

DRILL: Took less than two hours after it started

Continued from 1A

the auditorium. Roberts took the stage there as the narrator for the many observers while Stokoe stayed with police and observed their actions.

Roberts told the crowd the idea was to simulate as real a situation and response as possible. There were no rules, for example, prohibiting anyone from using smartphones to broadcast or record what was happening.

In the drill, school officials and police first learned about a possible threat via the Oregon State Police school SafeOregon tip line.

Here is the timeline of what commenced. All times are a.m.

9:33: A student sends a tip about seeing a social media photo of a possible student named Andy dressed all in black, wearing a hockey mask and holding a machete.

9:36: School officials receive notification of the tip on their phones. The tip has a level of “standard” — schools should be aware but there is nothing to indicate an immediate threat.

Morrow County schools superintendent Dirk Dirksen is in his office in Heppner when he gets the message. Officials check in with each other.

9:41: Second tip about the photo comes in, but this has a full name, Andy Jackson, and the tipster reports Andy made statements about wanting to cause harm today. Andy watched the movie “Friday the 13th,” a revenge horror flick where the bad guy wears a hockey mask and wields a machete.

9:44: Dirksen gets second tip, but this time it’s “critical,” the most serious category. Local dispatch receives notice about this tip.

9:45: Riverside goes into lockdown. An announcement tells students and staff to get in class, lock doors and turn out lights.

9:47: A man comes into school and demands to talk to the principal. He states his son called him and said he was in danger.

9:48: Staff open the office door.

9:49: The man has a gun, takes over office and holds staff hostage.

9:50: The tall figure in black enters the main hall and fires the first two shots.

9:51: He moves down the hall and fires several more times. The first couple of local police enter the school.

9:52: Dirksen lets staff know he is on the road and coming to Boardman.



Boardman Police Chief Rick Stokoe briefs participants for an active shooter drill in the gymnasium Riverside High School on Friday in Boardman.



School administrators and staff were able to watch the drill in real time ask questions from Pendleton Police Chief Stuart Roberts in school auditorium at Boardman High School.

The drive from Heppner is about 45 minutes — without speeding — and lacks cell service most of the way.

More gunfire ensues. Officers hustle through the hall. Their police radios don’t work in that portion of the school.

9:52: The school district publishes a notice about the lockdown on its website and Facebook page. The notice hits the school’s app on smartphones of parents and the public.

9:53: Police shoot the shooter, but he is not killed. They get his gun away, cuff him and medics rush to his aid. The emergency personnel don’t know about the hostage situation.

9:57: Police go to the front office and find the man barricaded in a room with hostages. The SWAT team from Pendleton is likely to respond, but it will take more than an hour for them to arrive.

10:10: A member of the Morrow County Sheriff’s Office negotiates with the man and gets him to release some hostages.

10:12: Oregon State Police SWAT is traveling to the scene, but they are at least two or three hours out.

10:21: Other Boardman schools receive notice of the Riverside lockdown.

10:25: Other Boardman schools go into lockout — that is, they lock their doors to keep others out but

continue their school day as usual.

10:30: The man surrenders and police arrest him. Officers continue to clear the school.

10:39: Some students leave the building.

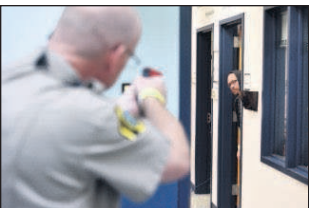
10:42: The police team enters a science class, turns on the lights and finds students and staff hiding behind tables and desks. Police check them and lead them out.

10:57: The district notifies parents they can pick up their children at Sam Boardman Elementary School.

11:10: The drill ends. Roberts said how he set up the scenario with multiple situations was “dirty pool,” but this was about learning.

One observer questioned how a teacher could know if a text from the principal was legitimate if he or she was a hostage. Another asked if staff should follow policy and make sure doors are locked when a killer could be stalking the halls. And students walked out of schools with books and backpacks instead of leaving them. Roberts agreed these are issues to discuss.

The biggest gasp in the observation room came when the audience heard how long state police SWAT would take to arrive. One man said there is SWAT in the Tri-Cities, Washington. Roberts said there are juris-



Pendleton Police Sgt. Rick Jackson looks at a Morrow County Sheriff's deputy from the principal's office Friday at Riverside High School in Boardman. Jackson played the part of a hostage taker in an active shoot drill.

dictional issues to consider if police come from another state, but he would take any police help he could in this situation and deal with the consequences later.

Mark Mulvihill, Inter-Mountain Education Service District superintendent, called the drill something of a reality check. The event used only about 30 percent of the school, yet clearing just that much took longer than many expected. And while schools and students practice for these emergencies, he wondered if there was not more schools could do to inform parents about emergency responses and gain their trust.

Roberts said he has done something like that at just one school — Harris Junior Academy, the private Christian school in Pendleton. He said he advocated for forums where police and school administrators can answer tough questions from parents.

Stokoe at the end said there was plenty to assess from the drill, and that started with the immediate debriefing from the other officers who also were observers. He also said he understands school officials have the urge to get students away from the scene as quickly as possible, but police have to make sure the situation is safe before anyone leaves school grounds.

BPA: Local utilities will likely see rate increases

Continued from 1A

the hands of those who best know the system and the region’s power challenges, and selling it to companies focused more on increasing profits.

“Further, there is concern that the value of the BPA system would transfer from the people of the Northwest to the U.S. Treasury,” he wrote. “Our ratepayers have paid to build and maintain the system, and we don’t want to see it sold to fund the federal government.”

Spillway issues

Even without privatization of the Bonneville Power Administration, local utilities — and, by extension, their customers — will likely see rate increases anyway based on a recent ruling by the Ninth U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals.

The court ordered more water to be spilled from dams on the lower Columbia River and lower Snake River between April and June, with the goal of helping more fish — particularly salmon — pass through the dams unharmed. However, putting more water through the spillways diverts it from turbines producing electricity.

In a statement earlier this month, BPA said the order created a “new multi-million dollar obligation for the region’s ratepayers.” The power retailer has said it will likely make up the difference by adding a “spill surcharge” to the bills of the utility companies that purchase wholesale power through BPA.

Meyers said about 80 percent the power UEC provides its customers comes from hydropower. The next largest source is nuclear power, at 7.5 percent.

During the March 26 city

council meeting, Hermiston Energy Services superintendent Nate Rivera presented a rate comparison graph that showed the average residential power bill at HES at \$116 and UEC at \$118, compared to an Oregon average of \$156 and national average of \$208.

Low power rates made possible by proximity to the dams has helped bring data centers and other heavy electricity consumers to the region. Meyers said the dams have helped with recreation, transportation and flooding along the river as well as contributing to a “multi-billion-dollar farming and food processing industry in the Hermiston-Boardman area.”

“UEC has been buying hydropower from BPA since 1942,” he said. “UEC, and the region, owes a great deal of its prosperity to low-cost, abundant hydropower.”

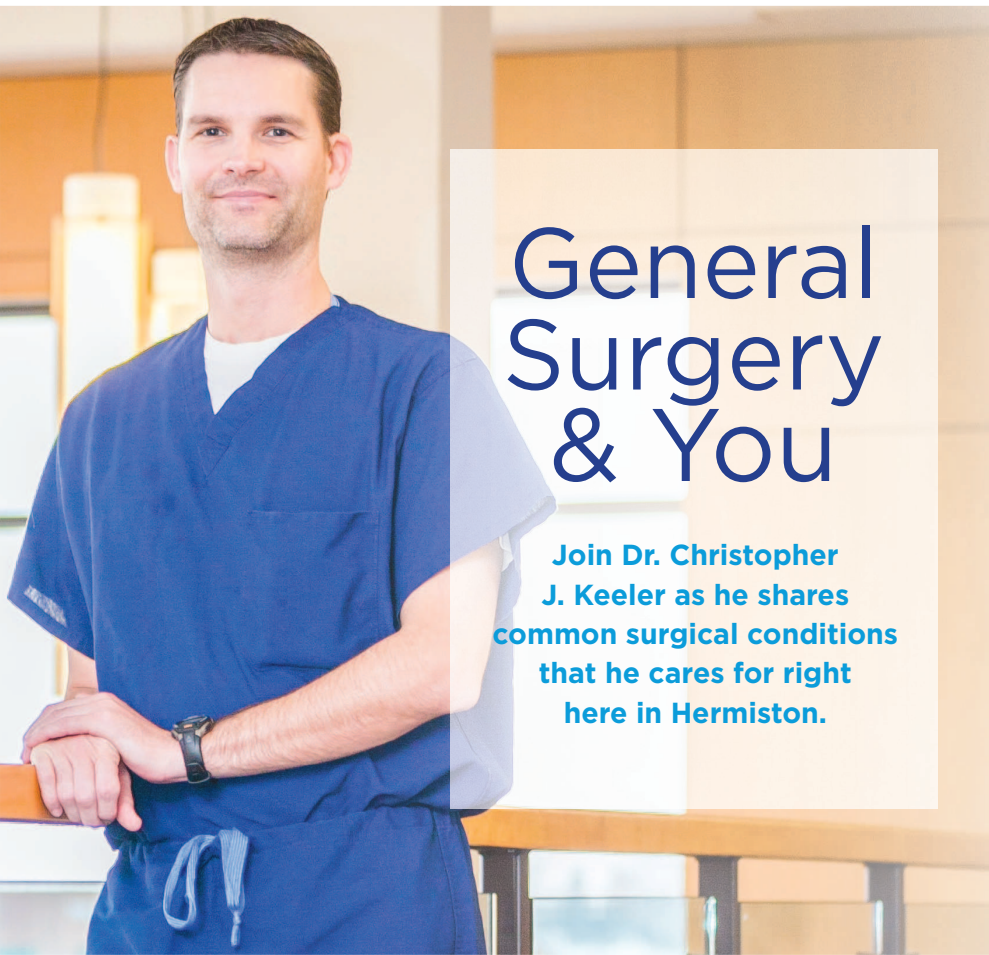
Meyers said he didn’t have a specific number yet for how much the added spill would cost UEC, but said overall estimates show that it will cost electric cooperatives collectively \$7 million a year and increase carbon emissions by 840,000 metric tons a year as non-hydro sources are used more heavily.

Northwest RiverPartners, an alliance of farmers, utilities and ports of which UEC is a member, has opposed the additional spill. On its website it states that already, “Literally billions of gallons of water are spilled over the dams instead of generating more carbon-free energy that could help power our economy, keep electric rates low and our skies clean, and back up less-constant energy sources, like wind and solar.”

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THE HEALING POWER OF ANIMALS FEATURING:
BRIAN HOHSTADT, JOY ST. PETER, DAWN WAGNER AND MORGAN MATTESON



Brian Hohstadt grew up on a large dairy farm in Eastern Oregon with a very strong work ethic and a dedication to animals. He spent his career in health insurance but returned home to care for his parents, and in doing so, decided to establish a small hobby farm to support his interests and hobbies. Mr. Hohstadt began pet therapy with his therapy dog, Blake, and knew he wanted to expand the program but felt it was not fair to add additional dogs. He grew up riding horses and knew mini horses could be registered as pet therapy animals.



Dawn Wagner has worked for the Oregon Department of Corrections at Two Rivers Correctional Institution in Umatilla for 19 years. She is currently the Statewide Business Services Manager, where she oversees the staffing and operations of the Business Services offices at the individual institutions. She became involved with the TRCI Rehabilitating Offenders & Canines (ROC) program when she was asked to put the contracts together three years ago.



Joy St. Peter is the Founder and Director of the Joys of Living Assistance Dogs (JLAD), a 501©3 non-profit organization. She launched JLAD in 2004 after attending the Assistance Dog Institute's Service Dog Instructor Training Course in Santa Rosa, CA, led by Dr. Bonnie Bergen (inventor of the Service Dog Concept).



Morgan Matteson took over leadership of Dream Catcher Therapeutics (DCT) as Executive Director and Instructor in 2017. She first became involved with Dream Catcher Therapeutics in 2002, and after volunteering until 2005, she then attended Rocky Mountain College where she earned a B.S. in Therapeutic Horseback Riding in 2011. She interned at Healing Reins, in Bend, and went on to work at Bright Horizons in Siletz, OR. She is happy to be back home in Pendleton where she is excited to implement changes to grow the Dream Catcher Program.

No cost for this forum - FREE to EVERYONE. BUT WE WILL GLADLY ACCEPT DONATIONS FOR OUR SPEAKERS' ORGANIZATIONS.
For more information about the EO Forum, please contact: Karen Parker at 541-966-3177.

The EO Forum is a collaborative effort among leaders from Blue Mountain Community College, InterMountain Education Service District, the East Oregonian, American Association of University Women, and Harriet Isom, a former United States ambassador who also serves on the committee. This EO Forum program is offered as part of Blue Mountain Community College's annual Arts and Culture Festival. For more information on the festival go to www.bluecc.edu.