

AROUND THE UMPQUA

SUTHERLIN

Blaze burns near reservoir

A grass fire burned 1 1/2 acres of brush and trees around 3 p.m. Saturday on the south side of Copper Creek reservoir, fire officials said Sunday.

The Douglas Forest Protective Association responded to the blaze when smoke was seen rising from one of the coves, a DFPA spokesman said.

Firefighters and equipment had to be floated across the reservoir to reach the fire, officials said. A logging road near the fire was then found and used to reach the blaze.

The DFPA responded with four engines, a bull dozer, a helicopter and an airplane.

Firefighters remained on scene until 8 p.m., officials said. The cause of the fire remains under investigation. Anyone with information is asked to call the DFPA at 541-672-6507 or the Douglas County Sheriff's Office at 541-440-4450.

The Fair Oaks Fire Department, Oakland Fire Department and Douglas County Sheriff's Office also responded to the incident.

MYRTLE CREEK

Explorers raise \$750 at car wash

The Tri City Fire Department Explorer program raised \$750 through a car wash and a Fill-the-Boot fundraiser on Saturday.

The Explorers program is designed for youth ages 14 to 21 who are interested in learning about a career in the fire service. The program's main goal is to provide participants with a sense of responsibility to their neighborhood through community-related events.

Participants did the Fill-the-Boot fundraiser on the Interstate 5 Exit 103 offramp.

The Canyonville Fire Department brought one of its firetrucks to be washed and donated money to the cause.

OREGON

Loans available to businesses

Small businesses affected by forest fires sparked by lightning on July 26 may be eligible for federal disaster loans through the U.S. Small Business Administration, according to the



MICHAEL SULLIVAN/The News-Review

Roseburg High School senior and Mercy Hospital volunteer Sean Bowden, who hopes to become an emergency room physician, has been named a representative of the I Am Oregon campaign. The project is linked to an online network that enables Oregonians to share community service ideas and resources.

Award-winning teenager

Roseburg High senior Sean Bowden recognized for volunteer work at Mercy

JESSICA PROKOP

The News-Review

One Roseburg teen has found his passion in an unlikely place — the emergency room at Mercy Medical Center.

Seventeen-year-old Sean Bowden has earned about 484 hours of service through the Mercy Youth Volunteer program since October 2010. Bowden spends most his time in the emergency room restocking medical supplies and fetching food and water, if permitted, and blankets for patients.

"I've always been interested in health care," he said. "I try to make patients feel as comfortable as possible."

Bowden's dedication prompted others around him to choose him for a campaign called I Am Oregon, which calls on Oregonians to nominate and recognize people improving their communities. Bowden was named one of 11 regional representatives

in the campaign out of more than 1,200 nominations from across the state.

He was selected as the Southern Oregon regional representative, along with a Medford cardiologist, by a group of peers at the Oregon Unlimited Roadshow. I Am Oregon was launched by the Meyer Memorial Trust to kick off Oregon Unlimited, a new online tool and network that enables Oregonians to share community service ideas and resources.

Bowden earned a trip to the Conference on Volunteering and Service in Washington, D.C., in June as part of the award.

At the conference, Bowden learned more about nonprofit work and leadership. He said one of the most memorable parts of the trip was a late-night run he took with another award-winner around various national landmarks.

In addition to receiving the I Am Oregon award, Bowden was recently presented with the Outstanding Youth Volunteer

for Oregon Award at the annual Oregon Governor's Volunteer Awards Luncheon.

"I think Sean is an incredible young man. I truly believe he will do amazing things in the future," said Rose Zoellner, the youth volunteer coordinator at Mercy Medical Center. "I think he will achieve his medical dreams because he has drive."

Bowden first got involved as a hospital volunteer after hearing about the program from another student.

"What attracts me is that you actually get to see what the patient is going through and see the changes you are making in the community," Bowden said.

In addition to his work at the hospital, Bowden has helped raise money for Battered Persons' Advocacy and participated in Douglas County's Area Health Education Center for Southwest Oregon's Teen Medical Internship Program.

During his internship, he spent three 10-week rotations at different medical sites in the community. He also traveled to Oregon Health & Science University in Portland and gave

several presentations.

"What Sean offers is a little bit more rare. He has set the bar high and is a role model for other students," Zoellner said. "I couldn't be more proud to have him as my student."

A senior at Roseburg High School, Bowden helped launch the school's Drug Prevention Team, is a member of the National Honor Society and Roseburg Rotary Interact Club, and runs varsity track. He also maintains a 3.8 GPA.

Bowden is considering attending Linfield College in McMinnville or Arcadia University in Philadelphia as part of his post-graduation plans. He wants to major in biochemistry and ultimately be an emergency room physician, he said.

"This might sound selfish," Bowden said, "but the feeling I get knowing I'm helping the people in my community is heartwarming."

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NEIGHBORS

A regular
Monday feature