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Fire near Silverton kills 2



MARION COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

A fire southeast of Silverton killed two and injured two others early Thursday morning.

Man, 22, still in critical condition, injured 7-year-old boy recovering

**Whitney M Woodworth
and Conner Williams**
Appeal Tribune

After a deadly fire claimed the lives of his wife and her son, Antonio Reyes, age 22, remains in critical but stable condition in Legacy Emanuel Medical Center as of Sunday.

Sheriff's deputies responded to the

family's mobile home just before 5 a.m. Thursday to find portions burned to the ground. Inside the home, at the 2600 block of Silver Falls Drive SE near Silverton, they discovered two people dead and two people in need of medical treatment.

Dora Maria Esteban, age 26, and her son James Reyes, age 1, were killed in the fire. Reyes' son, 7-year-old Juan Es-

teban, was taken to Salem Hospital but is no longer there, according to media relations official from the hospital.

The investigation into the cause of the fire is currently ongoing. However, officials report that early evidence indicates the fire could have been caused by an electrical appliance.

Neighbors identified Juan Esteban Reyes as a bright student at Silver Crest Elementary School in Silverton.

The family was originally from Guatemala but had lived in the Silverton area for about seven years, neighbor Roxanne DeSantis said. DeSantis reg-

ularly babysat for the family and had just spoken to them the night before.

"We are all so shocked," she said. "They were good people."

DeSantis said she had spoken to a faculty member at Silver Crest Elementary School, who said the school was putting together plans to gather clothes, household goods and other items for the surviving family members.

Email wmwoodwort@statesman-journal.com, call 503-399-6884 or follow on Twitter @wmwoodworth

New wall pays tribute to veterans

Sheldon Traver
Special to the Appeal Tribune

At Davenport Place in Silverton, stories abound with about residents' military service and the history they have to share.

On March 25, a new tribute wall was dedicated to these veterans recognizing what they did for and continue to offer to others. Family and community members came to the Davenport Place for the official unveiling.

The tribute wall was born of a desire to recognize the men and women who served. Community Relations Manager Bill Marone retired from the Marine Corps Oct. 31 after serving for 24 years. This was his first civilian job and he said the stories the veterans shared resonated with him.

"These communities are filled with WWII and Korean era veterans," he said. "I started talking to



SPECIAL TO THE APPEAL TRIBUNE

The wall includes four panels with the emblems of the U.S. Army, Navy, Marine Corps and Air Force with photos of the residents who served in those branches.

them and getting to know them and knew we had to do something."

With help from community members and local businesses, the tribute wall became a reality.

There are four panels with the emblems of the U.S. Army, Navy, Marine Corps and Air Force with photos of the residents who served in those branches. The glass

case's back wall features Marone's retirement flag, which was flown over the Oregon Capitol Building, and his Marine Corps uni-

See **VETERANS**, Page 3A

Mixed opinions about local businesses

Sheldon Traver
Special to the Appeal Tribune

Even before Rite-Aid moved into its new location at the intersection of Westfield and C streets and Silverton Road, rumors were flying about the location.

Some were certain a dollar type store had already signed a lease and others said it would be Bi-Mart. There were also stories about how the city had already denied applications from prospective businesses, particularly large chain stores.

As Silverton has grown during the past two decades, so have the types of people within it. Many want to keep the city and its businesses intentionally small for fear of losing its character.

TO LEARN MORE

Business and residential construction applications are public record. Find out who has applied in the city by calling Silverton Planning at 503-874-2207. Jason Gottgetreu can also answer questions by email at jgottgetreu@silverton.or.us.

Others want to see more shopping options within the city.

"The city should care what businesses go in to this town because it does change the town," said Tina Crow. "I sure hope Dollar Tree doesn't come to Silverton. We don't need cheap stuff from China. The town should be supporting local small

See **BUSINESSES**, Page 3A

Detroit Lake not contaminated by 550-gallon spill

Tracy Loew
Appeal Tribune

No contamination has been detected in streams leading to Detroit Lake after a 550-gallon diesel spill above the reservoir, which provides drinking water for Salem and other communities.

The spill came from a generator for an AT&T communications tower located on Hall Ridge in the Willamette National For-

est. The company reported the spill – caused by a malfunctioning fuel system – on Feb. 11.

It was initially reported at 450 gallons.

"We've had a lot of surface water sampling at some unnamed tributaries that flow into Detroit Lake," said Geoff Brown, state on-scene coordinator for the Oregon Depart-

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Online at Silverton Appeal.com

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