

# EAST OREGONIAN

TUESDAY, JUNE 18, 2019

143rd Year, No. 174

WINNER OF THE 2018 ONPA GENERAL EXCELLENCE AWARD

\$1.50

## Cap and trade passes the House

The massive environmental policy would heavily regulate carbon emissions

By AUBREY WIEBER  
Oregon Capital Bureau

SALEM — After months of committee hearings, Republicans relished their final opportunity to pepper Democrats over their proposed legislation to cap greenhouse gas.

They took to the floor to give grand speeches they can point to when on the campaign trail, but they weren't able to impact a vote.

That was decided well before House Bill 2020 hit the floor, where it passed 36-24 on Monday.

It's a significant and penultimate step for the Oregon Legislature.

The bill now moves to the Senate where the vote margin will likely be slimmer, but it's expected to pass nonetheless.

Rep. Karin Power, D-Milwaukie, carried the bill on the floor and co-chaired the joint committee that created it. She said climate change is the greatest threat of our lifetime, but we still have an opportunity to limit our impact on the environment.

The policy known as cap and trade, if passed, will go into effect in 2021 and join Oregon with California as the only states in the country with an economy-wide carbon pricing program.

The program will heavily regulate emissions in the hopes of forcing industry to find cleaner ways to produce and ship goods.

By charging companies to emit greenhouse gasses, the state will create a revenue stream to fund projects to mitigate the impact of climate change, as well as limit the effect of the program on low-income communities.

However, Republicans do not believe in the mechanisms to soften the blow on low-income and rural Oregonians.

They say cap and trade will destroy Oregon's business climate — something they say Democrats have had in their crosshairs for years with policies like the clean fuel standard and "coal to clean" legislation aimed at transitioning electric utilities from coal-generated power.

But in the end, the two sides just don't see eye to eye, and Oregonians have stuffed the Capitol with Democrats.

It was a point made early in floor debate by Rep. Kim Wallan, R-Medford.

Wallan, in speaking from her opponents' perspective, said it's the case of the "woke" versus the "rubes." Both find it incredibly

See Environment, Page A6



Staff photo by E.J. Harris

A Umatilla Fire Department rescue boat searches the south shore of the Columbia River for missing boaters on Monday east of Umatilla. Janice Arsenault, 44, of Umatilla, and Trenton Williams, 20, from Idaho, went missing in the river while boating on Saturday.

## Searchers recover pair missing in Columbia River

By PHIL WRIGHT  
East Oregonian

Boaters went missing Saturday evening near Bobby's Beach

UMATILLA — The search for two adults missing from a boat on the Columbia River ended Monday evening. The Umatilla County Sheriff's Office confirmed the recovery of both bodies.



Arsenault

Sheriff's Lt. Sterrin Holcomb said sonar equipment played the crucial role in finding the bodies of Janice Arsenault, 44, of Umatilla, and Trenton Williams, 20, from Idaho.

They went missing Saturday evening on the river near Bobby's Beach, a small site along Highway 730 near milepost 195, after a caller reported two adults were no longer on a boat that pulled onto shore.

The Umatilla County Sheriff's Office, Morrow County Sheriff's Office and several other agencies responded soon after the call. Umatilla County Sheriff Terry Rowan said rescue boats from multiple agencies arrived that night to scour the water, and as word spread of the crisis, as many as 30 private boats participated.

"There was a tremendous number of resources out there Saturday evening



Staff photo by E.J. Harris

Umatilla County Sheriff Terry Rowan talks on a cellphone while on the south shore of the Columbia River on Monday during a search for two missing boaters east of Umatilla.

until about 1 Sunday morning," he said.

Law enforcement from nearby counties in Washington sent personnel. Teams walked the shoreline for any signs of Arsenault and Williams.

"It's like looking for a needle in a haystack," Rowan said, "only underwater."

Searchers took a break Sunday night and resumed the effort in the morning. They returned again Monday morning. By that afternoon, Holcomb reported, the focus of the search became recovery efforts.

In June 2018, Arsenault became a volunteer firefighter for the Umatilla Rural Fire Protection District. The *Hermiston Herald*, the *East Oregonian's* sister publication, profiled Arsenault in September 2018.

She revealed she lost her health care job in Las Vegas in 2008 and moved to Umatilla because she has family there. She worked as an office specialist at Blue Mountain Community College. She loved sushi and in her spare time enjoyed hanging with friends and riding her Harley-Davidson motorcycle. Arsenault said she was working toward the

See Missing, Page A6

## New policy seeks to curb wildfire risks

By ERIN ROSS  
Oregon Public Broadcasting

PORTLAND — As Oregon braces for another hot and dry summer, one of its biggest utility companies has announced a new wildfire policy aimed at reducing wildfire risks across their service area.

"We want to make sure, going forward, that we're keeping communities safe during those high-wind and dry conditions," said Scott Bolton, the senior vice president of external affairs and customer solutions at Pacific Power.

The new policies, announced last week,

include clearing vegetation around power lines and poles, increasing inspections at facilities, training their field crews in wildfire suppression, and installing local weather stations to help identify high fire risk days. They also plan to implement "Public Safety Power Shutoffs" if danger-

ous weather is expected in high fire risk areas. If the power is cut before the wind blows down lines, there's less risk of fire.

Electricity providers have been under increased scrutiny since a number of wildfires in California were linked to downed power lines during wind-

storms, improperly maintained power stations, and areas where brush had grown too close to electrical infrastructure.

Former residents of Paradise, California, sued their utility, Pacific Gas and Electric (PG&E), for negligence

See Pacific Power, Page A6



CHI St. Anthony Hospital Family Clinic is recognized as a Patient-Centered Primary Care Home.

### What does that mean for you?

- Better-coordinated care.
- Listening to your concerns and answering questions.
- After-hours nurse consultation.
- Healthcare providers who will help connect you with the care you need in a safe and timely way.
- Healthcare providers who play an active role in your health.

CHI St. Anthony Hospital

844.724.8632

3001 St. Anthony Way, Pendleton  
WWW.SAHPENDLETON.ORG

Mon through Thurs, 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. • Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.,  
Sat and Sun, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.,  
Walk-ins are welcome but appointments are preferred.



7 2946710002 2