

Bar brawl at Mosa sends one man to hospital

Police chief may ask city to nix liquor license at 'problem' downtown bar

By PHIL WRIGHT
East Oregonian

An early Monday brawl at the downtown Pendleton bar Mosa sent one man to the hospital with an injury to his face, possibly from a pool ball.

Pendleton police Chief Stuart Roberts said the fracas involved four or five people, but few have spoken with police.

Police got the call Monday at 1:03 a.m. to respond to a fight in the bar at 138 S. Main St. Roberts said officers arrived to a typical scene at the local trouble spot — most people who knew or saw anything were long gone. Police talked to a sober employee who saw part of what happened and a 44-year-old white Stanfield man



Staff photo by Phil Wright
Pendleton police early Monday responded to a brawl at Mosa in downtown Pendleton. The bar remains on police radar as a frequent trouble spot.

who said an American Indian woman assaulted him.

The employee was working in the kitchen and heard everything

“blow up,” Roberts said, came out and witnessed some of the action, including a woman throwing pool balls. The victim claimed a woman

hit him twice in the face, and he was bleeding from his cheek. Roberts said the man rated himself a 6 out 10 on a scale of intoxication, but the officers rated him higher.

“He couldn’t even tell us if it was from a fist or a pool ball,” Roberts said.

The man didn’t want medical treatment at the scene, but later went to St. Anthony Hospital on his own. Roberts also said police are unclear if the woman who hit him was the same woman who threw the pool balls. No one at the bar gave a clear identification of people involved, Roberts said, “but we have a good idea who it is.”

The police chief also said he is considering telling the city council not to endorse Mosa’s liquor license the next time it comes up for renewal. Mosa, he said, “continues to be a problem for us.”

For a while, officers in uniform pulled up as the bar closed because trouble was so common. Roberts said bartenders usually set the

tone for behavior, but bartenders at Mosa have sometimes been part of problems officers dealt with. Mosa also opens later than most bars in Pendleton and years ago earned a reputation for hard drinking and aggressive behavior.

“Once you get a reputation and certain clientele, it’s difficult to change that,” he said.

Roberts said before he makes any recommendation to the council, he has to compare law enforcement action at Mosa with the other bars in town, and that means scouring the records management system to gather as much data as he can. He said police cannot just seize a bar’s liquor license.

Those licenses fall under the jurisdiction of the Oregon Liquor Control Commission. Roberts can only recommend the city council endorse or not endorse a business for liquor sales, and the council can agree or not.

But the final decision to renew a liquor license rests with the state commission.

Winter is the time to care for trees

Pendleton Tree Commission

In the winter, after a yard has been raked and put to bed, outdoor tasks tend to slow down. However there are several wintertime yard jobs that, when done correctly, can improve the health and beauty of your yard.

Winter is a good time to inspect yard trees, because when trees have lost their leaves you can evaluate the branches carefully and systematically. It is easier to see the desired tree shape and prune with that in mind.

Dead and damaged branches should be removed, paying particular attention to the branch unions (where branches meet, or where branches come off the main stem). Look to eliminate steep angled V-shaped branch unions as they are less stable than a U-shaped union.

In a residential setting, dead wood in a tree is a hazard because it is brittle and won’t bend in the wind like a live branch. Large, dead branches may even break off and hang up in the treetop, creating what is known as a “widow-maker.” These should be removed before they fall to the ground.

Pruning trees when they are small can prevent little problems from becoming big ones. Some trees, such as elms, ashes, and maples, tend to form weak branch unions where two or more branches grow too closely together. Prune small trees to remove all the close branches except one in order to prevent a weak area from forming; these places are



EO file photo
Duane Davies uses a chain saw to de-limb a tree that was blown over during the early morning windstorm Oct. 14, 2016, at the Columbia Basin Agricultural Research Center north of Pendleton.

most likely to crack or split when a tree is big.

Mulching trees can also be helpful this time of year in order to retain soil moisture, moderate soil temperature extremes and improve soil quality in the tree root zone. But not all mulches are the same. Because of the wind in Pendleton, many people like to use gravel or river rock in planting beds and around trees.

However, rock absorbs heat and can make the soil very hot in the summer, damaging the critical fine roots of trees. Organic mulches, like bark and leaves, do not absorb as much heat and are a better mulching option.

Young or new trees do need some TLC to survive winter conditions. In the fall, keep watering your new trees until the soil freezes. It is also a good idea to wrap the trunks of young, thin

barked trees to prevent sunscald, most prevalent on the south and west sides of the tree. Caging or wrapping can also be used to protect young trees from deer and from rodents, especially rabbits and voles.

How about staking a new tree for added support? Is it a good idea? Research suggests no unanimous answer to this question. In a windy area like Pendleton, newly planted trees can be stabilized by carefully tethering them to two opposing stakes set outside the rooting zone, but (and this is important) only do so for one year. Don’t use a guy wire that will cut into the bark. If you use wire between a stake and the tree, cut a guard from a piece of old garden hose so the wire doesn’t damage the bark. After a year, a new tree’s roots will have expanded into the soil and it will then be stable,

at which point remove the stake and wire.

Umatilla County has an ordinance requiring the control of insects and diseases affecting many fruit tree varieties, and this applies to anyone with one or more of the trees. Dormant sprays (applied in winter) are appropriate for many pests and diseases, so now is the time to pay attention to your fruit trees.

Many people use salts to melt ice on sidewalks and driveways. Unfortunately the melting ice can carry dissolved salt to the root zone of trees, damaging the soil and the trees. Sodium chloride salt (like table salt) is the worst for plants and soil, and there are less-harmful alternatives available, most notably magnesium chloride.

Snow and ice can build up in trees and shrubs, and the sheer weight can damage or break branches. Remove accumulated snow gently, by shaking branches. Don’t break ice off of branches, but try to prop up heavily laden branches instead.

The Pendleton Tree Commission is appointed by the city council and assists in guiding the city’s tree management program. This does not include trees on private property, but the committee is providing this information to the public to help keep all of the trees in the city healthy and flourishing.

With a little bit of winter attention, the trees and shrubs in your yard can stay healthy for years, providing you with shade, beauty, and wildlife habitat.

Umatilla County seeks utility rescue vehicle

PENDLETON — Umatilla County Emergency Management is shopping for a new rescue vehicle.

The county board of commissioners on Wednesday voted 3-0 for emergency manager Tom Roberts to seek bids on a new utility task vehicle, or UTV, with a patient transport skid and tracks, as well as a trailer for transporting the unit and supplies.

Roberts told the board the county won a \$48,383 State Homeland Security Grant to purchase the equipment, which will allow rescues in rough terrain. Emergency management has been trying to get the grants for a couple of years, he said, and at that time the funds would have been paid for everything. He said the department is looking to buy everything in one package and will accept bids up to the total of the grant.

The board of commissioners also allowed the Public Works Department to buy a 2015 asphalt roller for \$34,125 and approved the legalization for a section of South Edwards Road, Hermiston.

Matt Kenney, Umatilla County Public Works surveyor, told the board the road has a “severe bend” between East Harding Avenue and East Loop Road, but that was not reflected in the county’s record alignment of the road, which meant parts of the road were outside of the record right-of-way location. The legalization centers the right-of-way on the road’s actual location. It’s an administrative fix and there are no plans to work on the road.

Dean’s Deli to eventually reopen as Sips N Snacks

East Oregonian

Despite being closed for more than eight months, the old Dean’s Market and Deli still plans to open it under new ownership and a new name.

New co-owner Mark Stansbury said Dean’s will eventually open as Sips N Snacks Deli and Market, but he doesn’t have a timeline for when the 412 S.W. 20th St. business will reopen for business in Pendleton.

Stansbury said he was a former Dean’s customer who enjoyed the deli offerings, and when former owner Harry Snyder offered to sell the business, Stansbury made the deal. Stansbury said he and his wife realized that it would take some renovation work before Sips N Snacks could open. According to Stansbury, their daily renovation work window is limited because they both work full-time jobs.

BRIEFLY

Air museum soars with opportunities

PENDLETON — People interested in local history, aviation or the military might consider volunteering at the Pendleton Air Museum.

With a goal of preserving Pendleton’s aviation and military history, a group of enthusiasts formed several decades ago — and then opened the doors to an actual physical museum at 21 S.W. Emigrant Ave. in 2017.

Training will be provided for volunteer museum hosts. Shifts include half or full-day time slots between 11 a.m. and 4 p.m. on Mondays, Thursdays, Fridays or Saturdays. Volunteers will learn and share about the “forgotten history” of Pendleton, how the Army Air Corp Base Pendleton Field was involved in World War II and more.

For more information, contact 541-278-0141, pendletonairmuseum@gmail.com or visit www.pendletonairmuseum.org.

American Legion meets monthly in Hermiston

HERMISTON — Hermiston American Legion Post #37 is invites area veterans to join them for monthly meetings.

Incorporated by Congress in 1919, membership to the American Legion is open to all honorably discharged or retired veterans, and active duty military personnel.

A nonprofit and nonpartisan organization, it advocates for fellow service members and veterans.

In addition the American Legion supports patriotism, promotes national security and is committed to mentoring youths and sponsoring wholesome programs in the community.

The group meets the first Monday of each month at 7 p.m. at the VFW Hall, 45 W. Cherry St., Hermiston.

For more information, contact Gary Hartinger at 541-571-0820 or bhart125@msn.com.

COMING EVENTS

TUESDAY, JAN. 29
TRIPLE P DISCUSSION GROUP, 11 a.m.-4 p.m., Pendleton Public Library, 502 S.W. Dorion Ave., Pendleton. Gain information in dealing with problem behaviors exhibited by children, including disobedience (Jan. 8), fighting and aggression (Jan. 15), bedtime (Jan. 22) and hassle-free shopping with children (Jan. 29). Free, registration not required. Attend one or all. (541-966-0380)

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. For Meals On Wheels, call 541-276-1926. (Tori Bowman 541-276-5073)

HERMISTON SENIOR MEAL SERVICE, 12 p.m., Harkenrider Center, 255 N.E. Second St., 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 available. (541-567-3582)

SKILLS FOR LIFE, 3 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. (541-276-3987)

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We provide Free snacks, support, breastfeeding help and baby weigh ins.

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