

COW KILLED BY WOLVES

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Other wolves from the pack were likely with the alpha male, but their VHF radio-collars don't allow such close location tracking.

The alpha male wolf was in remote country about five miles from the pasture the evening before the Sunday morning attack, yet by 2 a.m. he was only about 300 yards from the main ranch house, on the way to the pasture with cattle.

This rancher had taken a variety of non-lethal measures on different areas of his large ranch over the past two years. He had installed barrier fences with fladry (flagged fencing that can deter wolves) on parts of his ranch and has used a radio-activated guard device that makes noise when a radio-collared wolf approaches. The rancher had also increased monitoring of his livestock and has used a radio receiver to detect when a collared wolf was nearby.

"This is a good example of a situation where

the landowner had done everything right," said Morgan. "I don't think there are other measures that could have been reasonably taken in this case, so it is a very frustrating situation for livestock producers and wildlife managers."

ODFW continues to work with area landowners on non-lethal ways to avoid wolf-livestock problems. For example, ODFW sends twice-daily text messages about wolves' locations to area livestock producers. A range rider funded by ODFW and Defenders of Wildlife has monitored the wolves' location in relation to livestock.

Besides non-lethal measures, ODFW has also provided some ranchers with permits to kill a wolf they catch "in the act of biting, wounding or killing" livestock or with permits that allow them to haze wolves. The chance to use these permits is rare because wolves typically avoid people and usually attack livestock at night. None of these permits is-

sued by ODFW has ever been used, again because it is very rare for a person to actually be present when a wolf is "in the act" of attacking livestock.

This landowner and others that have lost livestock animals to wolves are likely to be compensated for their losses. Earlier this year, the Oregon State Legislature and Governor Kitzhaber directed the Oregon Department of Agriculture to create a wolf compensation program. The program is expected to be in effect in early 2012. Ranchers who lost livestock since early September 2011 (when a compensation program funded by Defenders of Wildlife ended) will be eligible for retroactive compensation.

Summaries of the wolf investigations and confirmations can be found on ODFW's livestock loss investigations page

For more information on wolves in Oregon, visit <http://www.dfw.state.or.us/wolves/>.

County Court news

The following is provided by Commissioner Leann Rea.

The Morrow County Court met on November 23 in Heppner with Judge Tallman and Commissioners Grieb and Rea in attendance.

The court reviewed and approved the minutes of Nov. 16, 2011. The court also reviewed and approved account payables in the net amount of \$91,320.69. The court also approved a refund of a garnishment in the amount of \$336.72 and several payroll payables.

Lexington and Ione Resident Comments: None. Dave DeMayo, Heppner City Manager, informed the court of some reasons why the mayors and managers were looking into a possible change for the administration of the county. Information was then shared as to court duties and responsibilities and concerns of the communities.

Public Hearing: The court opened and continued the public hearing for the updates to the Transportation System Plan. Planning Director Carla McLane provided information regarding the cover memo, Planning Commis-

sion Final Findings of Fact, the ODOT crash data and the TSP draft.

Pre-Disaster Mitigation Plan (PDMP): The court reviewed and approved the following Steering Committee members for the PDMP: Don Kennedy, Shelley Wight, Sandi Putman, Steve Rhea, Steve Myren, Larry Burns, Dave DeMayo and Janet Greenup.

Commission on Children and Families: Director Kim Carnine discussed the changes to the profession service agreement with Tara Proudfoot. The court approved the agreement between the county and Proudfoot to be compensated \$21.60 per hour for up to 60 hours commencing Nov. 28, 2011 thru June 15, 2012 to obtain support for the Back Pack Program.

The court conducted the following business: The court reviewed and approved a letter of support for the Connect Oregon IV for the Port of Morrow; Reviewed and approved a resolution for the repayment of the Operating Loan at Community Bank and directed Gayle Gutierrez, Treasurer to make the payment before

Dec. 13, 2011; Reviewed and approved the refund of property taxes for Jack and Clarissa Johnson in the amount of \$1,173.24 and to Wights R.A.G.S., L.L.C. in the amount of \$2,831.66; Reviewed and approved a letter of agreement with the Rural Health Clinic to provide vaccines for uninsured or underinsured children; Reviewed and approved the reinstatement and amendment of a contract between the county and the state Dept. of Energy thru Dec. 31, 2011; Reviewed and approved a contract for materials and services for rock crushing between the county and Jack Robinson and Sons; Approved an order to distribute proceeds from sale of tax foreclosed land; Reviewed and signed a letter of support of the army's requested modifications to the closure plan for the Umatilla Depot and reviewed several CSEPP transfer letters.

Reviewed misc. correspondences and discussed upcoming meetings.

If you would like to be placed on the list to receive county minutes, contact Karen Wolff at 541-676-5620.

New chief of police takes the reigns in Boardman

Richard Stokoe began his duties as Boardman's new Chief of Police on December 1. A public swearing-in ceremony for the new chief was held during the December 6 council meeting.

Chief Stokoe has more than 21 years of law enforcement experience and had served as the police chief for the city of Nyssa, OR for two years before coming to Boardman. Prior to that, he worked at the Caribou County, ID, Sheriff's Office, where he served as undersheriff for three years and deputy sher-

iff for 12 years. Early in his career, Chief Stokoe was also with the city of Wendell, ID, Police Department, the city of Council, ID, Police Department, and the Adams County, ID, Sheriff's Office.

In other city business, the council adopted an ordinance making changes to the city's development code regarding sign maintenance, and creating two overlay districts within the city. The city council recognized the Riverside High School boys

soccer team for winning the 1A, 2A, 3A State Soccer Championship. Each player was presented a certificate of recognition. Also, the council appointed new Boardman resident, Sandy Toms, to the Boardman Planning Commission.

The December 20 city council meeting has been cancelled. The next meeting of the Boardman City Council will be Tuesday, January 3 at 7 p.m. in the Boardman City Hall Council Chambers.



Richard Stokoe

Register for hunter education online

Oregon's hunter education students can now register for a class or field day online at ODFW's licensing sales website under the "Classes/Workshops" tab.

Students may also register at any license sales agent or ODFW office that sells licenses and tags. Previously, students or their parents had to sign up by emailing or calling class instructors.

"Students and their parents have been asking for this for years, and we're thrilled to finally be able to offer it," said James Reed, ODFW hunter education coordinator. "It should streamline the sign-up process for students and our dedicated staff of

volunteer hunter education instructors.

"Oregon is the first state in the U.S. to integrate hunter education registration with its licensing sales system," Reed added.

To register, students will need to pay a hunter education class application fee, which is \$10. When registering, students will choose the date and time of their desired class or field day. Contact information for the class instructor will be printed on receipts.

Students who do not have internet access or cannot go to a license sales agent should contact the Hunter Education Department at 503-947-6028 to sign up for a class or field day.

Hunter education is mandatory for all hunters under the age of 18 and recommended for any new hunter. The course covers topics like firearms safety, hunter ethics, wildlife identification and techniques and outdoor survival. The program certifies about 6,000 new hunters each year. Classes are taught by ODFW's network of volunteer hunter education instructors.

Students may choose to take the hunter education course entirely in a classroom setting or by independent study (online or by workbook). Independent students must pass a required field day that includes live fire exercises before getting certified.

OWGL to host Walden roundtable

The Oregon Wheat Growers League will host an informal roundtable discussion with Rep. Greg Walden at 3 p.m. on December 28 at Memorial Hall in Condon.

Walden will provide a brief recap of current issues before Congress, then entertain questions and comments from producers. All wheat producers and industry supporters are welcome to attend. Please RSVP attendance by calling the OWGL office at 541-276-7330 or via email to mblagg@owgl.org.

Ione Christmas dinner

The Ione community Christmas dinner will be Thursday, December 15 at 6 p.m. at the Ione Legion Hall. Ione Catholic Church, Ione Community Church, the Lutheran Church of Ione and the Legion Auxiliary are hosting this event with the help and advice of the ladies from the Grange.

All are welcome to come and bring with them a salad or dessert to share. The preschoolers will be presenting their program at 6:45 p.m., and Santa will arrive shortly after. Contact Erin Heideman with questions.

Hermiston DMV closed for repairs

The Hermiston DMV office will be closed Thursday and Friday, December 15 and 16 for routine maintenance to the interior of the building.

The office, located at 945 SE Fourth St., is scheduled to reopen Monday, December 19.

Anthology seeks library stories

Submissions are being sought for a collection of stories about the place libraries have in people's lives.

An anthology of library stories is to be published in conjunction with production of a documentary film, "Balancing the Books: Modern Library Function and Funding," which is being produced by Grants Pass, OR residents Patricia Snyder and Jes Webb.

Currently in production by Gamma Griz LLC in association with Sights and Sounds Unlimited, the documentary seeks to examine the changing role of libraries, their place in society and how they are funded. Interviews so far include the director of the American Library Associa-

tion, Oregon State Librarian Jim Scheppke, Michael Powell of Powell's Books, and several people associated with Oregon library systems, including Multnomah County, nonprofit-run Josephine County, and the recently opened library in Hood River funded by a new library district.

Film director Patricia Snyder, who will also be the anthology's editor, said the idea for the book stemmed from interviews for the documentary.

"One of the more enjoyable questions we've asked has been, 'What is your library story?'" she said. "These stories show how libraries are more than a concept, that they are a personal, meaningful part of people's lives."

Anthology submis-

sions can be something from the writer's past or something happening now, such as how the library provided an opportunity for childhood exploration, offered help in a job search or offered Internet that provided a way to connect while traveling.

Those whose work is included in the book will be provided a copy of the publication as compensation, shipped without charge to addresses in the United States. The book will also be used as a fundraising tool for the film, provided as an incentive to certain contributors as part of the producers' crowd-source funding campaign. The book and the film will also eventually be made available for sale on the general market.

Anthology submissions of up to 2,000 words may be emailed to book@librarymovie.com. Only electronic submissions are being accepted at this point, since the film's production crew does not have someone able to type in submissions received by mail. Submit only original work that belongs to the writer. Be sure to include your name, address, phone number, and an email address. More information is available on the film's website, www.librarymovie.com.

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.... CHRISTMAS OPEN HOUSE!

- DECEMBER 15TH 8AM - 7PM
- HOURLY DOOR PRIZES
 - TREASURE HUNT DRAWING
 - YANKEE CANDLE SPECIALS
 - RUSSEL STOVER BOXED CANDY 25% OFF
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- Be sure to get your rewards cards before Dec. 15th

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COME TO A Christmas Party in honor of LUKE MURRAY & KATIE DIERKES Sunday, December 18th, 5 pm Heppner Elks Lodge Luke & Katie will be married on January 7th in Kansas City Missouri