

PENDLETON

High-speed chase results in arrest

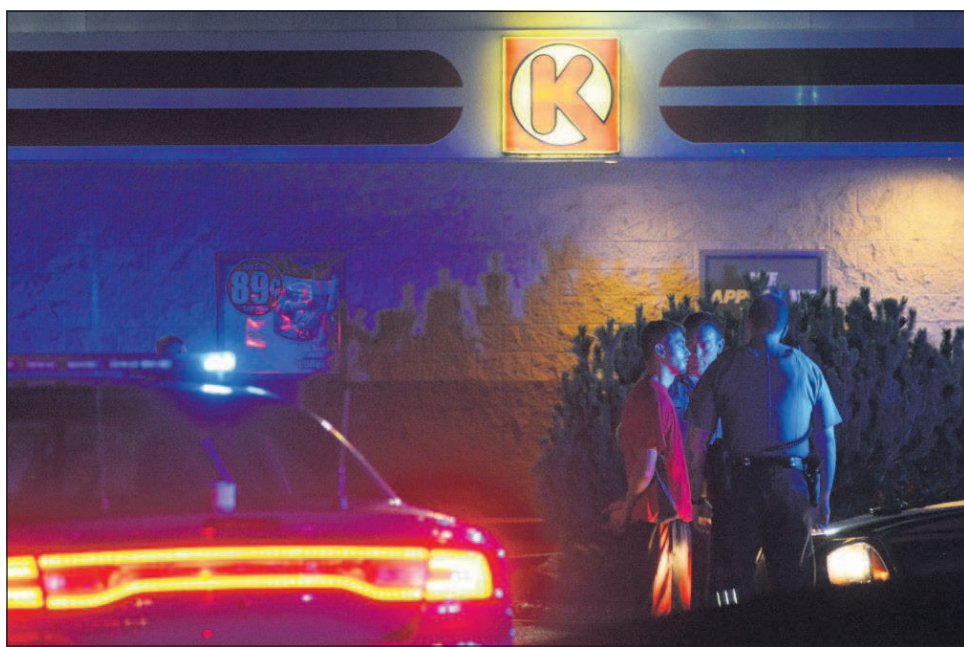
East Oregonian

A Hermiston man was arrested about 11 p.m. Wednesday after leading police on a high speed chase through downtown Pendleton.

Jason Michael Garza, 26, reached speeds in excess of 80 mph while driving through town, according to Oregon State Police trooper Mitchel Pace.

Pace first attempted to stop Garza on Highway 395, about four miles south of town, for failure to maintain lane. But instead of pulling over, Garza fled in a Mitsubishi Eclipse. He eventually stopped and was arrested without incident at Circle K, 335 E. Court Street.

Garza was charged with felony attempt to elude and reckless driving. He also had outstanding warrants for failure to appear and parole violations.



Oregon State Troopers take the driver of a black Mitsubishi Eclipse into custody after he led police on a chase through Pendleton on Wednesday ending at Southeast Court Avenue and Third Street.

Staff photo by E.J. Harris

COMING EVENTS

FRIDAY, JULY 15

ADULT OPEN GYM, 6-7 a.m., Pendleton Recreation Center, 510 S.W. Dorion Ave. Half-court basketball. (541-276-8100).

CHILDREN'S CLOTHES SWAP, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., Bethel Assembly of God Church, 1109 Airport Road, Pendleton. Bring gently used children's clothes to swap for other sizes. (James 541-215-8141).

HEPPNER FARMER'S MARKET, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., Heppner City Park. Food, craft and garden vendors. (541-676-8957).

HERITAGE DAYS, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Emigrant Springs State Heritage Area, off Interstate 84, exit 234, near Meacham. Muzzleloaders, wood carvers, living history displays, scavenger hunt for kids, gold panning, cake walk, raffles, food and more. (541-983-2277).

STORY TIME, 10:15-11 a.m., Hermiston Public Library, 235 E. Gladys Ave. (541-567-2882).

SUMMER STORY TIME, 10:15-10:45 a.m., Pendleton Public Library, 502 S.W. Dorion Ave. (541-966-0380).

PEPSI PRIMETIME LUNCH BREAK, 12 noon to 1 p.m., Tamastsiik Cultural Institute, 47106 Wildhorse Blvd., Pendleton. In conjunction with "The Map is Not the Territory" installation, features two movies touching on filmmaker Maen Hammad's visit to Palestine. "Kickflips Over Occupation" documents how youths are using skateboarding to overcome the ailments of the Israeli military occupation. The Ted Talks video "Pushing Borders: Skateboarding in Palestine" interviews Hammad about his motivations, production and hopes for his movie. (541-429-7700 or www.tamastsiik.org).

PENDLETON FARMERS MARKET, 4 p.m. to dusk, 300 block South Main Street, Pendleton. Browse fresh produce, meats, baked goods and plants, locally crafted jewelry and items for the home. EBT, debit and credit cards welcome. (pendletonfarmersmarket.net).

NIGHT AT THE CHILDREN'S MUSEUM, 5-8:30 p.m., Children's Museum of Eastern Oregon, 400 S. Main St., Pendleton. Includes dinner, games, crafts and a movie. Costs \$20 members/\$25 non-members, \$10 for each additional child. Preregistration required. (541-276-1066).

BLUE MOUNTAIN FIDDLERS, 6 p.m., Emigrant Springs State Heritage Area, off Interstate 84, exit 234, near Meacham.

VFW BINGO, doors open at 6 p.m., games start at 7 p.m., Hermiston VFW, 45 W. Cherry St.

FOLK NIGHT, 7-9 p.m., Pendleton Center for the Arts, 214 N. Main St. Contra and Western-style dancing, live music and callers. Admission is \$5 or \$8 per couple; no partner necessary.

SATURDAY, JULY 16 GREENFIELD GRANGE BREAKFAST, 7-10 a.m., 209 N.W. First St., Boardman. Cost is \$5 for adults, \$2.50 for children under 10. (541-720-7267).

LET 'ER BUCK AND DASH 'N SPLASH RUNS, 7 a.m. same-day registration and check-in, 8 a.m. 5K run begins, 9 a.m. 1K Dash 'n Splash for ages 3-11 begins, Pendleton Round-Up Grounds near Let 'er Buck statue, 1205 S.W. Court Ave., Pendleton. Costs \$25 for 5K, \$15 for 1K. Shirts may be available for \$15 (adult)/\$12 (kids). Participants in the 1K run get a free pass to the Pendleton Aquatic Center plus pizza and soda after the race. Register at www.pendletonroundup.com or at Pendleton Round-Up and Happy Canyon Gift Shop, 1114 S.W. Court Ave.

HERMISTON'S OWN FARMERS MARKET, 8 a.m. to 1 p.m., McKenzie Park, 300 S. First St., Hermiston. Food, crafts, live music, art.

LIL BUCKS OPEN GYM, 8:30-9:30 a.m., Pendleton Recreation Center, 510 S.W. Dorion Ave. For students in first and second grade and parents/guardians. Free basketball skills and pickup games.

CHILDREN'S CLOTHES SWAP, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., Bethel Assembly of God Church, 1109 Airport Road, Pendleton. Bring gently used children's clothes to swap for other sizes. (James 541-215-8141).

INDIAN LAKE FAMILY FUN DAY, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Indian Lake Campground 19 miles south of Pilot Rock on East Birch Creek Road. Wildlife (9 a.m.) and fisheries (10 a.m.) presentations, LIGO presentation at 11 a.m.,

free lunch from noon to 12:45 p.m., National Weather service presentation at 1 p.m. and water fun with kayaks and canoes from 2-4 p.m. Free admission and free camping Saturday night, but camping reservations required. (Leigh or Tami 541-276-3873).

FREE FOR ALL, 9:30-10:15 a.m. Pendleton Center for the Arts, 214 N. Main St., Pendleton. Family art experience for children up to age 12. Children under 8 should be accompanied by an adult. (541-278-9201).

HERITAGE DAYS, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Emigrant Springs State Heritage Area, off Interstate 84, exit 234, near Meacham. Muzzleloaders, wood carvers, living history displays, Blue Mountain Fiddlers, scavenger hunt for kids, gold panning, cake walk, raffles, food and more. Free. (541-983-2277).

UGLY DOG CONTEST, 10 a.m., Fiesta Foods parking lot, 1875 N. First St., Hermiston. First place receives free dog food for a year; second place receives a full veterinary checkup; third place receives a doggy bed. Dogs of all ages and breeds welcome. Treats for all participants. (Leo Leal 541-567-4600).

HIP & HANDMADE, 11 a.m. to noon, Pendleton Center for the Arts, 214 N. Main St., Pendleton. Free drop-in art project class for adults. (541-278-9201).

MCKAY CREEK ESTATES 16TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION, 12 noon to 5 p.m., 1601 Southgate Place, Pendleton. Free barbecue lunch with all the fixings, watermelon, apple pie and ice cream floats; vintage car show, entertainment and door prize drawings. (Karen Hoholik 541-276-1987).

STRAIGHT TALK WITH BECKY MARKS, 2-4 p.m., Prodigal Son Pub & Brewery, 230 E. Court Ave., Pendleton. Share thoughts with Ward 1 councilwoman. (541-276-9147).

ECHO OPEN AIR MARKET, 4-7 p.m., corner of Main and Dupont streets, Echo. Produce, crafts and more. Vendor space is \$12 per market. (echoopenairmarket@gmail.com)

PENDLETON WHISKY MUSIC FEST, 4-11 p.m., Pendleton Round-Up Stadium, 1205 S.W. Court Ave., Pendleton. Live music with headliner Zac Brown Band and openers Drake White, Jackson Michelson and DJ Sovem-T. Interactive games and activities for all ages, food and beverage vendors and beer garden for those 21 and over. Tickets \$45-\$135 at www.pendletonroundup.com

BLUE MOUNTAIN FIDDLERS, 6 p.m., Emigrant Springs State Heritage Area, off Interstate 84, exit 234, near Meacham.

MOVIE NIGHT AT THE CHURCH, 6 p.m., First Baptist Church, 200 Willow Fork Drive, Boardman. Enjoy "Last Ounce of Courage." Refreshments available for purchase. (541-481-9437).

BINGO NIGHT @ THE GRANGE, 6:30-8:30 p.m., White Eagle Grange, 43828 White Eagle Road, Pendleton (between Pendleton and Pilot Rock on Highway 395 South). Cards are 50 cents each per game and \$1 each for progressive jackpot at 7:30 p.m. and blackout at 8:15 p.m. Refreshments available by donation. All ages. (Gail 541-276-3778).

SUNDAY, JULY 17 "ROBBERS, REPROBATES AND THE RED LIGHT DISTRICT" WALKING TOUR, 12:30 p.m., beginning at MaySons Old Fashioned General Store, 369 S. Main St., Pendleton. Local historian Keith May will discuss the National Historic District of downtown Pendleton. Costs \$5. (541-276-8206).

KBLU-FM CITIZENS ADVISORY GROUP, 3 p.m., Bowman Building Suite 352, 17 S.W. Frazer Ave., Pendleton. Share ideas on format of Pendleton area's newest radio station. (Vicki 541-566-2744 or Gary 541-566-0131).

ADULT OPEN GYM, 6:30-8:30 p.m., Pendleton Recreation Center, 510 S.W. Dorion Ave. Free access for ages 16 and up. (541-276-8100).

The EO publishes a list of coming events as space allows. It's posted weekly at www.eastoregonian.com. All items are assumed free, nonprofit and open to the public unless otherwise noted. Coming events items should be submitted well in advance to calendar@eastoregonian.com, S.E. Byers Ave., Pendleton, OR 97801, 333 E. Main St., Hermiston, OR 97838 or community@eastoregonian.com.

ECHO

Family history enthusiast digitizes 1 million names for database

By JADE MCDOWELL

East Oregonian

Technology has changed quite a bit over Vernon Cook's lifetime, but that hasn't stopped him from embracing the advance.

Cook, 90, a family history enthusiast from Echo, spends two to six hours each day digitizing historical records from around the world. So far he has entered more than a million names into his computer.

Each day he boots up his computer and downloads a new batch of census records, ship manifests, immigration papers, birth certificates, obituaries, marriage licenses, draft cards or other records that might enable someone to locate information about an ancestor. He looks at the scanned-in PDF image and deciphers the handwriting, typing the information by hand into a database that makes the names searchable online.

Cook said it's a good way to keep his brain active.

"I'm 90 years old," he said. "I can't do much of anything else. It's good to



Vernon Cook, 90, of Echo, keeps his mind active by digitizing thousands of historical records each month.

Contributed photo by Darla Hartsteen

sit down and do something productive."

The program, known as indexing, is through FamilySearch.org, a free family history database run by The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. This weekend the website is sponsoring a worldwide indexing event, challenging participants to get online and index names from July 15-17. The goal is to get 72,000 people participating

over 72 hours. Organizers are especially interested in people fluent in multiple languages to help out with non-English records that are piling up fast.

Cook doesn't get paid for his work for the website, but said he enjoys the idea of helping thousands of people find their ancestors and learn about their heritage.

"I enjoy doing obituaries and getting that information about families and relation-

ships," he said of his favorite type of record to index. "Once it's indexed it's in the electronic database. You can call up a program and find a relative instead of having to go to the cemetery or the courthouse."

Cook said he started almost 10 years ago. This month alone he has indexed 4,032 names and over his lifetime he has entered a total of 1,016,337 names into the website. His daughter Darla Hartsteen said the project gives purpose to her father's day.

"He does it all the time," she said. "When I get home from work, I know where he'll be."

For novice indexers interested in learning how the program works and participating in the 72-hour challenge, volunteers will be available to help in the family history library at The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in Hermiston, 850 S.W. 11th Street, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Friday.

Contact Jade McDowell at jmcowell@eastoregonian.com or 541-564-4536.

Pendleton teacher hired as Schools to Career coordinator

East Oregonian

Christina van der Kamp has been named Schools to Career coordinator for the Pendleton School District.

Originally from British Columbia, van der Kamp moved to Pendleton in 2005 and has worked for the Pendleton School District since 2010. Van der Kamp has also worked for the Oregon East Symphony and the Pendleton Center for the Arts.

Van der Kamp holds a master's degree in teaching from Eastern Oregon University and recently completed her practicum toward an administrator license at Lewis and Clark College.

Pendleton School District Career Technical Education Coordinator Curt Thompson said he was "excited about having Christina serve as the direct liaison between local business and Pendleton students."

In May, the district entered into a contract with Susan

Bower of Eastern Oregon Business Source to establish the Schools to Career program and hire its first coordinator, with Blue Mountain Community College and Umatilla County providing additional funding.

The district will use a portion of a \$390,745 CTE grant it received from the state to fund the program.

Bower and van der Kamp are under a 12-month contract to market the program, develop employer connections and "place students in learning experiences" for the 2016-2017 school year.

At the end of the contract, the position will be transferred from Eastern Oregon Business Source to the district.

Employers, government, and industry leaders interested in learning how to get involved can contact van der Kamp at 541-969-6748 or Christina.vanderKamp@pendleton.k12.or.us.



van der Kamp

BRIEFLY

Fire department to conduct training burn

PENDLETON — The Pendleton Fire Department, along with the Oregon Department of Forestry, will conduct a three-acre training burn Monday on the South Hill to practice for wildland fires over the summer.

The burn will take place at the 1100 block between Southwest Isaac and Southwest Hailey avenues from 9 a.m. to noon. The area is at high risk for wildland fires, and the firefighters are working with the landowner to not only mitigate the hazard, but provide additional training.

The training is subject to weather, and could be postponed based on conditions.

WID meeting scheduled for Monday

HERMISTON — The Westland Irrigation District will meet Monday, July 18 at the Stafford Hansell Government Center in Hermiston.

The board will hear from Jeff Barry of GSI Water Solutions on groundwater recharge within the district, and review documents related to the central project, part of a larger proposal to pump more irrigation water from the Columbia River. Documents include a draft subscription agreement for the project.

The WID will also meet in executive session following public comments to discuss ongoing litigation. A group of patrons is suing the district, alleging it misappropriated water to junior rights holders.

The meeting will begin at 1 p.m. For more information, contact Mike Wick at 541-667-2030.

The Fire with special guest Peter Willis

FRIDAY, JULY 22
7:00 pm, Doors open 6:30 pm

Tickets \$12 - Reserve by calling 541-278-9201
pendletonarts.org

Bruce Thomas Smith

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July 16 @ 8PM

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Pendleton, Or 541.276.6111

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Friday Night Dinner

July 15th • 5:30 pm • \$12.00

Spaghetti Dinner

All You Can Eat!

- Complete Salad Bar
- Garlic Bread
- Dessert

Club Hours: M-F, 4-8

Proceeds to benefit Pendleton Elks' Charities

Pendleton Elks Lodge #288 14 SE 3rd, Pendleton
509-948-2163 • 541-276-3882