

DA's Report

Morrow County District Attorney Elizabeth Ballard has released the following report:

-Gustavo Adolfo Torres, 20, was convicted of attempting to commit a class B felony (Kidnapping-2, a class C felony) and sentenced to three years supervised probation, 180 sanction units with 90 jail units, complete 80 hours of community service, enroll in and successfully complete Social Re-education/Life Skills Training Program, all but five non jail sanction units suspended with said five units converted to 80 hours of community service. He was also convicted of driving under the influence of intoxicants, a class A misdemeanor, and was sentenced to 180 days in jail with 150 days suspended, one year driver's license suspension, two year bench probation, numerous other conditions, and \$1,821 in fines, fees, and assessments.

-Bucio Javier Victor Lopez, 37, was convicted of Menacing, a class A misdemeanor, and was sentenced to 180 days in jail with 150 days suspended, two years bench probation, 40 hours of community service, successfully complete a Batterers Program, and have no contact with the victim. He was also convicted of Harassment, a class B misdemeanor, and was sentenced to 90 days in jail with 90 days suspended, two year bench probation, and 20 hours of community service. He was also convicted of another count of Harassment, a class B misdemeanor, and was sentenced to 90 days in jail with 90 days suspended, two year bench probation, 20 hours of community service, numerous other conditions, and \$1,679 in fines, fees, and assessments.

-Felipe Torres Rodriguez, 30, was convicted of contempt of court and was sentenced to 30 days in jail with 30 days suspended, one year bench probation, 10 hours of community service, have no direct contact with the victim, and \$663 in fines, fees, and assessments.

Veterans Service Office announces hours

The Morrow County Veterans Service Office announces its hours for its locations in Irrigon and Heppner.

In Irrigon the office is open Monday through Thursday from 8 a.m. to noon and 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. and is located at 290 NE Main. In Heppner the office is open on the first Thursday of each month from 8 a.m. until noon and 1 p.m. until 5 p.m. at 222 Main Street in the Gilliam Bisbee Building.

The Morrow County Veterans Service Office can be reached at 541-922-6420 or 1-877-8387.

Guitar man

The following story ran in the July 27, 2005 edition of The Wenatchee World, a newspaper in north central Washington, and was written by Rick Steigmeyer. Jerry Samples is a former resident of Heppner.

Jerry Samples wanted to get to the core of the bluegrass music he loves. Never a musician, he taught himself to play slide guitar at age 58. Then, last year, he decided to make himself a flat-top guitar.

"I really wanted to build a Dobro, but I figured I should start with a guitar," said Samples, of East Wenatchee. Now at age 64 and retired from private business, Samples has more time for his hobbies, which he has always pursued with a passion.

"My wife tells me I stay with a hobby just long enough to buy all the tools," he said, pointing to a basement full of professional camera equipment, archery gear and a set of golf clubs. Out back is a large grotto and waterfall he built of stone for his koi. He found out there was much to learn about building a guitar. The retired electrical inspector had never done much fine woodworking but had always been comfortable working with his hands.

"Working with tools always came easy to me," he said. "But I've never done anything this precise. With a guitar, it's either right or it's wrong. There's no in-between." He purchased a band saw, planer, drill press, flatbed drum sander and lots of chisels and planes. He made his own clamps and forms to shape and glue the guitar body. He learned the fine art of cutting and inlaying mother of pearl. The result of a winter's work has already won him high praise from professional bluegrass musicians for the guitar's full, rich tones and good looks. Samples, a board director for the Wenatchee River Bluegrass Festival, already has orders to build five more guitars. But he was eager to improve his skills with the help of some personal instruction. He recently returned from a seven-week guitar-building workshop in Tugaske, Saskatchewan.

"It's halfway between Eyebrow and Elbow," he said, noting the fact that is used as the standard joke

about the tiny Canadian town. "The workshop was very intense. We worked from 7 a.m. to 10 or 11 p.m. seven days a week." That was a good thing, Samples said, because the lodging was barely tolerable, and outdoors during black fly and mosquito season was intolerable. The guitar he was required to design and build during the workshop is a thing of beauty with flamed walnut sides and back, a Sitka spruce top and contrasting holly edge binding. The neck is of mahogany with ebony fret board, bridge and tail piece. The rosette around the sound hole is of dark-stained holly, inlaid with abalone pearl. Except for the initial cut-out of the top and bottom, all the work was done with hand tools, he said. Building a guitar is not an undertaking for the frivolous. It's easy to spend \$500 on wood, inlays and tuning pegs. Each instrument requires an investment of hundreds of hours of painstaking work. The object is to produce an instrument with a wonderful sound. It's easy to sell a guitar that sounds great no matter what it looks like, but it's hard to sell a beautiful guitar that doesn't sound right, Samples said. He said he still likes the sound of the first guitar he built over the one he produced in the class. But the class taught him how to voice guitars to create different tonal ranges for different purposes. Wood used for the top has to be properly dried for months before it is planed to slightly more than one-10th of an inch. The inside is then scraped to gradually vary the thickness in specific places. Sandpaper is never used on the inside of a guitar because sawdust could lodge in the pores of the wood and block the tone, Samples said. Proper configuration of the thin bracing strips spreads the sound across the guitar top while offering it strength.

"It's very precise work, but it's an art, not a science," he said. He plans to sell his guitars for \$1,800 and up, depending on the amount of detail work. He figures that's on the low end of what custom-built guitars go for. He has enough wood on drying racks to build seven guitars. With the orders already in hand, it will be awhile before he has time to build that slide guitar for himself.

VBS to be held in City Park

Willow Creek Baptist Church will be having Vacation Bible School in the City Park Monday, July 30, through Friday, August 3, from 6 until 8:30 p.m. for K-6th graders.

Sports will be the theme for this year's VBS.

There will be snacks, crafts, games and Bible studies. Pre-registration is not necessary and there is no cost for anyone wishing to attend.

For more information call Deana Price at 676-5552.

G-T Deadline for all news and advertising Mondays at 5 p.m.

Sheriff's Report

The Morrow County Sheriff's Office reports handling the following business:

June 29 continued: MCSO, Irrigon Ambulance received a call from a female subject at an Irrigon residence requesting emergency medical services for her mother who she said was suffering from back pain. The mother advised that she had never asked for EMS and refused transport. The mother said she wanted a restraining order placed on the daughter and the daughter was advised of such.

-MCSO deputy contacted a boater on Willow Creek Lake and advised the subject of the algae bloom contamination.

-MCSO cited Richard Mark Sayre, 49, for Violation of the Basic Rule.

-MCSO arrested David Leroy Brown, Jr., 37, on a Heppner Justice Court warrant for Failure to Pay Fine/Contempt of Court. He was to be lodged at Umatilla County Jail.

-MCSO received report of a vehicle broken down on a blind corner on Hwy. 207. A MCSO deputy did traffic control until the subject repaired his vehicle.

-MCSO received report from an Irrigon man that he had been receiving threats about his property. MCSO made contact with both parties.

-MCSO received report of juveniles yelling and screaming in Lexington. Deputy was unable to locate anything.

-MCSO arrested Guy Lyman Wright, 42, for DUI. He was also cited for Violation of the Basic Rule.

-Boardman Police Department received report of a subject driving down Main St. in Boardman honking his horn.

-BPD cited Travis Wayne Scherrer, 25, for Use of Prohibited Light (blue).

-BPD cited Moises Castillo Guerrero, 25, for Violation of the Speed Limit 41 mph in a 25 mph zone and Driving While Suspended. The vehicle was impounded.

-BPD arrested Luis Navarro, 19, on an Irrigon Justice Court warrant for Criminal Trespass/Failure to Appear. He was lodged at Umatilla County Jail.

-BPD received report of men walking in the middle of Main Street from the assisted living on Kunze Rd.

-Irrigon Fire Department received report from a subject that her mother's little yellow "lovebird" was stuck in a tree. IFD was unable to respond.

-Boardman Fire Department received report of a fire on the east side of the tracks close to Western Alfalfa's grain elevators.

-Boardman Ambulance received report of a motor vehicle accident resulting from the vehicle striking a deer on I-84. It was unknown if there were any injuries.

June 30: MCSO received report that the night watchman at the gun club in Hermiston ran off two people driving a blue Chevy extended cab truck. Deputies made contact and subject was "trespassed" from the location.

-MCSO cited Armando Martinez Padilla for Violation of the Speed Limit, 92 mph in a 65 mph zone.

-MCSO cited Eloise Lynne Nicodemus for Violation of the Speed Limit, 89 mph in a 65 mph zone.

-MCSO, Heppner Fire Department, Lone Fire Department received report of a haystack on fire in lone.

-MCSO received request from a subject in Heppner who had his vehicle towed due to a DUII the previous night and would like to get his vehicle out of impound.

-MCSO advised an Irrigon man to remove yard sale signs from street signs.

-MCSO advised another Irrigon man to remove yard sale signs from stop signs.

-MCSO cited Rita Lynn Chappue, 40, for Driving While Suspended violation.

-MCSO received report of a boat at the 40-mile marker making waves and being disrespectful.

-MCSO cited David Ralph Starkweather, 44, for Failure to Wear Seatbelt.

-MCSO cited a boater for having no boater education card.

-MCSO received report from an Irrigon man that a subject was parked in front of his home.

-MCSO received report from an Irrigon woman that another woman was making harassing phone calls.

-MCSO received report of a sign behind Heppner Elementary possibly run over.

-MCSO received report of four to five people playing loud music and refusing to turn it down. A deputy responded and the music was turned down.

-Boardman Police Department cited Mario Martin Galvez Angulo, for No Operator's License.

-BPD received report of subjects selling CDs out of their van.

-BPD cited Daniel Valencia Albarran, 27, for No Operator's License.

-BPD received report of subjects in a vehicle driving off without paying for fuel on Main St. in Boardman. Subjects were contacted and said they would return to pay for fuel.

-BPD received report from a woman that as she was driving, a small group of junior-high-age juveniles jumped out in front of her, causing her to swerve to miss them. BPD responded.

-BPD received report of a subject with strobe lights. When the officer was on the scene he took of at a high rate of speed, ran a stop sign and parked the vehicle at an apartment building.

-BPD warned a subject for defective equipment and for not having an Oregon driver's license.

-BPD received report of a dark-colored minivan or SUV weaving all over the road on I-84. Enrique Arriola Frasco, was cited for VBR/85 mph in a 65 mph zone and failure to yield to an emergency vehicle.

-Heppner Ambulance received report of an elderly woman falling with

possible broken bones. She requested no "bells and whistles."

-Irrigon Ambulance, Irrigon Fire Department, Boardman Fire Department received report of a grass fire with structures threatened in Irrigon. The fire was brought under control.

July 1: MCSO received report of a dog lost fro Pet Rescue. The dog may be in the Patterson Ferry area.

-MCSO cited Angel Sanchez Beltran, 66, for Failure to Carry Proof of Insurance and Failure to Obey a Traffic Control Device on I-84/Patterson Ferry.

-MCSO arrested Jeffrey Lane Orr for DUII and Open Container. He was cited and released.

-MCSO deputy advised he was out with a vehicle at an Irrigon school. The driver advised he had been driving since 5 a.m., coming from New York and just needed some sleep.

-MCSO received report that a subject at the westbound rest area near Boardman beat a dog with a closed fist and then threw the dog in a flatbed truck.

-MCSO received report of a horse that had been cut up in barbed wire in Hardman, had extremely overgrown feet and no food or water.

-MCSO received report of someone trying to break in a residence and broke the fence in Heppner around 2:30 a.m.

-MCSO cited Rodney Frances Vetsch, 49, for expired sticker.

-MCSO received report from an Irrigon woman that she wanted to get the stuff out of the house she was living in, but her roommate would not let her. Deputy advised it was a civil matter and he could not do a standby without a court order.

-MCSO received report of motor vehicle accident west of Stanfield on I-84 with one female occupant ejected. The deputy came upon the scene en route to transport a prisoner, administered first aid until an ambulance arrived on the scene.

-MCSO, Irrigon Ambulance received report from a woman in Irrigon that a man choked her almost to passing out, burned her with a cigarette and locked her in a shed so that she could not leave.

-MCSO received report to escort a male subject who would not leave a residence in Heppner.

-MCSO received report from a woman in Irrigon that she believes her sister has been assaulted by her boyfriend. She requested a welfare check on her sister.

-MCSO received report from an Irrigon woman that her three children went for a walk with her niece and had not returned by 10:19 p.m. A deputy responded and reported that the kids were on their way home.

-MCSO cited Eduardo Vazquez Hernandez, J. De Jesus Afanador Hernandez and Julio Gilvon Pelayo for Open Container.

-MCSO cited Reyes Calvillo Mendoza for Violation of the Basic Rule, 71 mph in a 55 mph zone.

-Boardman Police Department cited Alma Rose Ruiz, 19, and Vanessa Gutierrez Cardenas for Failure to Use Seat Belt.

-Heppner Ambulance received report of an elderly woman falling with

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