



KNIGHTS WIN IN DOUBLE OVERTIME **SPORTS/1B**



WEEKEND EDITION
ART BEHIND BARS
LIFESTYLES/1C



U.S. CHARGES RUSSIANS WITH MEDDLING **WORLD/11A**

EAST OREGONIAN

FEBRUARY 17-18, 2018

142nd Year, No. 88 WINNER OF THE 2017 ONPA GENERAL EXCELLENCE AWARD \$1.50

Exclusion Day is coming

Student immunizations must be up to date Wednesday

By KATHY ANEY
East Oregonian

Last year, measles broke out in a Somali-American community in Minneapolis. When the dust settled, Minnesota had notched 79 cases of measles — the state’s largest outbreak in 30 years.

Twenty-one people, mostly children, were hospitalized. According to local media reports, fears that the measles-mumps-rubella (MMR) vaccine caused autism drove the slump in vaccinations from 92 to 42 percent in the community over 10 years as parents got exemptions for their kids.

Such outbreaks are examples of waning herd immunity, said Umatilla County Public Health Administrator Jim Setzer. When the majority of a group gets vaccinated, a virus can’t easily spread from person to person and unvaccinated people are generally protected, but herd immunity works only if most people get immunized.

Vaccinations are top of mind right now for Setzer because Wednesday is Exclusion Day, the day students whose immunization records aren’t current will be sent home from school. The county sent letters warning of potential exclusion to parents of 530 students on Feb. 5.

“Some of them aren’t up to date and others simply have incomplete records,” Setzer said. “We want to help them resolve this however it works for them.”

Last year on Exclusion Day, schools sent 147 students home. Parents have three options: get their children’s records to

See VACCINES/12A



Registered nurse Eryn Griffin fills a syringe while preparing a dose of the Menactra vaccine on Thursday at the Umatilla County Health Department offices in Hermiston. Menactra is a vaccine that prevents some forms of meningitis.

Staff photo by E.J. Harris

Legislators wary of optimistic revenue forecast

By CLAIRE WITHYCOMBE
Capital Bureau

SALEM — Oregon is expected to have about \$99 million more in net general and lottery fund resources than state economists projected a few months ago.

The state’s quarterly revenue forecast, presented to lawmakers Friday morning, is a key development of the short February session.

Lawmakers are working to ensure the state’s current two-year budget is on track and to deal with the implications of recent sweeping changes to the federal tax code.

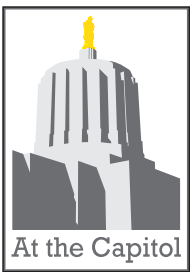
The net increase of about \$99 million in available money is due to higher than expected beginning fund balances, personal income tax collections and lottery revenues. However, corporate tax collections are projected to be lower than expected in late November, when the last quarterly forecast was released.

State economists are still trying to pin down the impact of the federal tax reforms passed in late December.

In response to the federal Tax Cuts and Jobs Act, some state lawmakers are pressing on with efforts to change Oregon’s tax code to mitigate the projected negative revenue effects. A bill passed on Tuesday by the Oregon Senate would allow Oregon to tax overseas profits that companies are expected to bring back to the U.S. through a provision in the tax bill called repatriation. It has been referred to the House Revenue Committee for consideration.

‘Future is uncertain’
Gov. Kate Brown said that the forecast was “good news” for the state, but warned that the state needed to “demonstrate fiscal discipline” and was critical of a second tax bill before the Legislature.

See REVENUE/12A



Freshman Luis Magana gets ready to shoot as aid Shaw Jerome holds back Gabe Vigil during Friday’s unified basketball game at Pendleton High School. The game gave the school’s special needs students a chance to play basketball in front of a cheering crowd, complete with cheerleaders and announcer.

Staff photo by Kathy Aney

PENDLETON

Underground tours plans ‘made in Pendleton’ store

Applies for \$26K façade grant

East Oregonian

Pendleton Underground Tours is preparing renovations to its properties on Southwest Emigrant Avenue and South Main Street, but it’s asking for help from the Pendleton Development Commission first.

Acting as the commission, the Pendleton City Council will consider approving a \$26,933 façade grant application from the underground tours, which intends to fill its empty storefront at 365 S. Main St. with a new tenant.

According to a staff report from Charles Denight, the commission’s associate director, the nonprofit plans to fill the space — vacant since MaySon’s Old Fashioned General Store closed in September — with a “made in Pendleton” store,

“This will be sort of a hub for tourists to sit and rest and plan out their next destination.”

— Brooke Armstrong, Pendleton Underground Tours executive director

a business that sells products made in and inspired by the city, like mustard from Barhyte Specialty Foods and jeans from Prison Blues.

“This will be sort of a hub for tourists to sit and rest and plan out their next destination in Pendleton, learn about what there is to do here and be able to purchase something specially made from Pendleton,” underground tours Executive Director Brooke

See UNDERGROUND/12A

