

## Man accidentally shot by father

EO Media Group

MEACHAM — A Gresham man died Wednesday, Oct. 7, near Meacham after his father shot him in what the Umatilla County Sheriff's Office is calling a hunting accident.

Sheriff Terry Rowan said the case, though, remains open.

"You treat this like any other death investigation and try to answer all the questions," he said.

Louis Neil Branze, 76, of Seaside, and his son David Joseph Branze, 47, were in the area deer hunting. Rowan said, with at least two other people.

"They've been hunting up there for around 40 years," he said.

One of the other hunting

party members at 6:24 p.m. called 9-1-1 and reported an accidental shooting near the Summit Ranger Station cabin off Forest Service Road 3113. Rowan said none of the other members witnessed the shooting.

Deputies responded and discovered Louis Branze "fired a shot at a deer and apparently accidentally struck David Branze," according to a written statement from the sheriff's office. "David Branze died as a result of the gunshot wound."

Members of Umatilla and Union County search and rescue teams found the body. The area is "very rugged and steep so the recovery took several hours to complete," according to the written statement.

## Business is brisk as recreational weed goes legal

By R.J. Marx  
Seaside Signal

Oct. 1 was the first day of the sale of recreational marijuana throughout the state, and Seaside's two dispensaries were busy from the get-go.

General Manager Gabe Garcia of Cannabis Nation said the store opened at 10 a.m., with about 10 people waiting outside for doors to open. "Between, 10 to 10:30 there was madness," he said. "It was just nonstop, probably five, six people in the hallway, 10 people inside, three or four people checking out."

At noontime, a steady flow of customers perused wares. For those without a medical marijuana license,

this was flowers only, as state law does not permit the sale of recreational oils and edibles until Jan. 1. Jars of Mango Haze, Northern Lights and Mr. Nice Guy were on display as customers — none of whom opted to speak on the record — browsed and bought.

Down the street, Highway 420 was busy as well, and many popular strains were already sold out. Customers were advised to park on Avenue S to avoid overcrowding in the parking lot.

Owner Steve Geiger, who with his wife Evee sought recreational approval for his business since 2013, worked with patients, many waiting for their turn to select product.

This comes only days after the city of Seaside decided to allow recreational sales at medical dispensaries unimpeded.

The city's moratorium on medical cannabis dispensaries expired in June 2015 and in July, Gov. Kate Brown signed a bill into law allowing existing dispensaries to sell marijuana to all adults beginning Oct. 1.

Sales of all cannabis products are currently banned by ordinance from the city's downtown core.

At Monday night's council meeting, councilors said they would "wait and see" how the initial three-month recreational sales proceeded before revisiting the matter.

"There are people who say they've waited 50

years to do this," Cannabis Nation's Garcia said. "Everybody's who's coming in here has been really positive, really excited, the whole community has been nothing excited about this here, and it's been really nice getting to meet all the people."

As a special thank-you, Garcia said the dispensary was offering pre-rolls — usually \$10 — for a penny. "We can't give away anything, that's illegal, but people pay a penny, as a celebration," he said.

"We appreciate all the local people coming through and being so positive," he added. "It's been really good. I didn't expect it to be like this in any way. It's been one person after another."

### SEASIDE POLICE LOG

#### Sept. 1

**4:12 p.m.**, 2100 block of Lewis and Clark Road: 911 caller reported disturbance in parking lot. Officer responded both parties departed before arrival, no answer at apartment indicated.

**10:47 p.m.**, Seaside: Officers responded report of suicidal female who called the hotline, Officers located known female and advised all was fine; subject was upset regarding earlier arrest.

#### Sept. 2

**1:12 a.m.**, 100 block of North Holladay Drive: Officers responded to report of missing person. Upon officer arrival, subject was found in lounge area. Officer advised caller against misuse of 911.

**11:22 a.m.**, 300 block of

Broadway: report of harassment. Officer made contact with the suspect. Victim did not want to pursue charges. Suspect is trespassing from the mall indefinitely.

**12:06 p.m.**, 1400 block of South Roosevelt Drive: 911 call reporting a male trespassing and possible theft of a cell phone. Officer made contact with the suspect, he is trespassing for 6 months from the location.

**2:32 p.m.**, Northbound on U.S. Highway 101: Officer responded to 911 call reporting motorcycle driving recklessly. Officer located and conducted traffic stop and advised subject of complaint.

**10:54 p.m.**, Ninth Avenue and the Prom: Officer contacted individuals on the beach. They were warned for excessive noise

and reckless burning.

#### Sept. 3

**3:48 p.m.**, 400 block of Broadway: Officer advised of report of person singing using profanity. Caller was advised of freedom of speech amendment.

**10:14 p.m.**, 300 block of North Prom: Caller reporting missing teenagers. Prior to officer arrival, caller called back and teens had returned.

#### Sept. 4

**8:49 a.m.**, 2600 block of U.S. Highway 101: Citizen came into

lobby and reported a suspicious male that dumped a large black plastic sack off along the highway. Unable to locate on bag or subject.

**5:04 p.m.**, 1500 block of North Roosevelt Drive: Officer responded to report of subject falling on bike in roadway and possibly intoxicated. Officer located subject who refused any medical attention and was warned about detox if contacted again.

**8:25 p.m.**, 900 block of North Holladay Drive: Officer assisted on scene with medical call.



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