

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.

Grant County Circuit Court

- Travis Freniere, 30, was convicted of unauthorized use of a vehicle and sentenced to 20 months in state prison and required to pay \$4,959 in restitution.
- Jessica Anne Shawn-Thomas, 33, was convicted of fourth-degree assault and sentenced to 18 months probation and 40 hours community service and fined \$175.
- Hope Lurea Uptegrove, 58, was convicted of driving under the influence of intoxicants and sentenced to 18 months probation and 80 hours of community service and fined \$195.
- John Robert Dunn was cited for a probation violation and sentenced to seven days in jail and revoked probation.
- Michael Dean Gibson was found guilty of harassment and issued a suspended sentence of 18 months probation and 10 days in jail and fined \$100.

Oregon State Police

- March 24: Detained 26-year-old Ethan Taylor Thomas after responding with John Day police to a report of a probation violation. Thomas was visibly intoxicated and had marijuana in his possession. He was transferred to parole and probation.

Grant County Sheriff

The Grant County Sheriff's Office reported the following for the week of March 16-22:

- Concealed handgun licenses: 9
- Average inmates: 10
- Bookings: 11
- Releases: 9
- Citations: 1
- Fingerprints: 4
- Civil papers: 15
- Warrants processed: 5
- Asst./welfare check: 3
- Keith Benjamin, 36, Canyon City was cited for driving while suspended and driving uninsured.

Justice Court

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

- Careless driving — no accident: Eusebio Arroyo-Gonzalez, 51, Lake Worth, Florida, Dec. 26, fined \$260.
- Failure to drive within lane: Doyle Dewaine Staples, 93, Seneca, March 10, fined \$220.
- Driving Uninsured: Christopher Jo Keith, 36, Canyon City, March 8, fined \$220; Christopher Jo Keith, 36, Canyon City, Dec. 30, fined \$220.
- Driving while suspended: Christopher Jo Keith, 36, Canyon City, March 8, fined \$370; Christopher Jo Keith, 36, Canyon City, Dec. 30, fined \$370.
- No Sno Park permit: Marty John Holmstrom, 55, John Day, Feb. 25, fined \$30.
- Exceeding speed limit: Cody Josiah Winn, 48, John Day, Feb.

24, 35/25 zone, fined \$110; Daniel Lewis Perry, 56, West Linn, March 1, 43/30 zone, fined \$135; Todd Malcom Winegar, 39, Prairie City, March 8, 65/55 zone, fined \$135; Jeannie Atheda McCarthy, 18, Prairie City, March 13, fined \$135.

- Off-road vehicle on the highway: Michael R. Robertson, 48, Sandy, Feb. 25, fined \$220.

- Failure to properly use safety belt: Todd Malcom Winegar, 39, Prairie City, March 8, fined \$135.

- Violation of the speed limit: Dawn Michelle Hamsher, 47, Mt. Vernon, March 6, 42/25 zone, fined \$135.

- Violation of the basic rule: Alexandr S. Tverdokhle, 22, Richland, Washington, Feb. 20, 65/55 zone, fined \$110; David Thorf Morris, 64, Mt. Vernon, March 15, 75/55 zone, fined \$135; John Dawson Swaggart, 50, Echo, March 16, 75/55 zone, fined \$135; Levi John Lawrence, 29, Vale, March 10, 75/55 zone, fined \$135; Mathew D. McKenzie, 33, Portland, March 11, 79/65 zone, fined \$160.

- Jake Omar Cavayotti was found guilty of reckless driving and violation of the speed limit and fined \$520.

- Fox Farrell was found guilty of a wildlife violation and fined \$560.

- Ernest A. Chavira was found guilty of driving while suspended and sentenced to 12 months probation and 48, hours in jail and fined \$600.

Dispatch

John Day dispatch worked 134 calls during the week of March 20-26. Along with the various traffic warnings, trespassing, injured animals, noise complaints and juvenile complaints, these calls included:

John Day Police Department
March 20: Dispatched to a report of a dog bite. Took a report of harassment in Prairie City.

March 21: Issued a warning for allowing a dog as a nuisance. Arrested a 49-year-old on a Grant County warrant. Dispatched to a report of child abuse.

March 22: Responded to a report of a hit and run at the post office. Responded to a report of suspicious activity at the skate park.

March 24: Received a report of a theft in Prairie City.

March 25: A caller reported someone had smashed his windshield and mirror. Cited a 34-year-old John Day resident for criminal mischief.

Grant County Sheriff's Office

March 20: Responded to a report of a burglary alarm.

March 23: Dispatched to a report of suspicious activity at the church in Dayville.

March 24: Received a report of a person on probation drinking and using marijuana and took the person to Grant County corrections.

John Day ambulance
March 25: Dispatched for a subject with burns on his hands

Locals raise hay for southern ranchers

Hamsher and OCA looking to collect 1,000 tons

By Rylan Boggs
Blue Mountain Eagle

Prairie City Mayor and County Commissioner Jim Hamsher is working with the Oregon Cattlemen's Association to supply ranchers affected by fire with feed for their cattle.



Jim Hamsher

Hamsher said he is aiming to help collect 1,000 tons of hay to aid ranchers affected by massive fires in the southern part of the country.

"Record-breaking fires in Colorado, Kansas, Oklahoma and Texas have resulted in loss of homes, livestock, feed, lost and injured livestock, and infrastructure," a United States Department of Agriculture press release said.

He is working with the Oregon Cattlemen's Association and using the Hay for John Day Facebook page to help organize donations. The page was created to help ranchers feed their animals in the wake of the Canyon Creek Complex fire and helped bring in nearly 1,000 tons of hay after the disaster.

Grant County rancher Alec Oliver said the Canyon Creek fire took out a lot of summer grazing land.

"It affected quite a few people," he said of the fire, and the donated hay "definitely helped a lot of people that needed it."

"We got donations as far as Colo-



Eagle file photo

Mark McKinnon, left, of Whittaker Farms in Culver speaks with Jim Hamsher of Prairie City as a young helper waits during the Hay for John Day campaign following the Canyon Creek Complex fire. Organizer Jim Hamsher is working with the Oregon Cattlemen's Association to provide feed for ranchers affected by fires in the southern part of the country.

rado when we had our fire," Hamsher said. "They tried to support us so we should try to help them out. It's just one big ranching family."

Southern ranchers are now facing a similar disaster.

The fires burned more than 2 million acres, killed at least seven people and thousands of livestock, according to Reuters.

"Recent wildfires have caused devastating losses for many farmers and ranchers in our state," Farm Service Agency acting State Executive Director in Texas Erasmo Trevino said. "Over the past several years, wildfires have increased in severity,

intensity, and cost as the fire season has grown longer."

Ranchers have lost millions of dollars, large parts of their herds, houses and miles of fence to the fire, according to a video Hamsher is using to help solicit donations. The fire took place during calving, meaning the ranchers lost multiple generations of animals to the disaster.

They are looking at trucking the hay as far as Nevada.

Those interested can donate online through the Oregon Cattlemen's Association's website at orcattle.com.

County officials to attend child abuse summit in April

By Rylan Boggs
Blue Mountain Eagle

Between six and seven county partners will be traveling to the Child Abuse Family Violence Summit in April.

The summit, April 11-14, will educate attendees on aspects of child abuse including prosecution of offenders, community awareness of issues and child sex trafficking, according to Victim Assistance Director Andrea Officer. Court Appointed Special Advocates, Community Counseling Solutions and local law enforcement will also have representatives in attendance along with the District Attorney's Office.

The Grant County Court approved Officer's request to send



The Eagle/Rylan Boggs

Grant County Commissioner Boyd Britton reads over the agenda during a Grant County Court meeting on Wednesday, March 22.

the group during a March 22 county court meeting.

The court also:

- approved county Surveyor Mike Springer's request to purchase a flat file cabinet from Benchmark Surveying for \$300.

- changed the capital outlay purchasing amount limit for departments from \$100 to \$500.

- reviewed and approved an intergovernmental agreement between Grant and Wheeler counties to house Wheeler County inmates.

- approved a request from the District Attorney's Office to send Deputy District Attorney Mara Houck to training.

- reviewed and approved an intergovernmental agreement between Grant County and the state to use rock from McGirr Quarry to maintain roads in the winter.

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