

TODAY

On Oct. 7, 2001, the war in Afghanistan started as the United States and Britain launched air attacks against military targets and Osama bin Laden's training camps in the wake of the September 11 attacks.

In 1765, the Stamp Act Congress convened in New York to draw up colonial grievances against England.

In 1849, author Edgar Allan Poe died in Baltimore at age 40.

In 1910, a major wildfire devastated the northern Minnesota towns of Spooner and Baudette, charring at least 300,000 acres; some 40 people are believed to have died.

In 1949, the Republic of East Germany was formed.

In 1954, Marian Anderson became the first Black singer hired by the Metropolitan Opera Company in New York.

In 1985, Palestinian gunmen hijacked the Italian cruise ship Achille Lauro in the Mediterranean. (The hijackers shot and killed Leon Klinghoffer, a Jewish-American tourist in a wheelchair, and pushed him overboard, before surrendering on Oct. 9.)

In 1991, University of Oklahoma law professor Anita Hill publicly accused Supreme Court nominee Clarence Thomas of making sexually inappropriate comments when she worked for him; Thomas denied Hill's allegations.

In 1992, trade representatives of the United States, Canada and Mexico initiated the North American Free Trade Agreement during a ceremony in San Antonio, Texas, in the presence of President George H.W. Bush, Canadian Prime Minister Brian Mulroney (muhl-ROO'-nee) and Mexican President Carlos Salinas de Gortari.

In 1996, Fox News Channel made its debut.

In 1998, Matthew Shepard, a gay college student, was beaten and left tied to a wooden fencepost outside of Laramie, Wyoming; he died five days later. (Russell Henderson and Aaron McKinney are serving life sentences for Shepard's murder.)

In 2003, California voters recalled Gov. Gray Davis and elected Arnold Schwarzenegger their new governor.

In 2004, President George W. Bush and Vice President Dick Cheney conceded that Saddam Hussein had no weapons of mass destruction as they tried to shift the Iraq war debate to a new issue, arguing that Saddam was abusing a U.N. oil-for-food program.

Today's Birthdays: Retired South African Archbishop and Nobel Peace laureate Desmond Tutu is 90. Author Thomas Kenally is 86. Comedian Joy Behar is 79. Former National Security Council aide Lt. Col. Oliver North (ret.) is 78. Rock musician Kevin Godley (10cc) is 76. Actor Jill Larson is 74. Country singer Kieran Kane is 72. Singer John Mellencamp is 70. Rock musician Ricky Phillips is 70. Russian President Vladimir Putin is 69. Rock musician Tico Torres (Bon Jovi) is 68. Actor Christopher Norris is 66. Cellist Yo-Yo Ma is 66. Gospel singer Michael W. Smith is 64. Olympic gold medal ice dancer Jayne Torvill is 64. Actor Dylan Baker is 63. Actor Judy Landers is 63. Recording executive and TV personality Simon Cowell is 62. Rock musician Charlie Marinkovich (formerly with Iron Butterfly) is 62. Actor Paula Newsome is 60. Country singer Dale Watson is 59. R&B singer Toni Braxton is 54. Rock singer-musician Thom Yorke (Radiohead) is 53. Rock musician-dancer Leeroy Thornhill is 52. Actor Nicole Ari Parker is 51. Actor Allison Munn is 47. Rock musician Damian Kulash is 46. Singer Taylor Hicks is 45. Actor Omar Miller is 43. Neosoul singer Nathaniel Rateliff (Nathaniel Rateliff & the Night Sweats) is 43. Actor Shawn Ashmore is 42. Actor Jake McLaughlin is 39. Electronic musician Flying Lotus (AKA Steve Ellison) is 38. MLB player Evan Longoria is 36.

LOTTERY

Monday, Oct. 4, 2021

Megabucks

4-12-14-28-40-42

Estimated jackpot: \$4 million

Lucky Lines

1-8-11-14-18-21-22-26-31

Estimated jackpot: \$19,000

Win for Life

10-47-58-63

Pick 4

1 p.m.: 8-2-4-1

4 p.m.: 5-3-7-3

7 p.m.: 7-4-1-4

10 p.m.: 8-5-4-3

Tuesday, Oct. 5, 2021

Mega Millions

7-11-18-30-36

Mega Ball: 4

Megaplier: 3

Estimated jackpot: \$60 million

Lucky Lines

3-7-9-16-17-22-26-31

Estimated jackpot: \$19,000

Pick 4

1 p.m.: 6-5-2-9

4 p.m.: 5-7-7-3

7 p.m.: 8-4-6-3

10 p.m.: 4-9-8-5

NORTHEASTERN OREGON WOLVES

Two wolves can be killed after calf deaths

By GEORGE PLAVEN

Capital Press

UKIAH — Oregon wildlife officials have authorized killing up to two wolves in the Ukiah Valley south of Pendleton where eight calves were attacked in a three-day span.

The first depredation report came on Sept. 25, when a ranch hand discovered one dead and six injured calves in a 200-acre private pasture. All were about six months old and weighed between 450 and 550 pounds. Two of the injured livestock were later euthanized.

Another calf was also found dead on Sept. 28 in the same pasture. In each case, the animals had pre-mortem bite marks suggesting they were attacked by a predator. Their injuries consisted of tooth scrapes, punctures and tears that were consistent with wolves.

The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife issued a permit on Oct. 1 allowing the rancher to kill up to two wolves on a portion of the private land, located in the Hepner and Ukiah wildlife management units.

The permit is restricted to shooting wolves from the ground, and expires Oct. 31, when the two wolves are killed or when the cattle are removed from the area — whichever comes first.

While ODFW has chalked up the depredations to wolves, the agency does not know which pack caused the injuries.

The Ukiah Pack, which roams parts of southern Umatilla and Union counties, was not in the area, according to GPS collar data.

ODFW is now monitoring the nearby Five-mile Pack to see if it is using territory farther east than biologists originally thought.

In addition, the agency says recent public reports have indicated a new



Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife/Contributed Photo, File

Oregon wildlife officials have authorized killing up to two wolves in the Ukiah Valley south of Pendleton where eight calves were attacked in a three-day span.

group of wolves within 10 miles southeast of where the depredations happened.

“ODFW has identified an initial area around the presence of the depredating wolves in the Ukiah Valley area to address associated risk to livestock,” the agency said in a statement. “ODFW staff are monitoring the region to confirm resident activity by new wolves as well as confirm the current movements of the Five-mile Pack.”

Under the state's Wolf Conservation and Management Plan, wolves in Eastern Oregon may be subject to lethal control if they have two confirmed depredations in a nine-month period.

The plan also stipulates that ranchers must be using appropriate non-lethal deterrents before lethal control may be considered. Prior to the first depredation, ODFW says the rancher had removed dead animal carcasses from the landscape to avoid inadvertently luring wolves to the pasture, and was con-

tinually monitoring the health of the cow herd.

After the first depredation, the rancher has had employees stay with the cattle each night, adding a human presence to further prevent wolves from returning.

Already this year, ODFW has issued three permits to kill wolves for “chronic depredation” in Eastern Oregon.

The agency shot two wolf pups from the Lookout Mountain Pack in Baker County in August, and then killed three more wolves from the pack — including the alpha male — in September after livestock depredations did not stop. ODFW also approved killing one wolf from the OR-30 group after the predators attacked two calves and five sheep in June and July near Meacham. That permit eventually expired without any wolves being shot.

Rodger Huffman, a Union County rancher and co-chairman of the Oregon Cattlemen's Association wolf committee, said ranchers have long been frustrated with

the state's management of wolves. He said the number of depredations confirmed by the agency is lower than the actual losses producers face.

“We have a wolf management plan, and conservation has clearly been the first and highest priority,” Huffman said. “We're just asking very respectfully that at least management be 50% of the equation in this.”

Environmental groups, on the other hand, staunchly oppose killing wolves and continue to fight to overturn the federal government's decision to take wolves off the list of endangered species.

On Sept. 15, the Biden administration announced it would review the status of gray wolves in the northern Rocky Mountains, which could potentially restore endangered species protections in Idaho, Montana, Wyoming and the eastern one-third of Oregon and Washington.

Oregon's minimum known wolf population is 173 as of the most recent count at the end of 2020.

Balloon Tree Pack kills 12 ewes near Elgin

The Observer

LA GRANDE — A wolf pack in Union County north of Elgin has killed 12 ewe sheep and injured two guard dogs protecting sheep over the past week or so, according to the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife.

The attacks are attributed to the Balloon Tree Pack, according to ODFW investigations.

That pack's breeding pair produced pups for the first time in 2020, with at least three surviving through the end of that year.

Attacks on sheep come at end of September

An employee of a sheep rancher found three dead adult ewes on Sept.

29 on a private, timbered pasture, according to ODFW.

Officials from ODFW and from the federal USDA Wildlife Service agency arrived on Sept. 30 and found four more dead ewes.

Wildlife Service employees then found three more dead ewes on Oct. 1, and one dead and one injured ewe on Oct. 4. Workers euthanized the injured ewe that day.

All the sheep were in the same pasture. Officials estimated the sheep were attacked the night of Sept. 28.

ODFW employees examined seven sheep carcasses on Sept. 30, three on Oct. 1 and two on Oct. 4.

All had pre-mortem wounds, with tissue trauma up to two inches deep and tooth scrapes consistent with wolf attacks on sheep, according to ODFW reports.

Guard dogs attacked early morning of Oct. 1

On the morning of Oct. 1, a sheepherder found two injured Kangal guard dogs on an industrial timberland grazing allotment.

The herder told ODFW employees that at about 2 a.m. on Oct. 1 he heard an apparent fight between his guard dog and an unknown predator, with barking and growling.

Biologists examined both guard dogs.

One had a six-inch-long area of matted blood on its throat and the left side of its neck that was dripping blood. The dog was agitated and could not be held for further examination, according to an ODFW report.

Mayor opening will remain unfilled for now

North Powder City Council to leave position open until at least November

By DICK MASON

The Observer

NORTH POWDER — The North Powder City Council will not decide how it will select a new mayor at least until November.

The city council decided unanimously on Monday, Oct. 4, to wait until at least its November meeting to decide which approach it will take regarding the selection of a new mayor. The council is seeking a successor to Mike Wisdom,

who resigned as mayor on Monday, Sept. 13, after serving the position for more than two years. Wisdom said he stepped down because he did not believe he was on the same page as members of the council on the direction the city should be taking.

North Powder City Recorder Beth Wendt said the council has two options in finding a successor for Wisdom — elect a council member to serve as mayor or invite North Powder residents to apply for the position. Should the latter option be pursued, the city council would appoint an applicant to serve as mayor after interviewing all candidates.

The city asked com-

munity members interested in serving as mayor to send a letter indicating this, in its monthly newsletter that went out last week.

The city also asked residents to respond if they are interested in serving on the council if a vacancy is created by promoting a councilor to mayor. To date nobody from outside the council has expressed an interest in serving as mayor or in filling a possible council vacancy, Wendt said.

The city recorder said the city will try throughout October to stir up interest in the mayoral vacancy and the possible council opening. To be eligible to serve as mayor or as a city councilor, one has to be a registered

voter and to have lived in North Powder for at least a year.

Michael Morse, North Powder's mayor pro tem, is now taking on added responsibilities as the city's acting mayor. Morse is the city council's president and has served as a city councilor for at least a dozen years. He has lived in North Powder for 20 years and is a retired chef.

Morse said he is interested in becoming a candidate for mayor.

“I would try to keep the city moving forward,” he said.

Vicki Townsend, a member of the North Powder City Council, has also expressed an interest in serving as mayor, Wendt said.

NEWS BRIEFS

Union County tallies 12 new COVID-19 cases in latest report

SALEM — The Oregon Health Authority documented 12 new COVID-19 cases in Union County and 22 new cases in Wallowa County in its report on Wednesday, Oct. 6.

The new cases, combined with yesterday's 10 reported cases, bring Union County to 3,022 since the start of the pandemic. Wallowa County currently stands at 626 cases since the beginning of COVID-19.

An OHA report from the morning of Oct. 6 documented a 74-year-old man from Union County who died at Grande Ronde Hospital on Oct. 4, following a positive test on Sept. 19. The death marked the 41st in Union County since the start of the pandemic.

The latest reports bring Union County's case total to 67 in October, while Wallowa County is at 44.

Across Oregon, 1,564 new confirmed and presumptive COVID-19 cases were reported, in addition to 1,650 on the report from Oct. 5. The new cases bring the state's total to 338,130 since the start of the pandemic, while 33 new reported COVID-19 deaths on the Oct. 6 report bring Oregon's total death toll to 3,900.

The report shows that there are currently 730 patients hospitalized with COVID-19 in the state. Out of 693 total adult ICU beds, 53 are currently available in Oregon. Of the 4,240 adult non-ICU beds in Oregon, 319 are currently open.

Whitetail buck poached in rural Wallowa County

WALLOWA COUNTY — A 3x3 whitetail buck deer was poached along School Flat Road near School Flat Lane within the Sled Springs Wildlife Management Unit sometime prior to 8 a.m. Sept. 25.

A local resident notified Oregon State Police and wildlife troopers of the poaching. The buck was shot with a large-caliber firearm on private property, about 30 yards from the road, and the entire deer was left to waste.

Any person with information related to this incident is encouraged to call the OSP TIP (Turn In Poachers) reward line at 1-800-452-7888, by cell at *OSP (*677) or send an email tip to TIP@osp.oregon.gov. Reference case No. SP21274921.

The Oregon Hunters Association TIP reward offers preference points or cash rewards for information leading to an arrest or issuance of a citation for the unlawful taking, possession or waste of big-horn sheep, Rocky Mountain goat, moose, elk, deer, antelope, bear, cougar, wolf, upland birds, waterfowl, furbearers, game fish and shellfish. Cash rewards can also be awarded for turning in people who destroy habitat, illegally obtain licenses/tags, and for the unlawful lending/borrowing of big game tags.

Nominations open for chamber board

ENTERPRISE — Nominations are open through Oct. 31 for the election of the 2022 Board of Directors for the Wallowa County Chamber of Commerce, according to a press release.

To nominate someone for the board, download the form at <https://tinyurl.com/ChamberNoms>. Completed forms may be emailed to info@wallowacounty.org, mailed to the chamber at P.O. Box 427, Enterprise 97828, or submitted to the chamber office.

For questions about the nomination process or to express interest in serving on the board, call at 541-426-4622.

— EO Media Group