

WIENERS

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The event spanned from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday, and Gowing said she was a little concerned because of the early-day showers.

"I was worried we wouldn't be able to get to the races," Gowing explained. "Luckily the sun finally came out."

The winner of the Wiener Dog Races was Capone (in an orange bandana), a two-year old dachshund from Cottage Grove and "son" of a very proud Sean Clemens.

"He's a smart guy," said Clemens of his pup. "I knew he would run straight toward me once he saw me."

Capone was one of the few dogs that was able to maintain focus during each of the races. In most heats, the majority of the participating K-9s started off with a lot of confusion. Looking around at all the different owners trying to get their respective dogs down to the finish line, along with all the enthusiastic cheering, most dogs stopped, looked around, and some even ran back to the starting line just to figure out what the heck was going on.

Other finalists along with Capone included Daisy in a yellow bandana, Aldrich in a green bandana, and Diesel in red, finishing



Sean Clemens congratulates Capone on a race well run.

photo by Sam Wright

in that order.

According to Clemens, this was not Capone's first shot at wiener dog glory.

"Two years ago he finished in third place when he was about six months old," Clemens said proudly.

ROA

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the shooting, family and friends of 18-year veteran Todd Olson identified him as the deputy allegedly struck by Roa's bullet Friday evening.

"The Olson family would like to express our deepest gratitude for all the prayers and well-wishes," said a statement from the family. "My husband is con-

tinuing to rest and is focused on recovering from his injuries. We hope he will be able to go home soon."

Roa is no stranger to law enforcement. Lane County court records indicate that he served about a 3-1/2 month jail sentence last year for driving under the influence. Prior to that, Interim Cottage Grove Police Chief Scott Shepherd said Roa was a

suspect in a 2013 theft in Cottage Grove. Roa formerly owned and operated West Coast Machine Guns, which had been located at 533 E. Main St. in downtown Cottage Grove, though he was sentenced in March of 2012 to six days in jail, probation and restitution on charges related to the theft of various weapons, accessories and money from multiple victims. Roa pleaded

"no contest" in Cottage Grove Municipal Court to two counts of Attempted Theft I related to a weapon and a silencer that were ordered by customers and for which Roa accepted payment and failed to deliver. Over the objection of his lawyer, Roa was ordered not to use or possess firearms during his probation.

BOND

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cost so much," he said.

The District has not purchased a new fire engine since its inception with the merger of the Cottage Grove and Creswell departments in 2003; according to a fact sheet prepared by South Lane Fire, the average age of the fleet is 24 years old. The District was able to secure bond funding to staff its everyday operations in 2012, but that funding cannot be used to purchase equipment. Wooten said that, if the District

is able to purchase all five pieces of equipment for less than the estimated \$2.6 million, the remaining funding would still be used to purchase equipment in some way, whether through improving the equipment on its current apparatus or placing the money in a reserve account to make future purchases.

"I figured that we're budgeting \$80,000 per year to keep trucks on the road that are costing us \$4000-\$5000 every time we take them into the shop," he said. "If we were able to put that

money into a reserve account, we'd be able to buy another truck in five years."

If the bond is approved, the District hopes to purchase the equipment all at once, rather than pay for new apparatus over time and be forced to seek another bond later, Wooten said. Over time, he said the District will likely look at the costs over and above its allocated property tax rate that it needs to operate, then seek to re-form the District at the new rate.

"If we know that's the amount

we're going to need, why wouldn't the Board evaluate the potential to attempt to reform the District at that rate?" he asked. "The goal is to see where we need to wind up, but unfortunately, fire districts and cities are finding out that they have to go after bonds to get what they need to operate these days."

The District may seek to host a pair of town hall meetings in Creswell and Cottage Grove in October, Wooten said, but dates have not yet been set.

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