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Forest Service taking applications

Federal agency hiring more than 1,000 people across Oregon and Washington

Eddy Binford-Ross Salem Statesman Journal USA TODAY NETWORK

The United States Forest Service will be hiring more than 1,000 seasonal positions across Oregon and Washington for the coming spring and summer.

The federal agency will be accepting applications from Nov. 5 to Nov. 12. Jobs are available across a wide variety of fields, including fire, recreation and archeology.

"We're looking for talented, diverse See AGENCY, Page 4A

applicants to help us manage over 24 million acres of public land in the Pacific Northwest," said Glenn Casamassa, Pacific Northwest Regional Forester. "If you're interested in stewarding our national forests and serving local communities, I encourage you to apply."

The positions include a multitude of jobs, including Forestry Technician positions across Oregon in Bend, Eugene, Grants Pass, Portland and the Ochoco National Forest. The jobs typically last 3 to 6 months.

Applications must be submitted on www.USAJOBS.gov by Nov. 12. However, the agency recommends that those interested should create a profile on the site as soon as possible, to save time during the application process.



Fire crews dig a fire line around the Bull Complex Fires in hopes of slowing the growth of the blazes in the future. PROVIDED BY U.S. FOREST SERVICE



One of the light displays at the 2020 Silverton Christmas Market immersive pathway. More than a million lights will be on display at the event this year. PRIVIDED BY SILVERTON CHRISTMAS MARKET

Silverton Christmas Market links German traditions and holiday magic

Special to Salem Statesman Journal **USA TODAY NETWORK**

A new mural will join the spectacle of a million lights, snowless tubing and an authentic German market for those seeking immersion into the Christmas spirit at the upcoming Silverton Christmas Market.

The Oregon Garden Resort's annual Christmas event last year was called Lights at the Garden Resort and, prior to that, Christmas in the Garden. The event was moved to the resort grounds for several reasons, including financial and ownership changes between the two entities.

"Last winter, we moved our event to keep it more contained due to Covid-19," Brooke Dickenson, public events manager, said. "We're excited to continue with that layout. The display is incredibly immersive, intimate and magical."

The lighted pathway has changed from a ramble through the Oregon Garden's Rediscovery Forest to a

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Karalyn Demarest, with Moonstone Hotel Properties, owners of the Oregon Garden Resort, poses with a new mural at the entrance to this year's Silverton Christmas Market. GEOFF PARKS, SPECIAL FOR THE STATESMAN JOURNAL

Reopening of Silverton Road delayed for bridge project

Bill Poehler

Salem Statesman Journal **USA TODAY NETWORK**

A main route between Silverton and Salem will continue to be closed through the end of January for a reconstruction of Silverton Road Bridge.

Officials said utility and other unforeseen delays have pushed out the reopening of Silverton Road NE east of Cordon Road NE until Jan. 31. The project was scheduled to wrap up by late November.

Traffic will continue to be detoured between Cordon Road and Howell Prairie Road via Hazelgreen

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Crews work on a bridge replacement project on Silverton Road over the Little Pudding River in June. The bridge is now expected to reopen in late January. ABIGAIL DOLLINS / STATESMAN JOURNAL FILE

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'Concerns brought to our office'

Senators call for Chemawa Indian School financial records, academic achievement

Natalie Pate

Salem Statesman Journal USA TODAY NETWORK

U.S. Senators Ron Wyden and Jeff Merkley want answers to questions they asked six years ago about Chemawa Indian School that haven't been answered.

The Oregon senators submitted a letter to the Inspector General for the U.S. Interior Department asking for information regarding Chemawa's accounting practices and student achieve-

Specifically, they want to know details such as, "Has BIE identified Chemawa as a high-risk school that requires additional BIE monitoring?" and "For each fiscal year from 2018 to 2021, to what extent has BIE audited the Chemawa school's annual budget or conducted quarterly financial reviews?"

They also want the federal office to update its 2015 review of the school's policies to determine whether progress has been made to increase students' academic achievement, according to a recent news release.

In the letter, the senators ask, "Does Chemawa currently have a functioning school board?" and "What is its composition and what role does it play in conducting financial oversight of the school's administration?"

The letter was submitted a day after the Statesman Journal printed an in-depth look at Chemawa's history and role in a federal burial investiga-

When asked why the senators submitted the letter now, Hank Stern in Wyden's office said, "Because of concerns brought to our office."

The Statesman reached out to the school in Salem and BIE leadership but did not receive a response in time for publication.

Six years waiting

The Office of Inspector General released two reports in July 2015 on academic achievement and violence prevention policies at Chemawa, according to Wyden and Merkley's account.

At the time, the reports concluded the school "was not properly assessing the academic needs of its students," and was "unable to effectively prioritize its resources to ensure the successful

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Outside a dorm at Chemawa Indian School as photographed in October 2019, after a federal gag order was lifted around the school in the wake of several Congressional hearings.

STATESMAN JOURNAL FILE