

PENDLETON

# Teen gets jail, loses hunting license for poaching

By PHIL WRIGHT  
East Oregonian

Oregon State Police used a Pendleton teen's own digital images to help put him in jail for poaching multiple game animals in 2017.

The crimes also cost Joseph Reid St. Pierre, 18, his hunting license for life.

St. Pierre faced seven criminal cases for poaching, according to Umatilla County Circuit Court records, and on April 26 he pleaded guilty to multiple counts of poaching and related charges.

Oregon State Police began investigating St. Pierre for poaching a mule deer on July 22 on High-

way 395 near milepost 20-B, according to search warrant affidavits, which are public records. The police sought the warrants to obtain images from St. Pierre's Snapchat account.

Snapchat is a video and chat messaging app that allows users to send digital photos and videos. Depending on the privacy settings, all Snapchatters or just friends of the sender can see the images.

State police on Oct. 21 searched St. Pierre's home in Pendleton, according to the affidavits, where he allowed a detective to look at his two cellphones. The phones had multiple pictures of dead game animals.

That led police to dig further and find videos and images of poaching on St. Pierre's Snapchat account. Police on Dec. 11 saw a video showing "multiple dead elk somewhere in a meadow like area" with "snow on the ground and a lot of blood from the elk," the affidavits state. St. Pierre's pickup was in the video along with a red Toyota pickup belong to another Pendleton man, and people loading the elk into that pickup.

State police also questioned St. Pierre and three friends, including his girl-



St. Pierre

friend, according to the affidavits. Some changed statements during subsequent interviews, including who did or did not illegally shoot game.

But some also told police the head of one buck deer was at a house on the Umatilla Indian Reservation. State police troopers and officers with Umatilla Tribal Police visited the house. The homeowner knew nothing about the deer but allowed police to search the property. Police eventually found the head in a shed and brought it back

to the state police office in Pendleton.

Overall, the investigation yielded the probable cause for police to arrest St. Pierre on Jan. 6 on multiple charges for poaching.

Court records show he took plea deals and admitted to the following:

- hunting on enclosed land, unlawful taking of a buck deer, waste of a game animal, and assisting another in taking a buck deer on July 22

- unlawful taking of a bull elk and unlawful waste of the animal on Sept. 23

- unlawful taking of a buck deer and assisting another with a wildlife violation on Oct. 8

- unlawful taking of a buck deer and waste of a game animal on Oct. 16

- unlawful taking of a buck deer and trespassing with a firearm on Nov. 29

- two counts of taking antlerless elk on Dec. 9 and exceeding the annual bag limit.

Circuit Judge Jon Lieualen sentenced St. Pierre to five years probation, \$2,300 in fines and suspended St. Pierre's hunting license for life. Lieualen also ordered St. Pierre to show up by June 10 to serve time in the Umatilla County Jail, Pendleton.

Jail staff reported St. Pierre arrived Monday and with good behavior can get out June 29.

PENDLETON



Staff photo by E.J. Harris

A Pendleton firefighter uses a hose line to protect a structure from a slow moving brush fire Tuesday off Southeast Goodwin Avenue, Pendleton.

## Firefighters contain grass blaze

East Oregonian

PENDLETON — Pendleton firefighters Tuesday morning stopped a slow moving

grass fire.

The fire broke out around 10:30 a.m. on the southeast hill near the railroad tracks along Southeast Frazer Avenue.

Flames crept up the grassy hill, where much of the vegetation remains green. The slow speed allowed the fire department to keep the burn from getting too

close to homes.

Firefighters poured water on the fire from above and below, limiting the burn to about an acre.

PENDLETON

## Hermiston teacher hired as McKay Creek principal

East Oregonian

To complete its administrative team following Sherwood Heights Elementary School Principal Theresa Owens' impending retirement, the Pendleton School District will hire a Hermiston teacher.

Starting in the 2018-2019 school year, current McKay Creek Principal Ronda Smith will move over to Sherwood Heights and be replaced by Armand Larive Middle School math teacher Lorena

Woods.

In a press release, Pendleton School District Superintendent Chris Fritsch lauded Woods for her 27 years of educational experience, which includes stints as a coach, athletic director, and assistant principal.

Woods has a bachelor's degree from Western Oregon University and a master's degree from the University of Phoenix.

Although the district initially elected to hire a direct

replacement for Owens, Fritsch said in an interview Tuesday that the district had trouble finding the right candidate for the position.

Given that Sherwood Heights has a much larger student population (471 students compared to McKay Creek's 287), the district decided it would be easier to shift Smith to Sherwood Heights and recruit an administrator for the smaller school.

The district is no stranger to moving around

administrators.

As a part of a 2015 district-wide shuffle that involved roughly a half-dozen administrative positions, Smith went from being an assistant principal at Pendleton High School to helping McKay Creek, replacing Aimee VanNice, who was moved to Washington Elementary School.

Prior to the high school, Smith was the principal at Nixyaawii Community School and an elementary school teacher.

HERMISTON

## Stabbing suspect arraigned for attempted murder

East Oregonian

Two Hermiston men are still in the hospital more than a day after they were stabbed by another man.

A nursing supervisor at Legacy Emanuel Hospital in Portland confirmed that Harold Piercy, 72, and Richard Rukaveno, 64, were receiving treatment at the hospital, but would not offer more about their condition. According to Deputy District Attorney Jaclyn Jenkins, the two men are in intensive care but expected to survive their wounds.

The suspect in the stabbings, Aaron Zuwala, was arrested Monday morning and was arraigned Tuesday afternoon at the Umatilla County Courthouse in Hermiston. He is being charged with two counts of attempted murder, two of first-degree assault, and two of unlawful use of a weapon. According to a release from Hermiston police, all three men knew each other.

Jenkins said one man was stabbed under the chin, and

the knife pierced his sinuses. She said the other was stabbed multiple times in the chest, to the point where the knife hit one of the vertebrae in the victim's spine.



Zuwala

Jenkins appeared by video from the Umatilla County Jail, along with Zuwala.

Jenkins requested Zuwala be held at \$200,000 bail and, if released, have no contact with the victims or their families. Judge Eva Temple granted both requests.

Zuwala's preliminary hearing is Monday, June 11 at 3 p.m. in Hermiston.

Zuwala has had several criminal charges in his background, but this is the first in Umatilla County. He was charged with theft on two separate occasions in 2017, in Jefferson and Deschutes County, for stealing merchandise from grocery stores. He has a charge of criminal mischief in the second degree in Jefferson County that same year, as well as theft in the second degree for stealing more than \$100 worth of water from the Deschutes Valley Water District.

## Umatilla County Charter Review Committee seeks public comments

MILTON-FREEWATER — Umatilla County residents can comment Wednesday in public on the review of the county charter.

The Umatilla County Charter Review Committee meets Wednesday at 5:30 p.m. in the Albee Room at the Milton-Freewater Library, 8 S.W. Eighth Ave. Milton-Freewater. The committee has the charge of reviewing the charter, the county's guiding govern-

ment document, and making recommendations to change it.

The committee is continuing that work at the meeting and also wants to take input from the public. Any interested person may appear and have the opportunity to provide comment on the review of the charter.

For more information, contact county counsel Doug Olsen at 541-278-6208.

COMING EVENTS

**WEDNESDAY, JUNE 6 ADVENTURE TIME STORY TIME**, 2-3 p.m., Hermiston Public Library, 235 E. Gladys Ave., Hermiston. Stories and activities for developmentally disabled children and adults. Free. (541-567-2882)

**ADULT BEGINNERS' COMPUTERS**, 3-4 p.m., Pendleton Public Library meeting room, 502 S.W. Dorion Ave., Pendleton. Registration is required. Classes tailored to the needs of the attendees. (541-966-0380)

**ADULT & TEEN COLOR CLUB**, 5:30 p.m., Pendleton Public Library, 502 S.W. Dorion Ave., Pendleton. A relaxing hour of coloring. Supplies provided. (Mary Finney 541-966-0380)

**VEGAN/SUSTAINABLE LIVING POTLUCK SUPPER**, 7 p.m., location varies, Pendleton. Bring a vegan dish and recipe. Gluten-free friendly group. Call to RSVP and for driving directions. (541-969-3057)

**TOUR OF KNOWLEDGE**, 7-8 p.m., Eastern Oregon Higher Education Center, 980 S.E. Columbia Drive, Hermiston. Discussion of public hearings, meetings and events relevant to the area, and reports on sites and facilities that impact natural resources and places of historical interest. Free and everyone welcome. (Eileen Laramore 541-303-3872)

**THURSDAY, JUNE 7 PRESCHOOL STORY TIME**, 10:15-11 a.m., Pendleton Public Library, 502 S.W. Dorion Ave., Pendleton. Stories and activities for young children. (541-966-0380)

**CRAFT TIME**, 10:30 a.m., Milton-Freewater Public Library, 8 S.W. Eighth Ave., Milton-Freewater. (Lili Schmidt 541-938-8247)

**HERMISTON SENIOR MEAL SERVICE**, 12 p.m., Our Lady of Angels Catholic Church parish hall, 565 W. Hermiston Ave., Hermiston. Cost is \$4 for adults, free for children 10 and under, \$4 for Meals on Wheels. Extra 50 cents for utensils/dishes. Bus service to parish hall by donation. (541-567-3582)

**BOARDMAN SENIOR MEAL SERVICE**, 12 p.m., Boardman Senior Center, 100 Tatone St., Boardman. Cost is \$4 for seniors 55 and over or \$5 for adults. (541-481-3257)

**PENDLETON SENIOR MEAL SERVICE**, 12-1 p.m., Pendleton Senior Center, 510 S.W. 10th St., Pendleton. Costs \$3.50 or \$6 for those under 60. Pool, puzzles, crafts, snacks, Second Time Around thrift store 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. For Meals on Wheels, call 541-276-1926. (Tori Bowman 541-276-5073)

**SENSORY STORY TIME**, 12:30 p.m., Boardman Public Library, 200 S. Main St., Boardman. For children from birth to age 4. (541-481-2665)

**STRESS MANAGEMENT PUBLIC LIBRARY**, 502 S.W. Dorion Ave., Pendleton. Learn how stress can affect your health and what you can do to manage it. Free. (541-966-0380)

**SKILLS FOR LIFE**, 3-5 p.m., Pendleton Recreation Center, 510 S.W. Dorion Ave., Pendleton. Gym activities at 3 p.m., life skills at 4 p.m. for middle and high school

students. Registration requested. (Suzanne Moore 541-276-3987)

**MAXWELL MARKET**, 4-7 p.m., corner of, South First Street and West Locust Avenue, Hermiston. Crafts, local produce, clothing and other wares. Live music, food vendors and more.

**YARN CLUB**, 5:30 p.m., Hermiston Public Library, 235 E. Gladys Ave., Hermiston. (541-567-2882)

**THE ARC UMATILLA COUNTY BINGO**, 6-10 p.m., The Arc Building, 215 W. Orchard Ave., Hermiston. Doors open at 6 p.m., seats may be held until 6:30 p.m., then all seats first come, first served; games begin at 7 p.m. Proceeds benefit Umatilla County citizens with developmental disabilities. 18 years or older, must have proof of age and photo I.D. Basic pot \$20, prizes range from \$20-\$750. (541-567-7615)

**SAY IT AGAIN, THIS TIME WITH FEELINGS**, 6-8:30 p.m., Pendleton Center for the Arts, 214 N. Main St., Pendleton. Three-part series to make fabric collage postcards that reflect original expressions. Attend one class or come to all three. \$15 per session or register in advance for all three sessions: \$30 members, \$35 non-members. (Kaisa Hill 541-278-9201)

**FIDDLER'S NIGHT**, 6:30-8:30 p.m., Brookdale Assisted Living, 980 W. Highland Ave., Hermiston. Enjoy light refreshments, listen to some favorite oldies or join in the jam session. All ages welcome. (541-567-3141)

**FRIDAY, JUNE 8 PRESCHOOL STORY TIME**,

10:15 a.m., Hermiston Public Library, 235 E. Gladys Ave., Hermiston. For children from 3-6 years old. (541-567-2882)

**TODDLER STORY TIME**, 10:15-11 a.m., Pendleton Public Library, 502 S.W. Dorion Ave., Pendleton. (541-966-0380)

**WILDHORSE RESORT & CASINO**  
6/6  
Cineplex Show Times  
\$5 Classic Movie • 6/6 • 12:00 PM  
Midnight Run  
\$5 Children's Classic Movie  
6/13 • 10 AM  
Cloudy with a Chance of Meatballs  
Free Small Popcorn & Small Soda

**SOLO: A STAR WARS STORY (PG13)**  
4:00 7:00 10:00

**DEADPOOL 2 (R)**  
4:10 6:50 9:30

**LIFE OF THE PARTY (PG13)**  
4:40 7:20 9:40

**AVENGERS: INFINITY WAR (PG13)**  
3:30\* 6:40 9:50

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

Support Oregon and Umatilla Democrats at a joint dinner fundraiser featuring CD-2 Democratic Nominee Jamie McLeod-Skinner

Saturday, June 9th, 2018 6:30 p.m.  
Blue Mountain Community College 2411 NW Carden Ave. Pendleton, OR 97801

Tickets \$35 Vegetarian options available

DEMOCRATIC PARTY OF OREGON  
2nd Quarter 2018 State Central Committee Meeting  
June 9-10, BMCC Pendleton, Or

THE FOLLOWING EVENTS INVITE PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

Saturday, June 9th, 12-12:30 PM - PLEDGE TO VOTE CANVAS for Governor Kate Brown and CD 2 candidate Jamie McLeod-Skinner. Meet in Pioneer Hall Student Union

Saturday, June 9th, 6:30 PM - FUND RAISER DINNER. Pioneer Hall Student Union. \$35 per person. Featured Speaker: Jamie McLeod-Skinner. Speaking program begins at 7:40 PM. Ticket info: 503-239-8629 • Katie@dpo.org

Sunday, June 10th - Caucus Meetings: Science and Technology Building. Various caucus groups meet from 10 AM to 1 PM, including: Gun Owners Caucus, Healthcare Caucus, Young Democrats Caucus, Native American Caucus. For Caucus info call: 541-377-0891