

Herald to be delivered by mail

Starting Nov. 1, the print version of the *Hermiston Herald* will be delivered to subscribers' homes each Wednesday by the U.S. Postal Service rather than by newspaper carrier. This change is happening as the Herald's sister paper, the *East Oregonian*, is transitioning to mail delivery also. Currently, *EO* carriers also deliver the *Herald*.

Full access to the website, www.HermistonHerald.com, is always available to subscribers. The e-Edition — a digital repli-

ca of the newspaper — will be posted in the early morning hours each Wednesday, for those who don't want to wait to read the print version.

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Please call the *Herald* at 541-567-6457 or 800-522-0255 ext. 1 if you have any questions, or stop by our office at 333 E. Main St.

Local firefighters head to CA

By **JADE McDOWELL**
STAFF WRITER

A grueling fire season that has stretched resources thin across the country isn't over yet for Umatilla County firefighters deployed to Southern California.

A strike team including three firefighters and a brush truck from Umatilla County Fire District, four firefighters and a brush truck from Pendleton Fire Department plus personnel and equipment from Union County headed south late Saturday along with four other Oregon strike teams deployed by the Oregon State fire marshal. The Umatilla/Union team is staged in Chino, California, to fight one of the state's wildfires. Fires further north near Sonoma have killed more than 40 people and drawn in dozens of strike teams from other states.

"We send firefighters to Washington state on a pretty regular basis, or into southern Oregon, but things have to get pretty

bad in California for them to send for help," Pendleton Fire Chief Mike Ciraulo said.

A few weeks ago it was Oregon that needed the help, as the Chetco Bar fire burned almost 200,000 acres in southwestern Oregon and another blaze swept across the Columbia Gorge. Ciraulo said his department has sent personnel out to help fight nine different fires in the Northwest this summer, and Umatilla County Fire District has deployed to a number of out-of-district wildfires as well. Ciraulo is a wildfire incident commander for the state and said there were times they asked for help that other states couldn't send because they were already dealing with too many fires of their own.

"This is probably one of the busiest seasons we've seen in recent years," he said.

Umatilla County Fire District operations chief Jim Forquer said the frequent mutual aid deployments is a "testimony to

the extreme fire season" the country is having. California firefighters have already been up in Oregon fighting the Chetco Bar fire, he said, so it was only right that Oregon would be willing to turn around and help them.

One thing non-firefighters can do to help is keep the local fires to a minimum by remaining cautious and remembering that vegetation is still dry despite burn bans being lifted.

"I'd just remind folks to be safe out there," he said. "Don't leave fires unattended."

Ciraulo said that fire districts and departments are paid for sending personnel to assist in wildfire responses like the ones in California, so Pendleton, Hermiston and Stanfield taxpayers are not footing the bill for the strike team's travel to Chino — in fact, it creates "a little bit of revenue" for the department.

Beyond the question of money, however, Ciraulo said firefighters from different states being willing

to help each other out is just the morally right thing to do. And the personnel who have a chance to fight fires alongside teams from other states in different terrains come back more experienced, with new ideas.

"It's a win-win for everyone," he said.

The Oregon State Fire Marshal's office said in a statement that the department is "extremely grateful to Oregon's fire chiefs and their agencies for again stepping up to the plate to help our neighbors to the south as they continue to struggle with an unprecedented amount of fires on their landscape."

The Umatilla/Union strike team is expected to be deployed for 14 to 21 days, not including travel. Updates on their deployment are available on the Pendleton Fire & Ambulance and Umatilla County Fire District #1 Facebook pages.

Contact Jade McDowell at jmcdowell@eastoregonian.com or 541-564-4536.

OSP identifies man struck by car

Oregon State Police Sgt. Seth Cooney identified the man a car struck Oct. 11 north of Hermiston.

Victor De Diego Delmaral, 71, of Umatilla, tried to cross Highway 395 near Bensele Road when he stepped in front of a northbound Toyota sedan. The driver, Ralph Lortie of Stanfield, said he was almost stopped when the collision occurred.

Cooney said a nearby

commercial truck with a video cam caught clear footage of the incident. Delmaral was crossing illegally, but Cooney said state police don't plan on giving him a citation.

A helicopter ambulance flew Delmaral to Kadlec Regional Medical Center in Richland, Washington. Cooney also said he did not know Delmaral's medical condition but confirmed he did survive the crash.

COMING EVENTS

- WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 18**
- TAI CHI: MOVING FOR BETTER BALANCE**, 9-9:45 a.m., Good Shepherd Wellness Center, 610 N.W. 11th St., Hermiston. Improve balance, increase flexibility and strengthen core muscles. Participants should wear comfortable clothing and shoes with flexible soles. Can be performed standing or sitting. Class size capped at 15; registration required. (Lynda Carraher 541-922-4203)
 - BABY & ME LEARN & PLAY**, 10-10:45 a.m., Hermiston Public Library back entrance, 235 E. Gladys Ave., Hermiston. Engaging children and getting them excited about music, improving motor skills and sparking creativity while supporting early literacy development. For children ages newborn to 4 years and parent/guardian. (541-567-2882)
 - STORY TIME**, 11:15 a.m., Hermiston Public Library, 235 E. Gladys Ave., Hermiston. (541-567-2882)
 - STANFIELD SENIOR MEAL SERVICE**, 12 p.m., Stanfield Community

- Center, 225 W. Roosevelt, Stanfield. Cost is \$3.50 for seniors, \$6 for others. (541-449-1332)
- ECHO CORN MAZE AND PUMPKIN PATCH**, 3-9 p.m., Corn Maze, 100 N. Dupont St., Echo. Corn maze, zip line, corn box, kiddie carts, pumpkin patch and more. Admission is \$10 for ages 3 and up. (509-528-5808)
- DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SERVICES REMEMBRANCE WALK**, 5:30 p.m., DVS Advocacy Center, 240 S.E. Second St., Hermiston. Join others to show support for domestic violence victims and survivors. Free. (541-276-3322)
- KIDS CLUB**, 6:30-8 p.m., Hermiston Christian Center, 1825 W. Highland Ave., Hermiston. For ages 5-12. Includes open gym, games, prizes, snacks music, puppets and more. Transportation available. (Joanna Hayden 541-561-5573)
- THURSDAY, OCTOBER 19**
- BOARDMAN SENIOR MEAL SERVICE**, 12 p.m., Boardman Senior Center, 100 Tatone St., Boardman. Cost is \$4 for seniors 55 and over or \$5 for adults. (541-481-3257)
- HERMISTON SENIOR MEAL SERVICE**,

- 12 p.m., Our Lady of Angels Catholic Church parish hall, 565 W. Hermiston Ave., Hermiston. Cost is \$4 for adults, free for children 10 and under, \$4 for Meals on Wheels. Extra 50 cents for utensils/dishes. Bus service to parish hall by donation. (541-567-3582)
- SENSORY STORY TIME**, 12:30 p.m., Boardman Public Library, 200 S. Main St., Boardman. For children from birth to age 4. (541-481-2665)
- YARN CLUB**, 5:30 p.m., Hermiston Public Library, 235 E. Gladys Ave., Hermiston. (541-567-2882)
- DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SERVICES REMEMBRANCE WALK**, 5:30 p.m., Tienda del Sol II, 203 Kinkade Road, Boardman. Join others to show support for domestic violence victims and survivors. Free. (541-276-3322)
- THE ARC UMATILLA COUNTY BINGO**, 6-10 p.m., The Arc Building, 215 W. Orchard Ave., Hermiston. Doors open at 6 p.m., seats may be held until 6:30 p.m., then all seats first come, first served; games begin at 7 p.m. Proceeds benefit Umatilla County citizens

- with developmental disabilities. 18 years or older, must have proof of age and photo I.D. Basic pot \$20, prizes range from \$20-\$750. (541-567-7615)
- FIDDLERS NIGHT**, 6:30-8:30 p.m., Brookdale Assisted Living, 980 W. Highland Ave., Hermiston. Enjoy light refreshments, listen to some favorite oldies or join in the jam session. All ages welcome. (541-567-3141)
- FRIDAY, OCTOBER 20**
- FREE FRIDAY MEDICARE MADNESS**, 9 a.m.-1 p.m., Good Shepherd Medical Center, 610 N.W. 11th St., Hermiston. Get answers to Medicare questions and assistance with prescription plans and open enrollment. Oct. 27 and Nov. 10 session in conference rooms 5-6; all other dates in conference room 7. (541-667-3507)
- STORY TIME**, 10:15 a.m., Hermiston Public Library, 235 E. Gladys Ave., Hermiston. (541-567-2882)
- STORY AND CRAFT TIME**, 2 p.m.,

- Echo Public Library, 20 S. Bonanza, Echo. (541-376-8411)
- VFW BINGO**, 6 p.m., Hermiston VFW, 45 W. Cherry St., Hermiston. Doors open at 6 p.m., games begin at 7 p.m. Everyone welcome. (541-567-6219)
- SAGE CENTER MOVIE EVENT**, 7:15 p.m., SAGE Center, 101 Olson Road, Boardman. Watch "The LEGO Batman Movie" and enjoy a bag of popcorn with \$3 admission fee. Bottled water and concessions available for cash purchase. (Stefanie Swindler 541-481-7243)
- SATURDAY, OCTOBER 21**
- PARKING LOT SALE**, 8:30-11:30 a.m., Agape House, 500 W. Harper Road, Hermiston. Clothing is 5 items for \$1, furniture and bikes priced as marked and knickknacks you name the price. Sale will be held inside if it rains. (Dave Hughes 541-567-8774)
- HERMISTON FARMERS MARKET**, 9 a.m.-1 p.m., Festival Plaza, Northeast Second Street and

- Main, Hermiston. Local produce, baked goods, crafts, jewelry, art, live music, food vendors and more.
- YARN CLUB**, 10 a.m.-12 p.m., Hermiston Public Library, 235 E. Gladys Ave., Hermiston. (541-567-2882)
- ECHO CORN MAZE AND PUMPKIN PATCH**, 10 a.m.-9 p.m., Corn Maze, 100 N. Dupont St., Echo. Corn maze, zip line, corn box, kiddie carts, pumpkin patch and more. Admission is \$10 for ages 3 and up. (509-528-5808)
- SAGE CENTER MOVIE EVENT**, 2:15 p.m., SAGE Center, 101 Olson Road, Boardman. Watch "The LEGO Batman Movie" and enjoy a bag of popcorn with \$3 admission fee. Bottled water and concessions available for cash purchase. (Stefanie Swindler 541-481-7243)
- ECHO OPEN AIR MARKET**, 4-7 p.m., George Park, downtown, Echo. Seasonal fruits and vegetables, crafts and more. Vendor fees \$12 per space.

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