Death

Continued from A1

After about 100 yards, bullets lose their straight-line trajectory and speed. The shot's odds were longer than finding a winning lottery ticket, said Deschutes County District Attorney John Hummel.

"The bullet went through trees," Hummel said. "The odds are one in many millions."

Ray was living in his car near Stevens Road and 27th Street when he was arrested about 5:30 a.m. Wednesday. He was released after being ticketed for the Class B misdemeanor of negligent wounding, according to a release from sheriff's Detective Sgt. Troy Gotchy.

As of Wednesday afternoon, Ray had not been charged in circuit court.

The shooting took place around 2 p.m. June 30 on Bureau of Land Management land off Alfalfa Market Road, 4miles east of Bend.

Martell, 53, and a friend had been camping near a berm that had served as target practice for many years, as evidenced by numerous bullet casings scattered around the area.

"That's a place where many people go to shoot. They've probably been shooting into that berm for generations in Deschutes County," Hummel said.

Deputies and medics arrived to find Martell dead with a gunshot wound. The shooter had left by this point, and a man who'd been camping with Martell provided deputies with a description of a man in his 30s who drove a small white SUV or crossover vehicle. The sheriff's office put out a public call for help locating him.

The witness told deputies he and Martell had heard shooting and gone to tell the shooter to stop. As they walked through a small stand of trees, Martell was struck, though authorities have not disclosed where on Martell's body he was struck.

Hummel said he will review the case and possibly take it to a grand jury, which could approve more serious charges.

"The shooter never saw them," Hummel said. "The question is, was it a crime to pull that trigger? Was it criminally negligent? The police have made their call. Now I have to make my call."

According to Martell's father, who spoke to The Bulletin Wednesday, his son had camped in his motor home on public land outside Bend for about five years, relocating regularly as required by law.

"All we know is it was a stray shot, and he was in the wrong place at the wrong time," said Neil R. Martell.

A native of Massachusetts, Neil J. Martell was a Navy submariner on the USS Tautog and a trained chef who worked spells at Walt Disney World. He worked the kitchens of restaurants and retirement homes across Massachusetts, California and in Bend.

He was married in Carpinteria, California, and moved to Bend with his wife, who had friends and family in the area. After a divorce, he opted to retreat to a simpler life in his RV. He got by collecting cans near the put-ins of the Deschutes River. He liked not having a boss, said his father, a retired high school Spanish teacher.

"Our son marched to a different beat," said Neil R. Martell. "He was out there, more or less by himself, and that's what he liked. He preferred to be his own boss. And he was happy. He didn't have to answer to anybody."

■ *Reporter: 541-383-0325, gandrews@bendbulletin.com*

Masks

Continued from A1

The state reported 424 people hospitalized with COVID-19 Wednesday, down from 458 one week ago. The peak of the current surge was expected to arrive July 12, at 479 occupied beds, according to an Oregon Health & Sciences University forecast.

In light of the strain on Oregon's hospital system, Sidelinger asked Oregonians to wear masks in indoor public spaces, particularly those in counties with high levels of spread, those at high risk of severe disease or those living with others at high risk.

Using some of the strongest language during this surge, Sidelinger also suggested people reconsider summer plans to protect themselves and others during what he called "this extremely challenging time."

Central Oregon hospitals have been particularly hard-hit, Sidelinger said, citing the St. Charles Health System in Bend, in particular.

Of Oregon's 36 counties, 21 have been listed by the Centers for Disease and Control and Prevention at high levels of community spread. That designation is based on hospitalizations, hospital admissions and new case numbers. They include the three Portland-area counties.

Everyone in those counties should be wearing a mask when in an indoor public space, Sidelinger said.

Gillian Flaccus/AP file

A sign reminds customers to wear their masks at a bakery in Lake Oswego in May 2021. State health officials on Wednesday urged Oregonians in 21 counties with high COVID-19 case rates and hospitalizations to wear masks again.

In Central Oregon, Crook, Deschutes and Jefferson counties remain at medium levels of community spread. The CDC listed all three counties at high levels for about a week early this month. The agency generally updates its community levels for counties on Thursdays.

Despite the warnings, Sidelinger said he expects hospitalizations to plateau over the coming days or week before declining. And mask mandates will remain a local, not a state-level, decision.

Psilocybin

Continued from A1

Commissioner Phil Chang, who voted against the ordinance, argued that the county was wasting its time and taxpayer money by placing the measure on the ballot, noting that Deschutes County residents voted 52.8% in favor of Measure 109 in 2020 and would likely do so again.

Commissioner Patti Adair, who voted in favor of the ordinance, voiced general concerns about how psilocybin facilities could fuel illicit drug activity at a time when Measure 110 decriminalized drugs like psilocybin.

Last week, at least 20 people from across the county, state and other states, voiced support in a public hearing about psilocybin therapy, including doctors, mental health counselors, students, veterans, business owners and other residents.

Since then, Chang said he has received additional phone calls and email supporting the drug's therapeutic use, tallying at least 75 people reaching out in favor and less than 10 who were opposed. This support makes Chang "confident" that the ballot measure would fail in the fall election.

"It will cost us legal time. It will cost us county clerk time. It will cost us community development to pursue an opt-out ballot measure," Chang said. "Instead, we could be taking those resources and applying them to the development of time, place and manner regulations so that we can safely and effectively regulate access to these therapeutic treatments."

But Adair said she was concerned that the state was developing rules too slowly and said that the facilitators of psilocybin therapy "are not required to be licensed medical or mental health professionals."

In addition, Adair voiced general concerns that with psilocybin facilities in unincorporated Deschutes County, the illicit drug market could "be perhaps flooded with (psilocybin)." She likened the legalization to that of marijuana, saying that legalizing the drug in 2014 did not stop cartel activity.

"We know the cartel is here," she said.

Chang pushed back against Adair's claims, saying there is a lack of evidence to substantiate that the drugs fuel the black market. He also argued that the wide array of experts who came out in support of the drug in the public hearing last week showed there are ample trained professionals willing to administer the drug safely.

"On both of those fronts, that this is going to contribute to black market production, or that we will have people that are unqualified to administer psilocybin, I don't think that those are valid arguments," he said.

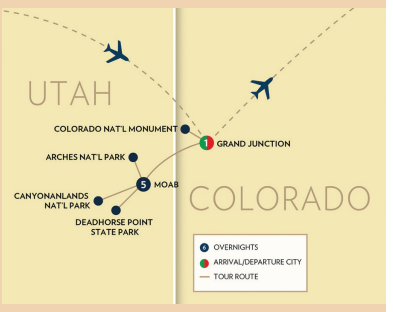
Chang said that, if the county started its work immediately, it could develop strong regulations around psilocybin that would address DeBone and Adair's concerns, a responsibility that the state has left to the county's control.

Deschutes County is not the only one in Central Oregon that is weighing psilocybin therapy.

Crook County officials are drafting an ordinance that would ask voters if they want a permanent ban on psilocybin treatment, and county officials will decide Aug. 3 whether to place the ordinance on the ballot.

■ *Reporter: 541-617-7854, bdole@bendbulletin.com*

PLAN YOUR 2023 GETAWAY!



UTAH'S MIGHTY NATIONAL PARKS
7 DAYS
APRIL 30-MAY 6, 2023

DAY 1: ARRIVE GRAND JUNCTION, COLORADO
DAY 2: GRAND JUNCTION, MOAB
DAY 3: CANYONLANDS NATIONAL PARK, DEAD HORSE POINT STATE PARK
DAY 4: MOAB, MONUMENT VALLEY
DAY 5: CAPITOL REEF NATIONAL PARK
DAY 6: ARCHES NATIONAL PARK, CANYONLANDS BY NIGHT
DAY 7: MOAB, GRAND JUNCTION, FLIGHT HOME

HIGHLIGHTS:
- Arches National Park
- Capitol Reef National Park
- Canyonlands National Park
- Dead Horse Point State Park
- Canyonlands by Night Cruise
- Grand Junction, Colorado
- Scenic Byway 128
- Colorado National Monument
- Monument Valley
- Monument Valley Scenic Drive Tour
- Lunch at Goulding's Lodge
- Goulding's Museum & Trading Post
- Colorado Wine Tasting
- 5 Night Stay in Moab, Utah

INCLUSIONS:
- Roundtrip Airfare - PDX or RDM +($250 pp)
- 6 Nights First Class Hotels
- 10 Meals: 6 Breakfasts, 1 Lunch & 3 Dinners
- Professional Tour Director
- Motorcoach Transportation
- Admissions per Itinerary
- Comprehensive Sightseeing
- Baggage Handling at Hotels
- Hotel Transfers

ACCOMMODATIONS:
- 1 Night - DoubleTree Hotel, Grand Junction, CO
- 5 Nights - Hyatt Place, Moab, UT

On some dates alternate hotels may be used

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PLAN YOUR 2023 GETAWAY!

BURGUNDY & PROVENCE FRANCE RIVER CRUISE
9 DAYS
OCTOBER 25-NOVEMBER 2, 2023

DAY 1 & 2: DEPART US, OVERNIGHT FLIGHT TO EUROPE, ARRIVE LYON, BOARD SHIP
DAY 3: MÂCON
DAY 4: CHALON SUR SAONE, BEAUNE, TOURNUS
DAY 5: LYON
DAY 6: AVIGNON
DAY 7: ARLES
DAY 8: LEISURE DAY WITH CHÂTEAUNEUF-DU-RHÔNE/ ARDECHE, LE POUZIN
DAY 9: FLIGHT HOME

OPTIONAL 2 - NIGHT PARIS POST CRUISE EXTENSION AVAILABLE

INCLUSIONS:
- Roundtrip Airfare - PDX or RDM (+$250pp)
- 7 Night Cruise - Outside Cabin
- 20 Meals (7-B, 6-L, 7-D)
- PWD Tour Manager
- Wine & Beer with Dinners
- Welcome & Farewell Dinners
- Wifi Onboard
- English Speaking Ship Staff
- Baggage Handling
- Int'l Air Taxes/Fees & Port Charges
- Hotel & Ship Transfers

EXCURSIONS/TOURS:
- Beaune Tour with Hotel-Dieu & Burgundy Wine Tasting Experience
- Macon Walking Tour
- Lyon City Tour
- Avignon Walking Tour with Avignon Palace of Popes
- Arles Walking Tour with Roman Amphitheater

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