

Two found dead of gunshots in Selma; investigation continuing

Two Illinois Valley men, described as “longtime associates and friends,” were found shot to death in the Selma home of one of them, said Josephine County Sheriff’s Office (JCSO).

The dead were identified as Crooks Creek Road resident Carl Winford Stump, 80; and O’Brien resident Ronald Francis Cole, 71, of E. O’Brien Street.

American Medical Re-

sponse and Illinois Valley Fire District responded to a “shots fired” call on Thursday, Sept. 13 shortly before 11 a.m. after a neighbor reported hearing gunshots.

Emergency personnel stood by near the residence for some time prior to the arrival of law enforcement. The scene subsequently was processed by detectives from JCSO and Oregon State Police.

Several items of evi-

dence, possibly related to the situation, were removed, said JCSO Det. Sgt. Ken Selig. Although many in the community have speculated about the deaths, a motive for the shooting remains under investigation, he said. Selig added the following:

By detectives questioning several associated persons, they were able to determine that Stump and Cole were longtime associates and friends. Detectives were told

that Stump recently was diagnosed with terminal cancer and was in the process of liquidating his assets.

Cole arrived at the Selma location between 9:40 and 10:20 a.m. Gunshots were heard a bit later, and an emergency call was made at 10:56 a.m.

Anyone with information, or who was associated with either man, is asked to phone JCSO Major Crimes Unit at 474-5131.

Tales from the Police Blotter

(Editor’s Note: Factual information for ‘Blotter’ is provided by official law enforcement agencies. All persons listed are innocent until proven guilty in a court of law. Charges can be amended or dismissed.)

Wednesday, Sept. 5

*Just before 1 p.m. a man with a brown beard was reported looking through mailboxes on Holland Loop.

*A small quantity of marijuana was seized by a caller in Kerby from several young men. The weed was taken and reported destroyed by a deputy.

*A wallet found at Jubilee Park was turned in. The owner was contacted.

*Her black-and-tan dachshund ran after a bicyclist and hasn’t returned, said a woman in O’Brien.

*Lodged in Josephine County Jail, after being cited on a charge of violation of a restraining order, was Rita Bennett, 42.

*“Numerous gunshots” during the course of “several hours” were reported on Forest Creek Road. The complainant was concerned that the shooting was unsafe.

Thursday, Sept. 6

*Some \$200 worth of copper wire was reported stolen from a Pacific Power substation in O’Brien. It was estimated that the damage would cost \$2,000 to repair.

*An unhelmeted, teen-aged ATV rider prompted a concerned call from the vicinity of Caves Hwy. and Tycker Crossing at 8:30 p.m.

*Aaron Lee Clouser, 33, was lodged in county jail on a charge of probation violation.

*Between 8 and 9 p.m. extra Community-Oriented Policing patrolling involved various locations in Selma and Cave Junction.

Friday, Sept. 7

*Two people were advised of park hours and warned against camping at Illinois River “Forks” State Park at 1 a.m., but allowed to stay the remainder of the night.

*A Thompson Creek Road resident reported her mailbox smashed overnight.

*“Several tweakers” in a brown, crew-cab pickup truck, seen in the area the night before, were thought by a caller to be responsible for a stolen vehicle abandoned down an embankment in the 7000 block of Caves Hwy.

*Two small cars racing through Cave Junction at speeds “probably in excess of 100 mph” were reported in the wee hours by an ambulance driver.

*In Selma a woman reported that her boyfriend had been missing since the night before.

*Several more Thompson Creek Road residents reported smashed mailboxes.

*A Caves Avenue caller said she heard what sounded like the screen being cut from her back window, then footsteps and a man coughing around 11 p.m. She ran

to a neighbor’s house.

Saturday, Sept. 8

*A caller claimed that her boyfriend was beating on her somewhere on E. River Street at 1:26 a.m., but the pair could not be located.

*Several callers reported yelling in the street and a man unconscious due to striking his head on the pavement on S. Junction Avenue around 1:30 a.m. A patient could not be located.

*Brent E. Benschoter, 37, was arrested on warrants charging contempt of court, and failure to appear (FTA) on charges of driving while suspended (DWS) and DUII. He was lodged in county jail.

*Someone was firing a high-powered rifle at Ring Beach day-use area on Illinois River Road, according to a caller.

*A female voice was heard screaming near the athletic field at Illinois Valley High School at 8:42 p.m. Nothing was located.

*Virgil Duane Guess, 28, was cited on charges of DWS and failure to carry proof of insurance. He was warned for having switched license plates, and his vehicle was impounded.

*At Lake Selmac a camper felt that someone was trying to drive him crazy by repeatedly sneaking into his vehicle.

Sunday, Sept. 9

*Lonnie Allen Bourgo, 46, was cited on charges of DUII and FTA after he was stopped for a defective headlight on S. Junction Avenue at 12:47 a.m.

*OSP was notified that a large cougar was seen in a camp area at Lake Selmac.

*Their sons were beaten two hours earlier by two intoxicated people at Bolan Lake, a couple reported. The callers then became irate when told to phone back the next day.

*A 32-year-old woman was warned for public nudity near McCaleb Boy Scout Ranch on Illinois River Road.

*On Illinois River Road a resident said that her golf cart had been used in an unauthorized fashion.

*A Glendon Road resident reported that his wife took off with the car, clothes and a quantity of money.

*The driver of a vehicle reported swerving all over the road from Lake Selmac to Cave Junction was taken into temporary custody in the 400 block of Redwood Hwy. at 8:42 p.m. and his vehicle impounded.

*An 18-year-old boy who had been drinking was harassing family members on Pinewood Way, a caller said at 10:35 p.m.

*No reason was discovered for an alarm which sounded at Lorna Byrne Middle School at 10:42 p.m.

Monday, Sept. 10

*Following a deputy’s visit, it was noted for future contacts that a Lone Mountain Road resident prefers that officers use the stepping stones rather than walk on the grass.

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