

# Woman faces charges on 15 counts of theft from former employer

East Oregonian

A big theft hit another small local business.

Allison Jade Heyne of Hermiston pleaded not guilty in early March to accusations she stole more than \$32,000 from her employer, Eclipse Heating and Cooling.

Ty Zeller, co-owner of the Hermiston business, said Heyne worked in the front office and the theft total is probably closer to \$38,000 — and the damages could increase.

“We don’t want this to happen to someone else,” he said.

Umatilla County Circuit Court records show a grand jury on Jan. 30 indicted Heyne, 31, AKA Allison Heller, on two counts of first-degree aggravated theft for stealing \$10,000 or more on two occasions, 12 counts of first-degree theft for separate acts of stealing \$1,000 or more, and one

count of second-degree theft for stealing at least \$100. The indictment alleges Heyne committed the thefts from June 2016 through May 2017.

Heyne pleaded not guilty to all counts at her arraignment March 5, according to court records.

Zeller said the business discovered the crimes last June, right as they were hustling to keep up with rising temperatures. Making a go as a small business is tough enough, he said, and this situation “kind of took the wind out of our sails.”

Heyne signed an agreement to follow certain restrictions to avoid jail,

including not having contact with Eclipse Heating and Cooling. The court found she was not eligible for a public defender. The next hearing in the case is the afternoon of March 26 in the Hermiston courtroom of Circuit Court Judge Dan Hill.



Photo courtesy of Eclipse Heating and Cooling  
**Allison Jade Heyne**

# Greenough named Desert View principal

East Oregonian

Pendleton High School Principal Dan Greenough will oversee a significantly younger group of students next year.

In a press release Monday, the Hermiston School District announced that Greenough will take over as the principal of Desert View Elementary School for the 2018-2019 school year.

Greenough submitted a resignation letter to the Pendleton School District in January and has not publicly commented on his departure.

“I am excited to have the opportunity to join the Hermiston School District as the principal at Desert View Elementary School,” he said in a statement. “Through the interview process, I felt a strong sense of collaboration, care for the well-being of children, and commitment to students throughout the school. I am looking forward to building relationships with the children, staff, parents,

and community, and in continuing the tradition of excellence already present at Desert View Elementary.”

Greenough will work again under Hermiston interim superintendent Tricia Mooney, who served as Pendleton’s assistant superintendent from 2009 to 2016.

A Yakima native, Greenough was a teacher in Michigan before he was hired as the principal of Weston-McEwen High School in 2007. Following a two-year stint as a high school principal in Onalaska, Washington, he returned to Eastern Oregon in 2013 when he became the principal of Pendleton High School.

He has a master’s degree in K-12 administration from Michigan State University.

Desert View’s previous principal, Laura Jacobsma, resigned in December, only a few months into her first year. Hermiston assistant superintendent Bryn Browning has been serving as interim principal.



**Dan Greenough**

# Stubblefield still behind bars on domestic violence charges, more

HERMISTON — Jon-Christian Stubblefield of Hermiston remains in jail on domestic violence charges and other counts following a release hearing last week.

Defense attorney Kent Fisher of Pendleton sought Stubblefield’s release from the Umatilla County Jail while he awaits trial on the following: first-degree attempted kidnapping, coercion, fourth-degree assault, strangulation and two counts of menacing, all stemming from domestic violence, according to the state, plus charges of harassment, fourth-degree

assault, interfering with police and more.

Stubblefield, 39, has pleaded not guilty to all charges.

The release hearing was Monday, March 12, and the court did not free Stubblefield.

Hermiston police arrested Stubblefield on Feb. 26 after callers reported a man assaulted his girlfriend and two other people who tried to stop him.

Fisher on Friday filed a waiver to a speedy trial for Stubblefield. The next hearing in the case is April 13 in Hermiston.



The March’n Mommas compete in the Bed Race at the Wee Bit O’Ireland celebration on St. Patrick’s Day in Heppner.

Staff photo by Kathy Aney

# IRISH SPIRIT TAKES OVER

By JAYATI RAMAKRISHNAN  
East Oregonian

Gray skies and rain didn’t stop hundreds from lining the streets of Heppner for the annual Wee Bit O’ Ireland festival and parade this Saturday. Locals and out-of-town visitors cheered as decorated vehicles and decked-out pedestrians made their way down Main Street. The floats included local student organizations; elected politicians, including Congressman Greg Walden and State Rep. Greg Smith; the U.S. Forest Service; and the Bank of Eastern Oregon, whose float proclaimed, “Leprechaun Kisses — 25 cents.”

Brandon Seitz, a longtime Heppner resident, said he had been in the parade a few times growing up. He said the event is one of Heppner’s biggest weekends.

“The best float so far has been the firefighters,” he said. “They seem to be the loudest at the moment.”

Drew Brannen, a Heppner native, said the parade has long been a favorite of his.

“We really try to bring everyone into it,” he said. “It’s good to see friends and family, and to meet the new people who come in.”

While the parade has long been a favorite of locals, it’s begun to draw out-of-town visitors as of late. A bus full of visitors from various groups in the Tri-Cities had come to watch the event.



Staff photo by Kathy Aney

Murray Dunlap sings Irish music Saturday morning during the Rainbow Cafe’s all-day St. Patrick’s Day celebration.

“The history of the town is so interesting,” said Linda McCarty.

Dr. Michael Desjardin, a dentist from John Day, was dressed as St. Patrick himself, in a green robe, a long red beard, a crown and a gold-painted staff with plastic snakes wrapped around it.

He said he travels annually to Portland to participate in the St. Patrick’s Day festival at the restaurant Kells. This year, because the holiday fell on a Saturday, he said he would be able to make that event, as well as the parade in Heppner.

Desjardin, half French and half Irish,

said the event was a way to honor his Irish heritage.

“My grandparents came over on the boat from Ireland — County Donegal,” he said. He said his parents used to have large St. Patrick’s Day celebrations. To honor them and the holiday, he has donned various costumes in parades, such as a cowboy leprechaun and, this year, the holiday’s namesake.

A few miles from downtown Heppner at Thompson Ranch, hundreds of dogs competed in the annual sheep dog trials. The two-day event, which has been going on for more than 30 years, draws competitors from up and down the West Coast, said organizer Liz Stenning.

Formerly held at the county fairgrounds, the event always takes place St. Patrick’s Day weekend.

“The town of Heppner really supports the trials,” Stenning said. “They donate prizes. The whole community is very supportive. The whole community [used to have] sheep — sheep covered the hills around us.”

Stenning said so many people want to compete in the event, the organizers have to draw to see which entrants will compete. There are about 50 competitors per day, with most people entering two dogs.

“You can find a competition any time of the year,” said Jeanie Helsey, a Caldwell, Idaho resident competing with 4-year-old border collie, Sam. “It’s a lifestyle, not a hobby.”

# EO Forum looks at the opioid crisis

PENDLETON — A clinical pharmacist who provides consultations for pain management and a board certified psychiatrist who specializes in addiction medicine are the featured panelists during the upcoming Eastern Oregon Forum.

Our Opioid Crisis, featuring Eric Holeman and Dr. Joel Rice, is Tuesday, March 20 at 7 p.m. in Science and Technology Building Room ST-200 at Blue Mountain Community College, 2411 N.W. Carden Ave., Pendleton. The forum is open to the public and tickets are \$5 at the door and free for students.

Holeman, who developed an interest in pain and opiate management while serving as a hospice pain consultant in 1999, has worked at the Mid-Columbia Medical Center in The Dalles since 2001. He currently serves as the clinical lead

pharmacist, providing consultations related to cancer care, chronic pain, anti-coagulation and acute care management.

Rice, who started a small addiction clinic in La Grande nearly 20 years ago, also has been providing services in Pendleton the past three years. He was the first Eastern Oregon provider to treat opioid use disorder with Suboxone

and other medications. He has established four “sober homes” in La Grande and is working with Umatilla County Human Services to establish similar sober living environments in Pendleton and Hermiston. They offer individuals with addiction a supportive and sober environment to live in.

Others attending the forum include Dr. Chuck Hofmann, medical

director of New Directions Northwest, an addiction treatment center in Baker City; Mike Stensrud, the Eastern Oregon prescription drug overdose prevention coordinator for Umatilla County; and Stuart Roberts, chief of the Pendleton Police Department.

For more information, contact Karen Parker at 541-966-3177 or karen.parker@imesd.k12.or.us.

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**Paint & Sip**  
Friday, March 30  
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Come join us at McKay Creek Estates for our monthly Paint & Sip activity. We provide all the materials you need to paint a fun painting. There will light refreshments, including wine and beer, as well as a variety of sodas and bottled water.

Cost: \$20 for non-residents. FREE for residents.

Please call (541) 276-1987 for more information or to RSVP. Spots are limited.

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