



EAST OREGONIAN

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142nd Year, No. 79 WINNER OF THE 2017 ONPA GENERAL EXCELLENCE AWARD One dollar

State-of-the-state focuses on inclusive economy

Gov Brown kicks off the 35-day Legislative Assembly

By **PARIS ACHEN**
Capital Bureau

SALEM — Gov. Kate Brown dedicated her state-of-the-state speech Monday to addressing the issue of

Oregonians who have been left behind by the state's economic prosperity and steady job growth. "Oregon's rising economic tide should be lifting all boats. Yet many hardworking families are still under water," Brown said. While some Oregonians are working two jobs to get by, state economists are projecting 27,000 high-wage job openings each year

through 2024, many of which will occur in the technology industry. Currently, one out of every four job openings in that industry is filled by out-of-state hires, she said. "It is clear there is a gap

See STATE/8A



Gov. Kate Brown Monday delivers her state of the state address opening the Legislature's 35-day session.

Jaime Valdez/Pamplin Media Group



Muddy waters rising

High water envelopes trees on what is normally the south bank of the Umatilla River on Monday near the Bedford Bridge in Pendleton. For more on warm weather and rising river water see REGION 3A

Staff photo by E.J. Harris

HERMISTON New festival street breaks ground

By **JADE MCDOWELL**
East Oregonian

Noise, dust and re-routed traffic will be the new normal for the next few months around city hall, but the result



From left to right, Larry Fetter, Byron Smith, David Drotzmann and Clint Spencer break ground on the new festival street on Northeast Second Street on Monday.

Staff photo by Jade McDowell

will be a new gathering place in downtown Hermiston. "Sometimes we understand progress is messy, and it's inconvenient, and so we ask for the community's patience," Mayor David Drotzmann said during a

groundbreaking ceremony for the city's planned festival street Monday. The festival street on Northeast Second Street will extend from Main Street to Gladys Avenue. Gladys and Main are passable during

the construction period but lines of cones have shifted traffic farther away from the work area. Construction is expected to continue until Memorial Day.

See HERMISTON/8A

Locals get lesson on DACA and immigration rights

By **PHIL WRIGHT**
East Oregonian

Do Dreamers have to worry about deportation from the United States? Do undocumented immigrants have constitutional rights?

Members of the Walla Walla Immigration Rights Coalition answered those and other tricky questions Saturday at a forum in Hermiston. Abigail Scholar said the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals only "de-prioritizes people for deportation," but does not free Dreamers from deportation.

In simple terms, she said, individuals participating in DACA are not at the top of the deportation list, but they remain on the list.

She and fellow coalition member Eugenio Rojas also said due process remains a constitutional right for undocumented immigrants. The U.S.

Immigration and Customs Enforcement too often tramples on due process when it rounds up people for deportation, they said, and that's a constitutional violation.

Scholar added being in the U.S. illegally is a civil violation, not a criminal one.

More than 30 locals — some white, most Latino — gathered for the three-hour forum at the St. John's Episcopal Church. Jesse Roa with the Tri-Cities Immigrant Coalition organized the

See IMMIGRATION/8A



Jesse Roa



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