



EAST OREGONIAN

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WINNER OF THE 2018 ONPA GENERAL EXCELLENCE AWARD

One dollar

Health director resigns

Setzer launched Year of Wellness campaign in April

By JAYATI RAMAKRISHNAN
East Oregonian

A year and a half after he stepped into the role, public health director Jim Setzer will be leaving the Umatilla County Health Department.



Setzer

Setzer confirmed on Monday that he would resign, but said he did not have further comment.

County Commissioner George Murdock said the county hadn't officially acted on the decision yet, but it was Setzer's decision to leave to pursue other opportunities.

Murdock said Setzer will be with the county through the end of August.

Setzer's salary with the department was a little over \$83,000 per year.

Setzer came to the department after a year and a half in Namibia, where he helped the

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HERMISTON

District tackles safety projects during summer

By JAYATI RAMAKRISHNAN
East Oregonian

When teachers and students come back to Hermiston schools in the fall, they'll notice some changes.

Maintenance and grounds staff have worked on a few major projects this summer, addressing some of the needs that would have been covered by a bond that failed last year: a new roof for Sandstone Middle School, and fencing around Rocky Heights and Highland Hills elementary schools.

District operations director Brad Wayland said the chain link fences around Rocky Heights and Highland Hills will be about four feet tall.

"Those are some measures to try and secure the sites a little better," he said. "We can't make it like a prison, but we need to make sure there's a little more of a deterrent

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MISSION



Staff photo by E.J. Harris

Registered nurse Shana Alexander takes vitals on Annalise Watchman, 8, as Watchman's father, John, and sister, Aniah, look on during a visit to the medical clinic at Yellowhawk Tribal Health Center in Mission.

Connected clinic

New Yellowhawk Tribal Health Center brings together variety of services under one roof

By BRITTANY NORTON
East Oregonian

The new Yellowhawk Tribal Health Center is adorned in colors of sage, gold, navy, rust, and plum. Each color is accompanied by a plant in the traditional foods of Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation, arranged in the order they would be presented during the CTUIR First Foods.

These plants and colors represent something else: a department in the new facility's integrative and comprehensive approach to health care.

Yellowhawk will host a grand opening Tuesday to give people a peek at the new facility. The building officially opened May 1 with a soft opening for patients and tribal members and the first appointments took place May 2. It is a circular building that offers a host of patient-centered services. The building has space for most health care needs, including behavioral health, medical, dental and a pharmacy.

The new health center has been a long-time goal of the CTUIR health commission. McGuire said it officially started saving for the new facility in August of 2006 after the Board of Trustees appropriated \$3 million from "available resources" to a permanent health care fund.



Staff photo by E.J. Harris

The central courtyard, called the Teekintéekin, offers patients at Yellowhawk a quiet place to wait for their appointment. Teekintéekin is the Cayuse/Nez Perse work for meadow.

"A lot of folks thought this might have come from gaming revenue, but that's not true," she said, referring to the nearby Wildhorse Resort and Casino. "It is one of the projects of the tribe that wasn't built from gaming revenue."

The new building provides more room to grow. Yellowhawk was previously housed in a facility built in the 1970s. According to a press release, the new building is nearly double the size of the previous clinic. It also has space for new services such as optometry, audiology and physical therapy, which will be introduced later.

"Some of those expanded services are kind of what the future holds," said McGuire. "To have a patient-centered care home — that's kind of the goal. You come here for all of the services. There's not a lot of places you can go to go to a medical appointment and then go to the dentist in the same building."

The layout of the space was informed by the Nuka System of Care. According to Southcentral Foundation, a non-profit health care foundation owned by Native Alaskans, the Nuka System of

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HERMISTON

Expanded bus schedule aims to lessen fair parking strain



Staff photo by Jayati Ramakrishnan

The Umatilla County Fair Court of Bobbie Sharp, Rebekah Miller, Olivia Warner and Laiklyn Fields-Nichols pose during the fair parade on Saturday. For more on the parade, see Page 3A.

Shuttles, correct change and knowing your lane can help with fair traffic

By JADE MCDOWELL
East Oregonian

As the Umatilla County Fair opens Tuesday morning, there are a few things fair-goers can do to help traffic flow smoothly to and from the venue.

Fair coordinator Angie McNalley said organizers are hoping people take advantage of the free park-and-ride shuttles that will be available each afternoon and evening to help cut down on traffic.

Mid Columbia Bus Company will be making continuous loops between stops from 4 p.m. to 11 p.m. Tuesday

through Thursday, picking up riders from the Hermiston Community Center (415 S. Highway 395), Hermiston City Hall (180 N.E. Second St.), the Wal-Mart parking lot at the end near McDonald's (1350 N.E. First St.) and Hermiston High School near the Weber Field entrance (600 S. First St.). The shuttle will pick up and drop off by the east ticket booth of the fairgrounds (1705 E. Airport Rd.).

On Friday and Saturday the MidCo shuttle will run from 4 p.m. to 1 a.m. on all the same stops except city hall. Kayak Public Transit will be handling the pick-ups and drop-offs at city hall on those days, also from 4 p.m. to 1 a.m. but with a break from 8-9 p.m. McNalley said the MIDCO shuttles

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