

OREGON IN BRIEF

From wire reports

Man gets 15 years for dragging worker by hair, stealing safe

PORTLAND — A 39-year-old convicted felon racked up six more felony convictions Tuesday for dragging a Southeast Portland BottleDrop employee by the hair to a back office and then fleeing with a safe containing thousands of dollars.

The Oregonian/OregonLive reported 47-year-old Gerald Greenwood Jr. was sentenced to 15 years in prison for his latest crimes. His prison term also includes time for robbing a BottleDrop in Gresham and driving away with a safe full of more than \$45,000.

Greenwood and two accomplices wore masks during both robberies at the can and bottle redemption centers in 2018.

Police linked Greenwood to the first robbery after the safe he stole came tumbling out of his car trunk on a freeway off-ramp on the day of the heist.

Greenwood pleaded guilty to being a felon in possession of a gun, kidnapping, assault, burglary and two counts of robbery.

Bend man arraigned on attempted murder charges

BEND — A 51-year-old man is facing attempted murder charges in connection with an alleged argument that ended in the shooting of another man.

The Bulletin reported Christopher Honey was arraigned Tuesday in Deschutes County Circuit Court.

The judge assigned Honey a public defender and set bail at \$260,000.

At about 2:46 p.m. Saturday, police were called to a shooting at the 3 Sisters Equine Rescue.

Ben Goodwin had been hit in the back and head with birdshot and was taken to a hospital with non-life-threatening injuries.

A probable cause affidavit says Honey told police he and his friend Goodwin were watching a college football game when an argument erupted that turned physical.

The affidavit says Goodwin told police Honey threatened to kill him before going to get a shotgun and that Goodwin was shot as he tried to flee.

Lawsuit aims to kill stalled \$2B methanol refinery project

SEATTLE — A federal lawsuit filed Tuesday aims to keep one of the world's biggest methanol refineries from being built along the Columbia River in Washington state.

Plans for the \$2 billion refinery, shipping terminal and pipeline project in the small city of Kalama are already stalled after a state board required further environmental review.

Conservation and public health groups, including Columbia Riverkeeper, the Sierra Club and Washington Physicians for Social Responsibility, sued in U.S. District Court in Tacoma to invalidate key federal permits as well.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, which issued the permits, did not immediately respond to an email seeking comment.

"The urgency of our climate crisis demands the highest level of scrutiny, and we cannot allow massive new fracked gas projects to move forward based on outdated science and flawed evaluation," Joan Crooks, chief executive of Washington Environmental Council, said in a news release announcing the lawsuit.

Woman struck and killed in pedestrian crosswalk in Salem

SALEM — Police say a 60-year-old woman was struck and killed by a motorist while crossing a Salem street.

The Salem Police Department said Josephine Watkins was struck Monday evening as she was crossing Portland Road in a marked crosswalk.

She was pronounced dead at the scene.

Police say a 19-year-old driver stopped at the scene and was cooperative. Witnesses told police that warning lights at the crosswalk were not activated at the time of the crash.

The cause of the crash remains under investigation and no citations have been issued.

GOP mailer to Oregon voters mimics US Census form

PORTLAND — The Republican National Committee is sending mailers to some Oregon voters that mimic the look of a U.S. Census form and solicit donations for President Trump's re-election.

KGW-TV reported that the mailers are labeled "2019 Congressional District Census" but are not from the U.S. Census Bureau.

The survey asks the person's age, political preference and whether they plan on supporting Donald Trump in the 2020 Presidential election. The mailer also includes questions about domestic issues, national defense and immigration.

Officials in Montana last month issued a warning about the mailers.

Legitimate census survey documents are postmarked from the U.S. Department of Commerce and U.S. Census Bureau.

In an email to KGW, a Republican National Committee says the mailers are clearly marked as being from the GOP.

Burgerville settles credit card lawsuit

PORTLAND — Burger-ville has an initial agreement to settle a class-action lawsuit against them over a hack that potentially exposed thousands of customers' credit and debit card information.

The Oregonian/OregonLive reports the Vancouver, Washington-based restaurant chain was one of over 100 businesses mostly in the restaurant or hospital-ity markets attacked by an international gang of cyberthieves last year.

In most cases federal law enables customers to be reimbursed by banks or merchants for such fraud reported within 60 days. Last year Burgerville offered customers a free, one-year credit monitoring service to guard against intrusions.

— The Associated Press

Trooper describes car's plunge

■ Donald Jordan's SUV went off Kleinschmidt Grade on Nov. 5

By Chris Collins
EO Media Group

BAKER CITY — A Portland man who was seriously injured when his vehicle landed in the bottom of a ravine off Kleinschmidt Grade on the Idaho side of Hells Canyon last week is no longer a patient at St. Alphonsus Medical Center in Boise, Mark Snider, hospital spokesman, said Tuesday.

Snider had no other details about the condition of the victim, 44-year-old Donald B. Jordan.

He was trapped in his 2011 Chevy Tahoe overnight after he drove off the left shoulder of the steep winding road, about 75 miles east of Baker City, and rolled to the bottom of the ravine the night of Nov. 5.

Jordan was rescued early the next morning by members of the Baker County Sheriff's Search and Rescue Team and other volunteers from the Halfway and Oxbow areas. Members of the Adams County Sheriff's Department, ABT Towing and the Idaho State



Idaho State Police photo

Donald B. Jordan's Chevrolet Tahoe SUV after it plunged off the Kleinschmidt Grade on the Idaho side of Hells Canyon.

Police also were involved in the rescue.

Idaho State Trooper Andrew Fisher, resident trooper at Meridian, provided a few more details of the crash and rescue effort in an email to the Herald.

The rescue effort got underway about 1:30 a.m. PST on Nov. 6 when he received a call reporting the single-vehicle crash.

Fisher said Jordan went off the road about 8:30 p.m. Tuesday about 1.8 miles up the grade. The unpaved road starts at the Snake River Road below Oxbow and leads to Cuprum, Idaho.

Fisher said Jordan was traveling with a friend, whose name was not available in time for this story. The friend, who was in a separate vehicle, began looking for Jordan after Jordan failed to arrive at their hunting camp.

Jordan and his crashed Chevy Tahoe were found at about 12:30 a.m. PST at

the bottom of a ravine. Once he and his vehicle were found, a GPS spot locator was activated and emergency resources were notified, Fisher said.

Jordan was trapped in his vehicle for about 9-1/2 hours, Fisher said.

The Baker County Search and Rescue Team was activated at 2 a.m. to help bring Jordan up the steep grade.

Sheriff Travis Ash and SAR members responded and began a technical rope rescue to reach Jordan.

The SAR team and volunteers with the Halfway Fire and Halfway-Oxbow Ambulance worked together using a rope-and-winch system to carry Jordan up the hillside.

Jordan next was taken by ground ambulance to Hells Canyon Park where an air ambulance was waiting to transport him to Saint Alphonsus Medical Center in Boise.

Merkley, Wyden introduce bill to create wilderness in Malheur County

By Brad Carlson
Capital Press

ONTARIO — Legislation introduced by Oregon's two U.S. senators to designate as wilderness 1.1 million acres of Owyhee River Canyonlands in Malheur County was created by collaborating with various groups and would allow continued grazing and road usage.

The area is important to the local economy because it includes significant grazing land, recreation destinations and other assets. Recent research there has focused on preserving sage grouse and other wildlife habitat, and native grasses.

The Malheur County Community Empowerment for the Owyhee Act — largely a result of ranchers, business people, conservation groups, university researchers and others working together — aims to maintain and improve rangeland, preserve grazing and protect areas important to wildlife and recreation.

The legislation supports science-based adaptive management of federal lands "to make efficient ranching a continued conservation tool and ensure real-time management responses to threats on the ecological integrity of the lands," Sens. Ron Wyden and Jeff Merkley, both Democrats, said in a joint statement.

To help ensure management actions produce ecological improvements, the

legislation calls for creating a monitoring network of ranchers, businesses, environmental groups and land managers.

Grazing would be allowed to continue in newly designated wilderness areas.

The legislation would

provide funding for research, active-management activities and monitoring as well as enforcement of anticipated uses.

It would maintain existing roads, and establish "loop roads" to encourage tourism while improving

access for firefighting.

The legislation would not create a national monument, amend the Taylor Grazing Act, impede current projects, impact water rights or irrigation districts, or affect management of the Owyhee Reservoir.

FOOTBALL CONTEST WINNERS!
Week 9

1st - BEATRICE MEADERDS LA GRANDE (5 misses)

2nd - JERRY ANDERSON LA GRANDE (7 misses, closest tiebreaker)

3rd - MATT WOLCOTT LA GRANDE (7 misses, 2nd closest)

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