



CHEMICAL STOCKPILE EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS PROGRAM

MORROW
COUNTY
EMERGENCY
MANAGEMENT

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Members of Fire Department are learning Spanish!

Members of the Hermiston Fire Department have been spending three hours of their Thursday evening time to learn Spanish. The men and women who signed up for the class have met every Thursday from 6:00-9:00 p.m. for seven weeks now at Fire Station #3. They have been learning situational Spanish, which will be used whenever they go out on a call, and need to provide service to a Hispanic person.

The idea of the Fire Department taking a Spanish Class came about when Maria Durón, the Hispanic Community Liaison for CSEPP, first met Hermiston Fire Chief Jim Stearns back in April of last year. Chief Stearns expressed a great interest in a Spanish Class being offered to his department to help them interact with the area's growing Hispanic population. Chief Stearns said, "This was a wonderful opportunity that presented itself for the Umatilla-Morrow Educational Service District to team up with CSEPP to better prepare the Fire Department and Medical personnel to interact with the Hispanic population."

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