

Murder: Suspects are in jail without possibility of bail

Continued from Page 1A

Roden is charged with four counts of aggravated murder, two counts of murder by abuse, felony murder, first-degree unlawful sexual penetration, first degree sex abuse, three counts of first-degree assault and three counts of criminal mistreatment. The sex abuse charges relate to Roden allegedly subjecting 2-year-old Evangelina Wing to sexual contact by touching.

The 15-count indictment, filed Dec. 31 against Roden accuses him of "intentional maiming or torture" of the toddler and having a "pattern and practice of assault."

An autopsy found Evangelina Wing was the victim of homicide and apparently died from blunt force trauma. She would have turned 3 on Jan. 22.

Roden, who made an initial court appearance on Christmas Eve, and Wing are being held in jail without the possibility of bail. Roden's case was given a complex case designation by Judge Cindee Matyas, which means the defense and prosecution will have more time to prepare.

The aggravated factor because the victim is under 14 years old could carry the possibility of the death penalty for Roden.

The murder by abuse charge against Wing is not a death penalty offense.

District Attorney Josh Marquis said he has not yet decided if he will pursue the death penalty.

Evangelina Wing's death is the second toddler death in Clatsop County in the past year.

Marquis is also prosecuting an aggravated murder case against Jessica Smith, the mother accused of drugging and murdering her 2-year-old daughter and attempting to kill her 13-year-old daughter in a Cannon Beach hotel July 31.

"I've been a prosecutor for 32 years and never in my career have I had two cases involving two 2-year-old children as victims," Marquis said. "It's always very depressing when a child dies."



Dorothy Wing listens via video link during her arraignment in Clatsop County Circuit Court Friday. Wing, the mother of the 2-year-old girl who died in Seaside Dec. 20 is facing charges of murder by abuse, manslaughter and criminal mistreatment.

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— **Josh Marquis**
District Attorney

At about 5:20 a.m. Dec. 20, the Seaside Police Department received a 911 call that a child, later identified as Evangelina Wing, was not breathing. They responded to the Salmonberry Knoll Apartments, 1250 S. Wahan Road, where the child was found dead.

Wing's two sons, ages 5 and 2, were found injured, hospitalized and placed in state protective custody. Wing is charged with criminal mistreatment for leaving her three children with Roden and for withholding medical attention.

Court records show Roden got out of prison in January after being sentenced to 18 months for coercion related to a domestic violence case against another woman.

Roden, a former Georgia resident who stopped school after 11th grade, was originally indicted on 52 counts of domestic violence and sex abuse

against the woman in 2012. Charges included strangulation, menacing, attempt to commit murder, unlawful sexual penetration and coercion.

He pleaded no contest to the coercion charges and was sentenced to 18 months in prison and 60 months of probation. The other charges were dropped as part of the plea deal.

Marquis declined to comment on why so many charges were dropped at the time.

"He got a very tough sentence," Marquis said. "He got 18 months in prison with a back end of 60 to 100 months probation."

Roden recently violated his probation by possessing a controlled substance and changing his residence without Department of Corrections permission, according to court documents.

A probation violation hearing is pending. Roden appears

to have moved in with Wing during autumn.

In June, Dorothy Wing successfully filed for a restraining order against her husband, Robin Wing. She wrote in the request that her husband returned home drunk, made accusations and then strangled her to prevent her from screaming for help.

Seaside police were called to the Wing home Aug. 17 after the couple got into fight. The police report states Dorothy Wing looked at her husband's phone and saw text messages sent to his ex-wife.

"Dorothy also told me she knew she was violating the restraining order by letting Robin live with her and their children," the officer wrote.

Robin Wing's legal problems continued Dec. 1, when a judge sentenced him to prison for assault and a probation violation. His earliest release date is in September 2017, ac-



Randy Lee Roden listens via video link during his arraignment in Clatsop County Circuit Court Friday. Randy Lee Roden, 26, of Seaside, has been accused of killing 2-year-old Evangelina Wing.



District Attorney Joshua Marquis listens during Dorothy Wing's arraignment in Clatsop County Circuit Court Friday. Wing, the mother of the 2-year-old girl who died in Seaside Dec. 20 is facing charges of murder by abuse, manslaughter, and criminal mistreatment.

ording to the Corrections Department.

Dorothy Wing's defense attorney is John Gutbezahl of Lake Oswego. Roden is being represented by defense attorney Conor Huseby of Hillsboro.

Marquis is appointing pros-

ecutors Dawn Buzzard and Ron Brown to the case.

Wing is scheduled to appear for a status hearing at 2 p.m. Feb. 24. Roden's next appearance will be 2 p.m. Feb. 26.

The Associated Press contributed to this report.

Nolan: He got college job because of his on-the-job experience

Continued from Page 1A

He would like to see students learn as much as possible about electronics and engine performance — efficiency, as opposed to power.

"Learn as much as you can about electronics and performance, and you'll always have a job."

The college's auto program offers career pathways, one-year certificates and associate degrees. Nolan said that in the course of becoming better auto technicians, students will learn electron theory, physics, chemistry, thermal conduction, manufacturing, welding and other related skills in school and on the job.

After nearly 40 years in the business, said Nolan, he's still learning, adding that he got his job at the college because of his on-the-job experience.

The program's goal is student certification with the National Automotive Technicians Education Foundation through the Automotive Service Excellence, a national nonprofit certifying mechanics, setting them up for the job market and advanced education.

The outlook for students, as with many of the technical programs at the college, are pretty good. The Oregon Employment Department projected employment for auto service technicians and mechanics to grow 18.8 percent between 2010 and 2020, totaling more than 5,000 in the state by that point. In 2012, median wages for a full-time worker were \$19.76 per hour, or \$41,100 per year.

As long as graduates have the certifications and skills, said Nolan, "it's a very recession-proof job."

— *Edward Stratton*

Uniontown: Public feedback 'extremely valuable' at this stage

Continued from Page 1A

tunnel effect.

"It's just an area that is used by people of all stripes. And it would be nice to be able to keep it that way," said Hague, who is urging other residents to speak out at the town hall.

Hague said the city's preliminary recommendations are "almost giving carte blanche to hotels, motels and things like that. And it is a concern."

City planners hope to revive Uniontown into a lively hub that would complement, but not compete, with downtown commerce.

Input from residents helped shape the Riverfront Vision Plan, but it has taken several years to complete the Civic Greenway and draft the recommendations for the Bridge Vista portions, so some might feel disconnected from the process.

McLaren Innes, vice president of the Planning commission, called public feedback "extremely valuable" at this stage of the Bridge Vista discussion.

"Now we have a chance to make that vitally real, so if people have strong feelings, it's a good time to share them," she said.



Courtesy of JoAnna Dotson

JoAnna Dotson of Astoria captured the scene on Saturday in Warrenton and watched as the herd of elk swim before coming to shore near Hammond.

Elk: 'They're excellent swimmers'

Continued from Page 1A

"They didn't get anywhere because they didn't have a pilot goat," another cracked.

Some speculated that the animals might have been spooked, or crazy, given the cold temperatures.

Turns out, though, that elk are actually good swimmers.

"They're excellent swimmers. And they swim all the time," said Howard Shippey,

a videographer who lives in Warrenton. "It's not uncommon at all."

Last year, Shippey posted a stunning video of elk swimming off Seaside to YouTube that attracted international attention.

The 10-minute video, titled "Elk Love the Oregon Coast!" now has more than 104,000 views.

It also caught the interest of Oregon Public Broadcasting. An OPB crew filmed Shippey

documenting elk on the North Coast last summer, he said, and the footage could air soon.

So why do elk swim?

Michelle Dennehy, a wildlife communications coordinator for the state Department of Fish and Wildlife, said the elk could have been pressured or chased by something or perhaps were searching for good forage.

"But I will say that it is not uncommon for ungu-

lates to swim," she said. "We have sheep that swim across the Snake River. In the Puget Sound area, deer and elk will swim across the island."

"So it's definitely not uncommon."

Shippey has a simpler theory: "They just enjoy it."

Check out Dotson's photographs at: <http://on.fb.me/1K-dj9FC>

Watch Shippey's video at <http://bit.ly/1Kdj0t>

For online updates: www.dailyastorian.com