Merkley calls for more wildfire assistance

Fire season has increased by 60 days, senator says

By Nancy McCarthy **Blue Mountain Eagle**

LONG CREEK — Just a day before the Canyon Creek Complex fire forced residents to evacuate from their homes, Oregon Sen. Jeff Merkley told those attending a town hall meeting in Long Creek that more assistance is needed to fight wildfires in the state.

'Here we're in the middle of a bunch of fires" and there are too few resources to spread around, Merkley said at the Aug. 13 meeting

Circuit Court

CANYON CITY -

The Grant County Cir-

cuit Court reported the

following fines and

Doughton, 50, plead-ed guilty to driving

under the influence of

intoxicants. She was

sentenced to jail for 35

days and bench proba-tion for 24 months and fined \$2,300. On one

count of reckless driv-

ing, she pleaded guilty,

was sentenced to bench

probation for 24 months

and was fined \$500. Her

driver's license was re-

Grant County Sheriff

CANYON CITY

The Grant County Sher-

iff's Office reported the

following for the week

Concealed handgun

Average inmates: 11

• Bookings: 7

• Releases: 12

• Fingerprints: 9

• Civil papers: 13

• Warrants processed:

Arrests: 1

voked for life.

of Aug. 7-13:

licenses: 10

Judith

Lynette

cases.

judgments:

at the Long Creek Community Center.

"Sen. (Ron) Wyden (D-Ore.) and I have been advocating for a fix to this," he added.

The two Democratic senators are seeking a federal budget amendment that would increase funding for firefighting by 100 percent of the average cost to fight fires over the past 10 years, Merkley said.

He noted that the fire season has increased by 60 days and that changes in climate and forest management and a "lack of investment" in thinning national forests pose a higher threat of fire than ever.

Cellphone service

about how cellphone service can be improved in rural areas, Merkley agreed that the inability to use cellphones created a public safety issue as well as an economic issue.

He said federal funding is being dedicated to increase universal broadband in rural areas, but little was

Responding to a question

States. The senator also fieldavailable for cellphone ser-

ed questions involving the proposed international agreement with Iran, the polarization of Congress and how Grant County can prepare for the large number of tourists expected during the total eclipse in 2017.

WOTUS

As he was wrapping up the town hall, Merkley was interrupted by Long Creek cattle rancher Sharon Livingston, who has been a vocal critic of new rules defining the waters of the U.S. protected under the federal Clean Water Act,

generate for the United known as WOTUS

Livingston told Merkley that Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Gina McCarthy should be fired.

"Bring water rights back to Oregon and get EPA and Gina McCarthy out," Livingston said to loud applause.

Merkley responded that the EPA was instituting a "whole series of protections."

The EPA, he added, would "ensure that farming and ranching are not unfairly impinged upon" and still have an adequate water supply.

COPS & COURTS

in John Day; cited a Arrests and citations Ft. Collins, Colo., man in the Blue Mountain Eagle are taken from the for speeding; arrested a Baker City man for a logs of law enforcement agencies. Every effort is made to report the court restraining order violation. disposition of arrest

Aug. 16: Arrested a John Day man for a restraining order violation.

Grant County Sheriff:

10: Hit-and-Aug. run reported at Boyer's Store in Monument.

 John Day ambulance:

Aug. 11: Dispatched for a man with chest pain.

Aug. 12: Requested for a man who fell; responded for a 19-yearold man with signs of heat distress.

Aug. 14: Responded for a 20-year-old man involved in a bicycle accident.

Aug. 16: Responded for a 59-year-old man with hypertension and weakness.

• Prairie City ambulance:

Aug. 13: 92-year-old woman with possible heart problems.

Justice Court

CANYON CITY -The Grant County Justice Court reported the following fines and judgments:

• Use of cellphone while driving: Brad Lee

Hartwick, 38, Canyon City, fined \$160; Rodney Cole Wilson, 20, John Day, fined \$160.

Violation of the speed limit: Timothy D. Émmel, 20, Echo, 49/25 zone, fined \$260; Philip James Merna, 60, West Yellowstone, Mont., 76/55 zone, fined \$260.

 Violation of the basic rule: Samuel Richard Carlton, 69, Walla Wal-la, Wash., 76/55 zone, fined \$160; Bailee M. Gularte, 24, Imperi-al Beach, Calif., 65/35 zone, fined \$260; Mary A. Miller, 65, Goshen, Ind., 77/55 zone, fined \$260; John R. Heinzkiu, 82, Eugene, 75/55 zone, fined \$160.

· Driving while suspended-violation: Vincent Rex Tietjen, 50, Mt. Vernon, fined \$435.

 No seat belt: Jordan Christopher Ackerman, 20, John Day, fined \$95; Ricky Dale Weickum Sr., 58, John Day, fined \$95; Brandon M. Lambeth, 23, John Day, fined \$95

 Driving uninsured: Christine N. Daum, 26, Kimberly, fined \$260.

 Michael Dillon Griffith, Seneca, was convicted of minor-in-possession of alcohol. He was fined \$260, and driver's license his was suspended for one year.

Crash kills 18-year-old driver

Blue Mountain Eagle

vice. Merkley said he would

Other questions

the proposed Trans-Pacif-

ic Partnership trade agree-

ment, supported by Pres-

ident Barack Obama. He

said that after reading the

agreement, he had several

concerns about minimum

wages, environmental and

labor standards in the other

participating countries and

the economic liability the

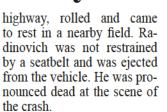
proposed agreement might

Merkley also discussed

look into the problem.

Grant County.

silver Toyota 4-Runner was traveling eastbound on Highway 26 near milepost 152 when Radinovich, the driver, lost control of the vehicle, according to the state police.



The passenger, a 15-yearold juvenile, was properly restrained and not injured.

Alcohol is being investigated as the contributing factor of the crash.

The Grant County Sheriff's Department, John Day Police Department and the Oregon Department of Transportation assisted at the scene.





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Join us for Information on Oregon's **Employment Rights & Opportunities** August 24, 11:45-1:00 No Host Luncheon • The Outpost

Leonard John Radinovich, 18, died in a single vehicle crash Saturday on U.S. Highway 26 near milepost 152 in

At 5:12 a.m. Saturday, a

The vehicle veered off the

BARGAIN MATINEE IN () Adults \$7 ALL FILWS \$6 ON TIGHTWAD TUESDAY MOVIE SCHEDULE AUG 21 - 27 HITMAN: AGENT 47 R An assassin teams up with a woman to help her find her father and uncover the mysteries of her

> FRI - THURS (4:10) 7:10 9:40 SHAUN THE SHEEP MOVIE PG Shaun decides to take the day off and have some fun and gets a little more action than he bargained FRI & SAT (4:20) SUN - TUES (4:20) 7:20 9:35 THE MAN FROM U.N.C.L.E. PG-13 1960's CIA & KGB Agents work on a joint mission against a mysterious criminal organ FRI & SAT SUN-THURS (4:00) 7:00 9:30

• Asst./welfare check:

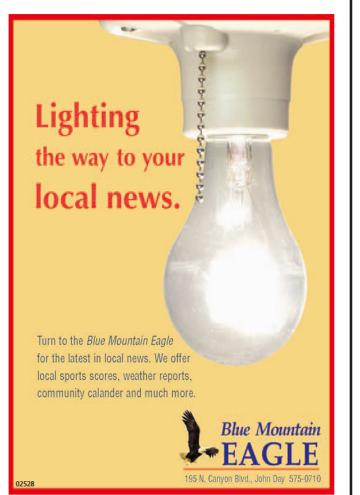
Dispatch

John Day dispatch worked 182 calls during the week of Aug. 10-16. Along with the various traffic warnings, trespassing, injured animals, noise complaints and juvenile complaints, these calls included:

• John Day Police: Aug. 10: Hit-and-run reported at the Grant County Fairgrounds. Aug. 11: Theft report-

ed on North McHaley Street in Prairie City.

Aug. 13: Cited a Boise, Idaho, man for speeding; arrested a John Day man for fourth-degree assault; responded to a reported fight at Riverside Mobile Home Park. Aug. 14: Second theft reported on North McHaley in Prairie City. Aug. 15: Responded to reports of shots fired on Ferguson Road





Blue Mountain Hospital FOOT CLINIC www.bluemountainhospital.org

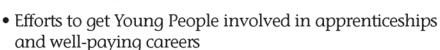
Services available at the Home Health Office, 422 W. Main, John Day.



Bureau of Labor and Industries

BRAD AVAKIAN Commissioner of Labor & Industries

Overview of BOLI's work



- Technical Assistance for Employers program to field calls from employers dealing with employment issues
- Update on BOLI's work to expand access to 21st Century shop class
- Look at last lest Legislative Session
- Question & Answer Session

Prior to BOLI, Commissioner Avakian served in the Oregon Senate, where he was named Consensus Builder of the Year in 2007 for his work championing the Oregon Renewable Energy Act to grow the state's clean energy sector. In the private sector, Commissioner Avakian managed a successful civil rights law practice for 15 years.

The mission of the Bureau of Labor and Industries is to protect employment rights, advance employment opportunities, and protect access to housing and public accommodations free from discrimination.

For more information contact: Sally Bartlett with Grant County Economic Development 541 575 1555 • gced@centurytel.net



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