

PUBLIC SAFETY LOG

MONDAY

12:07 p.m. - A caller complained about a man riding a snowmobile on Southeast Alexander Avenue near Washington Elementary School.
 3:17 p.m. - Boxer dogs at a home on Southwest 28th Street, Pendleton, put their heads through spaces in the fence and try to bite people walking on the sidewalk.
 6:18 p.m. - Pendleton police received a report of possible elder abuse at a home on Southeast Goodwin Avenue.
 11:48 p.m. - Employees of the Southgate Sinclair & Foodmart, 701 Southgate, Pendleton, called police when a man came into the store and threatened people with a knife. He was gone before officers arrived.

TUESDAY

2:07 a.m. - A caller on Southwest 30th Street, Pendleton, told police someone stole her sound machine.
 10:58 a.m. - A man called the Umatilla County Sheriff's Office from Ace Jewelry & Loan, 80876 N. Highway 395, Hermiston, to report items he pawned were reported stolen by someone else.
 11:48 a.m. - A man reported he shot at a dog that attacked him on North Fourth Street, Athena.
 12:16 p.m. - A resident of East High Street, Athena, reported his dog was shot. The Umatilla County sheriff's deputies issued a citation in the matter, but did not report who was cited.
 2:36 p.m. - A roadside assistance company requested Morrow County sheriff's deputies check on a woman whose transmission fell out of her vehicle while she was driving on Highway 74 near the DH Blattner Wind Towers near lone.
 2:54 p.m. - The Morrow County Sheriff's Office was asked to meet a woman at a home on Southeast Park Place, Irrigon, after someone pulled a gun on her daughter there the previous night.

ARRESTS, CITATIONS

Tuesday
 •Pendleton police arrested Mary Jean Yu, 41, address not provided, for aggravated fourth-degree assault.
Wednesday
 •Pendleton police arrested Casey Joe Cernazanu, 30, of 1412 N.W. 48th Drive, No. 6, Pendleton, for misdemeanor failure to report as a sex offender and possession of methamphetamine.

Walla Walla police make arrest after heroin seizure

Walla Walla Union-Bulletin

Walla Walla police say they have made a substantial drug seizure and arrest following the discovery of heroin intended to be mailed through a local shipping business.

The total amount of the drug seized at two locations Tuesday is one of the largest in Walla Walla in many years, according to police spokesman Officer Tim Bennett.

The suspect, Luz S. Leon, 37, who was booked into the county jail on investigation of a variety of charges, made her first appearance in court Wednesday morning. Bail was set at \$20,000.

Leon allegedly tried to ship a package containing about 4 ounces of suspected "China White" heroin from the Postal Annex, 1644 Plaza Way, to a California address.

The heroin was located in a stuffed animal, which was revealed after a police K-9 alerted on it with officer Gunner Fulmer at the business, according to a news release by Bennett.

A search warrant was obtained and further investigation led to identification of Leon, who allegedly had

used an alias of Maria Rodriguez when she tried to ship the package.

Detectives from the Special Teams Unit responded to her residence at 104 S.E. 12th St. in College Place to contact her. But she didn't answer to repeated knocks on her door, so officers kept the residence under surveillance while a second search warrant was requested, the news release says.

A short time later, Leon was taken into custody when she went outside to take a garbage can to the curb of her street.

Detectives searched her residence after the second warrant was granted. Items seized during the search included an additional 4 ounces of suspected heroin, about 3 ounces of suspected methamphetamine, \$832 cash and a sawed-off shotgun, officials said.

Leon was arrested on investigation of delivering heroin, possession with intent to deliver methamphetamine and heroin, and possession of a short-barreled shotgun.

Bennett said the investigation into the drug activity is continuing.

12-year-old boy arrested in mom's death, sister's stabbing

MEDFORD (AP) — A 12-year-old boy is suspected of fatally stabbing his mother and wounding his sister.

Police responded to two 911 calls on Tuesday and found the boy's 52-year-old mother at the family's home in Ashland, the *Mail Tribune* reported.

The boy's sister was in stable condition at a hospital and was expected to survive.

The boy doesn't have a history of crime or a troubled past, Ashland police Chief Tighe O'Meara said.

O'Meara said it's unknown what sparked the stabbing and that investigators are going to speak with friends of the children.

"It's going to take a while," O'Meara said. "I would imagine detectives would be working on this for several days to maybe a couple weeks."

He said the district attorney will determine how the boy will be charged.

"Every homicide is tough, and to watch this unfold and see a 12-year-old taken into custody ... it's been a rough day and it's going to be a rough patch for the community to work through," O'Meara said during a news conference. "This is really especially tragic."

One other family member who was home at the time was not injured.

Tuesday was the first time police were called to the home.

"This was completely out of the blue," O'Meara said.

Online records said the mother was retired from the Air Force and had earned degrees in aeronautical engineering and engineering management.

Man gets life sentence for 2015 slaying

EUGENE (AP) — A man who admitted to killing a 23-year-old Springfield woman after breaking into her home and sexually assaulting her has been sentenced to life in prison without parole.

The *Register-Guard* reports that Kyle Dean Pfaff was sentenced after changing his plea to guilty Thursday on several different charges, including aggravated murder, burglary and sexual assault. The plea deal helped Pfaff

avoid a possible death sentence.

Sarah Ann Coleman came home in July 2015 to find Pfaff had broken into the residence. Authorities say Pfaff then assaulted and sexually abused her before killing the woman and fleeing in her car.

Police arrested him days later near Sutherlin.

Court documents say Pfaff confessed to the crimes. At his sentencing hearing, Pfaff told the judge he deserved a life sentence.

DEATH NOTICES

Diana Ruth Carson

Milton-Freewater
March 17, 1951-Jan. 9, 2017

Diana Ruth Carson, 65, of Milton-Freewater died Monday, Jan. 9, 2017, in Walla Walla. She was born March 17, 1951. Munselle-Rhodes Funeral Home in Milton-Freewater is in charge of arrangements.

Kathleen Ellen Dieter

Tumwater, Wash.
June 4, 1956-Jan. 7, 2017

Longtime Boardman resident Kathleen Ellen Dieter, 60, of Tumwater, Wash., died Saturday, Jan. 7, 2017, at her home. She was born June 4, 1956, in Olympia, Wash. A funeral service will be held Saturday, Jan. 14 at 1 p.m. at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in Boardman. Burial will follow at Riverview Cemetery in Boardman. Burns Mortuary of Hermiston is in care of arrangements. Sign the online condolence book at burnsmortuaryhermiston.com

Aloha J. Rosenberg

Pendleton
June 6, 1928-Jan. 10, 2017

Aloha J. Rosenberg, 88, of Pendleton died Tuesday, Jan. 10, 2017, at a local care facility. She was born June 6, 1928. A full obituary will follow in the *East Oregonian*. Burns Mortuary of Pendleton is in charge of arrangements. Sign the online condolence book at www.burnsmortuary.com.

OBITUARY POLICY

The East Oregonian publishes paid obituaries. The obituary can include small photos and, for veterans, a flag symbol at no charge. Obituaries may be edited for spelling, proper punctuation and style. Expanded death notices will be published at no charge. These include information about services. Obituaries and notices can be submitted online at www.eastoregonian.com/obituaryform, by email to obits@eastoregonian.com, by fax to 541-276-8314, placed via the funeral home or in person at the East Oregonian office. For more information, call 541-966-0818 or 1-800-522-0255, ext. 221.

UPCOMING SERVICES

THURSDAY, JAN. 12

No services scheduled

FRIDAY, JAN. 13

GENTRY, JACKIE — Graveside service at 2 p.m. at the Heppner Masonic Cemetery.

HILL, DEE — Services at 10:30 a.m. at the First Christian Church, 775 W. Highland Ave., Hermiston.

MEETINGS

THURSDAY, JAN. 12
PORT OF MORROW STRATEGIC PLAN WORKSHOP, 9 a.m., Port of Morrow, 2 Marine Drive, Boardman. (Brandy Warburton 541-561-3440)

UMATILLA-MORROW COUNTY FARM BUREAU, 12 p.m., TBA, Pendleton. (Julie Sprattling 541-457-8045)

BOARDMAN RURAL FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT, 1 p.m., Boardman Fire Department, 300 S. Wilson Lane, Boardman. (541-481-3473)

MORROW COUNTY ROAD COMMITTEE, 1 p.m., Bartholomew Government Building upper conference room, 110 N. Court St., Heppner. (Sandi Putman 541-989-9500)

HERMISTON PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION, 5:30 p.m., Hermiston City Hall, 180 N.E. Second St., Hermiston. (541-567-5521)

ATHENA CITY COUNCIL, 6:30 p.m., Athena City Hall, 215 S. Third St., Athena. (541-566-3862)

UMATILLA SCHOOL DISTRICT, 7 p.m., Umatilla School District office, 1001 Sixth St., Umatilla. (541-922-6500)

FRIDAY, JAN. 13
EASTERN OREGON TRADE & EVENT CENTER AUTHORITY, 7 a.m., EOTEC main building, 1705 E. Airport Road, Hermiston. (541-289-9800)

MONDAY, JAN. 16
ECHO SCHOOL DISTRICT, 6 p.m., Echo Community School, 600 Gerone St., Echo. (541-376-8436)
HELIX CITY COUNCIL, 7 p.m., Helix City Hall, 119 Columbia St., Helix. (541-457-2521)
PENDLETON YOUTH COMMISSION, 7 p.m., Intermountain ESD office, 2001 S.W. Nye Ave., Pendleton. (541-276-6711)

LOTTERY

Tuesday, Jan. 10

Mega Millions
 11-20-40-41-59
 Mega Ball: 15 Megaplier: 5
 Estimated jackpot: \$126 M
Lucky Lines
 04-07-09-15-FREE-17-24-27-31
 Estimated jackpot: \$80,000
Pick 4
 1 p.m.: 9-5-6-9
 4 p.m.: 7-8-1-2
 7 p.m.: 8-8-7-9
 10 p.m.: 0-2-3-3

Wednesday, Jan. 11

Pick 4
 1 p.m.: 5-0-9-9

Historic preservation grants available

East Oregonian

Thousands of dollars in state grants are up for grabs for qualifying historic and Main Street projects.

The State Historic Preservation Office is offering up to \$20,000 matching grants for buildings on the National Register of Historic Places. The register lists 42 sites in Umatilla County, ranging from Weston School to portions of Pendleton's and Echo's downtowns.

Funds are available for preservation of existing

building features or for reconstructing facades to match their historical appearance.

The preservation office is also offering up to \$100,000 in matching funds for downtown revitalization projects in communities in the Oregon Main Street Network. Communities in the network include Pendleton, Hermiston, Milton-Freewater, Irrigon, Pilot Rock and Stanfield. Projects may include façade improvement, accessibility enhancement, utilities,

second floor renovations and other improvements that will facilitate community revitalization.

The Oregon Heritage Commission is offering grants between \$2,000 and \$10,000 to museums for collections projects, heritage tourism and educational programs.

The Oregon Commission on Historic Cemeteries is offering grants, typically between \$1,000 and \$6,000, for preservation projects at historic cemeteries. Projects funded in the past include

marker repair workshops, fencing, signs, interpretive panels, brochures, security lighting, access improvements and records management.

More information for all of the grants listed above will be presented in webinars on Jan. 18-19 and a two-hour workshop in Salem on March 15. For applications, or for more information about the webinars and the grant requirements, visit www.oregonheritage.org or contact Kuri Gill at kuri.gill@oregon.gov or 503-986-0675.

WORLD BRIEFLY

Texas carries out first U.S. execution of 2017

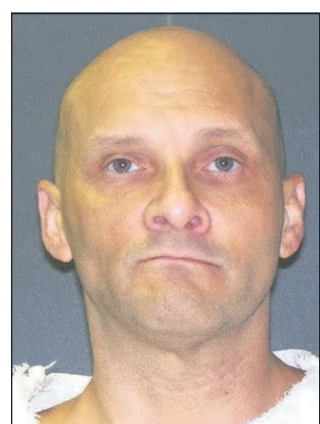
HUNTSVILLE, Texas (AP) — Texas on Wednesday put to death an inmate convicted of killing two men over a phony drug deal, the first U.S. execution of 2017.

Christopher Wilkins, 48, was declared dead at 6:29 p.m., 13 minutes after a lethal injection of pentobarbital.

Before the drug was administered, he twice mouthed "I'm sorry," to two relatives of one of the murder victims as they watched through a window. He gave no final statement.

Wilkins had explained to jurors at his capital murder trial in 2008 how and why he killed his friends in Fort Worth three years earlier, saying he didn't care if they sentenced him to death.

Wilkins shot Willie Freeman, 40 and Mike Silva, 33, after Freeman and an unidentified drug supplier duped Wilkins into paying \$20 for a piece of gravel he thought was crack cocaine, according to court records.



Wilkins

Syrian opposition. The battle itself has proven grueling.

Nearly 50 Turkish soldiers have been killed in its Syria operation, most of them since the al-Bab assault began in mid-November — including 14 killed in a single day. The militants have dug in, surrounding the town with trenches, lining streets with land mines and carrying out painful ambushes and car bombings against the besieging forces. Each time Turkish-backed Syrian opposition fighters have thrust into the city, they've been driven out. More than 200 civilians are believed to have been killed since the attack began Nov. 13. Mud and cold rain have only made it more of a slog.

"The battle for al-Bab has been mostly about killing civilians and destroying the city, whether by Daesh or the Turks," said Mustafa Sultan, a resident of al-Bab and a media activist who has been covering the fight. He used the Arabic acronym for IS.

Turkey bogged down in Syria as it realigns with Russia

BEIRUT (AP) — Nearly two months into the assault, Turkey has become bogged down in an unexpectedly bloody fight to retake the Islamic State group's last stronghold in northern Syria. It has been forced to pour in troops, take the lead in the battle from its Syrian allies and reach out to Russia for aerial support.

The fight for al-Bab underscores the precarious path Ankara is treading with its foray in to Syria, aimed against both IS militants and Syrian Kurdish fighters. The assault on the town had already driven a wedge between Turkey and the United States, and now the realignment toward Moscow — which supports the government in Syria's civil war — further tests Ankara's alliance both with Washington and with the

Trump says BuzzFeed 'garbage' for publishing allegations

PASADENA, Calif. (AP) — President-elect Donald Trump and his agent on Wednesday attacked news organizations that spread unsubstantiated reports about a damaging dossier collected on him by Russia, an incident that illustrates how old rules of journalism are tested in today's rapidly changing media world.

Trump called BuzzFeed

"a pile of garbage" for publishing the allegations and got into a spat with CNN's Jim Acosta during his first news conference since July. He praised organizations that didn't follow BuzzFeed's lead.

The combative news conference, less than two weeks before Trump's inauguration, was dominated by questions about Russia and the president-elect's relationship with the intelligence community.

CNN on Tuesday reported that Trump had been briefed by intelligence officials about compromising personal and financial information that Russia had collected on him. The network did not give details about the information, saying the charges had not been verified, but BuzzFeed soon published them. Most reputable news organizations, following up the story, also did not report the details.

Despite those decisions, it took only the single report for the news to spread so rapidly that within hours, one specific, salacious allegation was a top trending topic on Twitter.

Six VW employees indicted in emissions scandal; VW fined \$4.3B

WASHINGTON (AP) — Six high-level Volkswagen employees from Germany were indicted in the U.S. on Wednesday in the VW emissions-cheating scandal, while the company itself agreed to plead guilty to criminal charges and pay \$4.3 billion — by far the biggest fine ever levied by the government against an

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