pendleton has marked some of the worst air quality for the state according to the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality.

Smoke chokes skies



Staff photo by E.J. Harris

A construction crew works on building a temporary bridge at the Eighth Street river crossing on Monday in Pendleton.

Fires push unhealthy air into Umatilla County

By KATHY ANEY
East Oregonian

Umatilla County's air quality deteriorated Sunday evening as smoke from multiple fires drifted into the area.

On Monday morning, smoke still shrouded Pendleton like an unwanted houseguest that wouldn't leave. Drivers used car headlights to make themselves visible. Most people stayed inside homes and offices, but some unlucky souls ventured outside to do their jobs.

Paul Lavadour, of Buttercreek Contractors, breathed smoky air as he prepped to install sewer pipe near Pendleton's Eighth Street Bridge. Lavadour said the smoke took him back to his time on a Bureau of Indian Affairs fire

crew.

"I feel it in my lungs," Lavadour said of the haze.

At Til Taylor Park, Charles Tennent sat at a table in a quest to recruit bus drivers for Mid Columbia Bus Company. Tennent remained cheerful despite the smoke, but admitted he felt heaviness in his chest.

"My wife's upset at me for being out here," he said, flashing a grin.

The Oregon Department of Environmental Quality measures the tiny particles and gases in smoke that can irritate lungs, eyes and heart. The toxic mixture includes carbon monoxide, organic carbon and an array of 5,000-to-10,000 different gases. By midnight on Sunday, DEQ readings for Pendleton topped out at 404 micrograms per cubic meter, which is considered hazardous. The bad air lingered Monday. By noon, air quality had improved to 248, better, but still "very unhealthy"

and the highest in the state. The measurement refers to fine particulate matter with a diameter of less than 2.5 micrometers, which is 3 percent the diameter of a human hair. The tiny particles can be inhaled deep into the lungs of those who breathe them.

The Umatilla County Health Department reported hazardous air in Pendleton and Milton-Freewater and "very unhealthy" air in Hermiston.

As fires dot the state, smoke would have rolled into the area no matter which way the wind blew. Most flowed from British Columbia, where around 600 fires burned. A NASA satellite captured images of the smoke from space. A National Weather Service simulation shows smoke flowing southwest into the Pacific Northwest from British Columbia and northeast from California and Oregon in two swirling masses

See SMOKE/8A

STANFIELD

Dozens of dogs, two children removed from derelict home

By PHIL WRIGHT
East Oregonian

Stanfield police raided a home Sunday where officers arrested four adults and placed two children into state custody, and local animal rescuers housed more than three dozen dogs.

Police Chief Bryon Zumwalt said the case began after officer Tristan Walker responded Saturday at 5:11 a.m. to a 911 call about a disturbance at 230 S. Lucy St. What Walker observed, including the living conditions of two children, ages 3 and 6, led to obtaining a search warrant.

The four-person police depart-

ment received help from the Umatilla County Sheriff's Office in serving the warrant early Sunday. Police arrested husband and wife Richard Tyron Ruiz, 47, and Martina Garcia Ruiz, 48, on 35 counts of animal neglect and two counts each of child neglect and endangering the welfare of a minor. Police also arrested Richard Ruiz on nine counts of felon in possession of a weapon and Martina Ruiz on a warrant for failure to pay fines.

Their son, Michael Ruiz, 26, and his partner, Timi Jean Murray, 24, also ended up in the Umatilla County Jail,

See REMOVED/8A



Staff photo by E.J. Harris

A trio of small dogs huddle together in one of the isolation rooms at PAWS on Monday in Pendleton. The three dogs were only a few of dozens that were confiscated from a home in Stanfield on Sunday.

