

Murder suspect transferred to county jail

A murder suspect arrested in September in Boardman was transferred to the Umatilla County Jail last week from the Northern Oregon Regional Correctional Facility, The Dalles.

David Alexander Alvarez was transferred from the juvenile facility

on Wednesday because he turned 18. Alvarez was indicted for the murder of Evencio Salas Birrueta, 27, of Irrigon, on Sept. 11, 2016. Alvarez's pretrial hearing is scheduled for March 2 at 8:15 a.m.

The shooting happened around 9 p.m. on Sept. 11 at the Wilson Road Mobile

Home park in Boardman. Police arrived and found Salas shot in the "shoulder area of the arm." Salas died from the injuries.

Alvarez turned himself over to police in Washington state on Sept. 12, and was lodged at the juvenile facility in the Dalles.



David Alexander Alvarez

Hermiston calls for reserve officers

The Hermiston Police Department is currently looking for volunteer reserve police officers, and will accept applications until 5 p.m. April 3.

Reserve officers' duties are similar to those of full-time police officers, but in a volunteer role. Reserve officers must volunteer a minimum of 12 hours per month, or 36 hours every three months.

To qualify for the role, applicants

must be U.S. citizens, 21 years old, high school graduates, and have clean records and good moral and ethical character. All selected applicants will be subject to a variety of assessments and tests, as well as a background check. Additionally, candidates attend Reserve Officer Academy, which is two evenings per week and several Saturdays.

"Historically, we have had great successes with hiring from our reserve officer program," said Hermiston Police Chief Jason Edmiston. "Of the 27 officers we have now, nine or 33 percent are former HPD reserve officers."

Applications are available at the Hermiston Police Department, 330 S. 1st St., or at the city of Hermiston website.

Safe driving blitz underway on local roads

The Umatilla County Sheriff's Office and other law enforcement agencies are running extra patrols to crack down on unsafe driving.

The Oregon Department of Transportation is funding the effort as part of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's annual "Click It or Ticket" campaign. Participating agencies are putting an emphasis on enforcing laws

on the use of seatbelts and child restraints, texting and speeding. The safe driving blitz runs Feb. 6-19.

Motor vehicle crashes nationwide are the leading cause of death for children 1-12, according to the statement from the sheriff's office. Seat belts reduce fatality risk by 45-60 percent, and child safety seats reduce fatality risk for infants by 71 percent and for toddlers by

59 percent.

The sheriff's office also reported traffic studies show unbelted or improperly

restrained occupants are five times more likely to be ejected from a vehicle, and

the odds of surviving ejection are just one in four. Oregon law requires all occupants to use safety restraints and children weighing less than 40 pounds to use a child seat or harness.

SAFETY LOG

TUESDAY, FEB. 7

12:37 p.m. - A caller at East Sunset Drive, Hermiston, reported that her 18-year-old daughter is out of control, tearing things up.

5:42 p.m. - A caller reported that a suspicious male subject had been banging on his door at West Sunland Avenue, Hermiston.

6:53 p.m. - A caller reported a woman parked in a truck at Bi-Mart on South 1st Place, yelling, "Give me my brother."

8:27 p.m. - A female at Southwest 10th Street and Eskimo Avenue, Hermiston, was hitting a tower and crying, refusing to talk.

10:59 p.m. - A caller reported that her friend showed up at her house after being assaulted at West Orchard Avenue.

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 8

9:39 a.m. - A caller at East Highland Avenue, Hermiston, said she is being harassed on the phone by a man against whom she has an expired restraining order. He has blocked his number and is calling her, and she wants him to stop.

1:19 p.m. - A caller said a dog at Country Squire Estates is in a chain-link kennel, and the tarp has caved in — the dog cannot get out of the elements.

1:25 p.m. - A male was causing a disturbance in front of the emergency room at Good Shepherd Community Hospital on Northwest 11th Street.

2:38 p.m. - A 10-year-old caller reported that someone tried to kick in the door of their home on Southwest 11th Street, Hermiston.

9:00 p.m. - A female tried to sell a resident bread in exchange for cash to buy a phone card, at A Quiet Living Mobile Home Park on Northwest 11th Street, Hermiston.

THURSDAY, FEB. 9

5:26 p.m. - A caller at East Wilshire Avenue, Hermiston, reported a domestic disturbance — her husband kicked her in the foot.

9:46 p.m. - A caller on Northeast Aspen Drive, Hermiston reported that her juvenile brother made suicidal comments.

FRIDAY, FEB. 10

4:09 p.m. - A caller at West Ridge-

way Avenue, Hermiston, reported a silver vehicle tried to run over a male and then left toward Holiday Inn Express.

6:13 p.m. - A woman reported her 18-year-old nephew is in the Good Shepherd emergency room after a gold Nissan tried to run him over 30 minutes before. He couldn't say where the incident occurred.

6:54 p.m. - A counterfeit \$20 bill was reported at Eastside Market on East Main Street, Hermiston.

8:59 p.m. - A woman on North Overlook Drive, Hermiston, reported her adult son has not been heard from since 1:30 p.m.

SATURDAY, FEB. 11

7:18 p.m. - A caller requested help with a child pickup, and said the child's father is threatening to harm her if she arrives.

9:25 p.m. - A caller at Northeast Willow Court reported a runaway.

SUNDAY, FEB. 12

4:23 a.m. - A caller at Cassens Mobile Home Park on Northeast 4th Street, Hermiston, said someone has been knocking on her doors and windows for the last 30 minutes.

2:57 p.m. - A woman reported that her vehicle was egged on East Hurlburt Avenue, Hermiston.

8:25 p.m. - A woman reported her car was broken into while parked at Walmart on North 1st Street, Hermiston.

8:57 p.m. - A caller at Southwest 10th Street reported her foster daughter had run away about two hours ago.

10:54 p.m. - A caller on West Linda Avenue, Hermiston said his friend stated that he is suicidal and planned to kill himself that evening.

MONDAY, FEB. 13

8:46 a.m. - A caller reported someone keyed his car at Armand Larive Middle School on Southwest 9th Street, Hermiston.

9:39 a.m. - A caller reported that her male mule got out of the yard on West Punkin Center Road some time the previous night, and the mule is missing.

7:25 p.m. - A woman reported a runaway from her home at East Dogwood Avenue.

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Cops nabs three wanted men, recover three stolen vehicles

An officer who stopped to help motorists Thursday afternoon near Hermiston instead arrested three suspects who led to the recovery of three stolen vehicles.

Umatilla County undersheriff Jim Littlefield said Loren Westmoreland, an officer with the Umatilla County Community Justice Department, was driving on South Cabana Road near Johnston Lane, Hermiston, when he saw a Honda Civic and a Chevrolet Celebrity with their hoods open. Westmoreland stopped to see if he could help, Littlefield said.

Three men were in the Honda, and Westmoreland ran the license plates of the cars and discovered the Honda was stolen several weeks ago from Atkinson Staffing, 80796 N. Highway 395, Hermiston. The officer also found the license plates on the Chevrolet belonged to another car.

Jesus Pantoja, 26, of

1230 Ridgeway Ave., Hermiston, was behind the wheel of the Honda, so Westmoreland arrested him for possession of a stolen vehicle and for outstanding warrants.

The other men, Rigoberto Tena Rosales, 22, of 230 E. Dogwood Ave., Hermiston, and Luis Alberto Roman, 21, 423 E. Gladys Ave., Hermiston, also had warrants, and Rosales faces a charge of possession of a stolen vehicle for the Chevrolet, which also was from Hermiston. Littlefield said all three men had methamphetamine, so Westmoreland added a drug possession charge to each.

And that license plate belonged to a third stolen vehicle, Littlefield said, which deputies found at Pantoja's residence.

Littlefield said it was good police work. Pantoja, Rosales, and Roman remained in the Umatilla County Jail, Pendleton, as of Friday.



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Sunday:

Sunday School.....10:00 am

Worship.....11:00 am

Evening Service.....7:00 pm

Wednesday Service..7:00 pm

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1 Pet. 5:7



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Sun. Evening Worship.....6:00pm

Wed. Prayer & Bible Study.....6:00pm

www.hermistonlmbc.com

Echo Community Church

21 N. Bonanza Street, Echo OR

Phone: (541) 376-8108

Sunday School • 9:30am

Worship • 10:45am

Children's Church • 11:15am

Potluck & Communion ~

First Sunday of the Month

Our Lady of Angels Catholic Church

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DAILY MASS: Monday-Friday

.....English 7:00 am

Thursday.....Spanish 6:00 pm

SATURDAY.....English 5:00 pm

.....Spanish 7:00 pm

SUNDAY.....English 9:00 am

.....Bilingual 11:00 am

.....Spanish 1:00 pm

Office.....567-5812

Grace Baptist Church

555 SW 11th, Hermiston

567-9497

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Sunday School - 9:30 AM

Worship - 10:45 AM

6:00 pm

Wed Prayer & Worship - 7:00 PM

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Echo announces changes in downtown businesses

Some changes are occurring in the business community in Echo.

City administrator Diane Berry reports Pamela and Dana Reese will be opening a new coffee shop in the former Wheat & Barley Pub on Main Street. Their hours will be from 6 a.m. to 4 p.m. They will serve sandwiches and baked goods.

In addition, Gathered Over Time Antiques has been purchased by Connie Ramsay and she re-opened Feb. 2 as Rendezvous Vintage.

Also, Brandi George of Echo Station has expanded

her shop into the back part of the Mercantile Building, which allows more space for antiques and collectibles.

SAGE Center hosts job fair

People can learn about career opportunities and meet with employers who are actively hiring during the Agriculture & Energy Job Fair.

The event is Wednesday, March 1 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the SAGE Center, 101 Olson Road, Boardman. Participants can also learn about education and training for high demand positions.

For more information call 541-481-7243 or go to www.visitsage.com.



To share your worship times call Terri Briggs 541-278-2678