

PUBLIC SAFETY LOG

TUESDAY

9:04 a.m. - A Heppner resident reported he and his wife were the targets of harassing text messages. A Morrow County sheriff's deputy told the woman sending the messages to stop.
 11:07 a.m. - The school resource officer with the Morrow County Sheriff's Office received a report of inappropriate texting at Lone School, Lone.
 1:40 p.m. - The Morrow County Sheriff's Office received a call from a Texas detective regarding a fraud case.
 2:29 p.m. - The Umatilla County Sheriff's Office responded to East Columbia Lane, Hermiston, to assist with an assault victim.
 3:08 p.m. - A 911 caller on Southeast 11th Street, Pendleton, told police a female hit a male.
 3:30 p.m. - A caller reported someone vandalized the tractor he uses up Elk Trail Lane off Chickadee Road, Heppner, and he has an idea who did it.
 7:30 p.m. - A man at Joy Lane and Highway 395, Hermiston, called the Umatilla County Sheriff's Office and said there is a warrant for his arrest and he wants to go to jail. The sheriff's office responded and did not find the caller.
 11:04 p.m. - Stanfield police took a report of an assault at Stanfield RV Park, 355 S. Main St.
 11:46 p.m. - A Pendleton woman called 911 and reported her daughter slapped her across the face.

ARRESTS, CITATIONS

Tuesday

•Hermiston police arrested Dante Lamar Marshall, 31, of 1105 S. First St., No. D6, Hermiston, on multiple warrants and for attempted assault of a public safety officer, second-degree disorderly conduct, interfering with a peace officer, unauthorized use of vehicle and first-degree theft.
 •Pendleton police at about 8:15 p.m. responded to a report of an intoxicated person near the Vert Auditorium, 480 S.W. Dorion Ave., Pendleton, and arrested Damon Fernando Ornelas, 22, of 1513 S.E. Court Ave., Pendleton, for assaulting a public safety officer, second-degree disorderly conduct, interfering with a peace officer and resisting arrest.
 •Umatilla County Sheriff's Office arrested Edgar Orozco Nunez, 26, of Umatilla, for possession of cocaine.

Wednesday

•Oregon State Police arrested Kimberly Mae Langlois, 28, of 175 Hamilton St., Umatilla, for felony driving under the influence of intoxicants. State police reported a trooper stopped Langlois in a Buick passenger car for a violation at 12:55 a.m. while heading east on Interstate 84 near milepost 202, and she told the trooper she smoked marijuana.
 The trooper had her take a sobriety test, according to state police, and she also admitted to alcohol use. The trooper arrested her and booked her into the Umatilla County Jail, Pendleton, where a breath test showed her blood-alcohol content was .13 percent, more than the .08 percent legal limit.
 State police also cited her for speeding 88 mph on the 70 mph stretch of interstate and for having an open container of alcohol in the car.



AP Photo/Carolyn Kaster

Federal Reserve Chair Janet Yellen speaks during a news conference following the Federal Open Market Committee meeting in Washington, Wednesday.

Fed raises interest rate for third time this year

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Federal Reserve is raising its key interest rate for the third time this year and foresees three additional hikes in 2018, a vote of confidence that the U.S. economy remains on solid footing 8½ years after the end of the Great Recession.
 The Fed said Wednesday that it's lifting its short-term rate by a modest quarter-point to a still-low range of 1.25 percent to 1.5 percent. It is also continuing to slowly shrink its bond portfolio. Together, the two steps could lead over time to higher loan rates for consumers and businesses and slightly better returns for savers.

showed that the median expectation remains three rate hikes in 2018, at least two in 2019 and two more in 2020.
 By then, the Fed's target for short-term rates would have reached 3.1 percent — slightly above its estimate of a long-term neutral rate of 2.8 percent. That would mean the Fed would still be seeking to tighten credit three years from now.

At a news conference after the Fed's meeting, Yellen said she would work to provide a smooth transition for Powell. Powell has been a Yellen ally who backed her cautious stance toward rate hikes in his five years on the Fed's board. Yet no one can know for sure how his style of chairmanship or rate policy might depart from hers.

What's more, Powell will be joined by several new Fed board members who, like him, are being chosen by President Donald Trump. Some analysts say they think that while Powell might not deviate much from Yellen's rate policy, he and the new board members will adopt a looser approach to their regulation of the banking system.

On Wednesday, the Fed boosted its forecast for growth to 2.5 percent next year, up from its previous forecast of 2.1 percent. Those rates are far below the 3 percent to 4 percent growth that the Trump administration insists would result from its economic policies of tax cuts, deregulation and stricter enforcement of trade laws against unfair foreign imports.

The central bank said in a statement after its latest policy meeting that it expects the job market and the economy to strengthen further. Partly as a result, it expects to keep raising rates at the same incremental pace next year under the leadership of Jerome Powell, who will succeed Janet Yellen as Fed chair in February.
 Chris Probyn, chief economist at State Street Global Advisors, said he was surprised that Fed officials upgraded their forecast for economic growth next year and lowered their forecast for unemployment yet signaled no additional rate hikes.
 "They're saying, 'We're going to get more growth, we're going to get lower unemployment, but we're not going to respond to it with any more tightening,'" he said. "They are prepared to let the economy run a little hotter."
 The Fed's action was approved 7-2, with Charles Evans, president of the Fed's Chicago regional bank, and Neel Kashkari, head of the Minneapolis Fed, voting no. Both preferred to keep the benchmark rate unchanged.
 The central bank's message Wednesday departed little from its recent statements. It still stresses that it expects to keep raising rates gradually. Its projections for future hikes, based on estimates of 16 officials,

Steven M. Shockman

Hermiston
July 29, 1957 - December 6, 2017

Steven M. Shockman was born on July 29, 1957, in Hermiston, Oregon, to parents Arthur and Barbara Jean Newsom Shockman. He died on December 6, 2017, at his home in Hermiston, Oregon, at the age of 60 years.

He was raised and attended schools in Hermiston, Oregon, and in Fruitland, Idaho, where he participated in wrestling and football. Steve married Wilma Philpott and they had two daughters; Melony and Sara and have remained very close friends throughout the years.

He worked for Shockman Brothers in construction and later as a long haul truck driver for Willis Shaw Trucking, and as an owner operator through the years.

Steve loved going to auctions and flea markets looking for a good deal or anything "he needed." He enjoyed fishing, gardening and the outdoors. Steve was always tinkering in his shop either fixing something,

creating a tool or making things just right for his use.

He is survived by his daughters Melony Shockman, Albany, Ore., and Sara Richardson (Logan), Salem, Ore.; brother Allen Shockman, Hermiston, Ore.; grandsons Johnathan and Landon; and numerous aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews and cousins.

Steve was preceded in death by his parents and two brothers, Dick and Danny Shockman.

A celebration of life gathering will be held on Sunday, December 17, 2017, from 2:00 p.m. until 4:00 p.m. at the Eastern Oregon Trade and Event Center, 1705 E. Airport Road, Hermiston, Oregon.

A private family burial will be at the Hermiston Cemetery, Hermiston, Oregon.

Please sign the online condolence book at burnsmortuaryhermiston.com

Burns Mortuary of Hermiston, Oregon, is in care of arrangements.



Shockman

DEATH NOTICES

Howard Russell Christensen

Corbett, Ore.
July 4, 1932 - Dec. 11, 2017

Former Arlington resident Howard Russell Christensen, 85, of Corbett, Ore., died Monday, Dec. 11, 2017, at his home. He was born July 4, 1932, in Decatur County, Kansas. Services are pending with Burns Mortuary of Hermiston. Sign the online condolence book at burnsmortuaryhermiston.com

Martin Hutsell

Weston
Jan. 18, 1962 - Dec. 11, 2017

Martin Hutsell, 55, of Weston died Monday, Dec. 11, 2017, in Richland, Wash. He was born Jan. 18, 1962, in Indianapolis, Ind. A memorial service will be held at a later date. Munselle-Rhodes Funeral Home in Milton-Freewater is in charge of arrangements.

Mary Kennison

Salem
Dec. 11, 2017

Former Wallowa County resident Mary Kennison, 90, of Salem died Monday, Dec. 11, 2017, at her home. Funeral services will be held Thursday, Dec 21 at 1 p.m. at Bollman Funeral Home in Salem, with interment in the Wallowa Cemetery. Bollman Funeral Home is entrusted with arrangements.

James Personette

Pilot Rock
July 1, 1953 - Dec. 3, 2017

James Personette, 64, of Pilot Rock died Sunday, Dec. 3, 2017, at his home. He was born July 1, 1953. A celebration of life service will be held Saturday, Dec. 16 at 11 a.m., with a luncheon to follow, at the Pendleton Eagles Lodge, 428 S. Main St. Burns Mortuary of Pendleton is in charge of arrangements.

Marylin L. Thomas

Coeur d'Alene, Idaho
Aug. 10, 1943 - Dec. 9, 2017

Former longtime Umatilla County resident Marylin L. Thomas, 74, of Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, died Saturday, Dec. 9, 2017. She was born Aug. 10, 1943, in Hermiston. Services will be held Friday, Dec. 15 at 12 noon at the First Baptist Church in Coeur d'Alene. Arrangements are with Yates Funeral Home.

UPCOMING SERVICES

THURSDAY, DEC. 14

No services scheduled

FRIDAY, DEC. 15

BAUMAN, PAULINE — Recitation of the rosary at 6 p.m. at St. John's Catholic Church, 103 S. Lincoln St., Condon.

BURHOE, ROSE — Funeral services at 2 p.m. at Munselle-Rhodes Funeral Home, 902 S. Main St., Milton-Freewater.

KOEHLER, JEFF — Celebration of life at 1 p.m. at Living Word Christian Center, 401 Northgate, Pendleton.

STALFORD, BILL — Celebration of life service with military honors at 1 p.m. at the Hermiston Church of the Nazarene, 1520 W. Orchard Ave.

THOMAS, MARYLIN — Services at 12 noon at the First Baptist Church in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho.

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.

OBITUARIES

Edward Victor 'Ed' Verkist

Weston
March 25, 1940 - December 5, 2017

Edward Victor "Ed" Verkist of Weston, Oregon, passed away December 5, 2017, at his home after a long battle with cancer at the age of 77 years. Funeral services will be Saturday, December 16, 2017, at 10:30 a.m. at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in Milton-Freewater, Ore. Concluding services and interment will be in the Weston Cemetery, Weston, Ore.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Family of Edward Verkist through the Munselle-Rhodes Funeral Home, 902 S. Main, Milton-Freewater, OR 97862.

Ed was born March 25, 1940, in Bellingham, Wash., the son of Charles and Orpha (Fox) Verkist of Glacier, Idaho, where he spent his childhood. He attended Maple Falls Elementary School, Mount Baker Jr./Sr. High School and Bellingham High School where he graduated in 1958.

He was working for a construction company in the Seattle area when he met his wife Elaine Hathaway. They were married on February 20, 1962, after knowing each other for 10 days. In 1974 they moved from the western Washington area to Weston, Ore., where he built their current home and raised their six children. Ed was self-employed most of his life, working as a construction contractor and wildland firefighter with his sons.

He enjoyed logging, farming and working in his garden. His leisure time was spent fishing (from the time he was a young boy) and making things out of wood. It was very unusual for him to come home after fishing with less than his limit of fish. His wood-working included making beautiful items like cradles, furniture and toys for his children and grandchildren. Ed most recently made a beautiful walnut drop-leaf table for his wife, which he was able to finish before passing away. He has been a faithful member of the LDS Church for the past 45 years.

Ed is survived by his wife Elaine Verkist at the home; sons Jonathon (Karen) Verkist of Harrison, Idaho, Richard (Jill) Verkist of Weston, Ore., Aaron (Lyndsey) Verkist of Denver, Pa., and Daniel (Nicole) Verkist of Walla Walla, Wash.; daughters Tana (David) Vanderholm of Elk, Wash., and Debra (Kevin) Andrews of Walla Walla, Wash.; brothers Leon Verkist of Ferndale, Wash., and Charles (Nancy) Verkist; sisters Kay (Landon) Weeks of Bellingham, Wash., and Judith (Robert) Anderson of Marysville, Wash.; 26 grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents, brother Albert Verkist and sister JoAnn Moore.



Verkist

Last of Triple Nickels paratroopers dies at 96

HUNTINGTON STATION, N.Y. (AP) — The last living member of a pioneering unit that paved the way for the U.S. military's first black paratroopers has died. Clarence Beavers was 96.

The A.L. Jacobsen Funeral Home in Huntington Station, New York, says Beavers died Dec. 4.

Newsday reports the Harlem-born Beavers joined the segregated U.S. Army in 1941 and rose to the rank of sergeant. In 1944, he and 19

other black soldiers became part of a test platoon for airborne training. Beavers and 16 others passed, setting the foundation for what became the all-black 555th Parachute Infantry Battalion, known as the Triple Nickels.

Beavers was the last of the original 17, who trained and were based at the Pendleton airport.

The 555th spent the last year of the war fighting forest fires set in the Pacific Northwest by Japanese balloon-transported bombs.

MEETINGS

For a complete listing of regional events, visit eastoregonian.com

THURSDAY, DEC. 14
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)

UMATILLA COUNTY SPECIAL LIBRARY DISTRICT, 5:15 p.m., Pendleton Center for the Arts boardroom, 214 N. Main St., Pendleton. (Erin McCusker 541-276-6449)

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)

MONDAY, DEC. 18
WEST EXTENSION IRRIGATION DISTRICT, 9 a.m., Irrigon Fire Department, 705 N.E. Main St., Irrigon. 2018 budget will be on the agenda. An executive session may be called to discuss legal issues. (Lisa Baum 541-922-3814)

ECHO SCHOOL DISTRICT, 6 p.m., Echo Community School, 600 Gerone St., Echo. A budget meeting will be followed by the regular board meeting. (541-376-8436)

HELIX CITY COUNCIL, 7 p.m., Helix City Hall, 119 Columbia St., Helix. (541-457-2521)

LOTTERY

Tuesday, Dec. 12
Mega Millions
 08-23-24-25-27
 Mega Ball: 9
 Megaplier: 2
 Estimated jackpot: \$191 M
Lucky Lines
 03-08-09-15-FREE-18-22-28-32
 Estimated jackpot: \$21,000
Pick 4
 1 p.m.: 2-2-3-7
 4 p.m.: 5-6-3-4
 7 p.m.: 6-4-2-4
 10 p.m.: 2-5-5-8

Wednesday, Dec. 13
Pick 4
 1 p.m.: 5-3-0-6

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