

Mountain Misbehavior

Guest tries to skip town

By Laura Dunham
Special to the Irregular

WESTERN MOUNTAINS — The following are summaries of some of the local law enforcement agencies' and fire departments' activities last week.

Carrabassett Valley Police

The Carrabassett Valley Police Department had a busy week responding to 79 requests for service.

Officer Nile responded to the Carrabassett Inn to investigate a theft of services in the amount of \$256 dollars after Roger Gagnier of Georgia left the Inn without paying for the full bill. Nile sent a report out to surrounding agencies to be on the look out for Gagnier. Gagnier was caught on the Jay/ Wilton town line by Wilton Police and arrested on Officer Nile's Probable Cause and then transported to Franklin County Jail. Gagnier was then formally charged by Sgt. Walker of the Carrabassett Valley Police Department for the crime.

Sgt. Walker stopped Jerry Norton of Stratton on Route

27 for a vehicle defect then charged Norton with Operating a Motor Vehicle after his license had been suspended.

Officer Burnell investigated a report of vandalism, assisted the Franklin County Sheriff's Department with an investigation and conducted a welfare check.

Cpl. Small investigated a criminal mischief complaint, two noise complaints, one hit and run accident, a welfare check, and two theft of services complaints recovering \$144 dollars from the thefts.

Officers responded to four burglary alarms, 14 unlocks, four parking complaints, one citizen assist, six fire alarms and eleven low temperature alarms.

Officer Nile responded to a 911 hang-up.

Officers also investigated four traffic accidents and assisted three motorists that had gone off the road.

Franklin County Sheriff's Department

At the Franklin County Sheriff's Department, dispatchers sent deputies on Feb. 6 to Salem for a complaint

of someone passing a stopped school bus, investigated an accident on Main Street in Strong and responded to a theft on the Farm Road in Avon.

On Feb. 7 deputies gave out a written warning on Main Street in Kingfield, responded to mutual aid on the Mayhew Road in Anson and gave out a written warning on Route 27 in New Vineyard.

On Feb. 8 deputies responded to an alarm going off on School Street in Kingfield, gave out a written warning on Route 4 in Strong, responded to power lines down on Curve Street in Kingfield, responded to an alarm going off on the Bald Mountain Road in Rangeley and the Whip Willow Farm Road in Rangeley. Deputies also responded to a motor vehicle complaint on the Chandler Road in Strong.

On Feb. 9 deputies gave out a written warning on the Salem Road in Kingfield, issued a summons on the Farmington Road in Strong and responded to a structure fire on Route 142 in Salem.

On Feb. 10 deputies assisted another agency on Main Street in Rangeley, issued a summons on Route 27 in New Vineyard, responded to a welfare check on the Allen Road in Rangeley, gave out a defect card on School Street in Eustis and issued a traffic violation warning on Route 27 in Carrabassett Valley.

On Feb. 12 deputies gave out a written warning on Main Street in Stratton, issued a summons on Route 27 in Alder Stream Township, responded to a 911 hang-up on the Lambert Hill Road in Strong and issued a summons on Route 4 in Phillips.

Fire Departments/Ambulance Service Carrabassett Valley Fire Department

In Carrabassett Valley fire fighters there responded last week to a car accident on the Sugarloaf access road with minor injuries, to a diabetic reaction on Penobscot Circle, a chimney fire on the Sandy River Circle and to an electrical problem in Settlers Lot, said Fire Chief Courtney Knapp.

Kingfield Fire Department

In Kingfield, Captain Fred Nichols said that six fire fighters there responded to a structure fire on Route 142 in Phillips on Monday.

NorthStar Ambulance Service

At the NorthStar Ambulance Service, Mike Senecal, Operations Manager said that his service responded to three calls in Carrabassett, three in Chesterville, three in Dallas Plantation, three in Farmington center, 44 in Farmington, 15 in Jay, four in Kingfield, four in Livermore, six in Livermore Falls, three in New Portland, one in New Vineyard, four in Phillips, one in Portland, five in Rangeley, two in Salem, five in Sandy River Plantation, two in Strong, one in Temple, one in Vienna, one in Weld, six in Wilton, one in Wyman Township.

Man returns stolen TV six months later

By Donna M. Perry
Special to the Irregular

RANGELEY — Persistence pays off. Rangeley police officer Brian Hughes has been investigating the theft of a 48-inch plasma television from a cottage on Faunce Road since Aug. 21, 2008, police Chief Dennis Leahy said. The TV cost \$4,500 new, he said.

Hughes gathered evidence at the crime scene, interviewed people and interrogated suspects.

"He continued to follow new leads through the summer months," Leahy said, and kept pressing suspects.

Finally Monday, Tucker Blythe, 18, of Rangeley, one of the suspects, came into the police station and turned himself, Leahy said.

"Blythe confessed to Brian that he burglarized the cottage and stated he acted alone," he said.

Blythe also said he'd hidden the TV at Zeke Hall's home on Oquossoc Avenue since the burglary. The residence is near the police station.

Blythe returned the TV to the caretaker of the proper-

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