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TUESDAY, JULY 31, 2018

142nd Year, No. 192

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PENDLETON



A fishing platform juts out over a small pond near the Eastern Oregon Correctional Institution. The former owners of the land, Gale and Eileen Marshall, have deeded the pond over to Clearview Disability Resource Center to develop into a wheelchair-accessible fishing hole.

Wheelchair-accessible fishing pond in the works

Landowner deeds over three acres for pond project

By KATHY ANEY
East Oregonian

Going fishing is often a simple matter of gathering rod and reel and heading to the nearest river or lake. That is, unless you are in a wheelchair. Uneven ground and rocks can make the short distance to water's edge a treacherous, near-impossible journey. If Darrin Umbarger gets his way, people with disabili-

ties will have a safe and obstacle-free place to fish within Pendleton city limits. Umbarger, who has multiple sclerosis, runs the Clearview Disability Resource Center with his wife, Carol. The nonprofit helps people with disabilities live more complete and successful lives. Umbarger plans to transform a pond near the Eastern Oregon Correctional Institution into a place that people in wheelchairs can navigate. Gale and Eileen Marshall this month deeded over the three acres of land where the

See FISHING/8A



Gale Marshall, Darrin Umbarger and Eileen Marshall pose for a photo in front of the pond the Marshalls donated to Clearview Disability Resource Center to develop into a wheelchair-accessible fishing hole.

Staff photo by E.J. Harris

Oregon joins lawsuit over 3-D printed guns

By CLAIRE WITHYCOMBE
Capital Bureau

SALEM — Oregon is joining a lawsuit against the U.S. Department of State to prevent a Texas company from posting designs for guns that can be made on 3-D printers. California, Connecticut, Washington, D.C., Maryland,

Massachusetts, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania and Washington are also plaintiffs in the lawsuit. Assembling your own gun is legal, according to the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, provided you don't sell it. Nonetheless, the growing phenomenon of "ghost guns" — so called because they

do not have serial numbers that can be traced by the government — presents public safety concerns, detractors say. "What kind of world are we living in where a criminal, terrorist or anybody with access to the internet and a 3-D printer can build a gun?" said Oregon Attorney General Ellen Rosenblum in a written state-

ment Monday. "Once these tutorials to build 3-D guns are unblocked, there is no turning back." Supporters, meanwhile, tout 3-D printing technology as a way to skirt what they view as stringent government regulation of firearms.

See 3-D/8A

Fire shuts down Highway 730, disrupts power in Hermiston



An Oregon Department of Transportation crew blocks traffic northbound on Highway 37 near Walls Road due to an out of control brushfire Monday east of Hermiston. Both Highway 37 and Highway 730 were closed due to the fire.

Staff photo by E.J. Harris

East Oregonian

Highway 730 was closed from Cold Springs Junction to Wallula Junction for most of the day Monday as agencies battled a wildfire that grew to more than 10,500 acres by the evening. Umatilla County Fire District 1 operations chief Jim Forquer said the district got called to the fire about 5 p.m. Sunday night, and as of Monday morning it had spread somewhere between 3,000 and 5,000 acres, continuing to burn throughout the day. The cause of the fire is unknown. "We're concerned about fire behavior and the

weather expected this morning," he said Monday morning, calling the fire's patterns "sporadic." By 5:30 p.m. Monday, Forquer said that fire crews had a "pretty good handle" on containment and were moving into the mop-up phase. Forquer said Umatilla Rural Fire District, Echo Fire District and other area districts were also on scene, as well as the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife. He said area farmers were also helping with fire breaks. Some Hermiston-area residents experienced interruptions to their electric-

ity Monday afternoon as the fire neared Umatilla Electric Cooperative's Juniper Canyon substation and affected some transmission lines to the Hermiston East Substation. Forquer said the Juniper Canyon substation was shut off briefly as the fire approached but that concern was mitigated. Temperatures reached over 100 degrees Monday afternoon, with more of the same in the forecast for Tuesday. "People need to use a lot of caution the next few days," Forquer said. "With the hot and dry conditions the fire danger is getting worse every day."



Greg Walden



McLeod-Skinner

Challenger pressures Walden to set debates

McLeod-Skinner asks for at least three meetings, including Eastern Oregon

By ANTONIO SIERRA
East Oregonian

Jamie McLeod-Skinner literally stopped traffic to get a debate with Rep. Greg Walden. As documented on a video posted to McLeod-Skinner's campaign Facebook page, the Terrebonne Democrat strode up to the cream-colored convertible Walden was riding in during the Chief Joseph Days Parade in Joseph Saturday and shook his hand. "I would like to challenge you to at least three debates within the district," she said. "I will debate you in every single county if you like." McLeod-Skinner continued by telling the 10-term incumbent from Hood River that she would at least like him to debate her three times, one time each in Eastern Oregon, Central Oregon, and Southern Oregon. Walden seemed to answer to affirmatively. "I look forward to debating you," he said. "We'll figure out a schedule that works." Then the parade had to move on. Since winning the Democratic nomination in May, McLeod-Skinner said in an interview Monday that she and Walden have received numerous invitations from various organizations willing to sponsor a debate. Nichole van Eikeren, McLeod-Skinner's campaign manager, said some of those organizations include Central Oregon Community College, the American Association of University Women, and the Grants Pass Daily Courier. McLeod-Skinner said her campaign accepted these invitations but they didn't receive word about Walden agreeing to the debate. With both candidates in Joseph for the parade, McLeod-Skinner said "it seemed like a good time to invite him face-to-face." McLeod-Skinner said she would like

See DEBATE/8A

