

Mt. Vernon man dies in single-vehicle crash

Blue Mountain Eagle

A Mt. Vernon man died in a single-vehicle crash on Highway 26 east of Mitchell Saturday.

Oregon State Police Troopers responded to milepost 72.5 at 1:50 p.m., according to a press release.

The driver, Drew Knowles, 36, of Mt. Vernon was dead at the scene.

The preliminary investigation indicates that

Knowles was driving a tan Toyota Tacoma, traveling eastbound on Highway 26 when, for unknown reasons, he left the roadway and traveled off a steep embankment.

Westbound traffic was closed for several hours following the crash.

OSP was assisted by the Wheeler County Sheriff's Office and Oregon Department of Transportation.

Judge Stinnett makes presentation at conference

She is president of the Oregon Justice of the Peace Association

Blue Mountain Eagle

Kathy Stinnett, sitting Justice of the Peace in Grant County Justice Court, attended the July 11-12 Oregon Justice of the Peace Association's Summer Education Conference.

The conference was held in Bend at the Riverhouse conference center. Stinnett completed the conference's curriculum and presented a session on misdemeanor crimes.

The classes, which were specifically developed for justice court judges, covered a wide range of subjects, including judicial conduct and ethics, administrative



Stinnett

protocols, the history and authority of justice courts, landlord and tenant law, small claims and criminal

jurisdiction.

There were 25 Oregon judges in attendance.

Stinnett has been Grant County's justice of the peace since January 2013.

She said the session she taught "focused on the balance between the power of the state and the individual rights as citizens."

Stinnett said Grant County is just one of five or six justice courts that hear misdemeanors.

For Stinnett, these include non-person crimes such as fish and game crimes, trespass, harassment and disorderly conduct.

EO Media Groups buys Bend Bulletin

Winning bid of \$3.65 million beats out-of-state competitors

By Phil Wright
EO Media Group



Bend Bulletin photo

The EO Media Group put in a winning bid of \$3.65 million Monday to acquire the Bend Bulletin and the Redmond Spokesman. The successful bid beat out Adams Publishing Group of Greeneville, Tennessee, and Rhode Island Suburban Newspapers Inc., which did not send a representative to the auction.

The auction lasted 15 minutes Monday and ended with the EO Media Group buying the Bend Bulletin.

The \$3.65 million winning bid also covered the price for the Bulletin's sister newspaper, the Redmond Spokesman.

EO Media Group beat two out-of-state competitors, Adams Publishing Group of Greeneville, Tennessee, and Rhode Island Suburban Newspapers Inc., which did not send a representative to the auction.

Heidi Wright, EO Media Group's chief operating officer, said the company appreciates the opportunity to continue Oregon ownership of The Bulletin and Redmond Spokesman.

"It's reassuring for the future of community newspapers when a small independent company like EO Media Group can prevail, even when going up against the big companies that are buying up newspapers non-stop around the country," she said.

Western Communications, the Bulletin's former parent company, filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection in January and is selling all of its assets. EO Media Group bought two of those assets in June at auction — The Observer in La Grande and the Baker City Herald. The Bulletin and Spokesman acquisitions brings the company's total number of newspapers and journals to 14. Wright explained why the purchases make sense for the family-owned business.

"First, the vibrant economy of Central Oregon, coupled with a fresh start for The Bulletin and Redmond Spokesman, bodes well for the future of these newspapers," she said. "Second, we believe readers in Central Oregon will support our mission of producing content that is relevant,

credible and reflective of the communities we serve."

Kathryn B. Brown, vice president of EO Media Group, credited Bend locals for support.

"We appreciate the assistance of so many in the Bend community who encouraged us to consider the acquisition of The Bulletin and the Redmond Spokesman, and who were willing to support us in our efforts," she said. "It quickly became clear to our board that these newspapers are an excellent investment for our company, and are a good fit with our operations throughout Oregon."

Bend Mayor Sally Russell in a letter expressed her personal support for the EO Media Group to prevail.

"Balanced, factual, local reporting is invaluable for the healthy community I am committed to helping grow and thrive," she said. "I believe that among the bidders that have identified, EOMG is the only one that offers the local perspective I feel is so critical. Our city would not be well-served by having our local, daily newspaper controlled by absentee managers of huge conglomerates whose only commitment to our city is financial."

Some Bend supporters provided financial backing, including The Bend Foundation. Trustee Mike Hollern, said the nonprofit views this as

a worthy investment in a company with a long history in Oregon delivering valuable news.

"That's a really important part of the whole American dream to have an unbiased local press," he said.

He also said he could not speak for other investors, but the Bend Foundation does not have an editorial stake in this action.

Steve Forrester, EO Media Group president and CEO, said the purchase marks more than the beginning of a new publishing venture.

"For our family ownership, acquisition of the Bend Bulletin also carries emotional and historical meaning," he said. "The friendship between the Chandler family and the Forrester-Bedford-Brown families goes back more than 50 years. Our essential challenge is to bring new life to Bend's storied daily newspaper."

The purchase includes the printing press and equipment in Bend but not the building or property. Kathryn Brown said EO Media would lease the site for the time being and look for new space.

She also said EO Media will look at how to fold the Central Oregon papers into the organization and soon will reach out to the employees at the Bulletin and Spokesman.

Kathryn Brown said they aim to close the deal by the end of August.

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

Robert D. Herrera, 61, John Day, pleaded guilty July 24 to misdemeanor harassment committed on May 7. He was sentenced to five days in jail, 18 months probation and a \$100 fine. A charge of fourth-degree assault was dismissed. He was also found guilty of violating probation conditions for two 2018 cases by failing to obey all laws and use or possession of intoxicants. His probation was extended, and the ordered jail time was concurrent with the five-day sentence.

Four counts against John A. Loveday, 56, John Day, including menacing constituting domestic violence, fourth-degree assault and second-degree disorderly conduct allegedly committed on May 24, were dismissed on July 25. He was found guilty of violating probation for a different case by failing to obey all laws and was sentenced to 20 days in jail.

Grant County Sheriff

The Grant County Sheriff's Office reported the following for the week of July 24:

- Concealed handgun licenses: 9
- Average inmates: 19
- Bookings: 6
- Releases: 7
- Arrests: 3
- Citations: 2
- Fingerprints: 1
- Civil papers: 19
- Warrants processed: 2
- Asst./welfare check: 0
- Search and rescue: 1

July 23: A juvenile was cited or arrested for second-degree criminal mischief and second-degree animal abuse.

July 23: Sierra Swartz, 19, Lebanon, was cited for exceeding the posted speed limit, 51/35 zone.

Justice Court

• Violation of basic rule: Ryan W. Altman, 46, Bend, July 10, 78/55 zone, fined \$225; Brett A. Chandler, 51, White Rock, New Mex-

ico, July 9, 74/55 zone, fined \$165; Margaret L. Sampson, 68, Portland, June 22, 79/55 zone, fined \$160; Jackie R. Moore, 33, Colorado Springs, Colorado, June 30, 84/55 zone, fined \$225.

• Exceeding speed limit: Wesley A. Rich, 40, West Jordan, Utah, July 3, 75/65 zone, fined \$165; Daniel G. Winters, 53, John Day, July 18, 79/65 zone, fined \$225; Donald L. Kraft, 82, Chinook, Washington, July 12, 75/65 zone, fined \$165; Dian Z. Fernandez, 48, Bend, July 3, 53/35 zone, fined \$100; Reece E. Stotsenberg, 32, Corvallis, July 4, 62/35 zone, fined \$265.

• Violation speed limit: Robert J. Doland, 31, Pendleton, June 30, 52/35 zone, fined \$165; Richard L. Turner, 62, Newberg, June 28, 47/25 zone, fined \$265; Rebekah J. Taylor, 22, Bend, July 4, 39/25 zone, fined \$165; Emanuela Riddle, 22, Salem, May 25, 51/30 zone, fined \$225.

• Truck or bus exceeding speed limit: Steven J. Wergon, 46, Enterprise, April 4, 70/55 zone, fined \$140.

• Driving uninsured: Jared J. Baker, 24, John Day, June 20, fined \$265.

• Failure to drive within the lane: James O. Heierle, 70, Cove, June 19, fined \$265.

• Exceeding maximum weight limit: Dennis H. Morton, 50, Prineville, June 4, fined \$200.

• Careless driving: Cassandra H. Richardson-Buckmaster, 19, Mt. Vernon, June 2, fined \$440.

Dispatch
John Day dispatch worked 173 calls during

the week of July 22-28, including:
 • **John Day Police Department**
 July 22: Received a 911 call from East Main Street in John Day about a dispute.
 July 22: Advised of harassment at the Gleason Pool in John Day.
 July 22: Received a report of a juvenile problem at a mobile home park on West Main Street in John Day.
 July 22: Advised of a suspicious vehicle at the 911 dispatch center in the John Day Fire Hall.
 July 22: Received a report of a hit-and-run crash near a motel on Main Street in John Day.
 July 22: Responded with John Day ambulance to an apartment complex in east John Day for a potentially suicidal person.
 July 23: Advised of a tree limb falling on phone lines on Canton Street in John Day.
 July 24: Dispatched to Wilderness Lane and Apple Road for a welfare check.
 July 25: Received a report of elder abuse on East Main Street in John Day.
 July 26: Dispatched to a mobile home park on West Main Street in John Day for a welfare check.
 July 26: Advised of a suicidal person at Seventh Street and Bridge Street in John Day.
 July 27: Responded to the Gleason Pool swim meet for a theft report.
 July 27: Advised of a sus-

picious person at the fairgrounds RV park.

July 28: Responded to a secondhand store on Main Street for a burglary report.

• **Oregon State Police**
 July 24: Received a 911 call about a domestic case on Highway 26 near Dixie Summit.

July 24: Dispatched to Prairie City for a domestic case.

• **Grant County Sheriff's Office**
 July 23: Advised of a vehicle crash on County Road 17 near Long Creek.
 July 23: Responded to a missing person call on Forest Road 52 near Granite.

July 24: Received a report of a suicidal person on Highway 26 near Mt. Vernon.

July 25: Advised of custodial interference in Long Creek.

• **John Day ambulance**
 July 22: Responded to a mobile home park on West Main Street in John Day for a 64-year-old man with intestinal problems.
 July 22: Received a 911 call from a mobile home park on West Main Street in John Day.
 July 22: Received a 911 call from Ford Road and Main Street in John Day for an 88-year-old man who was not feeling well.
 July 22: Received a 911 call from Broken Leg Lane in Mt. Vernon about an 83-year-old woman with a possible stroke.
 July 22: Transported a patient to the airport in John

Day.

July 22: Dispatched to North Humbolt Avenue in Canyon City.
 July 22: Transported a patient to the airport in John Day.

July 23: Received a 911 call for a woman who was bucked off a horse on Belshaw Creek Lane.
 July 23: Transported a patient to the airport in John Day.

July 23: Received a 911 call from Pineview Lane in Canyon City for a 76-year-old woman who fell and possibly broke an arm.
 July 23: Responded to South Main Street in Prairie City for an 85-year-old woman who was feeling ill.
 July 23: Transported a patient to the airport in John Day.

July 24: Paged to South First Street in John Day for a man with flu-like symptoms who felt light-headed.
 July 24: Responded with Dayville fire to Highway 26 near Dayville.

July 24: Dispatched to a senior home in John Day for a man with chest pain.
 July 24: Responded to a mobile home park on West Main Street in John Day for a 65-year-old man with dizziness and shortness of breath.
 July 25: Received a 911 call for a sick person on West Main Street in John Day.
 July 26: Responded with Seneca ambulance to Bear Gulch Road in Seneca for

a 90-year-old man who was not feeling well.

July 26: Dispatched to West Main Street in John Day for a 66-year-old man with high blood pressure.

July 26: Responded to Patterson Drive in Canyon City for a child with a high fever.

July 26: Received a 911 call from Southwest First Street in John Day.

July 26: Transported a patient to the airport in John Day.

July 27: Responded with Monument ambulance to Top Road in Monument for a woman with abdominal cramping.

July 27: Dispatched to the lumber mill in John Day for a 30-year-old man with unknown injuries.

July 28: Responded to Riverside Street and Ingle Street in Mt. Vernon for a single-vehicle crash with injuries.

July 28: Dispatched to Northeast Seventh Street in John Day for an 86-year-old woman.

July 28: Responded to a senior home in John Day for an 87-year-old man.

• **Prairie City fire**
 July 22: Received a report of a fire on McHaley Avenue in Prairie City.

• **Forest Service**

July 23: Received a report of a lightning strike that caused a fire with a large plume of smoke on Dixie Mountain.

July 23: Advised of a forest fire near Seneca.

A MAN WAKES UP in the morning after sleeping on... an advertised bed, in advertised pajamas.

He will bathe in an ADVERTISED TUB, shave with an ADVERTISED RAZOR, have a breakfast of ADVERTISED JUICE, cereal and toast, toasted in an ADVERTISED TOASTER, put on ADVERTISED CLOTHES and glance at his ADVERTISED WATCH. He'll ride to work in his ADVERTISED CAR, sit at an ADVERTISED DESK and write with an ADVERTISED PEN. Yet this person hesitates to advertise, saying that advertising doesn't pay. Finally, when his non-advertised business is going under, HE'LL ADVERTISE IT FOR SALE. *Then it's too late.*

AND THEY SAY ADVERTISING DOESN'T WORK? DON'T MAKE THIS SAME MISTAKE

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Blue Mountain Eagle
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1ST FRIDAY
ART WALK
August 2nd, 6-9 p.m.

Stroll downtown John Day and enjoy the art from our local talented artists. Meet the artists and enjoy food, beverages and fun. Go to each location and earn a chance to win a gift bag full of goodies from each shop or restaurant.

For more information, visit our Facebook page – **Downtown John Day First Fridays**