

OUT OF THE VAULT

Button, dust lead to burglary conviction

It was good old-fashioned police work at its best.

Hill Meat Company in Pendleton was burglarized the night of Feb. 14, 1971, and the firm’s safe had been literally torn apart and scattered around the office. Cash totaling \$1,800 was stolen.

Oregon State Police officers John Williams and Jim Toddy began their investigation by interviewing W.D. Perkins, the Hill Meat employee that discovered the burglary at 8:15 a.m. Perkins told the officers that an early 1960s beige station wagon had been seen in the company parking lot the evening prior to the theft.

Pendleton police officer Don Isom also saw the car in the area. He had stopped a similar vehicle in the Sherwood area at 4:45 a.m. for running a stop sign. He talked to the car’s two occupants, George Wesley Storms and Inez Guerrero, who Isom said seemed short of breath and nervous. He let them go with a warning. Police soon learned that both men were convicted safe burglars, but the men and the car had vanished.

Meanwhile, OSP investigators at the scene of the burglary found a single black button in the wreckage of the safe. With this and the descriptions of the two suspects, they asked Umatilla County District Attorney R.P. Smith and District Judge Richard Courson for a search warrant. Smith then headed for Portland, where Storms and Guerrero were well known to law enforcement.

The suspect vehicle was spotted at a Portland bar, and Storms was arrested. Portland police seized the vehicle and OSP investigators Williams and Toddy, and Reg Madsen of the state police crime lab, made a thorough search. In the car they found a copy of the Feb. 13 *East Oregonian* and some dust, which was collected with a vacuum cleaner.

But that wasn’t enough evidence to make a solid case. So Portland police, armed with a second warrant, raided a home where Storms was known to have visited recently. And there they collected a black jacket with a missing button. Dust in the pockets of the jacket was also collected.

Pendleton police, armed with mug

shots of the two suspects, learned that they had been at Hill Meat Co. a few days prior to the burglary, asking for jobs. But the big break occurred when police interviewed Barry Clift at his service station on Southwest Emigrant Avenue, and learned the suspects’ car had stopped there around 7:15 a.m. the morning following the burglary. Clift said one of the men had pockets full of coins and boasted of making “quite a score.”

Crime lab reports matched the black button to the jacket, and the dust in the car and in the pockets of the jacket included particles of fire clay and paint from the ransacked safe.

During Storms’ trial on June 3, 1971, the prosecution called 18 witnesses to the stand. The jury was out only 20 minutes before returning a verdict of guilty. The 44-year-old Storms was sentenced to 10 years in state prison.

Guerrero faced the same charge, but at the time of the trial was being held in a Portland jail on a charge of armed robbery.

— *Renee Struthers*

DEAR ABBY

Stepmother wants family taxi service to go out of business

Dear Abby: My husband and I have been married 2½ years. We have both been married before. I have a son, and he has three daughters. My son is married with two children. He works and is pretty self-sufficient. Two of my husband’s daughters live in the same city we do. They are 26 and 28. They don’t have cars or driver licenses and live with their mother, who is also car-less.



JEANNE PHILLIPS
Advice

They often ask us for transportation. While I don’t mind doing it once in a while, we are not a taxi service. Occasionally, they’ll offer gas money. But my point is, every time the car is started and driven down the street, there is wear and tear on the vehicle. The girls don’t step up when it’s time to pay repair bills.

This is a constant argument between my husband and me, and I don’t know what to do about it. I love my stepdaughters, but in my opinion, they are old enough to be more self-sufficient. Advice, please. — **Desperate In Reno, Nev.**

Dear Desperate: You’re right; the “girls” are old enough. The solution to your problem lies in helping them become independent. This is what you should discuss with their father. There is a public transportation system in your community, and they should be familiar with it. If for some reason that’s not workable, perhaps their father could help them pay for driving lessons and/or a down payment on a used vehicle of their own.

Dear Abby: My fiancé told me that an old friend of mine whom I am close to has kissed him goodbye on the lips twice now. He said the last time she did it, it made him feel uncomfortable and guilty.

I have never seen her do this to anyone else, and to be honest, I was angry about it when he told me. I am the godmother of her child, and I feel awkward around her now. What should I do? Should I let her come to me, or tell her it has been brought to my attention? — **In A Weird Spot In California**

Dear Weird Spot: Ideally, your fiancé should ask her to stop kissing him on the mouth. However, if he’s not up to doing that, tell your old friend your fiancé mentioned that the last few times he has seen her, she kissed him on the mouth and it made him uncomfortable. Then tell her that when you heard about it, it made YOU uncomfortable, so please don’t do it again.

Dear Abby: I was eating a Greek salad at a restaurant the other night, and I started to wonder about the polite way to eat olives with pits. I typically put the whole thing in my mouth, eat the flesh, then pull the pit out with my fingers and place it on a dish. I started wondering if it was rude to reach into my mouth and spit things out in a restaurant. What is the polite way to eat an olive in public? — **It’s The Pits In New York**

Dear Pits: According to etiquette experts the Post family, you have done nothing wrong. The key to disposing of an olive pit is to do it discreetly. (Shield the maneuver with your napkin to avoid offending your companion(s) if you’re not alone.)

DAYS GONE BY

100 Years Ago
From the East Oregonian
June 23-24, 1918

Hailstones as large as walnuts and as much as four inches deep on the ground fell on Stanley creek, eight miles from Pilot Rock, yesterday afternoon, according to Charles Johnson, well known sheepman who is here today. So fierce was the downpour of hails, says Mr. Johnson, that it was necessary to get the horses into shelter.

50 Years Ago
From the East Oregonian
June 23-24, 1968

Tommy Brehm, 21, Marine from Ukiah has been killed in Vietnam, according to word received Friday night by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Richard Brehm of Ukiah. Brehm was with the 101st Airborne Division, paratroopers, just out of Hue when killed by small arms fire. He was due to return home Oct. 26.

25 Years Ago
From the East Oregonian
June 23-24, 1993

A couple on their way to Minnesota left something important behind at an Eastern Oregon rest stop: their daughter.

Charles and Marjorie Miller thought Kimberly, 14, had slept through the brief stop near Boardman at 4:30 p.m. Monday. But the teenager had stepped out of the motor home and was in the restroom when her parents pulled back onto Interstate 84. The Willamina couple don’t realize Kimberly was missing until a state trooper pulled them over at 6:45 p.m., 150 miles away in Baker City. The couple then drove back to get her. Kimberly had picked up an emergency telephone at the rest stop, told police her dilemma and described the vehicle.

THIS DAY IN HISTORY

Today is the 174th day of 2018. There are 191 days left in the year.

Today’s Highlight in History:

On June 23, 1868, Christopher Latham Sholes received a patent for his “Type-Writer,” featuring a QWERTY keyboard; it was the first commercially successful typewriter.

On this date:

In 1537, Spanish explorer Pedro de Mendoza, the founder of Buenos Aires, died aboard his ship while heading back to Spain.

In 1757, forces of the East India Company led by Robert Clive won the Battle of Plassey, which effectively marked the beginning of British colonial rule in India.

In 1947, the Senate

joined the House in overriding President Harry S. Truman’s veto of the Taft-Hartley Act, designed to limit the power of organized labor.

In 1968, a syndicated newspaper column by Joseph Kraft coined the term “Middle America.”

In 1969, Warren E. Burger was sworn in as chief justice of the United States by the man he was succeeding, Earl Warren.

In 1972, President Richard Nixon and White House chief of staff H.R. Haldeman discussed using the CIA to obstruct the FBI’s Watergate investigation. (Revelation of the tape recording of this conversation sparked Nixon’s resignation in 1974.) President Nixon signed Title IX barring discrimination on the basis of sex for “any education program or activ-

ity receiving federal financial assistance.”

In 1993, in a case that drew widespread attention, Lorena Bobbitt of Prince William County, Virginia, sexually mutilated her husband, John, after he allegedly raped her. (John Bobbitt was later acquitted of marital sexual assault; Lorena Bobbitt was later acquitted by reason of insanity of malicious wounding.) Canada’s Senate ratified the North American Free Trade Agreement.

Today’s Birthdays: Singer Diana Trask is 78. Musical conductor James Levine is 75. Actor Ted Shackelford is 72. Actor Bryan Brown is 71. Supreme Court Justice Clarence Thomas is 70. Actor Jim Metzler is 67. “American Idol” ex-judge Randy

Jackson is 62. Actress Frances McDormand is 61. Rock musician Steve Shelley (Sonic Youth) is 56. Actor Paul La Greca is 56. Writer-director Joss Whedon is 54. Rhythm and blues singer Chico DeBarge is 48. Actress Selma Blair is 46. Actor Joel Edgerton is 44. Rock singer KT Tunstall is 43. Rhythm and blues singer Virgo Williams (Ghostowns DJs) is 43. Actress Emmanuelle Vaugier is 42. Singer-songwriter Jason Mraz is 41. Football Hall of Famer LaDainian Tomlinson is 39. Actress Melissa Rauch is 38. Rock singer Duffy is 34. Country singer Katie Armiger is 27.

Thought for Today: “To have felt too much is to end in feeling nothing.” — *Dorothy Thompson, American journalist (1894-1961).*

Erratic driving of front-end loader leads to DUI arrest

ANCHORAGE, Alaska (AP) — A 35-year-old Alaska man suspected of weaving through traffic while driving a front-end loader has been charged with driving under the influence of alcohol.

Daniel Hughett also is charged with consuming alcohol in violation of a pre-

vious release from custody.

A caller told Anchorage police Tuesday night that an intoxicated man nearly hit a convenience store as he parked a front-end loader.

Police received a second call saying the driver was back on the road, swerving in and out of lanes and bouncing off the curb.

Officers found the unoccupied loader parked in the middle of a busy street. A witness followed Hughett into a neighborhood, where he was arrested.

Police say Hughett drove the loader from his workplace.

Online court documents do not list his attorney.

WORD★Roundup™

by David L. Hoyt & Jeff Knurek

Find and Circle...

- Four country capitals starting with B ☐☐☐☐
- Jennifer _____ ☐☐☐☐
- Four mammals starting with L ☐☐☐☐
- Three five-letter words that can follow “hair” ☐☐☐
- Times Square, for example ☐

ANSWERS TO Saturday’s puzzle: BRUSSELS BRASILIA BOGOTA BERN / ANISTON
GARNER LOPEZ BEALS / LEMMING TLAMIA LEMUR LION / COLOR DRYER
STYLE / LANDMARK

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7 LITTLE WORDS

Find the 7 words to match the 7 clues. The numbers in parentheses represent the number of letters in each solution. Each letter combination can be used only once, but all letter combinations will be necessary to complete the puzzle.

- | CLUES | SOLUTIONS |
|------------------------------------|-----------|
| 1 “Castle on a Cloud” singer (7) | _____ |
| 2 London Fog garment (8) | _____ |
| 3 the Sun King’s first name (5) | _____ |
| 4 “Purple Rain” artist (6) | _____ |
| 5 home of the Hurricanes (8) | _____ |
| 6 Snow White’s entourage (7) | _____ |
| 7 “Wind in the Willows” writer (7) | _____ |

RA	GR	INC	SE	LO
CA	UIS	TTE	RO	ES
PRI	RV	OAT	LI	NCE
AHA	DWA	ME	CO	NA

Today’s Answers: 1. COSETTE 2. RAINCOAT 3. LOUIS 4. PRINCE 5. CAROLINA 6. DWARVES 7. GRAHAMME

ODDS & ENDS

BLM seeks stolen mammoth tusk

ANCHORAGE, Alaska (AP) — A federal agency wants its woolly mammoth tusk back.

The Bureau of Land Management in Alaska on Tuesday asked the public’s help in recovering an approximately 10,000-year-old tusk stolen from the Campbell Creek Science Center, an interpretive center in east Anchorage.

The woolly mammoth is Alaska’s official state fossil. The tusk was on display when the center was burglarized March 8. Anchorage police say a thief broke in through a window and took only the tusk, which weighs 100 pounds.

The curved tusk is dark- and light-brown, mottled and about 5.5 feet long. The tusk is 8 inches in diameter on the large end and 6 inches in diameter at the narrow end.

The legal sale of a mammoth tusk depends on whether it’s found on private land. A property owner may sell tusks found on their land. Tusks cannot be sold if found on state or federal land.

The BLM is offering a \$500 reward for the return of its tusk.

Thief tried paying waitress with her own stolen card

PINE BLUFF, Ark. (AP) — Authorities say an Arkansas thief got his just deserts when he tried to pay for a meal using the waitress’ stolen credit card.

Police spokesman Lt. David De Foor said in a news release that officers arrested 21-year-old Shamon West on Tuesday at Shannon’s Restaurant in Pine Bluff. He says that “having no desire to pay for the fellow’s meal,” waitress Flora Lunsford called to report that the man had tried paying for his meal

with her stolen credit card.

De Foor says officers found other items on West that had been in Lunsford’s purse when it was stolen from her car Sunday at a nearby gas station while she was inside, including her Social Security card and driver’s license.

Musician wins suit against ex

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP) — A woman has been ordered to pay more than \$200,000 to her ex-boyfriend for sabotaging his opportunity at a prestigious scholarship because she didn’t want him to leave.

Eric Abramovitz, currently with the Nashville Symphony in Tennessee, is a Canadian clarinetist who in 2013 applied to study at Los Angeles’ Coburn Conservatory of Music. According to the lawsuit filed in Canada’s Ontario Superior Court of Justice, he had been studying the clarinet since he was seven years old and had won many awards.

He had hoped to study at the Coburn Conservatory under Yehuda Gilad, a renowned clarinet teacher who only accepts two clarinet students per year. After a live audition, the conservatory offered him a full scholarship to study with Gilad.

But when his acceptance email came in, his girlfriend Jennifer Lee intercepted the email and deleted it, the lawsuit said. Lee also used his email address to decline the scholarship offer.

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