# **Teen contracts** bubonic plague during hunt

Disease believed to be spread by flea bite

> By GEORGE PLAVEN East Oregonian

A Crook County teenager is recovering in intensive after contracting bubonic plague during a hunting trip earlier this month near Heppner.

Oregon health officials said the girl likely caught the disease from a flea bite sometime during the trip, which started Oct. 16. She reportedly became sick on Oct. 21 and was hospitalized in Bend three days later.

Bubonic plague is an infectious bacterial disease by squirrels, chipmunks and other wild rodents. When an infected animal becomes sick, its fleas can carry the disease to other animals or humans through bites.

Plague is commonly associated with the Black Death, a major pandemic that killed somewhere between 75-200 million people in Europe in the 14th century.

"Many people think of the plague as a disease of the past, but it's still very much present in our environment, particularly among wildlife," said Emilio DeBess, Oregon's state public health veterinarian. "Fortunately, plague remains a rare disease, but people need to take appropriate precautions with wildlife and their pets to keep it that way.'

Only eight human cases of plague have been diagnosed in Oregon since 1995, and no deaths have been reported. The disease

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- Emilio DeBess, state public health veterinarian

is treatable with antibiotics if caught early.

Symptoms usually develop several days after exposure, and include fever, chills, headache, weakness and a bloody or watery cough. Bubonic plague is the most common of three types plague, characterized by high fever and swollen lymph nodes in the neck and under the jaw.

DeBess recommends people avoid all contact with wild rodents. They should never feed squirrels, chipmunks or other rodents in picnic or campground areas, and never tough a sick or dead rodent.

People should also keep their pets away from potentially infected rodents, and don't leave pet's food where mice or other critters can get

Anyone who finds a sick or dead rodent should contact a staff veterinarian with the Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife at 1-866-

For more information about plague, visit www.cdc. gov/plague.

Contact George Plaven at gplaven@eastoregonian. com or 541-966-0825.

## **PENDLETON**

## Parkway to celebrate 30 years by the river

**RECONNECT TO** 

THE RIVER

By ANTONIO SIERRA East Oregonian

Although the 25th anniversary of the Pendleton River Parkway came and went without fanfare, local officials aren't letting the 30th anniversary without notice.

Several community organizations are sponsoring a celebration of the 30th anniversary of the dedication of the first phase of the river walkway at Roy Raley Park Nov. 7.

The sponsors — the Pendleton Parks and Recreation Department, the East Oregonian, the Umatilla Basin Watershed Council and Betty Klepper — are commemorating the opening of the pedestrian and bike path with food, music and activities.

The parkway's birthday wasn't always on the city's radar.

Deb Whitaker, the parks and recreation department's special projects coordinator, said the idea for the anniversary celebration was sparked when the department looked into replacing the banners that line the parkway.

While doing research, department officials discovered that the parkway had already passed its 25th anniversary and was quickly heading toward its 30th.

The river parkway's pearl anniversary will not go unmarked and plenty is planned for the event, which is called "Reconnect to the River.'

The event starts at 10 a.m., where attendees can visit a variety of booths set up on the parkway between Trailhead Park on the west end of the trail and Southwest 10th Street.

The booths will be centered thematically around the trail and Umatilla

For instance, Whitaker said a bird booth will offer

Celebrating 30 years of Pendleton's River Walk

Explore activity stations that will be set up along the trail between Trailhead Park (at the west end of the trail) and SW 10<sup>th</sup> Street.

Activity stations will feature bird watching insect identification, a river art project, a watershed lesson, geology, City drinking water, and additional engaging aspects of the river!

Play "River Walk Bingo!" Children participate at various stations and return their completed bingo cards for prizes at the barbeque.

Celebrate the people who helped make the River Walk possible, the anniversary of the dedication of the first section of the trail, and take the opportunity for you and your family to reconnect to the river.

November 7

children the opportunity to make pine cone bird feeders and binocular lessons.

Other booths will offer activities about wildlife, water and geology.

Children will be given

bingo cards they can get stamped at each booth they visit and return for prizes.

At 11:30 a.m., Pendleton band James Dean Kindle and the Eastern Oregon Playboys will play at Roy

Raley Park, followed by a free barbecue lunch at 12

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

## Kidnapping defendant takes deal, pleads guilty

By PHIL WRIGHT East Oregonian

One of three defendants from Washington in jail for kidnapping a man in Milton-Freewater changed her plea Thursday, and a second has a December trial

All three are in the Umatilla County Jail, Pendleton.

Samantha Kaye Noethe, 31, of Kennewick pleaded guilty in Umatilla County Circuit Court, Pendleton, to second-degree robbery and second-degree kidnapping, according to court records. In exchange, the state dismissed other charges, including theft and second-degree first-degree counts of robbery

and kidnapping Milton-Freewater police Chief Doug Boedigheimer reported Noethe lured Joel Andrew Litchfield, 31, of Walla Walla, into riding with her to Wildhorse Resort & Casino, Pendleton. But she soon pulled into a driveway in Milton-Freewater where Skyler Glasby, 26, of Dayton, and John Adam Phillips, 33, of Walla Walla, attacked and threatened Litchfield for his money. They then drove Litchfield into the county, assaulted him again and left him in Walla Walla County,

Court records did not indicate when Circuit Judge Lynn Hampton would sentence Noethe.

Phillips has pleaded not guilty to first- and second-degree robbery and kidnapping, second-degree assault and theft, menacing, unlawful use of a weapon against another and felon in possession of a weapon. Records show Phillips disqualified Hampton, and Circuit Judge Christopher Brauer took over the case.

Oregon law allows a defendant to disqualify two judges without cause.

Phillips has a trial readiness hearing Nov. 20 and a trial on Dec. 2 and 3.

Glasby also has pleaded not guilty to the same charges as Phillips, plus he faces one count each of escape and possession of the opioid Hydrocodone in a related case. He also has tried to get a new lawyer.

Defense attorney Thomas Gray recently told the court the motions Glasby wanted him to file had no merit. Hampton is presiding over that case and denied the request for a new public defender. Glasby's next hearing is Nov. 5.

Contact Phil Wright at pwright@eastoregonian.com or 541-966-0833.



FRIDAY, OCT. 30
PENDLETON DELP **DELPHIAN CLUB,** 1:30 p.m., Vert Club Room, 345 S.W. Fourth St.

PENDLETON MASTERS SWIM **CLUB**, 5-6 p.m., Roundup Athletic Club pool, 1415 Southgate, Pendleton. Fees are \$5 per session coaching fee; non-RAC members pay \$8 pool fee per session. (Tania Wildbill 541-310-9102).

### SATURDAY, OCT. 31 MEN'S BREAKFAST, 8 am.

Bethel Assembly of God Church, 1109 Airport Road, Pendleton. LIBERTY QUARTET CON-

CERT, 6 p.m., Pendleton Free Methodist Church, 1711 SW 44th Street. Free and open to the pub-

PENDLETON EAGLES STEAK AND LIVE MUSIC, 6-8 p.m. dinner, music 8 p.m. to midnight, Pendleton Eagles Lodge #28, 428 S. Main St., Pendleton. Open to members and guests. (541-278-2828).

## **SUNDAY, NOV. 1**

**HERMISTON EAGLES** BREAKFAST, 8-11 a.m., 160 N.W. Second St. Members and guests

PENDLETON **EAGLES** BREAKFAST, 9 a.m. to noon, Pendleton Eagles Lodge #28, 428 S. Main St., Pendleton. Open to members and guests. (541-

PFLAG, (Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays), 4 p.m. no-host late lunch, 5 p.m.

**HALLOWEEN** 

COSTUME

**CONTEST** 

Ост. 31 ѕт 10:00 РМ monthly meeting, location varies, Pendleton. (Vicki Read 541-966-

### **MONDAY, NOV. 2** PARKINSON'S DISEASE SUPPORT GROUP OF HERMIS-

TON, 1 p.m., Desert Lanes Bowling Alley meeting room, 1545 N. First St., Hermiston. Guest speaker Heather Balducci will discuss "Depression and Anxiety in Parkinson's Disease: Caus es. Symptoms and Treatment. People with Parkinson's Disease their care partners, family, friends and others affected by the disease are encouraged to attend. (Carol Clupny 541-720-4265).

**IRRIGON MOOSE LODGE TA-**COS AND BINGO, 6-9 p.m., tacos; 6:30-9 p.m., bingo. Bingo open to the public, 220 N.E. Third St. (541-922-1802 from noon to 8 **ÚMATILLA-MORROW HEAD** 

START, 6:30-8:30 p.m., 110 N.E. Fourth St., Hermiston. (Leanna 541-564-6878). **GREATER HERMISTON AREA** 

**TEA PARTY,** 7 p.m., Stafford Hansell Government Center, 915 S.E. Columbia Ave., Herm-(rob@greaterhermistonareateaparty.com).

HERMISTON **CLASSICS CAR CLUB,** 7 p.m., 31120 Baggett Lane, Hermiston. (541-571-5960 or 541-571-3252).

HEPPNER GARDEN CLUB, 7 p.m., St. Patrick's Senior Center, 525 N. Gale St.

INLAND NORTHWEST MU-

SICIANS CHORALE, 7 p.m.,

SUNDOWNBAR&GRILL

233 SE 4TH ST., ENDLETON, OR 97801

541-276-8500

Harris Jr. Academy gym, 3121 S.W. Hailey Ave., Pendleton. (RaNiel Dunn 541-289-4696).

OREGON EAST SYMPHONY **CHORALE**, 7 p.m., Pendleton High School choir room, 1800 N.W. Carden Ave. Vocal scores for Ralph Vaughn Williams' "Fantasia on Christmas Carols" and Antonio Vivaldi's "Magnificat" will Everyone welcome, no audition required. (541-276-0320).

PENDLETON AMATEUR RA-DIO CLUB, 7 p.m., Community Room, Pendleton City Hall, 501 S.E. Emigrant Ave. Califf 541-276-8132).

## **TUESDAY, NOV. 3 ECHO** QUARTERBACK

CLUB, 6 a.m., Home Economics Room, Echo High School, 610 Gerone St. (541-376-8214). PENDLETON TOASTMAS-

TERS No. 154, 6:45 a.m., Pendleton City Hall community room, 501 S.W. Emigrant Ave. (toast-masterdarlenesue@gmail.com).

TOPS CHAPTER OR 1110, 8 a.m. weigh-in, meeting starts at 8:45 a.m., Missionary Baptist

iston. (Margaret Wetterling 541-BIBLE STUDY, 10 a.m., First United Methodist Church, 352

Church, 125 E. Beech St., Herm-

S.E. Second St., Pendleton (Rev. Jim Pierce 541-276-2616). GREENFIELD GRANGE PI-

NOCHLE, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., at The Hall, 209 N.W. First St., Boardman "THE LIFE MODEL - LIVING FROM THE HEART JESUS GAVE

YOU" BOOK STUDY GROUP, 1-2:30 p.m., Bowman Building, 17 S.W. Frazer, Pendleton. (Pat 541-276-6671 **BLUE MOUNTAIN GENEALO-**

GY SOCIETY, 2 p.m., Pendleton City Hall community room, 501 S.W. Emigrant Ave. New members welcome. PIONEER LADIES CLUB, 2

p.m., Vert Club Room, 345 S.W. Fourth St., Pendleton. (Patsy Cratty 541-276-8252).

WOMEN'S **IMPROVEMENT** CLUB OF MILTON-FREEWATER. 2 p.m., Milton-Freewater Community Building club room, 109 S.E. Fifth Ave., Milton-Freewater. (Kathy Klay 541-861-2266).

Deadline Extended to November 6th





