

LEWISTON TRIBUNE

FOUR SECTIONS

WEATHER, PAGE 6A:  **▲68°**  **▼42°**

THE REGION'S INDEPENDENT NEWS SOURCE SINCE 1892

ONE DOLLAR

‘Swatting’ calls being looked at in Asotin County

Fake gunshots, screaming people, structure fire falsely reported over weekend, says undersheriff

By KERRI SANDAINE
LEWISTON TRIBUNE

ASOTIN — Asotin County is investigating several “swatting” calls reported over the weekend.

Undersheriff Blake Richards said the same individual appears to have made multiple calls to the sheriff’s office and a fire department about gunshots, people screaming

and a residential fire. All of the reports turned out to be false.

“In these swatting cases, police come in rolling pretty hot, which can create an unnecessary risk for the public,” Richards said Monday. “We don’t have a suspect yet. This guy has used Google-generated phone numbers, and we’re working on search warrants.”

A SWAT call refers to a high-



Richards

is a hoax that involves someone making a false emergency report to get special weapons and tactics (SWAT) teams deployed to an innocent person’s home.

Swatting is illegal and dangerous, the undersheriff said.

According to the Asotin County Sheriff’s Office, the first incident involved the report of gunshot sounds Friday afternoon on the 1900 block of Golfview Drive in west Clarkston.

“After reviewing the information reported, as well as contacting multiple residents in the area, it was determined the call was a hoax,” deputies said

in the police report.

A short time later, the same caller allegedly reported a structure fire to the Clarkston Fire Department, which was unfounded.

Similar calls about weapons offenses and screaming people appear to have been made by the same individual, Richards said. The case is under active investigation.

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CATCH OF THE DAY



A spider examines a bug captured in its web on the Interstate “Blue” Bridge in Clarkston.

Olivia Anderson/Lewiston Tribune

Wounded moose with calves euthanized

\$700 reward offered for information that leads to arrest; incident is one of several similar big game cases under investigation in the Clearwater Region

By ERIC BARKER
LEWISTON TRIBUNE

Idaho Fish and Game officers had to euthanize a bullet-wounded cow moose that still had a pair of yearling calves at her side near Clearwater on Saturday.

According to an Idaho Department of Fish and Game news release, the cow was unable to stand and appeared to have been in the same spot without access to adequate food or water for multiple days.

Conservation officers were called to the area when residents reported a pair of moose calves that were reluctant to leave a pasture near the unincorporated community above the South Fork of the Clearwater River south of Stites. The officers soon found the wounded cow and were unable to prompt the animal to stand.

According to the news release, the officers “made the difficult decision” to put the animal down. Its meat was salvaged and donated to a local family.

Jennifer Bruns, a spokesperson for the department, told the Lewiston Tribune that officers discovered the cow had a shattered knee

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> How to Report a Tip

Those with information on one of these cases is asked to call the Clearwater Region Office at **(208) 799-5010** or the Citizens Against Poaching Hotline at **1 (800) 632-5999**. Callers may remain anonymous, and those who provide information that leads to a citation are eligible for financial rewards.

Child separation, zip ties, rubber bullets: Inside the Wilder racetrack raid

By SALLY KRUTZIG and CAROLYN KOMATSOU LIS
IDAHO STATESMAN (BOISE)

WILDER, Idaho — At La Catedral Arena in Wilder, Idaho, a local horse racetrack popular among the Spanish-speaking community west of Boise, families enjoy the free raffles, vendors and food. It’s common to see hundreds of children there on a race day, said Nikki Ramirez-Smith, a Nampa-based immigration lawyer.

Those children, Ramirez-Smith said, ended up being among the targets of a Sunday raid on La Catedral Arena over what law enforcement called an FBI investigation into illegal horse betting.

“It’s a family event,” Ramirez-Smith told the Idaho Statesman on Sunday. “It’s just like when Americans go to a rodeo. ... Some people are gambling, but it’s very few. I would say probably — I mean, I can’t even say how many — but 90% of people

there are not gambling.”

Agencies participating in the raid included the FBI, the Canyon County Sheriff’s Office, Homeland Security, the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, the Drug Enforcement Administration, Idaho State Police, the Idaho Department of Correction, the Nampa Police Department and the Caldwell Police Department, according to an FBI press release.

The police response included a helicopter and drones, Ramirez-Smith said.

Ramirez-Smith said her phone began “blowing up” with clients begging her to come help them. She jumped in her car and spent hours with anxious families outside the racetrack.

Law enforcement rounded up every person at the racetrack, Ramirez-Smith said, including children.

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Divided appeals court allows Trump to deploy Guard to Portland, Ore.

Decision immediately appealed by Oregon Department of Justice, which asked for a review and reconsideration by the full appeals court

By ALEX BAUMHARDT
OREGON CAPITAL SUN

President Donald Trump “lawfully exercised his statutory authority” to deploy Oregon National Guard Troops to Portland on Sept. 27, according to two of three federal appellate judges, who on Monday overruled a lower court’s temporary restraining order that had stopped the deployment for nearly a month.

The decision on Monday came from U.S. Appellate Judges Ryan Nelson and Bridget Bade of the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals in San Francisco — both Trump appointees.

Lawyers for the Oregon Department of Justice and the city of Oregon will pursue a review and reconsideration by the full appeals court. That court would be made up of 11 appellate judges across the 10 states and Northern Mariana Islands represented in the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals.

“We will not stand by while federal agencies sidestep local authority. Our legal team, working with the Oregon Department of Justice, will use every lawful tool to prevent this overreach,” Portland Mayor Keith Wilson said in a statement.

To get the full-court review, lawyers for Oregon will need 29 judges on the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals to agree the review is justified and that Nelson and Bade were wrong, that other Circuit Court judges have ruled differently or that

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