

OSP Fish & Wildlife named team of the year

East Oregonian

A six-member team of state fish and game troopers received top honors for 2014 efforts that led to catching 60 people for violating fish and wildlife laws.

The Oregon State Police Fish and Wildlife Division recognized the group as the 2014 "Team of the Year." The team received the award at a recent gathering at the La Grande Area Command Office. This is the ninth presentation of the award since the division implemented a program to celebrate and recognize outstanding teamwork of fish and wildlife troopers.

Sgt. Chris Hawkins heads up the team that works out of La Grande and Enterprise. He and senior troopers Kreg Coggins, Kris Davis, Mark Knapp, Marcus McDowell and Brian Miller are a tight-knit unit, according to state police, that uses everything from pickups to rafts to horses in covering a vast landscape of wilderness that includes the deep canyons of the Grande Ronde and Snake rivers.

Some of the 2014 highlights for the Enterprise/La Grande Team include:

- A three-month investigation into two individuals for using traps and dogs to poach

bobcats in the Enterprise area. One individual faced 28 wildlife offenses and the second faced eight offenses.

- A four-month investigation into the poaching of a Rocky Mountain bull elk that scored more over 319 Boone and Crocket points from the Chesnimnus Unit. The state charged the individual with unlawful take of elk without a valid tag and second-degree criminal trespass.

- And an investigation of the shooting of a buck deer in a La Grande cemetery led to charges against two people.

"The cemetery had security cameras and caught the whole incident on camera," according to the statement, including the two individuals returning to the scene afterwards with cleaner to try and to conceal their crime.

The state charged one offender with hunting a game mammal in a prohibited area, failure to validate a big game tag and tampering with evidence. The state charged the other person with conspiracy and aiding in a wildlife offense.

The team in 2014 caught 60 people for violating fish and wildlife laws, according to state police, seized 30 unlawfully taken wildlife and issued multiple citations for fish and wildlife violations.

BRIEFLY

Hero celebration caps summer reading program

IONE — The Ione Public Library will cap its summer reading program with a Hero Celebration today at 1 p.m. at Ione City Park.

The celebration begins with a puppet show at 1 p.m., followed by root beer floats for everyone. All ages are welcome.

For more information, call 541-422-0803.

County to discuss earthquake plans

HERMISTON — Umatilla County Emergency Manager Jack Remillard will discuss the county's plans and preparations for a major earthquake off the Oregon Coast during a meeting Thursday in Hermiston.

The meeting will be held at 6 p.m. in Room 134 of the Blue Mountain Community College Hermiston campus, located at 980 S.E. Columbia Drive.

Interest in a potentially destructive Northwest earthquake is running high after the issue was spotlighted in a New Yorker magazine article which details the possibility of a high-magnitude quake under the Cascadia subduction zone.

Thursday's meeting is sponsored by the Tour of Knowledge, a grassroots environment and natural resources education organization based in Hermiston. For more information, contact Eileen Laramore at 541-656-5895 or email hermistonleo@yahoo.com.

Nature conservancy plans work party

JOHN DAY — An opportunity to spend the weekend on the Middle Fork John Day River providing volunteer labor is available through the Nature Conservancy of Oregon.

Organizers invite people interested in maintaining Dunstan Homestead Preserve to attend a volunteer work party on Saturday, July 25

Marla & June's
CLOTHING COMPANY
Sidewalk Sales
Friday and Saturday
Up to 70% off
207 & 217 SE Court, Pendleton

and Sunday, July 26. The preserve is located near John Day. Registration is required.

Help is needed with mowing and cutting teasel with machetes and building protective caging for native vegetation. Participants should bring food, water, camping supplies and appropriate clothing and footwear for the weather. A potluck dinner is planned Saturday evening.

Registration is required. For more information, including directions, contact 503-802-8100 or orcommunications@tnc.org.

Arlington revs up for car show

ARLINGTON — From antique and collectible to electric cars and motorcycles, vehicles of all ages are featured in the Arlington Show N Shine Car Show.

The event, which includes food and fun for all ages, is Saturday with registration beginning at 9 a.m. at Earl Snell Park in Arlington. Trophies in nearly two dozen categories will be awarded at 3:15 p.m.

The St. Francis Mission Catholic Church barbecue lunch begins at 11 a.m. Also, strawberry shortcake, provided by the Arlington United Methodist Church ladies, will be served throughout the afternoon.

The event also features hula hoop contests and the annual Rubber Duck Regatta. Rubber ducks can be purchased at the Arlington Hardware for a buck a duck. In addition, the Arlington Community Chamber of Commerce is providing floaties and water play toys for the kids and a licensed lifeguard will be on duty in the lagoon.

For more information, contact 541-626-3426 or info@visitarlingtonoregon.com.

Have you heard about the Wednesdays in the Park concert series starting July 29?
www.pendletonparksandrec.com

Providing the Most Advanced Digital Hearing Technology
A family run business for over 50 Years

Ruud's HEARING AID SERVICE

541-276-3155
1-800-678-3155
29 SW Dorion
Pendleton
236 E Newport
Hermiston
www.ruhearing.com

HERMISTON Man missing for over a month

By JADE MCDOWELL
East Oregonian

A Hermiston man's family is stepping up their search for him after passing the one-month anniversary of his disappearance.

Marcus D. Wise, 27, was last seen by his family on the afternoon of June 18, when he told his father he was taking his dog for a walk.

Audrey Harshman, who isn't related by blood to Wise but considers him a brother, said later that day someone found his dog, a large reddish-brown mixed breed, wandering around the

west side of town. Wise, however, was nowhere to be found.

"We have a hard time seeing him just leave his dog," Harshman said. "It's out of character."

His parents called the police and filed a missing persons report. Someone reported seeing Wise and his dog at Riverfront Park on the 18th, but police haven't made much headway since.

"They followed up on some leads in the beginning



Wise

but there hasn't been much to go on," Harshman said.

It has been hard on his friends and family, she said, especially when his birthday came and went and he wasn't there to celebrate with them.

Wise left his phone at home, so there is no way to contact him, and Harshman said the family is completely baffled as to where he might be.

They spent the weekend printing up fliers and spreading

them across Umatilla County, the Tri-Cities and rest stops on the way to Portland. The fliers note Wise was last seen wearing a red tank top and shorts, and ask that anyone with any information call Wise's father Tony Wise at 541-312-5749 or Harshman at 541-561-7639.

She said if Wise is hiding out somewhere for some reason, she would tell him that all his family and friends ask for is a phone call.

"We just want to know he's OK," she said. "Just contact someone. We're scared to death this could be something bad."

PENDLETON

Getting on board with Yoga Roundup

By KATHY ANEY
East Oregonian

Stuart McCusker stood atop a paddleboard and breathed deep.

Appearing not to notice the splashing and playful chatter around him in the Pendleton Aquatic Center lap pool, he laid down his paddle and got to work.

The paddleboard was McCusker's floating yoga mat. He and other participants at last weekend's Yoga Roundup attempted poses, once performed safely on solid ground, now on the water. This was the Pendleton man's first attempt. He faced to the front, right knee forward and bent, left leg back, arms out. His legs shook as he struggled to balance, but held the pose.

Warrior 2, check. Someone on another board toppled and fell.

McCusker segued to a plank, a cobra, before pushing up into a downward dog. Then into the water he went.

McCusker was one of about 250 people who participated at the four-day Yoga Round-up. Participants marinated in yoga, meditation, stress reduction and tourism breaks. Sessions took place inside the Pendleton Convention Center, outside on the Round-Up Grounds, at the aquatic center and at McKay Reservoir. Paddleboard yoga was the only activity where falling was the likely eventual outcome.

Amie DiGennaro, of The Dalles, led the pool class and led trips to the McKay Reservoir where she taught her students how to master paddleboard yoga.



Staff photo by E.J. Harris

Emile Yost of Yakima watches as Amie DiGennaro performs a headstand while on a paddleboard Friday during a swim party for the Yoga Round-Up in Pendleton.



Staff photo by E.J. Harris

Stuart McCusker of Pendleton does a warrior pose on Friday while practicing paddleboard yoga at the Pendleton Family Aquatic Center.

DiGennaro originally tried floating yoga after her husband showed her a photo.

"It was a picture of a woman doing a fish pose on a floating mat," she said. "I said, 'Holy cow, I've got to try that.'"

She took a board out onto

the Columbia, put down an anchor bag and tried some poses.

"I fell in a bunch of times, absolutely," she said. "But I thought, 'I love this.' Two of my favorite things are yoga and the water."

On Friday at the aquatic

center, she smiled as her students attempted poses. Some wobbled as they fought to balance on the 33-inch-wide boards, while others remained more controlled. Yoga teacher Tania Wildbill, who founded the Yoga Roundup seven years ago with her husband Cedric, knelt down, placed her head on the board and lifted into a headstand to loud applause.

DiGennaro said people learn to fine-tune their balance by adjusting the left and right sides of their bodies. All the muscles engage as they join the effort.

"Holding a posture on the board is challenging," she said.

McCusker, who practices buti yoga at the Pendleton Yoga Studio, agreed, but wore a grin.

"Heck, yeah," he said. "That was a lot of fun."

Co-op Connections® Card

It Pays to Be a Umatilla Electric Member!

U&C UMATILLA ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE
A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

Present your Co-op Connections Card to any of the participating local businesses to receive their special discounts.

- Affordable Family Eyewear**
- Alive & Well**
- All That Wood, LLC**
- American Printing**
- Aunty Ida's Quilt Shop & Bernina Sewing Center**
- C&C Second Hand, LLC.**
- C and R Mercantile Co.**
- Chuckwagon Café**
- Columbia Court Club**
- Columbia Outdoor Sports & Surplus, Inc.**
- Dan's West Coast Auto Glass**
- Dennis' Vacuum**
- Eastern Oregon Mobile Slaughter**
- FitTeam FIT**
- Goss Family Jewelers**
- Kay C's Art & Collectibles**
- Kinetico Home Water Systems**
- Kopacz Nursery & Florist**
- Mailing Made Easy @ Mail Office Plus**
- P4 & More Computers**
- Pure "N" Soft Water Systems, LLC**
- Scott's Cycle and Sports**
- Sun Terrace Hermiston**
- Sunrise Hair Studio**
- Tom Denchel Ford Country**

For more information visit www.connections.coop/co-ops/guest
Need a card or have questions about Co-op Connections Card?
Please call (541) 564-4362, or stop by our Hermiston or Boardman Office