





Trump briefed on potentially compromising report NATION/7A

REGONIAN HAST WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 11, 2017

141st Year, No. 62

WINNER OF THE 2016 ONPA GENERAL EXCELLENCE AWARD

One dollar

ENOUGH ALREADY

Wrecks shut down I-82, snowfall doubles local average

East Oregonian

Another wave of winter hit eastern Oregon and Washington on Tuesday, shutting down Interstate 82 in two places and snarling traffic elsewhere.

Most Eastern Oregon highways remained open Tuesday after heavy snow forced

their closure for much of the weekend, but icy conditions led to a wreck on the Interstate 82 bridge at Umatilla and the eastbound lanes near Coffin Road in Washington.

Oregon State Police Sgt. Seth Cooney said the bridge closure started when a blue Chevrolet Silverado pickup was heading

into Washington, hit a patch of ice at the apex of the bridge, spun out and blocked traffic.

"It is a parking lot out there all the way over to the Washington side," he said late in the afternoon

And at 6 p.m., Cooney said

See SNOW/8A



A multi-vehicle pileup near Coffin Road on Interstate 82 in Washington shut down the freeway for much of the afternoon on Tuesday.

PENDLETON



Brandon Krenzler stands in the main retail area of Kind Leaf Pendleton marijuana dispensary on Monday in Pendleton. Krenzler, a co-owner of Kind Leaf Pendleton, says the store will be ready for inspection by the end of the month.

Taking a shot at pot

Race is on to bring retail marijuana to Round-Up City

By ANTONIO SIERRA East Oregonian

With the table now set for a legal cannabis market, two Pendleton businesses are working toward offering the main course.

Two months after Pendleton legalized marijuana sales, the owners of Kind Leaf Pendleton and Pendleton Cannabis are currently navigating the state and city's regulatory process.

Both businesses took an important first step when the Pendleton planning commission



Staff photo by E.J. Harris

Brandon Krenzler, owner of the Kind Leaf Pendleton, paints a coat of primer on the wall of an office space for his marijuana dispensary on Monday in Pendleton.

approved their locations at a meeting Thursday.

While previous public hearings on marijuana occasionally attracted resistance, no one publicly testified against either

business. And although there was some confusion as to whether Kind Leaf's 1733 S.W. Court Ave. location's proximity to the Pendleton Convention Center violated the city's zoning rules — a cannabis retailer can't be within a 1,000 feet of a school, park or a

public facility primarily attended by minors — both businesses faced little resistance in receiving approval from the commission.

Despite the early victories, a significant amount of the licensing process lies ahead of

them before they can open up "It's a steep learning curve," said Shawn Pace, a co-owner of Pendleton Cannabis on 816 Southgate. "It's heavily regu-

Pace originally was thinking

about opening a coffee shop when ballot measures legalizing recreational and medical marijuana passed in November.

That development spurred him to make his first foray into the cannabis industry.

Once Pace finishes renovating the former lube shop into a marijuana retail space in about two weeks, he said he'll request an inspection from the Oregon Liquor Control Commission.

See BUSINESS/8A

HERMISTON

Ranch & Home gets incentive to build by end of year

City could reimburse \$300k if grocery store also builds

> By JADE MCDOWELL East Oregonian

The Hermiston city council approved an agreement with Ranch & Home on Monday to reimburse the retailer for a slew of development costs if it finishes building a store in Hermiston by Jan. 1, 2018.

Those incentives will increase if the company also convinces a grocery store to build next door by Oct. 1, 2018.

City manager Byron Smith said economic development, particularly bringing more retail opportunities to Hermiston, is one of the top goals the city council has set. After a "long process" working with owner George Dress in the planning stage, Smith said the city felt it would be worth offering some incentives to get the ball rolling on construction of a Hermiston location.

"This is a new approach," he told the city

Ranch & Home currently has two locations in the Tri-Cities and one in Milton-Freewater, and sells supplies for home and garden, livestock, pets, sporting goods and clothing. As a retailer, it is not eligible for the property tax breaks given to some businesses that build in Hermiston's enterprise zone.

According to the agreement approved Monday, if Ranch & Home gets a building permit by April 1 and an occupancy permit

See HERMISTON/8A

Closures for Wednesday

Numerous schools will be closed

- Wednesday. They include:
- Hermiston School District Pendleton School District
- Stanfield School District
- Echo School District Athena-Weston School District
- Helix School District
- Pilot Rock School District
- Milton-Freewater School District
- Umatilla School District
- Morrow County School District Harris Junior Academy
- In addition, other postponements and cancellations are in effect: • Head Start has canceled Wednes-
- day classes in Hermiston, Boardman, Irrigon. • ECSE preschool classes are can-
- celed Wednesday in the following districts: Milton-Freewater, Morrow County, Pendleton, Umatilla, Hermiston • Lifeways Day Treatment in Pendleton
- is closed Wednesday. Non-emergency Umatilla County
- offices will open at 10 a.m. • Umatilla and Morrow circuit courts
- will open at 10 a.m.
- The Irrigon Chamber of Commerce **luncheon scheduled for Wednesday** has been canceled.

