

COPS & COURTS

Arrests and citations in the Blue Mountain Eagle are taken from the logs of law enforcement agencies. Every effort is made to report the court disposition of arrest cases.

Oregon State Police

Nov. 7: At about 10:30 p.m. an officer responded to a call of a vehicle crash near mile post 15 on Highway 395C and arrested Talyn James Cole Elliot, 28, of Seneca for driving under the influence of alcohol. He was arrested and transported to Grant County Jail where he blew a .10 percent blood alcohol content.

Grant County Sheriff

CANYON CITY — The Grant County Sheriff's Office reported the following for the week of Nov. 3-9:

- Concealed handgun licenses: 10
- Average inmates: 19
- Bookings: 13
- Releases: 18
- Arrests: 1
- Citations: 1
- Fingerprints: 7
- Civil papers: 5
- Warrants processed: 2
- Asst./welfare check: 3

Justice Court

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

• Violation of the basic rule: James L. Larsen, 41, Pendleton, 71/55 zone, Oct. 21, fined \$135; Michael Jose Acosta, 26, Madras, 75/55 zone, Nov. 7, fined \$160; Patton William Carter, 63, Long Creek, 75/55 zone, Nov. 3, fined \$135;

Stephen Michael Walker, 24, Medford, 75/55 zone, Sept. 29, fined \$160; Israel T. Scott, 36, 81/55 zone, Oct. 21, fined \$260; Katherine Serafin Le-hew, 55, Kennewick, Wash- ington, 74/55 zone, Oct. 24, fined \$160.

• Exceeding the speed limit: Brock James Blankenship, 39, Baker City, 75/65 zone, Oct. 19, fined \$135; Bradley Kevin Lay, 52, San Ramon, California, 75/65 zone, Oct. 19, fined \$160; Debra Sue Lambeth, 61, Canyon City, 38/25 zone, Oct. 11, fined \$135.

• Failure to drive within lane: Bonnie Mae Nance, 82, Prairie City, Oct. 5, fined \$260.

• Semi-trailers exceeding 53 feet: Efrén Ramirez-Lopez, 42, Hermiston, Oct. 5, fined \$110.

• Operating motor vehicle while using mobile communication device: Kristina Lynne Setchfield, 50, Bonney Lake, Washington, Oct. 6, fined \$160.

• Second-degree trespass: Patrick Allen Canon, Independence, fined \$325.

• Second-degree disorderly conduct: Craig Nels Weberg, Canyon City, 12 months probation, 20 hours community service, no direct contact with the victim, no intoxicants, fined \$425.

• Minor in possession of alcohol while operating a vehicle: Dillon Glen Winters, 19, John Day, driver's license suspended one year, fined \$435.

Dispatch

John Day dispatch worked 92 calls during the week of Nov. 7-13. Along with the various traffic warnings, tres-

passing, injured animals, noise complaints and juvenile complaints, these calls included:

Nov. 9: Took a report of a lost Chihuahua in Mt. Vernon.

John Day Police

Nov. 7: Assisted OSP with searching for drunk driver involved in an accident and arrested a 28-year-old Seneca resident for DUI.

Nov. 9: Dispatched to a report of a suspicious subject in front of Humbolt Elementary School. Arrested a 27-year-old John Day resident on a restraining order violation.

Nov. 10: Arrested a 64-year-old for disorderly conduct.

Nov. 11: Advised of a loose horse in Prairie City. Responded to a complaint from a man bitten by a dog.

Grant County Sheriff

Nov. 7: Received a report of criminal mischief at the courthouse.

Nov. 8: Dispatched to report of restraining order violation. Dispatched to report of phone harassment. Took a report of a stolen pipe in Canyon City.

Nov. 10: Advised of kids or young adults shooting.

Nov. 11: Took a report of a theft at Tidewater.

Nov. 12: Responded with JDPD and OSP to a report of a domestic dispute involving a firearm on the Grant/Wheeler County line.

Nov. 13: Responded with OSP to a report of kids throwing rocks at buildings near the old Mt. Vernon middle school.

John Day ambulance

Nov. 11: Responded to Mt. Vernon for a woman who had burned her stomach.

Public records lawsuit against Sheriff Palmer dismissed

Blue Mountain Eagle



Sheriff Glenn Palmer

A judge has dismissed the public records lawsuit filed by The Oregonian newspaper against Grant County Sheriff's Office and Sheriff Glenn Palmer.

Grant County Circuit Court Judge William D. Cramer Jr. dismissed the lawsuit with

prejudice Nov. 3, though the dismissal does not preclude The Oregonian "from submitting a request for attorney fees and costs."

The Oregonian and its reporter Les Zaitz filed a com-

plaint against the sheriff's office, Palmer and Deputy Sally DeFord in May requesting that the court declare certain records to be public records and to compel their disclosure.

Neither Palmer nor The Oregonian have responded to emailed questions about the lawsuit dismissal as of Tuesday morning.

Survey crews collecting data in John Day for Highway 395 sidewalk project

Blue Mountain Eagle

Survey crews working for the Oregon Department of Transportation will be in the John Day area during the month of November and early December collecting data for a new sidewalk upgrade project

The sidewalk will be con-

structed along the west side of Highway 395/South Canyon Boulevard between Southwest Sixth Avenue and Grant Union Jr./Sr. High School, according to an ODOT press release.

Travelers may experience minor delays as crews, orange cones and survey signs appear along the route. The survey

measurements and documentation will be used to develop plans and specifications, with the project going out for bid late 2018. Sidewalk construction is expected to occur in 2019. Traffic impacts due to survey work will be minimal, but drivers are cautioned to watch for, and be mindful of, crews and equipment in the area.

Art teacher plans trip overseas

Blue Mountain Eagle

Grant Union Junior-Senior High School art teacher JJ Collier is organizing a trip to Ireland, Wales and London for March of 2018.

Students in grades 7-12 are invited to join the traveling group, as well as parents, staff members and other residents.

The cost of the 9-day trip is \$3,200 and Collier said

those interested in joining will need to contact her by the end of the month to lock in that price. The group will visit sights such as the Blarney Castle in Killarney, St. Patrick's Cathedral in Dublin

and Palace of Westminster in London.

For more information, email Collier at collierj@granted.k12.or.us, or leave a voicemail for her at the school 541-575-1799, ext. 36.

John Day works toward wastewater agreement

By Rylan Boggs  
Blue Mountain Eagle

The city of John Day hopes to reach a new wastewater agreement with Canyon City.

The John Day City Council at its Nov. 8 meeting discussed terms for a five-year sewer agreement with Canyon City. After fruitless negotiations between the two cities in February, Canyon City began paying less than John Day had budgeted to receive.

John Day City Manager Nick Green attended an Oct. 18 Canyon City City Council meeting to convey underpaying for wastewater treatment was unacceptable. Canyon City Mayor Steve Fischer explained the Canyon City Council felt they were being

handed a bill without a clear understanding of what they paying for. Both parties left the meeting with the intention of moving forward by working together.

The Council discussed the proposed five-year agreement and decided to present it to Canyon City City Council at its meeting on Nov. 15.

The council also discussed a dog ordinance designed to combat the number of dog complaints in and around John Day. The council received a coordinating draft of the ordinance and decided that it would not meet the needs of the city. They decided instead to continue education efforts and work against dog owners who let their animals wander without supervision, accord-

ing to Green, who called the issue a "pervasive problem."

In other council news:

• Neal Ledgerwood was appointed to the Planning Commission. Ledgerwood, a retired Road Department employee, has lived in the area his whole life and wrote that his motivation for joining the planning commission was to "sustain common sense on the Planning Commission." He will begin his four-year term on Jan. 10.

• The Timber Truckers Light Parade asked for and re-

ceived a \$100 donation from the city of John Day. The parade is scheduled for 6 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 10.

• City Manager Green submitted a Rural Advantage Grant application to the EPA. The "Cool and Connected" grant would be used to boost broadband services and revitalize main streets. The grant application included letters of support from state Sen. Ted Ferrioli and Governor's Regional Solutions Team Representative Scott Fairley.

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In last month's newsletter I mentioned that the Transient Room Tax dollars have been increasing steadily each quarter for the past four years, and 2016 is no exception. I believe that part of this due to the Chamber's proactive approach to our mission goals and to an active advertising program which is coupled with the Oregon Tourism Commission. DBA as Travel Oregon, they've also experienced six years of accelerated growth and economic impact reaching new heights in revenue for the state.

Independent finding indicate that travel-related spending in Oregon increased by nearly \$500 million last year to achieve a record \$10.8 billion in revenue. The travel and tourism industry continues to drive economic development in the state and is helping to build strong and sustainable local economies. Last year 27.7 million overnight visitors traveled to Oregon destinations, increasing hotel/motel room demand. With all of our beauty in Grant County, including many popular attractions, more and more people are deciding to visit and see what we have to offer. Our next Solar Eclipse Planning meeting will be on December 14th at 4:00 p.m. at the Canyon City community hall. And don't forget to let the Chamber office know about any available rooms, RV spots or acreage that you might like to rent out for the event. We have two available ad spots open on this newsletter if you're interested in one of them. It costs \$200 per year, helps the Chamber offset advertising dollars and it is tax deductible. The next guest speakers are Elise Delgado and Amy Stiner from the South Fork John Day Water Shed Council, who will be sharing their goals on future and on going projects. Hope to see everyone there. We wish all of you a Happy Thanksgiving. Enjoy your friends and loved ones. We have much to be thankful for.

— Jerry Franklin, President

(Monthly meetings are open to the public and held on the 3rd Thursday of each month, 11:00 a.m. at the Chamber of Commerce office and 12:00 noon at the Outpost Restaurant.)

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