



Umatilla County Sheriff's Office Newsletter—November 2016

Jail ties highest score ever during inspection!

In October, the Umatilla County Jail received a score of 99.2 percent compliant! This ties the highest score in the history of the facility. This year's score is especially commendable since our jail population is at an all-time high. In addition, all the responsibilities that go along with managing many more inmates and programs have increased since Sheriff Rowan took office in 2013. The Umatilla County Sheriff's Office's professional corrections staff are the unsung heroes of the criminal justice system. Job Well Done!



Welcome Deputy Steven McDaniel!

Deputy Steven McDaniel was hired as a full time UCSO Patrol Deputy on September 15, 2016. Previously he was employed as an on-call Corrections Deputy with UCSO and just recently returned home from an active duty military deployment. McDaniel has 18 years military experience in the Oregon National Guard and is currently a Warrant Officer with Bravo Company, 168 Aviation out of Pendleton. He pilots a CH-47F Chinook helicopter. McDaniel will be attending the 16 week DPSST Basic Police Academy in Salem in addition to going through several weeks of the UCSO field training program. Welcome! We are excited to have him as part of our team and look forward to the experience he brings with him!



It is truly an honor and privilege to serve you as your Sheriff.

Contained in this report you will find valuable information about what is going on at the Sheriff's Office. If during your review of this information you have questions, please contact me directly. I am very proud of the men and women that make the various divisions of the Sheriff's Office successful. These are the men and women that dedicate themselves to serving the Sheriff's Office and our communities. I thank them for their dedication and professional service!



Pendleton Round-Up

The second full week of September always brings the Pendleton Round-Up and Happy Canyon. Although very busy, we were please to report a quiet year with no "major" incidents. We received tremendous support and cooperation from the Directors and their staff and from our Law Enforcement and Fire/EMS partners. There were approximately 30 to 40 law enforcement officers from several agencies patrolling the grounds during the week, in addition to private security from Rover Security and the Round Up Security Director, Tim Bennett and his volunteers. UCSO Reserve Deputies made up the bulk of patrols and were assisted by partner agencies. THANK YOU to the following agencies for your support and assistance. Together we are better! Gilliam County Sheriff's Office, Morrow County Sheriff's Office, Union County Sheriff's Office, Columbia County WA Sheriff's Office, Walla Walla County Sheriff's Office, Boardman PD, Milton-Freewater PD, Stanfield PD, Umatilla PD, Walla Walla PD, Umatilla County Fire District 1, Pendleton Fire, Morrow County Community Corrections, Umatilla County Community Corrections, Union County Community Corrections and Oregon Liquor Control Commission.

Sheriff's Office launches UAS "Drone" Program



In October, the Umatilla County Sheriff's Office announced their new Unmanned Aircraft System (drone) Program for Search and Rescue, Emergency Management and other purposes. Drone technology can be used to help find missing people faster, provide assistance to distressed victims and assist in disasters. This tool will help view a much larger area faster than with traditional methods, and can direct ground searchers and provide aid to a victim more quickly. Sergeant Dwight Johnson is managing the program. UCSO is recruiting additional staff members to test and become certified. Check out this video link!

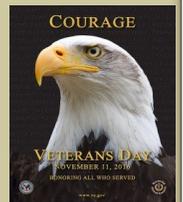


<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AnSm4qxZOpE>

UCSO is accepting applications for the position of Criminal Deputy. We currently have one open position, with intentions to establish a hiring list for future openings as well. A signing bonus may be offered to certified (lateral) police applicants. For details go to: www.co.umatilla.or.us/HR

Veteran's Day is November 11th.

To those who have served, we humbly and respectfully thank you for your service. Thank you also to the loved ones who supported them from home.



Please join us in honoring our Veteran's on November 11th.



Burglary Investigation Leads to Arrest

On August 14, Deputies Nathan Rankin and Loren Westmoreland responded to a report of a burglary at a storage unit in Weston. A storage unit was broken into and ransacked, and several items valued at thousands of dollars were taken. It was discovered that plywood on the interior wall between the neighboring storage unit was pried loose and provided a point of entry for the burglar. Shane Purcell was identified as a suspect and his vehicle was identified. The vehicle contained the victim's stolen property. Shane Purcell was arrested and lodged him in the Umatilla County Jail and was in possession of suspected methamphetamine at the time of his arrest. Purcell was charged with Second Degree Burglary, Theft in the First Degree, Criminal Mischief and Possession of a Controlled Substance. On October 27, Purcell was arrested again by Deputy Roberts on five outstanding Umatilla County Circuit Court Warrants related to the case and additional possession of drug charges. Nice Work to all Involved!



Community Partners Work to Find Mental Health Solutions

On September 27, Captain Stewart Harp, Lieutenant Thoren Hearn, Sergeant John Shafer, and personnel from Lifeways and other community partners attended an 8 hour training/work session to discuss and work towards finding solutions to address the needs of persons with mental health problems within the local criminal justice system. "Sequential Intercept Mapping & Taking Action for Change" was sponsored by GOBHI, and included Lifeways and the Local Public Safety Coordinating Council. The goals of the training were to further the delivery of appropriate services to people with mental illness and/or substance use disorders involved in the criminal justice system and optimize use of local resources, and customized to the very specific needs and desired outcomes of our community. For many years, the Umatilla County Jail has had several mental health, drug and alcohol treatment, and veteran's services programs in place, such as the in-custody mental health program, the Jail Diversion Program coordinated by Lifeways, and the Veterans Justice Outreach Program coordinated by the Department of Veterans Affairs. All of these efforts are designed to provide services to those persons who are in need, and to keep them and our communities safe.

Law Enforcement Street Survival / Tactical Medicine Instructor Course

In September, Sergeant John Shafer, Deputy Justin Howland and Detective Erik Palmer attended this three-day course in Coeur D'Alene, Idaho which provided elite, hands-on medical and tactical training led by Trilogy HSE out of Tampa, FL. The training is designed to educate police and first responders with the life-saving skills needed in their day-to-day duties and when responding to life threatening scenes, such as an active shooter scenario, officer involved shooting, traffic crash, or other disaster with injuries. Those that attended are now able to use the skills they learned to train others. This is one more step taken to insure our deputies have the skills and tools they need to prevent further injury or even save a life when they arrive first on the scene of an emergency.



Dispatchers Present at Local Schools

In October, UCSO Dispatchers Kerri Roberts and Tabitha Koehler presented Kids C.A.R.E (Can Always Report Emergencies) and Impact Teen Drivers, to local elementary and high school students.



Kids C.A.R.E. teaches children, K-5, how to recognize an emergency, call 9-1-1 and give vital information, and why "prank" calling 9-1-1 can be dangerous to others. The program includes a coloring contest with prizes, a meet and greet with a deputy, and stickers for every child.

Impact Teen Drivers shares information with high school students about distracted driving, the leading cause of teenage deaths, through powerful videos, discussion, statistics and true stories. UCSO hopes this program will be an invisible passenger in the car with teens to keep them safe on the roads.



Congratulations Jodi Florence!

Jodi Florence with the Emergency Management Division was awarded a certificate and a beautiful challenge coin from the State of Oregon Office of Emergency Management on behalf of the Confederate Tribes of Grand Ronde for her participation in the **Cascadia Rising 2016 Functional 4 day exercise**. The exercise was designed to test the Pacific Northwest Region's response in the event of a significant earthquake (9.0+) and subsequent tsunami causing catastrophic damage. Preparations for the exercise took over 2 years with over 20,000 participants in Oregon, Washington and Idaho. Excellent work Jodi! You are appreciated!



FOR SALE! Be careful if you are selling a high priced item online, such as a vehicle. A common scam is for a purchaser to offer the full asking price without seeing the item. A check is received that is LARGER than the agreed upon purchase price. The scammer claims the additional money is to cover shipping fees to have the vehicle shipped to them, or for a third party they owe money, or some other reason. When the check is deposited, it will appear to clear and funds verified. The seller is then asked to wire or send the additional money to a third party. A couple of weeks later, it is determined the check was a fraud and seller has been scammed. This scam comes in many variations, all are false. If you are sent a payment that is more than what you requested it is a scam!

Visit: ucso.crimegraphics.com and sign up to receive daily email alerts of criminal activity as well as view past activity, current jail inmates and arrests.

Theft Suspect Arrested and Linked to Additional Theft Cases

On September 28th, Deputy Nathan Good was called out to a report of a truck stuck on the canal bank behind the 1600blk of N 1st Place, Hermiston. Hermiston Police were also on scene. Joe Nathan Merritt and another male were throwing items from the truck across and into the canal. Merritt was arrested and lodged in the Umatilla County Jail on charges of Theft II and Criminal Trespass II. Merritt is facing additional charges of Tampering with Physical Evidence and Tampering with a Witness. Additional investigations both by the Hermiston Police Department and the Umatilla County Sheriff's Office linked him to other theft cases resulting in even more charges pending.



Grant Award for AED's (Automated External Defibrillators)

UCSO received a \$5945 grant from the **Good Shepherd Community Health Foundation** to purchase an additional eleven Automated External Defibrillators (AEDs). **THANK YOU!** to our community partner for their support. A special thank you to UCSO Communications Sergeant John Shafer, who wrote the grant application.

Lost Hunter Located in Ukiah

At about 10 p.m., on September 19, 2016, Dan Thompson from Willows, CA contacted the Umatilla County Regional Dispatch Center to report that his father, 85 year old Virgil Thompson from Portland, Oregon was missing during their hunting trip in the mountains of southern Umatilla County. Dan reported that Virgil was not in their designated meeting location when they went to pick him up at about 7:30pm. Search and Rescue personnel responded to the area near US Forest Service Roads 54 and 5440 to search for Mr. Thompson. At about 2a.m., ground searchers, Travis Lundquist and Josh English, found Mr. Thompson approximately 1 1/2 miles from the location where he was supposed to meet his hunting party. He was uninjured, but disorientated. He was able to build a fire for warmth. He had no map, compass or GPS. Mr. Thompson was escorted to his hunting camp and reunited with his party.



"This We Do, So Others May Live"

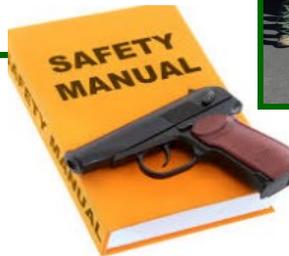
A Dog's Best Friend

Sometimes a dog's best friend is a UCSO Deputy (or two). This shy dachshund mix was rescued by Deputy Schaffner and Deputy Good after receiving a report of a dog that had been dumped off 2 days prior in the area of Shaw Rd and Rockwell Rd near Pilot Rock. Offering tasty treats and trying sweet talk did not convince her they were friends. However, after a lot of patience and persistence, she decided they could be trusted, jumped in their vehicle and was later transported to P.A.W.S.



Already have an Oregon Concealed Handgun License?

Interested in a **free** refresher course in handgun safety and Oregon concealed carry laws? Did you know that Oregon State Sheriff's Association offers an Oregon Concealed Handgun License Course online that allows you to take the course for free as many times as you want? If you need a certificate to use as proof of training to apply for a new concealed handgun license, then you can choose to pay for the certificate at the end of the course. If you don't want a certificate, you can choose to take the course for free. Check out the website and thank you for carrying responsibly: **Oregonchl.org**



"Kings for Cops" Event

In September, UCSO Deputy Rick Carter, Deputy Mike Gallaher, Detective Erik Palmer, and Detective Kacey Ward together with other officers from the Pacific Northwest, Baton Rouge, Louisiana and Dallas, Texas Police Departments participated in a salmon fishing trip on the Columbia River. The event, called "Kings for Cops" was held to honor law enforcement officers for their service and sacrifice. This event was organized after the recent tragedies that took the lives of officers in Dallas, TX and Baton Rouge, LA. Over 100 officers from all over the northwest, including our UCSO deputies, were invited to attend. We extend our sincere appreciation to all who made this event possible, including the communities of Woodland and Ridgefield, WA with special THANKS to the organizer, Mr. Hess, of the Woodland WA Police Department and of course, our law enforcement brothers and sisters across the Pacific Northwest and at Dallas PD and Baton Rouge PD.



WANTED The UCSO weekly warrants list has received a face lift. We have begun including photos of wanted persons to assist the public in identifying them. Check out your local newspaper. If you know the whereabouts of a wanted person, please report it immediately to law enforcement.

CRIME SCENE - DO NOT CROSS

Force Science Institute Training

Six UCSO staff members, along with officers from around the region, attended a two-day course in October designed to help law enforcement officers better understand the nature of human behaviors during officer-involved shootings and other high stress incidents. Our partner agency, the Walla Walla Police Department sponsored the training presented by the world class Force Science Institute. Thanks to WWPD Public Information Officer Tim Bennett for bringing this excellent training to the region!

Force Science® Institute Ltd.



Umatilla County Sheriff's Search and Rescue wins the 2016 East Oregonian Sweepstakes Award at the Main Street Cowboy's Dress Up Parade in Pendleton!

Visit our Webpage: www.co.umatilla.or.us/sheriff



Backpacks for Kids



In September the, Umatilla County Sheriff's Office delivered 114 backpacks filled with schools supplies to local schools. This was made possible through cooperation with the Salem-Kaiser Education Foundation. Sheriff Rowan, Undersheriff Littlefield and Deputy Steven McDaniel delivered the backpacks to the schools. Special thanks to Deputy Dave Shotts and Krina Lee with the Salem-Kaiser Education Foundation for initiating this project. We look forward to continuing this partnership, and working together on projects like this in the future!



New Detective Position Filled

Deputy Westmoreland has been selected for the new detective position contracted with Umatilla County Community Corrections. His primary duties will include fugitive apprehension, sex offender registration and compliance, monitoring of on-line activities for illicit behaviors and investigating charges involving persons on Parole or Probation in the course of community supervision. Congratulations!



Umatilla County Fair August 9-13th

UCSO Deputies and Reserve deputies worked late hours patrolling the Umatilla County Fair. UCSO patrols the fairgrounds every year to ensure a great experience for those attending by keep the environment safe and secure. UCSO Reserve Deputies are essential during an event such as this and our agency is proud to have such a professional Reserve Program.

NEW HIRE

On November 15th, Probation and Parole Officer, Jeff Brown, will begin employment with the Sheriff's Office as a Criminal Deputy. Jeff started with Umatilla County Juvenile Detention in 2000. In 2003 he went to work with Homestead Youth and Family Services. In 2004 he was hired as a Community Corrections Programs Officer and in 2006 was hired as a Probation and Parole Officer. He supervises a domestic violence caseload, general caseload, high risk caseload, and most recently a sex offender caseload. He is an example of our dedication to seek and retain professional and competent staff. Welcome!

Active Shooter Response Training

The Civilian Response to Active Shooter Events (CRASE) course was presented to Umatilla County employees by Hermiston Police Department. The training is designed



and built on the "Avoid, Deny, Defend" strategy. Sgt. Billy Osborne and Captain Travis Eynon shared the history and prevalence of active shooter events, the role of professional guardians, civilian response options, medical issues, and concluded the training with a short drill. Thank you to our partners at HPD!

"OLD CASES"

Believe it or Not? On July 2, 1975, Umatilla County Sheriff's Office was advised by Walla Walla County Sheriff's Office of a man who stated he had been attacked by a "Bigfoot" at Tiger Canyon Park. The man told Deputies that in the early morning hours, he had been sitting by his fire, eating peanuts, and drinking beer, when a "hairy arm" reached around his neck from behind. The man then grabbed a stick of wood from the fire and hit something. After throwing water on his campfire, he jumped into his pickup and left the scene to warn others about the Bigfoot. Deputies arrived at the scene and were unable to locate any evidence, other than several large overturned rocks.



Our Partners to the North

Working together with our Law Enforcement partners is critical for success, not only on a day to day basis, but also during special events. Fair and Rodeo season presents opportunities for us to work closely with other agencies, not just asking for assistance, but providing assistance as well.



Sheriff John A. Turner, Walla Walla County Sheriff's Office expressed his thanks to our staff for assisting during the 2016 Walla Walla County Fair and Frontier Days Rodeo from September 1st through 5th this year. Sheriff Turner stated, "(UCSO staff are) a credit to themselves, your organization, and our profession in the way they conducted themselves while here. Their help and partnership are very much appreciated. Please share our thanks and commendation to each."

Dispatch & Jail Experiences High Volume of Activity During Pendleton Round-Up week, September 10th—18th.

The Jail booked a total of 142 arrestees from around the county, with the highest jail population reaching 234 inmates. They also assisted the multi-agency Emphasis Team by providing a transport van and 2 personnel to take arrestees to jail. Many inmates were combative with each other and staff. The corrections officers did a great job at professionally handling the additional work load.

The Dispatch Center was also very busy. They are the first responders for almost every police, medical and fire call in the region. As a result, they handled nearly 900 incidents during that week. All activity increases during this week, the business lines, the 911 calls, radio traffic and other duties. As the Pendleton Round-Up says, "Let R Buck!"

American Police Hall of Fame

awards Chaplain Jefferies a Purple Heart for a career ending injury he sustained during a domestic disturbance call while employed as a deputy in Montana years ago. **The AFP&CC, American Federation of Police & Concerned Citizens** offers a number of programs and services that support the law enforcement community and specifically the surviving families of officers killed in the line of duty.

