

Woman shoots, holds man at gunpoint

According to a release from Oregon State Police (OSP) June 3, around 9:15 p.m., OSP troopers responded to a report of shots fired at an address off Beebe Drive in rural Josephine County several miles outside the town of Cave Junction. Initial reports indicated that one individual had been shot and was still

being held at gunpoint.

Upon arrival, troopers located an adult male identified as Mark Jordan, 55, of Cave Junction, with a gunshot wound to his upper leg. Jordan was transported to Three Rivers Medical Center in Grants Pass for non-life threatening injuries.

Preliminary investigation

revealed that Jordan and his ex-girlfriend, a 56 year old female, reside near each other and had gotten into an altercation. Jordan forced his way into the female's residence where she fired several rounds from a handgun, striking Jordan once in the upper leg.

June 6, Jordan was arrested after being released for the hospital. He was taken to the Josephine County Jail where he was booked for burglary in the first degree. The investigation is still ongoing. More information will be released when available.

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Tips for fire safety

Annette McGee Rasch
IVN Senior
Contributing Writer

While it is too late for homeowners to burn off debris, it's never too late to create more defensible space around homes in order to reduce vulnerability in the event a wildfire.

Wildfires that occur in the wildland-urban interface are often started by human activity and then spread to the forest, according to Brian Ballou, fire prevention specialist and Oregon Department of Forestry's (ODF) public affairs officer.

"Keep in mind that once underway, a fire follows the fuel, whether it is trees or houses, so it's critical to minimize human-caused fires and not add to the natural threat," Ballou said. "And the more you can do to make your home defensible, the easier it is for firefighters to protect it."

To create defensible space, Illinois Valley Fire District Chief Dennis Hoke

recommends that, dead sticks, leaves and pine needles should be removed within a 30-foot perimeter, and pine needles should be cleaned off the roof and from under the eaves, and rain gutters kept free of needles and leaves. He also said tall grass and low lying brush underneath trees that can act as ladder fuels should be eliminated within 100 feet of homes.

Hoke and other experts suggest starting with the house and working outward to remove fuel sources close to the house, including gas cans, chemicals, organic mulch, needles, juniper bushes or any other flammable plants. A wind-cast ember or a creeping ground fire could ignite fuels and carry flames to the structure.

Hoke said it's important to maintain landscaping within 100 feet of the house. Plants should be low-growing and well-irrigated. Adequate spacing between trees and shrubs is also important, as well

as prune trees up six to 10 feet from the ground. Hoke also suggested creating fuel breaks such as driveways, gravel walkways and green lawns. A fuel break can stop the advance of a fire by starving it of flammable vegetation.

Fire officials said they also want the public to pay attention to their driveways. Trees should be limbed or pruned, shrubs trimmed back from the driveway and brush cleared away to provide safe access to firefighters. Fire engines must be able to enter and exit properties without running a gauntlet of flame. Brush from these projects should be chipped. If that's not an option, create brush piles well away from the home, ideally in an open field away from trees or other live brush.

For more information about the ODF's fire season regulations or to get more fire safety tips call 541-474-3152, or the Illinois Valley Fire District at 541-592-2225.

Pneumococcal disease

What it is and how to protect against it

by Michael Pruner, ANP-BC, Nurse Practitioner

Pneumococcal disease is an infection caused by common bacteria called "pneumococcus" which can lead to severe illnesses like pneumonia, meningitis, and bloodstream infections (sepsis).

Symptoms may include abrupt onset of fever, shaking/chills, cough, shortness of breath, chest pain, stiff neck, disorientation, and sensitivity to light.

We can get pneumococcal bacteria through coughing, sneezing, or direct contact such as kissing. Not everyone who carries the bacteria becomes ill, so it's possible to catch pneumococcal disease from someone who appears healthy.

Each year in the United States, pneumococcal disease kills thousands of adults, including 18,000 adults 65 years or older. Thousands more end up in the hospital because of pneumococcal disease.

There are 2 types of pneumococcal vaccine recommended for adults; a pneumococcal conjugate vaccine (PCV 13) and a pneumococcal polysaccharide vaccine (PPSV 23). These 2 vaccines cannot be given at the same time. Your healthcare professional can tell you what doses you need and the timing that is right for you.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

recommends both the (PCV 13) and (PPSV23) for all adults 65 years of age and older, also adults aged 19-64 with special medical conditions. Those with chronic conditions such as asthma, diabetes, lung, heart, or liver diseases, alcoholism, cigarette smokers, and residents of nursing homes or long-term care facilities are recommended to receive the vaccines.

Mild side effects such as redness or pain at the injection site may occur. Very rarely, fever, muscle aches, or more severe reactions may develop.

These vaccines are available at Siskiyou Community Health Center, (541) 592-4111 or your primary care provider.

Source: www.CDC.gov/vaccines adults/

Siskiyou Community Health Center
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