

Deputies Seek Alfalfa Woman's Assailant

by Richard Burton

Deschutes County Sheriff's deputies are searching for a clean-cut young man who allegedly assaulted an Alfalfa woman during a robbery attempt, striking her in the head with a weapon and leaving her on the floor of her shop/garage with serious injuries. The assailant is believed to have stolen the victim's vehicle to flee the scene, said authorities.

Deputies found 53-year old Alice Barbara Tye with a severe head injury about 8:20 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 27, when they responded to a report of an assault involving suspicious circumstances at 25840 Alfalfa Market Road (about ten miles east of Bend), said Sgt. Kevin Dizney.

The assailant is believed to have stolen the victim's 2003 Land Rover Discovery, similar to the one shown above. Tye was transported by Bend Fire Department ground ambulance to St. Charles Medical Center, where she was admitted in serious condition.

Authorities say that the victim was struck in the head with a weapon during a robbery attempt by an unknown assailant who is described as a clean-cut white male in his mid 20s, 5-feet 10-inches to 6-feet tall, with a slender build and light brown hair. He was last seen wearing a brown or tan baseball cap, a brown Carhart jacket, tan pants and tan western-style work boots.

The man is believed to have stolen a black 2003 Land Rover Discovery with Oregon license plates ZDG 343 from the home before fleeing the scene, Dizney said.

If captured, the man will likely face multiple charges including first-degree assault, first-degree robbery, first-degree burglary, second-degree theft, menacing, unlawful use of a weapon, and unlawful use of a motor vehicle.

Specific details of the ongoing investigation remain confidential to ensure the integrity of the investigation, said the sergeant, and anyone with information regarding the possible identity of the assailant is encouraged to contact the detective division of the Deschutes County Sheriff's Office at 388.6655.