

PUBLIC SAFETY LOG

TUESDAY

1:11 a.m. - An Oregon State Police trooper tagged an abandoned Olds Cutlass on eastbound Interstate 84, milepost 234, on Sunday evening and the vehicle's owner, a Spokane Valley resident, called to request an additional day to pick up the vehicle. OSP was dispatched Tuesday to an abandoned vehicle and learned it was the same vehicle. ODOT had reported seeing another vehicle parked in front of the Cutlass, but the lead vehicle quickly left as they pulled in to assist, leaving tools and trash behind. The Cutlass was cleaned out, the rear plate was removed and a large amount of fuel was leaking out of the gas tank of the abandoned car. When contacted, the owner confirmed she had been the one working on the car, and that she had been trying to siphon fuel from one car to the other, spilling some. On investigation, ODOT found the fuel lines had been cut and spilled fuel was heading for a storm drain. The car was towed as a hazard.

3:03 a.m. - A driver on eastbound I-84 near milepost 241 hit an animal with enough force to deploy the vehicle's airbags. No injuries were reported.

5:56 a.m. - A woman was involved in a car accident at A.C. Houghton Elementary School, 1105 N.E. Main Ave., Irrigon, and transported to Good Shepherd Medical Center in Hermiston by the Boardman ambulance after complaining of neck and head injuries.

7:14 a.m. - The Morrow County Sheriff's Office was called to lone Community School, 445 Spring St., to speak with a juvenile after a report of witness tampering.

10:02 a.m. - A man waited in the turn lane at the intersection of South Highway 395 and East Hurlburt Avenue in Hermiston for 20 minutes but the light wouldn't allow him to turn, he complained to the Hermiston Police Department.

10:28 a.m. - A resident of Green Acres RV Park, 80542 Paterson Ferry Road, Irrigon, reported her vehicle was stolen sometime the previous night and she heard it had been involved in an accident. A Morrow County sheriff's deputy spoke to both parties.

1:19 p.m. - An employer on North First Street, Hermiston, asked police to check on an employee she had laid off because the former employee talked about harming herself.

3:29 p.m. - Stanfield police investigated a fraud report at a business on South Main Street.

6:00 p.m. - A resident of Southeast Utah Avenue, Irrigon, requested extra sheriff patrols in her neighborhood after her vehicles were broken into the previous night and a stereo stolen from one of them. A second Irrigon caller, on Locust Road, also requested extra patrols after his dog was possibly poisoned.

7:10 p.m. - Pendleton police and fire departments were called to a report of smoke coming from the roof of All Gussied Up, 28 S.W. Court Ave.

7:21 p.m. - A prowler was reported to Hermiston police by a resident of West Hermiston Avenue.

ARRESTS, CITATIONS

Tuesday

The Umatilla County Sheriff's Office arrested Gary Zachary Smith, 27, of Hermiston, for hindering prosecution, tampering with physical evidence and interfering with a peace officer.

Hermiston police arrested David Daniel Diaz, 20, of Hermiston, on domestic violence charges of aggravated fourth-degree assault and strangulation, second-degree theft and two felony probation/parole violations.

Wednesday

Stacia Elaine Simmons, 30, of Walla Walla, was arrested by the Umatilla County Sheriff's Office for felony driving under the influence of intoxicants and misdemeanor charges of possession of heroin and methamphetamine.

DEATH NOTICES

Susan M. Baxter

Pendleton

Oct. 12, 1942 - Feb. 7, 2018

Susan M. Baxter, 75, of Pendleton died Wednesday, Feb. 7, 2018, in Pendleton. She was born Oct. 12, 1942, in Oakland, Calif. Arrangements are with Pendleton Pioneer Chapel, Folsom-Bishop.

Gary P. Woods

Umatilla

Sept. 21, 1951 - Feb. 1, 2018

Gary P. Woods, 66, of Umatilla died Thursday, Feb. 1, 2018, at his home. He was born Sept. 21, 1951, in Enid, Okla. A graveside service with military honors will be held Friday, April 13 at 2 p.m. at Willamette National Cemetery in Portland. Burns Mortuary of Hermiston was in care of arrangements. Sign the online condolence book at burnsmortuaryhermiston.com

UPCOMING SERVICES

THURSDAY, FEB. 8

RITZ, PHYLLIS — Recitation of the rosary at 5 p.m. at St. Mary's Catholic Church, 800 S.E. Court Ave., Pendleton.

FRIDAY, FEB. 9

RITZ, PHYLLIS — Memorial mass at 10 a.m. at St. Mary's Catholic Church, 800 S.E. Court Ave., Pendleton.

THOMAS, JENNA — Funeral mass at 2 p.m. at Our Lady of Angels Catholic Church, 565 W. Hermiston Ave., Hermiston. A reception will follow at the church parish hall.

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

PENDLETON PLANNING COMMISSION, 7 p.m., Pendleton City Hall, 500 S.W. Dorion Ave., Pendleton. (Jutta Haliewicz 541-966-0240)

MONDAY, FEB. 12

IRRIGON FIRE DISTRICT, 7 a.m., Irrigon Fire Department, 705 N.E. Main Ave., Irrigon. (541-922-3133)

PENDLETON SCHOOL DISTRICT, 6 p.m., Pendleton School District office, 107 N.W. 10th St., Pendleton. (541-276-6711)

HERMISTON SCHOOL DISTRICT, 6:30 p.m., district office, 502 W. Standard Ave., Hermiston. (541-667-6000)

MILTON-FREEWATER SCHOOL DISTRICT, 6:30 p.m., Central Middle School, 306 S.W. Second St., Milton-Freewater. (541-938-3551)

ADAMS CITY COUNCIL, 7 p.m., Adams City Hall, 190 N. Main St., Adams. (541-566-9380)

HEPPNER CITY COUNCIL, 7 p.m., Heppner City Hall, 111 N. Main St., Heppner. (541-676-9618)

MILTON-FREEWATER CITY COUNCIL, 7 p.m., Milton-Freewater Public Library Albee Room, 8 S.W. Eighth Ave., Milton-Freewater. (541-938-5531)

PILOT ROCK FIRE DISTRICT, 7 p.m., Pilot Rock Fire Department, 415 N.E. Elm St., Pilot Rock. (541-443-4522)

HERMISTON CITY COUNCIL, 7 p.m., Hermiston City Hall council chambers, 180 N.E. Sec-

ond St., Hermiston. (541-567-5521)

ATHENA - WESTON SCHOOL DISTRICT, 7 p.m., Weston Middle School library, 205 E. Wallace, Weston. (Kim Thul 541-566-3551)

TUESDAY, FEB. 13

PENDLETON PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION, 12 p.m., Pendleton City Hall community room, 500 S.W. Dorion Ave., Pendleton. (541-276-8100)

PORT OF UMATILLA COMMISSION, 1 p.m., Port of Umatilla offices, 505 Willamette Ave., Umatilla. (541-922-3224)

PENDLETON CITY COUNCIL WORKSHOP, 3 p.m., Pendleton City Hall, 500 S.W. Dorion Ave., Pendleton. (Donna Biggerstaff 541-966-0209)

PENDLETON FARMERS MARKET BOARD, 5:30 p.m., Pendleton Early Learning Center, 455 S.W. 13th St., Pendleton. (541-969-9466)

WESTON CEMETERY BOARD, 6 p.m., Memorial Hall, 210 E. Main St., Weston. (541-566-3313)

LEXINGTON TOWN COUNCIL, 7 p.m., Lexington Town Hall, 425 F St., Lexington. (541-989-8515)

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 14

UKIAH SCHOOL DISTRICT, 8 a.m., Ukiah Community School, 201 Hill St., Ukiah. (541-427-3731)

MORROW COUNTY BOARD

OF COMMISSIONERS, 9 a.m., Irrigon Public Library, 200 N.E. Main Ave., Irrigon. (541-676-9061)

MILTON-FREEWATER CEMETERY MAINTENANCE DISTRICT NO. 3, 12 p.m., Milton-Freewater Golf Course restaurant, 301 Catherine St., Milton-Freewater. (541-938-5531)

PORT OF MORROW COMMISSION, 1:30 p.m., Port of Morrow, 2 Marine Drive, Boardman. (Dori Drago 541-481-7678)

PENDLETON FAÇADE COMMITTEE, 3:30 p.m., Pendleton City Hall community development conference room, 500 S.W. Dorion Ave., Pendleton. (Julie Chase 541-966-0204)

RIVERSIDE SITE COUNCIL, 5:30 p.m., Riverside High School library, 210 N.E. Boardman Ave., Boardman. (541-676-9128)

WESTON CITY COUNCIL, 6 p.m., Memorial Hall, 210 E. Main St., Weston. (541-566-3313)

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

CONDON PLANNING COMMISSION, 7 p.m., Condon City Hall, 128 S. Main St., Condon. (541-384-2711)

CONDON SCHOOL DISTRICT, 7 p.m., Condon Grade School, 220 S. East St., Condon. (541-384-2441)

HERMISTON PLANNING COMMISSION, 7 p.m., Hermiston City Hall, 180 N.E. Second St., Hermiston. (541-567-5521)

Forest Grove parents seek changes to hit-and-run law

By **PARIS ACHEN**
Capital Bureau

SALEM — Anna Dieter-Eckert, 6, and her sister Abigail Robinson, 11, were killed in a hit-in-run crash while playing in a pile of leaves in front of their Forest Grove home in 2013.

On Tuesday, their parents asked state lawmakers to close a loophole in state law that led the Oregon Court of Appeals to overturn the conviction of the woman who hit the girls and left the scene.

"In making this change, someone in the future already trying to survive their perfect storm will not be faced with what we have had to go through over the last four years, years of reliving our tragedy," said Susan Dieter-Robinson, Anna's mother and Abigail's stepmother. "If the law changes, our girls will have had a small piece of making that happen."

Reps. Jeff Barker, D-Aloha, and Andy Olson, R-Albany, co-sponsored a bill this year to modify the state's hit-and-run law to require motorists who collide with something to stop and investigate what they struck. The bill also would



Paris Achen/Capital Bureau

Left to right, Tom Robinson and Susan Dieter-Robinson, parents of two little girls killed in a hit-in-run crash while they were playing in the leaves at their home in Forest Grove Oct. 20, 2013. To their right is Pam Olson, wife of Rep. Andy Olson, R-Albany, a co-sponsor of a bill to change the state's hit-and-run law.

require a motorist who has left a scene to notify authorities once they realize they had caused an injury or death.

Forest Grove resident Cinthya Garcia, then 19, drove into a pile of leaves at the edge of a

residential Forest Grove street at the prompting of her boyfriend and brother, who were passengers in the vehicle, according to court documents. It is believed that the young girls, who had been playing in the leaves, may have been

hiding from view.

Garcia later said knew that she had hit something, but she didn't know what it was until later that day. About five minutes after the girls were hit, one of the passengers rode his bike back to the scene.

"He engaged with my husband who was frantic and in the process of calling 911," Susan Dieter-Robinson said. "He rode his bike back home not even a half a block from the scene and told the driver and the other passenger what had happened. They hit two small children."

After finding out, they drove to Walmart and went and bought ice cream, Dieter-Robinson said.

"The next day, they washed the car, attempting to get rid of the evidence that may have still been there," she said. "With a tip from a neighbor, the driver and the passengers were questioned by the police a couple of days later, and the truth was revealed."

A Washington County jury found Garcia guilty of two counts of hit and run for failure to identify herself as a driver in a deadly crash. At sentencing, Dieter-Robinson asked that Garcia receive no jail time. She was sentenced

to three years' probation and 250 hours' community service. Several months later, she appealed the conviction.

The Court of Appeals decision to overturn Garcia's conviction of hit and run in May prompted the lawmakers to propose "Anna and Abigail's Law."

The court identified a gap in the existing hit-and-run when it issued its opinion, said Bracken McKey, a prosecutor in Washington County who prosecuted Garcia.

"Think about Oregon's hit and run law as the Court of Appeals has now defined it. You can be less than a block away and moments later in time when you know you have run over and seriously injured another person, you have zero responsibility to help them, no responsibility to call 911, no responsibility to take steps that might save a child's life or at the very least lessen the emotional burden on a grieving family," McKey said.

"April and Abigail's Law" would help the "most vulnerable, the cyclists, the jogger, the small child who's chasing a ball and maybe the next little girl in a leaf pile," he said.

500-year-old skeletons sought by three Native American tribes

By **KEITH RIDLER**
Associated Press

BOISE, Idaho — Somewhere in Boise, two 500-year-old skeletons discovered in Idaho's high desert plains are stored in a secure place as three Native American tribes try to claim the remains and anthropologists lament a lost research opportunity.

U.S. officials won't say where the bones of the young adult and a child are being kept as the U.S. Bureau of Land Management assesses the claims by the Shoshone-Bannock Tribes in eastern Idaho, Shoshone-Paiute Tribes in southern Idaho and northern Nevada and the Nez Perce Tribe in northern Idaho.

The federal agency considers its negotiations with the tribes about the bones to be sensitive government-to-government communications, and only confirmed the discussions after The Associated Press filed a Freedom of Information Act request.

The skeletons were found in such good condition last April that Idaho authorities initially treated the south-



Paul Boehlke/KTVB via AP, File

This April 15, 2017, file video image courtesy of KTVB-TV, shows an Elmore County Sheriff vehicle in the remote area where skeletal remains were found in a badger hole north of Mountain Home, Idaho.

western Snake River Plain site as a possible crime scene. Authorities said they were either dealing with a double homicide that had happened in recent decades, bones from pioneers who died in the 19th century while traveling along the nearby Oregon Trail or the remains of Native Americans from that era or earlier.

But carbon dating tests from a lab in Florida found the young adult and the child or teen lived sometime during the 1400s to 1600s.

Elmore County investigators were so surprised that they sent bone samples to be checked at another lab in

Arizona, which returned similar results.

The Bureau of Land Management is using a process in the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act to return the skeletons. A decision is possible this spring, said agency spokesman Michael Williamson.

"We're giving it the time it needs and looking forward to having a decision made where all parties are satisfied," he said.

For the tribes, it's a matter of recovering two of their own who were among the nomadic Native

Americans who experts say spent winters near Snake River Canyon and summers at higher elevation prairies — eating native plants and hunting mostly deer and rabbits but occasionally elk and bison.

"We've always pointed out that we've been here for thousands of years," Shoshone-Paiute Tribes Chairman Ted Howard said after the age of the bones was disclosed. "For our tribe and the Shoshone-Bannock Tribes, those are the remains

of our people, our ancestors."

Kayeloni Scott, communications director for the Nez Perce Tribe, said her tribe has historically been present in the area where the skeletons were found.

"That's why we're speaking on behalf of the bones," she said in a voice-mail. "Also, the primary reason was just to make sure someone was taking care of them, and they weren't just being left alone."

The land management bureau confirmed that the

Shoshone-Bannock Tribes is the third with a claim for the bones. Tribe spokeswoman Randy L Tetton did not return a telephone message seeking comment.

The tribes don't let researchers conduct tests on remains of ancestors and anthropologists say the unique nature of the find means that experts are losing an opportunity to learn more about how Native Americans lived in a place where the first documented visit by outsiders was in 1805.

LOTTERY

Tuesday, Feb. 6

Mega Millions
14-17-25-48-58
Mega Ball: 25
Megaplier: 3
Estimated jackpot: \$120 M

Lucky Lines
02-08-11-15-FREE-18-23-25-29
Estimated jackpot: \$20,000

Pick 4
1 p.m.: 5-9-1-2
4 p.m.: 6-9-4-6
7 p.m.: 3-0-4-0
10 p.m.: 1-3-0-4

Wednesday, Feb. 7

Pick 4
1 p.m.: 9-8-7-1

The Place for Lovebirds
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 14

Valentine Dinner Specials

Bleu Cheese Topped Sirloin
Fire Roasted Salmon with Mango Salsa

Special Valentine Appetizers & Desserts

CALL FOR RESERVATIONS 541.278.1100 SALOON OPENS AT 4PM DINNER BEGINNING AT 5PM

HAMLEY STEAKHOUSE
COURT & MAIN • DOWNTOWN PENDLETON