



Staff photo by Ben Lonergan

The Exit 179 off ramp from I-84 eastbound to I-82 northbound will be closed from Sept. 7 at 10 p.m. until Sept. 8 at 10 p.m. in order to seal the bridge deck on the ramp.

ODOT preparing for interstate work, Exit 179 closure

By ALEX CASTLE
STAFF WRITER

The Oregon Department of Transportation announced Wednesday that the eastbound Exit 179 off-ramp on Interstate 84 to Interstate 82, west of Hermiston, will be closed for 24 hours beginning at 10 p.m. Sept. 7.

The closure is to seal the ramp's bridge deck and complete other repairs.

"We wanted to get the word out as soon as possible so people know and

can be prepared," ODOT spokesman Tom Strandberg said.

According to Strandberg, the construction is happening now because there was another project completing bridge repairs to the north and now seemed the ample time to complete work on Exit 179.

During the closure, a news release from ODOT states motorists needing to use Exit 179 can instead take Exit 168 to U.S. 730, then continue on U.S. 730 for 15 miles until connect-

ing to I-82 near Umatilla. It warns that travelers should be cautious using the U.S. 730 detour due to potentially higher traffic.

Non-commercial vehicles can also take Exit 180 at the Westland Road interchange to get on the I-84 westbound lanes and take Exit 179 from there to connect to I-82. Exit 180 is not suitable for commercial vehicles, Strandberg said, because the off-ramp's turn radius isn't as gradual as those built for freight trucks.

'Odd configuration' leads to three arrests

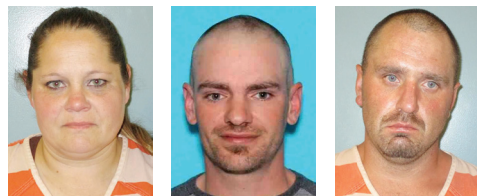
HERMISTON HERALD

Hermiston police officer Mike Ellwood was on patrol early Wednesday when a vehicle caught his eye — a primer gray Chevrolet Impala with two semitruck tires strapped to the top.

"This is not something you see every day," according to Hermiston police Capt. Travis Eynon, "and officer Ellwood felt it was a bit suspicious."

Ellwood saw the car carrying the tires at about 2:20 a.m. in the area of North First Street and East Elm Avenue. He turned around to get a better look at "the odd configuration," according to Eynon. When the Impala accelerated and turned right onto Northeast Fourth Street, Ellwood followed and saw the car turn left onto East Jennie Avenue.

He sped up to stop the car when one of the semi tires rolled down the 600 block of East Jennie. He found the second tire on the 600 block of Northeast Sixth Street. He soon spotted the car and its occupants in a driveway on the 700 block of East Sunset



Smith Garrison Ingersoll

Avenue. According to Eynon, the driveway did not belong to the Impala's occupants, driver Richard Ingersoll, 33, and passengers Michael Garrison, 33, and Crystal Smith, 37, all of Pasco, Washington.

Eynon reported the ensuing investigation found the semi tires were from Pilot Travel Center in Stanfield, and the out-of-state trio had property belonging to the Pilot store.

Stanfield police took custody of the three and booked them into the Umatilla County Jail, Pendleton, for charges related to the thefts at Pilot, Eynon reported, and Hermiston police arrested Ingersoll for reckless driving, reckless endangerment and traffic violations.

Recreation department offers moonlight paddle

A unique opportunity to enjoy the Columbia River via kayak as the sun sets is being coordinated by Hermiston Parks & Recreation.

The Harvest Moonlight Paddle is Friday, Sept. 6 at 6:30 p.m. at Hat Rock State Park. Participants will meet at the main boat ramp parking lot. Afterwards, a bonfire will feature harvest-themed treats.

The cost is \$25 for Hermiston residents or \$30 for non-residents. In addition, there is a \$10 kayak rental, if needed. The activity is open to ages 14 and up (youths must be accompanied by an adult). Those planning to attend need to register by Friday, Aug. 30. Participants are encouraged to bring a headlamp and glow sticks.

For more information, visit www.hermistonrecreation.com. To register, call 541-667-5018 or stop by the recreation office at the Hermiston Community Center, 415 S. Highway 395, Hermiston.



Contributed photo

Registration is open for the 2019 Harvest Moonlight Paddle. Hosted by Hermiston Parks & Recreation, the event is Sept. 6 at Hat Rock State Park.

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POLICE LOG

MONDAY, AUGUST 12

7:42 a.m. On West Elm Avenue and Northwest Eleventh Street, 20 cows were out after breaking down a fence.
12:26 p.m. A woman reported that someone again broke into her house on East Gladys Avenue.
1:34 p.m. Someone called to report a possible intoxicated driver in a silver Chevy Silverado on East Highland Avenue and South Highway 395.
2:00 p.m. A car owner who brought their Ford Mustang to the mechanic hasn't seen their vehicle in six weeks.
7:11 p.m. Drugs were discovered on West Harper Road.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 13

7:56 a.m. Unauthorized use of a motor vehicle was reported on Southwest Cottonwood Drive.
9:40 a.m. Unauthorized entry of a motor vehicle was reported on North First Street.
12:21 p.m. Someone reported that their ex-boyfriend stole their dog.
2:45 p.m. A woman requested to have her uncle trespassed from her home address.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 14

10:59 a.m. People were ignoring signs indicating traffic was blocked off in an area on West Harper Road.

11:09 a.m. A woman was destroying items on East Main Street.
3:52 p.m. On Southwest 11th Street, someone reported their recyclables were stolen from their porch.
6:02 p.m. A child on Southwest Seventh Street reported someone had stolen her dog.
7:53 p.m. A domestic disturbance was reported on Southeast Fourth Street.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 15

6:44 a.m. A burglary was reported on West Standard Avenue.
10:51 a.m. On East Catherine Avenue, a man reported that he dropped his wallet on his property. He said it was stolen and later returned to his mailbox missing \$300 cash.
4:45 p.m. Unauthorized entry of a motorized vehicle was reported on South Highway 395.
6:40 p.m. A domestic disturbance was reported on West Hartley Avenue.
6:48 p.m. Police issued a warning to the driver of a dark colored sports car with a spoiler, who was trying to race someone on Southeast Fourth Avenue and South Highway 395.
8:33 p.m. Someone requested their husband leave their

home because he was reportedly drinking alcohol since the early morning.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 16

10:58 a.m. On East Gladys Avenue, a woman reported that someone broke into her house the previous night and scattered food all over.
7:20 p.m. Someone is feeling sick due to marijuana smoke at a party on Southwest Desert Oak Drive.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 17

2:22 a.m. A drunk driver was reportedly headed towards Safeway.
2:23 a.m. On East Main Street, an armed person was reportedly threatening security.
8:15 a.m. On Northwest Logan Drive, a woman reported that someone who stole recyclable cans from her house was currently at the BottleDrop.
11:44 a.m. Three or four people on Southwest 11th Street were involved in a fight.
10:35 p.m. A domestic disturbance occurred on East Newport Avenue.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 18

1:51 a.m. Five men were involved in a fight on West Standard Avenue and Northwest Seventh Street.
3:55 p.m. A fight occurred on West Juniper Avenue.



Staff photo by Ben Lonergan

Magui Verdugo serves a dish to Adulfo Sanchez at the new Magui's Antojitos y Raspados food cart located in the food cart pod near the Hermiston Post Office.

Food truck pod gets new addition

By JADE MCDOWELL
NEWS EDITOR

The inaugural food truck pod in Hermiston has a new addition.

Magui's Antojitos y Raspados sells various types of fruit cups, snow cones and traditional Mexican snacks. The truck's most popular item, according to Joselyne Verdugo, is their shaved ice, which comes in a tall cup and is flavored with real fruit and cream.

Joselyne said her mother, Magui Verdugo, makes most of the items from scratch. Her mom bought the bright green truck on a whim.

"It was really spontaneous," she said. "My mom fell in love with the color, and she's always doing stuff like this, making cute little food things."

The Hermiston family expects they won't likely make much money in the remaining weeks of this season, but they hope to get their name out there and be more established next year.

The food truck joined Southern Twain BBQ and Tacos Garcia last week at the city's new summer food truck pod on Orchard Avenue across from the post office. Known as Third Street Eats, the pod opened

as a pilot program in April and the city provided tables and shade.

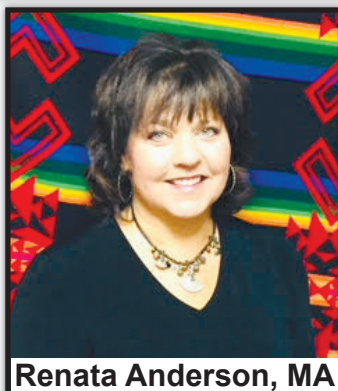
Joselyne said that so far not many food trucks had signed on, but she knows of a few different people who are planning to open a truck there eventually.

"Hopefully this becomes more of a thing, but it's been fun so far," she said.

Magui's Antojitos y Raspados plans to add more items to their menu as they go along, and are considering expanding their hours past 8 p.m. since more people seem to be drawn to the food pod in the evening when it's cooler out.

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