Written by Staff Reports Friday, 14 December 2018 10:40









## BACKPACKING

#### 12/10, Gallup

A Vanderwagen man was arrested after he reportedly accosted a man in the Downtown Walkway and stole his backpack.

Jesse Fred, 44, was charged with robbery Dec. 10.

Gallup Police Department Officer Cindy Romancito said she was dispatched to the walkway near 215 W. Coal Ave. at about 8 pm because of a report of a fight in progress. There, she found a man with blood on his face.

She said she called out to the man and he began to swear at her. She stopped to question him, and he told her he was smoking a cigar in the walkway when two men jumped him and stole his backpack. The two were not anywhere to be found but police began a search and found a man near Glenn Pastry who matched the description given by the victim.

Fred had two backpacks on him. The victim identified him as one of his attackers.

Romancito said Fred became disorderly while he was detained in a police unit. He was reportedly intoxicated.

## **VEHICLE VANDALISM**

12/10, Gallup

Gallup police are investigating a report of an automobile vandalism at the professional building at 1808 E. Aztec Ave.

An employee at the scene said the vehicle had been hit with rocks over the weekend, and all of the windows were shattered. The same vehicle was also reported as vandalized a couple of weeks before.

Police currently have no suspects.

## VAMPIRE IN VANDERWAGEN

#### 12/9, Vanderwagen

An Albuquerque man was arrested after he reportedly bit a Gallup woman on her neck and punched her.

Soliz, 44, was charged with battery on a household member.

McKinley County Sheriff's Office deputies were dispatched to a residence on Cousins Road at about 11 pm. The homeowner said his daughter was assaulted by her boyfriend.

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The daughter told deputies she was outside arguing with Soliz when he punched her on the side of the face. They allegedly returned inside and were lying down when he bit her on the neck, she said.

Deputies interviewed Soliz, but he refused to say anything.

## ROLLOVER

## 12/8, Continental Divide

A Casamero Lake woman was injured when her vehicle rolled over Dec. 8 on Highway 122 near Continental Divide.

MCSO deputies were called to the scene of the accident at about 7:42 am.

The 20-year-old driver of the vehicle reportedly told police she had fallen asleep at the wheel and went off the roadway. She said she woke up and overcorrected, lost control of the vehicle, went off the road again and went through a fence, at which point the vehicle rolled over.

The vehicle received heavy damage and the driver sustained visible injuries, according to the police report. No citations were issued.

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#### WEED AND WEE ONES

12/5, Gallup

Just what are the responsibilities of a mother when she wants to party and has no one to babysit her kids?

A Grants woman discovered the answer when she was charged with three counts of child abuse after she allowed her children, ages 2 to 7 years old, to stay in a Gallup hotel room as she drank alcohol and smoked marijuana with friends.

Michelle Lee, 33, also had an outstanding bench warrant.

GPD Officer Steven Peshlakai said he was dispatched to a Gallup motel at about 7:39 pm because of a report of an aggravated assault.

When he arrived, Lee was inside the room with her three children. Lee reportedly showed signs of intoxication and Peshlakai said he could smell marijuana in the room.

Lee admitted she had been drinking and smoking marijuana. She reportedly seemed to think it was all right to party as long as the children had shelter. Peshlakai said Lee laughed at the situation.

Lee was arrested. None of her relatives were willing to pick up the children, so they were taken into state custody.

#### WIFE ON WHEELS

12/6, Gallup

A California man found himself stranded in Gallup when his wife reportedly stole his vehicle.

A 68-year-old man told Gallup police he and his wife stayed overnight Dec. 5 at a Gallup motel, and when he woke up, his wife and the vehicle were gone.

Police in Flagstaff, Ariz. stopped the vehicle, but let the woman go when the man at first refused to file charges. He told Gallup police he changed his mind when he learned there was nothing police could do unless charges were filed.

The husband told Gallup police he now wanted to file the vehicle as stolen; he thought his wife would return but she did not.

Metro Dispatch reached the wife on her cell phone and she reportedly said she didn't care if she was arrested and she wasn't turning back. She refused to answer her phone when a GPD officer tried to talk to her.

SLEEP AND STEAL

12/6, Gallup

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A Rock Point, Ariz. woman contacted the GPD Dec. 6 to report a stolen vehicle.

The woman said she thought her vehicle was in the possession of a Piñon man who was staying at a motel in Gallup.

Police spoke with the man who said the vehicle was taken by a woman who had stayed overnight with him in his motel room. He said when he woke up, the woman was gone, and so were the keys to the car.

He did not know where the woman was from and said she was a friend of his uncle. Police listed the vehicle in the national registry of stolen vehicles.

## SUSPICIOUS CIRCUMSTANCES

## 12/5, Gallup

Melvin James, 41, was arrested by the GPD under suspicious circumstances Dec. 5.

James was found by GPD officers on the 200 block of West Maloney Avenue at about 11 am, walking with a knife in his hands.

Police units surrounded him and got him to drop the knife. James had dried blood and several knife cuts on his hand.

He refused to say anything to police about his injuries. Police searched the area for more blood but didn't find any.

James was arrested after police found he had an outstanding bench warrant from an Arizona court.

## RENTAL NOT RETURNED

12/4, Gallup

The GPD is looking for a Fort Defiance, Ariz. woman who may have been involved in the theft of a rental vehicle.

A Window Rock man told police he met a woman at the Sports Page Lounge, 1400 S. 2<sup>nd</sup> St., the night of Dec. 4. He said he did not get the woman's name but thought she said she was from Fort Defiance.

He told police he took the woman for a ride in his rental vehicle and when they returned to the bar, she asked for the keys because she had left her purse in the car. She allegedly went out to get her purse and never returned to the bar.