PHOTO PROVIDED

The Anvil Blasters play The Barn on June 17.

CONCERT: Benefit for Warfighter Outfitters of Sisters

Continued from page 3

to help out."

A relatively small donation of a couple hundred dollars can have a big impact. It only takes $150 to get four veterans out on the water for a fly fishing trip.

"We're looking forward to a great night," said Cornelius. "Cris Converse (owner of The Barn) is really excited to host this event, and we've got some fun stuff cooked up for the evening. I think we're going to get (Warfighter Outfitters founder) Brett Miller into action on stage, too.

"There's nothing better than getting folks together to help each other out — and have a good time doing it. That's what playing music is all about as far as we're concerned — it's a gathering of the tribe."

The Barn is located at 68467 Three Creek Rd., about three-quarters of a mile south of downtown Sisters. Suggested donation $20. Bring your own refreshments. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. For information call 541-390-6973.

"I'm super-excited about the community involvement in this," Miller said, "because these trips truly make a huge difference in veterans' lives."

Counties sue Oregon over state's paid sick-leave law

ALBANY (AP) — Nine counties are suing the state, claiming Oregon's new paid sick-leave law is an unfunded government mandate.

KEZI-TV reports that Linn County commissioners filed the suit Friday in Linn County Circuit Court. They were joined by Douglas, Jefferson, Morrow, Malheur, Polk, Sherman, Wallowa and Yamhill counties.

Since January, Oregon law requires employers with at least 10 employees to provide paid sick-leave. Employers must provide one hour of sick time for every 30 hours an employee works, or 1-1/3 hours for every 40 hours worked.

The commissioners are asking the state court for its interpretation of the constitution, which states they may refuse to comply with any state law if they aren't given funding from the state.

Linn County Commissioner Roger Nyquist said the county can't afford the cost.

Brown: Tax should go to high school programs

By Kristena Hansen
Associated Press

PORTLAND (AP) — With the largest corporate tax hike in Oregon history likely headed to voters in November, lawmakers have two different scenarios to consider for the next two-year budget cycle: one with an extra $6 billion in tax revenue, and one without.

That reality prompted Gov. Kate Brown on Thursday to release her own vision for some of that revenue if Initiative Petition 28 passes this fall.

It involves creating an endowment fund for high school vocational programs in hopes of boosting graduation rates; expanding earned income tax credits for low-income households; and establishing tax credits for corporations that dedicate a portion of their tax bill to the Oregon Growth Fund for small and minority businesses.

Cost estimates weren't immediately available as discussions with lawmakers, who will ultimately decide the plan's fate, were just beginning. But officials in Brown's office say it's a framework to start with, an effort to lock away at least some of what would otherwise be discretionary money for the Oregon Legislature.

"The time to build the boat is before the tide rises," Brown, who remains neutral on IP 28, said in a statement. "As I consider the development of budgets and policies for 2017-19, my Corporate Tax Implementation Plan provides a framework for planning that advances my priorities: improve our high school graduation rate, continue economic growth statewide and protect Oregon jobs."

The measure — a gross receipts tax hike proposal that would apply to businesses with $25 million-plus in annual sales and is awaiting final approval for the November ballot — specifies that all revenue it generates would fund education, healthcare and senior services.

But there aren't any guarantees. Lawmakers can spend the revenue however they want because IP 28 would change state law, not the Oregon Constitution.

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