

Man sentenced in teen alcohol case

The Columbia Press
A man accused of giving alcohol to a Warrenton High School teenager on the night he ran into traffic and was killed was sentenced this week to 10 days in jail.

Christina Secord, mother of Trevor Secord, 15, called the sentence a slap on the wrist in her statement that was read in court.

Her son had an extremely high blood-alcohol content when he jumped out of a vehicle late on the night of Jan. 26, 2017, and began running down Highway 101 north of Gearhart. He was struck by a pickup and died at the scene.

Richard Edward Reinsch, 48, of Warrenton pleaded not guilty in August to two counts of furnishing liquor to a minor. Last week, he entered a no contest plea to providing alcohol to Trevor and a second teenager.

"I'm extremely disappointed," Christina Secord said



Reinsch



Trevor

after the hearing. "Just because they couldn't charge him with manslaughter doesn't mean they couldn't prosecute him to the fullest extent of the law. It just goes to show that there really are no significant consequences for these sorts of actions."

The case was problematic because it couldn't be proven that Reinsch's actions were the cause of Trevor's death or that someone else didn't give him alcohol that night as well, the District Attorney's Office has said.

Reinsch, who was released from custody after the hearing, also must pay Trevor's family \$1,000.

"What a joke. I'll never see it," his mother said. "The judge asked him two separate times if he had anything to say and he couldn't even say 'I'm sorry.' There is no remorse, no empathy, no feeling of guilt at all."

City goes after more blighted properties

The Columbia Press

The City Commission named two more properties as nuisances this week, which sets the clock ticking on stricter enforcement activities.

A home at 719 S. Main Ave. was declared a public nuisance and the owner will be given 10 days to remove inoperable vehicles, trash, scrap metal and construction materials.

The owner, who lives in Alaska, has a tenant on the property and told city officials they plan to give the tenant an eviction notice.

The debris is in an unfenced front yard, next to the Methodist Church and an apartment complex and on the town's main street, which city leaders have been trying to beautify.

The second targeted property is at 1062 N.W. Warrenton Drive. The rental property has many large vehicles parked along the right of way, blocking the view of neighbors attempting to drive in and out of Alder Creek Village.

45 tons of trash in a day

Warrenton residents got rid of 45 tons of garbage during the city's annual spring clean-up day.

Each year, the city pays for the event in the hope residents will clear out trash, trim their trees and shrubs, and get rid of outdoor things that mar the city's aesthetic.

There were 179 residents who took part, dumping six refrigerators, 10 appliances, 16 tires and 29 tires with rims at the Astoria Transfer Station on May 20. Residents paid \$3 per trip and the city picked up the rest, which amounted to \$5,779.

All five commissioners voted in favor of determining them nuisances.

With scrap collectors paying good money for metal and willing to tow away vehicles, "there's really no excuse for anyone to have abandoned vehicles," Commissioner Mark Baldwin said.

There is plenty of buzz in town now that the city is taking action, Commissioner Tom Dyer said. "The people that are on the list, they talk."

Added Mayor Henry Balensifer: "We're doing a historic load of code enforcement here. ... It's full throttle."

Progress has come to a stand-still on two other

properties recently declared nuisances – a former gas station across from City Hall and a dilapidated two-story blue house on Harbor Drive, Community Development Director Kevin Cronin said.

While the house on Harbor was demolished, "the remains of the facility are still smattered around the property," Balensifer said.

And the gas station has five inoperable and unlicensed vehicles on the property, Cronin said. "The expectation is that they clean up the mess."

The city now can finish the clean-up and place a lien on the properties.

Public Safety Calls

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•Speeding, 2:05 p.m. June 23, Ridge Road near soccer fields. Driver cited for going 61 in a 45 mph zone.

•Two-vehicle collision, 2:25 p.m. June 23, East Harbor Drive at Northeast Pacific. One driver cited for driving without a license and failure to obey a traffic-control device.

•Vehicle vs. animal, 5:21 p.m. June 23, Harbor at Marlin.

FIRE AND SERVICE CALLS

•Provide mutual aid for structure fire, 3:36 p.m. June 19, 1030 Franklin Ave., Astoria.
•Chip truck on fire, 7:19 a.m.

June 22, 500 block Northeast Skipanon Drive.

•Back-yard bonfire, 8:02 p.m. June 22, 1200 block South Main Avenue.

•Smoke, 8:02 p.m. June 24, 0-100 block Southwest Alder.

MEDICAL CALLS

•Female having anxiety attack, 1:39 a.m. June 19, 1700 block Ensign Lane.

•Male with chest pain, 12:48 p.m. June 19, VA Clinic Camp Rilea.

•Female with back pain, 3:14 p.m. June 19, Clatsop Behavioral Respite Center.

•Female who fainted, 5:51 p.m. June 19, 33100 block Patriot

Way, Camp Rilea.

•Female in alcohol detox, 5:55 p.m. June 19, 90900 block Highway 101.

•Male lying beside road, 8:55 p.m. June 19, Highway 101 at Camp Rilea.

•Male with difficulty breathing, 7:49 p.m. June 20, 0-100 block Southwest Ninth Street.

•Female with chest pain, 5:58 p.m. June 21, Fort Stevens State Park campground restrooms.

•Intoxicated male juvenile, 3:59 p.m. June 22, Warrenton City Park.

•Passed-out male, 11:22 p.m. June 23, Sunset Beach approach.

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