

## Missing Silverton man’s body found in rural Marion County

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Salem Statesman Journal  
USA TODAY NETWORK

Authorities located the body of a missing Silverton man Sunday at the base of an embankment near Scotts Mills in rural Marion County.

On Saturday, Marion County Sheriff’s Office deputies responded to the Crooked Finger area after receiving a call about a Subaru Legacy found on a logging road.

The caller told deputies they initially saw the Subaru three weeks earlier at the same location and were concerned it was still there.

The vehicle’s owner, William Tracy, 46, had been reported as missing to Silverton Police on Feb. 21.

Marion County Sheriff’s Office Search and Rescue team began a coordinated search of the area where the vehicle was found, approximately 8 miles south of Scotts Mills.

On Sunday afternoon searchers located Tracy’s body at the base of an embankment.

Investigators believe Tracy’s death was accidental as the result of a fall off of the embankment. Due to the body’s remote location, searchers were not able to safely bring the remains out of the wooded area until

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MARION COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE



Campgrounds across Oregon at state parks are closing in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic.

STATESMAN JOURNAL FILE

## Oregon shuts down campgrounds statewide

Zach Urness  
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Oregon is closing campgrounds across the state in an effort to halt the spread of COVID-19.

The three state agencies that offer camping will gradually shut down all campgrounds while allowing a grace period for people currently camping or that already had reservations at Oregon’s 50 state parks through April 2.

All beaches, trails, roads and parks remain open for day-use.

“The overarching message is that camping is closing, so if you are at home in Oregon and wanted to come camping, change your plans,” Oregon Parks and Recreation Department spokesman Chris Havel said.

“We are honoring reservations already made until April 2 so that we don’t have a flood of people arriving that suddenly have no place to go.”

In other words, camping will be closing down. But to help reduce chaos near Oregon’s 50 state park campgrounds, and not dump people in local communities, they’re offering a small window, Havel said.

After April 2, all state campgrounds will be completely closed. That decision remains in place until May 8.

In addition to state parks, campgrounds in Clatsop, Santiam, and Tillamook state forests will close March 23. Also, the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife is closing its wildlife areas to overnight camping effective March 22.

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## NORPAC being sued by buyer for \$7M

Bill Poehler  
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USA TODAY NETWORK

The company that won the right to purchase some of the assets of NORPAC Foods in bankruptcy court has sued the farmer-owned cooperative for \$7.1 million.

National Frozen Foods, a vegetable processing company owned by entrepreneur Frank Tiegs, filed suit in bankruptcy court March 6 alleging the company misclassified 19.7 million pounds of inventory during the purchase.

NORPAC filed for Chapter 11 Bankruptcy protection in August 2019, stating it had \$164 million in debt and \$315 million in assets.

The Tiegs-owned Oregon Potato Company won a bidding war in bankruptcy court with Simplot to purchase the Quincy, Washington processing plant, assets like intellectual property and contracts and the goods NORPAC had processed and had in inventory for \$107 million in December.

Days later, NORPAC sent the company an invoice reflecting a purchase price of \$10,262,443 for all fruits and vegetables it had in its possession, according to the asset purchase agreement.

The lawsuit states its inspection of the millions of pounds of inventory determined the fruits and vegetables NORPAC classified as finished product contained sand, excessive stalks and products containing insects or foreign materials.

“Debtor contends that it did not miss-classify any inventory that should have been classified as hold product, that VegCo did not overpay for the inventory, and that it owes National nothing,” the lawsuit states, though NORPAC has yet to file a formal response to the suit.

The asset purchase agreement provided for a \$2 million fund as part of the escrow in case of a purchase price shortfall. The lawsuit asks for that amount plus another \$5.1 million.

“NORPAC breached its duty to negotiate in good

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## Care facilities defend vulnerable from COVID-19

### Staff, residents and families face challenges

Capi Lynn  
Salem Statesman Journal  
USA TODAY NETWORK

Salem-Keizer assisted living, residential and memory care facilities are following state guidelines and screening all visitors to prevent the spread of COVID-19 among the community’s most vulnerable population.

At Bonaventure of Salem, that includes a health questionnaire and temperature check.

Taking the temperature of all visitors, as well as every resident and staff member every day, are added preventative measures implemented by Bonaventure Senior Living, which has three facilities in Salem-Keizer.

Physical therapists and home health and hospice workers are screened before entry, too.

“Our job is to work really hard to not let it get in the building and our community,” Chief Operating Officer Pam Gray said. “Visitors and families are being extremely appreciative and understanding.”

As of Friday afternoon, Gray reported no presumptive cases of the novel coronavirus at any of Bonaventure’s 25 facilities in Oregon, Washington and Colorado.

But for many who work in her field, the fear is not if, but when, the first case strikes and how to stop the pandemic from sweeping through a concentrated vulnerable population. COVID-19 is considered especially dangerous for the elderly and people with underlying health conditions.

Of the 40 deaths reported in Washington, 24 are linked to a nursing home in Kirkland.

Closer to home, there’s an emerging outbreak at the Edward C. Allworth Veterans’ Home in Lebanon. State health officials have announced the nursing home has nine presumptive cases of the novel Coronavirus. The first two were announced Wednesday afternoon, six more Thursday evening, and one on Saturday.

Patients who tested positive are all male veterans. All are quarantined at the veterans’ home.

An Infection Control and Specimen Collection Strike Team from the Oregon Health Authority was deployed to the 154-bed facility. The nursing home reported on its Facebook page that the team would be collecting samples for COVID-19 testing of all residents and care providers.

“At this time, we have activated lock-down protocol and are not permitting outside visitors or new admissions,” the March 11 post said. “We understand how important it is for family members to communicate with your loved ones, and we encourage you to connect through Skype, calls, texts or emails. Our staff will assist in setting this up if needed.”

### Long-term care policies

The veterans’ home, one of two owned and operated by the Oregon Department of Veterans’ Affairs, has 151 residents.

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Cynthia Morris, executive director of the Medford Bonaventure community, takes the temperature of a visitor to the Bonaventure of Salem on Friday. Mandatory screening is required for all visitors.

KELLY JORDAN / STATESMAN JOURNAL