### St. Joseph **Shelter** sustained by organizations



Prior Vincient, Richard Hagedorn, Fr. Philip, and Sr. Dorothy Jean at a transfer ceremony on Dec. 6 marking Queen of Angels Monastery, the Benedictine Sisters of Mt. Angel and Catholic Community Services joining forces to sustain St.

PHOTO COURTESY NATHANIEL SCHWAB / CATHOLIC COMMUNITY SERVICES

A celebration earlier this month marked a partnership to sustain St. Joseph Shelter and there are local ties involved with the transfer.

Queen of Angels Monastery in Mt. Angel, the Benedictine Sisters of Mt. Angel and Catholic Community Services of the Mid-Willamette Valley and Central Coast have joined forces to sustain St. Joseph Shelter, Mission Benedict and Casa Adele.

The occasion was marked by a celebration and transfer ceremony Dec. 6 at the Monastery Chapel.

"We consider it a solemn responsibility, an honor and a joy to serve this community," president of the CCS Foundation Board Lynda Harrington said in a re-

The Benedictine Sisters of Mt. Angel established St. Joseph Shelter in 1988. The shelter and its companion programs, Mission Benedict and Casa Adele, provide meals, housing, clothing, advocacy, referrals and emergency assistance.

The Benedictine Sisters reached out to Catholic Community Services to assume responsibility for the

"Our deepest desire is for the ministry to continue," pastoral administrator of Queen of Angels Monastery Sr. Jane Hibbard said. "There is no better partner than

The celebration included a tour of the shelter, the transfer ceremony and a reception and dinner in the Sisters' dining hall.

Catholic Community Services can be reached at 503-390-2600 or online at www.ccswv.org.

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# Edward **Jones**

MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING

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## Oregon firefighters help battle California blaze



Officials from Keizer Fire District respond to the Southern California fires, along with the Marion County strike team, on Dec. 5. They spent a day mopping up hot spots and assessing properties in Ojai, Calif. PHOTOS COURTESY OF KEIZER FIRE DISTRICT

LAUREN HERNANDEZ SALEM STATESMAN JOURNAL USA TODAY NETWORK

All 15 strike teams from Oregon fire departments are still battling the Thomas Fire in Ventura County, California, which as of Thursday had grown to 242,500 acres with 30 percent containment.

The Thomas Fire, now the fourth largest fire in California history, has grown by about 12,000 acres in three days with the help of powerful Santa Ana winds, said Rich Hoover, a public information officer with the Oregon State Fire Marshal.

Strike teams are still dealing with the winds and erratic fire behavior," Hoover said. "The other fires they were working on are pretty well-contained, but we're going to need every fire crew available on the Thomas

A Cal Fire engineer died Thursday morning while battling the fire in the steep hills outside Fillmore. He was with the San Diego unit, according to the California Department of Forestry.

California fire officials requested Oregon assistance through a state-to-state mutual aid system on Tuesday, Dec. 5, after a blaze started in the Sepulveda Pass following the Little Mountain Fire in San Bernardino County. The cost of suppression efforts, which involves more than 8,000 firefighters battling the 379 square-mile-fire, is approaching \$75 million

Roughly 300 Oregon fire personnel and 75 engines deployed to California to assist with fire suppression efforts. The Oregon Department of Forestry also has deployed 60 people and 25 engines to assist with the wildfire suppression efforts.

The Marion County strike team is comprised of 21 personnel from six fire agencies including Salem Fire, Keizer Fire, Marion County Fire District #1, Silverton Fire, Woodburn Fire and Stayton Fire.

Keizer Fire District officials, who responded along with the Marion County strike team, hit the ground at 7 a.m. Wednesday after 24 hours of rest, said Captain Aaron Pittis.

Firefighters work 24-hour shifts followed by 24 hours of rest, but some of the Oregon crews are joining volunteer clean-up efforts in the devastated communities during their downtime.

On rest days, Pittis said firefighters are supposed to leep, refuel fire engines and prepare for the next day on the fire line.

However, some Oregon firefighters are volunteering to help residents feed livestock and distribute goods to evacuees — just as Oregon crews did when they responded to fires ravaging Napa and Sonoma counties in California in October.

Keizer Fire Marshal Anne Marie Storms said "in situations like these, there is always a lot to be done."

For Salem Fire Captain Larry Dean, rest days in-



Members of the Keizer Fire District and Marion County strike team have been in California since Dec. 5 as part of a state-to-state mutal-aid system.

clude strolling along the coastline just a short walk from the Ventura County Fairgrounds, which has been home to the Marion County strike team for a few days.

After getting roughly two hours of sleep in one of the bunk beds lining a semitrailer-turned-firefighter dormitory at the fairgrounds, Dean walks up and down the beach and talks to his wife on the phone.
"We just pretend like we're both there in Oregon and

it's a regular day," Dean said. He has been with Salem Fire for 30 years. His wife is an emergency dispatcher and understands the hectic

nature of working for a public safety agency.

But it's still challenging. "The big one is just the physical distance between us," Dean said.

Contract chefs maintain a sense of normalcy, whipping up breakfast staples for firefighters including bacon, eggs, pancakes, sausage and breakfast burritos. A nearby salad bar offers fresh fruit and yogurt.

Two nights ago, a woman even brought Dean and his three Salem firefighters cups of Starbucks coffee at 11

But Wednesday they were uprooted, deploying to Montecito in Santa Barbara County. The seaside town had been evacuated along with Summerland, Carpinteria and Fillmore.

The streets of an upscale Montecito neighborhood were empty except for his colleagues and a mobile command center, Dean said. He could see fire on a ridgeline of the Santa Ynez mountains about a mile from the million dollar homes they're assigned to protect.

Salem Fire was positioned there to watch for fire

See BLAZE, Page 3B

### Elks set to host Silverton blood drive on Jan. 2

CHRISTENA BROOKS SPECIAL TO SALEM STATESMAN JOURNAL

**USA TODAY NETWORK** 

If your New Year's resolution involves helping others, Silverton Elks Lodge #2210 has a timely way to do

The Elks are hosting a blood drive on Tuesday, Jan. 2 at 300 High Street in Silverton.

The American Red Cross will operate the drive. For more information, contact Marissa at 503-779-1264.



The Elks are scheduled to host a blood drive on Jan. 2. ANNA REED/STATESMAN JOURNAL

### **OBITUARIES**

Theodore 'Ted' Pallister Jr.

Aug. 8, 1957 — Dec. 10, 2017 Theodore "Ted" Pallister Jr. was born on Aug. 8, 1957, to Theodore R. Pallister Sr. and Diane J. Pallister in Glendale, California. Ted attended school in Burbank, California, until the family moved to Silverton in the summer of 1969. He later graduated from Silverton High School in 1975.

Ted worked in construction for over 20 years. He later worked for the Silver Falls School District for 15 years before retiring in the summer of 2017.

Ted is survived by his wife Kathy; daughter Andrea;

son Jason; step-son Eric Brown; step-daughter Stacy (Shawn) Penrose; grandchildren Libby, Ivan and Lainey Penrose; as well as his mother Diane; brothers Tom (Lori), Tim and Terry (Kim); and sister Debi.

A memorial service was held Wednesday, Dec. 13 at Immanuel Lutheran Church in Silverton.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Willamette Valley Humane Society or a favorite charity.

The family would like to express their thanks to the Providence Benedictine Hospice for their warm and

compassionate care. Arrangements are by Unger Funeral Chapel, Silver-

### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Wishing happy holidays

to Mt. Angel Towers five days a week. It could be aspirin or live-saving meds. May you continue to be our Happy holidays to the owners and staff at Mt. Angel neighbor and friend. You are special. Drug and Hi-School Pharmacy in Silverton who deliver

**Betty Lou Wellman**