



CHANGING HANDS

Bike shop sells, oyster bar looks for a buyer 1D

MUDDY AND WET

Freeburn leads Durango finishers at Unbound 1C

Weekend Edition THE Durango HERALD

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Hermosa Cliff Fire kicks off season

Blaze remained at 18 acres as of Thursday afternoon

BY JESSIE BOWMAN HERALD STAFF WRITER

The Hermosa Cliffs fire that began Wednesday and grew to 18 acres by Thursday afternoon had sustained that footprint as of Thursday afternoon.

The fire's location within the 416 Fire burn scar north of Durango has created challenging and dangerous firefighting conditions, despite its relatively small size and low-level intensity. It has also offered an early season preview of conditions - largely dry - heading into the start of wildfire season.

The fire remained remote, above the cliffs and away from homes Thursday afternoon, said Lorena Williams, spokesperson for the San Juan National Forest. Crews had constructed a fire line around about 40% of the fire perimeter by Thursday afternoon and were making good progress toward containment.

About 40 firefighters from several highly specialized firefighting crews were assigned to the incident Thursday, Williams said.

Responding crews included the San Juan National Forest Interagency Hotshot Crew, the Columbine Wildland Fire Module, a local team that also brings drone expertise, and the Burning Mountain Wildland Fire Module from the Colorado River Fire Protection District.

Williams said they are among

See FIRE, 8A

Steam tractor - a staple of Durango parades - to be auctioned



JERRY MCBRIDE/Durango Herald

Keith Newbold talks about Old Abe, a Case steam tractor on Thursday that dates back to the turn of the century that his father Jack Newbold rebuilt. An estate sale, including the tractor, will be auctioned off today and Saturday in west Durango.

OLD ABE SEEKS NEW HOME

BY ELIZABETH POND HERALD STAFF WRITER

Old Abe, the steam- and coal-powered tractor that became a staple in parades and events across Southwest Colorado in the 1960s and '70s, will be auctioned off this weekend in the estate sale of lifelong Durango resident Jack Newbold.

The steam tractor was built by Jack using an 1898 steam engine found on the edge of a field and a boiler from a laundromat that was going out of business, his son, Keith Newbold, said.

Auction information

The Newbold Estate Auction is scheduled for 12:03 p.m. today and 9:04 a.m. Saturday at 21010 U.S. Highway 160 in Durango.

Today's auction will feature collectibles and smaller items, and

Saturday's sale will focus on larger items in the shop, including the Old Abe tractor.

For more information and a list of items for sale, visit tinyurl.com/pe547259.

"Back in the 1960s and '70s, he was taking it all around to a lot of mountain communities for the Fourth of July parades, and then he would have it out in Mancos, and Bayfield and differ-

ent places," he said. The tractor was also a common sight at Durango's Fiesta Days parade, previously known as the "Spanish Trails Fiesta." Keith, who is now in his 70s, rode

the tractor with his father from as young as age 10. He would ring the bell and help shovel coal during parades and events.

Jack, who became a bit of a celebrity in his own right for his collection of valuable old-timey items, made appearances in Rolling Rock beer commercials in the late-1980s and early 1990s alongside Old Abe, Keith said.

"(Rolling Rock's) motto at the time was, 'We do it the old-fashioned way,' or something," he said.

See OLD ABE, 8A

DURANGO CITY COUNCIL

Council reviews parking options for city hall/police station

Garage, leases and using transit center to be further explored to keep vehicles off-street

BY CHRISTIAN BURNEY HERALD STAFF WRITER

The city of Durango, adamant to address residents' concerns about on-street parking, is exploring options to get city staff members' vehicles off the streets and into designated areas as discussions continue around a joint

city hall and police station. Those options have proved limited.

City Council reviewed five potential remedies to on-street parking in the area of East Second Street and 12th Street near the campus of the to-be joint city hall and police station on Tuesday.

Two of those solutions - using the Mason Center on East Third Avenue for parking and exempting the new facilities from city parking requirements - were immediately deemed nonviable.

Leasing parking space, building parking lots or a garage off campus, and use of the transit center for staff parking and shuttle service to Buckley Park adjacent to the campus remain on the table.

Artaic Group Project Man-

ager Braden Demmerly said the city anticipates needing 139 parking spaces for employees at the future joint city hall and police station. Current plans accommodate 78 on-site parking spaces, leaving the city with a 61-space gap it must fill.

City Manager José Madrigal said City Hall and Durango Police Department employees occupy 60 to 80 on-street spaces daily, which residents have wanted the project to curb since

its start.

Most councilors appeared sensitive to residents' parking concerns.

Councilor Jessika Loyer said she'd be "murdered" if the city were to exempt itself from parking requirements for the new city hall and police station.

"I will move out of Durango. I am quitting the office/dais if that is the decision we choose

See PARKING, 8A

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