

SAR ends its search efforts for hiker, 32, in wilderness

Josephine County Search And Rescue (SAR) has concluded its efforts to find a 32-year-old U.S. Army veteran missing since July 11 in the Kalmiopsis Wilderness. The missing man, Mike Woods, set out on a wilderness trip at Miami Bar on that date. He has not been heard from since, said SAR, and the major Biscuit Fire began around that time.

Woods is described as slender and physically fit. He is 6-0 and 170 pounds with dark-brown hair and blue-green eyes. He had minimal hiking gear with him.

On Aug. 23 SAR began an active mission to find Woods. "Due to the active fire zone, safety concerns, and a lack of specific information of Woods exact travel route, a typical ground search could not be conducted, said SAR.

"With the cooperation of the U.S. Forest Service, the sheriff's office chartered a private helicopter to fly the Illinois River Basin and water drainages between Store Gulch and Panther Flat," said SAR.

"Besides the air search, a four-person Rural/Metro Fire Dept. Swift Water Rescue Team hiked the Illinois River bed between the same areas," said SAR. "Both missions led to no additional clues to the whereabouts of Woods.

"Until more specific information is obtained, the official SAR mission has been ended."

Information about Woods should be directed to the sheriff's office at (541) 474-513; or SAR at (541) 474-5300.

Read the classifieds

Rear-end accident due to big rig fire on I-5 results in death of Grants Pass woman, 47

A Grants Pass resident died of injuries on Wednesday, Sept. 4 after her northbound car slammed into the rear of a furniture delivery truck in a long line of vehicles stopped on Interstate 5, said Oregon State Police (OSP).

The fatal crash occurred near the Rogue River exit, where traffic was halted because of a big rig fire farther north on I-5, said OSP.

OSP said that Marcia Jean White, 47, of Grants Pass, drove her 1991 Honda sedan into the back of a furniture delivery truck that was stopped on the right lane in a long line of traffic. She was pronounced dead at the scene.



Pat Wallace (Photo by Sherri Hopper)

Pat Wallace art displayed In lobby of Klamath First I.V. Artists Inc. featured artist for September

Illinois Valley Artists Inc. is presenting Pat Wallace as the Featured Artist during September.

Born in Grants Pass, Wallace has lived in the area all her life, retiring from work as an office manager for Westline Trailer Manufacturers. She has raised five children: Kathy Welch, Ron Wallace, Darla Butler, Marcy Culpepper and Carlee Hughey. And she has nine grandchildren: Denise, Eric, Jessie, Kyle, Rebecca, Korie, Duncan, Brittney and Jamie.

Claiming to be a "late starter" with art, Wallace tried painting 30 years ago, and says, "At that time, I learned two things, 'You don't have to be good to enjoy painting,' and you don't have time to paint while raising five children'."

This year, she decided to try again. Now she enjoys creating landscapes in oils. In the spring she began painting in the "Foster Studio" art group in Grants Pass led by Shirley

Bell. The summer found her in an RCC Community Education landscape drawing class taught by Tee Corinne.

At present she is participating in a scratchboard workshop being held during the Illinois Valley art group's weekly meetings during which, according to the instructor, she is proving to have a natural drawing ability.

Wallace's work will be displayed in the Klamath First Bank Branch in Cave Junction through September.

The public can visit the I.V. Artists on Mondays at the RCC Belt Bldg. in Kerby, in the large room at the rear of the building, between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. to watch the art-in action. The art group offers several opportunities for self-expression, and instruction. At present, Cassandra Newton-Miller is conducting a scratchboard workshop. Lessons are free for members.

Refreshments are always available. For more information phone 592-3949.

Police arrest two men as suspects in Elmer's job

Two Grants Pass men have been arrested and jailed after Grants Pass Dept of Public Safety (GPDPS) detectives investigated an incident that occurred on Monday, Aug. 12.

On Aug. 12, GPDPS officers responded to a reported robbery at Elmer's Restaurant on Agness Avenue. According to GPDPS, officers were told that a man, who covered his face with a bandana and sunglasses, jumped behind the bar and took a bank bag and a purse containing currency and personal items.

He sprayed a cashier, who tried to block his exit, with a dry chemical fire extinguisher and fled to a car.

Investigation identified Brandon Lee Blowers, 21, of 1105 S.W. Isham, and Eli Lewis Corbett, 20, of 735 S.W. Burgess.

According to GPDPS, Blowers, who committed the robbery, turned himself over to detectives on Friday, Aug. 23 and was jailed on charges of robbery III, assault IV, theft I, 12 counts of ID theft, and criminal mischief.

Corbett, who was at that time already jailed on unrelated charges, was subsequently charged for his role in the crime, conspiracy (robbery III), said GPDPS.

GPDPS also said that additional arrests may follow.



It's a girl!

Matt and Vicki Kaplan, of Carlsbad, Calif. are proud parents of their first child, Natalie Emma. She was born on Wednesday, Aug. 21, 2002 at 10:52 a.m. in Scripps Encinitas Hospital. Natalie weighed 8 pounds, and she was 19 3/4 inches long, the same as her mom, when she was born. Proud paternal grandparents are Paul and Roberta Kaplan, of Carlsbad. Happy maternal grandparents are Bob and Jan Rodriguez, of Cave Junction. Photo shows the newborn after her first bath. (Photo by Vicki Kaplan)

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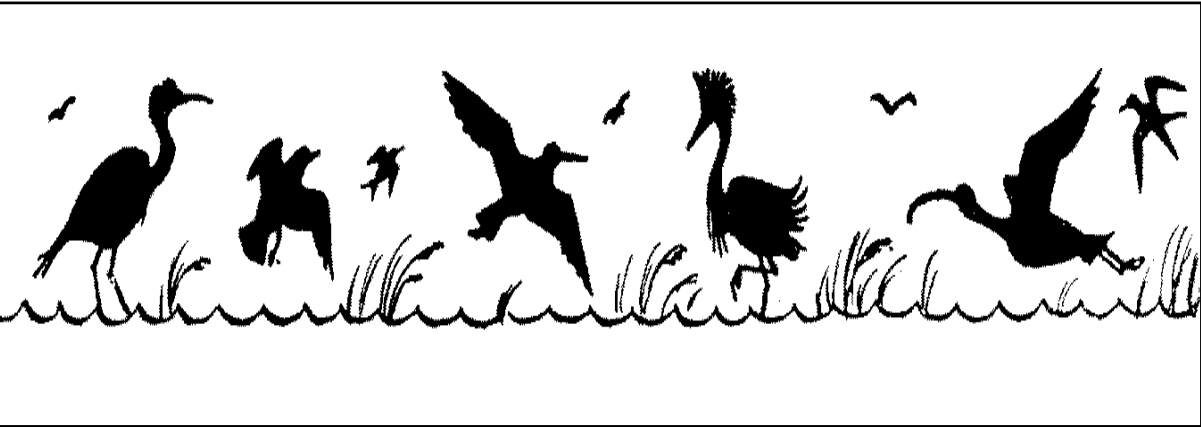
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