



THE
HEAT
IS ON
WEATHER/2A



OPTIMUS PRIME
TO APPEAR IN
FAIR PARADE
RECORDS/5A

Rivera accepts
EOTEC manager
position **REGION/3A**

EAST OREGONIAN

FRIDAY, AUGUST 4, 2017

141st Year, No. 209 WINNER OF THE 2017 ONPA GENERAL EXCELLENCE AWARD One dollar

ODFW to kill two wolves in Wallowa Co

Request submitted July 28 by ranchers

By **GEORGE PLAVERN**
East Oregonian

The Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife announced Thursday it will kill two wolves from the Harl Butte pack in Wallowa County to curb attacks on livestock, but will not eliminate the entire pack as requested by local ranchers.

The pack, which totaled as many as 10 wolves at the end of last year,

is responsible for seven confirmed instances of preying on livestock over the last 13 months, killing three calves and injuring another four.

ODFW received a request July 28 from the Marr Flat Grazing Association to remove the entire pack, but will instead take a more incremental approach to address what the state defines as chronic livestock depredation.

“In this chronic situation, lethal

control measures are warranted,” said Roblyn Brown, acting wolf coordinator for ODFW. “We will use incremental removal to give the remaining wolves the opportunity to change their behavior or move out of the area.”

The agency intends to kill two uncollared adult wolves sometime within the next two weeks by trapping or shooting, according to a press release.

ODFW last killed wolves in March 2016, when wildlife managers shot four members of

the Imnaha pack, also in Wallowa County.

Oregon’s Wolf Management and Conservation Plan does allow for killing wolves as a tool to protect livestock when other means of non-lethal hazing have proven ineffective — things like hiring range riders and removing bone piles or other attractants.

In this case, ODFW claims ranchers did maintain a significant human presence in the area where wolves were preying on their cattle. Producers coordinated between

themselves, employees, volunteers and a county-employed range rider to ensure a daily human presence in the area.

Some ranchers even spent nights near livestock and changed up their pasture rotation to avoid putting cattle in areas where wolves have previously been spotted. Sick or injured animals were moved quickly to avoid potentially luring wolves to the herd.

Still, ranchers hazed or chased

See **WOLVES/8A**

PENDLETON

The second story’s next chapter

By **ANTONIO SIERRA**
East Oregonian

At the dawn of the twentieth century, downtown Pendleton’s second story offered a diverse set of services.

Boarding houses, meeting halls, a gymnasium and more could all be found on the second floor of Pendleton’s merchant quarter. But decades of neglect left many of them unused.

The Pendleton Development Commission is eager to revive downtown’s second story spaces and invited several building owners to a design meeting at city hall Thursday in its ongoing attempt to invest in renovating them.

The commission hired LRS Architects of Portland to tour the buildings and create floor plans that would show owners how modern apartments or offices would fit in these historic spaces.

The five buildings with owners that indicated serious interest in renovating their second stories span across downtown Pendleton.

But all of the owners share the challenge of not only restoring the old spaces, but complying with modern codes and laws while keeping the project economic feasible.

Woodmen of the World Building (Pioneer Title/Packard Tavern)

Rod Parker of Pioneer Title needs to pry off two planks nailed to the door to access the second floor directly above his office.

The second floor is dominated by a gymnasium, which used to host basketball games and boxing matches, Parker said.

The third floor meeting room includes faint reminders



The Woodman of the World building on Southeast Court Avenue in Pendleton.

Staff photo by E.J. Harris



Water stains and other damage in a room on the second floor of the Woodmen of the World building on Southeast Court Avenue in Pendleton.

Staff photo by E.J. Harris

“It’s going to be a challenge but it’s something we’re going to figure out through conversation.”

— **Ty Woolsey**, Pendleton’s park, building official, on balancing safety and business concerns when evaluating renovation plans

See **PENDLETON/8A**

MILTON-FREEWATER

Murder charge added in fire death at bridge

By **PHIL WRIGHT**
East Oregonian

The Umatilla County Sheriff’s Office has declared the death of Marcos Gutierrez-Rodriguez of Milton-Freewater a homicide and blamed **Conor Michael Dayton** for the crime.

The sheriff’s office in a written statement Thursday morning announced the Umatilla County District Attorney’s Office charged Dayton, 24, of Milton-Freewater with murder. Circuit Court records show the agency brought the new charge Wednesday, and Circuit Judge Christopher Brauer set Dayton’s bail at \$10 million.



Dayton already was in the Umatilla County Jail, Pendleton, on the felony charge of abuse of a corpse related to the May 22 death of Gutierrez-Rodriguez. According to the sheriff’s office, Dayton on July 8 told detectives he found Gutierrez-Rodriguez dead under the Eastside Bridge along the Walla Walla River and burned the body to hide his drug use.

“Since then,” the sheriff’s office reported, “we have learned, and are alleging that Mr. Dayton is responsible for killing Mr. Gutierrez-Rodriguez and then burning his body in an attempt to hide evidence.”

Detectives from the sheriff’s office and other law enforcement agencies continued to work “diligently in following investigative leads, interviewing numerous witnesses and persons of interest, and locating and examining evidence,” according to the statement from the sheriff’s office. “This work has provided the information and evidence to charge **Conor Dayton** with murder.”

The case now resides with the district attorney’s office, which soon will present evidence to a grand jury for a murder indictment. The sheriff’s office stated it now is referring all inquiries about the case to the district attorney.

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HERMISTON

Ride safety ‘No. 1 issue’ at carnival

By **JAYATI RAMAKRISHNAN**
East Oregonian

Carnival rides are, for many, the highlight of a county fair. But some may approach the rides at this year’s Umatilla County Fair with trepidation after a ride malfunction at the Ohio State Fair killed one person last week.

The thought has crossed the minds of many at the Umatilla County Fair, who are busy setting up for their opening day next week. But fair officials say the accident won’t change anything about the rides they offer.

“Safety has always been a number one issue,” said Dan Dorran, a fair board member. “We’re not changing our procedure because of Ohio.”

He added that Oregon has different inspection laws than Ohio.

“Oregon has some of the strictest inspec-



EO file photo

Carnival workers assemble the Ferris wheel last year at the Umatilla County Fair in Hermiston.

See **FAIR/8A**



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