



**BUCKS BEAT BULLDOGS**  
BASEBALL/1B



**WEEKEND EDITION**  
**DRAGONS ON WALLOWA LAKE**  
LIFESTYLES/1C



**BATHROOM BATTLE CONTINUES**  
NATION/9A

# EAST OREGONIAN

MAY 14-15, 2016

140th Year, No. 151

WINNER OF THE 2015 ONPA GENERAL EXCELLENCE AWARD

\$1.50

## Almost 25 percent of ballots already in

Deadline for primary is 8 p.m. Tuesday

By **PARIS ACHEN**  
Capital Bureau

SALEM — About one-fourth of the state's nearly 2.3 million registered voters had turned in ballots for Oregon's primary election by the end of Thursday, according to the Secretary of State's Office.

County clerks said they were expecting a more robust turnout — up to 60 percent of voters — before the 8 p.m. May 17 deadline because of strong interest in the contests for the Republican and Democratic nominations for president.

"Bernie Sanders and Donald Trump are both bringing in more participation this election," said Marion County Clerk Bill Burgess. "It's hard to know what the votes will come up with in terms of results."

Voters also will be deciding party nominees for governor and secretary of state and local offices.

Here's what you need to know for voting in the last days of the election:

- The time has passed for vote by mail for the primary because the U.S. Postal Service cannot guarantee on-time delivery for ballots postmarked after May 12. Voters who want to participate in the primary must cast their ballots at one of the drop-off sites around the state or at a county clerk's office.

Drop-off locations are posted on the websites of the Secretary of State's Office and county clerk's offices. Ballots may be dropped off at any county clerk's office in the state, regardless of the voter's place of residence. The county clerk who receives the ballot will mark it as submitted on time and deliver it to the county clerk's office where the voter is registered to vote.

- Election workers have already processed nearly 25 percent of ballots in the state, but the votes will not be tallied until after the May 17 deadline. In the meantime,

See **BALLOTS/12A**

## The ghost upstairs

By **ANTONIO SIERRA**  
East Oregonian

As street level storefronts in downtown Pendleton have been developed in recently into restaurants, boutiques and salons, most of the second story spaces have remained vacant and unusable.

They've come to be known as "ghost properties" to the Pendleton Development Commission, decades out of compliance with occupation codes and in need of tens or even hundreds of thousands of dollars of upgrades before they can be put into use.

The Haw Building is an exemplary case.

The 101-year-old structure on Southeast Court Avenue is home to Prodigal Son Brewery and

See **DOWNTOWN/12A**

### Businesses hope to expand into long-vacant spaces in second story of Pendleton's downtown



### More inside

For a map of the businesses targeted by the Pendleton Development Commission for second-story development, see **Page 12A**.

**MAIN PHOTO:** The Ladow Block is seen from the upstairs of the Haw Building, where the Prodigal Son brewery resides, in Pendleton. Both buildings are on a list of second story structures targeted for possible development by the Pendleton Development Commission.

**RIGHT:** Prodigal Son owner Tim Guenther stands in the upper level of the Haw Building where his brewery occupies the ground floor.

Staff photos by E.J. Harris



## HERMISTON

# First EOTEC building open for business



Visitors file through the front doors of the Eastern Oregon Trade and Event Center for an open house at the first of multiple buildings that will be built on the grounds Friday in Hermiston.

Staff photo by E.J. Harris

### Friday open house draws large crowd

By **JADE MCDOWELL**  
East Oregonian

It was a party at the Eastern Oregon Trade and Event Center Friday as curious community members mingled with EOTEC's founding fathers to celebrate the opening of the center's first building.

"Today is a day to celebrate and say thank you," Mayor David Drotzmann said as he welcomed the group.

Although Drotzmann is involved in EOTEC today as a fundraising committee member

and mayor, he said it was important to acknowledge the long line of people who worked to make EOTEC a reality long before he took office — people like Tom Harper, who as Hermiston city manager 30 years ago helped the city purchase the land where EOTEC now sits.

"These gentlemen had the vision," he said.

EOTEC has had its challenges, he said, and its detractors. But any community should be thrilled to have a \$16 million investment with no debt to pay off.

County commissioner Larry Givens said he was nervous when the county signed away

See **EOTEC/10A**

