

Emergency Medical Responder course trains 15 firefighters



Photo contributed by J.W. Roberts

Emergency Medical Responder students take a test during a course presented by Umatilla County Fire District No. 1 in conjunction with the Echo Fire Department.

Fifteen volunteers recently completed a 50-hour **Emergency Medical Responder (EMR)** course presented by **Umatilla County Fire District No. 1** in conjunction with the **Echo Fire Department**.

Students participating were from the Echo Fire Department, UCFD 1 and the **Umatilla Fire District**. Participants put in training two evenings per week and several Saturdays, said **J.W. Roberts**, UCFD 1 EMS coordinator. The training will allow the students to

become licensed EMRs by the state of Oregon.

"Most people do not realize the time commitment and dedication that our members go through to be able to provide such vital services to the community," said lead instructor **Rob Tooley**.

An EMR is one step below an EMT. They are able to provide basic treatment and care to patients at emergency scenes and provide additional manpower to help ambulance crews when they arrive on the scene.

"Placing EMTs and paramedics in all parts of our rural county is not possible," Roberts said. "The EMR course has provided critical lifesaving training to our first responders."

The EMR course was funded by the **Apple a Day Grant Program** under the **Oregon Office of Rural Health**. These funds covered the cost of most of the books and instructors, and the course would not have been possible without this generous gift, Roberts said.

Community Bank collects money for area nonprofits

More than \$24,000 in donations and bank matches were disbursed to charities in northeast Oregon and southeast Washington through **Community Bank's** annual holiday Charity Drive.

Each of the bank's full-service branch locations collected donations from Nov. 1 through Dec. 20. The program collects donations at each location to benefit charities in that same area. The bank matches donations at 50 cents on each dollar, with a max match amount of \$500 per branch location.

Organizations receiving money in Umatilla and Morrow counties include: **Milton-Freewater City Light and Power Energy Assistance Program** through **The Salvation Army** (Milton-Freewater branch), \$3,518; **Neighborhood Center Food Bank** (Heppner branch), \$1,646 **CASA of Umatilla Morrow County Head Start** (Hermiston branch), \$1,520; and the **Children's Museum of Eastern Oregon** (Pendleton branch), \$1,203;

Over the past seven years the Community Bank Charity Drive has provided more than \$143,000 to charities in the region. Community Bank appreciates all the people and clubs that donated to the fundraising efforts.

"These charitable organizations do such wonderful things for our communities, it is a pleasure to round up some extra assistance for them during the holiday season," said **Tom Moran**, Community Bank president/CEO. "We're continually blown away with the generosity of our customers and communities, it's truly amazing."



Photo contributed by Leah Johnson

Lacey Wallis, Community Bank Hermiston branch manager, presents a check from its holiday Charity Drive to Aaron Treadwell, deputy director of Umatilla-Morrow Head Start.

Library shelves new children's books

The **Ione Public Library** is thrilled with a generous grant from **The Pilcrow Foundation**, which will provide 101 new children's books.

The **Ione Topic Club** raised funds for the 2-to-1 matching grant.

The new books will be added to the library over the next few months. Titles being added in January include, "Gooseberry Park and the Master Plan" by **Cynthia Rylant**,

"Prince Fly Guy" by **Tedd Arnold**, "Under Their Skin" by **Margaret Peterson Haddix**, "The Day Everything Went Wrong" by **Moritz Petz**, "Gemma & Gus" by **Olivier Dunrea**, "The Most Amazing Creature in the Sea" by **Brenda Guiberson** and "The Bee Dance" by **Rick Chrustowski**.

For more information, contact 541-561-9828 or ionelibrary@gmail.com.

THANK YOU

Health district thanks voters

On behalf of the East Umatilla County Health District, which will become the East Umatilla County Ambulance Area Health District (EUCAAHD), current board members, **Holly Mays, Jeremy Lasater, Vickie Jackson, Elizabeth McIntyre**; the new board members, **Chrys Wernlund, Jan Reitz**; former EUCHD administrator **Mark Moore**, new administrator **Gary Woodson** and the **Friends of the Ambulance Board**, we'd like to thank community members of Weston, Adams, Helix, Athena and those living on Weston Mountain who passed ballot measures 30-120 and 30-122.

We'd like to extend a special thank you to **Erica Lasater** for her amazing graphic arts skills. Thank you to **Eric Sederberg** for allowing Friends to put a reader board on his

property in Adams, advertising the measures. Thank you to **Ray Denny** for bringing reader boards to Adams and Athena and to the **Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation** for allowing Friends to use the portable reader boards. Thank you to all those people who allowed Friends to put signs in their yards.

The passage of these ballot measures will allow for 24/7 service from the ambulance and personnel, ensuring timely and consistent care that will be available for years to come. Our communities are forever grateful that voters have considered not only the imperative needs of the district, but also the future look and feel of east Umatilla County. We look forward to serving our communities and for the positive changes coming our way in 2017 and beyond. Thank you!

The East Umatilla County Health District Board

BIRTHS

Good Shepherd Medical Center, Hermiston

DEC. 28, 2016

STIEFEL — Talia Reynolds and Tyler Stiefel of Hermiston: a boy, Eizan Andrew William Stiefel.

DEC. 30, 2016

VALENCIA GALINDO — Maria I. Galindo and Isidro Valencia of Hermiston: a boy, Gael Valencia Galindo.

DEC. 31, 2016

SMITH — Stephanie R. Liebe and Corey R. Smith of Umatilla: twin girls, Piper Lynn Smith and Remington Anne Marie Smith.

JAN. 3, 2017

MUNIZ GOMEZ

— Brenda Gomez and Constancio Muniz of Irrigon: a girl, Aitana Sarahi Muniz Gomez.

St. Anthony Hospital, Pendleton

DEC. 28, 2016

DUTTON — Josie McClain Dutton and Devon J. Satterwhite of Pendleton: a girl, Carter Mae Dutton.

DEC. 30, 2016

ARNOLD — Michelle L. Aguire and Neil D. Arnold of Pendleton: a boy, Hunter Lee Arnold.

JAN. 3, 2017

HARRIS — Searra R. Harris and Alistair W. Harris of Pendleton: a boy, Alistair Wren Harris II.



Photo contributed by Mike Morehead

Bull elk moves through the mountains

Pilot Rock resident **Mike Morehead** took a photo of a large bull elk while hiking in the Blue Mountains.

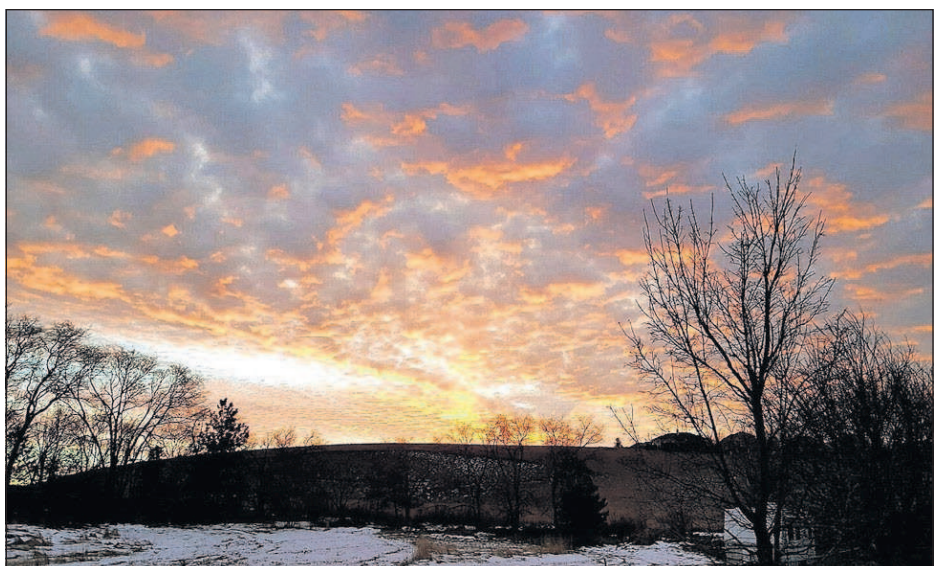


Photo contributed by Larry McMillan

Winter sunset paints sky

A resident of the Grecian Heights area of Pendleton, **Larry McMillan** recently captured a colorful sunset.

SUBMIT YOUR EO NEWS

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

Pet of the Week



Hemi is loving and gorgeous Walker Hound Mix. He's just over a year old. Hemi is housetrained, loves the outdoors, gets along with cats and older children. He also loves to go for rides in the car and to play in the water. Hemi is available for adoption at PAWS so come meet him at 517 SE 3rd St in Pendleton. 541-276-0181 Tues-Sat from 12-4pm.

Visit HEMI at the Pioneer Humane Society/Paws Tues - Sat • Noon - 4pm • 517 SE 3rd St, Pendleton 541-276-0181

Check out the PAWSABILITY Thrift Store

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