

Fake bomb prompts evacuation of Redmond neighborhood

by Cheryl McDermott

Redmond Police evacuated the residents of 17 homes in southwest Redmond Monday when a homeowner found what appeared to be an elaborate explosive device on her front porch.

According to a news release issued by Redmond Police public information officer Captain Al Maich, officers responded to the home of Catherine Kral at 3206 W Pumice Avenue about 11:45 a.m., July 30.

Area residents were evacuated and SW Pumice Avenue was closed to non-essential traffic between SW 31st and 33rd Streets, Maich said.

The Oregon State Police (OSP) bomb squad was summoned from Salem and arrived on scene about 3:15 p.m. After visually assessing the device and setting off a small explosion to render it harmless, closer examination of the remains by the bomb experts revealed that it was a "fake," the Captain reported.

Area residents were allowed to return to their homes about 4:50 p.m., and the case remains under investigation. Anyone with information is asked to contact police non-emergency dispatch at 541-693-6911.

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