

## Crash into Columbia River near Arlington prompts spill clean-up

On Jan. 5, at approximately 6 a.m., Oregon State Patrol troopers from The Dalles Area Command were dispatched to Interstate 84 approximately 10 miles east of Arlington to check on a male subject who was reported to be walking down the middle of the freeway. The area was checked, but no one was located.

Several hours later, OSP dispatch received a report of a car in the water near the same location. Responding troopers located a white, 1997 Chevrolet Blazer, submerged in the waters of Willow Creek along the westbound lanes of I-84 near milepost 148.

A check of the vehicle found no one was inside, however, oil and gas leaking from the vehicle resulted in a slick covering approximately 300 feet of the Willow Creek Waterway. An OSP Fish & Wildlife trooper specializing in the investigation of environmental incidents responded to assist with the investigation. A team from NRC Environmental Services also responded and contained the fluid spill to prevent further contamination before the vehicle was removed.

Emergency and environmental cleanup crews were

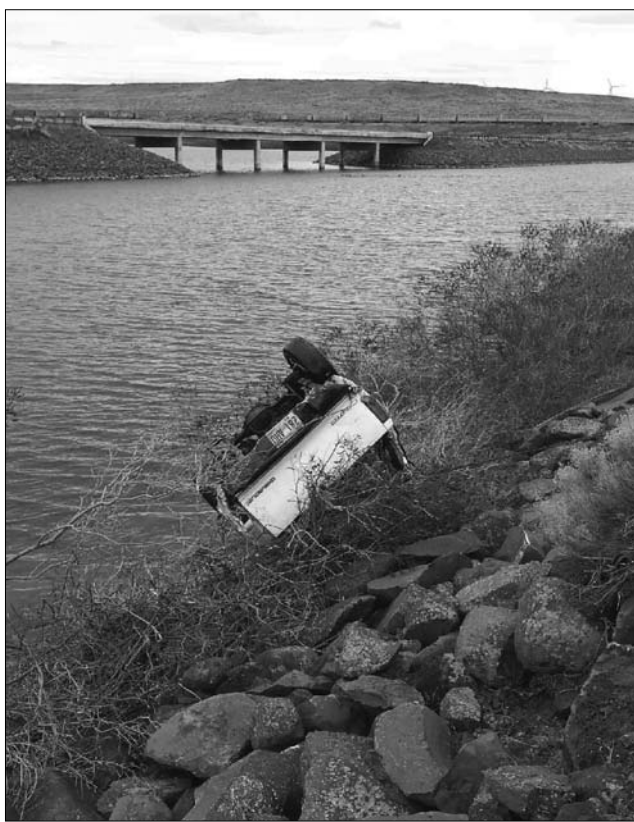


Photo courtesy of OSP

A CHEVY BLAZER was found submerged in the waters of Willow Creek along the westbound lanes of I-84 near milepost 148 by OSP troopers last week. The wrecked vehicle leaked oil and gas that created a 300-foot slick before the spill could be contained.

on scene for approximately seven hours investigating the crash and clearing the scene. OSP was assisted at

the scene by the Oregon Department of Transportation and the Gilliam County Sheriff's Office.

## New management plan for Conboy Lake National Wildlife Refuge

Today, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service released a new management plan for Conboy Lake National Wildlife Refuge. This new plan, known within the agency as a comprehensive conservation plan, will guide management of the refuge for at least the next 15 years.

The new plan calls for a variety of management actions, ranging from wetland habitat improvement for threatened Oregon spotted frogs to tree thinning for improved forest habitat. Infrastructure for water management and control of invasive wetland plants will provide better breeding and wintering conditions for frogs. Active creation of snags from living trees will

provide food sources and nesting sites for woodpeckers and other birds that rely on dead standing trees.

For visitors, the popular Willard Springs Trail will be realigned, lengthened and given a new interpretive emphasis. New inter-

pretive exhibits will be installed at the refuge headquarters and along the Willard Springs Trail, the Observation Overlook and the Whitcomb-Cole Hewn Log House. Additional areas will be opened to the public for recreation.

## Time to renew burn permits

As of Jan. 1, all burning permits issued by Oregon Department of Forestry in the 2014 calendar year have expired.

ODF requires a burn permit year-round for all burn barrels and debris piles.

People who want to renew a permit or did not get a permit last year and would like one, can make a request via phone, e-mail, fax, or regular mail.

If you live within the boundary of Mid-Columbia Fire and Rescue, Mosier Fire District, or any Hood River County rural or city fire department, you must obtain a permit through the agency.

All permits issued by these entities will be accepted by ODF.

Although winter weather reduces the risk of fire spread through wildland fuels, ODF says special caution still needs to be taken around structures and other combustible materials.

Residents may be held liable for suppression costs associated with a fire on their property.

For that reason, they are asked to read, understand, and follow all of the information they receive with your permit. And consider alternatives to burning, such as composting or taking yard debris to the local transfer station.

Most sites take yard debris for a small price and some offer free drop off dates during certain times of the year.

To submit a permit request online, or for more information visit ODF's website at <http://www.oregon.gov/ODF/centraloregon>.

## Tonkin buys Bob Stone Dealership

The Ron Tonkin Family of Dealerships, which has served Portland for half a century, recently acquired Bob Stone Freeway Auto Center in The Dalles.

The business at 2222 W. Sixth Street will be known as Tonkin Subaru & Tonkin Chevrolet Buick GMC.

"Bob Stone's Freeway Autocenter is built on long-standing community-minded values," commented Ed Tonkin, co-president of the Portland-based company. "As both dealers and community members, we personally look forward to continuing this dealership's active involvement within this outstanding region."

Stone's has been providing a selection of Subaru, Chevrolet, GMC and Buick vehicles to customers from The Dalles, as well as the surrounding Columbia

Gorge area since 2000. The business was honored in 2007 for being the "Best Place in America" to buy a Subaru.

Additionally, in 2012, Stone was the first dealership in Oregon to earn Subaru Stellar Care Award status, which was given to the dealership again in 2013 and 2014.

"I have known the Tonkin family for 15 years," said Stone. "I truly believe the Tonkins are a wonderful family, company and organization, and it's absolutely my pleasure to turn over the ownership of this dealership to the Tonkins."

Ron Tonkin, founder of the family dealership, claims he was born with gas in his veins. Because of that passion, the company has been providing Port-

land families with cars and trucks for more than 50 years.

Ron started the car business in 1960 with one Chevy store and the Tonkin family now owns 18 auto dealerships and one exotic Italian motorcycle store. Brands sold include Acura, Audi, Chevrolet, Dodge, Ferrari, FIAT, Honda Hyundai, Infiniti, KIA, Lotus, Maserati, Mazda, Nissan, Scion, Subaru and Toyota, along with Aprilia, Ducati, and MV Agusta.

Today, the Tonkin Family of Dealerships is Oregon's 17th largest private employer and was voted one of the "Best 100 companies in Oregon to Work For."

Three generations of family members are involved in the daily operation and management of the company.

## Hearing on subdivision Wednesday

A public hearing regarding a subdivision proposed for the west side of Hood River will be held Wednesday.

Kristi Chapman has made an application to the Hood River County Planning Department for an eight-lot subdivision for single-family dwellings referred to as Alpenglow Meadow. The development is to be located on the east side of Country Club Road approximately half mile north of Barrett Drive on a 19.55-acre parcel zoned rural residential.

The hearing will take place Wednesday, Jan. 14, 7 p.m. in the Hood River County Board of Commissioners meeting room located in the County Business Administration Building at 601 State Street, Hood River.

For more information, call Eric Walker, principal planner, at 541-387-6840.

## JDSMITH JEWELERS

Making Memories  
Last a Lifetime ...



0% INTEREST PAYMENTS SEE STORE FOR DETAILS

503 E 2ND ST • THE DALLES

541-397-0253

**SDS Lumber Company**  
Local Sales Outlet  
Visit Our Website  
[www.sdslumber.com](http://www.sdslumber.com)

**WE CARRY STOVE PELLETS**

**PLYWOOD**  
• 3/8" thru 3/4"  
• CDX, ACX, T&G & SANDED PANELS

**STUDS**  
• #2 & Btr, KD, DF, S4SEE  
• 2x4 - 6' thru 16'  
• 2x6 - 6' thru 20'  
• 4x4 - 8' treated posts  
• 4x4 - 8', 10' posts

**LANDSCAPE MATERIALS**  
Bark Dust • 3/4-Gravel • Yard Mulch • Chips  
Sawdust • Shavings • Railroad Ties

Hours: Monday-Friday, 7 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.  
Located at SDS Lumber Co. • Bingen, WA • (509) 493-2751

## WEEKLY SUDOKU

This week's Sudoku presented by:

**YOUR BUSINESS NAME**

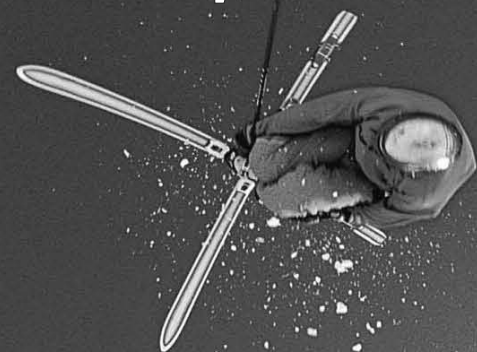
Answers on Page A8

			1		2	3	
4		5	3			6	
2	3		7				8
	9		6		3		2
	7					4	
6		3	8			1	
3			2			5	4
	4		5		9		1
	2	6		4			

Fill in all 81 squares on the puzzle with numbers 1 to 9. You can use each number 1-9 only once in each nine square section, in each horizontal line of nine squares, and in each vertical column of nine squares. The puzzle is completed when you correctly fill every square.

**Advertise Your  
Business or Service Here  
call 541-386-1234**

## Hood River Rotary & Mt. Hood Meadows



# Rotary Ski

# Night

**Jan. 19th 2-9 p.m.**  
MLK In Service Day

**\$15 in advance**

**\$20 day of**

**Fundraiser for  
Local Scholarships  
& Community Needs**

visit <https://www.skihood.com/rotary-night>