

PENDLETON

Lybrand gets 15 days in jail for probation violation

By PHIL WRIGHT
East Oregonian

Jason Lybrand of Pendleton is stuck in the Umatilla County Jail until next week for violating his drug probation that began April 4.

The downtown Pendleton business owner is not going to prison for the first-time offense, but he is under court orders to clean up his act.

Lybrand, 46, began three years of probation on April 4 after pleading guilty in Umatilla County Circuit Court to one count each of methamphetamine possession, a felony, and marijuana delivery, a misdemeanor. Six weeks after taking the plea deal, he found himself in the county jail for breaking key conditions of the probation. He faced the violations at a hearing Wednesday afternoon in circuit court in Pendleton with attorney Michael Breiling by his side. Circuit Judge Jon Lieuallen presided.

Witnesses for the state included Lt. Charles Byram of the Pendleton police and Rick Partlow, supervisor of Umatilla County parole and probation officers.

Byran testified he found digital weigh scales with marijuana residue at Lybrand's tattoo and adult business during the April 17 execution of a search warrant for drugs as well as 50 rounds of .40-caliber ammunition in Lybrand's pickup. His probation banned drugs and guns and their related items.

Prosecutor Micah Johnstone with the district attorney's office asked Byram how sure he was the residue was pot.



Jason Lybrand and his defense attorney Michael Breiling listen to a witness Tuesday in Umatilla County Circuit Court, Pendleton, during Lybrand's probation violation hearing.

"One-hundred percent," the officer answered.

Partlow took to the stand and characterized Lybrand as a criminal who would not conform to the constraints of probation. He argued for sending Lybrand to prison for six months.

Breiling countered that was too harsh for a first-time offense "on something petty as this" and unusual for Umatilla County. The attorney also demonstrated Lybrand has otherwise been meeting his probation conditions, including providing a urine sample free of drugs. Partlow eventually conceded local circuit court judges tend to grant

offenders second chances rather than revoke their probation.

Lieuallen, a former defense attorney, took that route,

"I'm not ready to revoke his probation," the judge said. "There is concern here."

Then he told Lybrand, "I'm putting you on notice."

Lieuallen sentenced Lybrand to 15 days in jail, but gave him credit for time served. He gets out of jail Tuesday. The judge also ordered Lybrand to remove any drug-related items from Wicked Kitty Tattoo & Piercing, where he has been living.

PENDLETON

Rivoli restoration secures \$96K grant

East Oregonian

said.

The Rivoli Restoration Coalition secured a \$96,000 grant from the Pendleton Development Commission, but they'll have to work for it.

At a special meeting Tuesday, the commission voted to grant the coalition \$96,000 on the condition that the group raises the rest of the money for the downtown theater's first phase of construction.

Andrew Picken, president of the coalition, said the nonprofit has built momentum since they started raising money for the first phase in January, securing about one-third of the \$560,000 for the first phase of construction.

The money, which includes a \$100,000 grant from the state through the Pendleton Downtown Association, will pay for some internal demolition, excavation and beam installation.

In addition to getting them closer to their fundraising goal, Picken said the coalition will try to use the commission's financial commitment to leverage more money from other organizations. Additionally, the donation would meet the PDC's goals to increase the vitality and tourism to the downtown area.

Denying the commission's request would disappoint the coalition, Picken said, and "take the wind out of our sails."

"If it's not improved, it will just be another sad old building in Pendleton," he

The counterargument to Picken's points was supplied by Pendleton resident Mike Navratil, who pointed to the \$69,376 the urban renewal district has already contributed to the Rivoli at various stages of the project and questioned how the coalition would continue to raise money.

Navratil also said a city donation to the Rivoli would conflict with its efforts to maintain the Vert Auditorium, which has more than a \$1 million in deferred maintenance.

"They are in direct competition with (the Vert), whether they want to admit to it or not," he said.

Coalition member Peter Walters said that when the Rivoli restoration is complete, it will have more capabilities beyond the Vert and other local venues.

"What we're proposing is a much grander, much more technically capable venue than a decades-old junior high auditorium," he said, adding that he wasn't trying to disparage the Vert.

Mayor John Turner said he wanted to put the fundraising impetus on the coalition, so he made a motion to donate \$96,000 contingent on the group raising the other \$464,000 that encompasses Phase 1 first.

The commission approved Turner's motion 5-2, with councilors Jake Cambier and McKennon McDonald voting against. Councilors Becky Marks and John Brenne were absent.

Local groups plan Memorial Day ceremonies

By TAMMY MALGESINI
East Oregonian

Several local veterans' organizations are holding Memorial Day ceremonies in Pendleton, Hermiston and Irrigon to remember the sacrifices of those who have served in our nation's military.

Leading up to Memorial Day, an Avenue of Flags will be erected at Olney Cemetery, 865 Tutuilla Road, Pendleton, and the Hermiston Cemetery, located off Highway 395 at the south end of town. Both displays will remain through Memorial Day.

As of Monday, the flag count for Olney was 142, which represents people buried in the cemetery who were killed in action, prisoners of war and other veterans, said Melissa Porter, office specialist at Pendleton Parks & Recreation.

Post commander Ron Jardine of Veterans of Foreign Wars Post No. 4750 in Hermiston said Hermiston's Avenue of Flags likely will be close to 800. The impressive display of Old Glory grows each year as local veterans die and are laid to rest at the cemetery.

Boy Scouts recently helped with clearing the holes where the flagpoles will be placed. And, members of the Hermiston High School football team will assist with putting the flags in place Friday at 5 p.m. Jardine said others are welcome to help — including their removal Monday at 5 p.m.

Memorial Day ceremonies at both cemeteries are planned.

•In Pendleton, Friends of Olney and Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 922 will host the event Monday at 11 a.m. It will include the posting of colors and several speakers, including Clifford Smith, VFW District 8 commander; Virginia Roberts, Friends of Olney; and Richard Halverson, VFW department commander. In addition, special music will be provided by Ron Martin and Cindy Powell. Also, Dave Chorazy will play "Taps."

There will be no service



Retired Sgt. Maj. Ted Culbertson salutes as an Oregon National Guard honor guard carries the flag during a past Memorial Day ceremony at Olney Cemetery in Pendleton.

at Pendleton Pioneer Chapel, Folsom-Bishop.

•In Hermiston, members of VFW Post 4750 and American Legion Post 37 are heading up the program Monday at 10 a.m. at the Hermiston Cemetery. Jardine, who served in the U. S. Army from 1966-68, will present a short message. Also, special recognition will honor all local veterans who have died in the past year. In addition, a flag folding and presentation ceremony will be conducted for a local veteran who recently died and has yet to receive military honors. The gathering will conclude with the playing of "Taps."

•In Irrigon, a service is

Monday at 11 a.m. at the Desert Lawn Memorial Cemetery, located off Highway 730 in Irrigon. Joe Cox, a local Navy veteran, will head up that ceremony, along with members of Hermiston VFW Post 4750 and American Legion Post 37.

Regardless of where people reside, Jardine encourages the community to attend a ceremony to commemorating Memorial Day. He said it provides an opportunity to thank those who have served our country.

"I think it shows respect for the military," Jardine said.

Those planning to attend any of the ceremonies are

welcome to bring lawn chairs, if desired.

Originally called Decoration Day, Memorial Day was first observed May 30, 1868. The day was initially set aside to place flowers on the graves of Union and Confederate soldiers at Arlington National Cemetery, according to the Oregon Department of Veterans' Affairs. Now, as a federal holiday, Memorial Day is observed the last Monday of May each year.

Additional Memorial Day observances can be added to the East Oregonian coming events calendar. Submit information to: www.eastoregonian.com or drop off to the attention of Tammy Malgesini at 333 E. Main St., Hermiston or Renee Struthers at 211 S.E. Byers Ave., Pendleton. Call 541-564-4539 or 541-966-0818 with questions.

Hermiston students will attend national science conference

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winners, deans of colleges around the U.S., and young scientists like themselves.

Two local students will attend a national conference this summer, where they will listen to science and technology experts along with 1,500 other students from around the country.

Jeremy Bowden, a freshman at Hermiston High School, and Lina Dunn, a sophomore at Irrigon Junior-Senior High School, were nominated to attend the three-day event, the National Conference of Future Scientists and Technologists.

The students will convene in Boston this summer, where they will spend three days listening to Nobel Prize

"I'm excited," Bowden said. "I like doing tech-related stuff, I've always been fond of programming and messing with electronics."

Dunn said she is eager to hear from the speakers, and to ask questions.

"I really enjoy learning how things work at the molecular level," she said. Dunn said she plans to pursue science after high school, and hopefully study physics.

Students have to finance their own trips, and many fundraise or ask family and friends for help.

CONGRATULATIONS JAYCEE TERNES!

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Little Darlings!

This special section will be filled with photos of and messages for adorable little darlings from Umatilla County. Families will want to keep this special keepsake for their child and family for years to come.

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DEADLINES: June 08, 2017

Send in, or drop by, a full color high resolution photo, your child's name and a message to your child today!

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