

EOU board retreat to Boardman a ‘great opportunity’

By **ANDREW CUTLER**
The Observer

LA GRANDE — Eastern Oregon University’s board of trustees will hold its 2022 annual retreat Aug. 8-9 in Boardman.

The meetings will include engagement with local and regional business leaders, local representatives and regional stakeholders to discuss the university’s role in business, industry and education in the area.

The Boardman session is part of a larger program by the board to conduct fact-finding tours across the region, said Tim Seydel, vice president for University Advancement at Eastern Oregon University.

“The board has been intentional about going out, not wanting to do a retreat (in La Grande). Let’s go out into the region and meet with, you know, the parts of that we serve,” he said.

Trustees will host a public reception from 5-6:30 p.m. Monday, Aug. 8, in the SAGE Center Gallery. The public is invited to attend the reception and share their EOU stories and hear comments from President Tom Insko and the board’s chair, Richard Chaves.

“This is a great opportunity for community members, alumni and friends to meet with trustees and the presi-



Contributed Photo

Eastern Oregon University’s board of trustees will host a public reception during its annual retreat from 5-6:30 p.m. Monday, Aug. 8, in the SAGE Center Gallery, Boardman.

dent and hear about what we are doing, and for EOU to learn more about the needs of the area,” Seydel said.

During the retreat, the board also plans to host panels on economic development and education and conduct regular business. A full agenda will be made available in early August.

Seydel said the board previously conducted retreats

in places such as Ontario, Baker City, Enterprise and Pendleton along with remote sessions.

The outreach sessions are important to the board, he said.

“Most of our board is from the greater Eastern Oregon region so they all have a vested interest in the success of the university and what it does and how we

serve the region,” he said.

The retreats are also part of the university’s heritage, Seydel said.

“This goes back to our founding, you know, that’s why we were founded was in 1929 is to serve this area, serve this region,” he said.

Seydel said the retreats also highlight the amount of activity — both economic and educational — in the region.

“I think a lot of times (people) think it’s just a large, you know, big vast area with more cows than people. Like we tell people on the west side, there is a lot going on. And when they get out here, they’re always amazed,” he said.

The outreach sessions also provide board members with valuable knowledge regarding what area residents see

as crucial priorities for the university.

“What better way to inform the trustees and the senior staff at the university than to go do it in person,” Seydel said.

Seydel said, for example, the trustees plan on doing a tour of the Port of Morrow.

“I think it may just be like one of the larger facilities there that we have some student or some alumni working at,” he said.

Seydel also said the board would sponsor panels on various subjects during the outreach session.

“One on education, as you might guess, with people from the area. And like Blue Mountain Community College and the school districts around the area and the ESDs,” he said.

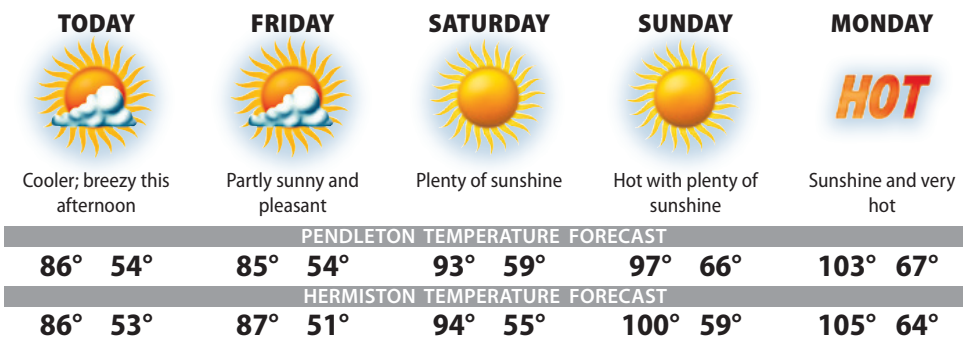
Another panel will address economic development issues, including challenges with work force priorities.

“Because that is where we hear the largest needs are particularly in that region,” Seydel said.

The trustees enjoy the outreach sessions, Seydel said.

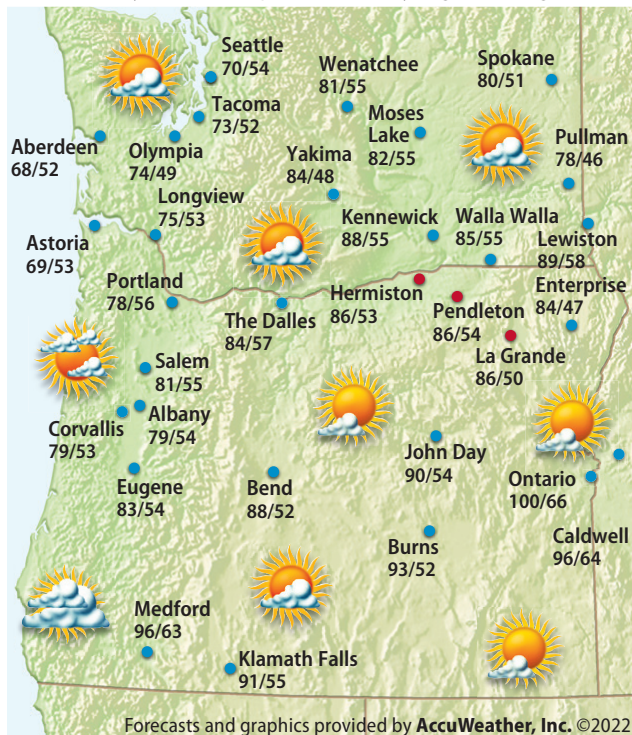
“They are ‘Hey, who should we be talking to? What areas should we be making sure we cover?’ And they’re usually jumping right on board and our helping us out,” he said.

Forecast for Pendleton Area



OREGON FORECAST

Shown is today’s weather. Temperatures are today’s highs and tonight’s lows.



ALMANAC

PENDLETON through 3 p.m. Wed.

TEMP.	HIGH	LOW
Wednesday	98°	64°
Normals	91°	60°
Records	105° (2021)	40° (1910)

PRECIPITATION

24 hours ending 3 p.m.	0.00"
Month to date	0.00"
Normal month to date	0.03"
Year to date	11.13"
Last year to date	4.35"
Normal year to date	8.34"

HERMISTON through 3 p.m. Wed.

TEMP.	HIGH	LOW
Wednesday	99°	65°
Normals	94°	60°
Records	106° (2021)	42° (1937)

PRECIPITATION

24 hours ending 3 p.m.	0.00"
Month to date	0.00"
Normal month to date	0.02"
Year to date	7.48"
Last year to date	2.46"
Normal year to date	5.16"

WINDS (in mph)

Today	WSW 10-20	Fri.	NE 4-8
Pendleton	W 8-16		N 6-12

SUN AND MOON

Sunrise today	5:42 a.m.
Sunset tonight	8:20 p.m.
Moonrise today	1:02 p.m.
Moonset today	11:31 p.m.

First Full Last New

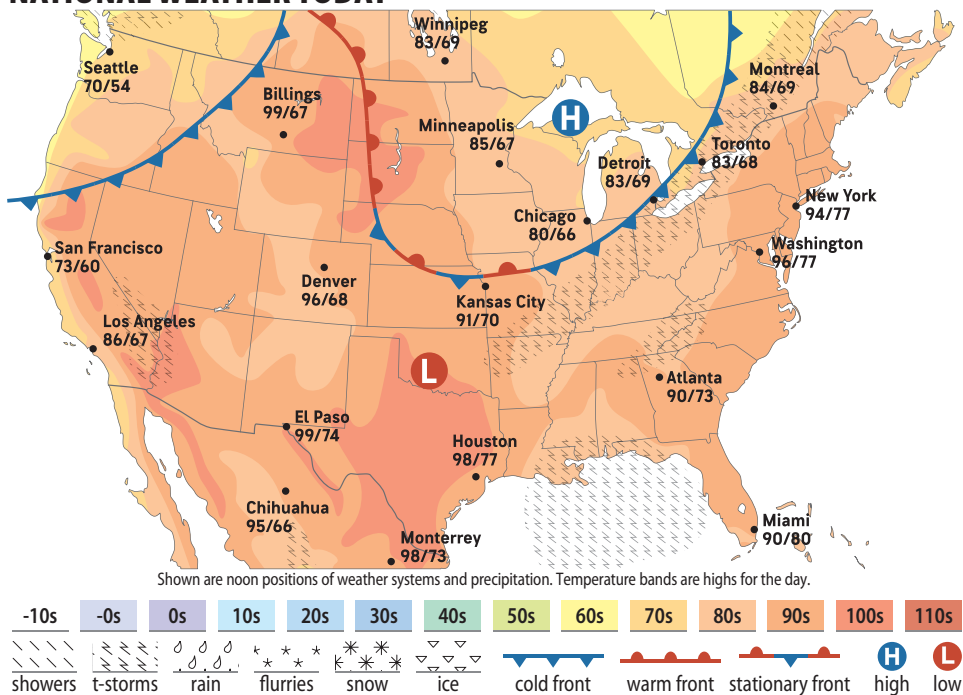
Aug 5	Aug 11	Aug 18	Aug 27
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NATIONAL EXTREMES

Yesterday’s National Extremes: (for the 48 contiguous states)

High 111° in Needles, Calif. Low 38° in Stanley, Idaho

NATIONAL WEATHER TODAY



Beech Creek Fire spreads to 200 acres

Highway 395 North remains closed between Mount Vernon and Long Creek

By **STEVEN MITCHELL**
Blue Mountain Eagle

MOUNT VERNON — Fire crews with the Oregon Department of Forestry, the Malheur National Forest and Grayback Forestry battled a 200-acre blaze that broke out around 1:30 p.m. Monday, Aug. 1, and burned on both sides of Highway 395 North near milepost 106B.

The fire was zero percent contained as of noon on Tuesday, according to Malheur National Forest officials.

Grant County Sheriff Todd McKinley said Tuesday, Aug. 2, that air and ground crews, along with local landowners, teamed up to limit the spread of the fast-moving blaze that knocked out a power line to Long Creek and forced the evacuation of two homes.

Because of the hard work of the locals and firefighters, McKinley said, those who were evacuated did not lose their homes. McKinley said there had no new spread of the fire overnight, with some



Contributed Photo

A heavy-duty air tanker drops fire retardant Monday, Aug. 1, 2022, on the Beech Creek Fire west of Magone Lake in Grant County.

“decent rain” that worked in firefighters’ favor.

The sheriff said Oregon Trail Electric Co-op was working to restore power to the area.

Highway 395 between Long Creek and Mount Vernon remained closed as of Tuesday.

Grant County Emergency Manager Eric Bush said private property owners in the area were contacted on Monday and were offered assistance for livestock and property protection.

Malheur National Forest deputy fire staff supervisor Eric Miller said the blaze was initially assigned two

20-person crews with six engines, one single-engine air tanker, plus two additional heavy air tankers and a helitack crew. In addition, Miller said the Forest Service ordered other crews and resources and expected to have them in place Monday evening or Tuesday morning.

Miller said people should stay away from the Beech Creek area west of Magone Lake, where the fire was burning, although the lake itself was still open and could be reached by other routes.

There’s a lot of other roads through the forest, Miller said, “so they should just avoid the area.”

IN BRIEF

Baker City Police arrest man hours after he was released from prison

BAKER CITY — Baker City police arrested a man Monday, Aug. 1 on burglary, harassment and criminal mischief charges less than six hours after he had been released from prison.

Alan William Wolfe, 35, whom police described as a transient, was arrested at 4:46 p.m. at 1340 Auburn Ave. after officers responded to a report of a burglary in progress there.

Baker City police, deputies from the Baker County Sheriff’s Office and employees from the Baker County Parole and Probation Department arrived, finding Wolfe, shirtless and bleeding from cuts to his arms.

Police found the back window of the home

at that address had been broken. Officers also found blood.

Wolfe was treated for superficial cuts and then taken to the Baker County Jail. Additional charges are expected, according to a press release from Baker City Police Chief Ty DUBY.

Police had been looking for Wolfe based on an incident that happened about 40 minutes earlier, around 4:04 p.m. at 1690 Chestnut St.

A woman at that address told police she had responded to a knock on her door, and that a man she didn’t know grabbed her and tried to kiss her after saying he was looking for a lost pit bull.

The man was carrying a bottle containing an alcoholic drink and a bag of personal grooming supplies, according to the press release.

—EO Media Group

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