

## DAIRY: Currently has 8,500 milking cows

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bility, Humane Oregon and Oregon Rural Action.

In response, te Velde said the permit "reflects the toughest and most stringent environmental safety standards applicable to a dairy in Oregon." Lost Valley is required to install 11 groundwater monitoring wells, which is seven more than usual, and will be subject to a minimum of three annual inspections, versus one every 10 months.

Beyond state and federal regulations, te Velde said the dairy feeds its cows "a unique blend of food that includes high-quality starch and additives" to lower emissions, and has built a state-of-the-art lagoon system that rotates water and reduces ammonia emissions.

"I believe that a well-run dairy not only provides for contented cows and produces quality milk, but also proactively implements environmental emissions," te Velde wrote in a declaration filed June 4 with ODA and DEQ.

For the past 15 years, te Velde has operated his dairy in Oregon on land leased from nearby Threemile Canyon Farms. He decided to relocate in order to expand and increase the amount of milk he sells to Tillamook Cheese, which runs a cheese-making plant at the Port of Morrow.

Lost Valley currently has 17,500 animals, including 8,500 milking cows. The dairy plans to build up to its full 30,000 herd over the next three years. It took several weeks and cost more than \$200,000 to get the cows moved, te Velde said, and the idea of staying his permit is causing him to worry.

For starters, te Velde said dairy cows need to be milked twice a day or they will be in pain. Since he does not have anywhere else to go with the animals, te Velde said a stay means he would have to find another dairy to take on the cows, or else they would need to be sold for slaughter.

"In addition, even if any milking cows could be sold, the stress of transferring them

to yet another new environment would take its toll, and I would anticipate a significant mortality rate," te Velde said.

Te Velde said he has invested roughly \$100 million into his Oregon dairy business, and leveraged his dairy operations in California to support Lost Valley. If the permit is pulled, he said he would likely face foreclosure.

"The ripple effects of a stay would be significant and devastating," he said.

Along with his own declaration, te Velde included letters from the Morrow County Board of Commissioners and United Farm Workers, both of which expressed support for the dairy. At full buildout, the dairy is expected to employ somewhere between 125 and 150 people.

Wym Matthews, CAFO program manager for the Department of Agriculture, said the agencies are reviewing the matter and should have a decision about the coalition's request to stay the permit by the end of the month.

## SCHOOL: Woman hit in the chest with a spear

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center, where he remained today.

College Place Police Chief Troy Tomaras said the attack was reported at 1:44 p.m. Thursday after the suspects entered the middle school lobby and forced their way into a locked administrative office by using a long metal spear to break through reinforced glass in a door. One of the suspects was also armed with a wooden staff, according to the police report.

Tomaras said in a news release this morning that the brothers attended College Place High School, which shares a common campus with the middle school.

Neither of the brothers was in attendance at the schools before the attack, Tomaras said.

"It is still unknown why they chose to attack the middle school and (we) are uncertain why they targeted the administrative office," Tomaras said.

According to the College Place police report, the brothers went to the middle school administration to ask to see their sister.

A woman in the office reported that Lamont Oakhurst stuck a spear through an open window, hitting her in the chest but causing no injury. The woman closed the window and the brothers moved to a door to the main office area, according to the report, and Lamont Oakhurst broke the door's safety glass window with the spear and entered the office.

They were then confronted by middle school Principal Dale Stopperan. The brothers assaulted Stopperan with the spear and the staff, according to the report, but other staff members, several armed with small baseball bats, came to the principal's aid and drove the two students out of the building just as police officers arrived on scene.

"I was very impressed the

school staff took the fight to the suspects," Tomaras said today. "The rule is 'run, hide, fight' and sometimes you have to fight."

According to the police report, Stopperan suffered a cut to his head and was struck on the elbow and a knee during the attack. He was taken by ambulance to Providence St. Mary Medical Center where he was treated and released. The principal was "at home resting" today, the school district reported on its website.

As they left the building, the two students were confronted by police. They reported one brother was arrested after being shot in the torso with a non-lethal beanbag round when he would not respond to commands. The other brother was apprehended after he ran around the back of the school and encountered officers responding to the scene. The report was unclear which brother was shot with the bean bag.

## HOMES: Students do not do electrical wiring

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off their work during an open house of Fieldstone #3, the house on Angus Court they've worked all year to complete. There was a thank-you lunch for the student workers and the contractors who've mentored them, followed by a viewing time for community members. The house's real estate agent, Shirley Parsons, was on hand as well.

The four-bedroom, two-and-a-half bathroom house is 2,466 square feet and has lots of amenities including an outdoor kitchen, a security system, surround sound speaker system and a central vacuum system. It is listed for \$379,000.

The program, aimed at involving students in all aspects of homebuilding, has been successful so far.

"The first one we sold, I think people thought they were going to fall down," said Curt Berger, the director of the student home-building program. "But they walked in and thought, 'Oh, my God. They're amazing.'"

Berger said each year a few dozen students from Hermiston, Umatilla and Stanfield high schools plan and help build the house, including landscaping and computer-aided design classes. There are some aspects of the house students are not involved in, such as roofing and electrical wiring, but they get a pretty comprehensive view of what it takes to build a home.

"What they don't do, they see," Berger said. "This is a working class. They put their hard hats on and they just work."

Berger said this year's crew had slightly less time than usual because of the especially rough winter.

"You can't really put a nail into a board when it's frozen," he said. "So now our contractors are absolutely swamped."

Berger said in a couple of weeks, the landscaping will be complete, and the house



Staff photo by Jayati Ramakrishnan  
The living room of Tim and Linda Turner's home, the first student-built home by the Columbia Basin Student Home Building program.

will be ready for someone to move in.

Parsons said she thinks buyers like that students helped construct the home.

"I think it's a selling point," she said. "I think people want to be supportive of the school and the community. The students are very proud of what they've done, and rightly so."

The neighborhood behind Armand Larive Middle School, called Fieldstone Crossing, will eventually have 11 student-built homes.

### Student Work

Lanita Halladay and Deven Hofbauer were busy outside the house, raking dirt and laying rocks around the perimeter of the grass as visitors walked around, admiring the work.

"It's starting to run a bit smoother now," Hofbauer said. "We worked on it all of second semester."

The two juniors are part of the landscaping class at the high school. Students have to take some classes on horticulture and plant propagation prior to the landscaping class.

Inside the house, Luis Vallejo was adjusting a piece on one of the doorways. Vallejo, who just graduated from Umatilla High School, was in the program for two years.

He said his favorite part of the job was doing detailed work to finish the house, such as putting up rock and laying the floor.

There were some tough

parts, as well.

"Every student will tell you that it's too hot to be working outside during the framing part," he said with a laugh.

But that didn't discourage him from wanting to continue with construction.

"I plan to go to BMCC for construction management," he said.

Thomas Wall, a junior at Hermiston High School, said he's interested in finding a job that lets him work with his hands.

"The class practically shows you how to build a house from scratch," he said.

The Turners said they've been completely happy with the work the students did on the house.

"We watched how professionally the contractors worked with the kids," Linda said. "We knew it was going to be extremely well-built."

"I'm a retired science teacher," Tim said. "The thing that impressed me the most was the energy-efficiency of the house. We've been very pleased with that."

The Turners, who both taught in the district, have lived in Hermiston for over 40 years. They said they're happy to be part of such a unique community — even if they will only get one neighbor a year.

"I like neighborhoods," Linda said. "But I also like the openness of not having a lot of houses around."

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