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Two in custody following vandalism spree at county fairgrounds

East Bremerton, Wash. -- Maintenance crews from the Kitsap County Facilities, Parks and Recreation Department spent the morning cleaning up debris and making temporary repairs to the Kitsap Pavilion, 1200 NW Fairgrounds Road, East Bremerton, following an early morning vandalism spree.

An adult male and a male juvenile were taken into custody at the scene.

Kitsap County Sheriff's patrol deputies responded to the fairgrounds complex at approximately 2:30 a.m. to investigate a 911 dispatch of a possible burglary in progress inside the pavilion. Upon arrival they observed numerous ceiling tiles, support grids, interior insulation and ceiling light fixtures either damaged or pulled down from the overhead entryway into the building. Smoke from a paper fire was spewing out of a Kitsap Sun newspaper vending machine. Multiple double-pane windows to the pavilion's front entry doors were shattered. An automated teller machine belonging to Kitsap Community Federal Credit, positioned in front of the pavilion, was damaged.

A Sheriff's sergeant, arriving on-scene first, heard banging sounds from within the building. He positioned additional responding patrol deputies as containment while awaiting arrival of a Sheriff's K-9 deputy. Upon entering the pavilion deputies initially encountered smoke or "fog" from a discharged fire extinguisher in the pavilion foyer. They found the two suspects in the immediate vicinity, both in possession of metal pipes and one in the act of discharging a fire extinguisher.

The adult suspect began to back-up towards an adjacent men's restroom and was taken into custody by the Sheriff's K-9 deputy. The juvenile suspect also began backing up, was uncooperative when given verbal commands by the deputies, and was subsequently physically controlled and arrested. A search of the entire premises was conducted with no other persons found.

An early cost estimate by Kitsap County Facilities, Parks and Recreation Department puts damage caused by the vandalism between \$10,000 - \$15,000 (see attached list).

In addition to county property and the pavilion itself, musical instruments and sound equipment belonging to both the county and Central Kitsap School District (CKSD) was also damaged. The pavilion was being equipped and set-up for the series of CKSD high school graduation ceremonies scheduled for later this week, beginning with Olympic High School tomorrow evening, Central Kitsap High School on Friday and Klahowya Secondary School on Saturday.

The adult male was identified as Charles A. Ortenzi, age 18, of East Bremerton. He was booked into Kitsap County Jail on charges of burglary, 2nd degree, malicious mischief, 1st degree and arson, 2nd degree, with bail set initially at \$40,000. Ortenzi made an initial appearance in Kitsap County Superior Court at 3:00 p.m. today.

The younger male was identified as a 14 year-old juvenile missing from Daybreak Detention in Spokane. He was booked into Kitsap County Youth Services Center (juvenile detention) on the same charges as Ortenzi.

Cost estimation for damages and repair or replacement of infrastructure / equipment continues.

There is no anticipated change to the scheduled graduation ceremonies of the three CKSD high schools at the pavilion. Maintenance crews from Facilities, Parks and Recreation Department are working extensively to ensure that the Kitsap County Pavilion is in suitable condition for these important events.

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Damage

Pavilion Entry

Nine double-pane entry and lobby door windows destroyed

Approximately 40 ceiling tiles with support grids pulled down, along with overhead insulation

Display screen on Kitsap Community Federal Credit Union ATM machine destroyed

Overhead lights pulled down and destroyed

Kitsap Sun newspaper vending machine knocked over and interior contents set afire

Pavilion Interior

Six office windows shattered

Telephone destroyed

Video cassette recorder destroyed

Wall clock destroyed

Mounted television in conference room damaged

Holes knocked into interior drywall

Office safe damaged

Broken fluorescent lights in kitchen

All mirrors broken in balcony level restrooms

Restroom signs removed (later found on juvenile suspect)

All balcony lights destroyed

Eight illuminated exit sign lights destroyed

Pavilion Floor

Sound equipment removed from stage and thrown on floor (speakers, etc.)

Sound amplifier damaged

Candy vending machine glass shattered, candy taken

Soft drink vending machine damaged

Stage podium broken into pieces and thrown onto floor

Drum heads on band timpani drums punctured

Drum head on band bass drum punctured