

*Budget-Building, Layoffs, Jail Releases Ahead*

The Grants Pass Daily Courier

Front Page News

May 16, 2012

[http://www.thedailycourier.com/articles/2012/05/16/front\\_page\\_news/news02.txt](http://www.thedailycourier.com/articles/2012/05/16/front_page_news/news02.txt)

The Josephine County Budget Committee is due to meet 4 p.m. Thursday at the Anne Basker Auditorium, 640 N.W. Sixth St., to discuss budget cuts for jail, rural sheriff's patrols, prosecution and juvenile department services.

**• Layoff notices are due to go out this week to nearly 100 county employees, including to 70 of 98 Sheriff's Office employees; 20 of 30 Juvenile Department employees and eight of 24 District Attorney employees.**

• By month's end, the number of local inmates held at the jail is expected to drop to 30, compared with 93 today.

**• The sheriff's 28-person patrol division is expected to be cut to four: the sheriff and three deputies who by contract must patrol Cave Junction, rivers and federal forests.**

• The detention and shelter facility at the Josephine County Juvenile Justice Center is expected to close by June 15, to be replaced with three or four rented detention beds in Jackson County. On Monday, eight youths were in detention; and on Tuesday, seven youths were in the shelter.

• About 1,300 crimes might not be prosecuted in the coming fiscal year beginning July 1, due to prosecution cuts. Last year, about 2,600 cases were filed in court. DUIs, drug possession and relatively minor assaults might not be charged.

• Congress has not yet acted on a proposal to continue some federal payments to the county, which could mean more than \$4 million to help soften the blow of cuts. Federal payments brought as much as \$12 annually to the county, in past years.

• Sheriff Gil Gilbertson on Tuesday predicted that county commissioners will put a new tax proposal on the ballot in the fall.

The Grants Pass Daily Courier. May 16, 2012. *Budget-Building, Layoffs, Jail Releases Ahead*. Grants Pass, OR