



STAFF PHOTOS BY GARY L. WEST

Officer Juan Balli controls traffic at the corner of Main Street and Northeast Third Street in Hermiston prior to the Martin Luther King Jr. piece walk Monday, Jan. 18. Hermiston Police Chief Jason Edmiston said officers initiated more activity in 2015 at a higher level than any year since 2010.

## CRIME:

continued from Page A1

The drop in calls also corresponds to police taking more initiative. Edmiston reported Hermiston police experienced an increase of 20 percent in officer initiated activity, including a 26 percent increase in traffic stops. That work also bumped up total reports 9 percent, arrests 6 percent and citations 11 percent.

Edmiston also reported Hermiston police from Dec. 21, 2015, to Jan. 4 arrested eight people for driving under the influence of intoxicants, cited 17 people driving while suspended and handed out 26 citations for hazardous crash-causing violations (not equipment-related violations). A grant provided the funds

|                            | 2014   | 2015   |
|----------------------------|--------|--------|
| Calls for service          | 12,129 | 10,032 |
| Officer initiated activity | 10,970 | 13,205 |
| Total violent              | 24     | 21     |
| Homicide                   | 0      | 1      |
| Rape                       | 2      | 4      |
| Robbery                    | 14     | 4      |
| Aggravated assault         | 8      | 12     |
| Total property             | 499    | 503    |
| Burglary                   | 75     | 53     |
| Larceny                    | 388    | 413    |
| Auto theft                 | 34     | 36     |
| Arson                      | 2      | 1      |
| Total crime                | 523    | 524    |

for the crackdown. Edmiston also plans to release juvenile crime numbers later this month.

In his presentation to the city,

Edmiston also looked ahead at challenges his department will face going forward.

Among his goals for the department are increased interaction with the community for things like Neighborhood Watch and Business Watch projects in press releases sent out through local media.

He also wants to increase interaction with the Hispanic community, which makes up roughly one-third of the city's population. The department currently has seven paid employees that are bilingual, which is 23 percent of the staff and has 2 more volunteer staff members that can speak Spanish. The department also hopes to educate the public on ways to avoid becoming a victim of crime.

Gary L. West contributed to this report.



STAFF PHOTO BY E.J. HARRIS

Rose Johnson leads a group of marchers in singing "Lift Every Voice and Sing" by James W. Johnson on Monday before beginning a march to honor Martin Luther King Jr. Day in Hermiston.



STAFF PHOTO BY E.J. HARRIS

The "Star-Spangled Banner" is sung during a celebration of Martin Luther King Jr. Day on Monday in Hermiston.



STAFF PHOTO BY E.J. HARRIS

More than 100 people gathered to take part in a march down Main Street in Hermiston on Monday to commemorate Martin Luther King Jr. Day.

## PEACE:

continued from Page A1

they needed to wait to win the lottery in order to make a difference in the world.

"As Americans we have already won the lottery," she said. "Don't wait to be great to do something, do something now and be great at that."

Pressing the theme of contributing one's best to the world in every circumstance, Rome quoted King:

"If a man is called to be a street sweeper, he should sweep streets even as a Michaelangelo painted, or Beethoven composed music or Shakespeare wrote poetry. He should sweep streets so well that all the hosts of heaven and earth will pause to say, 'Here lived a great street sweeper who did his job well.'"

She urged everyone in attendance to follow King's words by doing their best to build up their own community.

Other speakers at Monday's ceremony spoke of King's devotion to making the world a better place.

Jody Frost said she was a little girl growing up in Hermiston during the civil rights movement. At the time she didn't really understand what all of the fuss was about, she said, but today she can appreciate the sacrifices King and his contemporaries made so that when she marched down the streets of Hermiston on Monday with people of various races she didn't have to wonder if she was going to be shot, beaten or

spit upon. "We reap the benefits today," she said. "They suffered injustice and indignity so we could sit here today."

Robert Davis said he was glad to see so many children participate in the peace walk and ceremony, learning the lessons of tolerance so that history did not repeat itself.

"We have a brighter future with the youth involved," he said.

The event was sponsored by Hermiston's Black International Awareness Club, which began in 1999.

When Caring, Quality and Commitment Make a Difference.

**Assured Quality HOME CARE INC.**

Call Today for your **FREE** Assessment Providing Personalized In-home Care 24/7

**541-429-8099**  
920 Frazier Ave ste 212  
Pendleton Or 97801  
www.aqhcinc.com


*Se Habla Español*

- Personal Care
- Housekeeping
- Appointments
- Bathing
- Companionship
- Respite Care
- Errands
- Memory Care
- Cognition
- Groceries
- Blood Pressure
- Checks
- Meal Preparation
- Laundry
- Home Care
- Grooming
- Medication Assistance
- Insurance Billing


**Insured • Bonded • Licensed**

# Spokane Pacific Northwest AG EXPO FARM FORUM


February 2-4, 2016  
Tuesday & Wednesday, 9:00am-5:00pm • Thursday, 9:00am-3:00pm  
Spokane Convention Center



**Dr. Art Douglas**  
2016 Weather Projection  
Tuesday, 2/2 at 9:00am



**The Peterson Farm Brothers**  
Wednesday, 2/3 at 9:00am



**Randy Fortenbery**  
Prof. of Economics, WSU  
Wednesday, 2/3 at 9:30am

**\$8.00 Discount Tickets** available at your local **NORTH40** OUTLET

300 Exhibitors • 36 Educational & Informative Seminars  
FREE Parking at Spokane Vets Memorial Arena • FREE Shuttle to/from Convention Center

www.agshow.org • 509-321-3633 • 'Like' us on Facebook

**ASK ABOUT OUR FIRST TIME BUYER PROGRAM!**



## WINTER SALES DRIVE



**NEW 2016 COROLLA LE**  
**\$245 MO** FOR 36 MONTHS  
ON APPROVED CREDIT

**\$0 DOWN!**

STK# 16T071. MSRP \$19,804. \$18,541 AFTER \$1,000 TFS REBATE. GFU \$12,675. 36 MO LEASE/12000 MILES PER YEAR LEASE = \$245 MO PLUS TTD AND ON APPROVED CREDIT.



**NEW 2016 CAMRY LE**  
**\$268 MO** FOR 36 MONTHS  
ON APPROVED CREDIT

**\$0 DOWN!**

STK# 16T032. MSRP \$24,130. SALE PRICE \$22,639 AFTER \$1,250 TFS REBATE. GFU \$14,468. 36 MO LEASE/12000 MILES PER YEAR LEASE = \$268 MO PLUS TTD AND ON APPROVED CREDIT.



**NEW 2016 TACOMA SR5 DOUBLE CAB**  
**\$399 MO** FOR 36 MONTHS  
ON APPROVED CREDIT

**\$0 DOWN!**

STK# 16T191. MSRP \$34,139. GFU \$24,580. 36 MO LEASE/12000 MILES PER YEAR LEASE = \$399 MO PLUS TTD AND ON APPROVED CREDIT.



**NEW 2015 VENZA LIMITED AWD**  
**\$36,283 PLUS TTD**

**ONLY 1 LEFT!**

STK# 15T435. MSRP \$41,180.

**NO COST MAINTENANCE ON ALL NEW TOYOTAS • 2 YEARS OR 25,000 MILES • 24/7 ROADSIDE ASSISTANCE**



541.567.6461 | 1.800.522.2308  
1550 N 1ST ST., HERMISTON, OR  
toyotaofhermiston.com

SERVICE HOURS: MON-FRI 9 am - 5:30 pm SAT 9 am - 5 pm SALES HOURS: MON-SAT 8:30 am - 7 pm SUN 10 am - 6 pm