

Fire

Continued from Page 1A

At the time of arrival, the Camp Fire was reported at 25 percent containment, according to Oregon forestry officials.

The teams will join their Oregon State Fire Marshal counterparts who sent 15 strike teams to the Camp Fire last week, including personnel and equipment from Marion and Polk counties.

A 22-personnel strike team from Marion County was deployed Friday and began battling the Camp Fire on Saturday, said Silverton Fire Chief Bill Miles. The team included firefighters from Jefferson, Silverton, Woodburn, Mt. Angel and Marion County fire districts, as well as Salem Fire Department.

Salem Fire Department sent

eight personnel, one engine and one brush truck, Deputy Chief Gabriel Benmoussa said Monday.

Keizer Fire District sent two personnel and one brush truck.

The two Oregon strike teams deployed Sunday consist of 28 personnel — including two strike team leaders and an agency representative — and five Type 6 engines for each team. The deployment will last 14 days.

An estimated 29 people have died in the Camp Fire. An additional 230 are missing, according to California fire officials.

About 6,453 residences have been destroyed and an additional 15,000 structures threatened.

The deployment was coordinated with the Oregon Office of Emergency Management through the Emergency Management Assistance Compact.



Krystin Harvey, left, comforts her daughter Araya Cipollini at the remains of their home burned in the Camp Fire in California. JOHN LOCHER/AP

Church

Continued from Page 1A

In fact, pastors aren't just staying in one place longer; they're staying in ministry longer too. The average total tenure of a pastor jumped from 14 to 24 years during that same time, according to Barona Group.

"Over the course of the last two decades, things have changed," said pollster and creator of National Clergy Appreciation Month, Jerry Frear. "Two decades ago, I talked to guys who had never had a vacation. They had been in their churches five, six, seven years, and had never seen a vacation day ... now the leadership I'm around has a much more balanced life and are encouraged to be a good parent and spouse along with being good pastoral leaders."

In Silverton, Carlow simply felt God wanted him to stay, to put down roots, to be committed to his 80-person congregation and the larger community, as he observed a cultural shift — toward quitting, giving up and leaving — among 21st-century Americans.

"Our culture now, it's not for staying," he said. "At church, staying is important to me. A handful of people demonstrate that kind of constancy, to be able to look back and say they rode out the highs and lows."

A church should be like a family, he said, committed to loving each other, for their star qualities and despite their flaws. He and his wife, Heather, said they strive to live that kind of loyalty in their marriage as well. In a congregation as small as theirs, friendships can go deep.

"Pastor Dominic focuses on heart and spirituality," said church member Summer Fairbairn. "Instead of focusing on growing and preaching to a church of 300, he's like a dad ... his long-term commitment makes people feel safe and comfortable."

Fairbairn was a member of Silverton Church of the Nazarene in 1998 when the Carlows arrived, coming straight from Bible school in Colorado in their two-door Chevy Cavalier with a baby



Pastor Dominic Carlow and his wife, Heather. SPECIAL TO THE APPEAL TRIBUNE

and a toddler. Their new church on Water Street had been led by six different pastors in 25 years since its founding in 1973.

Coming west to lead an unknown church in a new town felt like one more divine calling in a string of events that were "meant to be," they said.

The couple had met eight years earlier in Quincy, Massachusetts, a suburb of Boston, where Heather was attending Eastern Nazarene College and Dominic was working as a banker. Her childhood home in Connecticut had been filled with Christian teaching and traditions; his tumultuous upbringing in Boston culminated in disorientation and a divorce in his early 20s.

"I had come to an awareness of my own failures, my own sin ... I was just a mess," he said. "I believed there was no hope."

He started talking to God; he didn't even call it "praying" back then. Soon he met Heather, and her invitation to her college's chapel service introduced him to the idea that "there's always hope in Jesus."

The couple married and moved to live with Heather's parents in Nova Scotia, where they helped run a family bakery.

how citizens' complaints were handled, and Tucker felt compelled to testify.

"I felt that the city council was trying to overreach what really needed to be done," Tucker said of the night he dramatically declared himself a write-in mayoral candidate.

With less than three weeks until the Nov. 6 election, he had a difficult task.

Tucker had fliers printed and passed them out, but then learned three citizens — Boniface, Smith and Hensell — were similarly displeased and were running as write-in candidates for city council.

"We had about 15 people at our one meeting, we only had two meetings actually just two weeks before the elections for this write-in thing," said Ron Carmichael, a Gates resident and one of the organizers of the write-in movement.

"We actually got some old-time residents that got involved and previous council members and just got on the phone."

Tucker made up more fliers that included Boniface, Smith and Hensell — he estimates he spent about \$80 out of pocket — and canvassed homes in Gates as the Nov. 6 election approached.

"I'm surprised that I got as many votes as I did," Tucker said.

"The only reason I think it ended up this way is people appeared to be unhappy with the status quo. People felt the city council was doing things to their benefit or their friend's benefit."

The mayor and city councilors will be sworn at the Jan. 17 city council meeting.

When will Tucker and the other three be sworn in?

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For Dominic, those three years were a time of "mentoring by Heather's parents, long walks in the woods," and eventually, a calling to be a pastor.

"I thought, 'I don't want to be a pastor,'" he recalled. "Why would any human being want to be a pastor?"

His childhood and young adulthood had been difficult, his Bible teaching was new, and his personality is more introverted than extroverted — but he couldn't deny the soul-deep pull to share with other people the supernatural hope he'd discovered.

Five years after enrolling at Nazarene Bible College, he was trained and ready. Any thoughts the Carlows had of taking a breather and operating their successful office-cleaning business before taking a church disappeared when they lost their largest client a mere 20 minutes before their college dean asked them to consider pastoring in Silverton.

"Some people call that coincidence," Heather said. "We don't call that coincidence."

Thus, the Carlows came to town, and Pastor Dominic has been doing his best to "tell the old, old story ... but not in the old, old way," ever since.

The couple's predecessors are entrepreneurs, so — no surprise — they've been full of new ideas over the years. Some of them, like the community gar-

den across the street, and the Potter's House youth building next door, have taken many years to bloom.

Others, such as concerts and youth alternatives to haunted houses at Halloween and egg hunts at Easter happened quickly and are cherished memories among church members. The church's Most Amazing Race scavenger hunts in 2010 and 2011 brought together 250 community members.

Over 20 years, church members have gone on five mission/service trips to the Philippines, Suriname and South America, and Pastor Dominic has "never preached a sermon twice," Heather said. Recently he did a Sunday series relating Christian evangelism to the Discovery show "Deadliest Catch."

"He's such a deep thinker. There are a lot of 'aha' moments when he's preaching," Fairbairn said. "In everything, he has the goal that people would learn something about Jesus."

The value of staying power got real for her two years ago, when she had to leave Silverton to move to Prineville for work. She missed her old church — its music, its decorations, its people — but, instead of quitting, she joined her new church's board, taking to heart what she'd heard from her pastor so many times: "It's not about you. It's about a commitment to family."

Gates

Continued from Page 1A

Shipping container controversy

When Tucker lived in Las Vegas, he and his wife purchased a fifth wheel RV so they could travel. And he purchased a shipping container to store their possessions.

When they moved to Gates a few years ago, they brought the storage container with them and had it placed at their new house.

Archer said the city received complaints about shipping containers and temporary garages on properties in town, and the city council addressed the issue with a public hearing Oct. 18.

A typical city council meeting in Gates is attended by a couple citizens; some meetings are only the city council and staff.

But after word spread about the possibility of banning shipping containers, a large group — estimates range from a few dozen to 100 — of citizens of Gates came to the meeting.

"So the council ended up not voting on it yet," Archer said. "They rescheduled the hearing for December."

Tucker said he briefly considered running for mayor prior to the August filing deadline, but opted not to.

A candidate in the heat of the moment

After learning the city council was addressing shipping containers like his, Tucker came to the city council meeting with the intention of listening and not speaking.

But he and others felt upset about

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