



Sunlight breaks through the clouds causing an interplay of light and shadow on the hills and in the valley along the Umatilla River on Monday north of Gibbon on the Umatilla Indian Reservation.

Staff photo by E.J. Harris

EAST OREGONIAN

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143rd Year, No. 10

WINNER OF THE 2018 ONPA GENERAL EXCELLENCE AWARD

One dollar

HERMISTON Anti-105 rally draws a crowd

By PHIL WRIGHT
East Oregonian

Leaders and supporters of Umatilla County's Hispanic community stood firm against ending Oregon's sanctuary state status.

Roughly 100 people participated on Saturday at McKenzie Park, Hermiston, in a rally urging locals to vote no on Ballot Measure 105. Organizers said they put the word out starting last weekend. The event drew a few local elected leaders, including Hermiston City Councilor Lori Davis. Her challenger in this election, Mark Gomolski, who serves on Hermiston's Hispanic Advisory Committee, was not present.

The organizers also pulled in Jamie McLeod-Skinner, the Democrat challenging incumbent Republican Greg Walden to be the next U.S. representative for Oregon's Congressional 2nd District.

Zaira Sanchez of Hermiston began the rally with a moment of silence to recognize the victims in Saturday's mass shooting at a synagogue in Pittsburgh. The shooting was an act of

See RALLY/10A

'Teacher of the Year'

Weston Middle School's Amber Doremus wins OSSA award



Staff photo by E.J. Harris

Weston Middle School teacher Amber Doremus won the Oregon Small School Association Teacher of the Year award.

By ANTONIO SIERRA
East Oregonian

Most of the students at Weston Middle School aren't done growing, but they still need to duck into Amber Doremus' room.

Doremus has three strips of paper taped across the doorway with words written on them like "rejection," "regret," and "I can't."

She said these strips were meant to visualize the metaphorical barriers students face

when they deal with math, and when they duck under them on their way to class, it's meant to show that they can get past those barriers to learn.

Whether intentional or not, Doremus has many symbols around her classroom that are reflective of her 15-year career at Weston Middle School, which is being honored with an Oregon Small School Association Teacher of the Year award.

On a bulletin board, Doremus has pinned a map of much of the western United States

that features a route she took when she helped her cousin move from Eastern Oregon to Roff, Oklahoma.

After going to a Chris Stapleton concert in Spokane the night before, Doremus embarked on the five-day road trip, stopping at many landmarks across the way.

She flew back home but not before stopping in Denver to visit her brother. Doremus capped her trip off with a training in Seattle

See TEACHER/10A

"She's what we call a teacher leader."

— Ann Vescio, Weston Middle School principal

OHA seeks tax increase on alcohol, cigarettes

By CLAIRE WITHYCOMBE
Capital Bureau

SALEM — State health officials say they want a substantial tax to drive down smoking and binge drinking.

About 20 percent of Oregonians smoke, exceeding the national average and increasing the risk for strokes, lung cancer and heart disease. It's the state's highest cause of preventable death.

And in a state renowned for

hoppy IPAs and fruit-forward pinot noirs, alcohol-related deaths have climbed about 38 percent since 2001, according to the Oregon Health Authority.

Nearly 2,000 people died from alcohol overuse in the state in 2016,

making it Oregon's third most common cause of preventable death.

State officials think they can use tax policy to improve public health and reduce health care costs.

See TAX/10A

