

## ODFW approves killing two Harl Butte pack wolves

By Eric Mortenson  
EO Media Group

Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife approved a kill order for two adult wolves from Wallowa County's Harl Butte pack, which has been responsible for seven confirmed attacks on cattle in the past 13 months.

Ranchers in the area had asked ODFW to wipe out the pack, which numbered 10 at the end of 2016 and at least seven when counted in March. The department decided instead to kill two adults and then evaluate the situation.

"In this chronic situation, lethal control measures are warranted," acting ODFW wolf coordinator Roblyn Brown said in a prepared statement. "We will use incremental removal to give the remaining wolves the opportunity to change their behavior or move out of the area."

The wolves will be trapped or shot from the ground or air in the next two weeks, according to an ODFW news release.

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## Jean Kline honors late husband as grand marshal

Grant County Fair runs through Saturday

By Angel Carpenter  
Blue Mountain Eagle

It's Jean Kline's 50th consecutive year attending the Grant County Fair, and this year brings a special honor.

Kline will represent the 108th fair as grand marshal this year, honoring her late husband Dave Kline (1927-2013).

In her early days attending the fair, Kline cheered on her three children who were involved in 4-H, horse shows and parade activities.

This year, she'll be clapping for her great-grandchildren Dylan and Sarah Clark of John Day as they show pigs.

Kline said she agreed to be grand marshal for the opportunity to highlight the service Dave gave over the years.

"Dave was the leader of the Prairie City 4-H Livestock Club in 1967 and enjoyed helping many young



The Eagle/Angel Carpenter

**Grant County Fair Grand Marshal Jean Kline rides in her late husband's pickup, "Old Red," in the Prairie City Fourth of July parade.**

4-H'ers with their projects for several years," she said. "In those days, we spent many hours helping young people in the poultry, pig and sheep and beef barns during the fair. Dave also spent many years instructing with the horse show and junior rodeo."

Besides entering pies, cookies, vegetables and more, over the years, Jean also lent a hand to youth, leading the Prairie City 4-H Sewing Club for a few years.

"4-H is just a great program for the children," she said. "It's a good learning

experience and teaches discipline."

Jean and Dave Kline were married for 62 years. In their early years of marriage, Dave managed the Bridge Creek Ranch in the north end of Silvies Valley, now Silvies Valley Ranch, and then managed both the Bridge Creek and Flying Hat Ranch in Mt. Vernon. He later became a realtor as well.

Their children include Nancy Moffitt of Mt. Vernon, married to Geoff; Dan Kline of Klamath Falls; and Susan Byrne of Scottsdale,

married to Shawn. They have four grandchildren and two great-grandchildren

After a few years out of the county, the family settled in Prairie City in 1967.

"Dave was really well known in the community," Jean said. "I supported him through all his projects, and he was very active with everything in the county."

The fair is scheduled for Wednesday, Aug. 9, through Saturday, Aug. 12. The fair parade is set for 10 a.m. Saturday, Aug. 12, and Kline will ride in Dave's '66 Chevy pickup "Old Red," which was fully restored by her grandson Farrell Clark of John Day.

Jean said her husband "dearly loved" Old Red.

"If he drove a pickup, that's the one he drove," she said.

She said she's looking forward to the fair and seeing her great-grandchildren show their animals.

"It's really just a great yearly event that brings everybody out and gets them together," she said. "We see old friends that we only see once a year. ... It's very important to the ranchers and their children."

## Support for hydroponic greenhouse grows

John Day could see first harvest as early as next fall

By Rylan Boggs  
Blue Mountain Eagle

The city of John Day could be getting a hydroponic greenhouse as early as August of 2018.

The facility, capable of yielding as much as 1,200 pounds of produce weekly and 31 tons annually, is proposed to be built at the Innovation Gateway site on the west side of town.

The John Day City Council Aug. 1 approved a budget adjustment and authorized the expenditure of roughly \$105,000 from the city's sewer fund. The money, roughly 14 percent of the city's net working capital in the sewer fund, will pay for a full-time employee to run the greenhouse and materials and services, according to John Day City Manager Nick Green.

"You've got to throw your toes in the water to see if it will work," Councilman Steve Schuette said.

Hydroponic greenhouses grow crops without soil, instead using water to deliver nutrients to plants. The project will take advantage of two resources plentiful to the city: water and sunlight.

The city's current plan involves an eight-month planning window followed by a four-month greenhouse

construction phase. This means the first crop could be planted as early as August of 2018.

The total cost of the project is between \$300,000 and \$400,000. This price range is because the city is still in the research phase of the project and is considering a number of manufacturers, including Rough Brothers Inc., Cropping and Bright Agrotech, according to senior project manager Aaron Lieuallen.

In controlled greenhouses, crops can mature up to 25 percent faster and yield up to 30 percent more produce, according to Lieuallen, who cited the ability to control the growing climate and pests, such as earwigs.

The city is working with local grocers to determine what produce will sell best in local markets before deciding on a manufacturer, Lieuallen said.

Chester's Thriftway manager Bill Wyllie said he had discussed selling local

produce with the city. Wyllie said the store went through large quantities of vegetables, such as lettuce, tomatoes and cucumbers and recommended the city consider cultivating them.

He said eliminating the need to transport produce would give customers a fresher product with a longer shelf life and reduce the amount of food waste.

"The customers could win because they could potentially get the product cheaper, we win because we put more

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The Eagle/Rylan Boggs

**A red bell pepper at Chester's Thriftway.**

TOP PHOTO: Jean Kline will represent the 108th fair as grand marshal this year, honoring her late husband Dave Kline (1927-2013). Contributed photo

## Fire season flares up over weekend

Several large blazes erupt in Eastern Oregon

By George Plaven  
EO Media Group

Wildland firefighters in northeast Oregon faced their first big test of the 2017 fire season over the weekend after three large blazes erupted in relatively short order, at least two of which were human-caused.

The largest of the bunch, the Bear Butte Fire, was first reported Friday afternoon within a mile of Anthony Lakes Mountain Resort in the Wallowa-Whitman Na-



Contributed photo

**The Bear Butte Fire burns Friday near Anthony Lakes Mountain Resort in the Wallowa-Whitman National Forest.**

tional Forest. Authorities quickly evacuated the resort, along with Anthony Lakes Campground and cabins in the immediate area.

As of Monday, the fire

was holding steady at about 500 acres. Road closures are in effect while crews work to strengthen fire lines, including Forest Service Road 73 from the North Fork John

Day Campground to the national forest boundary. The Elkhorn Crest Trail is also closed from the trailhead to the Summit Trail junction.

On Sunday, a Type 2 incident management team composed of 300 mostly local firefighters and three helicopters arrived to take command of the Bear Butte Fire, which is now 10 percent contained. The cause of the fire has not yet been determined.

Elsewhere, people have been determined the cause of the 222-acre Indian Lake Fire started Friday in Umatilla County, and the 301-acre Clarks Creek Fire which was reported seven miles

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ODF identifies injured firefighter

EO Media Group

The Oregon Department of Forestry has identified the seasonal firefighter injured Saturday in a vehicle wreck on Interstate 84 west of Meacham.

Jesse Boyd, 21, of Hepner, was heading back from the Indian Lake fire operating a 1,600-gallon water tender when the truck left the roadway, crossed the median and came to rest in the eastbound lanes of the interstate. Why he crashed remains under investigation.

Boyd was flown via air ambulance to a local hospital where he is being treated for serious injuries. His condition is listed as stable, according to ODF.