

Residents warned after rabid bat found in Stayton area

Virginia Barreda
Salem Statesman Journal
USA TODAY NETWORK

Public health officials warned Marion County residents Wednesday to take precautions after a rabid bat was found in the Stayton area.

A dog with a current rabies vaccine owned by a Stayton resident was bitten by a bat on June 12. The bat was sent to Oregon State University for testing.

Based on the positive test result, Marion County Public Health officials recommended the dog be quarantined for 45 days and given another rabies vaccine.

Bats are the most common carriers of rabies in Oregon, OHA officials said. About 8 to 10% of bats tested for rabies are positive every year. Three bats have tested positive for rabies in Oregon this year.

Health officials said pet owners should ensure

their pets are vaccinated and avoid contact with stray animals and wildlife.

The public should take extreme precautions before attempting to handle a bat. If it is necessary to pick up a bat, it is best to wear heavy gloves, use a shovel, or both.

The public should not approach bats, wildlife, or other mammals seen exhibiting odd behavior, health officials said. Sick bats may be seen flopping around on the ground or otherwise acting unusual.

Those who have been scratched or bitten by a bat should immediately clean the wound and seek medical attention.

If the bat has been captured, do not crush the bat or throw it away, as intact bats can be tested for rabies, which can help avoid post-exposure rabies shots.

If your pet has encountered a bat or been bitten by a wild animal, contact

your veterinarian immediately or call the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife at 866-968-2600.

In the event of bat scratch or bite, an attempt should be made to safely capture the bat for testing for the rabies virus. Efforts should be made to collect the bat without destroying the head and the bat should be kept in a cool place.

Report the incident to Marion County at 503-588-5346. For more information about rabies, please visit the Oregon Health Authority, Public Health Division website. Information is also available on the Center for Disease Control and Prevention website.

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Investigators seek owners of recovered property

Virginia Barreda
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Authorities are trying to return a sizable list of stolen property belonging to residents of Marion and Linn counties.

The items, ranging from generators to snowboards, were recovered by Marion County Sheriff's Office investigators May 30 while serving a search warrant in rural Marion County on Fern Ridge Road SE.

Officials said they believe the items were stolen during burglaries that

occurred before May 30 in both counties.

- Briggs and Stratton generator
- Champion generator
- Coleman generator
- All-Power generator
- Predator generator
- Onan generator
- Honda inverter
- Porter air compressor
- Dewalt air compressor
- Craftsman welder
- Troy-Built lawn-mower
- Murray weed eater
- Viper Engines auger/drill

- Stihl chainsaw
- Echo chainsaw
- Senco nailgun
- Garage door opener — still in box
- Firearms
- Hover-1 hoverboard
- Phantom 2 drone
- 32-inch Samsung TV
- 32-inch Vizio TV
- Toshiba DVD player
- Speedtron lighting system
- Fish Cat inflatable pontoon boat
- Wicked Ridge cross-bow
- 100-pound propane tank
- Snowboards

- Phoenix Gold Sapphire amplifier
 - Kicker amplifier
 - XBOX ONE gaming system
 - XBOX 360 gaming system
 - PS2 gaming system
 - PS3 gaming system
 - CPAP machine
 - Motorcycle helmets
 - Cabbage Patch Doll collection
- If you were a victim of theft and believe one of these items may belong to you, call Det. Robert Evans at 503-588-8507. Callers are asked to have their case and serial numbers available. Those

who have not already reported the theft are asked to contact their local law enforcement agency and report the theft before contacting the sheriff's office.

Those identified as the potential owners of stolen property on the list will be invited to come to the sheriff's office to view the property.

Investigators have not yet made an arrest in connection with the thefts, said Sgt. Jeremy Landers, a spokesman for the sheriff's office.

Authorities are reminding residents to take

the time to document their belongings, especially for high-value items.

In the event of theft, having serial numbers gives detectives a tool to help identify stolen property.

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Theaters

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required to wear masks anytime they are at indoor public spaces, such as theaters and grocery stores, beginning June 24.

How that will be enforced has yet to be determined.

Brown said Thursday that people will not be arrested or ticketed for not wearing a face covering while indoors, and it won't be required while people eat at a restaurant or drink a cup of coffee.

"All of my executive orders are enforceable by an active law," Brown said. "However, I am encouraging, cajoling, asking Oregonians to be kind and be smart and to protect their fellow Oregonians, their vulnerable neighbors, the folks doing the important works in our grocery stores, delivering packages.

"I want to encourage Oregonians to be thoughtful and considerate of others and wear their face coverings when they are out in public spaces."

Salem Cinema owner Loretta Miles said she



Palace Theatre owner and former Silverton Mayor Stu Rasmussen says the small-town, Normal Rockwell Americana charm is one aspect of Silverton that draws people to it. JUSTIN MUCH | STATESMAN JOURNAL

was in a conference call with independent theater owners and was told the state hadn't determined

what the capacity will be for theaters like hers.

That makes it tough for her to prepare for when she does reopen.

"My approach really is that I will start out with very, very firm measures in place and then as things begin to ease up hopefully, I'll be able to roll some of those back out the door," Miles said.

"What I don't want to do is open the door and fail and I don't want to open the door and have a lot of people yelling at me, 'what about this and what about that.'"

The governor said counties could roll back to prior phases, forcing businesses to close down again.

Of the 1,244 infections of COVID-19 in Marion County since March 11, 13% (173) have come in the past eight days, and three people have died.

But state Epidemiologist Dr. Dean Sidelinger said the rise came from outbreaks in isolated areas of the county.

"As we look at the data in Marion County, they are impacted by several outbreaks, including one associated with the Department of Corrections, which is fairly well contained for the community," Sidelinger said.

"(Marion County was) also at the forefront of having to interact and work to investigate several agricultural worker

outbreaks, and that continues."

With the rate of infections increasing, if people choose to come back to an entertainment venue like a theater this year is in question.

Though more young people are contracting COVID-19, older people are more likely to experience severe symptoms and die from the virus and may be more apprehensive in returning to live entertainment venues with large crowds.

"We don't blame the man bit. You do you," Fohn said. "You're going to get through this thing the way you're going to be comfortable. None of us have been through this."

Many major studios are offering independent movie theaters second-run movies at a steep discount so they can have something to show when they reopen.

Miles said she's thinking about taking temperatures of customers at Salem Cinema and other measures when it reopens, but she'll determine that when she gets closer to reopening in July or later.

"I think all of us are hopeful that we're going to survive this, and even that isn't a given," Miles said.

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