





# AST OREGONIAN FRIDAY, APRIL 7, 2017

141st Year, No. 124

WINNER OF THE 2016 ONPA GENERAL EXCELLENCE AWARD

One dollar

### **Your Weekend**



Dancing With Your Pendleton Stars

"Celilo: Progress Versus
Protest" exhibit opening
Chili Cookoff Competition

• at Umatilla High School

### For times and places see Coming Events, 6A

Weekend Weather



HERMISTON Police designate zone for internet sales

By JAYATI RAMAKRISHNAN East Oregonian

If you've ever felt nervous about picking up something you've bought or sold through the internet, local police departments may have a solution

## U.S. missiles blast Syria

About 60 strikes fired at suspected chemical weapons base

Associated Press

PALM BEACH, Fla. — The United States blasted a Syrian air base with a barrage of cruise missiles Thursday night in fiery retaliation for this week's gruesome chemical weapons attack against civilians. President Donald Trump cast the U.S. assault as vital to deter future use of poison gas and called on other nations to join in seeking "to end the slaughter and bloodshed in Syria."

It was the first direct American assault on the Syrian government and Trump's most dramatic military order since becoming president just over two months ago. Announcing the assault from his Florida resort, Trump said there was no doubt Syrian President

See SYRIA/11A



"Assad choked out the lives of innocent men, women and children."

- Donald Trump, President of the U.S.A.

President Donald Trump speaks at Mar-a-Lago in Palm Beach, Fla., Thursday, after the U.S. fired a barrage of cruise missiles into Syria Thursday night. AP Photo/Alex Brandon

# Desert Rose helps those in need

Church provides food, services to homeless, recovering addicts

> By JAYATI RAMAKRISHNAN East Oregonian

Jason Estle isn't comfortable with the term "pastor," but he's come to serve that role for the congregation of Desert Rose Ministries.

"The guys I call 'pastor," I look up to them," he said. "I'm just one of the guys here."

Even so, Estle has impacted a lot of people with his leadership at the church,

may have a solution.

The Hermiston Police Department has designated an area in front of its station on South First Street an e-commerce zone, where citizens can come and exchange items from online transactions in a safe location. They put up a sign on Monday designating the "E-Commerce Zone."

"We're not getting into the middle of the transaction," said police chief Jason Edmiston. "But it's important people feel they have a safe place they can go."

Even though police don't get involved in civil matters, Edmiston said the area designated for trade has two cameras trained on it, so police can see exactly what transpires outside.

Edmiston said historically, people have used the police station as a place to exchange kids in custodial arrangements. He hopes the

See ZONE/12A

which has become known for providing services for the homeless, as well as those recovering from drug and alcohol addictions.

Located in the western half of a building on 512 E. Main St., Hermiston, Desert Rose Ministries usually has something going on. Go in at any time of day and you might see people eating a meal, having a discussion or helping out with chores.

Many of the people who come to Desert Rose have had a rough road to get there — including Taylor Morris who, on a Tuesday morning, is busy folding up boxes to take out to recycling and getting food for people who come in.

"I was on a fair amount of drugs," Morris said. "Someone told me I could get food here, so I came. I felt like I was abusing it, so I asked if I could help out, and Jason told me I was helping."

Morris said he liked Estle's attitude and acceptance of others, and began coming to the church. He has now been sober for six months after using drugs for a couple of years.



Desert Rose Ministries

More online For video visit eastoregonian.com

"I got to the peak of my

addiction," he said. "I went

to jail several times, but

now I turned my life around.

Jason's helped me out, he's

Jason Estle and Barbara White pray with Marda Caroline of Kennewick at Desert Rose Ministries on Thursday in Hermiston. Caroline had just been released from the Umatilla County Jail and came to Desert Rose for comfort and a meal.



Staff photo by E.J. Harris Volunteers Jeanie Turner and Don Self prepare food for guests at Desert Rose Ministries on Wednesday in Hermiston.

been my mentor."

Morris now works as a nail technician at a salon, but he still comes to the church and works. He admits that



Staff photo by E.J. Harris

Staff photo by E.J. Harris

Volunteer Taylor Morris organizes supplies in a storage trailer outside on Desert Rose Ministries on Wednesday in Hermiston.

working in an environment where many people are struggling can be a challenge.

"You may work 12 hours

a day," he said. "Not a lot of people thank you, or tell you you did a good job. It can be

See DESERT ROSE/12A



Staff photo by E.J. Harris

A pinwheel garden has been places at the entrance to St. Anthony Hospital in Pendleton to help raise awareness about child abuse prevention and it is part of Pinwheels for Prevention national campaign.

### PENDLETON Pinwheels spin for a cause

Help raise awareness about child abuse prevention

#### By ANTONIO SIERRA East Oregonian

An innocuous toy is being planted around Pendleton with a serious message in mind.

In commemoration of Child Abuse Prevention Month, three local organizations — Guardian Care Center, Greater Oregon Behavioral Health Inc. and Umatilla-Morrow Head Start — have partnered to coordinate the Pinwheels for Prevention campaign.

Guardian Care Center executive director Marisa Remington said campaigns have been put together in the past to raise awareness, but this is the first time all three organizations have combined forces.

On Tuesday, Remington, Chelsea Maranville of GOBHI, and Erin Richards of Head Start planted a pinwheel garden in a patch of grass near the St. Anthony Hospital entrance, complemented by a pinwheel mural on the building's front windows.

#### See PINWHEELS/12A

