

Public safety calls

WARRANTS

- Warrant service, 6:30 p.m. Oct. 16, Walmart. Roy M. Wilmoth, 43, of Astoria was arrested on a contempt of court warrant.
- Warrant service, 12:27 a.m.

Oct. 20, 700 block Northwest Date Avenue. Noley W. Bartruff, 24, of Warrenton was arrested on warrants from the Clatsop County Sheriff's Office and Tillamook County.

THEFTS AND BURGLARIES

•Shoplifting, 5:20 p.m. Oct. 11, Fred Meyer. Angela M. Cushman, 39, with no known address, was cited for third-degree theft after she allegedly left the store without paying for \$21 in propane and food.

•Employee theft, 12:15 p.m. Oct. 14, Walmart. Gary L. Bettine, 46, of Ocean Park, Wash., was cited for second-degree theft after he allegedly admitted to regularly eating items from the store without paying for them while on duty. He also was accused of leaving an obscene note on a customer's vehicle.

•Shoplifting, 3:44 p.m. Oct. 14, Walmart. Thomas Lee Freeman, 59, of Astoria was cited for third-degree theft after he allegedly attempted to leave the store without paying for a watch.

•Burglary, 11:42 a.m. Oct. 16, Fort Stevens State Park. A man reported someone stole his

backpack and fishing rod valued at \$50.

•Shoplifting, 6 p.m. Oct. 16, Walmart. Roy M. Wilmoth, 43, of Astoria was cited for third-degree theft after he allegedly attempted to leave the store without paying for \$33 in batteries and baby products.

TRAFFIC

•Speeding, 7:14 a.m. Oct. 15, Southwest Ninth Street and Ridge Road. Driver cited for going 65 in a 45 mph zone.

•Hit-and-run collision, 10:28 a.m. Oct. 17, Fred Meyer parking lot.

•Traffic stop, 1:10 p.m. Oct. 17, Southwest Third Street and Southwest Main Court. Driver cited for driving while suspended and having no insurance.

•Traffic stop, 9:05 p.m. Oct. 17, South Main Avenue at Alternate Highway 101. Driver cited for having no driver's license.

•Traffic stop, 6 p.m. Oct. 18, Ridge Road. Driver cited for having no insurance.

•Traffic stop, 12:45 a.m. Oct. 19, Harbor Drive at Northeast Heron Street. Driver cited for having no insurance.

Local officer in 400th academy class

Seaside Police Officer Timothy White was among the graduates of the 400th class at the police academy in Salem on Oct. 22.

The 16-week class covers dozens of training areas including survival skills, firearms, emergency vehicle operations, ethics, cultural diversity, problem solving, community policing, elder

abuse, drug recognition, and dozens of other subjects. The Department of Public Safety Standards and Training operates the Oregon Public Safety Academy and implements minimum standards for the training and certification of city, tribal, county and state law enforcement officers and dispatchers.

Utilities: Payment grace period to end

Continued from Page 1
ing water bill. And the owner of a building with multiple commercial tenants also has chosen not to pay.

"The longer we keep doing what we're doing, it's going to get worse," Engbretson said.

In a future meeting, city commissioners are likely to set a cut-off date when the grace period ends.

They'll also consider requiring landlords who rent property to

be the responsible party in paying for water, sewer and trash. Landlords can pass those costs on to the renter.

"We get pulled into landlord-tenant issues a lot," Engbretson said. Sometimes, if a landlord wants to evict a tenant, "they want us to turn off the water. We're basically doing the books for the landlords."

With Rick Newton absent, the remaining four commissioners agreed to set up a transition period during which all rental property utility bills become the responsibility of the owner.

"If we continue to let ourselves bleed," the problem will continue, Mayor Henry Balensifer said. "Everyone else has to pay increased utility bills, which hurts those living right on the edge."

Despite the impending crackdown, city officials still have a heart for those people who are struggling. People who call the city in good faith and willing to work at paying the bills are more likely to get extended help, commissioners agreed.

"We're going to be very flexible working with people as long as they're communicating with us," Finance Director April Clark said.



Engbretson



Clark

The week ahead

Note: Most public meetings are being held virtually. Information on how to connect is posted on each entity's website, usually attached to the meeting agenda.

MONDAY, OCT. 26

•Seaside City Council, 7 p.m., City Hall, 989 Broadway.

TUESDAY, OCT. 27

•Warrenton City Commission, 6 p.m., City Hall, 225 S. Main Ave.

WEDNESDAY, OCT. 28

•Clatsop County Commission, 5 p.m. workshop and 6 p.m. regular meeting, 857 Commercial St., Astoria.

SATURDAY, OCT. 31

•Halloween.

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