

STRIP CLUB: City has denied license

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states. "Bunn stated Evans picked up a spray can Bunn had purchased and hit him in the back of the head an unknown amount of times."

On March 12, 2014, Evans turned himself in at the Hermiston Safety Center, where he was issued a citation for charges of fourth degree assault, unlawful use of a weapon and physical harassment.

After he was found guilty of all three counts Jan. 28, 2015, Evans was sentenced to 30 days in jail and nine years probation.

Despite being months removed from Evans' conviction, his motives for attacking Bunn remain unclear.

Hermiston Police Chief Jason Edmiston wrote in an email that Evans didn't talk with authorities when he turned himself in. And in an interview with the *East Oregonian*, Bunn said he's still uncertain as to why Evans attacked him.

Bunn said he was still months away from opening Honey Bunnz and had kept that information close to the vest. Bunn also said he was acquainted with Evans but didn't share a personal history with him.

Evans did not respond to repeated requests for comment.

With Umatilla not an option due to its temporary ban on strip clubs, Evans applied to reopen Night Moves at 15 N. Columbia St.

in Milton-Freewater.

According to a business license application dated June 23, Evans planned to open a "juice bar with exotic entertainment" and employ three people. Often, the dancers themselves work as private contractors.

Evans listed a Madras address in his application.

While Milton-Freewater doesn't require conditional approval to open a strip club, City Manager Linda Hall said the city denied his business license application Wednesday.

Although she declined to give the exact reason why the city denied the application, Hall said staff was not aware of Evans' conviction before the *East Oregonian* contacted her Wednesday.

Hall anticipates Evans will file an appeal to the city's decision, which will be considered by Hall. If Hall upholds the city's decision, Evans can appeal her ruling to the Milton-Freewater City Council.

Hall said an appeal must be filed within 10 days of the city's rejection, giving Evans until Aug. 7 to submit his appeal.

If necessary, Evans could technically make his case at the city council's next meeting Aug. 10, but Hall anticipates the appeals process will take longer.

Contact Antonio Sierra at asierra@eastoregonian.com or 541-966-0836.

BUST: Multiple buys before search warrant

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oxycodone pills prescribed to someone else.

Cervantes was charged with possession and delivery of the drugs, felon in possession of a firearm and frequenting or maintaining a place where controlled substances are used. He was lodged at the Umatilla County Jail, Pendleton.

Roberts said a tactical team is only deployed in conjunction with a search warrant when an individual poses an imminent threat. He said the narcotics team uses confidential informants to provide the information necessary to obtain a warrant.

"We generally make multiple buys before the search warrant," he said.

Edmiston said Cervantes has an extensive criminal history with 14 arrests and 73 charges. He said he is hopeful the combination of commercial quantities of controlled substances and a firearm will lead to Cervantes' incarceration.

"Mr. Cervantes is very well known to all law enforcement in Umatilla County," Edmiston said. "He has a history of being involved in numerous investigations of extreme violence to include attempted murder."

In 2007, Cervantes was charged with attempted murder and assault following a brawl in which he stabbed Kevin Verwey at an apartment complex on Dogwood Avenue in Hermiston. During the trial, Cervantes claimed he used his pocket knife in self defense, and the state argued he intended to kill Verwey. The jury convicted Cervantes of second-degree assault in a 10-2 vote but unanimously agreed he was innocent of attempted murder after a two-day trial.

The prosecuting attorney representing the state argued for a Measure 11 sentence of 70 months, but the Circuit Court judge downgraded the sentence to five years of probation and 180 hours of community service each of those years.

PERS: Overhauled in 2003

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based on several factors, including assumptions about inflation and wage growth. But the one that stands out is the assumed rate of return, which for 24 years was set at 8 percent, typical of what state-run funds had until recent years.

The current rate is 7.75 percent, which the board set two years ago and has been in effect since Jan. 1, 2014. California lowered its rate from 7.75 percent to 7.5 percent in 2012.

The rate is used when the system credits annual earnings for the regular accounts of public employees hired before 1996. It's also used to

calculate pension payments for public employees hired before August 2003, when the system was overhauled and pension benefits were reduced for new workers.

A lower rate could reflect more realistic projections of PERS earnings from investments, which account for 73 cents of every dollar it pays out to retirees.

But it also could result in higher pension contributions by government employers, which already are facing increases, and lower benefit payments for current employees when they retire.

Two employees filed comments urging the board not to change the current rate.

BREWER: Grand opening on Saturday

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a lingering hoppiness and a spiciness born of an encounter with rye malt. His other favorite is Old Craig, an English strong ale named after Craig Coleman, who is one of six owners of Ordnance and the associated Neighbor Dudes Tap House in Hermiston. The current beer list offers some heady choices of lagers, wheat beer, a rainbow of ales (pale, golden, red and brown), porter, Kolsch, English bitter, imperial stout and inventive names such as Harry the Porter and Of Chimpanzees.

The key to brewing excellent beer, Mayfield said, "is learning how different ingredients play together." In RX (short for rye extra), he found a balance between rye and hops.

Mayfield moved to Boardman from a Colorado brewery when offered the Ordnance head brewer position by Coleman, who had launched the brewery in 2014 with his friend and neighbor Mark McLeod. McLeod has since died.

"We brewed our first batch on Halloween of last year," Mayfield said. The craft brewery gets its name from a ghost town between Boardman

and Hermiston, once populated by those who worked at the now-closed Umatilla Chemical Depot.

Mayfield said he has bonded with Boardman. One plus, he said, is the lack of traffic.

"I do horribly with traffic lights," he said with a slow grin. "Morrow County doesn't have a single one."

Asked to describe a typical day at the brewery, Mayfield took a sip of RX and pondered. The life of a brewer, he said, is predictable in only one way.

"There's never a typical day," he said.

Supply and demand often dictates his schedule. Recently, a boiler went down in the middle of a batch. Mayfield averted disaster by substituting an old German process called kettle sour. He finally made it to bed at 2:30 a.m.

Mayfield's beers are starting to get noticed. Full Metal Jacket, an English IPA, got Best Beer at the Beerex Fest in February. Oregon Beer Growler Magazine named Wheatville and RX Pale Ale as "Perfect Pints." He loves trying new techniques. At the moment, he has what he calls "the sour project." Sour beer is more tart and acidic than

traditional beer and ages in oak barrels for months, letting the microorganisms do their work.

"Sour beer is becoming really popular on the west side of the Cascades," he said. "Hopefully, it appeals to locals soon."

Ordnance, currently a seven-barrel brewery, will soon expand into a 30-barrel brew house, increasing capacity from 240 to 900 gallons.

Coleman has watched (and tasted) Mayfield's work with increasing approval.

"We got really lucky," he said. "Someday, if he sticks with it, he'll be one of the old gray hairs in the business that everyone looks up to."

The brewery, at 405 N. Olson Road in Boardman, will have a grand opening August 1 from noon to 10 p.m. with food, games, live music and, of course, beer. A shuttle will run from Neighbor Dudes in Hermiston every two hours starting at noon. More information is available at www.ordnancebrewing.com.

Contact Kathy Aney at kane@eastoregonian.com or call 541-966-0810.



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