Daily Planner

TODAY

Today is Friday, Aug. 30, the 242nd day of 2019. There are 123 days left in the year.

TODAY'S HIGHLIGHT

On Aug. 30, 1967, the Senate confirmed the appointment of Thurgood Marshall as the first black justice on the U.S. Supreme Court.

CORRECTION

In the Aug. 28 article "Lee pleads not guilty to murder charge" Lee's associate and driver was incorrectly named. The correct name of the person is Deva Williams.

LOTTERY

Megabucks: $4 million
3-14-17-30-37-47

Mega Millions: $113 million
8-12-23-39-43-6-x2

Powerball: $70 million
9-32-37-41-53-PB 14-x10

Win for Life: Aug 28
12-45-68-69

Pick 4: Aug. 29
- 1 p.m.: 6-9-7-6
- 4 p.m.: 2-9-6-2
- 7 p.m.: 5-3-3-3
- 10 p.m.: 6-3-6-8

Pick 4: Aug. 28
- 1 p.m.: 4-5-5-2
- 4 p.m.: 6-8-3-1
- 7 p.m.: 5-9-1-8
- 10 p.m.: 6-8-9-2

ROAD REPORT

Numbers to call:
- Inside Oregon: 800-977-6368.
- Outside Oregon: 503-588-2941.

NEWSPAPER LATE?

Every effort is made to deliver your Observer in a timely manner. Occasionally conditions exist that make delivery more difficult.

If you are not on a motor route, delivery should be before 5:30 p.m. If you do not receive your paper please call 541-963-3161.

Pendleton offender on the hook for attempted arson

By Phil Wright
EO Media Group

PENDLETON — Timothy Allen Kelly of Irrigon faces attempted arson charges. Court records show the crime has roots going back to when Kelly avoided a murder rap in 2014.

Kelly, 28, pleaded not guilty on Aug. 1 in Umatilla County Circuit Court to six counts of first-degree attempted arson, one count of possessing an explosive device, one count of second-degree criminal mischief and two counts of recklessly endangering others.

The case began almost a year earlier, Aug. 14, 2018, when Umatilla County Fire District 1 received a call-out just before 5 a.m. for a fire at 1100 W. Sunland Ave., Hermiston. According to the search warrant affidavit by Hermiston Police Department Lt. Randy Studebaker, firefighters found a burning Molotov cocktail in broken glass in a rock bed directly beneath a bedroom window.

The incendiary device consisted of a glass soda bottle with duct tape securing a cloth rag for a wick with gasoline remaining in the bottle. The window was open to accommodate an air conditioner on one side, and the bomb struck and broke the outer pane.

Seven people were in the house, including two children.

Hermiston police later that day received a tip, according to the affidavit, identifying Kelly as the person who threw the Molotov in retaliation for one person in the house stealing his guns.

Kelly has convictions in 2013 and 2014 in Umatilla County for delivery of methamphetamine, cocaine and heroin. The court documents do not reveal how he acquired the guns.

The Blue Mountain Narcotics Enforcement Team the following day raided the house and confiscated guns. Hermiston police returned to the home and questioned one of the occupants.

She was related to Daniel Dechand, the man Kelly shot and killed in 2014 outside Hermiston. A Umatilla County grand jury found Kelly acted in self defense. Still, the court record states, there was tension between Dechand's relative and Kelly, and they knew that through mutual acquaintances.

They also saw each other not long before at storage units in Hermiston. She admitted to police she and others stole guns from Kelly's unit.

Police soon tracked down Kelly, who confirmed he was the victim of a storage unit burglary but denied having anything to do with the Molotov cocktail. Police watched video from the storage business that showed the burglary of Kelly's unit, the affidavit states, and also showed Kelly and two others tried to break into the unit belonging to Dechand's relative.

The affidavit noted Kelly claimed to be out of town at the time of the burglary, which was 32 minutes before the report of the fire.

The case had a pre-trial proceeding Thursday morning in Pendleton, and Circuit Court Judge Christopher Brauer set a trial readiness hearing for Sept. 12 with the trial starting Sept. 23.

Kelly has three other cases open, all in Umatilla County.

He pleaded not guilty last September to burglary, theft and criminal mischief. That case goes to trial Sept. 25. He also pleaded not guilty in February to failure to appear in the burglary case.

And Kelly on Aug. 1 pleaded not guilty to menacing. The state has alleged he committed the misdemeanor against a man in February 2018. That case goes to trial Sept. 25.

CORNFORD

Continued from Page 1A

started, firefighters worked 24-hour shifts and then had 48 hours off. He said he does not have a preference, although he noted it was nice having four days off at a time.

The shift schedule is a bit misleading since firefighters sometimes have to come in on their days off when there is a major fire. This means firefighters have pagers with them at all times during days off in case there is an alarm they need to respond to.

"You are never really off duty, but you get used to it," Cornford said.

Working as a firefighter is as demanding as ever today, but some tasks are easier because of improved technology. Those Cornford particularly likes include automated machines that assist with CPR by doing chest compressions. This makes performing CPR less taxing.

"Doing chest compressions was very tiring," he said.

Another tool Cornford appreciates is hydraulic lifts for gurneys. These allow firefighters to transport patients to and from ambulances with little or no lifting.

"Those are the best ever," he said. "They are back savers."

Courtesy Photo

Devin Cornford with his granddaughter Riatt.

Thermal imagers that detect heat in burning buildings, Cornford said, also assist firefighters in a big way.

"They help us find people faster," he said.

Cornford, who lives in La Grande, is looking forward to spending more time with his family, including his granddaughter, Riatt, now that he is retired. Cornford and his wife, Debbie, have a son, Gary, who lives in La Grande and a daughter, Nikkita, who lives in Summerville.

The firefighter will also be spending more time running his business, Tap That Growlers, which serves craft beverages. Tap That opened in 2014 on Adams Avenue and has five owners, all of whom are family members.

When not working or spending time with his family, Cornford plans to pursue his hobbies, which include playing golf and hunting and fishing. He most often plays golf at Buffalo Peak in Union. He said golf is a great stress reliever for him.

Cornford said his career as a firefighter has been fulfilling because of the opportunity it provided him to assist people and because of the friends he has made at the fire department.

"It has been tough, but I'm glad I did it," Cornford said. "We have a good group of guys who I always looked forward to working with."

He added that another plus of his job was the positive reception firefighters receive when they arrive at the scene of an emergency.

"They always know we are there to help," Cornford said.

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