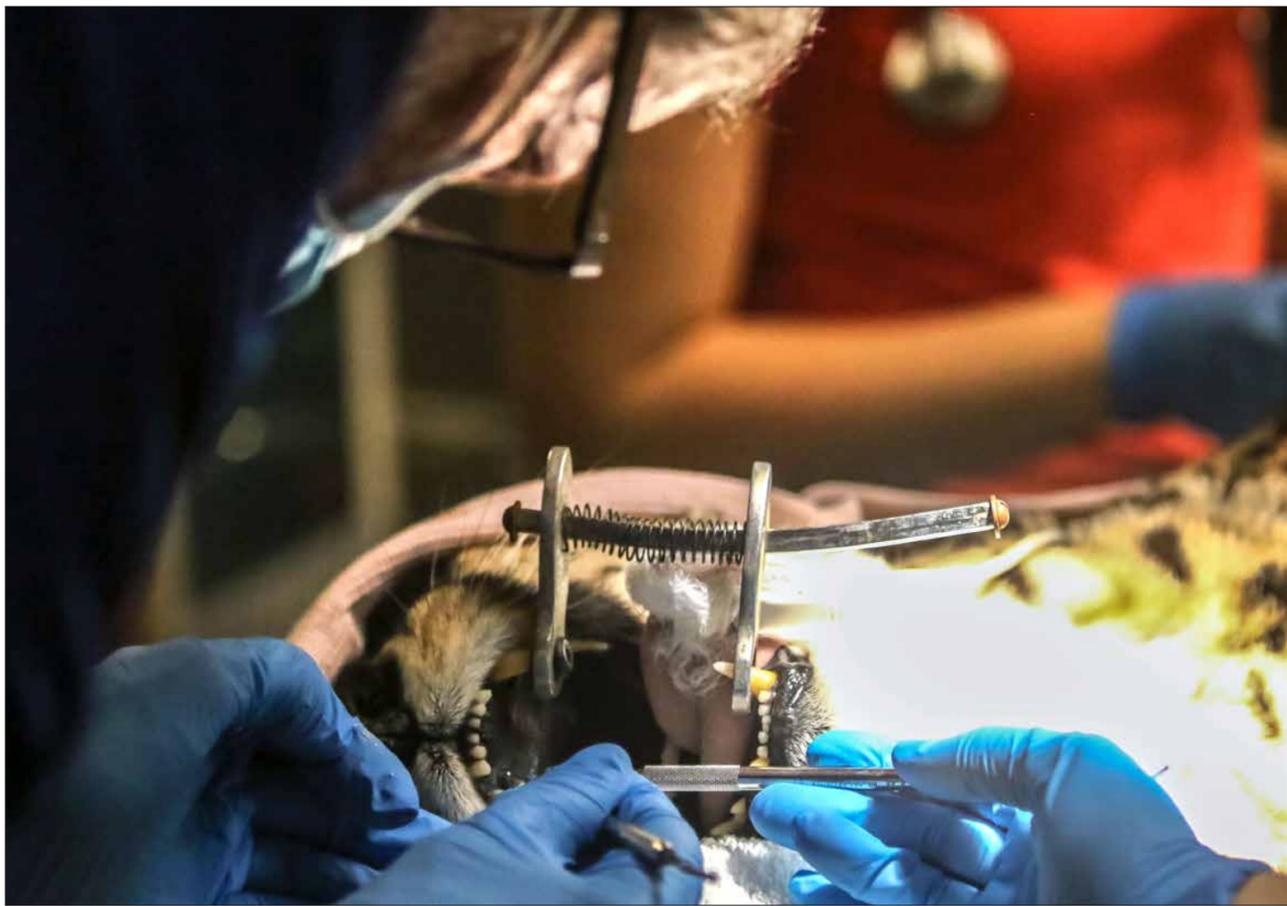


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MIKE HENNEKE/THE NEWS-REVIEW

Dr. Ron Tribble works on a problem tooth for Mchumba, a 6-year-old cheetah at Wildlife Safari. Tribble, who normally works on people at the Umpqua Community Health Center, has performed dental work on a half dozen animals at Wildlife Safari.

Mental health bill on docket

Millions of dollars could be used for respite centers

CARISA CEGAVSKE
Senior Staff Writer
The News-Review

Roseburg could have a shot at becoming home to a respite center for people suffering from mental health crises. House Bill 2831 was introduced last week by Rep. Cedric Hayden, R-Fall Creek, who represents North Douglas and South Lane Counties. It would create a pilot program to operate three respite centers, one in Portland, one in Eastern Oregon and one in



Hayden

Southern Oregon.

If it passes, \$2.25 million in general fund dollars would be

allocated for the centers. Local nonprofit organizations could submit bids to operate the Southern Oregon pilot facility, whose location has not yet been selected.

Hayden said each center would be small, with six bunks, and house mental health patients for two weeks. The respite centers would provide peer counseling from people who have themselves weathered mental health crises, either from their own illness or that of a loved one.

Without such a facility, a 9-1-1 call can lead to a person in the middle of a mental health crisis winding up with a short stay in the county jail or a local hospital.

If they are put in jail, their health care coverage continuity is broken, and they aren't able to stay connected to whatever mental health services they were receiving, he said. They might ultimately wind up with an expensive stay at a state mental hospital, which pulls them out of their communities and costs

HEALTH, A9

Filling for a Feline

Local dentist goes to Wildlife Safari to take care of a toothache — in a cheetah

DAN BAIN
The News-Review

WINSTON — A Wildlife Safari cheetah is walking around with less pain after a tooth fixed on Thursday afternoon.

Mchumba, a 6-year-old cheetah, serves as an ambassador for the animal park in Winston. Once his handlers noticed a suspect tooth, the cheetah was taken to the Safari clinic Thursday where a local dentist, Dr. Ron Tribble of Umpqua Community Health Center, checked out the cheetah to see if a root canal was needed, after handlers had noticed something appeared to be wrong.

"With her being one of the ambassadors, we check them every day and we noticed a black spot on that tooth," said Sarah Roy, carnivore supervisor at Wildlife Safari.

Tribble and Safari veterinarian Dr. Benji Alcantar determined that it was a cracked tooth that appeared to be causing the pain for the animal. So Tribble put in a filling, which appears to have taken care of the problem.

Tribble has done several of the animal dentistry projects over the years. He did a root canal on Mchumba a couple of years ago, and he's also done dental procedures on a bear, a lion, a hippopotamus, a tusk repair for an elephant,

an extraction for a fox and did some dental work on a hippo. He also plans to do a root canal on another lion later this month. He likes working on people, but taking care of animal teeth is an experience he relishes.

"My time at Wildlife Safari is very special for me, I love working with the animals and working with the team up here, and it just allows me to come in and just be a different guy," Tribble said. "That's the really cool part to be able to interact



Amy Barkhurst, a volunteer veterinarian at Wildlife Safari, helps check the intubation of Mchumba before a dental procedure Thursday at Wildlife Safari. Barkhurst, who grew up in Myrtle Creek, works as a veterinarian near Eugene.



PHOTOS

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and do something that you rarely get an opportunity to do."

Alcantar says the value of having someone like Tribble donate his time to do the procedures on the animals at the

park, has been a big asset for them.

"It's great, it's just super valuable, having a dentist like Dr. Tribble to help us with this

CHEETAH, A9

Man arrested after gunfire in neighborhood

MIKE HENNEKE AND JON MITCHELL
The News-Review

SUTHERLIN — Marie Munro-Pautol became concerned when she heard what sounded like a shot near her home late Friday night on Sunny Court.

When she heard what sounded like a popping noise minutes later, she wasn't taking any chances. Munro-Pautol called the police around 10:45 p.m., locked her

doors and got her gun out.

"I got my gun out," Munro-Pautol said. "I didn't know what was going on so I wanted to protect myself."

Sutherlin Police Capt. Kurt Sorenson said the gun shots in the area of Sunny Court, including some heard by the first responding Sutherlin police officer, appeared to have been fired indiscriminately.

But for nearly 90

minutes, police took every precaution, with heavily armed officers from multiple agencies surrounding Sunny Court while searching for the source of the gun shots.

Police blocked off Sunny Lane near East Central Avenue while members of the Sutherlin Police Department, Douglas County Sheriff's Office and the Oregon State Police located a possible suspect and began negotiating with an adult male to come

outside his home.

At around 12:25 a.m. Saturday, the suspect, Jeffrey Howard Jones, 49, was detained by officers without incident.

"Officers were able to make telephone contact with Jones and determined he was highly intoxicated," Sorenson said in a press release. Officers determined Jones accidentally shot himself at his residence in October

SUTHERLIN, A9



MIKE HENNEKE/THE NEWS-REVIEW

Sutherlin Police Capt. Kurt Sorenson, right, speaks with Marie Munro-Pautol after reports of gun shots in Sutherlin drew a heavy police presence late Friday night.



INSIDE, A2
Special Olympics in Sutherlin a success

HIGH: 44
LOW: 29



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