

HERMISTON

‘I Love My City’ spruces up Butte

By **TAMMY MALGESINI**
East Oregonian



Contributed by Lukes Photos

Members of New Hope Community Church and others from the community work on a clean-up effort as part of the ongoing ‘I Love My City’ campaign Saturday near the Hermiston Butte.

giving attitude ... it leads to a stronger community and a stronger sense of community support,” he said.

Using wheelbarrows, shovels, rakes and even an all-terrain vehicle, participants helped pick up trash, provide trail maintenance near the Butte and paint equipment at Funland Park. Beal said they chose the particular projects after talking to Larry Fetter, director of Hermiston Parks & Recreation. Fetter, Beal said, provided a list of possible projects that volunteer groups could do to help the city.

Heidi Gray, along with her children, Nattalie, 14, and Luke, 12, helped during a past event as well as Saturday’s clean-up day. She said it was fun to participate in an activity with family, friends and neighbors.

“We have talked about how if you want to see a change in the community around you it often takes getting out and doing something about it,”

Gray said. “So in a small way we did that today.”

Also, Gray said it offers a way for kids to take ownership in their town. Youths, she said, might be more aware of the impact of littering after spending a day picking up after others.

“And this way, they learn leadership begins by getting the dirty stuff done,” Gray added.

Many participants donned red “I Love My City” T-shirts. Beal said the shirts stand out and some people have asked what they are involved with.

“We just believe God calls us to take care for our city,” he said. “For me, it makes me more invested in the city with pride and ownership.”

A larger “I Love My City” project is planned in April, Beal said. Information will be available as the date nears.

Contact Community Editor Tammy Malgesini at tmalgesini@eastoregonian.com or 541-564-4539

Injured hunter found, flown to hospital

Man accidentally stabbed himself while field dressing

By **ANGEL CARPENTER**
EO Media Group

An injured hunter was flown to a hospital in Bend last week, after emergency workers packed him out of a remote site in northern Grant County.

James Lee Moyer, 51, of Mapleton shot a six-point bull elk across the Indian Creek drainage Oct. 26, according to Grant County Sheriff Glenn Palmer.

Moyer made his way to the elk and was field dressing the animal when the knife he was using slipped and he accidentally stabbed himself about two inches above the navel, Palmer said.

Moyer’s wife, who was 650 yards across the canyon with her husband’s parents when the incident took place, made it to his side where cellphone service was available and a call was made to 911.

Long Creek and John Day medical units were dispatched as well as the Grant County Sheriff’s Office and the sheriff’s Grant County Search and Rescue team. Oregon State Police and the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife also responded.

Palmer said Air Link from St. Charles Medical Center in Bend landed



Contributed photo

Long Creek Ambulance crew member Craig Palmer assists injured hunter James Moyer (out of view) with other volunteers. In the foreground is the six-point bull elk, shot by Moyer, which he was field dressing when he wounded himself.

about 150-200 yards above Moyer’s location.

Palmer credited search and rescue crews and hunters in the area with clearing logs, trees and regrowth from the road where the helicopter landed.

Moyer was carried on a backboard to the helicopter.

Search and rescue personnel, ODFW and Oregon State Police assisted Moyer in field dressing and packing the bull elk to an awaiting vehicle.

SUBMIT COMMUNITY NEWS

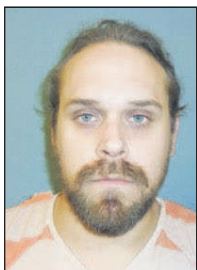
Submit information to: community@eastoregonian.com or drop off to the attention of Tammy Malgesini at 333 E. Main St., Hermiston or Renee Struthers at 211 S.E. Byers Ave., Pendleton. Call 541-564-4539 or 541-966-0818 with questions.

BRIEFLY

Attempted dog theft leads to stabbing in Hermiston

HERMISTON — A Hermiston man was arrested Sunday night after he allegedly stabbed another man during a dispute about a dog.

Jason Simpkins, 30, is accused of cutting Jonathan Sager, 30, with a knife on the 900 block of Southwest 11th Street, causing non-life-threatening lacerations to his back. According to the Hermiston Police Department, Simpkins was trying to take a dog belonging to Sager, a transient. Simpkins and Sager know each other, officers said.



Simpkins

Police took Simpkins into custody several blocks from where the incident happened. He was charged with assault in the second degree, robbery in the first degree and criminal mischief in the second degree. He was lodged in the Umatilla County Jail on \$105,000 bail.

Sager was taken to Good Shepherd Medical Center, Hermiston, for his injuries and released the same night. He still has the dog with him.

Power outage places TRCI on partial lockdown

Two Rivers Correctional Institution was placed on partial lockdown Saturday during a lengthy power outage that affected approximately 590 Umatilla Electric Cooperative customers northeast of Hermiston.

UEC spokesman Steve Meyers said the outage was due to a transformer failure at the utility’s Power City substation, knocking out power north of Diagonal Road and east

of Highway 395. Officials are not sure what caused the transformer to fail, Meyers said.

Kaycie Thompson, public information officer for TRCI, said the prison went into a “modified lockdown,” as opposed to a full lockdown, beginning at 11:43 a.m., though laundry facilities continued to run through the afternoon.

“We do have backup generators, so we’re not in the dark at the institution when the power goes out,” she said.

TRCI contracts to provide laundry services for a number of medical facilities around the area, Thompson explained. About 68 inmates were working on the laundry crew Saturday.

“We were able to manage everything pretty well,” she said.

Power was restored to the prison at 4:42 p.m., according to UEC, and to all customers by 5:46 p.m.

PHS teacher honored for culturally responsive teaching

PENDLETON — Eastern Oregon University recognized Pendleton High School teacher Sonia Cooley as its 2017 Culturally Responsive Teacher Leader.

Cooley received the biyearly award at the university’s La Grande campus on Wednesday and was recognized for the success of Pendleton’s Oregon Teacher Pathways program, which has sent 13 PHS graduates to EOU’s education program.

In a press release, Tawnya Lubbes, the director of EOU’s Center for Culturally Responsive Practices, said Cooley was frequently described by students as one of their most influential teachers.

“Sonia’s work with the Oregon Teacher Pathway program should be commended, as she has impacted the future of many students,” Lubbes said in a statement. “Her leadership in culturally responsive practices

has been recognized by her students and colleagues, and we are pleased to honor her outstanding work.”

Cooley said her teaching approach was to respect all cultures in and outside the classroom and characterized the relationships she’s built with Oregon Teacher Pathways students as “rewarding.”

Eighty pounds of pills collected at DEA event

HERMISTON — On Saturday, a deposit site for unused prescription pills was set up in front of the Hermiston Police Department, for Umatilla County residents to come and deposit medications.

Hermiston Police Chief Jason Edmiston said they collected about 80 pounds of prescription medications which the Drug Enforcement Administration will dispose of for them. The event was one of many across the state of Oregon, and across the United States, organized by the DEA to crack down on the opioid crisis affecting people across the nation.

A similar event in April brought in more than 12,000 pounds of prescription pills to collection sites around Oregon. Locally, Pendleton Police Department has a disposal box where people can deposit unused pills.

Utilities Commission to hold hearing on Idaho Power plan

The Public Utilities Commission of Oregon will hold a public comment hearing Thursday in Ontario on Idaho Power Co.’s 2017 Integrated Resource Plan.

The plan covers Idaho Power projects like the Boardman to Hemingway transmission line and the end of coal-fired operations at the Boardman plant.

“Opportunities like this to visit directly from utility customers is very important to me and the other commissioners,” commission Chair Lisa Hardie said in a statement. “The comments, whether in person at the event or in writing, will help us reach an informed decision.”

For those who cannot attend the meeting, the commission is accepting mailed comments at P.O. Box 1088 in Salem, email comments at puc.publiccomments@state.or.us or by phone at 1-800-522-2404. Idaho Power’s plan application can be viewed on the commission’s website.

The hearing will be held at the Four Rivers Cultural Center in Ontario, 676 S.W. Fifth Ave., from 5:30 p.m. to 8 p.m.

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For more information, please call (541) 276-1987.

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