



Katie Skillman of the Umatilla County Police Department helps Madison Fish, 14, shop for presents for her family at the Hermiston Walmart during Wednesday's annual "Shop with a Cop" event.

Umatilla students ‘Shop with a Cop’

15 middle school students take part in 15th annual event

By JADE MCDOWELL
East Oregonian

HERMISTON — The spirit of giving was in full effect at the Hermiston Walmart on Wednesday morning.

Officers from Umatilla Police Department brought 15 students from Clara Brownell Middle School in Umatilla to the store for their 15th annual "Shop with a Cop" event. Students, who might otherwise struggle to afford gifts for their families, were given money and a shopping buddy to help them buy Christmas presents.

Madison Fish, 14, was shopping with officer Katie Skillman in the toy aisle, browsing through games and puzzles for the perfect gift. She said her favorite part of the experience was "hanging out" with Skillman.

Skillman said Madison came prepared with a handwritten list of who she was



Robert Adams of the Umatilla Police Department helps Christian Tejada, 13, shop for Christmas presents at the Hermiston Walmart during Wednesday's annual "Shop with a Cop" event.

buying for and what kind of things they liked.

"She knew exactly what she came here for," she said.

Skillman said it was nice to be able to build positive relationships with students in a situation where no one was in trouble and nothing bad had happened.

Varik Rosenburg, 12, and Christian Tejada, 13,

were shopping with officer Robert Adams. Varik was excited about the gift he got for his brother, which he felt would help them have a fun time playing together, and the gift for his sister, which was based on a movie she loves.

"I'm really happy," he said.

During their Walmart

visit students also got to say hi to Santa Claus and were provided with treats. After shopping, they planned to head back to the police station to wrap their gifts and eat lunch with their helpers.

Money for the gifts came from Walmart and the Umatilla Police Officers Association.

Helmeted man sentenced to counseling for break-in, theft

By EMILY THORNTON
Walla Walla Union-Bulletin

MILTON-FREEWATER — A man reported missing in July from Milton-Freewater was sentenced Monday in Walla Walla County Superior Court to counseling.

Casey M. Hale, 18, broke into a remote cabin near Klicker Mountain Road before three men arrived Sept. 25 to stay with the owner's permission, records stated.

They found the cabin had been trashed, records stated, with garbage, dishes and other items strewn on the main floor. One of the men went upstairs to the master bedroom, where Hale allegedly hid behind a bed while donning a red motorcycle helmet, records stated.

The man convinced Hale to go downstairs, where he was given water and food, records stated, and Hale asked for a Bible. The men gave him the book and he left the property, but he refused to take off the helmet during the whole interaction.

Another burglary report nearby had been taken prior to this one, regarding a man wearing a red helmet, records stated.

Umatilla County Sheriff's Office detectives also told police Hale matched the description of a man reported missing from Mil-

ton-Freewater, who used the alias Mike Hanson, of Dayton.

He originally was charged with residential burglary, but made an agreement and pleaded guilty Monday to charges of first-degree criminal trespassing and third-degree theft.

Hale's sentence Monday included 364 days in jail with 331 suspended and credit for 33 days served, to run concurrently. It also included two years of district court probation, \$250 in fines and fees, and a mental health evaluation with subsequent counseling.

Defense attorney Julie Carlson Straube said the cabin's owner didn't want restitution for damages, but hoped Hale could get mental health treatment. She added

it would be more likely since he was on probation.

"I think everyone was just happy Casey was OK," she said in court, referring to him being missing.



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Charges adjusted in Heppner arrests

East Oregonian

HEPPNER — Morrow County District Attorney Justin Nelson said no weapons and no use of force were used in an incident Monday that resulted in two arrests for second-degree robbery.

Charges were filed on Tuesday.

"Further investigation showed this is not a robbery case," Nelson said. "The physical force was not there."

On Monday morning, a witness spotted two unfamiliar men getting into the front seats of someone else's idling car near Cornerstone Gallery & Gift, 388 N. Main St., and shouted at them.

One of the defendants made a hand gesture that the witness took as a threat, according to Nelson, before the co-defendants took off.

"That person stopped the incident," Nelson said.

Morrow County Sheriff's Office deputies arrived shortly and arrested Zachary Richard James Holte, 29, and Justice Cameron Christian Browne on multiple charges, including second-degree robbery,

a Measure 11 crime that carries a mandatory minimum sentence of more than five years.

A press release from the sheriff's office said the duo attempted to steal the vehicle by show of force.

Holte was also arrested on a Washington State Department of Corrections Nationwide Warrant. Nelson said Brown had a non-extraditable warrant in California, as well.

The pair is now facing one charge of unauthorized entry of a motor vehicle and one charge of unauthorized use of a motor vehicle.

"The car was never taken," Nelson said. "But someone was in the driver's seat."

Nelson said the two men are well known to each other and neither have a listed address, and don't appear to have any connections to the Northeastern Oregon area.

"This was a small town surprise," he said. "What brought them to Heppner? If they drove here, where is the car? There are so many questions."

A probable cause hearing for the case will be held Tuesday.

BRIEFLY

Hermiston's August shooter arrested again

HERMISTON — A Umatilla man is back in the Umatilla County Jail on multiple charges following his August arrest for a shooting that left two injured.

The Hermiston Police Department arrested Carsen Dain Rawe, 20, on three counts of attempted second-degree assault — a felony — towards three individuals, a felony riot charge, reckless driving and reckless endangering in late November.

On Dec. 4, Rawe pleaded not guilty to all six charges following an indictment.

He is currently still in custody.

On Aug. 6, Rawe was lodged at the Umatilla County Jail on two counts of second-degree assault, three counts of unlawful use of a weapon in relation to a shooting that occurred at the intersection of West Cherry Ave-



Rawe

nue and Northwest Second Street.

The court set Rawe's bail at \$100,000 and a family member posted \$10,000 to release him on Aug. 22.

Rawe has pre-trial conference hearings for both cases on Dec. 20.

Rowan to head State Sheriff's Association

U M A T I L L A COUNTY — Umatilla County Sheriff Terry Rowan has been chosen as the new president of the Oregon State Sheriff's Association.

Rowan previously served as vice president of the organization, which provides training, lobbying and other services for the sheriff's departments in all 36 counties. He will continue representing the viewpoint of Eastern Oregon sheriffs in his new role.

Rowan is in his second term as Umatilla County sheriff. He was first elected in 2012, after previously serving as undersheriff for about seven years.

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