

Repeat meth charges lead to prison time

By Richard Hanners
Blue Mountain Eagle



Olle L. Starnes

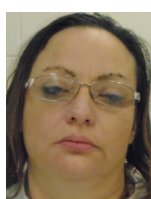
Two John Day residents who were busted twice in less than a year on methamphetamine-related charges are heading to prison.

Olle L. Starnes, 49, and Elizabeth C. Pace, 41, both pleaded guilty to numerous felony charges April 10 and were sentenced April 25.

The first bust took down 10 people on April 28, 2018. The warrants served at two properties in Mt. Vernon and John Day were the cul-

mination of an ongoing investigation of a covert drug operation that had lasted more than a year, according to the Grant County Sheriff's Office.

"During the searches, methamphetamine, money, drug paraphernalia, stolen firearms and vehicles were among some of the things seized at the residences,"



Elizabeth C. Pace

the sheriff's office said at the time.

The state alleged at the time that the home where Starnes and Pace lived on Highway 26 west of John Day was subject to criminal forfeiture.

Starnes was charged with 11 drug-related counts, including seven felonies, in that first arrest. Pace was charged with eight drug-re-

lated counts, including three felonies.

Local law enforcement agencies arrested Starnes, Pace and a third person on March 11 following undercover operations by the Grant County Interagency Narcotics Team.

According to court documents, Starnes pleaded guilty April 10 to six felony charges, including two counts each of delivery of meth, unlawful possession of meth and delivery of meth within 1,000 feet of a school.

The crimes were committed in February and March. Four additional counts were dismissed, and criminal forfeiture was ruled allowed.

Circuit Court Judge William D. Cramer Jr. sentenced Starnes to a total of 132 months in prison with a net time of 45 months, along with three years post-prison supervision and \$1,950 in fees and fines. His driver's license was suspended for six months.

Pace pleaded guilty to four felony counts, including delivery of meth, deliv-

ery of meth within 1,000 feet of a school and two counts of unlawful possession of meth.

The crimes were committed in February. Seven additional counts were dismissed, and criminal forfeiture was ruled allowed.

Cramer sentenced Pace to a total of 42 months in prison with a net time of 24 months, along with three years post-prison supervision and \$1,800 in fines and fees. Her driver's license was also suspended for six months.

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

A charge of second-degree intimidation against Evan P. Sledge, 41, The Dalles, committed Aug. 18 was dismissed April 22 following a motion by the district attorney that conditions of a diversion agreement were met.

Charges against Thelma E. Dunkelberer, 75, John Day, of first-degree theft allegedly committed Oct. 24 and third-degree theft allegedly committed Jan. 13 were dismissed April 22 following a motion by the district attorney that the defendant lacked the fitness to proceed and was unlikely to proceed in the foreseeable future.

A misdemeanor charge against Thomas V. Busby, 47, Prairie City, of menacing constituting domestic violence was dismissed April 23 following a motion by the district attorney that the victim was uncooperative.

for the week of April 24:

- Concealed handgun licenses: 17
- Average inmates: 15
- Bookings: 7
- Releases: 6
- Arrests: 0
- Citations: 0
- Fingerprints: 6
- Civil papers: 12
- Warrants processed: 1
- Asst./welfare check: 1
- Search and rescue: 1

Justice Court

- Exceeding speed limit: Mendy L. Hillman, 49, John Day, April 3, 94/65 zone, fined \$440; Latasha L. Smarr, 26, Prairie City, March 9, 75/65 zone, fined \$85.

- Driving uninsured: Christopher J. Keith, 38, Prairie City, March 22, fined \$500.

- Driving while suspended: Christopher J. Keith, 38, Prairie City, March 22, fined \$1,000.

- Failure to renew registration: Christopher J. Keith, 38, Prairie City, March 22, fined \$250.

- Jacob C. Brown, 30, John Day, was convicted April 22 of having a dog as a public nuisance. He was ordered to pay \$1,167 in fines, fees and restitution.

April 22-28, including:

John Day Police Department

April 22: Received a 911 call about a suicidal person at a mobile home park on West Main Street in John Day.

April 23: Responded to a loud noise complaint at a mobile home park on West Main Street in John Day.

April 24: Received a report about a theft in John Day.

April 24: Responded to a drug store in John Day for a shoplifting report.

April 24: Advised of a suspicious person at a storage business on West Main Street in John Day.

April 25: Followed up on a theft report at a business in the airport industrial park in John Day.

April 25: Received a report of an assault in John Day.

April 25: Took a report from a victim of a vehicle vs. bicycle crash in John Day.

April 25: Advised of an

intoxicated person on Northwest Fifth Avenue in John Day.

April 25: Received a report of suspicious circumstances on Bridge Street in John Day.

April 26: Responded to a mobile home park on West Main Street in John for a child abuse report. Todd M. Winegar, 42, Mt. Vernon, was arrested and charged with second-degree strangulation and fifth-degree harassment.

April 27: Following a traffic stop on Highway 26 in east John Day, Judah A. Lockwood, 30, Klamath Falls, was cited for speeding, 50/25 zone.

April 27: Received a report of drug activity at the Grant County Fairgrounds.

• Oregon State Police
April 27: Advised of illegal hunting near Dale.

• Grant County Sheriff's Office
April 22: Advised of crim-

inal mischief on Middle Fork Lane in Bates.

April 23: Received a report of an unattended death on Ritter Road in Ritter.

April 23: Advised of shots fired from a caller in downtown John Day.

April 24: Received a custodial interference report from Mt. Vernon.

April 24: Advised of a suspicious person on Patterson Drive in Canyon City.

April 25: Received a report of a dispute on North Mountain Boulevard in Mt. Vernon.

April 25: Advised of a dispute on McCallum Street in Prairie City.

April 26: Received a report of a suicidal person at a farm near Monument.

April 26: Advised of littering at the Canyon Mountain gravel pit in Canyon City.

April 27: Received a report of an unattended death in Dayville.

April 27: Advised by 911

call of a prowler on South Bridge Street in Prairie City.

• John Day ambulance
April 22: Transported a patient to the airport in John Day.

April 24: Paged for an elderly man on Hansen Lane in Mt. Vernon.

April 24: Responded to a senior home in Prairie City for a 50-year-old woman.

April 25: Dispatched to Southwest First Street in John Day for a woman with pain.

April 26: Responded to Highway 26 in Mt. Vernon for a man with abdominal pain.

April 26: Dispatched to Northeast Dayton Street in John Day for an 85-year-old man with pain.

April 26: Responded to a senior home in Prairie City for an 87-year-old woman who had fallen and injured her hip.

• Monument fire

April 24: Received a 911 call about a structure fire on Highway 402 in Monument.

Grant County Sheriff
The Grant County Sheriff's Office reported the following

Dispatch
John Day dispatch worked 129 calls during the week of



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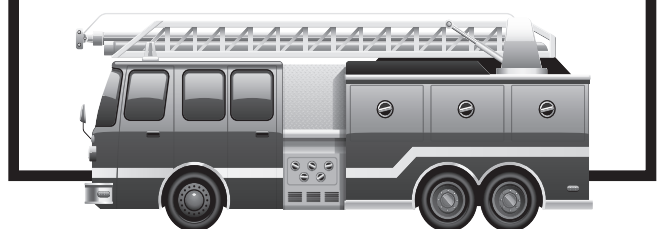
Robbins Farm Equipment

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1160 S Egan Burns 541-573-6377
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Household Items, Camping Supplies, Sheet Metal, Plumbing Tools, Gardening and Bargains Galore!

We would like to take this opportunity to thank the Long Creek Fire Department and Ambulance for coming to our aid on February 16th, when our shop and equipment shed burned down. We appreciate their volunteer time that day and all the other countless hours they spend maintaining certificates to help our community.

Sincerely, Craig Jackson & Amy Kreger



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1 1/2" -0 State Spec
Picked up - \$6.00/ton
Delivered - \$11.00/ton

RIP RAP
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