

WOLF LAWSUIT

-Continued from PAGE ONE and the Court of Appeals' response refer to the grey wolf as a species native to Oregon. The respondents say that isn't the case.

"We don't believe that species of wolf is native," Tallman said. "It's being introduced and protected as if it were, at the expense of a major industry in the area."

Tallman also pointed to promised reimbursement to the ranchers, which, he claimed, hadn't happened.

"When they brought wolves to the area, they said there would be mitigation for the ranchers, funding, if the wolves got into the cows," said Tallman. "That hasn't been the case. They aren't even close to holding up their end of the bargain. When you do bring it up, they say, 'You can't be sure it was caused by wolves.' It's tremendously frustrating for the rancher."

A statement by Cascadia Wildlands refers to "a taxpayer-funded compensation plan" that "currently exists to pay ranchers for losses attributed to wolves." The Court of Appeals ruling also noted that HB 3560 requires the Department of Agriculture to establish a "wolf depredation compensation and financial assistance" pro-



Fladry fencing (electrified strand of fencing with flags attached) installed at the site of Oregon's first known depredation by wolves, at a ranch in the Keating Valley area of Baker County. Fladry has been shown to be an effective deterrent against wolves, especially for penned sheep operations. -ODFW photo

gram, but said it was "not clear" whether the program had been implemented.

Despite the intervention by the counties and other organizations, the Oregon Court of Appeals handed down a decision November 15 that the stay would remain in place pending a judicial review of the "lethal take" rule. As a concession to the interests of ranchers, the Court of Appeals made the stay conditional on the petitioners posting a \$5,000 security to help cover the costs of any depredation that occurs while the case is under review.

No more action can be taken at present, but the counties and other groups are looking at options. Meanwhile, the Court of

Appeals' ruling is a minor victory in the conservation groups' case, which the Cascadia Wildlands website says, "seeks to bar the ODFW from continuing its wolf kill program."

Tallman said he is disappointed by the ruling, as well as the petitioners' goal of keeping the ODFW from acting on the lethal take rule.

"I'd like to see them live by their own rules. [Taking of wolves] was part of their plan but, when it came to the decision-making point, they want to back track," he said. "If they really want to change that rule, to me, what they're saying is that one of the industries of rural Oregon is taking a back seat to this animal."

A View from the Hill

By Doris Brosnan

Halloween, Veterans Day and Thanksgiving are now memories for the Willow Creek Terrace residents. The wee pre-school ghosts, goblins and other scary things came to the Hill before Halloween to decorate pumpkins from the facility's garden—helped by the residents dressed in their orange "pumpkin shirts"—and a few trick-treaters found their way to the Terrace on Halloween evening.

Ten residents, including three veterans, attended the Veterans Day assembly at Heppner High School. And Thanksgiving was enjoyed by some residents in the Terrace dining room, with five dinner guests (enjoying a traditional turkey dinner that included pies made by the FBLA members at Heppner High School), while eight residents chose to join their families elsewhere for the holiday.

On the far wall of the dining room has hung a huge, paper turkey, soon to be replaced by a Christmas decoration. The turkey's tail feathers offered an array of colors, and each feather contained a Thanksgiving thought from a Terrace resident. This year, one of Helen's two noted reasons to be thankful was "for living in such a caring place." Velma listed four reasons to give thanks, including "George as a good dance partner!" Bud had two thoughts about thanksgiving, one of which was thanks "for living in such a good place." One reason Alice was thankful was that she has "two daughters I dearly love." Alvina was thankful for "all of my family." Meg and Liz both noted that they were thankful for "family, friends, and health." Anna Mae included in her list of three reasons to be thankful

"all my new friends met at the Terrace." One of Ginger's three reasons to be thankful was "such a nice place to live, so close to Dick." Dean's sentiment focused on giving thanks for "my wife." Lois shared two thanksgiving reasons, one being "able to be here with the people I love." Granny also listed two reasons to give thanks, one of which is her "cute little grandkids." Mabel noted that she is thankful to be "happy in such a nice place."

Staff added their reasons for giving thanks to the turkey feathers, too, but one collective reason was not listed: Completely full freezers. The Terrace recently received the cut and wrapped pork donated by their neighbors at Community Counseling Solutions. They had to find space for the meat among the many packages from the two beef cattle donated earlier by Charlie and Marcia Anderson and the packages of produce from their garden. A great situation to be thankful for!

Staff hope that their care and attention make living at Willow Creek Terrace a good experience for all, and they have planned some December activities that can enhance the holiday season for everyone.

Soon, residents will be invited to help "deck the halls," and on December 6, everyone will be gathering for the decorating and lighting of the tree in the common area. This will begin at 5 p.m. and will include the singing of carols to the piano accompaniment of Katy Anderson. A dinner of soups and breads will follow at 6 p.m. The community at large is invited to join the Terrace community for this event. Anyone who wishes to dine with the residents must remember

to call 541-676-0004 at least a day in advance for a reservation.

Another event that the public is invited to enjoy is the visit and performance by a troupe of cloggers on December 10, at 1:30 p.m.

Residents have other musical occasions to look forward to in December, as well as the sundry activities that will be associated with the familiar and the little-known special calendar days that will be brought to their attention as the month passes.

Bud Batty will add to the festive atmosphere at the Terrace by celebrating his 95th birthday on December 9. As usual, this birthday celebrant gets to order a favorite meal for lunch, and, as usual, Bud has requested fried chicken. (Seems that fried chicken is the hands-down favorite for most birthday meals at the Terrace.)

This writer offers apologies to the readers who thought that acknowledgement of a birthday and an anniversary at the Terrace last month included poorly worded sentences apparently misled some readers into expecting parties open to interested persons from area communities, when, instead, the intention was only to inform readers that some residents would be enjoying some significant days in October. Efforts to distinguish announcements from "invitations" will be greater, and, again, apologies to any disgruntled readers.

Readers interested in information about the available apartment at Willow Creek Terrace are invited to call 541-676-0004. Residents will surely view having another new neighbor as an opportunity to make a new friend.

Morrow County seeks planning commissioners

Morrow County is looking for volunteers to represent Boardman, Ione and Heppner on the Planning Commission.

Planning Commissioners serve four-year terms. The Ione and Heppner positions will begin on January 1, 2012 and run until December 31, 2015. The Boardman position was vacated mid-term and would be filled from the time of appointment until

December 31, 2013.

The Planning Commission generally meets once a month, alternating meeting locations between Heppner and Boardman. Duties of the Planning Commission include approving land use actions, maintaining the county's subdivision and zoning ordinance, and working with the County Court to manage the county's land use Comprehensive Plan.

Planning Director Carla McLane invites all Morrow County residents who are interested in taking a more active part in land-use planning in the county to send a letter of interest to the Morrow County Court at P.O. Box 788, Heppner, OR 97836, by December 12. Anyone with questions regarding the positions can reach her at (541) 922-4624.

Morrow SWCD meeting to be held

The Morrow SWCD board will meet on Tuesday, December 6 at 5 p.m. in the USDA Ag building at 430 W Linden Way in Heppner. The regular meeting agenda includes Nov. 1 treasurer's report, 2011-2012 1st quarter budget vs. actual report, CPA review, written staff report, 2012 annual meeting, janitorial contract and partnership reports.

Meetings of the Morrow SWCD are open to the public. The meeting location is accessible to persons with disabilities. A request for accommodations for persons with disabilities should be made at least 48 hours before the meeting to Janet Greenup, 541-676-5452 x109.

Men's group to hold First Friday meeting

The men of St. Patrick's and St. William's Catholic churches will hold their monthly First Friday meeting this coming Friday at 6:45 a.m. in the parish office in Heppner. Mass will follow at 7:30 a.m.

Parks board to meet

The Morrow County Parks Board will meet Thursday, December 8 at 1 p.m. in the Columbia Basin Electric Co-op conference room at 171 West Linden Way in Heppner. Agenda items include announcements, events, review of parks, grants and projects. The public is invited to attend. Contact Betty Gray at 541-989-8214 with any questions.

Basketball Bonanza in Ione

The 14th annual Basketball Bonanza tournament will take place in Ione this weekend.

Varsity and junior varsity boys' and girls' teams from Ione, Riverside, Enterprise and Pine Eagle will participate in the tournament, which will take place Friday, December 2 at 1 p.m. and Saturday, December 3 at 10 a.m. The event is sponsored by Ione Cardinal Booster Club. Concessions will be available.

Chamber lunch meeting

The chamber meeting on Thursday, December 1 will be an all entities report. Andrea Fletcher and Shelley Wight will also take a few minutes to talk about a health promotion starting up. The meeting will be held at All Saints Episcopal Church at noon. Cost of the lunch is \$9; Willow Creek Diner will cater.

Those planning to attend are asked to RSVP by Wednesday morning of each week.

Forest stakeholders group to meet

The stakeholders group formed to work with the Umatilla National Forest on forest management issues will meet Thursday, December 1 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the Umatilla Conference Room at the Red Lion Inn in Pendleton.

The meeting will include discussions of the group's organizational structure and how it will move forward with two proposed forest initiatives.

All interested parties are invited to attend.

Holly Rebekah card party

Holly Rebekah Lodge is hosting their monthly card party this Saturday, December 3 at the Lodge Hall in Lexington. Play will start at 7 p.m. The cost is \$5 for an evening of games, snacks and prizes.

The lodge also reminds everyone to make plans to join their friends for an evening of cards on New Years Eve. More information on those festivities will be available later.

If you or someone you know has a gambling problem, help is available and that help is FREE of charge.

If YOU have a family member who suffers from gambling addiction, YOU can also receive FREE treatment even if the gambler is not receiving treatment.

If you are a resident of Morrow County and you wish to take advantage of the services above or desire more information, Please call any of the following numbers to set up a LOCAL appointment or just to talk:

Bobby Harris @ 541-676-9925 or 541-256-0175
Community Counseling Solutions (CCS) @ 541-676-9161
OR 1-877-695-4648 (1-888-MYLIMIT)

Wedding Tables
Blake Knowles & Whitney Machado-Ching
Saturday, December 17th

Brooke Rust & Randy Carnine
Saturday, January 7th

Luke Murray & Kathleen Dierkes
Saturday, January 7th

Don't miss our Thursday, December 1st Open House

*Open until 7:00 - Come in and fill out your Treasure Hunt Wish List!

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