



Staff photo by Jade McDowell

Two taken to hospital after I-82 rollover

A single-vehicle rollover temporarily closed westbound lanes of traffic on Interstate 82 between Umatilla and Powerline Road at about 4:30 p.m. on Friday. Two patients were transported to the hospital.

Pilot Rock man comes close to paying computer scammers

By PHIL WRIGHT
East Oregonian

Steve Janke of Pilot Rock was about to hand over a \$2,000 check for a company that fixed his computer over the internet.

Then he found out it was all a scam.

"I just don't want anybody else to get scooped up in this," he said. "There's just never been a more legitimate sounding scam."

Janke, a former mill manager, said he was using his computer Wednesday when a message popped up on this screen warning him the "Turgid Worm" infected his system, and shutting down would cause it to crash. The solution, according to the message, was to call the 800-number on the screen.

Computer security websites describe worms as

self-replicating programs that move into a computer's operating system to spread their malicious code to other computers and can delete files and cause other problems.

Janke said he called the number, and the people who answered sounded professional and helpful and connected him to hackers that could get into his computers remotely and repair the damage.

The only thing off, he said, was everyone he spoke with had a foreign-sounding accent.

The hackers asked him to type something on his computer so they could see what was happening, Janke said, and after that they were able to access and download anything in the system.

The process took a few hours, he said, and when they were done "fixing" his computer, they wanted \$2,000

in the form of a check to Peler Tech LLC, of 14423, Pebble Hill Lane, North Potomac, Maryland.

Just before the FedEx driver could take the money, Janke said he called his local computer repair shop. He said that's when he learned he was scammed and would need repairs on both of his laptops for repairs.

"I wasted all of six hours on this crap," he said, "and it probably cost me \$400 to get my computers cleaned up."

The scammers were not done, though. Janke said the fraudsters called moments after he did not send the check. And they kept calling. He even unplugged the line, he said, and during their last conversation told them to take him to court.

"They finally did have enough after I called them a lot of names," he said.

Sex crimes trial starts Monday

PENDLETON — The sex crimes trial of Shaun Allen Dick commences Monday after the judge denied another defense request for a delay.

Dick, 38, of Pendleton, has been in the Umatilla County Jail since his arrest on Feb. 25, 2015. The circuit court has on three occasions already delayed Dick's trial on multiple counts of sex crimes. The last delay came in August when defense attorney Robert Klahn

caused a mistrial after leaving a microphone on and broadcasting a sensitive closed-door meeting with the judge to a pool of possible jurors in the courtroom.

Klahn tried on Wednesday to push back the trial again. He filed a motion for a delay, citing a scheduling conflict with another trial he is working on.

Judge Christopher Brauer, though, denied the motion. Roy Blaine, the trial court

administrator for the 6th Judicial District, said the trial is going forward Monday.

Dick pleaded not guilty to charges of first-degree sodomy, two-counts of first-degree unlawful sexual penetration, two counts of first-degree sexual abuse, and one count each of coercion, menacing, and attempted first-degree rape. The state accused Dick of committing the crimes against a woman on Jan. 18, 2015.

BRIEFLY

Car rolls into house in Mission

MISSION — A car rolled over and into a house at 35 Willow Drive on the Umatilla Indian Reservation around 7:30 p.m. Friday.

Pendleton Assistant Fire Chief Shawn Penninger said the female driver was removed from the vehicle and transported to St. Anthony Hospital with non-life threatening injuries. The cause of the wreck has not been reported.

Concept drawings of proposed school projects at meeting

HERMISTON — The Hermiston School Board will meet for a work session at Highland Hills Elementary School Monday, where they will share conceptual drawings for an expanded Sandstone Middle School and a rebuilt Rocky Heights Elementary School.

The board is currently considering a bond proposal for the May 2017 ballot, which also includes an expansion of Hermiston High School.

One of the main reasons the school district is weighing a bond campaign is the need to expand or build larger facilities to accommodate a fast-growing student body.

At 5,714 students, the school district is growing at a rate faster than even their most aggressive projections.

The work session will be held on Monday at 6:30 p.m. at Highland Hills, 450 S.E. 10th St.

Family Promise program on the agenda for city council

HERMISTON — The Hermiston City Council will hear an update from the Faith Based Advisory Committee during its Monday meeting.

The committee is made up of local religious leaders who advise the council on faith-based issues in the community, recruit volunteers for city events and help put together community service programs such as the adopt-a-school program for churches.

On Monday chairman James LaFollette will update the city council on their progress in bringing the Family Promise to Hermiston. The nationally-recognized program matches trained volunteer mentors with at-risk families in their community.

Milton-Freewater puts education first in survey

By SHEILA HAGAR
Union-Bulletin

While Milton-Freewater residents said in May they feel like "the unwanted stepchild" of Walla Walla in terms of interests and goals, it appears they share nearly identical hopes for the region as their neighbors north of the state line.

About 35 people had come to hear results Tuesday for Walla Walla's Community Council's "Community Treasures" survey on assets and needs, taken in a series of spring meetings around the Valley, and develop local priorities.

No. 1 on the short list by the end of Tuesday evening's meeting at the Milton-Freewater Community Building was "access to education," exactly what Walla Walla residents said they wanted at their gathering the evening before.

The project is an effort to look at an area bounded by Starbucks in the north to Milton-Freewater in the south, and from Burbank to Dayton to determine what assets are already in place and what needs improvement.

Milenko Matanovic of Issaquah-based Pomegranate Center, was contracted to lead the effort, a collaborative project between United Way of Walla Walla County, Don and Virginia Sherwood Trust, Blue Mountain Community Foundation and other area agencies.

"The goal was to identify the community's treasures. It's hard to know where you need to go if you don't already know what you have," Matanovic told Tuesday's audience.

The entire area's 800 ideas for improvement had been gathered and slotted into 13 "buckets" or categories, ranging from civic



EO file photos

The Grove building is used as a library and for storage at Grove Elementary School in Milton-Freewater.

engagement to safety to arts, health and agriculture.

Tuesday was Milton-Freewater's turn to move around those buckets as they saw fit, keeping in mind a need to envision beyond their city limits, Matanovic said, explaining that overlapping concerns between communities would show what mattered most to all Valley residents.

For Milton-Freewater, access to education — a phrase that embodies myriad wants and needs — was followed by safety, care for nature, a strong and diverse economy. Health and civic engagement tied for fifth place.

Access to education is defined in the project as becoming a region known for excellence in education for all, from birth through retirement age. People in Tuesday's meeting decided that meant attracting better teachers via new school buildings, implementing day care and prekindergarten programs and offering community college classes for retirees.

At No. 2, safety referred to physical and property security, a need for safe places for families and individuals, more lighting in parks and streets and neighborhood watch groups. Residents, the group said,

are afraid to report crimes due to repercussions. Networking between police and neighborhoods would be good, as would a crime-prevention program, youth activities, education around the issue and services and housing for youth.

Although the region's economy came in at No. 4, fully a third of the audience joined that discussion.

"That means they voted with their feet," Matanovic said. "Other ideas might get their vote, but it's so overwhelming that they gravitate to something they can do something about."

At the end of the evening, Matanovic told participants they would be invited to fill out an index card with name and phone number, to put "skin in the game" and be part of the solution, he said.

A meeting in early December will pull all participants in the Valley together to discuss each group's goals, look at what is being done and what needs to be done. Action groups will be formed and supported in bringing the top ideas to fruition, Matanovic said.

"This is the first tiny step of a longer journey," he said. "Why bother? To be better prepared for the future of the region."

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