

143rd Year, No. 177

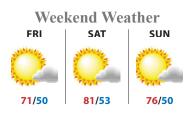
WINNER OF THE 2018 ONPA GENERAL EXCELLENCE AWARD



• Weiner Dog Races, Pendleton

• Landing Days 2019, Umatilla

• Wild West Beerfest, Pendleton



Milton-Freewater superintendent resigns

Rob Clark heading to Sequim School District in Washington

By ANTONIO SIERRA



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

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

GOP senators leave state as police are deployed

\$1.50

Sen. Bill Hansell among legislators who walked out

By SARAH ZIMMERMAN AND GILLIAN FLACCUS Associated Press

SALEM — Oregon Gov. Kate Brown deployed the state police Thursday to try to round up Republican lawmakers who



fled the Capitol to block a vote on a landmark economy-wide climate plan that would be the second of its kind in the nation.

Hansell

M i n o r i t y Republicans want the cap-andtrade proposal, which is aimed at dramatically lowering the state's greenhouse gas emissions by 2050, to be sent to voters instead of being instituted by lawmakers — but negotiations with Democrats collapsed, leading to the walkout, Kate Gillem, a spokeswoman for Senate Republicans said Thursday.

Oregon State Police can force any senators they track down in Oregon into a patrol car to return them to the Capitol, although the agency said in a statement that it would use "polite communication" and patience to bring the rogue lawmakers back. Sen. Bill Hansell, R-Athena, said Thursday evening that he had left the state and was somewhere "south of Oregon." As far as he had heard, all of the other Republican senators were also outside of OSP's jurisdiction. "The governor had made it clear she was going to mobilize state police and we didn't really know what that would mean," he said. "Would they force us to come back? Encourage us to come back? How extensive would the search be?" He said he had received a text message from OSP superintendent Travis Hampton asking where he was. Under state law, the absentee senators will be fined \$500 a day per person starting Friday if enough of them remain absent to prevent a vote. Democrats have

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. Now, the

Milton-Free-

Clark

water 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

By KATHY ANEY *East Oregonian*

ENDLETON — 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.

See Walkout, Page A7

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 Wallowa-Whitman 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-

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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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Aon 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.

