

Oregon has its first wolf pack in years *Ball teams sought for tournament*

A wolf pack that includes both adults and pups has been confirmed in a forested area of northern Union County, the first evidence of multiple wolves and wolf reproduction in Oregon since wolves were extirpated from the state back in the mid-1940s.

Wildlife biologists conducting a howling survey heard the howls of both adults and pups simultaneously. The exact number of wolves was not determined, but at least two adults and two pups were heard.

Wolf sign has been observed infrequently in this area since November and biologists have been conducting regular surveys of the area since.

State and federal biologists will continue to monitor the area to determine the level of

wolf activity. They may also try to capture and radio-collar the wolves for monitoring.

Experts have long predicted that wolves from the expanding Idaho population would continue to cross the Snake River and enter Oregon. Biologists have been investigating evidence of wolves in northeast Oregon for some time.

ODFW and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service officials remind the public it is illegal to shoot a wolf, even one mistaken for another animal such as a coyote. Any gray wolf in Oregon is listed as an endangered species under both state and federal law. (While wolves in the eastern third of Oregon were delisted from the federal ESA in late March 2008, recently U.S. District Judge Donald Molloy granted a preliminary injunction

that restored federal wolf protections.)

Killing an animal protected under the federal Endangered Species Act is punishable by a fine of up to \$100,000, one year in jail, or both. Killing a wolf is also a violation of Oregon state game law, with fines and penalties that are assessed by the court.

Oregon has a Wolf Conservation and Management Plan, created with extensive, statewide public input and collaboration, which was adopted by the Fish and Wildlife Commission in 2005. More information on wolves and wolf management in Oregon is available on the website: www.dfw.state.or.us/wolves.

Columbia River Fire and Rescue Fire, St. Helens Police Department, Local 3215 and the CRF&R Volunteer Firefighters Association are seeking teams to participate in the first annual Columbia County Co-ed Softball Tournament. Proceeds will benefit the Muscular Dystrophy Association (MDA) and the St. Helens Police Department's D.A.R.E. program. The event is also sponsored by Wal-Mart, Ace Hardware, Dyno Nobel, Red Apple Market and Sunshine Pizza.

The tournament will be held on Saturday and Sunday, September 27 and 28. Games will begin at 9:00 a.m. each day at McCormick Park in St. Helens and are free and open to the

public. Concessions will be available.

Organizers are seeking additional teams to play in the tournament. The double elimination tournament will follow ASA rules and require a minimum of two women on each team. Plaques will be awarded to the First, Second and Third place teams. Registration is \$225.00 to help cover expenses. Additionally, businesses can sponsor a game for \$100. The tournament is limited to the first ten teams to register.

For a registration form or additional information, please contact Amy Frigaard by phone at 503-397-1014 or 503-369-2423, or by email at frigaarda@crfr.com.

Arts & Eats in St. Helens Saturday

The third annual Arts & Eats on the river festival will be Saturday, August 9, from 10:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. at Columbia View Amphitheatre and Courthouse Plaza.

Featured will be top regional and local artists and craftsmen, and hands-on activities for children. Food vendors and local restaurants will offer a large variety of eats to please any taste, and adults may enjoy a glass of wine, microbrew or other beer while browsing the artists' booths. There will be live music to enjoy throughout the day and, at dusk, musicians will step up the beat for

dancing.

Jazz will be provided by PointZ Studios from Portland, with a lineup featuring upcoming jazz and soul performers: Angela Davise singing R&B, rock 'n roll, blues, folk, soul and funk; Nita singing Nashville soul; Parfait, aka Le Verbe, will be introducing African soul. Additional PointZstudio performers will be Lutomia, Patrick and Bryan from Seattle.

Admission is \$3 per person with a can of food for the local food bank, or \$10 for a family with a can of food for the local food bank.

More on Columbia Co. Fair 4-H

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Blue Award – Anthony Pelster, Vernonia; Keaton Knox, Rainier; Grady Groom, Scappoose.

Photography, Jr., Architectural: Blue Award – Grady Groom, Scappoose; Anthony Pelster, Vernonia; Keaton Knox, Rainier.

Photography, Jr., Texture: Blue Award – Grady Groom, Scappoose; Anthony Pelster, Vernonia.

Photography, Jr., Still Life: White Award – Anthony Pelster, Vernonia.

Rainier; Grady Groom, Scappoose; Hannah Kackley, Scappoose; Caley Ricker, Scappoose; Ellen Sperl, Scappoose; Halle Chapman-Taylor, St. Helens; Nicole Glass, Vernonia.

Foods, Ph 6, Yeast bread, alternative grain product: Red Award – Maria Pelster, Vernonia.

Foods, Ph 7-9, Yeast bread: Red Award – Marissa Clement, Vernonia.

Foods, Ph 7-9, Yeast bread product, using special: Champion, Blue Award – Marissa Clement, Vernonia.

Foods, Ph 7-9, Baked Pie Crust: Red Award – Marissa Clement, Vernonia.

See more results in the August 21 issue



Whether you're taking off for a thrilling destination, or just enjoying some local sights, plan to stay safe this summer. You'll have a lot more fun if you remember some basic tips for warmer weather activities:

- wear sunscreen
- drink plenty of water
- buckle up
- don't drink and drive
- put on a bicycle helmet
- wear a life jacket on all water craft

9-1-1 for all seasons

Emergencies can happen any time of year. Fortunately, Columbia 9-1-1 is here when you need us, day and night, all year round. So if you do have an emergency this season, call 9-1-1 right away. Our highly trained staff will make sure help is on the way as soon as possible.



We urge you to make safety part of all of your summer plans.

P.O. Box 998 St. Helens, Oregon 97051
Administrative Office: (503) 397-7255
Non-emergency Dispatch: (503) 397-1521 1-800-696-7795
www.columbia911.com