

## Raid leads to Prineville pot bust

by Cheryl McDermott

A 53-year old Prineville man was arrested following a raid on his home and vehicles that turned up 16 marijuana plants, growing equipment, and other evidence suggesting he was involved in the sales and manufacture of pot.

Over the past several months, detectives with the Central Oregon Drug Enforcement (CODE) team received "credible" information that Richard James Brenner was involved in the sales and manufacturing of marijuana, said Deschutes County Detective Sgt. Scott Shelton.

Richard James Brenner, CCJ photo Detectives initiated a surveillance program to monitor the suspect's activities in and around the Prineville area, and gathered enough evidence to obtain a search warrant for his vehicles and his residence, the sergeant said.

Shortly before 11 a.m. on Friday, February 16, CODE detectives, assisted by deputies with the Crook County Sheriff's Office, raided Brenner's home at 2736 Maphet Road in Prineville.

During the search of the residence and vehicles, Shelton said detectives allegedly found 16 mature marijuana plants, growing equipment, packaging materials, weight scales, and about three ounces of packaged pot.

Brenner was taken into custody and lodged at the Crook County Jail, and is charged with possession, manufacture, and delivery of a controlled substance.

The CODE team is a multi-jurisdictional narcotics task force comprised of detectives from all Central Oregon law enforcement agencies including the Bend Police Department, Deschutes County Sheriff's Office, Redmond Police Department, Crook County Sheriff's Office, Prineville Police Department, Oregon State

Police, Jefferson County Sheriffs Department, United States Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), Deschutes County District Attorney, and the Oregon National Guard.

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