

SOLAR: Developer will sell energy created on site to Pacific Power

Continued from 1A

erating 1 megawatt of solar power.

When Cypress Creek’s array begins pumping power to the Pacific Power substation at the base of Airport Hill, Patterson said the resulting 7 megawatts of collective solar power is enough to meet the city’s average energy demand. It will also meet half the city’s peak demand megawatt level.

While the new array will bolster Pendleton’s solar power, it will be business as usual for Cypress Creek.

The Santa Monica, California-based company operates 70 solar arrays across seven states, including Oregon, Idaho, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia,



Staff photo by Kathy Aney

Work is beginning on a six megawatt solar array on 58 acres of city land between Interstate 84 and the Pendleton Regional Airport. The airport manager expects the array to begin supplying power in the next two-to-three months.

Indiana and Minnesota, according to the Cypress Creek website.

Not including the in-progress Pendleton facility, the company’s Oregon arrays generate more than 78 megawatts across seven

facilities in Bend, Nyssa, Ontario and Vale.

Cypress Creek did not return a request for comment as of press time.

Chrisman said the array should be complete in the next 60 to 90 days.

GUARD: Units train 39 days per year

Continued from 1A

Guard must train at least 39 days a year and could only be deployed by the federal government for war (the governor, on the other hand, can utilize Guard units to respond to natural disasters).

That has usually been accomplished with drills one weekend a month and for two weeks during the summer.

But in 2016 the law was amended so that the president could mobilize Guard units to non-combat situations. In response, Johnson said, a new “National Guard 4.0” was implemented, creating a four-year training cycle for many units that includes a standard 39-day training minimum in the first year, a 54-day minimum the second, 60 in the third and 63 days in the fourth year, with units also more likely to deploy and on shorter notice than in the past.

In practice, said local battalion commander Major J.W. Lundell, that means a “weekend” training will sometimes be Thursday through Sunday instead of Saturday and Sunday, requiring days off work for some soldiers. It also means

a four-week training period in the summer, although Lundell said they are trying locally where possible to break it up into two separate two-week periods.

“What we’ve gotten back (from employers) is that they can handle an employee being gone for a two-week timeframe, but any more than that is hard,” he said.

Next year, however, the 62-person Hermiston unit will be required to spend a 30-day training period in Fort Irwin, California.

“There’s nothing I can do about that,” he said.

The Guard operates on a “year” that runs from Oct. 1 to Sept. 30, so in order to help local employers out Lundell said he is trying to get the next year’s training schedule directly to local employers of soldiers by June or July. Hermiston-area employers of soldiers — who range from Auto Zone to Subway to the Hermiston School District — will also have opportunities to visit the base in Idaho by helicopter while their employees are training there in order to have a better understanding of what they do.

Jerry Carlson, the Hermiston-based military out-

reach coordinator for ESGR, said soldiers are also being encouraged to nominate their employers for ESGR-sponsored awards for being supportive of their service in the National Guard or other military reserves.

On Tuesday no employers showed up for an informational meeting at the Hermiston armory, but Carlson said it was too far for some employers, who live as far away as Portland and the Tri-Cities, and noted that his one-on-one conversations with employers have gone well.

Carlson, Lundell and Johnson said while there are cases for the ESGR to mediate on the east side of the state, it was very rare for an Eastern Oregon employer to be anything but highly supportive of their employees who have to leave for days, weeks or even months at a time for trainings and deployments. In some cases, Johnson said, employers even go the extra mile by doing things like continuing health insurance for the soldier’s family while they are on a lengthy deployment overseas.

“You would be surprised by how supportive many of them are,” he said.

MARKET: Myers said he plans to waive fees for all vendors

Continued from 1A

On Monday night, Smith shared with the audience a memo he had sent to the city council, stating that the Maxwell Pavilion project would be an “excellent venue” for the farmers market and other events, and the city was still “very supportive” of Mitco’s vision and projects.

“Our only interest is in ensuring that there will at least be a market this summer, regardless of who operates it,” he said. “If that means it’s Mitco and that market appears to be viable, then that’s excellent, and we can step aside again,” he said.

Smith also answered some of the claims that Myers had made while canceling the market, including his accusation that city building inspector Chuck Woolsey was holding up projects out of a personal dislike of Myers.

Smith said Mitco applied for a building permit on April 26 and initial plan review comments were returned May 7, approximately 7 business days later. He said that the city’s building department has been busy handling a number of other major projects including the data centers, Ranch & Home and the new Lifeways facility. Smith said that Myers’ issue with the city seemed to be that he was not given priority status over those projects.

“The problem with that is that we view everyone’s

“Our only interest is in ensuring that there will at least be a market this summer, regardless of who operates it.”

— Byron Smith, Hermiston city manager

projects as important; not just ones that we’re a major funding partner on,” Smith wrote. “That’s why we treat all projects the same. I think seven days to turn around an initial review is perfectly normal, and it was handled the same as all other applications.”

He also addressed other claims Mitco had made, including statements that it was unreasonable to require plans for things like restrooms and door latches when the pavilion wasn’t going to have restrooms or doors. Smith attached a floorplan provided by Mitco to the city in the fall, when the city was making a deal with Mitco to provide \$220,000 in support of the pavilion and parking project. Those drawings do show restrooms and possible doors on the building, and Smith said Woolsey was trying to clear up confusion about “vague and conflicting” documents.

During Monday’s council meeting a few people made statements in support of Myers. The strongest came from Robert Smith, who plans to be a vendor at the market. He called for both Woolsey and Fetter’s resignation or firing.

“For those of you who are here, I suggest you cut ties with the city of Hermiston, as they can no longer be trusted,” he told the audience.

John Finley, another vendor, said he was in Pendleton recently and a Pendleton resident remarked to him that the farmers market upheaval sounded like something that would happen in Pendleton, and “we don’t want to be Pendleton.” He said it seemed like the city was making unreasonable demands of Myers.

On Friday, when announcing he was holding the farmers market after all, Myers said it will be rebranded as the Maxwell Market and will run Thursday evenings from about 4-8 p.m. The market will be held on property Mitco owns on South First Street, across the street from the Maxwell Event Center located at 145 N. First Place. Myers said it will take place under a temporary shade tent until the Maxwell Pavilion is completed.

He also said he is waiving all vendors’ fees and providing items like tables and security for vendors at no charge. The market is expected to start May 24.

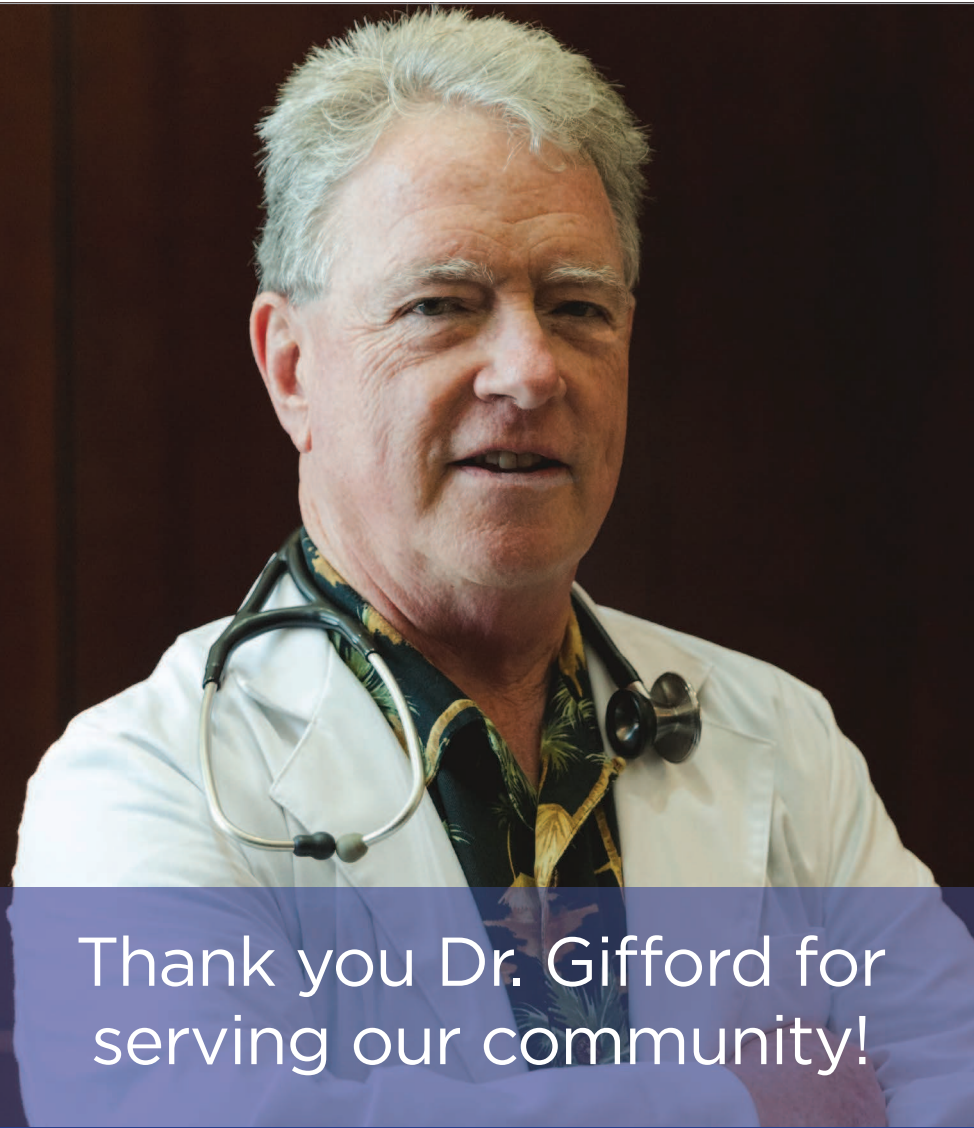
Sex-related charge dropped against Missouri governor

ST. LOUIS (AP) — Missouri Gov. Eric Greitens declared victory Monday as prosecutors abruptly dropped a felony invasion-of-privacy charge alleging he had taken a

revealing photo of a woman with whom he has acknowledged having an affair.

The St. Louis circuit attorney’s office said it still plans to pursue the case, either through a special

prosecutor or an appointed assistant. But Greitens’ attorneys said the case was crumbling under a lack of evidence and doubted any charge would ever be refiled.



Thank you Dr. Gifford for serving our community!

JOSEPH R. GIFFORD, M.D.

After 26 years of continued service to our community, it is with deep respect and gratitude that we announce the retirement of Joseph R. Gifford, M.D., Family Practice Physician. As of April 2018, Dr. Gifford is no longer seeing patients at the Gifford Medical Center.

We wish Dr. Gifford and his family the best of luck as they embark on their new journey.



610 NW 11th St. | Hermiston, OR 97838 | www.gshealth.org

Fast enough to support the brain

Oticon Opn™ scans the environment 100 times per second to give you access to 360° of sound. It distinguishes between speech and background noise, enables you to identify where different sounds are coming from, and continually adjusts and balances all the sounds around you. This helps your brain make sense of sound and gives you a natural hearing experience.

Oticon’s exclusive BrainHearing™ technology helps you:

- Focus on the sounds you want to hear
- Understand speech with less effort
- Enjoy a fuller, more natural soundscape
- Shift your attention from one sound to another



Renata Anderson, MA

Oticon Opn™ is a Made for iPhone® hearing device

Oticon Opn connects to your iPhone,® so you can stream calls directly to your hearing devices. Use the Oticon ON App with your iPhone or Android™ smartphone to control your hearing devices.

Oticon Opn and Oticon ON App are compatible with iPhone 7 Plus, iPhone 7, iPhone SE, iPhone 6s Plus, iPhone 6s, iPhone 6 Plus, iPhone 6, iPhone 5s, iPhone 5c, iPhone 5, 9.7-inch iPad Pro, 12.9-inch iPad Pro, iPad Air 2, iPad Air, iPad (4th generation), iPad mini 4, iPad mini 3, iPad mini 2, iPad mini, and iPod touch (5th and 6th generation). Devices must be running iOS 9.3 or later. The app also supports Apple Watch. When downloading the Oticon ON App on iPad, search for iPhone apps on the App Store. Oticon ON App is compatible with devices powered by Android™ 6.0, Marshmallow or above. Please visit www.oticon.global/connectivity for more details on compatibility, or see the description for Oticon ON App on the App Store® and Google Play. Apple, the Apple logo, iPhone, iPad, and iPod touch are trademarks of Apple Inc., registered in the U.S. and other countries. App Store is a service mark of Apple Inc. Android™ and Google Play™ are trademarks of Google Inc.

To find out more about what Oticon Opn can do for you, talk to your hearing care professional today.

Call 541-276-5053 or visit www.renataanderson.com • 2237 SW Court, Pendleton