

GRANT COUNTY COURT

Attorney upset client housed out of county

By Rylan Boggs
Blue Mountain Eagle

Attorney Robert Raschio expressed dismay to the Grant County Court Dec. 7 that a client suffering mental health problems had been housed in Umatilla County instead of at the Juniper Ridge facility.

The amount of travel required to visit his client cut into his consultation time, he said, adding in cases like this it is not possible to commu-

nicate over the phone. Grant County resident Katy Nelson said the Juniper Ridge facility had been advertised as a facility that would help county residents locally to keep them close to home.

Grant County Judge Scott Myers said the Juniper Ridge facility was not obligated to keep a bed open for Grant County residents.

Raschio also said he believed Grant County was moving toward a drug and alcohol crisis, and he believed more funds should be dedicat-

ed to helping county residents live clean and sober.

At the meeting, the Grant County Court approved:

- Grant County Roadmaster Alan Hickerson's request to buy two time-clocks for the department. Hickerson said accurately keeping track of his employees' hours was "critical this time of year."

- a resolution to perform a budgeted transfer of \$5,000 from the general fund to bookmobile, in case the need arose to replace the

bookmobile, and moved \$36,139 from the general fund to emergency management for employee Ted Williams and \$62,000 from the general fund to support senior programs.

- a resolution to perform a budgeted transfer of \$431,105 from Secure Rural Schools to the School Forest Fund for allocation to different school districts and \$500,533 from the Road Department to city streets and bridges for discretionary use.

- a resolution to transfer \$24,500 to train a new appraiser for the Assessor's Office.

- three amendments to an inter-governmental agreement between the state and county to receive additional finances for gambling prevention, mental health services and public health services.

- thank you letters to 1188 Brewing Company and Russell's Custom Meats for providing products for the Association of Oregon Counties conference.

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.

Circuit Court

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

- Susan Carter, 69, was convicted of unlawful use of a weapon and sentenced to 30 days in jail, fined \$100 and required to pay \$4,334.76 in restitution to the Oregon Department of Forestry.

Grant County Sheriff

CANYON CITY — The Grant County Sheriff's Office reported the following for the week of Dec. 1-7:

- Concealed handgun licenses: 5
- Average inmates: 13
- Bookings: 12
- Releases: 19
- Arrests: 1
- Citations: 1
- Fingerprints: 6
- Civil papers: 13
- Warrants processed: 3
- Asst./welfare check: 2

Justice Court

CANYON CITY — The Grant County Justice Court

reported the following fines and judgments:

- Failure to obey traffic control device: Tanya A. Hunt, 47, Pendleton, Oct. 23, fined \$220.

- Violation of the speed limit: Jonathon Jeffery Rose, 30, Canyon City, 51/25 zone, Nov. 16, fined \$220.

- Violation of the basic rule: Martin R. Hedberg, 60, Boise, 75/55 zone, Nov. 11, fined \$160.

- Exceeding the speed limit: Wyatt Jeffery Jones, 22, Corvallis, 72/65 zone, Nov. 4, fined \$160; Christopher Crutchfield, 19, Pleasant Grove, Utah, 80/65 zone, Nov. 23, fined \$220.

- Semi-trailer exceeding 53 feet: Travis H. Klingenfuss, 33, Stonyford, California, Nov. 3, fined \$95.

- Driving while suspended: Camden J. Rhinehart, 19, John Day, Nov. 6, fined \$370; Megan Helene Long, 23, John Day, Oct. 9, fined \$435.

- Driving uninsured: Megan Helene Long, 23, John Day, Oct. 9, fined \$260; Logan James Cates, 23, Mt. Vernon, Oct. 29, fined \$260.

- Dog as a public nuisance: Jessica Marie Lancaster, 37, Prairie City, Nov. 10, required to pay \$180 in restitution to victim and fined \$260 with a

six-month diversion and dismissal if no convictions prior to May 2.

- Take/possession of a buck deer: Allen W. Piquet, Hermiston, sentenced to 12 months probation, and issued a suspended sentence of 10 days in jail, 40 hours community service, attend a hunter's education class and fined \$2,300.

- Cam Credits Inc. vs. Danielle A. Hall and Edwin J. Hall. Money judgment of \$496.05 awarded to Cam Credits Inc.

Dispatch

John Day dispatch worked 137 calls during the week of Dec. 5 through 11. Along with the various traffic warnings, trespassing, injured animals, noise complaints and juvenile complaints, these calls included:

• John Day Police

A woman reported a party and wanted to know what could be done about a diesel pickup blowing exhaust in her direction.

Dec 7: Investigated an accident on Main Street.

Dec 9: Cited a 30-year-old John Day man for criminal trespass.

Dec 9: Responded to a report of a theft of a companion animal. Responded to a report

of shots fired on West Main Street.

Dec. 10: Arrested a 32-year-old John Day man on a parole violation.

Dec. 11: Performed a traffic stop and arrested a 69-year-old California resident and a 41-year-old California resident for possession of methamphetamine.

• Grant County Sheriff

Dec. 6: Advised of an assault in Dayville.

Dec. 8: Provided search and rescue mutual aid to an outside agency. Received a report of a hit and run at the courthouse.

Dec. 9: Responded to a report of a domestic assault with John Day Police Department.

Dec. 10: Responded with JDPD and Oregon State Police to an accident on Highway 26 where the driver had gone missing.

• John Day Ambulance

Dec 6: Responded for an infant who was not breathing.

Dec. 10: Responded for a female in extreme pain.

• Dispatch

Dec. 9: Took a report of a German shepherd loose in John Day.

Dec. 10: Transferred a call regarding a house fire near Mitchell to Frontier Dispatch in Wheeler County.

Pot is legal, but driving intoxicated is not

Extra police patrols for impaired drivers planned Dec. 16 to Jan. 1

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Members of the Governor's Advisory Committee on DUII are reminding motorists this holiday season about the dangers of driving under the influence, which includes alcohol, marijuana and other impairing drugs.

"Impaired driving is completely preventable," said Chuck Hayes, chair of the Governor's Advisory Committee on DUII. "All it takes is a little planning."

Last year over the Christmas holiday, four people died in crashes, and one was alcohol-involved. Over the past five years during the official holiday, 14 people died in crashes and half of those were alcohol-involved crashes.

New Year's is even more tragic. In five years, 29 people died during the holiday. Four of those were alcohol-involved crashes.

In years past, Oregon and other states were primarily concerned with drivers under the influence of alcohol. Now marijuana has also become a major concern.

"We know marijuana affects reaction time, short-term memory, hand-eye coordination, concentration and perception of time and distance — all of which are vital functions for driving safely," Hayes said.

He also cautioned people that combining alcohol with marijuana is even more dangerous, multiplying the adverse effects on a person's ability to operate a vehicle safely.

Oregon law enforcement agencies will be using Oregon Department of Transportation-administered grants to add extra patrols throughout the state looking for drivers impaired by any substance, legal or illegal, Dec. 16 through Jan. 1.

Oregon State Police stayed busy during the 2015 holiday period. According to Drug Recognition Experts Coordinator Sgt. Evan Sether, OSP made 156 DUII arrests.

"We investigated at least 724 crashes during that time frame," Sether said. "Many of them involved some sort of impairment."

Winter Storm Watch issued for John Day Basin

Blue Mountain Eagle

The John Day Basin may see up to a foot of snow Wednesday and Thursday.

The National Weather Service has issued a Winter Storm Watch, in effect from late Tuesday night through Thursday afternoon, for John

Day, Dayville, Monument, Mitchell, Spray, Heppner, Condon, Fossil, Dufur and Maupin.

The alert says 7 to 12 inches of snow accumulation, as well as ice accumulation, is possible, with the snow level mostly at valley floors. Roadways will be snow-covered

and slick, and less traveled side roads could become impassable.

Snow is expected to begin Wednesday morning and increase through the day. Snow will potentially contin-

ue off and on through Thursday. Snow may mix with or change to light rain or light freezing rain Wednesday night in the John Day Basin between Dayville and John Day.

Motorist dies in crash near Ritter Dec. 6

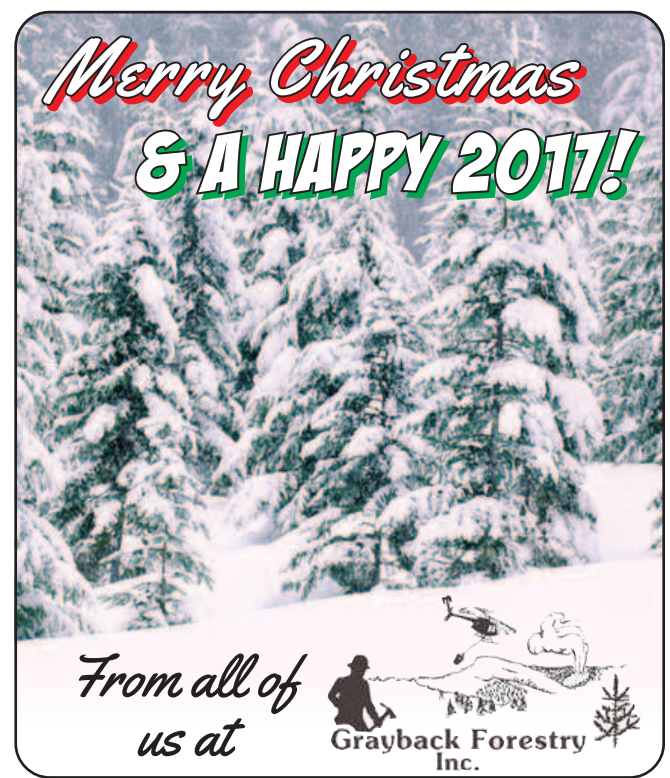
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Luis Gerardo Sanchez, 63, of California died in a car crash near Ritter on Tuesday, Dec. 6, according to Driskill Memorial Chapel.

The vehicle, a 2001 Mercedes SUV, was northbound on Highway 395B, when Sanchez lost control because of slick conditions

near milepost 80 and rolled into a tree off the shoulder of the south lane, according to Oregon State Police Sgt. Tom Hutchison. Sanchez was found dead at the scene.

No services are planned at this time. Arrangements are under the care of Driskill Memorial Chapel.



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