

Unusual traffic problem confounds city council

By Richard Hanners
Blue Mountain Eagle

Concerns about speeding traffic on Boyce Place turned out to be a perplexing problem for neighbors and the John Day City Council alike May 14.

Speaking for neighbors on the block-long street near the Grant County Fairgrounds, Neale Ledgerwood explained that speeding on the narrow street with multiple parked vehicles created a dangerous condition.

But neither the neighbors or the councilors could figure out why anyone would choose to use the street since it ended in one block. Public works director Monte Legg said he was familiar with the problem and earlier had considered making the street

one-way northbound.

The council agreed to erect temporary A-frame signs at each end of the street to warn drivers. If that doesn't improve matters, other steps could be taken.

In other city council news:

- The council reacted negatively to a new city logo created by the marketing consultant Bell + Funk, which was funded by federal and state grants.

Several councilors said they had no idea what the logo represented until it was explained to them. Mayor Ron Lundbom noted that if they wanted to put mountains in the logo, then they should put mountains in.

Councilor Shannon Adair said the color green was not included because that



The Eagle/Richard Hanners
John Day resident Neale Ledgerwood addresses the John Day City Council on May 14.

might be indicative of western Oregon. Councilor Paul Smith disagreed, noting that green is the color of the John

Day Valley.

City Manager Nick Green said he liked the font used for the words, while Councilor Gregg Haberly suggested the designers were overpaid.

Kim Randleas, a local artist attending the meeting, asked about allowing local artists to come up with a logo design.

- Haberly said he's heard concerns from people about how the city's downtown might look after Len's Drug is remodeled using a Main Street revitalization grant. Paul Smith said he's heard the same concerns.

Green noted the city council did not adopt a downtown master plan in 2007 that could govern a downtown look. The city could make suggestions for

the Len's Drug remodel, but he also noted that Greg and Marla Armstrong were investing in downtown, something many others were not.

Randleas said she has been working on a "vision" for downtown since about 2000 when she was considering creating some murals for downtown buildings.

- The city could begin construction of riverside trails this year, Green said. The city held meetings with residents near Canton Street and Davis Creek on March 6, and the city is ready to proceed with property line adjustments for four properties on Northwest Boulder Lane for the Davis Creek trail.

In a related matter, the council approved a \$28,000

contract with Field's Tree Service for thinning, debris removal and chipping from the end of Canton Street to the river and along Davis Creek from the sewer treatment plant to Valley View Drive. Two to four viewing areas will be created along the south side of the river. The work will last 4-6 weeks.

- A new online survey funded by a state Transportation and Growth Management grant will allow residents an opportunity to comment on the city's plans for extending Seventh Street west, new riverfront trails, river access and restoration and the future of the Gleason Pool. The survey was slated to go live May 17 at surveymonkey.com/r/6DJ3QNR.

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

Shawn M. Long, 27, Grants Pass, was acquitted by a jury May 14 of driving under the influence of intoxicants, cannabis, allegedly committed Feb. 3, 2018.

Mark D. Reasoner, 52, Madras, pleaded guilty May 2 to driving under the influence of intoxicants and refusing to take a test for intoxicants committed on March 3. He was sentenced to 24 months probation, 80 hours community service and \$3,005 in fines and fees. His driver's license was suspended for one year, and he was ordered to install an ignition interlock device on any vehicle he drives. A charge of failure to drive within the lane was dismissed.

Grant County Sheriff

The Grant County Sheriff's Office reported the following for the week of May 15: concealed handgun licenses, 7; average inmates, 13; bookings, 5; releases, 8; arrests, 2; citations, 3; fingerprints, 7; civil papers, 15; warrants processed, 1; asst./welfare check, 0; search and rescue, 0.

May 10: Carlton Dehart, 74, Ft. Lauderdale, Florida, was cited for violation of the basic rule, 70/55 zone.

May 10: Julianne Hanson, 39, Canyon City, was cited for having a dog as a nuisance.

May 13: Taylor Castle, 25, John Day, was cited for violation of the basic rule, 95/65 zone.

Justice Court

- Violation of basic rule: Jeffery R. Chapman, 59, Nampa, Idaho, April 16, 79/55 zone, fined \$265; Lucas D. Decker, 19, Pendleton, April 26, 73/55 zone, fined \$165; Michael R. Woodward, 56, Greenacres, Washington, April 8, 75/55

zone, fined \$165; Heather R. Collins, 38, Pilot Rock, April 3, 74/55 zone, fined \$140; Roger W. Bloomer, 22, Mist, April 26, 75/55 zone, fined \$165; Donald W. Evans, 71, Riley, April 11, 75/55 zone, fined \$165; Colton J. Madden, 22, Eugene, April 15, 75/55 zone, fined \$140.

- Exceeding speed limit: Terrence K. Crabb, 67, Canyon City, April 10, 75/65 zone, fined \$140; Bonnie R. McBride, 49, Vancouver, Washington, April 5, 42/25 zone, fined \$165; Lindsay D. Gollott, 32, Baker City, April 10, 85/65 zone, fined \$265; Jasmine N. Haddad, 24, Portland, March 29, 63/45 zone, fined \$140; Alexander Hung, 26, Portland, March 29, 63/45 zone, fined \$140.

- Violation speed limit: Jake W.W. Zurbrugg, 28, Klamath Falls, March 27, fined \$165.

- Driving uninsured: Troy D. Wells, 46, Mt. Vernon, March 28, fined \$265.

- Driving while suspended: Troy D. Wells, 46, Mt. Vernon, March 28, fined \$440.

- Switched license plates: Troy D. Wells, 46, Mt. Vernon, March 28, fined \$115.
- Failure to stop and remain stopped: Christine D. Duvall, 50, Prairie City, Feb. 7, fined \$225.

- Exceed the maximum weight: Todd I. Cooper, 57, Dayville, April 3, fined \$300.

- Exceed the permitted weight limit: Jerry Smith, 60, Baker City, April 16, fined \$150.

- Operate with a non-standard light: Dylan G. Brandsma, 25, John Day, April 6, fined \$165.

- No operator's license: Miguel L. Lundy, 38, Sweethome, March 24, fined \$265.

- Failure to carry a valid registration: Miguel L. Lundy, 38, Sweethome, March 24, fined \$115.

Oregon State Police

May 5: Observed a vehicle traveling on Canyon Creek Lane in Canyon City with a leashed dog dragged behind. The dog was trans-

ported to a veterinarian and would likely survive with treatment.

May 8: Observed a man on a release agreement from driving under the influence of intoxicants enter a bar on Main Street in John Day. The odor of an alcoholic beverage was detected on the man's breath. Anthony J. Capaldo, 61, John Day, was arrested and charged with contempt of court.

May 10: Investigated a possible elk poaching case on Forest Road 2610 in the Ochoco National Forest. It was a yearling Angus cow that had been hit by a vehicle.

May 10: Investigated a vehicle that left Highway 395 near Dale and rolled several times down a steep ravine before landing upright in a creek. Both occupants, 74 and 73, from Washington, were transported by air to a hospital in Boise, Idaho.

May 11: Following a traffic stop at South Canyon Boulevard and Southwest Second Avenue in John Day, the driver was unable to complete field sobriety tests and was taken to the Grant County Jail, where a blood sample was taken. The driver's blood alcohol content was 0 percent, but he told the trooper he had snorted a line of methamphetamine earlier. Daryl V. Burton, 62, was cited for driving under the influence of intoxicants, controlled substances.

May 12: Following a traffic stop on Highway 395 near Meadowbrook Pass, Neal J. Martin, 54, was arrested on multiple felony arrest warrants from Lake County.

May 13: Investigated a crash on Highway 26 near Mt. Vernon. A vehicle struck a horse that was running down the highway. The driver was not injured, and the horse was transported to the veterinarian by its owner.

May 17: Investigated a state reader board on Highway 395 and Adam Road in Canyon City that was struck by a passing commercial vehicle.

May 17: Investigated a crash on Highway 26 west

of Dayville. A 16-year-old female driver from Bend over-corrected, left the highway and rolled several times. She was not seriously injured and was cited for careless driving.

Dispatch

John Day dispatch worked 123 calls during the week of May 13-19, including:

• John Day Police Department

May 13: Responded to a theft report from the hospital in John Day.

May 17: Responded to Northeast Elm Street in John Day for a report of credit card fraud.

May 17: Cassandra J. Binks, 23, The Dalles, was arrested on East Main Street in John Day based on a Wasco County warrant.

• Oregon State Police

May 13: Advised by 911 call of two horses on Highway 26 in west of John Day.

• Grant County Sheriff's Office

May 13: Advised of a theft on Highway 402 in the Monument area.

May 13: Received a harassment report from the high school in John Day.

May 13: Advised of an assault on Ingle Street in Mt. Vernon.

May 14: Advised of identity theft on South Humbolt Street in Canyon City.

May 14: Received a theft report from Dayville.

May 17: Received a theft report from Prairie City.

May 18: Received a report of an assault at a motel in Mt. Vernon.

May 18: Advised of criminal mischief on North McHaley Avenue in Prairie City.

May 19: Received a call about a suicidal person on Indian Creek Road.

May 19: Responded with Monument ambulance for a suicide.

• John Day ambulance

May 13: Responded to Northeast Elm Street in John Day for a 43-year-old woman who hit her head.

May 13: Dispatched to Highway 26 in Mt. Vernon for a 63-year-old woman with difficulty breathing.

May 13: Dispatched to

Highway 395 south of Canyon City for a man who was having a stroke.

May 16: Dispatched to Northeast Elm Street in John Day for an unresponsive 60-year-old man. John Day police then responded for an unattended death.

May 17: Responded with Seneca ambulance to C Avenue for an 87-year-old woman who was not responsive.

May 18: Dispatched to a senior home in John Day for an 87-year-old man with back pain.

May 18: Responded to First Avenue in John Day for a 63-year-old woman with a medical alarm.

• Seneca fire

May 15: Paged to an excavator fire at the air strip in Seneca.

• Mt. Vernon fire

May 18: Responded with John Day fire to Laycock Creek Road for a report of a barn or shop fire.

• Dayville fire

May 18: Responded to a home on West Franklin Avenue in Dayville for a possible electrical short.



Grant SWCD Weed Control Dept. Working for You in 2019



Thanks to the Grant County Court and Northeast Oregon Forests Resource Advisory Committee, Grant Weed Control is able to offer a **50% Cost Share Program for Noxious Weed Control on Private Grazing Lands, through a Title II funded Grant Project.** This program will provide a maximum \$5,000 of noxious weed control services with a \$2,500 maximum landowner contribution to qualifying participants. To be eligible for participation, the treatment property must not be actively irrigated and must be primarily managed for livestock grazing, minimum of 20 acres in size, located within Grant County, and must contain weed species listed on the Grant County Noxious Weed List. Applications for this limited weed control assistance opportunity will be funded on a first come first serve basis.

Applications due by June 5th.

Contact the Grant Soil and Water Conservation District Office at (541) 575-1554 or visit 721 S. Canyon Blvd., John Day, OR 97845 for applications and additional information.

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*This Memorial Day, we salute the
heroes of our Armed Forces past
and present for their courage and
dedication to our country.*

**Keith J. Thomas, MD, FACS
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