

LOCAL WEATHER

DE LA CRUZ

continued from page A1

ed to the BMCC board in March to fill a vacancy, and he was elected to the position for a term beginning July 1 in the recent election. He had previously served on the BMCC Presidential Selection Committee in 2013 when President Cam Preus was hired. As an advocate for the Latino community, De La Cruz said he has been pleased with Preus.

"I asked her, 'If you get chosen to be the president of BMCC, what are your plans to outreach the Latino community?' and she said, 'Well, I'm going to do everything possible that I can.'" De La Cruz said, referring to a selection committee interview. "Once she got hired, she contacted me right away."

De La Cruz said Preus followed through on some recommendations he gave her, and she has presented information to the Hispanic Advisory Committee on

multiple occasions.

Now that he is a BMCC board member, De La Cruz said he has a few more recommendations. He said he is pleased the school reported 25 percent Hispanic enrollment during winter term this year, but he would like to see it even higher.

"It's a good sign, but there's still a lot more room for improvement," he said. "Let's take it up to 35 percent."

De La Cruz, who is also president of the Columbia Hispanic Soccer League,

said establishing a BMCC soccer team would likely boost attendance from local students. He said Eastern Oregon University recently added a soccer program, and BMCC should do the same.

"We have had great success in the last three years in the high school soccer team, big success," he said. "We have great talent here in the high schools, and it's too bad that they have to go to other colleges that have soccer programs. Why not

have it here in our backyard with BMCC?"

De La Cruz said he would also like to see the college hire more Latino instructors and advertise on Spanish-language radio stations.

"We have great programs in here, but we need to get them out of these four walls," he said about BMCC. "We need to put it out there where people can find out how they can qualify, where they can get the money and how to take the first step of attending a

college." De La Cruz said he is one of the first Latinos on the BMCC board, and he is proud to represent the Hispanic community. He said he believes the college is "moving forward to the next generation."

"It's great to be part of a college board here in your backyard that you can support and help them get the help they need so they can be an inclusive organization to include the Latino community," he said.

HORSEBACK:

continued from page A1

about you that you don't," Pierce said.

Even as the horse, named after the famed Northwest hijacker who parachuted out of a Boeing 727 on a flight between Portland and Seattle in 1971, responded to Pierce's guidance, Pierce said D.B. Cooper still wasn't fully in tune with him yet because he was responding to distractions and pressures around him, much like the inmates can expect to face in the future when leaving TRCI or what got them off track in the past.

"I want him to realize, although I'm the center of his universe, I'm not the focus yet," he said. "He needs to know that I'm serious about him, that we're not playing."

He also encouraged the inmates to make God their focus.

"Until your focus is entirely on him, even he can't help you," Pierce said.

He said if people become one with Jesus, they become something greater than they ever thought they could be.

"Jesus didn't come to steal anything from you guys," he said. "He came to give you something."

After he successfully mounted and rode the horse without a saddle around the arena, he explained the horse had never been ridden before. He was just responding to Pierce after putting a certain measure of trust in him.

"I don't want this to be a battle of wills, and I don't want you to think I'm forcing this horse to do anything," Pierce said.

He said while the horse may not be entirely comfortable with everything he was learning, he would only continue to grow, just as the inmates could as well.

"I don't know if he's ready yet, but he's gonna be. I don't know if you're ready yet, but you're gonna be," Pierce said.

Later in the presentation, Pierce successfully saddled



JESSICA KELLER PHOTO

Pastor Todd Pierce, introduces a 5-year-old Arabian gelding to a bit Tuesday at Two Rivers Correctional Institution. Pierce, who operates Riding High Ministries, shares messages from the Gospel while 'breaking' a horse, unfamiliar to being ridden.

the horse and mounted it. Although the horse resisted at times, as Pierce settled the horse back down, he told the inmates, that just as he was not giving up on the horse, God would not give up on them despite their past and their sins.

"I hope you guys can see the relationship between what's going on in this arena and what's going on in your lives," Pierce said.

Pierce encouraged the inmates to not only act differently, but think differently as well. He then wrapped things up with a prayer.

Afterward, Pam Lincoln said she was thrilled to see the progress Pierce coaxed in her horse, who would have been sent to Canada and killed before he was rescued. She said prior to Tuesday, she had gotten D.B. Cooper halter-broken but had not been brave enough to try to ride him.

"I'm thrilled to see that he has that ability to kind of sink in with things," Lincoln said of D.B. Cooper.

Snake River Correctional Institution Chaplain Tom Armstrong, who helped arrange for Pierce to present the "Born Wild Created to Be Free" demonstrations at var-

ious prisons before Father's Day, said he believes Pierce has a valuable message to share with inmates. He said he has seen about six of Pierce's demonstrations, and they are always different.

"What's interesting is that the most variable aspect of the whole presentation is the horse, and the horse brings their personality and their characteristics, and Todd sculpts his message based on the horse," Armstrong said.

Afterwards, the inmates took some time to ask Pierce questions and pet the horse.

Inmate Corey Burdick said he really enjoyed the demonstration and Pierce's message.

"I thought it was all good," he said.

Inmate Mark Daniels said he was impressed by what he saw.

"I was debating even coming out. I'm not a huge horse person," he said.

Daniels, whose father is a pastor, said the message was even better.

"If we can all just take it to heart and do what he's saying then we'd never have to come back to this place," Daniels said.

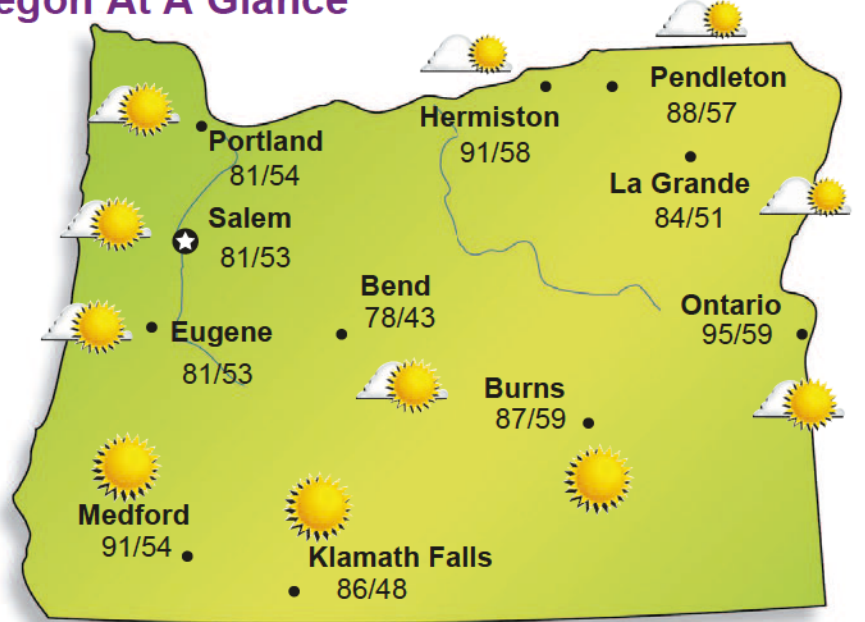
Today's Weather

Local 5-Day Forecast

Table with 5 columns: Day (Wed 6/17, Thu 6/18, Fri 6/19, Sat 6/20, Sun 6/21). Columns include temperature ranges, sky conditions, wind, and sunrise/sunset times.

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Oregon At A Glance



Area Cities

Table with 3 columns: City, Hi, Lo Cond., and weather conditions for various Oregon cities.

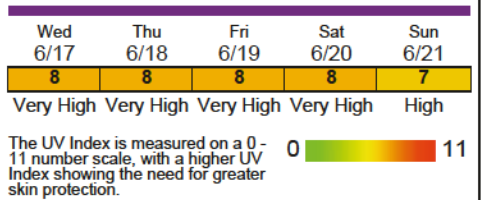
National Cities

Table with 3 columns: City, Hi, Lo Cond., and weather conditions for various national cities.

Moon Phases



UV Index



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SAFETY FIRST

Join us as we host a lecture series to increase safety awareness on fall prevention, common home injuries and provide solutions to keep you and your loved one safe!



SafetyMan says "Always be Safe to Ensure an Active & Independent Lifestyle"

Healthy Back Habits for Caregivers - CONCLUDED

TUESDAY, MAY 26, 3:30PM

Many adults spend a considerable portion of their week caring for aging parents, relatives, friends, or other adults. According to the results of a recent study, the stresses and strains of providing care to an ill loved one may take a considerable toll on the mental and physical health of care-givers including their back and spine health. Learn healthy back habits to keep you safe.

Elder-Friendly Living: Modifying Your Home for Safety

TUESDAY, JUNE 23, 3:30 PM

No matter when the older person's home was built and regardless of whether it is modern or traditional in style, it likely was designed for young adults and their families. As adults age their homes also grow older, but most are not updated to accommodate the resident's changing needs. Home adaptation or modification can provide friendlier elder living so older occupants may continue to life safely in the comfort of their home.

Know Your Numbers

TUESDAY, JULY 28, 3:30 PM

Are you at risk for diabetes, heart disease and other chronic diseases? Learn about the numbers and what they mean for various screenings to stay in control of your health. We will talk about cholesterol, blood pressure, body mass index (BMI) numbers and more.

For more information or to RSVP, call us at (541) 276-1987 or visit us today!

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11am till Dark at Umatilla
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10:00pm Fireworks

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