

LETTERS

Continued from page 2

do and places to be, stuck wasn't part of the plan. Or was it?

Slow to recover, I used my cell phone to contact our son Greg. He would be with me in a few minutes to provide a tow to the friendly team at Van Handel Automotive.

Then the six-minute miracle occurred. First friend Kirk Albertson drove by and asked if he could assist, "thank you, help is on the way." Then friend Paul Bertagna, "thank you," then friend John Tehan, again "thank you." Then friends Tracy and Jennifer (they purchased our Airstream three years ago) stopped. After hugs and my now-ceremonial "thank-you," I shared with them that what began as a challenge had turned into a gift.

Back in my car a young man stopped and called out "need help?" then less than a minute later another young man pulled over 100 yards ahead of me. We walked toward each other with big smiles. I confirmed he was the sixth person that offered help and how grateful I was for him and our amazing community.

The next morning I picked up my car fitted with its new condenser. It should be noted that Tom and Brian at Van Handel wouldn't accept payment.

Having just completed a book on Albert Schweitzer I offer his beautiful words, "the purpose of human life is to serve, and to show compassion and the will to help others."

Bill and Zoe Willitts

♦ ♦ ♦

To the Editor:
"An Ode to Doc Holliday"

A vale of sadness has fallen over our little neighborhood this week as we say goodbye to a true frontiersman, a loyal friend, a wise and sage individual... this little dog, Doc Holliday.

He greeted each new day at certain neighbors' houses as he took his morning constitutional through the neighborhood. More often than not, Doc could be seen carrying a ball or pinecone in his mouth on his way to whatever destination took his fancy...in the hopes that some, ANYONE, would throw it for him until he got tired, 'cause he never did!

Doc always wore a smile and he never knew a stranger. He had a very loving and wonderful life with his family who will miss him forever.

So long, Doc Holliday...I will miss you... you are the real deal!

Stephanie Matzen

♦ ♦ ♦

Mariposa lily...



PHOTO BY LOLA KNOX

Local resident Lola Knox captured this beautiful flower out behind Tollgate last week.

Whitewater fire burns on Mt. Jefferson

Smoke is visible to people in Sisters from the Whitewater Fire, burning in the Mt. Jefferson Wilderness near the crest of the Cascades. The fire was at 167 acres as of Monday evening, burning in rugged terrain.

On July 3, a Type II Incident Management Team took control of the fire. A fire camp has been established at

Hoodoo Ski Area.

All access into the popular Jefferson Park has been closed. This includes a 11-mile section of the Pacific Crest Trail. The Pacific Crest Trail will be closed from the junction with the Woodpecker Trailhead north to Breitenbush Lake. The South Breitenbush Trail will also be closed east of the junction with the Bear Point

Trail.

Personnel and equipment on the fire include:

- Three 20-person Type 2 Initial Attack hand crews;
- Two heavy, one medium and one light helicopter;
- About 120 people are engaged in the firefighting effort.

The fire was sparked by lightning and started on Sunday, July 23.



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