

KHKF-Issues and Programs- 1st Quarter 2018

1. ISSUE: Former La Grande resident found dead

GUEST: Newberg-Dundee Police

DESCRIPTION: A former La Grande resident was found dead over the weekend. According to Newberg-Dundee Police, the victim identified as 20-year-old Jack Alan Burnell was shot multiple times. Burnell had been living in Newberg for close to a year according to police. At this time there have not been any arrests in the case. Detectives from the Major Crimes Response Team continue working to bring the person or persons responsible for the death of Mr. Burnell to justice.

TIME: KHKF MORNING NEWS 6:00AM-9:00AM January 16, 2018

2. ISSUE: House fire in La Grande

GUEST: Larry Woolridge

DESCRIPTION: The La Grande Fire Department was dispatched to a three alarm fire, along with multiple fire departments to a structure fire at 3:45 Wednesday morning. When firefighters arrived on 4th street in La Grande, the home was fully engulfed in flames.

:09 Woolridge** "Police on scene indicated it was fully involved. We had heavy fire out the front street and the side street of the house when we arrived."

The occupants safely escaped the total loss of the home and Red Cross was notified and was on the scene, unknown if their pets were able to get out. The upstairs of the house was made into an apartment complex, where most of the fire took place. No known cause at this time.

TIME: KHKF MORNING NEWS 6:00AM-9:00AM January 25, 2018

3. ISSUE: Haines Fire gets new ISO rating

GUEST: Chief Jerry Hampton

DESCRIPTION: Haines Fire Protection District Chief Hampton has announced that beginning on April 1, 2018 the fire district will have a new ISO fire rating.

This new rating of four is for all citizens that live within the fire district and are within five miles of one of the three fire stations in the district.

According to Chief Hampton, this new rating is a significant improvement from a nine to a four rating. Many hours has been put in by the department in order to make this new rating a reality.

One of the benefits of this rating change, for citizens, is that citizens could see a positive change in your insurance rates and premiums. Taxpayers can verify changes with their insurance providers.

TIME: KHKF MORNING NEWS 6:00AM-9:00AM February 19, 2018

4. ISSUE: Sex Abuse Sentencing

GUEST: Baker County DA Matt Shirtcliff

DESCRIPTION: On February 26, 2018, Baker County Circuit Court Judge Greg Baxter sentenced Joshua Dean Baker (dob 05-12-1977) of 274 Main, Halfway, Oregon to 225 months (18.75 years) in prison. A guilty verdict on three counts of Sexual Abuse in the First Degree was rendered by a Baker County Jury on February 22, 2018. Judge Baxter sentenced Baker on three counts of Sexual Abuse in the First Degree. Each count carried a mandatory minimum sentence of 75 months. Each count was run consecutive for a total of 225 months. Baker will not receive any good time sentence reduction as the charges are Ballot Measure Eleven offenses. Baker will be on post- prison supervision for 45 months with sex offender treatment and sex offender registration upon his release from prison. Judge Baxter ruled that Mr. Baker's crimes were more serious because the victim was a vulnerable victim and Baker knew of that vulnerability do to his relationship with her as her father. The fact that he knew she had been previously sexually abused by her step grandfather was one of the factors in handing down consecutive sentences.

"We were pleased that Judge Baxter gave the defendant the maximum sentence. This victim suffered tremendous emotional pain and trauma because she was a prior sex abuse victim and she trusted her father to keep her safe." "The victim and her counselor testified at the sentencing hearing about the effects this abuse had on her including how the violation of trust affected her. The victim was very happy that the Judge handed down the maximum sentence."

TIME: KHKF MORNING NEWS 6:00AM-9:00AM February 27, 2018

5. ISSUE: Elgin man sentenced for illegal trapping

GUEST: Union County DA Kelsie McDaniel

DESCRIPTION: David Sanders Jr., 58, appeared before Judge Thomas Powers in Union County Circuit Court on February 26, 2018 and plead guilty to one count of Unlawful Taking of Wildlife—Unbranded Traps (ORS 498.002, A Misdemeanor). The State dismissed one count of Unlawful Taking of Wildlife—Special Status Game Mammal in exchange for Sanders’ guilty plea and agreed upon sentence.

Judge Powers sentenced Sanders to the agreed upon negotiation between the parties of 24 months of bench probation, 100 hours of community service, a hunting/trapping license suspension of 36 months and a \$7,500 fine.

The charges stemmed from an incident in which an Oregon State Police trooper discovered unbranded traps off of Highway 204, west of Elgin on December 10, 2017. This location is on US Forest Service land in the Umatilla National Forest. The trooper observed and identified Sanders as the individual who had set the traps. The trooper then returned to that location on December 18, 2017 where he discovered that a deceased wolf appeared to have been shot a short distance from the traps. When officers confronted Sanders, he admitted that he had in fact shot the wolf after he had discovered the animal in his trap. Evidence collected from this incident included the firearm used to shoot the wolf and a photograph of the wolf in the trap before it was killed. Sanders was emphatic that he was attempting to trap bobcats only, not wolves. Sanders cooperated with the investigation when confronted by law enforcement.

Union County District Attorney Kelsie McDaniel made the record clear that the State did not view this case as a wolf poaching case but rather an illegal trapping case. It was clear from the investigation that the defendant was not out to illegally take a wolf but instead made a poor decision with respect to his trapping operation. Sanders had a previous violation for unbranded trapping out of Baker County Justice Court in 2016. McDaniel said that had Sanders called authorities when he first discovered the wolf in his trap, he would not have been charged with any criminal conduct. “This case highlights the fact that the problem with wolves is not going away. We are seeing more and more incidents of wolf predation and human interaction in Union County. This issue has long been a challenge for local ranchers, and with the number of wolves in the area more visible, people engaging in recreation are having dangerous and accidental encounters as well,” McDaniel said.

District Attorney McDaniel would like to thank the Oregon State Police Fish and Game Division for their efforts in this case.

TIME: KHKF MORNING NEWS 6:00AM-9:00AM March 5, 2018

6. ISSUE: Citizens aides officer in arrest

GUEST: La Grande Police Department

DESCRIPTION:

On Sunday, March 18, 2018, at 3:40 pm a City of La Grande police officer observed 55-year-old SCOTT TRAVIS DUNMIRE, of Union, operating a 2002 Yamaha motorcycle on East Adams Avenue in the wrong lane of travel and at a high rate of speed. The officer attempted to stop Dunmire by activating the emergency lights on his marked patrol vehicle, but Dunmire refused to stop. Dunmire would eventually pull over for the officer on 25th Street near Progress Loop in La Grande. After the officer exited his patrol car, Dunmire sped away, continuing his effort to elude the officer. Dunmire fled East on Cove Avenue over the I-84 overpass at a high rate of speed. The officer followed Dunmire, where he turned North onto 27th Street and then onto Glacier Street, which dead ends.

The lone officer attempted to arrest Dunmire, but while attempting to take him into custody he began to physically resist. A nearby resident observed the struggle between the officer and Dunmire and offered his assistance to the officer. With the citizen's assistance, Dunmire was subdued and taken into custody without any further resistance. Fortunately, no injuries were sustained during this incident.

Dunmire was lodged in the Union County Jail on charges of Attempting to Elude a Police Officer, Reckless Driving, and Resisting Arrest.

The La Grande Police Department sincerely appreciates our community and values the support we receive. We are particularly grateful for the assistance that was provided during this incident to our officer by a La Grande resident.

TIME: KHKF MORNING NEWS 6:00AM-9:00AM March 20, 2018