

OREGON IN BRIEF

From wire reports

Elk illegally killed and left to rot in Oregon Coast areas

SALEM — Officials say four elk were illegally killed and left to waste in Lincoln and Tillamook counties in early January.

The Statesman-Journal reports Oregon State Police are asking for help in identifying those responsible.

Officials say on Jan. 8, a five-point bull elk was found dead and wasted in Toledo, just inland from Newport.

Police said an investigation revealed the elk had been shot by a high-powered rifle.

Police said four days later three cow elk were found shot and killed with a high-caliber rifle and were left to waste in a clear-cut several miles from Highway 6 on Fox Creek Road.

Attorney gets 18 months for shooting at law office

PORTLAND — A Portland-based attorney has been sentenced to 18 months in prison for firing several bullets into the Beaverton office of another lawyer.

The Oregonian/Oregon-Live reports Erik Graeff, 43, pleaded guilty in October to unlawful use of a weapon and recklessly endangering another person. He was sentenced on both charges Wednesday, while another unlawful use of a weapon charge was dismissed.

He's now in Oregon Department of Corrections custody.

Prosecutors said Graeff fired six rounds from a handgun into the offices of a Beaverton law firm in December 2017. No one was injured.

The shooting came after an argument between Graeff and an attorney at the law office.

Texas man dies in Oregon helicopter crash

ASHLAND — Authorities say a 69-year-old Texas man died in a helicopter crash in southwestern Oregon.

The Mail Tribune reports Timothy Bruce Lyons, of Port Bolivar, Texas, was the only person on board the helicopter when it crashed Wednesday outside of Ashland.

Federal Aviation Administration public affairs manager Ian Gregor said the Bell 206 helicopter crashed under unknown circumstances in a heavily wooded area.

Aircraft company Erickson Incorporated's Chief of Staff Chris Schuldt confirmed Thursday it was a company helicopter on a routine training flight. The company reported it missing Wednesday afternoon.

The FAA said the aircraft departed from the Medford airport at about 8:45 a.m. Wednesday.

Search crews located the crash site and confirmed one fatality.

The FAA and National Transportation Safety Board are investigating.

DA clears police in deadly shooting at Oregon middle school

PORTLAND — Prosecutors say the actions by two police officers were justified in the deadly shooting of a man who showed up with a gun at an Oregon middle school amid a custody dispute.

The Oregonian/Oregon-Live reports Lane County District Attorney Patty Perlow announced the finding Thursday, saying 30-year-old Charles Landeros fired first and caused the officers to fear for their lives.

Perlow says Landeros refused to leave Cascade Middle School in Eugene when the school resource officers asked.

A struggle erupted when the officers moved Landeros outside and told him he was under arrest.

Perlow said Landeros pulled out a handgun and fired two shots. An officer fired once, striking Landeros in the head.

The prosecutor said Landeros' daughter and two other people witnessed the shooting. Other students were nearby.

Fitness center chain sued after Oregon man dies on treadmill

PORTLAND — A \$13

million lawsuit has been filed against a fitness center chain after a 62-year-old Oregon man collapsed and died while running on a treadmill.

The Oregonian/Oregon-Live reports the lawsuit filed Wednesday in Oregon by the man's wife, claims the 24 Hour Fitness in Portland failed to train the only employee on duty how to respond to the emergency and how to find the automated external defibrillator.

The lawsuit said another gym member searched for the employee to call 911 and bring out the defibrillator after David Rutledge collapsed in December 2017.

The suit said the employee didn't immediately call 911

and didn't know where the defibrillator was.

The California-based fitness company said it does not comment on pending litigation.

Oregon law requires health clubs to have defibrillators on hand.

Portland glassmaker settles class action lawsuit for \$6.5M

PORTLAND — A Portland glass manufacturer has settled a class action lawsuit brought by neighbors over concerns about toxic air pollution.

Oregon Public Broadcasting reported Thursday the \$6.5 million settlement

with Bullseye Glass Co. will allow for cash payments for

over 2,000 households in southeast Portland neighborhoods surrounding the glassmaker.

In February 2016, the state ordered the company to stop using some dangerous chemicals after high levels of cadmium and arsenic were detected around the plant. The complaint filed in March 2016 alleged that Bullseye released arsenic, cadmium and other potentially toxic heavy metals from its plant over decades.

The company has installed new filtration systems and said in a news release that the company is now "in compliance with the most stringent federal and state emissions standards."

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