

LOCAL COWBOYS OFF TO NATIONAL RODEO

SPORTS, A8

ECHO MAN IMPROVES CITY ONE WEED AT A TIME

REGION, A3

FRIDAY, JUNE 21, 2019

EAST OREGONIAN

143rd Year, No. 177

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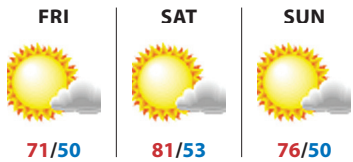
\$1.50

Your Weekend



- **Weiner Dog Races**, Pendleton
- **Landing Days 2019**, Umatilla
- **Wild West Beerfest**, Pendleton

Weekend Weather



Milton-Freewater superintendent resigns

Rob Clark heading to Sequim School District in Washington

By ANTONIO SIERRA
East Oregonian

MILTON-FREEWATER — Rob Clark spent nearly his entire educational career in Washington, and the six years he didn't, he was stationed just a few miles away from the Evergreen State's southern border.



Clark

Now, the Milton-Freewater Unified School District superintendent is readying for a home state return.

According to the Walla Walla Union-Bulletin, Clark announced that he was resigning to take an interim superintendent position with the Sequim School District in Washington at a school board meeting Tuesday.

In an interview with the

See Clark, Page A7

QUEEN BEE makes PRISON BREAK



Staff photo by Kathy Aney

EOCI beekeepers light a smoker that is designed to calm bees.

Men tend hives behind the razor wire of Eastern Oregon Correctional Institution

By KATHY ANEY
East Oregonian

PENDLETON — The Eastern Oregon Correctional Institution recently had an escape.

The fugitive isn't an inmate, but rather a honey bee — the queen bee of a hive in EOCI's new beekeeping program. One day she was there overseeing her colony, and the next, she took flight. She is currently on the lam and the buzz is that she won't be back.

"She did not care for Hotel EOCI," said Ray Peters, who leads the new beekeeping program.

Since the fledgling group of

See Bees, Page A7



Staff photo by Kathy Aney

An EOCI beekeeper removes a tray of bees during an attempt to combine two hives two weeks ago after one hive's queen disappeared.

Smoke and drones complicate health, safety during fire season

Agencies work together to keep public, firefighters safe during fire season

By KATY NESBITT
For the East Oregonian

PENDLETON — With grass curing at lower elevations, fire managers announced they are preparing

for a "normal" fire season in Northeast Oregon and the accompanying smoke and safety hazards.

According to Noel Livingston, fire staff officer for the Walla-Waitman National Forest, "normal" means hot and dry weather with a few large fires. He said this is the first time in many years the region is not experiencing severe drought conditions. He credited winter and spring weather

patterns for keeping down the early season fire potential.

"We had a fair amount of snow in February and a cool spring," Livingston said. "Warm weather, followed by cold and wet tempers the snow melt."

While conditions are favorable for a "business-as-usual" fire season, the West's most typical natu-

See Health, Page A7

AIR QUALITY

To check air quality across Oregon, visit the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality's interactive air quality map at oraqi.deq.state.or.us/home/map.



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