

EAST OREGONIAN

THURSDAY, JULY 14, 2022

146th Year, No. 88

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INSIDE BIKERS RETURN FOR THE PENDLETON RUN IN GO!

BOARDMAN

Water filters coming for 350 homes

Providing clean water a 'stopgap' while county works toward filter installations

BY ERICK PETERSON
East Oregonian

BOARDMAN — Morrow County stated in addition to providing clean water for Boardman area residents with contaminated wells it plans to provide filters for up to 350 homes in the area.

Morrow County Commissioner Jim Doherty said the county was receiving its first shipments of filters Thursday, July 14. It will make them available next week. People may, he said, pick them up or schedule a county employee to install them.

He added there will be no cost to people who need the filters, and he will have more details about availability next week.

This is the latest move to deal with the crisis of nitrogen-tainted wells in the Boardman area after the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality fined the Port of Morrow for applying excessive nitrogen from its wastewater to farmland in the last decade on top of the area's contaminated aquifer.

"This isn't really an emergency of our own making, but once we recognized the public health emergency and information emergency, we've got to do something, at least in the interim," Doherty said.

Springs of generosity flow

Morrow County commissioners on June 9 declared a local state of emergency due to the water crisis. Help has come to Boardman residents from different directions, Doherty said, and more is expected.

In response to the water troubles, nearby entities gave assistance or at least offered help. The city of Hermiston promised fresh drinking water to Boardman residents.

The city of Boardman stated it would make city water available to people in need. It opened a fire hydrant at Sam Boardman Elementary in Boardman. Sitting in front of the school, Oregon Rural Action community organizers have been distributing clean city water.

ORA also has received additional water samples from people for testing, work that will continue into the foreseeable future.

Additional sample collection sites, at the Morrow County Government Center in Irrigon and Boardman Foods in Boardman, also have given away water.

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Smoke fills the air Wednesday, July 13, 2022, after a fire the evening before burned this warehouse in Hermiston at the intersection of Northeast Eighth Place and East Catherine Avenue.
Yasser Marte/
East Oregonian



Fire erupts in Hermiston



Another angle of the fire Tuesday, July 12, 2022, at Wilde Electric Motor Supply, 610 N.E. Eighth Place, Hermiston.
Reanna Jarvis-Potter/Contributed Photo

One person suffers burns, cause remains under investigation

By ERICK PETERSON AND PHIL WRIGHT
East Oregonian

HERMISTON — Kaylee Aughinbaugh saw the fire 30 feet from her bedroom window in Hermiston.

"I got out and started calling everybody," she said.

The blaze was burning through a warehouse at Wilde Electric Motor Supply, 610 N.E. Eighth Place. Aughinbaugh said she went door to door, alerting her neighbors of the fire.

"It was bad last night," she said.

After she got everyone together, her neighbors stated they were worried about her. Aughinbaugh is 36 weeks pregnant, and they thought the stress of the fire and its danger may have pushed her into labor.

But Aughinbaugh said she was most worried about the people who lived in the warehouse. There was a family of seven people living inside it, she said. They escaped the fire, but not all of their pets were as fortunate, she stated.

Call for RV fire turns into much more

The warehouse caught fire on the hottest day of the year so far, according to the National Weather Service, which reported a high temperature in Hermiston of 100 degrees. Umatilla

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Remembering Fred Bradbury

Pendleton community members pay tribute to civic volunteer and businessman

By JOHN TILLMAN
East Oregonian

PENDLETON — Pendleton resident, business owner and longtime community volunteer Fred Bradbury has died. He was 80.

He died Friday, July 8, shortly after 1 p.m., at Kadlec Regional Medical Center, Richland, Washington, according to his son, Jeff.

"Dad had no health issues, except for his heart," Jeff Bradbury said. "At his checkup, they said everything was like in a young man, but the little arteries in his heart. It was unexpected."

Bradbury was born May 13, 1942, in Portland. He is survived by his son Jeff, wife Donna, grandsons Preston, of Black Diamond, Washington, and Jerry and half brother Jay in California.

The family is making funeral arrangements through Pendleton Pioneer Chapel, Folsom-Bishop, Pendleton, but the time and place of a memorial service are yet to be decided.

Bradbury's business interests included Elite Guns & Tactical, 1400 S.W. Court Ave., and Bradbury Rental, with 50 apartments and houses.

Bradbury recently completed follow-up work on the Veterans of Foreign Wars' annual Fourth of July parade. Among his other civic association activities were memberships in the Eagles Lodge, Pendleton Downtown Association and Main Street Cowboys.

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Contributed Photo, File

Gary Ward, far left, Veterans of Foreign Wars commander in Pendleton, and Fred Bradbury, far right, VFW Fourth of July parade chairman, accept a donation from Pendleton Walmart representatives in August 2019. Bradbury died Friday, July 8, 2022, at the age of 80.

