

HERMISTON



Staff photo by E.J. Harris

Let it go

Alivia Wadkins, 3, of Irrigon squeals with glee as she sleds headfirst down the snow hill on Wednesday in Hermiston. The snow was created by the Hermiston Parks and Recreation department at Sunset Elementary School using a man-made snow machine.

Best of the 2014 EO public safety log

Jan. 1 A report of public urination proved a bit costly for a Umatilla man.

A man at about 4:40 p.m. reported a drunk male urinated right next to his vehicle, which had his children inside, on the 200 block of North First Street, Hermiston. Umatilla County sheriff's deputies arrested Anthony Todd Richards, 47, of Umatilla, for disorderly conduct, resisting arrest and on a Umatilla County warrant and for contempt of court.

Richards at the end of February pleaded guilty to menacing and second-degree disorderly conduct. A circuit court judge suspended a 60-day jail sentence for Richards, but ordered him to pay \$200 in fines and fees.

Jan. 30 A Helix man at 11:31 p.m. reported he did not appreciate a Umatilla County sheriff's vehicle that drove onto his property on the 43200 block of Holdman Road and set off perimeter alarms. He added the "flashes" coming from his residence "were not friendly."

Feb. 18 A Pendleton officer helped save an older man who was under a book case.

A caller at 11:11 a.m. reported the 76-year-old man was not answering his door on the 300 block of Northeast 33rd Place. She said she was at the residence, where he lives alone, and she had not heard from him in almost a week. An officer kicked down the door and found the man in a hallway with a bookcase on top of him.

An ambulance took the man to St. Anthony Hospital, Pendleton, and police notified state senior disabled services.

Feb. 27 A woman at 9:03 p.m. told Pendleton police another woman loaned her \$40 so she could buy methamphetamine, and now the loan provider has been harassing her for the money. The caller said she wanted to pursue harassment charges. An officer talked to her about options.

March 19 A threat of violence seemed to solve a roommate problem in Stanfield. A man at 1:39 p.m. told Stanfield police he wanted his roommate evicted from a residence at 111

N. Prescott St., Echo. Police, though, told him he must follow eviction procedures through court. The man said he would beat his roommate with a bat and shoot him if officers did not get him to leave.

Police responded and contacted two men. One gathered his belongings and left.

April 2 A Pendleton woman at 11:33 a.m. told police her puppy's head was stuck in a glass jar. The agency told her to contact a veterinarian.

April 14 A woman became a target at a Hermiston-area stop sign when someone threw a rotten turkey at her. Someone in a dirty, older Jeep Cherokee at about 7 p.m. stopped at intersection of East Punkin Center Road and Northeast 10th Street and threw the bird out of a window at the woman. She told Umatilla County dispatchers the Jeep swerved "all over the place" and it continued on 10th Street toward Diagonal Road. She said she was not able to get a license plate number, but the turkey was on the side of the road near the stop sign. She also said she did not move the carcass.

May 3 A Heppner woman at 12:17 p.m. reported she was out of town and had a man check on her residence on the 500 block of Northwest Jones Street, but when she arrived home Thursday he was lying on her couch. He also ate her food, she said, and multiple items were missing from the home.

June 13 A guest at the Rodeway Inn & Suites, 635 S. Highway 395, Hermiston, told police at 10:36 a.m. the room she checked into was nothing like the photographs she saw of the room, so she wanted her money back. Hotel staff refused and told her to get off the property. Police considered this a civil issue.

June 30 Careful who you let into your home. A Pendleton man at 9:43 a.m. reported he let a homeless woman stay with him, and when he got up in the morning she was gone and so were \$1,500 in money orders.

July 10 A man at 9:44 p.m.

at South Hill Apartments, 248 S.W. 28th Drive, Pendleton, asked police for help after he handcuffed his friend and was not able to remove the cuffs.

Aug. 20 A Pilot Rock resident at 3:59 p.m. reported he was the victim of cyberbullying and extortion. He said he met a female through an online dating site, and now she is posting comments on Facebook about him that are not true. And she said she would not put his information on Facebook if he paid her \$300.

Aug. 23 A Pendleton caller at 8:05 p.m. reported her neighbors on Southwest 13th Street were "skinny dipping in their hot tub," and the small children at her residence can see them. She asked an officer to tell the people to get dressed.

Sept. 13 An angry father at about 8 p.m. attacked his daughter's boyfriend in a residence on Southwest Goodwin Lane. The man threw the boyfriend down stairs, threatened to break his jaw and kill him, according to a report from the boy's father. The girl left with her parents, and the caller said he would meet with police.

Sept. 25 A woman in Weston at 12:31 a.m. reported a stranger kissed and bit her. The woman told law enforcement she was house-sitting on North Franklin Street in the small town when she went outside at about midnight. That's when a stranger grabbed her hair on the back of the head and forcefully kissed her. When she tried to get away, she said, he bit her lip. She said the assailant was white, had dark hair, was about 5 feet 8 inches to 5 feet 10 inches tall and 20-30 years old. He fled on a red and silver motorcycle with a loud engine toward Milton-Freewater. Umatilla County dispatch notified Milton-Freewater police to be on the lookout for the man. The case remains open.

Oct. 14 A 17-year-old at about 1:30 p.m. stole \$1 from a 27-year-old man at Roy Raley Park, Pendleton, walked across Southwest Court Avenue and bought a soda with the money at Dave's 12th Street Food

Mart after trying to get someone to buy marijuana.

Oct. 22 A woman at 10:37 a.m. told the Umatilla County Sheriff's Office she was the victim of fraud for a second time at the hands of the same man who committed the crime the first time. The Umatilla County District Attorney's Office successfully prosecuted the suspect for fraud before, she said, and now she received a bill from the state of Oregon for \$9,000 in benefits that went to the suspect, but was filed under her Social Security number.

Nov. 20 A male at 1:46 p.m. on North Golda Road, Hermiston, reported his mother threw his cat off the couch and he wants her charged with animal abuse.

Nov. 22 Some Heppner residents at about 11:20 p.m. hit golf balls onto the highway into Heppner. Morrow County sheriff's deputy warned them they would be responsible for any damages. The deputy reported, "The subjects will not be hitting any more golf balls."

Dec. 6 An Irrigon woman at 6:27 p.m. reported she found someone entered her locked car on Washington Lane, took a receipt from the car, wrote, "I will get you," on the receipt and placed that under one of the wiper blades.

Dec. 16 The Oregon State Police at 11:56 p.m. investigated a report of a vehicle in a ditch on Highway 204, milepost 5.5, near Adams. The caller said when he first spotted the vehicle someone was in it, but when he drove past again no one was there.

When the officer arrived there was a black GMC at the scene as well as a white Ford Taurus in the ditch. At first the driver of the GMC, Andrew K. Thorson, 30, of Weston, denied any knowledge of the situation, but further investigation by the officer revealed Thorson was the driver of both vehicles, and he admitted he fell asleep at the wheel of the Taurus. A driver's check showed he had a suspended license, so both vehicles were towed from the scene, and police cited Thorson for driving while suspended.

BRIEFLY

Umatilla County waste committee has open position

The Umatilla County Solid Waste Advisory Committee has a vacancy and is advertising for the open position.

In a press release, the county encourages people from the east and central parts of the county to apply.

The position is open until filled, although applicants are encouraged to apply by Jan. 30.

Interested parties can submit applications to the Umatilla County Planning Department, Room 104, 216 SE 4th Street in Pendleton.

Development Authority meets Monday

BOARDMAN — Work toward redevelopment of the former Umatilla Chemical Depot will continue into the new year as the Columbia Development Authority has their first meeting of 2015 on Monday, Jan. 5 at 1:30 at the Port of Morrow.

Topics on the agenda include discussions on subleases for the concrete igloos that used to store munitions, contract awards, personnel changes and an update on the Economic Development Conveyance application.

The development authority is in negotiations with the U.S. Army over the Economic Development Conveyance, which it must have in place before going forward with industrial development on the property.

Demilitarization of the depot officially ended this fall, and authority members have indicated the authority is already getting interest in pieces of industrial land. As soon as the EDC is in place it can begin selling and/or leasing land for projects, which the authority estimates will eventually result in 4,249 new jobs and \$3.6 million in property taxes for the area.

The Columbia Development Authority meeting will run from 1:30 to 3 p.m. in the Sand Hollow Conference Room at the Port of Morrow, 2 Marine Drive in Boardman.

Robotics team hosts kick-off event

UMATILLA — After back to back trips to the world finals, Umatilla's top student robotics team is hoping for a third.

The team is hosting a community event on Jan. 3 at 7:15 a.m. in the Umatilla High School commons area to kick off the season. Breakfast will be provided.

At the kick-off event the team will watch the live online unveiling of this year's challenge. Whatever the challenge includes — anything from throwing balls through a hoop to balancing blocks on a seesaw — the team will have six weeks to build a robot to complete the task in timed competition with other robots.

The team will compete in the FIRST Robotics Competition circuit, a more advanced version of the FIRST Tech Challenge robotics tournaments used by other Umatilla County school districts.

Class offers tips for step-families

HERMISTON — A new class to discover keys to building a healthy blended family begins Wednesday, Jan. 7 at 6 p.m. at New Hope Church, 1350 S. Highway 395, Hermiston.

A class based on the book "The Smart Step-Family," by Ron L. Deal, will give parents with blended families tips for parenting the smart — not hard — way. Materials will be available during the free class.

For more information, call 541-567-8441.

Ski bus canceled, discounts honored

PENDLETON — Due to bus driver shortages, Pendleton Parks & Recreation will be unable to offer transportation to Anthony Lakes this winter. Fortunately, the ski destination will continue to honor group discount rates for \$16 lift tickets or \$16 rental packages for skiers signed up by Jan. 8.

Skiers registered for the group discount will have their information forwarded to Anthony Lakes, making them eligible for great deals when checking in at the pro shop. The fee is \$10 and covers four Saturdays in January (10th, 17th, 24th and 31st).

For more information, or to register, call the parks office at 541-276-8100 or stop by 865 Tutuilla Road.

Briefs are compiled from staff and wire reports, and press releases. Email press releases to news@eastoregonian.com

COMING EVENTS

THURSDAY, JAN. 1
FIRST DAY HIKE, 12 noon to 1 p.m., Emigrant Springs State Heritage Area community building, 65068 Old Oregon Trail Highway, Meacham. Guided one-mile hike or snowshoe adventure (bring your own snowshoes). Dress in layers, wear sturdy shoes and bring water, a camera or binoculars for wildlife viewing. Light refreshments will be served following the hike. In case of inclement weather, contact the park to find out about cancellation. (541-983-2277 or www.oregon-stateparks.org).

FRIDAY, JAN. 2
WALKING FOR WELLNESS, 8:30-9:30 a.m., Pendleton Recreation Center, 510 S.W. Dorion Ave., Pendleton. Free. (541-276-8100).

STORY TIME, 10:15-11 a.m., Hermiston Public Library, 235 E. Gladys Ave. (541-567-2882).

TODDLER STORY TIME, 10:15-10:45 a.m., Pendleton Public Library, 502 S.W. Dorion Ave. (541-966-0380).

PENDLETON SENIOR MEAL SERVICE, 12 noon, Pendleton Senior Center, 510 S.W. 10th St., Pendleton. Cost is \$3.50 for seniors, \$6 for those under 60. Meet new friends, enjoy pool, puzzles, crafts, snacks, Second Time Around thrift store and more from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. For Meals On Wheels call CAPECO at 541-276-1926. (Maxine 541-276-5303).

STORY & CRAFT TIME, 2 p.m., Echo Public Library, 20 Bonanza St. Oct-May only

AFTER SCHOOL STORY TIME, 4 p.m., Pendleton Public Library, 502 S.W. Dorion Ave. Older siblings welcome. (541-966-0380).

VFW BINGO, doors open at 6 p.m., games start at 7 p.m., Hermiston VFW, 45 W. Cherry St.

SATURDAY, JAN. 3
ALL-YOU-CAN-EAT BREAKFAST, 6-10 a.m., White Eagle Grange, between Pendleton and Pilot Rock on Highway 395 South. Suggested donation \$7 for ages 8 and up, \$4 for ages 5-7 and free for 4 and under. Donate 2 non-perishable food items for \$1 discount. (Gail 541-276-3778).

PANCAKE BREAKFAST, 7-10 a.m., Stanfield Community Center, 225 W. Roosevelt, Stanfield. \$5 for full breakfast/\$3 for lighter meal. Benefits general maintenance fund. Volunteers welcome. (541-449-1332).

SCHOLARSHIP AND FAFSA FAIR, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., Riverside High School, 210 Boardman Ave., Boardman. Riverside and Irrigon High School students can receive help with filling out the FAFSA and make plans to earn college credits through Eastern Promise. Scholarship drawing and door prizes for all high school students attending; free pizza will be served. A flu shot and immunization clinic for children 11 and older also will be available; bring insurance information and immunization records.

FREE FOR ALL, 9:30-10:15 a.m. Pendleton Center for the Arts, 214 N. Main St., Pendleton. Family art experience for children up to age 12. Children under 8 should be accompanied by an adult. (541-278-9201).

HIP & HANDMADE, 11 a.m. to noon, Pendleton Center for the Arts, 214 N. Main St., Pendleton. Free drop-in art project class for adults. (541-278-9201).

SUBMIT COMMUNITY NEWS

Submit information to: community@eastoregonian.com or drop off to the attention of Tammy Malgesini at 333 E. Main St., Hermiston or Renee Struthers at 211 S.E. Byers Ave., Pendleton. Call 541-564-4539 or 541-966-0818 with questions.

COMMUNITY FELLOWSHIP DINNERS

a Committee of the Hermiston Senior Center

2014 Thanksgiving and/or Christmas
 Thank you to all the participating businesses, churches and individuals who donated time, food and/or money.
 ~Community Fellowship Dinners Board~

Beason's Chuckwagon Café	KOHU & KQFM Kopacz Nursery & Florist
Jan Cassens	Tom Marks
Cottage Flowers	Reser's Foods
Rod & Michi Duncan	Safeway
East Oregonian	Sanitary Disposal, Inc
Fiesta Foods	Shari's Restaurant
First Christian Church	Cathy Stolz
Hermiston Foods, LLC	Swaggart Brothers, Inc.
Hermiston Herald	Turkey Prep/Carvers
Hermiston Senior Center	US Linen & Uniforms
Gary & Makayla Humphreys	Lisa Van Swoll
Joe Kiser	Wal-Mart DC Team

A Special Thank You to 24 of our local Churches

Thursday-Friday-Saturday
 Doors Open 9:30AM Thurs Jan. 1ST

New Years BLOW-OUT
 Early Bird Blow-Out... Don't Miss This SALE!

ASHLEY Sofa-Loveseats Starting at \$ 399.	RECLINERS Starting at \$ 399.
---	---

Up To 50% OFF
 CLOSE-OUT
 Mattress Sets
 Bedroom Sets
 Recliners
 And More...
 CLOSE-OUTS
 Excludes an other promotions or offers.

Lift Chairs Starting at \$ 699.	Adjustable Beds Twin Starting at \$ 999.
---	---

12 Month Interest Free Financing **HERMISTON**
 Call **541-567-1099**
 1-800-955-9509
Greg's Sleep Center
 Sofas 'n More
 North Hwy 395 Cottage Plaza