

Student brings gun to Dallas High

Quick response from police, DHS admin diffuses situation

By Jolene Guzman
The Itemizer-Observer

DALLAS — Police say the student who brought a gun to Dallas High School on April 7 had no intention of using it to commit mass violence.

"There were some other motives that are still under investigation," said Dallas police Lt. Jerry Mott. "We believe we have ruled out any intent to do a 'school shooting' though."

Police responded April 7 after a parent called the Dallas School District with concerns over a rumor that a student had a gun at the school.

Police and school staff quickly detained involved students and officers were quickly able to locate the weapon in a field near the school. Mott said because the involved students and firearm were found early — with the cooperation of the suspect — there was no need to call for a lockdown of the school.

"All of the involved youths were also under immediate control and surveillance of police or school staff away from the other students," Mott said, adding every Dallas officer on duty

was called to the scene to ensure the safety of students.

The pistol was an antique .44 Magnum revolver that the suspect had taken from a family member without permission.

Thus far in the investigation, one juvenile has been referred on charges of unlawful possession of a firearm, tampering with physical evidence, and unlawful possession of a firearm in a public building. Involvement of other juveniles remains under investigation.

"We are very thankful for the bravery of the student who told their parent, and the parent who called the school," Mott said. "These actions, along with the diligent efforts of school staff, made the youth of our community safer."

Interim Superintendent Dennis Engle said district officials are not aware of any specific threats or the reason the student brought the pistol to school.

"(April 7) we faced a potentially dangerous situation at the high school that was quickly defused because of cooperation among and quick responses



PROVIDED BY DALLAS POLICE DEPARTMENT
Dallas Police found an antique .44 Magnum revolver at Dallas High on Tuesday after a tip from a student.

by our student body, parents, staff and law enforcement," Engle said. "We remain very grateful for the quick thinking and actions taken today by students, parents, police officers and staff."

Utility fee option for street upkeep

Council looks at fee to pay for street, stormwater improvements

By Emily Mentzer
The Itemizer-Observer

MONMOUTH — Residents of Monmouth may see a new charge on utility bills if the council proceeds with a transportation utility fee.

The fee, which a consultant will put together at various rates, would pay for stormwater systems and streets, City Manager Scott McClure said at the April 7 council work session.

"We've been drawing down the street fund," he said. "We've lost money. We can't touch any kind of serious improvements needed."

A street funding task force assembled in January brought back suggestions for the Monmouth City Council to consider, all pointing to a new transportation utility, but at four different service levels, or rates — dirt, sand, gravel and asphalt levels. Dirt would be the lowest and least expensive level of service, whereas asphalt would be the highest.

McClure said at the dirt level, street and stormwater funds would struggle to continue the same service residents currently get.

"It would not provide adequate funds to perform necessary preventative measures," he said.

The sand level would definitely suffice to hold services where they are today, while gravel and asphalt would work to improve streets and

stormwater systems.

Councilor Marshall Guthrie asked to see real numbers for the asphalt level of service.

"We should do it in a way that sets our city up to look and feel like a really nice community," he said, noting the difference of how the newly renovated stretch of Talmadge Road feels to bicyclists as compared to Clay Street.

McClure said the asphalt level does set the city up to be proactive in caring for streets and stormwater systems.

Councilor Royal Johnson said the asphalt level would be too high — hypothetically priced at \$12.25 a month to residential customers.

None of the costs are certain at this point, McClure said. The task force just took some estimates for examples on how the utility might work, but actual numbers will vary once the consultant is on board.

For more information or to review the proposal: www.ci.monmouth.or.us/docview.aspx?doctype=agenda&docid=5671.

In other business:

The city finance department has switched to a new billing system for its water utility and has been having some issues, which are being worked out. In the meantime, Monmouth residents may want to pay close attention to their bills for April.

Salem man arrested on alleged burglary spree

Itemizer-Observer staff report

DALLAS — Dallas police arrested a Salem man in connection with several business burglaries in Dallas in recent weeks.

After releasing a photo of the suspect taken off of a security camera, Dallas

officers received a number of tips from the public identifying the man as Adam Harper, 27.

Officers arrested Harper on April 2 on charges of: first-degree theft, two counts of second-degree theft, three counts of second-degree burglary, five counts of

second-degree attempted burglary, first-degree criminal mischief and six counts of second-degree criminal mischief.

Harper was taken to Polk County Jail where he is being held on \$137,500 bail.

Police continue to investigate the case and anticipate more arrests.

OUTDOOR ADVENTURES

OHA TIP fund pays \$3,850 to witnesses who helped bag poachers

The Oregon Hunters Association's Turn In Poachers (TIP) Reward Fund paid \$3,850 in rewards to witnesses of wildlife violations in the first quarter of 2015 in 10 cases that came from Oregon State Police offices in Jackson, Clatsop, Wasco, Douglas, Tillamook, Morrow, Linn/Benton, Umatilla, Josephine, and Deschutes counties.

Charges included criminal trespass with a firearm, aiding in a wildlife offense/game violation, waste of wildlife and big game, hunting on enclosed lands of another, and unlawful take/possession of cow elk, mule deer doe, spike

buck, buck deer, and wild coho salmon.

"This was an above-average quarter for TIP rewards," said OHA State Coordinator Duane Dunganon, whose office administers the reward checks. "OHA's TIP fund typically pays about \$13,000 in rewards to witnesses of wildlife violations in a year, so this was a busy three months."

Rewards are paid for information leading to an arrest/conviction for the illegal possession, killing, taking, and/or waste of deer, elk, antelope, bear, cougar, bighorn sheep, mountain goat, moose, and/or game birds. In addition, a reward may be issued for information that results in an arrest/conviction of a person who has illegally obtained Oregon hunting or angling licenses or tags.

Increasing damage to wildlife habitat by vehicles prompted OHA in 2009 to create the Natural Resources Reward Program that offers a \$200 reward for information leading to the arrest of anyone causing natural resources damage by the illegal use of motorized vehicles and is similar to its highly successful TIP program.

The TIP reward scale is as follows: \$100 game fish; \$100 game birds; \$200 habitat damage; \$250 deer, bear, antelope, and cougar; \$500 elk, bighorn sheep, moose, and mountain goat. Rewards can be higher in special circumstances, particularly when local OHA chapters add to the reward offers.

The TIP fund is largely self-sustaining as the result of court-ordered restitution that convicted violators are required to pay to the fund.



A large reward is offered in the recent case of two bull elk poached and wasted near Newport. The Oregon Hunters Association paid \$3,850 in rewards in the first quarter of 2015. (State Police photo)

ODFW family fishing event at Hebo Lake April 18

TILLAMOOK, Ore. — The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife invites anglers to get out and enjoy a day of spring trout fishing when it hosts a family fishing event Saturday, April 18 at Hebo Lake from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

ODFW will provide equipment including rods, reels, tackle and bait for use during the event while supplies last. Anglers are also welcome to bring their own gear. Angling education instructors and volunteers will be present to provide assistance and demonstrate good fishing techniques.

To ensure that everybody has a good chance of catching fish, ODFW will stock the lake with 3,000 trout just prior to the event.

"This is an excellent opportunity for anyone to discover fishing, or get reacquainted if they have been away from the sport for a while," said Ron Rehn, STEP biologist for ODFW's North Coast Watershed.

The event is open to the public, and no pre-registration is required. Anglers 13 years old and younger do not need a fishing license while those 14-17 years of age will need a juvenile fishing license. Everybody else must have an adult fishing license. Licenses will not be sold at the event so individuals planning to participate should obtain them ahead of time from an ODFW license agent, ODFW field office or on-line at www.odfw.com.

Hebo Lake is a 2-acre lake located 3 1/2 miles east of the Hebo Ranger Station on the Hebo Mountain Road. From Hebo, take Hwy. 22 1/4 mile east, then turn left onto Forest Road 14. The U.S. Forest Service, which manages the lake and campground, will waive the \$5 day use fee during this event. Overnight camping fees will continue to apply.

Spring into action!
Spring bear and spring salmon are on the move. Gear up with us!

Now Offering:
• Hunter Safety Classes
• Live Fire Classes (Mondays)
Call to reserve your seat.

503 623-7056
Tues-Fri 9-6 • Sat 9-4
468 NE Bovard, Dallas
(Big red building behind Wal-Mart)

GUNS & AMMO SALE
Buy ~ Sell ~ Trade ~ Great Prices!
Concealed Carry Classes
Oregon & Utah \$65 per person

Northwest SPORTING GOODS

143 SW Court St, Dallas
503 751-1700
Monday - Friday Downtown Dallas