Fergi Fest snowy, muddy fun.
Page A9

WALLOWA COUNTY
CHIEFTAIN

Enterprise, Oregon | Issue No. 51 | Wallowa.com | April 6, 2016 | $1

Emmett Schneid, 12, a sixth-grader at Archbishop Howard at St. Rose in Portland, proves he's learned the "tough for a minute" lesson as he helps Lute Ramsden, 11 (rear) and Zeb Ramsden, 13, (foreground) give new calves their first shots and tags. Emmett and his schoolmate Miguel Hosty, 13, spent four days with the Ramsden family of Lostine, learning the cattle business and the difference between life in the country and life in the city. The boys learned that being tough for that minute would mean better health for the calves going forward, but Emmett's favorite part remained the moment when he could step back and say "Be free!" as the calf got up to rejoin mamma cow.

URBAN-RURAL EXCHANGE PROGRAM GIVES CITY KIDS A GLIMPSE OF THE COUNTRY LIFE

Kathleen Ellyn/Chieftain

By Kathleen Ellyn
Wallowa County Chieftain

The first and biggest difference Emmett Schneid, 12, noticed about the life of a Portland kid versus the life of the Ramsden boys of Lostine was that "they have a lot of responsibility and their parents (Mark and Amy) trust them a lot — doing stuff on their own."

That stuff included feeding and doctoring chores on a ranch that has more than 500 head of cattle in pastures from Lostine to Hells Canyon.

That was just the beginning of the things Emmett and his sixth-grade schoolmate — Miguel Hosty, 13, of Archbishop Howard School at St. Rose — learned at the Ramsden (Mountain Beef) Ranch.

The two are among a handful of Portland-area kids who spent April 1-4 in Wallowa County learning how the other half of the state lives.

See PROGRAM, Page A5

MORE ONLINE
Extension.oregonstate.edu

Courtesy of ODFW

The Imnaha wolf pack's alpha male after being refitted with a working GPS collar on May 19, 2011. It's one of four wolves from the pack targeted to be killed by wildlife officials

ODFW kills four Imnaha Pack wolves

Old male, limping female believed responsible for string of depredations

By Scot Heisel and Eric Mortenson
EO Media Group

The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife on Thursday shot and killed four wolves from the Imnaha pack in Wallowa County following five confirmed depredations on private land in the Upper Swamp Creek area in March.

ODFW wolf coordinator Russ Morgan said the four wolves targeted for killing included an aging alpha male, OR-4, and an alpha female, OR-39, that has limped with a back leg injury for the past couple years. The male was nearly 10 years old, which Morgan said is "very old for a wolf in the wild."

Morgan said it's possible the male's age and the female's disability caused the wolves to turn on livestock instead of deer and elk. Two younger wolves, possibly yearlings, were believed to be traveling with them. The four appear to have split off from the rest of the Imnaha Pack, which numbered at least eight at the end of 2015.

> **"ODFW SHOULD NOT BE KILLING MEMBERS OF THE IMNAHA PACK, OR ANY WOLVES FOR THAT MATTER, WHILE THE WOLF PLAN REMAINS UNDER REVIEW AND OUT OF DATE.**
> *Oregon Wild Executive Director Sean Stevens*

Morgan said ODFW is following guidelines of the state's wolf management plan, which is up for review this year.

He called the decision unfortunate, but said it is a necessary response to the pack's chronic livestock attacks.

"The (wolf) plan is about conservation, but it's also about management," Morgan said.

ODFW on Wednesday night issued a report confirming the fifth recent depredation on private land in the Upper Swamp Creek area north of Enterprise.

The most recent case involves an adult ram sheep that was discovered live but with multiple fresh bite wounds "inside both hind legs, on the back, left flank area and over the right rib cage."

See PACK, Page A7

Pinkerton named Enterprise superintendent

Kathleen Ellyn/Chieftain

Erika Pinkerton prepares to answer the 17 "critical questions" from the Enterprise School Board.

By Kathleen Ellyn
Wallowa County Chieftain

The Enterprise School Board on Monday unanimously voted to offer Erika Pinkerton the dual job of elementary school principal and superintendent for Enterprise School District. Pinkerton currently is principal of McGovern Elementary School in the Winston-Dillard School District just south of Roseburg.

Pinkerton will replace Brad Royse, who is retiring after having served the Enterprise School District for 18 years. Royse has, with the support of the board, brought the district out of poor financial condition to financial health.

Pinkerton — along with Athena-Weston High Principal Rollie Marshall and Trask River High Principal Jerry Dorland — endured a grueling interview process that took them from a student group to a parent group to a staff group to their interview with the board.

All participants said they were deeply impressed by the questions and quality of thinking in the student group, the turnout of parents and staff, and the insightful nature of the 17 critical questions put to them by the board.

See SCHOOL, Page A6

WHO IS ERIKA PINKERTON?

Erika Pinkerton is a divorced mother of two children, ages 17 and 13. She enjoys fishing and loves the outdoors. She chose to apply at Enterprise because she did her homework and was impressed by the school report card, especially the graduation rate.

"I told my daughter the district had a 100 percent graduation rate and she was stoked," Pinkerton said. "I would love to have my daughter graduate from this school."

Pinkerton also researched the Enterprise Education Foundation and was "very impressed," she said. "The support of the community, the cooperation ... that doesn't always happen."

Pinkerton is famous for knowing the names of the almost 300 elementary school children at her current position and makes it a point to meet the school buses every morning, and is in the classes every day.

See PINKERTON, Page A6

7 29467 50001 3