

Monterey County The Herald

Police briefs: Molestation suspect turns himself in

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Cruz

A Salinas man wanted by police on charges of child molestation turned himself in at the Monterey County Jail on Monday afternoon, police reported.

Rene Cruz, 39, surrendered about 2 p.m. after relatives and attorney Tom Worthington publicly called for his surrender on Friday.

He was booked on an \$800,000 arrest warrant charging child molestation and oral copulation of a child younger than 14 years old.

Police have been trying to locate Cruz since January, after the alleged victim, now 14 or 15, reported that she was molested four years earlier in a day care center at the Salinas home Cruz shared with his girlfriend Nelida Vega Gaytan, who has been questioned and released.

Man gets 30 days for illegal contracting

A Salinas man is serving 30 days in the Monterey County Jail after pleading no contest to contracting without a license and failing to carry workers' compensation insurance for employees.

Cesar Resendiz Mendieta, 26, also admitted to driving under the influence, which carried a sentence of five days in county jail and \$1,886 in fines, the Contractors State License Board reported Monday.

During a Jan. 18 hearing in Monterey County Superior Court, Resendiz was ordered to pay more than \$4,000, with the possibility of an additional \$8,000 in fines depending on his successful completion of probation.

As part of his probation, Resendiz cannot contract without a license, must purchase workers' comp insurance for employees and must pay

them by check with the proper payroll tax deductions.

Man held at gunpoint after fleeing vehicle

A man who was stopped by Salinas police Monday morning for driving a car with no license plate was captured at gunpoint after running from his vehicle, police said.

Jacob Rede, 21, was pulled over around 9:15 a.m. at Wood and Roosevelt streets. After stopping, Rede ran from his car, police said, and began jumping fences on Ragsdale Court. He was eventually cornered at an apartment complex on North Madeira Avenue, where he was held at gunpoint until more officers arrived.

Police said they found a .22-caliber rifle in his bedroom during a probation search, and said they also found a small amount of marijuana in the car.

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Rede was booked on gun, gang and probation violation charges, as well as vehicle code violations and resisting arrest.

Boy arrested after chase in stolen car

A 17-year-old boy was arrested just outside Salinas on Sunday night after the stolen car he was driving was stopped.

Police said a 1994 Honda Accord was reported stolen from a Salinas home and patrolling officers spotted the car at Natividad and Boronda roads at 9:30 p.m.

They followed the car north on Natividad and attempted to stop it, but the car sped west on Rogge Road, police said.

A sheriff's deputy rolled out a spike strip, flattening the stolen car's tires. It stopped at Rogge and San Juan Grade roads, police said.

Three of four passengers ran from the car. They were arrested after a short chase, police said. They were identified as gang members and lodged at Juvenile Hall on charges of auto theft with gang enhancements.