

## CCSO seeks help with cable thefts

The Columbia County Sheriff's Office is requesting the public's help in locating those responsible for a rash of phone cable thefts plaguing the Columbia County area in the past three weeks.

Suspect(s) are climbing telephone poles to cut the cable. They later burn off the plastic covering to expose the copper.

On June 7, phone cable was taken from the area of Fern Hill near Skeens Road.

On June 21, phone cable was taken from the area of Old Rainier Road near Heath Road.

On June 24, phone cable was taken from a location on Highway 30 near mile post marker 43 near Trojan Park.

If anyone has any information they are urged to contact the Columbia County Sheriff's Office at 503-366-4611. For emergencies, dial 911.

## Bull injures man before being shot

On June 27, at about 6:12 p.m. Oregon State Police (OSP) Trooper Justin Oxenrider was patrolling Highway 30 near Warren when he was flagged over by people reporting a bull attacking a man in a nearby field.

Oxenrider saw a large bull standing over an unmoving man lying on the ground. Oxenrider grabbed his patrol shotgun, and with Columbia County Deputy Dave Peabody, who ar-

rived on the scene armed with an AR-15 rifle, the two officers ran to the fence line about 40 yards from the injured man.

As the officers were developing a plan to get the bull away from the injured man, the bull suddenly lifted the man off the ground and tossed him about 10 - 15 feet into the air. Oxenrider and Peabody shot the bull several times and it moved away from the injured man, who remained motionless

on the ground with open stomach wounds.

Reserve Deputy Greg Brody, an area firefighter, arrived and provided initial emergency medical care while Oxenrider, Peabody, and Paul Erickson, a St. Helens citizen who stopped to help, shot and killed the bull.

Homero Cortez Ortega, who reportedly works at the farm, was transported by LifeFlight to Oregon Health Sciences Uni-

**See Bull on page 22**

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