

PENDLETON

Student, 15, in custody after threats

High schooler on a mental health hold, receiving treatment

By ANTONIO SIERRA
East Oregonian

A 15-year-old male Pendleton High School student was taken into custody Friday after he made shooting threats against schools, according to Pendleton Police Chief Stuart Roberts.

Roberts said the juvenile verbally told a person he thought it would be “funny” if he shot up a school. Another person heard this story secondhand and reported it to police Friday evening.

They started speaking with the 15-year-old boy that same night, who made statements “above and beyond” what was originally reported to police. Police also discovered that the juvenile did not have a gun in his possession, but there was a gun at his residence.

Over the course of the investigation, police found that the teenager only referenced a generic school and never threatened a specific educational facility in Pendleton.

Police sent the student to St. Anthony Hospital, Pendleton, for a mental evaluation that determined the boy was a threat to himself and others.

Roberts said police placed a mental health hold on the student, allowing authorities to keep him in custody. If



Staff photo by E.J. Harris

A 15-year-old male Pendleton High School student was taken into custody Friday after he made threats about committing a school shooting.

there were no beds available at a mental health facility, Roberts said police were prepared to arrest him for disorderly conduct and send him to a juvenile detention center in Walla Walla.

Roberts said he was scheduled to be transported on Tuesday to a mental health facility outside the area for further treatment.

Pendleton High School Principal Dan Greenough said he was in contact with police as the situation unfolded as a precautionary measure, but the school otherwise played no role in the investigation.

With the recent shooting

at a Florida high school that killed 17 people, Greenough said safety is at the forefront of people's minds, but the local students and staff were calm this week.

While the action took place off-campus, Greenough said high school staff are open to any safety concerns from students and the school promotes the Oregon State Police student tipline.

There have been other security threats that have concerned local schools in recent years, but nothing as specific as a mass shooting.

In 2012, Sunridge Middle School was shut down for a day when school staff

received an anonymous message that said, “Don't have school on Monday.” When authorities investigated, it turned out to be a collaborative prank call between a local boy and a student from Illinois.

Last September, Pendleton High School was put on a lockout after police received a report that a teen was threatening to shoot a student on the Pendleton River Parkway. Police located the offending teen, found no gun and were told the problem had been worked out. The lockout was lifted after 21 minutes and no one was charged for the incident.

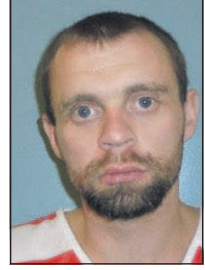
UMATILLA

Suspect eludes arrest after chase in stolen pickup

East Oregonian

A wanted man eluded police for the second time in less than two weeks, and authorities are warning he could be armed and dangerous.

Police suspended the search for Naythan Olney, 36, Wednesday afternoon after spending much of the day looking for him near Umatilla.



Naythan Olney

On Wednesday shortly before 9 a.m. a caller reported seeing Olney at 78626 Agnew Road, Hermiston. He is wanted from a Feb. 24 incident in which he fled a traffic stop in Hermiston in a stolen vehicle, injuring officer Doug Gill in the process.

Umatilla County sheriff's deputy Chris Daugherty responded to the call Wednesday, according to a new release from the sheriff's office, and set up near the house while he waited for backup.

As Daugherty waited, Olney sped away from the house in a stolen white 2017 Chevy Silverado, the release said.

Daugherty gave chase down Agnew and Westland roads with his lights flashing, and Olney drove the Silverado through a field onto Bridge Road headed west, where Daugherty was unable to follow.

A Umatilla police officer found the vehicle soon after and picked up the pursuit, which again went off road through crop

circles off Powerline Road and toward Interstate 82.

Olney abandoned the truck near milepost 2 and went on foot toward the Umatilla River.

Multiple agencies set up a perimeter and began a foot search, and shortly after the sheriff's office drone was deployed to scour the area.

Both Umatilla High School and Clara Brownell

Middle School were locked out during the early parts of the search as a precaution, according to superintendent Heidi Sipe.

Olney was wearing a gray hooded sweatshirt, plaid shirt and a ball cap. The Silverado, reported stolen out of Morrow County, has been recovered and is being processed.

Umatilla County Sheriff's Sgt. Josh Roberts said Olney must have either hunkered down in the thick brush by the river or gotten through before police could set up on the other side.

Olney has been known to carry a handgun, according to the press release, and anyone who spots him should not approach him but call 911 immediately.

He has a criminal history for theft in Clackamas County dating back to 1998, according to state records, and a pending case for auto theft in Umatilla County from November 2017. He was also an honor roll student at Blue Mountain Community College for three terms in 2014 and 2015.

HERMISTON

All four races for council seats contested

Roy Barron files at last minute against newcomer Fitzgerald

By JADE MCDOWELL
East Oregonian

Hermiston will have four contested city council races during the May election, not three.

After the filing deadline passed Tuesday night, a list provided by city hall after a public records request inadvertently left off a candidate who had turned in an application before the deadline that had not made its way to city recorder Lilly Alarcon-Strong yet.

That candidate — Roy Barron — is running for Ward 2 against Shean Fitzgerald, a “semi-retired” construction engineer and husband of current city councilor Clara Beas Fitzgerald, who has decided not to run again.

Barron moved to Hermiston in 2015 after graduating from college and has worked for the county ever since, first in the district attorney's office and then with drug court and now with the RISE program that provides mental health resources for students in area schools. He said he likes Hermiston and is committed to staying in the community

for a while, and would like to help make decisions about important issues such as the Eastern Oregon Trade and Event Center, economic development and downtown revitalization.

“Things are getting better and better here and I want to be a part of it,” he said.

The addition of Barron means that all four races for city council this year will be competitive ones.

In Ward 1, incumbent Lori Davis is being challenged by school board member Mark Gomolski and resident Jackie Linton, who grew up in Hermiston and returned in 2012 after retiring from the post office in Federal Way, Washington. Linton started attending city council meetings two years ago after getting involved in the renovation of a park on Beech Avenue, which was renamed Greenwood Park in honor of her grandfather Greenwood Woodrow Lister, who first established the park. She said she decided to run because she found the meetings interesting and thought she could make a positive difference in the community on the council.

Gomolski previously ran for city council in 2016 and said if he wins this time he hopes that the school district or city council will be willing to change their simultaneous meeting times so that he — and other interested citizens — can attend both. Davis has been on the council since 2010.

In Ward 3, Kyran Miller is challenging incumbent Jackie Myers, who is a licensed tax preparer and was first elected to the council in 1994. Miller, a retired funeral home director who moved to Hermiston from Michigan in 2016, said he doesn't think the councilors are doing a bad job but wanted to throw his hat in the ring to provide a small business owner perspective.

The race in Ward 4 is between incumbent Doug Smith, who was elected in 2015 and works as a general contractor after retiring from the Hermiston Police Department, and Michael Engelbrecht. Engelbrecht, when reached Wednesday, said he is running for city council because he wanted to be more involved in the community and was concerned about

the mental health challenges facing youth and the opioid epidemic. Engelbrecht moved to Hermiston 12 years ago and has four children, including two still attending school in Hermiston.

Hermiston residents will get a chance to cast their vote for the councilor representing their ward in the May 15 election. For Wards 2, 3 and 4 the May election will be considered the general election and the winner will take their seat in January. Because Ward 1 has more than two candidates, the May election will be a primary and the top two vote-getters will have a runoff in November.

To find what ward you live in, visit www.hermiston.or.us/government/city-council.

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

Council votes to name city hall room after John Brenne

East Oregonian

The late Pendleton City Councilor John Brenne now has a room at his old stomping ground.

The council unanimously voted Tuesday to name the city council annex after Brenne, who died in January after 39 years on the council.

The annex is a small room next to city council chambers at Pendleton City Hall with a removable wall. It is primarily used for

city council workshops or overflow seating if the city anticipates a large audience for a public meeting.

City Manager Robb Corbett said the council rule book states that any city facility named after a deceased person must have a proposal submitted in writing and undergo a one-year waiting period before assignment.

The council unanimously voted to suspend the rules and name the room after Brenne.

Hermiston Garden expo includes free seeds

East Oregonian

Free heirloom garden seeds and door prizes are featured during the Seed Share & Garden Expo.

Presented by the Umatilla/Hermiston Garden Club, the family-friendly event also

includes demonstrations and information for all ages and skill levels. The free event is Saturday, March 17 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Hermiston Public Library, 235 E. Gladys Ave.

For more information, contact Amanda

Woodlee at amw@amandamillwoodlee.com.

LOG HOMES
JUST RELEASED - PAY BALANCE DUE ONLY
AMERICAN LOG HOMES recently assisted in the Estate Sale of several Log Home Kits.
2 Log Homes added for **BALANCE OWED - FREE DELIVERY**

- Model # 402 St. Louis \$40,850 **BALANCE OWED \$16,500**
- Model # 403 Augusta \$42,450 **BALANCE OWED \$16,000**
- New - HOMES HAVE NOT BEEN MANUFACTURED**
- Make any design changes you desire!
- MAY APPLY FULL PRICE TO ANY AMERICAN LOG HOME MODEL**
- Comes with Complete Building Blueprints & Construction Manual
- Windows, Doors, and Roofing not included
- NO TIME LIMIT FOR DELIVERY!**

VIEW at www.loghomedream.com - Click on House Plans
SERIOUS ONLY REPLY, Call (704)602-3035 ask for Accounting

WILDHORSE RESORT & CASINO
3/8
Cineplex Show Times

\$5 Classic Movie - 3/14 • 12:00 PM
Planes, Trains, and Automobiles

A Wrinkle In Time (PG)
7:00 9:30

Red Sparrow (R)
3:50* 6:50 9:50

Death Wish (R)
4:40 7:10 9:40

Game Night (R)
4:20 6:40 9:20

Black Panther 2D (PG13)
7:00 9:40 10:00

Peter Rabbit (PG)
4:50

*Matinee Pricing
wildhorseresort.com • 541-966-1850
Pendleton, OR I-84 - Exit 216

Friday Meals **LENT**

March 9th from 5 to 7:00 p.m.
@ the St. Anthony Hospital Blue Mountain Cafe

Cedar Wrapped Salmon - \$7.50/Adults
- \$7.00/Children & Seniors
Baked Potato w/ Toppings & Vegetable of the day.

Clam Chowder Bread Bowl - \$4.25
Single Cup \$1.25

Hearth Pizza Station
Filled with Lent friendly Pizzas

CHI St. Anthony Hospital
2801 St. Anthony Way, Pendleton, OR 97801

EARTHLINK INTERNET
HIGH SPEED INTERNET

Get Connected for as low as **14.95/mo.**

HyperLink™ High-Speed Internet

Get Connected for as low as **\$49.99/mo.**

Satellite Internet

CONTACT YOUR LOCAL AUTHORIZED RETAILER

855-977-9436

Authorized Dealer

Imagine The Difference You Can Make

DONATE YOUR CAR
1-844-533-9173

FREE TOWING
TAX DEDUCTIBLE

Help Prevent Blindness
Get A Vision Screening Annually

Heritage for the Blind

Ask About A FREE 3 Day Vacation Voucher To Over 20 Destinations!!

DENTAL Insurance
Physicians Mutual Insurance Company

A less expensive way to help get the dental care you deserve

- If you're over 50, you can get coverage for about \$1 a day!
- Keep your own dentist! You can go to any dentist you want.
- No annual or lifetime cap on the cash benefits you can receive.
- No wait for preventive care and no deductibles - you could get a checkup tomorrow.
- Coverage for over 350 procedures including cleanings, exams, fillings, crowns...even dentures.

FREE Information Kit
1-877-599-0125
Or www.dental50plus.com/25