

## Weekly Police Activity Reports

Written by Staff Reports

Friday, 20 December 2019 09:06

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### ***HOUSE FIRE***

#### ***Thoreau, Dec. 7***

The sheriff's office is investigating an arson that took place in Thoreau on Dec. 7.

McKinley County Sheriff Deputy Miguel Bittony responded to the call of a possible arson at about 1 am at 7 Red Rock Drive. When he got there, he talked to fire personnel who said the fire started from the outside. He noticed a pile of tires and trash stacked up against a corner of the building.

Steven Becenti, the owner of the house, said he saw the tires lying flat on the ground and not stacked. He said this appeared to be suspicious.

He said he was away when the fire started. No one was in the house when the fire started. No injuries were reported. The police report did not say how bad the fire was or how much of the house was damaged.

### ***GUN MISFIRE***

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### ***Vanderwagen, Dec. 4***

The McKinley County Sheriff's Office investigated an incident on Dec. 4 at 8:30 pm where a Vanderwagen man said he accidentally shot himself in the hand.

Wakinyan Waukazoo told officers that he was trying to unlock the cable that ran through the gun's trigger guard when it went off. He said the gun was his and he purchased it from a guy he knows.

McKinley County Sheriff's Deputy Clayton Etsitty said he went to the car where the gun was located and tried to secure it, but the cable lock interfered. Since he worried about the gun going off again, he informed his supervisors and they said to leave it alone and allow the dayside crew to handle the matter.

### ***Domestic Struggle With Guardian Angel***

#### ***Gallup, Oct. 12***

Gallup Police arrested a Mentmore man on Oct. 12 on charges of domestic violence.

Gallup Police Officer Darius Johnson said he was dispatched to the Taco Bell on E. Hwy. 66 about 7 pm. When he got there, he met Kerry Norton, who said she was punched by her boyfriend, Larrison Hunch, 44.

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She said the two were drinking near the restaurant when some friends walked by and she waved at them. She said her boyfriend became jealous and angry. The next thing she knew he backhanded her with a closed fist.

Hunch was not there when police arrived but he was found a little later.

When he was told he was being arrested for battery on a household member, he said police always take the side of the woman. He said she was always leaving him and he was only trying to protect her because he was her guardian angel.

He said he spends all day panhandling and gives all the money to Norton who only uses it to buy liquor. He said he hit her only to to teach her a lesson to respect him.

Hunch was transported to McKinley County Adult Detention Center and booked.