

State's climate program faces challenge

Businesses aim to block Oregon's new Climate Action Plan, which was passed in December

By APRIL EHRLICH
Oregon Public Broadcasting

SALEM — A coalition of businesses wants a court to block Oregon's new Climate Action Plan administrative rules.

The rules, passed by the Oregon Environmental Quality Commission in December, target a 90% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions from transportation fuels and natural gas by 2050.

In a petition for judicial review filed Friday, March 18, 12 industry trade groups say the rules "hold fuel suppliers directly accountable" for the state's greenhouse gas emissions.

The groups represent farming, ranching, fossil fuel, logging, manufacturing and retail businesses.

Mary Anne Cooper of the Oregon Farm Bureau in a statement said the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality "overstepped its authority."

"Oregonians should not stand for a state agency writing policies that it does not have the authority to write, and it sets a dangerous precedent for the future," Cooper wrote.

For years, Oregon Democratic lawmakers have tried to launch an economy-wide cap-and-trade program to reduce the carbon emissions that contribute to climate change. When they failed to get enough votes, Gov. Kate Brown last year ordered DEQ to develop

See, [Climate/Page B6](#)

TOGETHER AGAIN

Oregon FFA state convention returns in person for 2022

By GEORGE PLAVEN
Capital Press

REDMOND — Watching the opening session of the 2022 Oregon FFA State Convention, Hayden Bush could feel tears welling in his eyes.

"I'm an emotional person," said Bush, an agriculture teacher and FFA advisor at Tillamook High School. "There is something about being in that session hall and feeling that excitement that you can't get virtually."

More than 2,500 Oregon FFA members and guests gathered starting Thursday, March 17, for the first in-person convention since the start of the pandemic, bringing a rush of energy and unbridled enthusiasm to the Deschutes Fair & Expo Center in Redmond. The convention culminated March 20 in the election of state officers.

For Codie-Lee Haner, a freshman at Sherman County High School in Moro, it was her first live convention experience. She likened it to a rock concert, particularly in the main session hall where members crowded around the stage to dance with their friends.

"So far, I've made a lot of friends along the way," Haner said. "I'm not good at making friends, but I've opened up to a lot of people here."

It is precisely that element of togetherness that FFA members and advisors say can't be duplicated online.

See, [FFA/Page B6](#)



Ryan Brennecke/The Bulletin

Students run through the doors to enter the First Interstate Bank Center for the opening session of the Oregon FFA State Convention at the Deschutes Fair & Expo Center on Thursday, March 17, 2022.



Ryan Brennecke/The Bulletin

Students dance and sing together in the First Interstate Bank Center before the opening session of the Oregon FFA State Convention at the Deschutes County Fair & Expo Center on Thursday, March 17, 2022.

Find your album at Ruby Peak Music

By BILL BRADSHAW
Wallowa County Chieftain

ENTERPRISE — Who doesn't enjoy that warm, fuzzy feeling of a vinyl LP on a turntable? Yeah, CDs or live-streaming may produce higher-definition sound, but they skip the memories the LPs evoke.

That's what Greg and Michelle Mitchell are offering at Ruby Peak Music, a small music shop in what used to be a garage behind their home.

"It was a two-car garage and now it's our shop," Greg said.

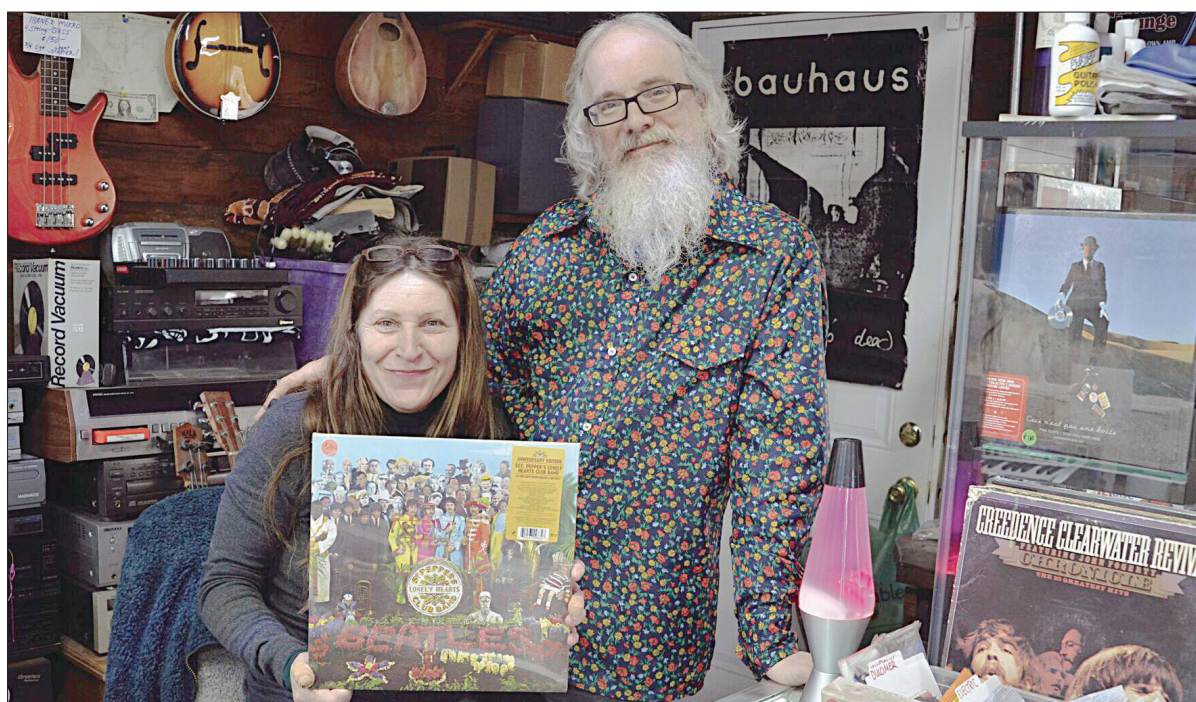
"Most of this stuff was our own and we were like, you can only have so many boxes in the house and they were stacked to the ceiling," Michelle said. "We decided we wanted to do this place about four years ago and really started busting (the garage) out the last couple years and started cooking on it last spring. We had to get rid of the garage doors."

They actually opened in mid-December with mostly records they'd collected on their own over the years.

Collecting

Although the Mitchells started with mostly their own collection, they did obtain some from friendly sources.

"We have this friend we met at an outdoor flea market and he was selling boxes of records and we hadn't really bought them until



Bill Bradshaw/Wallowa County Chieftain

Michelle and Greg Mitchell hold a brand-new sealed "Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band" album by the Beatles surrounded by other classic music and instruments in their Ruby Peak Music shop in Enterprise on Wednesday, March 2, 2022.

then," Michelle said.

"We were doing the CD thing at that time," Greg added.

"We thought, 'Oh, these are cool. Let's check this out.' So we bought a bunch from him for like nothing and we ended up being good friends," Michelle said. "He would go to a storage unit and would end up with all of these records and he would call us every time he got some and so Greg, of course, 'Yeah, we want them all.' This was becoming a

once-a-week thing. It's crazy, but it's — with some exceptions — what we have collected."

Greg said that friend has now passed, but they keep a picture of him there "to watch over us."

Greg said he had to start over collecting records after his parents sold many of his originals at a yard sale.

"We didn't know records would be coming back," Michelle said. "It was all CDs then. Who knew?" But the crackle — not a skip —

of a vinyl record adds to its charm. Greg said they don't sell records that skip. If a record skips, he'll take it for a return credit and try to clean and repair it.

"That's part of it," Michelle said. "Obviously, you want some that don't, but it's like if you put on an old Mamas and Papas and there's some crackling there, you know people have listened to it."

"They're so much warmer than CDs and streaming," Greg agreed. "Streaming just sucks terribly."

"Those crackles tell you that it's been played and loved," Michelle said.

The whole gamut

But they don't limit their wares to just vinyl. They also sell CDs, cassettes and even a few eight-tracks, along with players for all and some instruments and amplifiers. They even have 45 and 78 rpm records and several genres of books.

In their shop music aficionados will find everything from classic rock such as Led Zepplin, 1950s Elvis Presley, pop, jazz, blues, easy listening like Frank Sinatra and Dean Martin, Herb Alpert, country-western, classical, gospel, disco and even movie sound tracks.

The LPs aren't all old, used and scratched. Many are new and still sealed from the manufacturer. They have sealed, unopened records such as the Beatles' groundbreaking "Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band," Pink Floyd, Robert Johnson, and newer artists such as Sturgill Simpson.

"We have some more obscure things, like an album by the Black Angels that is one of only 500 made," Greg said. "We have some oddities, some rarities. We want to cover the whole gamut of music, like we have done in our personal lives."

Some of their collectibles

See, [Music/Page B6](#)