

Stranger Davis gets life for killing ‘Dirty Mike’

GRANTS PASS, Ore. (AP) — An Oregon man convicted of murder in the shooting death of a man he once considered a father figure has been sentenced to life in prison.

The *Daily Courier* reports 30-year-old Stranger Davis will be eligible for parole after 25 years.

The Cave Junction resident said he was suffering from mental problems when he walked up to Michael “Dirty” MacDonald in broad daylight in August 2014 and fired four rounds into his upper torso.

But Josephine County Judge Lindi Baker rejected the insanity defense in a nonjury trial that ended last week. The same judge handed down the sentence Thursday.

Davis allegedly told authorities that MacDonald, whom he called “Dad,” was a ringleader in organized criminal activities in the Illinois Valley of southwestern Oregon. Davis said MacDonald had persuaded him and others to commit a number of violent crimes.

Other sentencings of note:

Joshua Sanders, 20, of Cave Junction, convicted of unauthorized use of a vehicle. Sentenced to 22 months in prison, placed on one year of post-prison supervision and ordered to pay \$215 in fines and fees.

Justin Brian Taylor, 28, of Cave Junction, convicted in three separate cases of second-degree criminal mischief and two counts of possession of methamphetamine. Sentenced to 45 days in custody, placed on one year of post-prison supervision and ordered to pay \$330 in fines and fees.

James Darron Peterson, 30, of O’Brien, convicted in three separate cases of unauthorized use of a vehicle, giving false information to police, attempting to elude police and two counts of possession of methamphetamine. Sentenced to two years in prison, placed on one year of post-prison supervision and ordered to pay \$315 in fines and \$1,685.95 in restitution.

Phone outages and banking woes

Annette McGee Rasch
IVN Senior
Contributing Writer

From early Monday through Friday of last week, thousands of Frontier customers endured service disruptions - and getting accurate information regarding root causes of these disruptions (and how many customers were affected) can be tricky, as reports vary from myriad Frontier sources.

According to Frontier Communications public relations director Javier Mendoza, “A telecom service interruption was a result of a commercial power outage and affected every customer served by the Cave Junction office.” He also said, “... an equipment malfunction at Frontier’s Central office caused telephone and internet service interruptions. Frontier crews were immediately dispatched and worked diligently to restore services once power was restored. At approximately 1:30 a.m. Wednesday, local telephone and internet services were restored, and by early afternoon, technicians had also resolved other power outage-related impacts impairing long distance service.”

However many remained without service beyond Wednesday. When asked specifically how many customers were affected by these services disruptions, Mendoza did not respond, though he did say Friday afternoon that, “In a handful of very isolated areas, remote equipment affected by the

power outage still required manual re-initialization. A technical specialist completed those final restores and all services from the Cave Junction office are now operating normally.”

Another Frontier employee in the Cave Junction area said approximately 3,000 customers lost service due to a “a line cut.” And, in yet another conversation Thursday with Frontier’s technical department, a representative named Joe Morgan said that, “South coast Oregon is experiencing a very large power-related outage. One of our DSL servers has been knocked out. And you have to keep in mind that somewhere down the line, there’s going to be some device that’s connected to an electrical outlet.” When asked how many customers this problem affected, Morgan said, “Usually they list the numbers but this one doesn’t, but I can see that this impacted both phone and DSL.”

Many Cave Junction businesses were impacted by these outages, from Tuesday, and in some cases, until Friday. The Valley’s banks were particularly challenged. First Community Credit Union, Umpqua Bank and Washington Federal Bank all had to alter their operations.

“We were doing deposits by hand and calling withdrawals into Grants Pass on cell phones,” said Dawn LeGaux, Washington Federal’s CJ branch manager.

SEE PHONE ON A-10

Is this our reality?



(Photos by Dan Mancuso, Illinois Valley News)

Crime, transients and garbage appear to be on the upswing in recent weeks. A Lexus (top) sits with broken windows and flat tires at the corner of Holland Loop and Caves Hwy. Sunday, March 12. A homeless man (left) enjoys an orange on Redwood Hwy. Sat. March 11. Personal belongings (right) mixed with trash in front of the Josephine County Building (feces on back of the building) Monday, March 13.

Sheriff, CJ Patrol and business owners urge passage of crime levy

Annette McGee Rasch
IVN Senior Contributing Writer

“We need to sustain. We’re at a critical time in Josephine County’s history, where this public safety levy is pivotal,” said Josephine County (JoCo) Sheriff Dave Daniel. “And I guarantee that the money for the levy is dedicated to law enforcement. I have been listening. But the people have to help us to help them. We want to. It’s our obligation and our honor. It’d be amazing what we could accomplish.”

Measure 17.80, the Adult Jail and Juvenile Detention Five Year Local Option Tax was referred to the people by JoCo’s Board of Commissioners, with the justification that while previous public safety levies had been voted down, countless residents are increasingly dismayed by steadily growing rates of criminality county-wide - thus many believe this levy has a better chance to pass.

Daniel also discussed the differences between previous funding sources, and the current proposed public safety levy which would raise taxes at a rate of 93 cents per assessed \$1,000 of property value.

“Historically our county services haven’t really had to produce, because we were getting free money, but now county services are asking for your money,” Daniel said. “So now it’s up to us to provide a service, with the money we have - and there is a return. Our agency is more efficient now that it has ever have been in the past 12 years. We’re working hard and we’re not giving up.”

Still, the Valley doesn’t get policing when it needs it most - at night.

“The criminal element hits these places late, after our patrols are done,” said Jimmy Evans, CJ Patrol coordinator. “A lot of times it’s a coverage problem. If we had law enforcement throughout the night at least a few nights a week and

combined that with our patrols, then we could put a dent in the problem. Our patrols are only effective when we’re out there to keep them on the run. And we’re out-numbered. To solve this is going to take an unpredictable nighttime patrol.”

“Obviously, we need a police force,” said Jody Stark, owner of Cave Junction’s You Dirty Dog, a dog grooming parlor that has been broken into. “Most places pay taxes for police. Though back when we had the O&C funds, we didn’t have very good service. But I voted yes on the last levy, because things are worse now.”

Mercedes Shuck, manager of CJ Coffee, which has suffered through four break-ins, is also encouraging people to vote for the levy. Numerous local business owners additionally say they hope the public supports the levy this time.

SEE LEVY ON A-10

Chamber secretary Moore dies

By Dan Mancuso
IVN Staff

When tourists entered the visitor center, most days they were greeted by a little lady, usually dressed in purple, with glistening eyes and a big smile; those days are over. Longtime chamber secretary Dulcie Moore died March 9, ending her 17-year tenure as the face of the Illinois Valley Chamber of Commerce (IVCC).

Dulcie Moore started her time in the Illinois Valley by vacationing because her family moved to the Valley in the ‘70s from the San Jose area. Then, in 1998 Moore’s husband Glen retired as a branch manager of a ceramic tile company and they decided to move their family into the Holland Loop area home owned by her family.

Glen and Dulcie Moore had started their family in the early ‘50s. Glen, a college baseball star, turned down a professional baseball contract because they were expecting their first child, Becky Moore, born in 1954.

In addition to Becky, they had three more children, daughters, Cindy and Colleen; and son, Glen “Sonny.”

When the family first moved to the Valley they became involved with the local Little League. This was secondhand to them because Glen and Dulcie Moore were the co-founders of the Cypress (California) girls’ softball league. Dulcie Moore was also very active in her church, as well as the Orange County Red Hat Society and Garden

Club.

Along with being active at Bridgeview Community Church, Dulcie Moore was an avid golfer and she once shot a hole-in-one. However, her husband saw it differently:

SEE MOORE ON A-10



(Photo by Laura Mancuso, Illinois Valley News)

Sonny Moore (left) hugs his mother after honoring her for 16 years of service during the 2016 Chamber awards mixer.