

'Tis the season for package thieves

By JADE MCDOWELL
East Oregonian

It's the season of giving — and of taking things that belong to someone else. Law enforcement is warning people who ordered holiday gifts online or are sending them to loved ones via mail to beware of package thieves, who are out in force this time of year. Hermiston Police Department posted tips on their Facebook page for foiling criminals, including a recommendation to install a home video surveillance system if possible.

A study by *USA Today* reported that 30 percent of Americans have had a package stolen before, and that number is expected to increase as Cyber Monday becomes the new Black Friday and Americans do more of their holiday shopping online.

Major shippers, such as the U.S. Postal Service, UPS and FedEx all offer tracking services that can help keep a valuable package from being left on a porch unattended for long. The apps, accessible by smartphone or on the shippers' website, in some cases allow you to choose when a package is delivered, get notifications for when a package is delivered and provide delivery instructions for where the

package should be left.

Other tips for preventing package theft include:

- Require a signature on delivery.
- If you know you won't be home most of the day when the package will be delivered, have the package delivered somewhere else, such as a trusted neighbor's house or your place of employment.
- If you are having a package delivered to your home, use the postal service's tracking app to leave instructions for deliveries to be left somewhere less visible than the front porch, such as behind a fence or in a shed. Once you get a notification that the package has been delivered, ask someone you trust to pick it up for you or get home as quickly as you can.
- If you're sending someone a package, make sure they know it's on its way.
- Consider high-tech solutions, such as video surveillance or a smart lockbox.
- Compare prices of online items (including shipping costs) with area deals, and when possible shop local to cut down on the number of packages you need delivered.

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Contact Jade McDowell at jmcdowell@eastoregonian.com or 541-564-4536.

BRIEFLY

Holiday yard sale supports PHS class trip to Spain

PENDLETON — A group of Spanish students at Pendleton High School is raising money for a summer trip to Spain.

The group is hosting a Christmas shopping yard sale Saturday from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the commons at Pendleton High School, 1800 N.W. Carden Ave. Everything from stuffed animals and toys to clothing and household items are featured.

This is the fifth year Spanish teacher Kathryn Youngman has organized the trip. Students will get to attend a flamenco dance show, take a river cruise, visit museums and see cathedrals. For more information, contact Youngman at 541-278-9663 or youngman4@aol.com.

Elks lodge hosts holiday memorial service

HERMISTON — Music by the Coffey Family is featured during the annual holiday memorial gathering at the Hermiston Elks Lodge.

The public is invited to the free service Sunday at 10 a.m. at the lodge, 480 E. Main St., Hermiston. People are encouraged to linger afterward and enjoy a champagne brunch at 11

a.m. The meal costs \$8 per person.

For more information, call Jim Voss at 541-571-5116 or the lodge at 541-567-6923.

Hermiston man injured in rollover in Washington

YAKIMA, Wash. — A Hermiston man was injured in a one-vehicle rollover Saturday morning on Interstate 82, 3 miles west of Zillah, Washington.

Omar Campos, 18, was transported to Astria Toppenish Hospital in Toppenish, Washington. Nursing supervisor Steve Hogsett said Campos was treated, and then discharged in stable condition.

Campos was the passenger in a 2001 Dodge Durango driven by Isaac J. Sanchez, 19, also of Hermiston. Sanchez was not injured in the crash. Both occupants were wearing seat belts.

Washington State Patrol trooper J. Campbell of the Yakima Command Center reported Sanchez was driving eastbound near Milepost 49 when he lost control of the vehicle and rolled into the median. The vehicle was totaled. Sanchez was charged with driving too fast for the conditions. According to the Campbell, alcohol and drugs were not involved in the crash.



Staff photo by Tammy Malgesini
Mark Keith, left, Jennifer Armstrong and Richard Payan invite people to Coach Payan Christmas Trees in Umatilla. It's open daily from noon to 8 p.m., with proceeds helping local youth sports teams.

New tree lot sprouts in Umatilla

By TAMMY MALGESINI
East Oregonian

People searching for fresh-cut Christmas trees from non-profit organizations this holiday season may have a harder time finding the perfect tree. However, before dashing your hopes and buying a manufactured tree — look further, as they are available in the area.

As the supply of trees has dwindled across the nation, it has trickled down to local groups selling trees. According to the Associated Press, the yuletide market decline sprouted a decade ago with an overabundance of Christmas trees and the Great Recession, which resulted in driving many growers out of business.

The Umatilla Volunteer Firefighters Association announced it wouldn't be selling trees this year due to a combination of factors. In addition to the rising costs of trees and shrinking proceeds — the group raises money to fund community projects, including a Christmas basket program providing food and gifts for needy families — increased demands of time has limited the manpower needed to run the Christmas tree lot.

The Boardman Firefighters Association also are feeling the crunch. Although their sales started Sunday, Richard Hernandez said people won't have as many choices.

"Due to rising cost and having to get a new vendor, we will be limited to selling only 100 trees this year," he said.

Charitable Christmas tree sales

- Boardman Firefighters Association**
- Sundays through Saturdays: 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.
 - Boardman Fire Station, 300 S.W. Wilson Lane
 - \$20-\$35/Douglas, \$40-\$70/noble. Ask attendants about special ordering other sizes/types (541-481-3473).
- Camp Morrow**
- Daily: 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. through Dec. 17
 - New Hope Community Church, 1350 S. Highway 395, Hermiston
 - \$55+/-noble firs; lower prices on Douglas firs when they arrive. Money benefits the faith-based summer camp/retreat center (541-567-8441).
- Coach Payan Christmas Trees**
- Sundays through Saturdays: noon to 8 p.m.
 - 82346 Bucks Lane, Umatilla
 - \$45-\$69. Douglas, grand, noble. Benefits local youth sports team (541-922-1750).
- Hermiston Kiwanis**
- Sundays through Thursdays: noon to 8 p.m.; Fridays/Saturdays: 9 a.m. to 8 p.m.
 - Hermiston Community Center, 415 S. Highway 395
 - \$30-\$80/depending on size and type. Douglas, grand and noble firs available. Last year, the group sold-out 400 trees within two weeks (541-567-6728)
- Stanfield**
- Daily 6 a.m. to 9 p.m.
 - Main Street Market, 225 S. Main St., Stanfield
 - \$25. All money received is distributed to community projects (541-449-3244).

A handful of people associated with Encore Wellness 4 Life decided to step up so people can still purchase Christmas trees in Umatilla. Coach Payan Christmas Trees is set up outside the recently relocated wellness clinic at 82346 Bucks Lane — located near the Highway 730 and 395 junction. While looking for the perfect Douglas, grand or noble firs, people are invited to warm up around the fire pit. In addition, hot chocolate, apple cider and candy canes are available. The lot is officially open daily from noon to 8 p.m. However, if people come by Monday through Friday mornings, clinic staff will be happy to serve them.

For the past decade, Jennifer Armstrong has provided

sports physicals to Umatilla students. With Family Health Associates now contracting with Umatilla's hospital district, the nurse practitioner was looking for another way to give back to the community. Her husband, Mark Keith, previously assisted with the Umatilla firefighters tree lot, and didn't want to see the availability of Christmas trees in Umatilla just fade away. Kelly Payan, the operations manager at Encore, and her husband, Richard, quickly dashed at the chance to get involved with the effort.

"What better way to give back than during the holiday season," said Richard Payan, the lot's namesake. "A lot of families can't go outside the area to get a tree."

Youth sports teams are



Staff photo by Tammy Malgesini
Richard Payan invites people to help support local youth sports by purchasing Douglas, grand and noble firs at Coach Payan Christmas Trees in Umatilla.

invited to contact Coach Payan Christmas Trees to schedule time to work in the tree lot. They will receive a donation of 20 percent of sales.

"Our goal is to help the teams earn a little money and to teach them about responsibility and giving back," Keith said.

A gregarious youth sports coach, Payan was thrilled with selling a 10-foot grand fir to a customer Saturday evening. The Hermiston family was buying a fresh tree for the first time.

"That was cool," Payan said. "They were really excited to find such a big and beautiful tree."

For more information, call 541-922-1750 or search Facebook.

MEETINGS

- TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 27**
- No meetings scheduled*
- WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 28**
- BUTTER CREEK IRRIGATION DISTRICT**, 8 a.m., River Point Farms conference room, 28790 Westport Lane, Hermiston. (Bonnie Kyger 509-820-3202)
- ECHO IRRIGATION DISTRICT**, 8:30 a.m., River Point Farms conference room, 28790 Westport Lane, Hermiston. (Bonnie Kyger 509-820-3202)
- MORROW COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**, 9 a.m., Bartholomew Government Building upper conference room, 110 N. Court St., Heppner. (Roberta Luther 541-676-9061)
- U.S. FOREST SERVICE FOREST PLAN OBJECTION RESOLUTION MEETING**, 9:30 a.m.-5:15 p.m., Pendleton Convention Center, 1601 Westgate, Pendleton. Day-long meeting with multiple breakout sessions on specific topics. Public will be able to discuss their issues with FS leadership, provide clarity around objections and discuss potential areas of resolution. Free.
- HERMISTON LIBRARY BOARD**, 4 p.m., Hermiston Public Library, 235 E. Gladys Ave., Hermiston. (541-567-2882)
- THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 29**
- SALVATION ARMY ADVISORY BOARD**, 12 p.m., Salvation Army, 150 S.E. Emigrant Ave., Pendleton. (541-276-3369)
- MORROW COUNTY PARKS COMMITTEE**, 1:30-3 p.m., Morrow County Public Works conference room, 365 W. Highway 74, Lexington. (Kirsti Cason 541-989-9500)
- UMATILLA MORROW RADIO & DATA DISTRICT**, 1:30 p.m., Umatilla County Fire District Station 23, 78760 Westland Road, Hermiston. (Shawn Halsey 541-966-3774)
- MILTON-FREEWATER LIBRARY BOARD**, 4 p.m., Milton-Freewater Public Library, 8 S.W. Eighth Ave., Milton-Freewater. (541-938-5531)
- UMATILLA COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION**, 6:30 p.m., Umatilla County Justice Center,

- 4700 N.W. Pioneer Place, Pendleton. (541-278-6252)
- PENDLETON PLANNING COMMISSION**, 7 p.m., Pendleton City Hall, 501 S.W. Emigrant Ave., Pendleton. September meeting moved to first Thursday; November meeting moved to last Thursday. (Jutta Haliewicz 541-966-0240)
- FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 30**
- No meetings scheduled*
- MONDAY, DECEMBER 3**
- STOKES LANDING SENIOR CENTER BOARD**, 6 p.m., Stokes Landing Senior Center, 150 Columbia Lane, Irrigon. (Karen 541-922-3137)
- HEPPNER PLANNING COMMISSION**, 7 p.m., Heppner City Hall, 111 N. Main St., Heppner. (541-676-9618)
- MILTON-FREEWATER PLANNING COMMISSION**, 7 p.m., Milton-Freewater Public Library Albee Room, 8 S.W. Eighth Ave., Milton-Freewater. 6:30 p.m. study session, 7 p.m. regular meeting. (541-938-5531)



FREE HELP WITH MEDICARE

The Hermiston SHIBA (Senior Health Insurance Benefits Assistance) Office has certified volunteers to help with Medicare questions. FREE service is available to people with Medicare, (or eligible for Medicare) & their families and caregivers.

One on One Consultations:
SHIBA office located in the Good Shepherd Medical Group Lobby Area.
Call **541-667-3507** to schedule an appointment with a certified SHIBA volunteer



LOTTERY	
Friday, Nov. 23, 2018	million
Megamillions 07-10-30-33-59 Megaball: 23 Megaplier: 4 Estimated jackpot: \$155 million	Lucky Lines 04-08-10-14-FREE-18-24-27-30 Estimated jackpot: \$17,000
Lucky Lines 02-07-12-16-FREE-17-22-28-29 Estimated jackpot: \$16,000	Pick 4 1 p.m.: 7-9-9-6 4 p.m.: 2-6-4-9 7 p.m.: 9-8-6-7 10 p.m.: 8-9-2-4
Saturday, Nov. 24, 2018	
Powerball 11-33-51-56-58 Powerball: 18 Power Play: 2 Estimated jackpot: \$155 million	Sunday, Nov. 25, 2018
Megabucks 31-33-35-43-44-45 Estimated jackpot: \$3.8	Lucky Lines 04-07-09-13-FREE-20-21-28-30 Estimated jackpot: \$18,000
	Pick 4 1 p.m.: 7-5-0-1 4 p.m.: 6-1-2-0 7 p.m.: 6-7-0-6 10 p.m.: 1-2-6-7
	Monday, Nov. 26, 2018
	Pick 4 1 p.m.: 8-9-7-4



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INSTANT FAMILY (PG13) 4:10 6:50 9:30
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