



# EAST OREGONIAN

FRIDAY, AUGUST 3, 2018

142nd Year, No. 195

WINNER OF THE 2018 ONPA GENERAL EXCELLENCE AWARD

One dollar

## Your Weekend



- Check out the Umatilla County Fair parade
  - Paratroop jump event at Wildhorse Resort
  - Get centered at Yoga Round-Up in Pendleton
- For times and places visit [www.eastoregonian.com](http://www.eastoregonian.com)

## Weekend Weather

| Fri   | Sat   | Sun   |
|-------|-------|-------|
|       |       |       |
| 81/54 | 83/57 | 89/59 |

## Walden declines to commit to debates

By ANTONIO SIERRA  
East Oregonian

Both candidates have taken different tacks since Democrat Jamie McLeod-Skinner challenged Republican Rep. Greg Walden to a series of debates at the Chief Joseph Days parade Saturday. McLeod-Skinner's campaign sent out a press release publicizing three scheduled debates between the candidates in Umatilla, Jackson, and Deschutes counties. But despite Walden saying he would "look forward" to debating McLeod-Skinner during the parade stop, Walden's office wouldn't directly comment on her proposal. In an email, Walden spokesman Justin Discigil wrote that the 10-term congressman was focused on District 2 issues like wild-fire's impact on air quality and local farms and ranches. When pressed further, Discigil wrote "there will be a time for that discussion, and right now Greg is focused on other, more immediate matters." For her part, McLeod-Skinner said in a previous interview that she believed Walden would honor his word, a sentiment

See DEBATE/8A

## Temple taken off criminal cases

Other judges will assign non-criminal cases to Hermiston courtroom

By PHIL WRIGHT  
East Oregonian

Circuit Judge Eva Temple no longer will handle criminal cases in Umatilla County. The change is effective Friday. Roy Blaine, trial court administrator for the 6th Judicial District, said any good organization reviews its business model to look for better

ways to deliver services. The district has done that before, he said, and in this case two major factors are driving the redistribution of cases and other changes: the coming retirement of Circuit Judge Lynn Hampton, who handles family law, and District Attorney Dan Primus' moves to disqualify Temple.

Primus began filing motions a couple of weeks ago to block Temple from presiding over new crim-



Temple

inal cases. Primus in affidavits claims the state cannot receive fair and impartial treatment from Temple. Primus has not specified what led to the decision. Attorneys in Oregon can disqualify up to two judges for no reason. Defense attorneys make the demand more often than prosecutors. An affidavit from a lawyer asserting the judge is unfair is rare. Blaine said prosecutors disqualify-

ing a particular judge happens, but in his experience the situation is "fairly uncommon." Presiding Judge Christopher Brauer put together an "executive committee" consisting of himself, Circuit Judge Dan Hill, who is the past presiding judge, and Blaine. They came up with a plan to redistribute cases, Blaine said, while improving court services to the public. According to the copy of the plan from Blaine, several changes

See TEMPLE/8A



Staff photo by E.J. Harris

Bagged bottles sit stacked in the back area of the Hermiston BottleDrop on Tuesday in Hermiston.

## Nickels and dimes

Recycling numbers up after increase in deposit amount



Staff photo by E.J. Harris

A sign warning the recyclables from outside of Oregon should not be returned at the BottleDrop sits at the head of the line in Hermiston.

By JADE MCDOWELL  
East Oregonian

Ten cents may not sound like much, but for people who are diligent about returning cans and bottles, deposits can quickly add up to more than pocket change. It was adding up for the Agape House on Tuesday, as a steady stream of people stopped by the Hermiston BottleDrop with specially marked blue bags of cans and bottles to donate to the nonprofit. BottleDrop Give, a program of the Oregon Beverage Recycling Cooperative, had pledged to match up to \$1,000 in deposits collected that afternoon, and Agape House director Dave Hughes said Wednesday that he didn't have a final number but

it looked like the fundraiser had raked in close to \$2,000 worth of deposits (that's 20,000 cans) to go toward backpacks of food sent home with needy school-children on weekends. "They couldn't keep up," Hughes said. "I'm so excited." Oregon's famous Bottle Bill, which set up the country's first beverage recycling deposit system in 1971, helped the OBRC redeem 1.3 billion containers in 2017 alone, according to Peter Spendlow of the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality. An increase from 5 cent deposits to 10 cents in April 2017 has helped increase redemption numbers. Spendlow said in an email that the redemption rate

See RECYCLING/8A

## Oregon has pot oversupply, Colorado hits mark

U.S. Attorney points to link between marijuana and criminal activity

By GILLIAN FLACCUS  
and KATHLEEN FOODY  
Associated Press

PORTLAND — Two of the first states to broadly legalize marijuana took different approaches to regulation that left Oregon with a vast oversupply and Colorado with a well-balanced market. But

in both states prices for bud have plummeted. A new Oregon report by law enforcement found nearly 70 percent of the legal recreational marijuana grown goes unsold, while an unrelated state-commissioned Colorado study found most growers there are planting less than half of their legal allotment — and still meeting demand. The reports offer case studies for California and other pot-friendly states as they ramp up their legal pot industries. They also underscore

some key differences in how broad legalization was handled that have helped shape differently evolving markets in each state. The Oregon study released by the Oregon-Idaho High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area — a coalition of local, state and federal agencies — includes the medical and general-use markets and the illegal market, despite gaps in data on illicit marijuana grows. It noted Oregon still has a serious problem with out-of-state trafficking and black market grows

— and the top federal law enforcement officer in Oregon demanded more cooperation from state and local officials Thursday in a strident statement. "What is often lost in this discussion is the link between marijuana and serious, interstate criminal activity. Overproduction is rampant, and the illegal transport of product out-of-state — a violation of both state and federal law — continues unchecked," said Billy

See POT/8A

