

Attempted home break-in leads to death east of Keizer

A Salem man was shot and killed Sunday, Jan. 2 after attempting to break into a house in the unincorporated area of east Salem.

The Marion County Sheriff's Office is still investigating the shooting and the man who died has been identified as 42-year-old Peter Bishop of Salem.

Just before 7 p.m. on Jan. 2, deputies responded to a disturbance at a home on 45th Avenue NE near Iberis Street NE. A 911 caller had reported that an unknown man was attempting to break into the home before a resident shot the intruder.

The resident was later identified as a 62-year-old Salem man. It was also reported that at the time of the incident, the resident's adult daughter and two grandchildren were in the home as well. None of the people in the home were injured during the incident.

Bishop was pronounced deceased at the scene.

Detectives from the Criminal Investigations Unit will continue to investigate the incident and it will be forwarded to the Marion County District Attorney's Office upon conclusion.

KFD hiring new firefighter/medic

Keizer Fire District (KFD) is currently looking to hire a new firefighter/paramedic. Applications will be accepted until 5 p.m. on Friday, Jan. 14 – interviews are tentatively scheduled for Jan 27-28.

To be considered for the position, applicants must have a paramedic license and a minimum of one year

of firefighter and pre-hospital care experience.

The starting salary is listed as \$68,484, with the top step salary being \$85,262.

Those interested in the position can visit keizerfire.com for an application packet and more information about the job.

Oregon orders 12 million at-home COVID-19 tests

Oregon has made its largest order yet of COVID-19 tests that will be offered to people around the state for free so they can find out, at home, if they are carrying the virus, and take steps to prevent its spread.

Oregon Health Authority (OHA) placed an order Wednesday, Dec. 30 with iHealth Labs for six million of its COVID-19 Antigen Rapid Test kits. Each kit contains two tests – amounting to a total of 12 million tests coming to the state – that can be performed at home, with results available in 15 minutes.

OHA's previous largest order was for about 1.46 million Abbott BinaxNOW rapid tests. Of that, the agency has distributed nearly 1.3 million tests to almost 400 community partners and more than 1,300 K-12 schools.

"Oregon learned during the Delta

surge that we must be prepared for the unpredictable – we knew we had to be ready for future variants so we could continue to protect the most vulnerable in our communities while keeping our schools, businesses and communities open," said Gov. Kate Brown. "As cases rise in Oregon and across the nation due to the Omicron variant, we are applying the lessons we have learned to support our hospitals and health care workers, and arm Oregonians with the information and tools they need to keep themselves and their families safe. Through vaccination, wearing masks, and utilizing widespread testing, we can make it through this latest surge the same way we have before – working together to protect each other."

The kits will be distributed throughout January at OHA's warehouse in

Wilsonville, where they will be disseminated to numerous OHA partner agencies and organizations.

OHA does not have the capacity to individually send out tests, so it will prioritize distribution to the following partners that can disseminate them to their communities as they see fit:

- Local public health authorities and Tribes, based on population size and some health equity metrics.
- Migrant and seasonal farm and agriculture workers.
- Head Start and some other high-risk early learning settings.
- K-12 schools to support at-home test to stay.
- Health care workers.
- Shelters.
- Community-based organizations.

From Jan. 3 to Jan. 7, the OHA warehouse received six trucks delivering

about 1.1 million test kits. Starting Jan. 10, the warehouse will receive five trucks per week – for five consecutive weeks – until the order is fulfilled. Since iHealth Labs is planning to ramp up product of the test kits, Oregon's order may be fulfilled ahead of schedule.

The test kit order comes as Omicron continues its steady overtake of Delta as the state's dominant COVID-19 variant. With its high transmissibility, Omicron is already thought to be driving a steady increase in hospitalizations over recent days.

As the number of cases increase, rapid testing will be critical to efforts to encourage people to take steps that reduce transmission, including isolating and quarantining at home, wearing masks and face coverings, keeping their distance from others and getting vaccinated as soon as they're healthy.

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