

COPS AND 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.

Justice Court

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

- Exceeding the speed limit: Maria J. Snodgrass, 44, Bend, 75/65 zone, Feb. 7, fined \$160.
- Violation of the basic rule: Todd Michael Hueckman, 48, Hines, 75/65 zone, Jan. 29, fined \$110.
- Driving while suspended: Bernadette Racine Gardipee, 24, Vista, California, Dec. 6, fined \$435; Kevin John Rapp, 31, John Day, Nov. 6, fined \$435; Tamar Selah Drake, Hermiston, 12 months probation, 30 hours community service and fined \$2,220 with \$200 suspended pending completion of probation.
- Failure to use headlights: Tomica L. Long, 20, John Day, Dec. 23, fined \$260.
- Pass in no passing zone: Rodolfo Estrada Hernandez, 68, Vancouver, Washington, Jan. 19, fined \$260.
- Driving uninsured: Bernadette Racine Gardipee, 24, Vista, California, Dec. 6, fined \$260; Kevin John Rapp, 31, John Day, Nov. 6, fined \$260; Tomica L. Long, 20, John Day, Dec. 23, fined \$260.

• Cam Credits Inc. Vs. Deanna D. Fox, money judgment awarded to Cam Credits Inc. for \$988.65.

• Jesse Judd, One Guy and a Wrench vs. Vicky Gorely and Larry Banks, money judgment awarded to One Guy and a Wrench for \$1,586.

Grant County Sheriff

The Grant County Sheriff's Office reported the following for the week of Feb. 9-15:

- Concealed handgun licenses: 11
- Average inmates: 15
- Bookings: 12
- Releases: 7
- Fingerprints: 6
- Civil papers: 20
- Warrants processed: 12
- Asst./welfare check: 1

Dispatch

John Day dispatch worked 129 calls during the week of Feb. 13-19. Along with the various traffic warnings, trespassing, injured animals, noise complaints and juvenile complaints, these calls included:

John Day Police Department

Feb. 13: Dispatched for a suspicious subject with an ax near America's Best Value Inn. Took a report of a mail theft in John Day.

Feb. 14: Arrested a 54-year-old Mt. Vernon res-

ident for a probation violation.

Feb. 16: Arrested a 23-year-old Prairie City resident on a Grant County warrant.

Grant County Sheriff's Office

Feb. 15: A 19-year-old Canyon City resident was arrested in Umatilla County on a Grant County warrant.

Feb. 19: Advised of a dog roaming around Canyon City that had bitten someone.

John Day ambulance

Feb. 15: Dispatched for a man with a possible spider bite.

Feb. 17: Responded with GCSO and Dayville Fire Department to a report of a man not breathing.

Dispatch

Feb. 13: Advised of a counterfeit \$20 bill used at Kings Variety Store.

Oregon State Police

Feb. 14: Received a report of a vehicle shining a laser pointer into other vehicles and road signs near Clyde Holiday State Park.

Oregon Department of Transportation

Feb. 16: Advised of a landslide blocking the southbound lane on Highway 395 C.

Former Grant County resident charged with 11 sex crimes

Indictment: Incidents began in 2004 when single victim was under 12

Blue Mountain Eagle

A former Grant County resident was arraigned on 11 sex crimes in Grant County Circuit Court Thursday.

Chancee Mitchell Ferguson, 28, was indicted by a grand jury Jan. 20 on two counts

of first-degree sodomy, two counts of first-degree sexual abuse, three counts of second-degree sodomy, two counts of third-degree sodomy and two counts of third-degree sexual abuse.

The indictment states the incidents occurred between 2004 and 2011 with a single victim, who was younger than 12 in 2004.

Grant County Circuit Court Judge William D. Cramer Jr. set security at \$50,000 and ordered Ferguson not to leave the state and to have no contact with the alleged victim. A plea hearing is set for May 18.



The Eagle/Rylan Boggs

John Day City Manager Nick Green, left, and John Day Mayor Ron Lundbom discuss the sale of the old John Day Fire Hall during a John Day City Council meeting Feb. 14.

Green: Broadband help promising, 911 funding an 'uphill battle'

By Rylan Boggs  
Blue Mountain Eagle

John Day City Manager Nick Green traveled to Salem last week with hundreds of other representatives for cities across the state for City Day at the Capitol and met with Gov. Kate Brown, Rep. Cliff Bentz and Sen. Ted Ferrioli.

He told the John Day City Council at its Feb. 14 meeting they talked in Salem about the 911 tax and improving broadband access for rural com-

munities. Future broadband access for cities like John Day is looking bright with public sector money likely becoming available for improvement projects, Green said.

However, funding for rural 911 centers looked less promising. Green described it as an "uphill battle." Green said Bentz pledged to present solutions to the state House of Representatives if Green was willing to put in the work to find solutions.

The state budget deficit and

transportation package were also big concerns, and Green said another trip to Salem was likely.

The city council also:

- adopted a resolution that restored recreational immunity for public employees and private landowners. The resolution protects landowners against litigation for liability from those allowed onto private lands.

- finalized the sale of the old John Day Fire Hall to Larry and Bonnie Maplesden.

Video conference will cover regional transportation projects

Meeting will address selection and funding

Blue Mountain Eagle

Local residents have the opportunity to offer input about upcoming transportation project options.

The Oregon Department of Transportation, Southeast Area Commission on Transportation and Northeast Area Commission on Transportation will be hosting public outreach meetings for the 2018-2021 Statewide Transportation Improvement Program from 6-8 p.m. Monday, Feb. 27. The video-conference meeting will connect John Day, Burns, Ontario, Baker City, Enterprise, Pendleton, Boardman and La Grande and have an internet connection option through Zoom for people to connect remotely.

The conference will address project selection and funding, and the John Day meeting will be held in the

Oregon Telephone Conference Room on 155 W Main St.

To connect remotely, visit [www.zoom.us/join](http://www.zoom.us/join). The meeting ID is 175-119-566, and the password is "odot-stip." The information can be viewed at any time at [tinyurl.com/odot-region5](http://tinyurl.com/odot-region5).

Those with questions can contact ODOT Public Information Officer Tom Strandberg at 541-963-1330, [thomas.m.strandberg@odot.state.or.us](mailto:thomas.m.strandberg@odot.state.or.us), or visit [oregon.gov/ODOT/HWY/REGION5/Pages/index.aspx](http://oregon.gov/ODOT/HWY/REGION5/Pages/index.aspx).

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