

Classifieds / Outdoors/ Local

LEGAL NOTICE OF PUBLIC BUDGET COMMITTEE MEETING

A PUBLIC MEETING of the Budget Committee of the City of Sumpter, Baker County, State of Oregon, to discuss the budget for the fiscal year July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016 will be held at the Sumpter City Hall, 240 N Mill Street, Sumpter, Oregon.

The meeting will take place on the 14th of May, 2015 at 1:00 p.m. The purpose of

the meeting is to receive the budget message and to receive comments from the public on the proposed budget. This is a public meeting where deliberation of the Budget Committee will take place.

Any person may appear to discuss the proposed programs with the Budget Committee. A copy of the budget document may

be inspected or obtained on or after May 1, 2015 at Sumpter City Hall, 240 N Mill Street, Sumpter, Oregon between the hours of 8 a.m. to noon and 1 p.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday.

At this meeting, a PUBLIC HEARING will be held to receive written and/or oral comments on the possible use of State Revenue Shar-

ing Funds received by the City of Sumpter.

The City of Sumpter complies with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act. Assistance is available for individuals with disabilities by calling 541-894-2314 or the Oregon Telecommunication Relay Service.

REAL ESTATE

CEMETERY SPACE.

Space at Mt. Hope Cemetery with perpetual care. Current value \$1200 for \$900 OBO. Grave 2, Lot No 409 in Northwest Cleaver Endowed section. This area may only have flat headstones. Leaving area and must sell. 541-523-3604.

RECREATION

BOAT! For Sale, 1972 Sea Ray 20' Boat with trailer, spare tire, licensed through 2015. Motor needs work, winterized. Includes fish finder, covers and bimini. \$1,000 OBO. 541-523-3604.

OUR GARAGE SALE ADS ARE FREE! VISIT OUR WEB SITE TO SUBMIT YOURS VIA THE CONTACT US FORM!

Thoughts on the not-so-elusive wild turkey



THE OUTDOOR COLUMN
By Todd Arriola

As I sat in the deli of a local grocery store one day recently, eating some chicken tenders with inconveniently small barbecue sauce containers, drinking some much-too-rich chocolate milk, and reading a magazine, half or more of it containing advertisements, a positive thought crept into my mind: spring turkey season has arrived. That is, the general spring turkey season officially opened last

Wednesday, and continues through Sunday, May 31st.

The chicken/turkey connection probably doesn't make sense, but they're both birds, I love the eggs from one and the meat from both, and I take inspiration where I can get it. Even if it's in a grocery store deli, with meat I bought, trying to read a magazine, while someone who may have forgotten to take their medications rambles on beside me. I think reading in public must be code for, "Please keep on speaking to me."

While I have absolutely no problem with some who wish to dress in camou-

flage from head to toe, including the face and hands, I choose to make less of a fashion statement when it comes to hunting. I rarely have on much camo, which may include maybe a hat, and a jacket.

I don't really subscribe to the "I need to be geared up like a sniper" camp, but rather, the "I'll just be a plain, sneaky, SOB" one, and hope for success. I like to keep it simple.

Everyone has their own methods of hunting, including using blinds and decoys. Fanning is a technique that comes to mind, but not for the obvious reasons.

It involves using a turkey tail as a decoy to draw a bird in close enough to shoot. Since you don't want to be seen by the turkey, you're hidden, of course, behind the tail, which means you may actually be shooting through the tail to hit the

turkey that's most likely running toward you. That and the possibility that other hunters may mistake me for a turkey means I probably won't be using that method. Ever.

As far as choice of weapons, well, that's limited to shotguns, including muzzleloaders, and recurve, long and compound bows. Sorry, no crossbows, rifles or handguns. There aren't any restrictions on the types of arrows or broadheads, except that electronic devices can't be attached to a bow or an arrow. That's a bit vague, and open to interpretation, but I suppose you can't win them all, even when it makes no sense.

I don't think that most of us are greedy people, but that fact that two turkeys can be taken during the season (with a daily bag limit of one) is a plus.

An additional one can be taken, but only in the

western Wildlife Management Units. At \$22.50 for a turkey tag, I'm not sure how much cash I'll commit to the season, but it's about the experience, tradition, and reward, too. And a reward it may be, if the turkeys cooperate.

The last turkeys I saw were brave and cocky. They ran around in their drove, or group, like they owned wherever they happened to be at any point in time. They walked over an area of landscaping that was only feet from my parents' deck, as if to say, "This is ours now," and they even attempted to claim the deck as theirs, walking up the stairs until I persuaded them to leave.

We tend to rank threats in terms of size most of the time, but a turkey is not as "harmless" as it seems when it's five feet away.

They're tough birds, and a good hit in the neck/head area with a shotgun load

is ideal, but I might try using a compound bow this season, which means most likely a body shot. My arrows are equipped with regular, 100-grain broadheads for now, so, we'll see how that goes.

I remember helping some friends several years ago with butchering some chickens and turkeys, and I have to say, receiving a home-raised, 25-pound turkey as a thank you was well worth the effort.

There was no mystery about where the turkey came from, or how it was raised, and it saved a significant amount of money when Thanksgiving rolled around. Not to mention, the meat tasted great. I only hope I can harvest a couple of gobblers this spring from one of nature's best, truly free-range grocery stores: eastern Oregon.

Good luck with your adventures!

Powder River Practical Shooters hold windy but successful first match

• WINNERS ANNOUNCED, NEW MEMBERS WELCOME

BY TODD ARRIOLA
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The Powder River Practical Shooters (PRPS), a club affiliated with the United States Practical Shooting Association (USPSA) and part of the Idaho USPSA Section, held its first Practical Pistol Shooting Match of the year on a windy Saturday, April 18, 2015, at the Powder River Sportsmen's Club/Virtue Flat Shooting Range, located one mile east of the Oregon Trail Interpretive Center on Highway 86.

The match was originally scheduled for March, but was postponed due to weather.

The competitors included locals and others from other communities, including some from Idaho, and was open to all ages, with a 9 mm or larger caliber pistol, including revolvers.

The range is one of only three in Oregon with 1,000

yard capability, and is operated by the Powder River Sportsmen's Club of Baker City.

Sign-up for the event began at 8 a.m., as the group came together to visit with each other, and to become familiar with the different stages of the match, six in total.

The stages were set up against the eastern hillside of the range, and safety was heavily emphasized, as a firearm could not be un-holstered unless a participant was either preparing to shoot, or was in the designated Safety Area, which had a solid backdrop.

At 9 a.m., the shooters were split up into three groups, and each group started with a different stage.

Each group included at least two certified Range Officers, who were responsible for explaining the details of each stage, and for enforcing safety and range rules, and anyone violating the rules would have been disqualified from the match. There were no disqualifications.

Each stage had its challenges, and the Range Officers described each

scenario, including the number of shots expected to each of the paper and steel targets.

The match involved around 125 to 150 rounds total, with different ranges, 5 feet to 60 feet, and the shooters were scored on a combination of timing, and where the rounds hit.

Matches are usually held on the 4th Sunday, March through October (this match was on a Saturday due to a scheduling change).

Sign-ups are at 8 a.m. each day, and match shooting during March, April and October starts at 9 a.m., and match shooting during May, June, July, August and September starts at 8:30 a.m.

The next scheduled pistol match is Sunday, May 24, 2015.

New shooters are always welcome to enter the match for free, and the general entry fee is \$10 for 17 and under, and \$15 for adults. The 3rd Annual PRPS Summer Blast is scheduled for August 23, 2015, with a BBQ lunch following the USPSA Match, and a special 1911 Match after that.

More information is



Todd Arriola / The Baker County Press

After rescheduling their March match, The Powder River Practical Shooters has a successful first match last weekend

available at practicalshooters.com.

Results.

The shooters placed as follows:

Robert Barnes, in 1st place, with 562.070 in match points, and 100% in match percentage; Barney L. Brooks, in 2nd, with 452.5842 and 80.5521%; Jim Hubbell, in 3rd, with 381.2915 and 67.837%; Andrew McClay in 4th, with 374.0156 and

66.543%; J.R. Masters, in 5th, with 364.7225 and 64.890%; Philip S. O'Connell, in 6th, with 344.9189 and 61.366%; Wayne W. Bloom, in 7th, with 321.7280 and 57.240%; Mike C. Lunyou, in 8th, with 308.6732 and 54.918%; Gerald Ashbeck, in 9th, with 303.2061 and 53.945%; Gary Casner, in 10th, with 286.8410 and 51.033%; Jeff Robert, in 11th, with 269.1437 and

47.885%; Jeremy Yancey, in 12th, with 244.3595 and 43.475%; Robert Masters, in 13th, with 241.0101 and 42.879%; Greg L. Roe, in 14th, with 238.1982 and 42.379%; Chris Hubbell, in 15th, with 212.3613 and 37.782%; Lawrence Tommy Thompson, in 16th, with 191.3349 and 34.041%; and Riley Masters, in 17th, with 133.7648 and 23.799%.

Public Arts Commission has one new vacancy

The Public Arts Commission was created to promote the educational, cultural, economic and general welfare of Baker City by actively pursuing the placement of public art in public spaces within Baker City limits while

also serving to preserve and develop public access to the arts.

This is a three year term that would expire in April of 2018. The vacancy will be advertised until filled.

Anyone interested in volunteering for ap-

pointment to the above Commission may contact Luke Yeaton at City Hall, 541-524-2033 or lyeaton@bakercity.com. Applications may be submitted electronically through www.bakercity.com.

EOU has climbing program on Saturday

Eastern Oregon University's Outdoor Program is coordinating a day of climbing at nearby High Valley from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Saturday, April 25. The activity is open to all experience levels, giving beginners an opportunity

to learn how to climb, and those with experience a chance to hone their skills and explore a new climbing spot.

Cost to participate is \$10 and includes harnesses, climbing shoes and quality instruction.

For more information and to sign up, contact Outdoor Program Coordinator Michael Hatch at 541-962-3621, e-mail mhatch@eou.edu or stop by the Hoke Union Building, Room 118.