

LOCAL WEATHER

Pet of the week



Hi, my name is Buddy. I am a male Australian-mix available for adoption at the Humane Society of Eastern Oregon Pet Rescue in Hermiston. I was a Hermiston stray, and I need a new home. I've already had my shots, and I am good with children and other dogs. I am about 1 to 2 years old and can be adopted for \$125. I come with a free vet check and a three-day return policy. If I am neutered within 60 days of adoption, my owner will receive a \$50 refund. If you are interested in welcoming Buddy to your family, please stop by the humane society at 1844 N.W. Geer Road, Hermiston, or call 541-564-6222.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Baby Affair takes place today in Hermiston

The Baby Affair, a health expo for families with young children, will take place from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. today at Hermiston High School, 600 S. First St. The event helps families learn about resources in the community, with opportunities for vision screenings from the Casey Eye Institute at Oregon Health & Science University and ages and stages developmental screening. Information will be available about lactation support, car seat safety, gestational diabetes, gardening, dental health, karate for kids, postpartum depression, building healthy relationships, nutrition and more.

Hermiston Eagles Lodge hosting fundraising dinner

The Hermiston Eagles Lodge will host a corned beef and cabbage dinner as a fundraiser for a muscular dystrophy charity from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. March 14 at the lodge, 160 N.W. Second St., Hermiston. The event costs \$7 and will also feature a silent auction, cake walk and dance. For more information, call 541-567-2909.

Willow Creek Symphony performing in Irrigon

Willow Creek Symphony will perform at 4 p.m. March 15 at the Irrigon Jr./Sr. High School Gym. The program will feature music for the whole family. The concert is free, and a reception will follow the performance. The Willow Creek Symphony is an Inland Northwest Musicians Western-oriented youth/preparatory symphony comprised of approximately 30 members. The concert is sponsored by the Morrow County Unified Recreation District. Corporate sponsors also include U.S. Bancorp Foundation, PGE Foundation and The Oregon Community Foundation.

Stanfield Community Center breakfast today

The Stanfield Community Center will host its monthly breakfast from 7 a.m. to 10 a.m. today. This is a fundraiser for operations of the Stanfield Community Center. Prices for a breakfast meal cost from \$3 to \$5.

FEES: continued from page A1

to Amazon but a recognition that there are other places they can go ... This is taking a close look at our competitive situation for those data centers."

Finance Director Melissa Ince said, at the 3.5 percent rate, UEC is estimated to contribute about \$420,000 in fees next year. Future growth would cause UEC to reach the cap and limit the city's revenue, Ward said, but the growth may not occur without it.

Ward said the increased property tax revenue collected by the city from new developments would also offset the reduction in franchise fees. Although the Amazon facilities are not currently paying property taxes during the temporary abatement period granted within the city enterprise zone, Ward said the city will begin receiving property tax revenue next year.

"I understand that this puts us in sort of a delicate situation," he said. "We are lim-

iting our ability to generate revenue from our franchise fee, but we are also potentially sending out a message that we are friendly to large businesses, large electric customers, and I think that that probably is going to be, for a variety of reasons, something we're going to be looking at in terms of benefiting from a much larger scale than we currently are. I think that's a valuable consideration here."

The 20-year agreement also includes a five-year adjustment clause, Ward said, so the city could make changes to both the rate and the cap, if necessary, in five years. UEC Finance Manager Kevin Ince said the cooperative passes the franchise fees it must pay directly onto its members as a separate line item on commercial and industrial bills and included in the rates for residential customers. He said, although the cooperative does not "want to incentivize" any of its members, this issue could impact future development.

"We typically retain a relatively neutral position," he

said. "Having said, we made some sizable investments in bringing the electrical capacity to those sites in anticipation of their full build-out plans, so we appreciate the council's consideration here because not imposing the cap, which you've acknowledged is reviewable every five years, may lead them to invest more heavily in other areas, which I don't think would be in either the city of Umatilla or Umatilla Electric's best interest."

Mayor Dave Trott said, with this agreement, city officials would send the message that the city has a "business friendly atmosphere." Councilwoman Mary Dedrick agreed.

"I think that it is a good message, and it would be nice to see more businesses out in the port area than what has been going on for quite a while," she said.

Although the Pacific Power agreement that was updated about two years ago does not include a cap, Ward said a similar limit would presumably be included when it is renewed.

RATES: continued from page A1

Rivera said HES also incurs costs to maintain transmission lines and could reduce long-term expenditures by proactively planning and addressing problem areas.

HES last adjusted its rates in 2003, Rivera said, and the bill for the city utility, which serves 5,229 customers or 63 percent of Hermiston, would still

be less than the other two electric providers within the city. For 1,500 kilowatt hours, Umatilla Electric Cooperative would charge \$121, and the company for which the city took over in 2001, Pacific Power, would charge \$193, according to a graph from Rivera, which shows an Oregon average of \$158 and a national average of \$208.

The U.S. Energy Information Administration estimates the average residen-

tial price nationally is 13 cents per kilowatt hour, Rivera said, compared to the HES proposal of 6.8 cents.

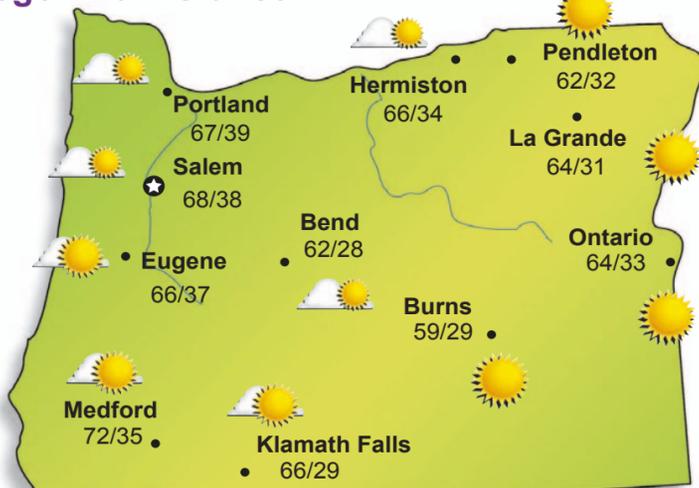
Today's Weather

Local 5-Day Forecast

Sat 3/7	Sun 3/8	Mon 3/9	Tue 3/10	Wed 3/11
66/34	67/37	71/39	69/45	68/45
Some clouds in the morning will give way to mainly sunny skies for the after.	Sunny. Highs in the upper 60s and lows in the upper 30s.	Sunshine. Highs in the low 70s and lows in the upper 30s.	Times of sun and clouds. Highs in the upper 60s and lows in the mid 40s.	Mostly cloudy. Highs in the upper 60s and lows in the mid 40s.
Sunrise 6:24 AM Sunset 5:52 PM	Sunrise 7:22 AM Sunset 6:53 PM	Sunrise 7:21 AM Sunset 6:54 PM	Sunrise 7:19 AM Sunset 6:56 PM	Sunrise 7:17 AM Sunset 6:57 PM

AmericanProfile // CELEBRATING THE AMERICAN SPIRIT //

Oregon At A Glance



Area Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Albany	67	39	mst sunny	Florence	63	40	pt sunny	Newport	59	40	pt sunny
Ashland	71	36	mst sunny	Grants Pass	71	36	mst sunny	Pendleton	62	32	sunny
Astoria	61	37	mst sunny	Hermiston	66	34	pt sunny	Portland	67	39	pt sunny
Baker City	62	30	sunny	John Day	62	33	sunny	Redmond	66	29	sunny
Bend	62	28	pt sunny	Klamath Falls	66	29	mst sunny	Roseburg	69	40	pt sunny
Brookings	66	44	mst sunny	La Grande	64	31	sunny	Salem	68	38	pt sunny
Burns	59	29	sunny	Lakeview	65	28	pt sunny	Springfield	67	34	mst sunny
Coos Bay	62	40	pt sunny	Lincoln City	63	42	pt sunny	The Dalles	69	40	pt sunny
Corvallis	67	39	mst sunny	McMinnville	67	38	pt sunny	Tillamook	63	38	mst sunny
Eugene	66	37	mst sunny	Medford	72	35	mst sunny	Vale	64	34	sunny

National Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Atlanta	60	35	sunny	Houston	62	50	cloudy	Phoenix	77	52	sunny
Boston	36	26	mst sunny	Los Angeles	81	55	sunny	San Francisco	72	50	sunny
Chicago	42	25	pt sunny	Miami	80	70	pt sunny	Seattle	61	38	sunny
Dallas	58	44	mst sunny	Minneapolis	38	24	pt sunny	St. Louis	58	33	sunny
Denver	53	28	sunny	New York	38	33	mst sunny	Washington, DC	47	36	sunny

Moon Phases



UV Index

Sat 3/7	Sun 3/8	Mon 3/9	Tue 3/10	Wed 3/11
3	3	3	3	3
Moderate	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate

The UV Index is measured on a 0 - 11 number scale, with a higher UV Index showing the need for greater skin protection.

Corrections

It is the policy of the *Hermiston Herald* to correct errors as soon as they are discovered. Incorrect information will be corrected on Page 2A. Errors committed on the Opinion page will be corrected on that page. Corrections also are noted in the online versions of our stories. Please contact the editor at editor@hermistonherald.com or call (541) 564-4533 with issues about this policy or to report errors.

For Herald news, advertising or subscription information:
 • call 541-567-6457
 • email info @hermistonherald.com
 • stop by our offices at 333 E. Main St.
 • or visit us online at www.hermistonherald.com

ESSENCE E-CIGS EMPORIUM E-JUICES

• Vapor Shop
• Accessories

541-667-4184

Mon-Fri 10am-6pm • Sat 10am-5pm
1055 S. Hwy 395, Ste. 333 • Hermiston, OR 97838
facebook.com/essenceemporium97838

Happy St. Patrick's Day!

From Dr. Hibbert, Lacey, Jessica, Bailey, Heather, and Sarah
541-612-3707

LUCKY DEALS 4 YOU!

Place a Yard Sale Ad
25 words, 3 days, private party only
\$20.00 East Oregonian & Hermiston Herald

Find Your Pots of Gold!

Call Paula
541-278-2678

Yard Sale Kits - \$5.00
Includes 2 signs & stakes, price stickers & coupons

The meeting begins at 7 p.m. Monday at Hermiston City Hall, 180 N.E. Second St.

Rivera's recommendation would also increase costs for average small commercial customers by 7.45 percent, large commercial customers by 11.84 percent and irrigation customers by 6.34 percent.