

Drug bust nets two after lengthy investigation

A nine-month-long criminal investigation by the Columbia Enforcement Narcotics Team (CENT) and the Vernonia Police Department culminated in the execution of a search warrant, January 21, and the arrest of Marjorie Kelley, 55, and Robert W. Hohlfeld, 47, of 558 Madison Street, Vernonia.

Both were taken to Columbia County jail for possession and delivery of controlled substances.

Investigators found methamphetamine and marijuana in the residence. In addition to the drugs, officers and a drug dog found a handgun and ammunition in the house. Investigators

anticipate further charges being filed and additional persons of interest being contacted and interviewed.

Because a minor lived in the household, an investigation of endangering the welfare of a minor has also been opened.

The CENT and Vernonia officers were joined by members of the Columbia County interagency raid team, Washington County narcotics team, the Oregon State Police and Columbia County District Attorney's office in the complicated and extended investigation.

According to a spokesperson for the Vernonia Police Department, while officers were at the Madison Street residence conducting the search, more than one citizen came to the officers and thanked them for putting the alleged drug house out of business. Phone calls of support were also received at the police station.

Did you know...

By Chief Mike Cahill
Vernonia Police Department

Most citizens loathe thieves. Theft is unfair, disrespectful, despicable, and shows low character. Yet, many of us know people who are using illegal drugs on a habitual basis and we look the other way. If we are family members, we sometimes are patient, accepting, or tend to just ignore it. But have you ever thought about how regular drug users get the cash to buy their drugs? Almost always they steal from friends, acquaintances, or family.

They take advantage of those who care about them the most. So, why is it many people continue to allow this to go on? Is it because they feel sorry for the drug user? Is it because they just want to avoid a conflict? Do they think that he/she may grow out of it? The

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Registered Sex offender bulletin

In accordance with state law, which provides for community notification of predatory sex offenders who are no longer under active supervision, the Columbia County Community Corrections office has provided the following information:

Stanley Smith, 43, is a registered sex offender on probation. Mr. Smith's target victims are minor females. He is allowed contact with his children and grandchildren.

His address is listed as 874 Jefferson St. Vernonia. He is listed as being 6'1", 175 lbs. with black hair and brown eyes.



Vernonia Justice Court

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Jonathon M. Hartman, 18, Vernonia, Criminal Trespass II; changed plea to No Contest, reset to 2/3.

Larry Horman, no age given, Ashland, pled No Contest to Contempt of Court for FTA; execution of sentence stayed.

Robert Lignell, 18, St. Helens, pled No Contest to Mail Theft and Contempt of Court for FTA; 365 days jail suspended, to serve 10 days jail or 20 days work crew, 1 yr probation, attend Breaking Barriers class, \$388 FF&A.

Jamie Elizabeth Miller, 19,

Scappoose, MIP; Pay \$50 FF&A by 2/27 and close out case.

Lyle Mathews, no age given, Vernonia, Driving While Revoked & Driving Uninsured; assigned court appointed attorney.

Nathan R. Riley, 18, Vernonia, pled guilty to 2nd Degree Criminal Trespass; 30 days jail, 25 days suspended, to serve 5 days, 1 yr probation, \$188 FF&A.

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