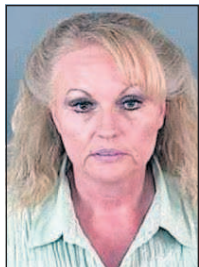


Woman gets 10 years in foiled murder-for-hire plot

By STEVEN DUBOIS
Associated Press

PORTLAND — A judge sentenced an Oregon woman Wednesday to 10 years in federal prison in a murder-for-hire scheme that fizzled when the felon hired to kill her ex-husband alerted him to the plot.



Gygi

Pamela Gygi, 58, was sentenced at the federal courthouse in Eugene after pleading guilty in January to charges of unlawful firearm possession and using interstate commerce in a murder-for-hire plot.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Frank Papagni Jr. asserted in court documents that money was the motivation. Gygi and ex-husband Dean Hamill were embroiled in a property dispute and she was the beneficiary of his \$150,000 life insurance policy.

Gygi wanted the money to help pay for an upcoming wedding and a move to California, Papagni said.

"She claimed he mentally and physically abused her over their 32-year marriage, a claim denied by or unsubstantiated by their (six) adult children," Papagni said.

Court records show Hamill sought a divorce in 2014, as the two were building a home in Westlake, a small community near the coast. He then declined to give Gygi his new address in Saratoga Springs, Utah.

Months later, Gygi met an Idaho man online and soon set a wedding date.

Papagni said the relationship ended after the boyfriend obtained Hamill's address for Gygi by hacking into online Mormon membership files.

Gygi then met a California man and planned to marry him in August 2015. When she needed money for that wedding, she turned

to a felon identified in court papers as KS.

Papagni said KS attended the same church as Gygi and worked for her as a day laborer.

"She expressed how things would be a lot easier if (Hamill) was out of the picture," Papagni said.

The would-be hit man later told authorities that Gygi paid him \$600 and he was promised a residence in California, a 2005 Dodge Stratus and an online business.

Gygi owned with Hamill involving dog and cat breeding.

The felon violated probation by driving across state lines to warn Hamill, whom he had known before the divorce. He also stopped in Reno, Nevada, where he spent most of the \$600.

After Hamill went to police on June 1, 2015, the felon agreed to work with investigators and record several conversations with Gygi.

The two discussed tampering with Hamill's vehicle to make the death seem like an accident, FBI Special Agent Timothy Suttles said in an affidavit. They later decided an accident might only injure the man, not kill him, court documents said.

Ultimately, Gygi got a gun, authorities said.

She met the felon July 10, 2015, at a mall east of Eugene. She arrived with the Dodge Stratus on a trailer, gave him the pistol and suggested he make the killing look like it occurred during a home invasion, authorities said.

The felon told her that Hamill would be dead in about 36 hours.

Gygi left the parking lot and was going to Costco to "get wedding pictures done" when she was stopped by FBI agents, Papagni said.

OBITUARIES

Eula Fern (Kent) McCann

Pendleton
October 27, 1926-May 2, 2017

Eula Fern (Kent) McCann, 90, passed away surrounded by her loving family on May 2, 2017.

Eula was born on October 27, 1926, in Bedford, Iowa, to Dillard and Ollie (Wallace) Kent. She joined two brothers, Bill and Roland. The family farmed in Iowa before transitioning to Banks, Oregon, where Eula graduated from high school in 1944. She then began a program at Providence Hospital in Portland to become a registered nurse.



McCann

On November 27, 1948 Eula married her love Herbert in Reno, Nevada. The couple lived briefly in Oakland and then returned to the Portland area where they were blessed with their first two daughters. In 1958 the family moved to Pendleton where their third daughter was born. Together they enjoyed many weekends in the mountains camping and spending time at their cabin in the Ukiah mountains.

Eula was a surgical nurse

with St. Anthony Hospital for 30 years. In her spare time she enjoyed gardening and various crafts like tole painting or making wreaths.

Eula is preceded in death by her parents and brothers.

She is survived by her daughters Kim Peterson of Pendleton, Cindy (Casey) Anderson of Council, Idaho, and Debbie (Scott) Dutcher of Weed, Calif.; grandchildren Becky Peterson of Pendleton, Kelli Peterson of Pendleton, Clint (Amanda)

Anderson of Lusk, Wyo., and Christie (Randy) Scilacci of Lovelock, Nevada; seven great-grandchildren; and multiple nieces and nephews.

Per her request there will be no formal service. Contributions in her memory in lieu of flowers may be made to the American Heart Association.

Burns Mortuary of Pendleton is in charge of arrangements. Sign the condolence book at www.burnsmortuary.com

DEATH NOTICES

Damian Thomas Anderson

Pendleton
July 23, 1995-April 25, 2017

Damian Thomas Anderson, 21, of Pendleton died Thursday, April 25, 2017, in Grants Pass. He was born July 23, 1995, in Pendleton. A funeral service will be held Friday, May 5 at 8 a.m. at Pendleton Pioneer Chapel, Folsom-Bishop. Online condolences may be shared with the family at www.pioneerchapel.com

Alvin 'Bruce' Christopher

Hermiston
Sept. 14, 1945-April 27, 2017

Alvin "Bruce" Christopher, 71, of Hermiston died Saturday, April 27, 2017, at his home. He was born Sept. 14, 1945, in Santa Ana, Calif. A private family gathering will be held. Burns Mortuary of Hermiston is in care of arrangements. Sign the online condolence book at burnsmortuaryhermiston.com

Wilma Margaret Hanks

Pendleton
Jan. 29, 1927-March 18, 2017

Wilma Margaret Hanks, 90, of Pendleton died Saturday, March 18, 2017, at her home. She was born Jan. 29, 1927, in Salem. An informal celebration of life will be held Sunday, May 7 from 1-4 p.m. at the Great Pacific Wine & Coffee Co. in Pendleton. Pendleton Pioneer Chapel, Folsom Bishop. Online condolences may be shared at www.pioneerchapel.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.

MEETINGS

THURSDAY, MAY 4
UMATILLA COUNTY SPECIAL LIBRARY DISTRICT, 5:15 p.m., Pendleton City Hall, 501 S.W. Emigrant Ave., Pendleton. A budget committee meeting at 5:15 p.m. will be followed by a regular board meeting. An executive session will be called following the regular meeting. (Dan Feil 541-276-6449)

ADAMS PLANNING COMMISSION, 6:30 p.m., Adams City Hall, 190 N. Main St., Adams. (541-566-9380)

PENDLETON PLANNING COMMISSION, 7 p.m., Pendleton City Hall council chambers, 501 S.W. Emigrant Ave., Pendleton. (541-276-7811)

FRIDAY, MAY 5
No meetings scheduled

UPCOMING SERVICES

THURSDAY, MAY 4

No services scheduled

FRIDAY, MAY 5

ANDERSON, DAMIAN — Funeral service at 8 a.m. at Pendleton Pioneer Chapel, Folsom-Bishop, 131 S.E. Byers Ave., Pendleton.

PHILLIPS, YVONNE — Celebration of life service at 4 p.m. at Landmark Missionary Baptist Church, 125 E. Beech St., Hermiston. Burial will follow at the Hermiston Cemetery.

PENDLETON

Farmers market sprouts for 2017 season

By TAMMY MALGESINI
East Oregonian

Cheryl Montgomery, manager of the Pendleton Farmers Market, is excited about kicking off the 2017 season.

Nearly two dozen vendors have already confirmed plans to set up for the first market, which is Friday at 4 p.m. The market is in the 300 block of Pendleton's Main Street, and will remain until dusk.

"Pendleton Farmers Market is a great place to buy really fresh fruits and vegetables, and homemade crafts," Montgomery said.

Market-goers for the first week, she said, likely won't find any fruits. However, Montgomery said some early season vegetables will be on hand. In addition, farm-produced goods such as honey, eggs, vinegars, oils and Pat-n-Iam's Beef will be available. Also, prepared foods, such as a Polynesian food vendor, will provide tasty goods. And local crafters will offer everything from soaps and aprons to scarves and jewelry.

And bread — don't forget the bread, Montgomery said. "We have three great bakery vendors," she said. Montgomery encour-



File photo

Aida Jimenez of Jimenez Farms in Walla Walla waits on a customer during first Pendleton Farmers Market of the 2014 season. The 2017 market opens Friday at 4 p.m. in the 300 block of Main Street.

ages people to stop by the market's information booth to purchase the latest Pendleton Farmers Market swag, including T-shirts, hats, posters and shopping bags. Also, she reminds market-goers to register as a Smart Shopper. The free program provides a punch card. After five punches, Smart Shoppers receive a token that translates to \$5 in market money to be spent at any vendor.

Friday's market also features live entertainment by Ron Martin. In addition, children will find activities at the kids' booth.

As one of the largest in Eastern Oregon, Montgomery is proud of the Pendleton market. She expressed

appreciation for the support of the community, vendors and farmers.

"It's a great opportunity for our community to provide an extra venue for shopping for local and fresh items, and all of our local crafters and their wares," Montgomery said. "It's a social thing too — people love to come down there and visit."

For more information, contact 541-969-9466, pendletonfarmersmarket@gmail.com or visit www.pendletonfarmersmarket.net.

For news about other markets in the region, send information to community@eastoregonian.com or

In other farmers market news

• Heppner is gearing up for a start date of Friday, June 2. It will run from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Heppner City Park, 444 N. Main St. For more information, call Don or Jo Ann Shannon at 541-676-8957.

• There has been a fair amount of chatter on the new Facebook page for the Hermiston Farmers Market. A new logo has been created and a new face — BeAnn Smith is overseeing the weekly market.

The target start date is Saturday, June 17 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Hermiston's proposed festival plaza on Northeast Second Street between Main Street and Gladys Avenue.

For more information, contact Smith at hermistonfarmersmarket@gmail.com or visit www.facebook.com/Hermistonfarmersmarket -1713625582263775.

drop off to the attention of Tammy Malgesini at 333 E. Main St., Hermiston, or Renee Struthers at 211 S.E. Byers Ave., Pendleton. Call 541-564-4539 or 541-966-0818 with questions.

BRIEFLY

Fiesta kicks off celebration in Old Town Freewater

MILTON-FREEWATER — A Main Street Fiesta marks the start of Milton-Freewater's Cinco de Mayo celebration.

The event is Friday from 5-9 p.m. on North Main Street in Old Town Freewater. There is no admission charge for the family-friendly event that features live entertainment by Coyote Joe, Sonido Show Cuatrero and Artrevidos de Michoacan. The evening also includes shopping, tastings and vendors.

Saturday's activities include a Cinco de Mayo Breakfast. A fundraiser for Cinco de Mayo, Community United Milton-Freewater and Milton-Freewater Downtown Alliance, it costs \$10 per person.

The free festival activities run from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. at Yantis Park, 200 Dehaven St., Milton-Freewater. In addition to a parade at noon, the event features food, live music, bouncy houses, dancing horses, raffles and vendors. For more information, visit www.facebook.com/MiltonFreewaterCincoDeMayoCU.

UmCo receives achievement award

Umatilla County has won a national award for its regional capacity-building initiative, partnering with Eastern Oregon Business Source to help local cities, schools and nonprofit organizations with grant writing.

The initiative received an achievement award from the National Association of Counties, and will be recognized during the association's 2017 annual

conference and exposition July 21-24 in Franklin County, Ohio.

"Counties overcome complex challenges, provide essential services and constantly do more with less," said Bryan Desloge, president of the National Association of Counties. "We applaud these award-winning counties for outstanding efforts to improve residents' quality of life."

Nationally, awards are given in 18 categories. Umatilla County won for community and economic development innovation.

Commissioner George Murdock said the initiative is meant to bring more dollars into the region and expand county programs while easing pressure on the general fund.

Flag pole to be replaced with 70-foot version

HERMISTON — One of Hermiston's landmark flags will be replaced with something smaller after the wind blew over the 138-foot flag pole at N.W. Metal Fabricators.

The business on North Highway 395 has had the tall pole for 11 years, but owner Kerry Karlson said after looking over the situation they have decided to replace it with a 70-foot pole for safety reasons.

Luckily no one was injured and no property was damaged when the pole came down more than a week ago, Karlson said.

"It just went right to the north and laid out on that field," he said. "We were very fortunate."

He said it looked like the old pole fell victim to the harsh winter after water got inside the base and repeatedly froze and thawed.

"Then the winds just took it from there," he said.

LOTTERY

Tuesday, May 2
Mega Millions
05-14-42-43-58
Mega Ball: 1
Megaplier: 4
Estimated jackpot: \$15 million
Lucky Lines
04-05-09-14-FREE-18-22-25-29
Estimated jackpot: \$10,000
Pick 4
1 p.m.: 5-9-3-2
4 p.m.: 9-5-9-8
7 p.m.: 3-6-9-9
10 p.m.: 3-1-0-1

Wednesday, May 3
Pick 4
1 p.m.: 3-2-8-4

M-F DRIVE-IN 938-4324
FM/AM RADIO SOUND
GATES OPEN AT 7:30 PM
SHOWTIME AT DUSK
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7:00 10:00
Unforgettable (R)
4:30 6:50 10:00
The Fate of the Furious (PG13)
4:10 7:00 9:50
The Circle (PG13)
4:40 7:10 9:40
Boss Baby (PG)
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