

IRRIGON

Authorities search for missing man

By **GEORGE PLAVEN**
East Oregonian

Morrow County authorities searched into the night for a missing 78-year-old Irrigon man with Alzheimer's disease who walked away from home early Monday morning.

John Getman was last seen possibly at Frederickson Farming near Boardman between 1:30-2 p.m., according to Sheriff Ken Matlack. Getman was seen earlier in the day by a mail carrier walking west on Washington Lane in Irrigon, then again by the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service in a parking area at the Umatilla National Wildlife Refuge.



Getman

Getman lives in Irrigon with his sister, who reported him missing at about 10:50 a.m. He is not familiar with the local area, Matlack said.

A search party consisting of the sheriff's office, Boardman police and the Boardman and Irrigon rural fire departments spent most of Monday looking for Getman. Matlack said they found footprints near McCormack Slough along the Columbia River 4-5 miles west of Irrigon, and focused primarily on driving the nearby roads.

The sheriff's office received several potential sightings during the afternoon and evening, though Matlack said the tip from Frederickson Farming was their strongest lead. Frederickson Farming owns farmland from the Port of Morrow industrial park east to Paterson Ferry Road. Apart from having Alzhei-

mer's, Matlack said Getman has no other serious medical problems and is not a danger to himself.

"He just gets confused when he can't find his way," Matlack said. "He tends to start walking, and will keep walking until he can't anymore."

This isn't the first time Getman has walked away from home. According to the sheriff's office, there was a previous incident where he left and was later picked up by a truck driver.

Getman is described as a white male, 6 feet tall, 190 pounds with short gray hair, brown eyes and no facial hair. He was last seen wearing a brown Carhartt jacket, brown plaid shirt, blue jeans and sneakers.

About 15 officers searched for Getman during the day, which phased down to about three patrols after dark. Matlack said he will call for additional help if there are more confirmed sightings.

Temperatures in Irrigon are expected to dip to 44 degrees with a 60 percent chance of rain, according to the National Weather Service. A high wind warning is also in effect for the area for Tuesday, with gusts up to 60 mph.

Matlack said crews will continue to look for Getman until they find him. Anyone with information should call the Morrow County Sheriff's Office at 541-676-5317.

Contact George Plaven at gplaven@eastoregonian.com or 541-966-0825.

MISSION

Youth get animated one frame at a time

By **PHIL WRIGHT**
East Oregonian

Elsa Rogers of Pendleton molded clay around an aluminum armature she wrought to resemble a doll. The 10-year-old girl already gave the puppet a face and long, thick rows of hair and a back story:

"She's a huntress-warrior lady," Elsa said.

Elsa with nine other girls and nine boys — ages 8 to mid-teens — all crafted simple puppets Saturday at a stop motion animation workshop at Crow's Shadow Institute for the Arts on the Umatilla Indian Reservation. A team from Laika Entertainment Inc., the Hillsboro-based stop-motion animation studio with three feature films under its belt — "Coraline" in 2009, "Para-Norman" in 2012 and "The Boxtrolls" in 2014 — taught the hands-on experience that included the youth getting to make their own brief stop-motion movies.

Stop-motion animation aims to make objects look like they move on their own. Achieving that illusion takes buckets of patience and time. Video or film runs at 24 frames per second for motion to appear normal to us. Thus, stop-motion animators move puppets and objects a mere fraction per frame for each second of video.

Zech Cyr, 14, is a member of the youth council for the Confederated Umatilla tribes. He said as a youth leader he likes to participate in these kinds of events, but he also saw the workshop as an opportunity to try something new, and making even a small-scale flick was enticing.

Georgina Hayns headed



Staff photo by Phil Wright

Zech Cry, 14, adjusts a character for a short video during the stop-motion animation workshop Saturday at Crow's Shadow Institute for the Arts on the Umatilla Indian Reservation near Pendleton. Animator Brian Hensen films and captures the images to a computer.

up the Laika team. She is the creative supervisor of the company's puppet lab. Joining her were Molly Light from the art department, animator Brian Hensen, who directed and shot the little movies, and puppet painter Josh Storey, who grew up in Pendleton.

Hayns said Laika has 65 puppet makers, but that is just part of a larger effort to bring the characters to life on the screen.

Behind one puppet are 20 to 30 artists and craftspeople, she said, and creating a feature film takes Laika about two and a half years with 300-400 people working on 150-180 puppets. Hayns said the team just finished the last puppet for Laika's fourth film, "Kubo and the Two Strings," due out in August 2016.

Each of Laika's movies

cost about \$60 million to make. So far, each has been a financial success, and most critics liked the movies.

Karl Davis is the executive director of Crow's Shadow. He said "the Pendleton connection" was a key reason Laika brought the workshop to Crow's Shadow.

Renowned local painter James Lavadour is co-founder of Crow's Shadow and friends with Storey, Laika's lead puppet painter who grew up in Pendleton. They chatted about the possibility of a workshop on the reservation, and Hayns said Laika had success holding the workshop on the Warm Springs Indian Reservation. Davis said one thing led to the next. Laika sent out its team and Crow's Shadow put them up for a couple of nights and provided the workshop space.

Crow's Shadow has a reputation for its artist-in-residence program and its bi-annual monotype and monoprint marathon. Davis said the animation workshop is a step outside what the institute usually provides, but it is refreshing to offer an activity for children.

"It's part of our mission to foster those things, but we don't have a lot of opportunity for that," he said.

Parents and guardians there Saturday said they were happy this came to Eastern Oregon. Amy Rogers of Pendleton brought her two daughters, who are fans of "The Boxtrolls" and saw it in a cinema.

"To be exposed to this anywhere is fantastic," Rogers said, "but for them to come out here — we wouldn't miss it for the world."

Grant aims to grow rural entrepreneurs

By **JADE MCDOWELL**
East Oregonian

A new state grant could help foster more innovation in rural Oregon's economy.

Business Oregon will use the Rural Entrepreneurship Development Grant to invest \$250,000 in helping public agencies and nonprofits in rural Oregon expand programs that are designed to increase entrepreneurship in their communities.

Governor Kate Brown announced the new grant Monday.

"Oregon doesn't thrive unless all communities have access to expanded economic opportunity," she said in a statement. "Seeding the talented entrepreneurs of rural Oregon is a smart development tool that ensures every corner of the state can take part in our growing economy."

The grant is part of Business Oregon's "Grow Our Own" campaign. Heather Stafford, assistant director for innovation and entrepreneurship, said the strategy is based on the fact that more than 70 percent of new job creation comes from companies already based in Oregon.

Stafford said the state has found that many of its strategies for increasing entrepreneurship in the urban areas doesn't translate well to the rural areas, which is why Business Oregon is turning its attention to the less populated counties.

"There are a lot of activities going on out in the rural areas that are really interesting but are underfunded," she said.

The Rural Entrepreneurship Development Grant will not go to the entrepreneurs directly, but rather to programs to help them. Those services can include helping find investors, establishing a mentor program, refining investor presentations and hosting trainings and other educational events.

Stafford said the \$250,000 available for 2016 will likely be split between three or four entities. The goal isn't to start something from scratch and sustain it, but to find something that works well, test it out on a more financially-supported scale, and then base grants for the 2017 cycle on implementing that successful

strategy across the state.

"We're looking for organizations that have some traction, that are already supported by the community," she said.

According to the grant application materials, "This economic gardening strategy, which seeks to promote economic opportunity and achieve widely shared prosperity among all residents of the state of Oregon, will guide the state's economic development investments and strategic initiatives over the next biennium and beyond."

Stafford said Business Oregon knows the state government doesn't have all the answers, especially when it comes to the rural parts of the state.

"We're really looking for some creative solutions, and that really comes from the field," she said.

To share those solutions, participation in the grant will include a "rural entrepreneur showcase" in which the nonprofits and government agencies receiving the grant will be highlighted, along with the entrepreneurs they have assisted.

Business Oregon defines an entrepreneur as a business that is less than two years old, has fewer than 10 employees and creates or adds value to a product that has the potential for national or international competition.

Grant applications are due Dec. 18 at noon. The maximum award is \$150,000. Materials for the grant can be found online at www.oregon4biz.com/innovate-&-Create/RED-Grant.

Sherwood Heights vandalized over weekend

PENDLETON — Sherwood Heights Elementary School was vandalized over the weekend, according to local officials.

Pendleton School District Assistant Superintendent Tricia Mooney said a vandal spray-painted graffiti on the exterior of the building and broke a window.

The school district has since painted over the graffiti and replaced the window at the elementary school.

The district reported the vandalism to the police department and will work with authorities if they identify a suspect.

Students and staff at Sherwood Heights will move into a new facility in Fall 2016.

Pendleton man jailed after drunk driving crash

PENDLETON — A Pendleton man landed in jail Friday night for driving drunk and crashing into a vehicle.

Oregon State Police reported Jason Kerr Nowaski, 32, was southbound on Highway 11 at about 8 p.m. in a Jeep Wrangler when he did not make a curve near milepost 15, over-corrected and slammed into a Chevrolet pickup ahead of him. Both vehicles rolled at least once.

The East Umatilla County Rural Fire Protection District responded at 8:05 p.m. to assist with the crash.

BRIEFLY

The district reported in a written statement one vehicle partially blocking the southbound lane, so firefighters provided medical help and traffic control.

A Walla Walla couple was in the Chevrolet, and the 28-year-old woman passenger received treatment at St. Anthony Hospital, Pendleton.

Nowaski also went to the hospital, where staff treated and released him. Then state police took Nowaski to the Umatilla County Jail, Pendleton, and booked him on charges of driving under the influence of intoxicants, reckless driving

and two counts of recklessly endangering another.

Police investigating Pilot Rock deer poaching

PILOT ROCK — Oregon State Police is seeking the public's help to find the poacher or poachers that slaughtered two deer near Pilot Rock.

A caller Friday at 1:45 p.m. told state police in Pendleton she saw a dead deer with the head removed in a field on East Birch Creek Road just east of Pilot Rock. She said the deer had not been there in the morning.

The agency's media report stated a necropsy revealed the buck was shot twice and the head removed. "The rest of the animal," according to the report, "was left there to waste."

Officers found a second road kill buck with its antlers removed west of the first one.

State police asked anyone with information about the slayings to contact senior trooper Dain Gardner at 541-561-7425. Information that leads to an arrest could result in a reward from the Oregon Hunters Association's Turn-In-Poachers — or TIP — program.

CHI St. Anthony Hospital PRESENTS

FESTIVAL OF TREES

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DECEMBER 4
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CONVENTION CENTER
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For more information, please contact St. Anthony Hospital Foundation at (541) 966-0528
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Friday Night Dinner

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