

Killing prompts Wyoming tribe to seek hate crime prosecution

Associated Press

CHEYENNE, Wyo., — The Northern Arapaho Tribe called on federal authorities Tuesday to file hate crime charges against a Wyoming man following the fatal shooting of one tribal member and the wounding of another at a detox center.

Riverton police say the men were attacked Saturday by city parks worker Roy Clyde, who told investigators he shot the victims as they were lying in bed at the Center of Hope because he was incensed by homeless people drinking and relieving themselves in local parks.

The shooting followed an unsolved 2013 attack in which a Northern Arapaho woman was shot and wounded in Riverton.

“The trend of violence against Indian people in and around Riverton is alarming,” Dean Goggles, chairman of the Northern Arapaho Business Council, said in a prepared statement. “It’s our responsibility as tribal leaders to do everything we can to try and stop these crimes of hate.”



This Saturday 2015 photo shows police officers surrounding the suspect in a shooting in Riverton, Wyo.

Clyde, 32, has been charged with murder and attempted murder. He is not yet represented by a lawyer.

Authorities said Stallone Trosper, 29, died at the center, and James “Sonny” Goggles remained in serious condition at a Casper hospital. He is a cousin of Dean Goggles.

Riverton, a town of about 11,000 people, is surrounded by the Wind River Indian Reservation, home to the Northern Arapaho and Eastern Shoshone tribes.

The victims “are members of our tribe, they

are human beings and they matter to us,” Norman Willow, a member of the business council, said in a statement. “We are sickened by what happened here.”

An attempt to reach a spokesman with the U.S. attorney’s office in Cheyenne for comment wasn’t immediately successful. Tribal leaders intend to travel to Washington, D.C., next week to meet with federal officials on the matter.

Riverton Mayor John “Lars” Baker said the shooting was a tragedy that

left city residents puzzled and sad.

“If the Department of Justice feels that they have to prosecute that as a hate crime, I don’t think they’ll find an awful lot of opposition,” Baker said, noting that city officials emphasize racial sensitivity.

Baker said problems with homelessness and public drinking in Riverton have eased in recent years, since the detox center opened and has been operated with city support. He said the center has helped scores of people by sending them for long-term treatment.

Riverton City Administrator Steven Weaver said Clyde has worked for the parks department full-time since 2009.

Clyde told investigators that he targeted the detox facility because he was tired of cleaning up after homeless people, police Capt. Eric Murphy said.

Clyde said he had long been considering killing people he called “park rangers,” a term used locally to describe homeless alcoholics, according to a police investigator’s statement.

Deaths from a single punch not that uncommon

By AIMEE GREEN
The Oregonian

PORTLAND — It’s happened countless times across Oregon: People get so angry they punch one another in the face. Most often those injuries lead to black eyes, bloody noses and bruised consciences.

Occasionally, they lead to death.

One punch can kill.

Ten days ago, 61-year-old motocross enthusiast Anthony Mancuso died after he was decked by another man and fell, striking the back of his head on pavement at Portland International Raceway, police say. Michael T. Taylor, 50, was originally arrested on a fourth-degree assault charge, but that was dismissed pending a grand jury review that could result in homicide charges.

Among other such Portland-area deaths:

- In 2010, Clackamas County sheriff’s deputies arrived at Boone’s Junction Pizza and Pub in Wilsonville to find a 50-year-old man lying dead in the parking lot. Lewis Allen Wilson apparently was the victim of a bar fight that spun out of control, and he died from a

blow to the head. No suspect was charged.

- In 2012, a 51-year-old man struck a 59-year-old man, sending his head banging onto the pavement outside Mama Son’s Tavern near Southeast 125th Avenue and Division Street in Portland. Steven Glenn Young clung to life for three weeks in the hospital before succumbing to his injuries. Bary Franklin was sentenced to 3½ years in prison.
- In October 2014, a 42-year-old homeless man cold-cocked a stranger, causing him to strike the pavement near the west end of the Burnside Bridge in Portland. The killer, Robert Lewis Browne, apparently didn’t realize he’d fatally injured the stranger, William “Cougar” Burleigh. Neither did passers-by, who rifled through the dying man’s pockets and stripped him of his pants before someone called 911 a while later. Browne was sentenced last month to six years in prison.

Dr. Karen Gunson, the state medical examiner, estimates that 80 percent of homicide victims die from gunshot wounds. That’s followed next in frequency by stabbings, then bludgeon-

ings and strangulations.

One-punch deaths fall even further down the list. But it happens often enough that Gunson, without pause, is able to describe precisely how a sock to the face can end a life.

“They fall over backwards and they hit the back of their head,” Gunson said. “They often end up having a skull fracture.”

The impact on hard ground causes the brain to ricochet into the opposite wall of the skull, somewhere around the forehead, causing hemorrhaging near the brain and death. It’s known as a contrecoup brain injury.

Or, in cases when the victim has been drinking heavily, a punch to the face can cause an artery at the base of the brain to fatally tear as the head snaps back.

A fist to the head on Halloween night 2008 was enough to kill 38-year-old Michael Carey, despite his sizable stature: Carey was 6-foot-3 and weighed more than 300 pounds. He died from bleeding near the brain, caused as his neck twisted and his arteries tore outside KC’s Midway Bar & Grill in Oregon City.

Police couldn’t pin down

which of three suspects dealt the fatal blow, and all three were acquitted of manslaughter in 2009.

Prosecutors and defense attorneys agree that in most circumstances, causing the death of someone with a punch doesn’t amount to murder — which under Oregon law is defined as the “intentional” killing of another.

Attorneys say one-punch deaths are often charged as second-degree manslaughter or criminally negligent homicide, which the law defines as causing someone else’s death “recklessly” or with “criminal negligence.” State sentencing guidelines call for a mandatory minimum sentence of about 6 years for second-degree manslaughter, but no mandatory sentence for criminally negligent homicide.

Cate Wollam, a public defender, said she thinks those lesser charges are appropriate in one-punch cases. The act doesn’t amount to murder, just because the recipient of the blow died, she said.

“This is the United States, and the facts of the case are more important than the fact that the guy died,” Wollam said.

Congress seeks legislative changes following pier shooting

WASHINGTON (AP) — Urged on by anguished testimony from the father of a murder victim, Congress plunged into a heated debate over immigration on Tuesday as GOP lawmakers vowed to shut down funding for so-called sanctuary cities like San Francisco that shield immigrants from deportation by federal authorities.

Immigrant advocates denounced the approach, accusing Republicans of following presidential candidate Donald Trump in demonizing Latinos.

But after 32-year-old Kathryn Steinle was shot this month, allegedly by an immigrant with a criminal record and without legal status, even some Democrats were calling for action to address the ineffective tangle of federal and local laws and policies that left the man on the street.

“We feel strongly that some legislation should be discussed, enacted or changed to take these undocumented immigrant felons off our streets for good,” said Kathryn Steinle’s father, Jim Steinle, who was with his daughter when she was killed while strolling in daylight along a popular San Francisco pier. “We feel if Kate’s law saves one daughter, one son, a mother, a father, Kate’s death won’t be in vain.”

Testifying before a somber Senate Judiciary Committee, Jim Steinle described his daughter as friendly, happy, adventurous



Jim Steinle, father of Kathryn Steinle, killed on a San Francisco Pier by a man previously deported several times, arrives to testify before a Senate Judiciary hearing in Washington, Tuesday.

and full of laughter and love. Shot at random before his eyes as they walked arm in arm, she had time only to utter the words “Help me, Dad.”

“Those are the last words I will ever hear from my daughter,” Steinle said. “We’d be proud to see Kate’s name associated with some of this new legislation.”

The alleged murderer, Juan Francisco Lopez Sanchez, had multiple felony convictions and had been deported five times, but San Francisco authorities released him, rejecting a request from federal immigration authorities to hold him until they could take him into custody.

San Francisco is among hundreds of jurisdictions nationally that decline to honor federal immigration requests, or “detainers,” which have been success-

fully challenged in court and which advocates say can unfairly target immigrants who’ve done nothing wrong or committed only minor crimes.

The House will vote on legislation by Rep. Duncan Hunter, R-Calif., this week that would shut down two different types of local law enforcement grants to cities that don’t cooperate

with federal immigration authorities, and cut off their reimbursements for the costs of jailing immigrants in the country illegally who commit crimes.

Senate Judiciary Committee Chairman Charles Grassley, R-Iowa, announced Tuesday that he too was offering a bill to cut off certain federal funding to sanctuary cities, as well as require a mandatory minimum five-year prison sentence for immigrants who illegally re-enter this country after having been deported. The latter provision has been championed by Fox News host Bill O’Reilly, who’s dubbed it “Kate’s Law,” and has been embraced by a number of conservative lawmakers.

“Enforcing the immigration laws of the United States is not a voluntary or trivial matter. Real lives are at stake. Things cannot continue this way,” Grassley said. “No more people should die at the hands of those who break our laws just by being here.”

TAX: Council passed a law that regulates city’s public art

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for the highest gas tax in the state, according to the League of Oregon Cities.

It will be the second time in nearly a year that the city council has passed a resolution to put a ballot proposal in front of voters.

The council unanimously voted to put a \$10 million capital improvement bond on the November 2014 ballot last August, only to have it disqualified weeks later after city staff failed to post a state-required legal notice in the newspaper within a week of council approval.

In other business, the council passed a law that regulates how the city acquires, removes or relocates public art.

In order to accept a new piece of public art, the council will now have to receive a recommendation from the Pendleton Art Commission and hold a public hearing.

Keith May, a former city councilman and current art

commission member, said the law was made with an eye toward donations from private entities.

Two of the more controversial bronzes — depictions of Stella Darby and Don Requa — received minimal public input before the council approved them.

With the ordinance passed, May said the commission will be reformed before it tackles a strategic plan for the next set of public art pieces.

“We’re going to have a little bit of a lull in public art as we work through this process because its going to take a little while to get through that,” Mayor Phillip Houk said.

City Manager Robb Corbett said a utility fee on city residences and businesses, which only requires council approval, should be put before council for discussion in the next two months.

Contact Antonio Sierra at asierra@eastoregonian.com or 541-966-0836.

BRIEFLY

Ohio Gov Kasich brings the GOP field to 16

COLUMBUS, Ohio (AP) — Saying “big ideas change the world,” Ohio Gov. John Kasich declared his candidacy for the Republican nomination Tuesday and pitched his well-rounded resume to voters who have a multitude of high achievers to size up.

Kasich, 63, launched his campaign at Ohio State University before a crowd of 2,000 at an event marking the entry of a strong-willed and sometimes abrasive governor in a nomination race now with 16 notable Republicans.

“I am here to ask you for your prayers, for your support, for your efforts because I have decided to run for president,” Kasich said in a scattered 43-minute speech packed with family anecdotes, historical references and calls for national renewal.

A veteran congressman as well as governor, Kasich is telling voters he is the only GOP candidate with experience in three broad areas of political leadership — the federal budget, national security and state government. He also spent nearly a decade at Lehman Brothers.

“I have the experience and the testing,” he said, “the testing which shapes you and prepares you for the most important job in the world and I believe I know how to work and help restore this great United States.”

Asaad Haj Ali, a maternal uncle of the Chattanooga attacker, Muhammad Youssef Abdulazez.

A Jordanian official said Tuesday that he is sure the uncle and “other relevant people” in Jordan were being questioned, but he would not elaborate and or confirm that the uncle was detained. He spoke on condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to discuss the case with the media.

Abdulazez spent several months in Jordan last year under a mutual agreement with his parents to help him get away from drugs, alcohol and a group of friends they considered to be a bad influence, according to a person close to his family. That person also spoke on condition of anonymity, out of concern it would have business repercussions.

Relatives turned to Jordan after their health insurer refused to approve an in-patient treatment program for Abdulazez’s addictions to drug and alcohol, the person said.

An FBI spokesman has declined to comment on that information.

Flood damage to bridges worse than suspected

LOS ANGELES (AP) — The damage to interstate highway bridges from flash flooding in Southern California’s desert over the weekend proved more widespread than initially thought, with construction crews working Tuesday to reinforce spans over three gullies.

In light of the damage, some outside engineers warned that the California Department of Transportation may need to adopt tougher design and protection standards for highway bridges, particularly with abnormally heavy rains possible in the coming months because of the ocean-warming phenomenon known as El Nino.

Flooding touched off by unusually intense rainfall of nearly 7 inches Sunday washed away boulders and soil under an elevated portion of Interstate 10 near the town of Desert Center, about 50 miles from the Arizona state line, causing the collapse of the eastbound side of the bridge and severely weakening the westbound side.

Lawyer: Tennessee shooter’s uncle detained in Jordan

CHATTANOOGA, Tenn. (AP) — An uncle of the man who killed four Marines and a sailor in Tennessee has been in custody in Jordan since a day after the attacks on two military sites, a lawyer said Tuesday.

Abed al-Kader Ahmad al-Khateeb told The Associated Press that he was barred from seeing his client and that family members were also prevented from visiting the detainee. Computers and cellphones were taken from the man’s home, but he has not been charged with anything, the attorney said.

Al-Khateeb identified his client as Asaad Ibrahim

Kevin Andrews, MD, L.L.C.



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