

**CHUCKWAGON
CAFE CLOSING
AFTER 48 YEARS
IN BUSINESS**

REGION, A3

THE PRISONS OF MANDELA AND NAPOLEON

LIFESTYLES, C1



**HARD WORK
EQUALS SUCCESS
FOR BUCKS
WRESTLERS**

SPORTS, B1

EAST OREGONIAN

FEBRUARY 23-24, 2019

143rd Year, No. 93

WINNER OF THE 2018 ONPA GENERAL EXCELLENCE AWARD

\$1.50

EOCI cuts \$300K in energy use



Staff photo by E.J. Harris

Eastern Oregon Correctional Institution has found ways to save about \$300,000 off their annual electric bill. By overhauling their heating system, insulating buildings and replacing older style lightbulbs with LEDs, the institution has cut their overall utility bill by 20 percent.

By PHIL WRIGHT
East Oregonian

The state prison in Pendleton is working hard to keep the lights on and the power use down. Moves to save energy are shaving about \$300,000 a year from Eastern Oregon Correctional Institution's power bill.

Ron Miles said that's in actual savings and estimations for the rest of the fiscal year, which ends in June. Miles is the supervising executive assistant at EOCI, the only prison in the nation to earn the U.S. Department of Energy's 50001 Ready designation. That's a fancy way of stating the prison is using global best practices to save energy. Miles said the prison staff is proud of the achievement, but it was not the goal.

"When we started down this path," he said, "the idea was we would be the best in terms of reducing our carbon footprint and the overall efficiency effort."

Mike Cleveland is the prison's physical plant manager and has headed up EOCI's change to

conserve power and resources. When he took the manager position in 2003, gas bills in the winter were \$100,000 a month. That far exceeded his spending authority and required the approval of the superintendent.

"She asked how many months is this," Cleveland recalled. "I said December."

The big bills led him to seek remedies for almost 500,000 square feet of building space, he said, but energy efficiency was not part of the design.

EOCI opened in 1985, becoming the first prison the state established outside of Marion County. The state originally built the place

See EOCI, Page A10



Staff photo by E.J. Harris

Eastern Oregon Correctional Institution administrators have replaced 109 high-pressure sodium lights at the prison with LEDs. LED lights provide two-thirds more light at two-thirds less wattage.

Classroom outbursts disrupting instruction

Local districts see increase in teachers injured by students

By JAYATI RAMAKRISHNAN
East Oregonian

In classrooms across Eastern Oregon, teachers have seen a swell in concerning behaviors: verbal outbursts, or students getting violent toward themselves, peers and teachers.

A report published last month by the Oregon Education Association reveals that statewide, schools are dealing with these problems more frequently.

John Scanlan, a teacher at Pendleton's Sunridge Middle School, said teachers have noticed more students coming into class ill-equipped to handle their emotions.

He said there have been instances of students flipping desks, lashing out, and teachers having to do "room clears" — removing all the other students out of a room while one child is out of control.

As board member for the National Education Association, Scanlan travels to Washington, D.C., three times a year to meet with congressional delegates and lobby for education policy.

When he went this month, he said lawmakers were blown away by the reports they heard.

"Senator Wyden's education person asked us what a 'room clear' was," he said. "He's talking about education at the policy level, but this is a real boots-on-the-ground situation."

Increase in reports

Hermiston School District provided data for teachers injured on the job in the past five years. There has been a steady increase in the number of teacher injury reports, as well as reports in which a student caused the injury. In 2015-16, there were two student-related teacher injury reports, and in 2017-18 there were 13, out of 24 total teacher injury reports.

District spokesperson Maria Duron said there is a difference between reported injuries and worker's comp claims. An employee is required to report an incident, but may decline to submit a claim. Additionally, she said, there has been a recent push by the Oregon School Employees Association to report student-related incidents, which has caused the incident count to climb.

See Outbursts, Page A10

Committee shakeups amid shifting Capitol culture

Democrat, Republican lose seats for lack of civility

By AUBREY WIEBER
and CLAIRE WITHYCOMBE
Oregon Capital Bureau

SALEM — Growing political tensions at the Legislature boiled over

Thursday as House Speaker Tina Kotek stripped a powerful Portland Democrat of two committee chairmanships because of his behavior.

Kotek at the same time booted a Republican legislator off a committee, justifying both steps as moves to keep governance in the Capitol civil.

She acted, she said in a statement, "to

uphold the new standards we are all trying to model."

Committee placements are not just a matter of ceremony or title. Chairs have significant influence over legislation, with authority to kill a bill by never giving it a hearing or advancing legislation to a floor vote.

See Capitol, Page A10



Greenlick



Post



CHI St. Anthony Hospital Family Clinic is recognized as a Patient-Centered Primary Care Home.

What does that mean for you?

- Better-coordinated care.
- Listening to your concerns and answering questions.
- After-hours nurse consultation.
- Healthcare providers who will help connect you with the care you need in a safe and timely way.
- Healthcare providers who play an active role in your health.

CHI St. Anthony Hospital

844.724.8632

3001 St. Anthony Way, Pendleton
WWW.SAHPENDLETON.ORG

Mon through Thurs, 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. • Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.,
Sat and Sun, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.,
Walk-ins are welcome but appointments are preferred.

