

'Tiny house' trailer stolen near Hermiston

By JAYATI RAMAKRISHNAN
Staff Writer

Lawrence Thomas is missing his house.

The 95-square-foot, custom-made trailer was stolen after Thomas parked it at a gas station near Hermiston while passing through the area.

Thomas said most of his possessions were in the trailer he calls a "tiny house," including important documents like his birth certificate, and sentimental items that can't be replaced.

"I'm trying to get the word out so that if anyone sees it, they can report it and maybe I can get it back," he said.

Because of a snowstorm in the Blue Mountains, Thomas, who was moving from Seattle to Las Vegas, stopped at the One Stop Mart outside of Hermiston in late December. He was driving an SUV and hauling his house, where he'd been living for the last four months.

Unable to drive in the bad weather, he stopped at the travel center at the Westland Road exit of Interstate 84. He spent the night there and realized the next morning that he couldn't take the house with him in the snow. He said he talked to the manager at the station, who said he could leave the



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

This tiny house trailer, owned by Lawrence Thomas of Las Vegas, was reported stolen near Hermiston on Dec. 31 after he left it at a gas station on Interstate 84 due to bad weather.

house there until he came back to pick it up.

"She was very helpful, and asked me to pull the tiny house in front of the shop so she could see it," he said. "And because she said cameras were facing it."

The two exchanged information, and Thomas continued on to Las Vegas. Then, on New Year's Eve, he found out the trailer was gone — and the surveillance cameras he was told would be on his house were in fact facing another direction.

"The manager said they're going to try to find it," he said. "They found

out the cameras were not pointing that way. The house was locked down and dead-bolted, but someone used bolt cutters and took the house."

Thomas is now living in Las Vegas with a friend. He spent about 6 months building the house.

"I really like the idea of a tiny house," he said. "You save money, and you don't have a mortgage. My idea was to buy a plot of land and then make the tiny house as off-grid as possible. You can enjoy a higher quality of life without having to spend all your money on rent."

Thomas estimates the

house's value at about \$25,000.

"My house was small — even for a tiny house," he said. The 95 square-foot structure was 17 feet long by 7.5 feet wide. Thomas lived in it with his two dogs.

He said he just hopes he can find the house.

Umatilla County Sheriff Terry Rowan said his office took a report on the theft soon after it was reported on Jan. 1 and is investigating.

Contact Jayati Ramakrishnan at jramakrishnan@hermistonherald.com or 541-564-4534.

Ten people escaped from house fire uninjured



STAFF PHOTO BY JADE McDOWELL

Ten people escaped from a house fire Tuesday night in Hermiston. There were no reports of injuries.

Hermiston Herald

Ten people escaped a burning home in Hermiston Thursday night, but no one was injured.

Umatilla County Fire District 1 responded with multiple fire engines to reports of a fully-engulfed house on East Cherry Avenue about 10 p.m. Thursday.

Chief Scott Stanton said to the district's "best count" there were 10 people in the home when the fire started, and district ended up paying to house seven of them in a hotel for the night.

The fire is believed have been caused by an electric heating source.

EOU NAMES FALL DEAN'S LIST

Eastern Oregon University named 520 students to the dean's list for the 2016 fall term. Qualifying students achieve and maintain a grade point average of 3.5 or higher on a 4.0 scale while completing a minimum of 12 hours of graded coursework for the duration of the term.

The following local students were named to the list:

Boardman: Alesia Sterner; **Echo:** Sean Hoogstraten; **Heppner:** Patrick Collins, Makenzie Correa; **Hermiston:** Maria Arenas, Christopher Atwood, Caitlynn Barton, Samantha Baumgartner, Matthew Booher,

Jessica Dixon, Makayla Mangione, Christian Peterson, Gaige Phillips, Lily Ringe, Brittany Smith, Emily Spinden, Truc Truong; **Ione:** Shannon Boor, Jasmine Dixon, Jaqueline Juarez, Jason Juarez Alvarez; **Irrigon:** Jennifer Matlack; **Stanfield:** Eddy Ramos.

COURTS:

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vs. Liduvina Zamudio Sanchez: judgment for \$415.75 plus interest, costs and fees.

• Credits Inc. vs. Paulo Salcido: judgment for \$453.37 plus interest, costs and fees.

• Credits Inc. vs. Jill R. Lattimer: judgment for \$770.28 plus interest, costs and fees.

• Credits Inc. vs. Rosalinda Cantu: judgment for \$5,278.29 plus interest, costs and fees.

• Cascade Collections Inc. vs. Benjamin Scott Cook: judgment for \$5,602.71 plus interest, costs and fees.

• Credits Inc. vs. Amelia Walker: judgment for \$6,755.37 plus interest, costs and fees.

• OneMain Financial Services Inc.

vs. Jonathon K. Patterson: judgment for \$2,181.89 plus interest, costs and fees.

• Collection Bureau of Walla Walla Inc. vs. Michael G. and Cheryl L. Stumph: judgment for \$21,535.90 plus interest, costs and fees.

• Evergreen Financial Services Inc. vs. Verna Lee Taylor: judgment for \$5,161.10 plus interest, costs and fees.

• Evergreen Financial Services Inc. vs. Roberto Enriquez: judgment for \$1,468.59 plus interest, costs and fees.

• Evergreen Financial Services Inc. vs. Tia Warren: judgment for \$598.93 plus interest, costs and fees.

• Collection Bureau of Walla Walla Inc. vs. Jack A. and Amanda Murphy: judgment for \$573.43 plus interest, costs and fees.

• Collection Bureau of Walla Walla Inc. vs. Jonathan H. and Carla R. Salt-

er: judgment for \$612.61 plus interest, costs and fees.

• Collection Bureau of Walla Walla Inc. vs. Jefferson and Sabrina Pishion: judgment for \$1,003.82 plus interest, costs and fees.

• Collection Bureau of Walla Walla Inc. vs. Erik M. Wydra: judgment for \$743.45

• Credits Inc. vs. Thomas Chavez: judgment for \$1,527.32 plus interest, costs and fees.

• Credits Inc. vs. Harold Marvin Schuening: judgment for \$591.78 plus interest, costs and fees.

• Credits Inc. vs. Auriona Prince: judgment for \$1,569.73 plus interest, costs and fees.

• Credits Inc. vs. Ryan Bork: judgment for \$870.03 plus interest, costs and fees.

• Credits Inc. vs. Vincent Charles Demos: judgment for \$1,724.55 plus

interest, costs and fees.

• Credits Inc. vs. Kristina and David B. Knudsen: judgment for \$808.96 plus interest, costs and fees.

• Credits Inc. vs. Maria Winebarger: judgment for \$869.88 plus interest, costs and fees.

• Credits Inc. vs. Erika Minton: judgment for \$6,703.25 plus interest, costs and fees.

• Bonneville Billing & Collections Inc. vs. David Clark and Rikki Hayward: judgment for \$271.20 plus interest, costs and fees.

• Quick Collect Inc. vs. Tia Warren: judgment for \$796.67 plus interest, costs and fees.

• Credits Inc. vs. Josh and Dean M. Hill: judgment for \$5,946.17 plus interest, costs and fees.

• Credits Inc. vs. Rebecca E. Owen: judgment or \$1,378.17 plus interest, costs and fees.

REPORTS:

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complained about a Jeep Cherokee and a General Motors Hummer not stopping for the stop sign at Southeast Bandon Street and Utah Avenue.

10:42 a.m. - Umatilla police responded to McNary Heights Elementary School, 120 Columbia Blvd., in regards to some stolen gym equipment.

5:48 p.m. - The Morrow County

Sheriff's Office received a call from a woman concerned about the welfare of a dog in the area of the Mountain Glen Apartments on Northeast Pioneer Drive, Heppner. Four minutes later, a man living on Highway 207, Heppner, reported a black dog with snow and ice matted in its fur and on its paws was at his home and needed someone to check on its health due to the cold.

5:57 p.m. - A Hermiston resident on North Townsend Road told law enforcement someone

kicked in the door at the house, stole their mom's car and brought it back. The caller asked to speak to a Umatilla County sheriff's deputy.

10:06 p.m. - A resident on Columbia Boulevard, Umatilla, called 9-1-1 to report someone threw her trash at her front door.

ARRESTS, CITATIONS

SATURDAY

•Hermiston police arrested Jenson Tyler Richards, 29, of Spokane, Washington, for fourth-degree assault constituting domestic violence,

violating a restraining order, and on a warrant.

•Hermiston police arrested Delbert McCreary Roberts, 52, of Hermiston, for unauthorized use of a vehicle, misdemeanor and felony attempts to flee police, and resisting arrest.

WEDNESDAY

•Oregon State Police arrested Michael Patrick Shannon, 47, address not provided, for driving under the influence of intoxicants (alcohol) and on a misdemeanor failure to appear warrant.

DEATH NOTICES

Thomas Hunt

Pendleton
Aug. 20, 1935-Dec. 31, 2016

Thomas Hunt, 81, of Pendleton died Saturday, Dec. 31, 2016, in Pendleton. He was born Aug. 20, 1935, in Burns. A service will be held in the Spring of 2017 in John Day. Arrangements have been entrusted to Gray's West & Co. Pioneer Chapel. To light a candle in Tom's memory, visit www.gray-swestco.com.

Alice Ann Frerichs

Hermiston
Feb. 27, 1934-Dec. 7, 2016

Alice Ann Frerichs, 82, of Hermiston died Wednesday, Dec. 7, 2016, at her home. She was born Feb. 27, 1934, in Scottsbluff, Nebraska. A celebration of life service has been postponed until a later date. Burns Mortuary of Hermiston is in care of arrangements. Sign the online condolence book at burnsmortuaryhermiston.com.

Beverly J. Leader

Umatilla
April 2, 1932-Jan. 3, 2017

Beverly J. Leader, 84, of Umatilla died Tuesday, Jan. 3, 2017, in Hermiston. She was born April 2, 1932, in Billings, Mont. A graveside service will be held Saturday, March 4, at 11 a.m. at Sunset Hills Cemetery in Umatilla. Burns Mortuary of Hermiston is in care of arrangements. Sign the online condolence book at burnsmortuaryhermiston.com.

Worship Community

Our Lady of Angels Catholic Church

565 W. HERMISTON AVE.
DAILY MASS:
Monday-Friday: English 7:00 am
Thursday: Spanish 6:00 pm
SATURDAY:
English 5:00 pm • Spanish 7:00 pm
SUNDAY:
English 9:00 am • Bilingual 11:00 am • Spanish 1:00 pm
Office: 567-5812

HermNaz

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1520 W ORCHARD AVE
Sunday Worship Service
10:30 am Classes for kids @ 9:15 am
SEEKING JESUS, SHARING LIFE, SERVING PEOPLE
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LANDMARK BAPTIST CHURCH

125 E. Beech Ave. • 567-3232
Pastor David Dever

Sun. Bible Classes.....10:00am
Sun. Worship Service.....11:00am
Sun. Evening Worship.....6:00pm
Wed. Prayer & Bible Study.....6:00pm
www.hermistonlmbc.com

The Full Gospel Home Church

235 SW 3rd
Phone 567-7678
Rev. Ed Baker - Rev. Nina Baker
Sunday:
Sunday School.....10:00 am
Worship.....11:00 am
Evening Service.....7:00 pm
Wednesday Service.....7:00 pm
"Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you."
1 Pet. 5:7

Seventh-day Adventist Church

Saturdays
Sabbath School.....9:30 a.m.
Worship Service.....11:00 a.m.
567-8241
855 W. Highland • Hermiston

Grace Baptist Church

555 SW 11th, Hermiston
567-9497
Nursery provided for all services
Sunday School - 9:30 AM
Worship - 10:45 AM
6:00 pm
Wed Prayer & Worship - 7:00 PM
"Proclaiming God's word, growing in God's grace"

NEW BEGINNINGS

CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP
Worship Service 10:30 AM
Sunday School 9:00 AM
Pastor J.C. Barnett
Children's Church & Nursery Available
700 West Orchard Avenue
P.O. Box 933
Hermiston, Oregon
541-567-8441

Echo Community Church

21 N. Bonanza Street, Echo OR
Phone: (541) 376-8108

Sunday School • 9:30am
Worship • 10:45am
Children's Church • 11:15am
Potluck & Communion ~
First Sunday of the Month

OASIS VINEYARD

A COMMUNITY OF HOPE

1255 Hwy. 395 S. • 567-5834
oasisvineyard.us
Worship 10:00 AM
"come as you are"

St. Johns Episcopal Church

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Scripture, Tradition and Reason
Family service 9am Sunday
N.E. Gladys Ave & 7th, Hermiston
Fr. Dan Lediard, Priest, PH: 567-6672
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"Proclaiming the Message of Hope, Living the Gospel of Love"

Bible School: 9:15am
Worship Gathering: 10:30am
567-3013
775 W. Highland Ave., Hermiston

GRANT FUNDING

Requests for grant funding for projects that promote health and wellness in West Umatilla and Morrow county communities are still being accepted for spring funding. Application forms are available on line at www.gshealth.org or by calling 541-667-3405.

GOOD SHEPHERD COMMUNITY HEALTH FOUNDATION

Spring grant deadline is January 31, 2017

Flowers • Candles Jewelry • Plants Balloons & More!

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Terri Briggs 541-278-2678