

DEATH NOTICES

Peggy L. (Huff) Fetter Burton

Hermiston

April 29, 1934 — Feb. 1, 2022

Peggy L. (Huff) Fetter Burton, 87, of Hermiston, died Feb. 1, 2022, in Hermiston. She was born April 29, 1934, in Bemidji, Minnesota. Services are pending. Arrangements are with Burns Mortuary of Hermiston. Share memories at www.burnsmortuaryhermiston.com.

Charlie E. 'Chuck' Gee

Richland, Washington

Sept. 16, 1947 — Jan. 29, 2022

Charlie E. "Chuck" Gee, 74, of Richland, Washington, died Jan. 29, 2022, in Moses Lake, Washington. He was born Sept. 16, 1947, in Lebanon. A graveside

service with military honors will be Friday, Feb. 11, 11:30 a.m. at Willamette National Cemetery, Portland. Arrangements are with Burns Mortuary of Hermiston. Share memories at www.burnsmortuaryhermiston.com.

Damon Wesley Locke

Hermiston

Oct. 21, 1976 — Feb. 4, 2022

Damon Wesley Locke, 45, of Hermiston, died Feb. 4, 2022, in Hermiston. He was born Oct. 21, 1976, in Pendleton, the son of Wesley and Carol (Rueber) Locke. A graveside service will be Friday Feb. 11, 1 p.m. at Olney Cemetery, Pendleton. Arrangements are with Burns Mortuary of Hermiston. Share memories at www.burnsmortuaryhermiston.com.

BIRTHS

Good Shepherd Medical Center, Hermiston**Jan. 20, 2022**

BISSINGER — Rebeca Kay Bissinger and Chance Tyler Bissinger of Pendleton: a boy, Ocean Jo Tyler Bissinger.

Jan. 23, 2022

BANKER — Breyanna Naylor and Taylor Banker of Hermiston: a girl, Solynn Marie Banker.

Jan. 26, 2022

EICKSTAEDT — Whitney Hoffman and Andrew Eickstaedt of Hermiston: a boy, Garrett James Eickstaedt.

COURTS

SENTENCES

The following sentences were have been filed in Umatilla County Circuit Court (interest, court costs and fees not listed):

Case Laurence Weems, of Rupert, Idaho, pleaded guilty to 2021 charges of felony fleeing, resisting arrest and second-degree criminal mischief; sentenced to two years probation and \$350 in fines. Bridgette Ann Packard, 34, of Stanfield, pleaded guilty to charges of giving false information to a police officer, and a jury convicted her on counts of possession and delivery of methamphetamine; sentenced to 15 months incarceration with the Oregon Department of Corrections, and two years of post-prison supervision.

LAWSUITS

The following lawsuits have been filed in Umatilla County Circuit Court (interest, court costs and fees not listed):

Michael J. Johnson, of Weston, vs. William J. Steele, of Haines, seeks \$843.

State Farm Fire and Casualty Insurance vs.

Robin Jean Callahan, Daniel Charles Callahan, Tanner Ervin Callahan, all of Pendleton, seeks

\$188,181.31.

Granite Construction Co., of Californian, vs. Home Run Land LLC, of Hermiston; Lloyd and Lois Piercy, of Hermiston; and Bank of Eastern Oregon: seeks \$300,802.92.

The following lawsuits have been filed in Morrow County Circuit Court (interest, court costs and fees not listed):

Les Schwab Tire Centers of Portland LLC, of Heppner, vs. Kenneth Browne, of Boardman, seeks \$1,592.17.

MARRIAGES

Marriage licenses have been registered in Umatilla County for:

Pedro Ivan Sanchez Santana, 26, and Thalia

Michelle Russell, 28, both of Hermiston.

Summer Jewell Richmond, 36, and Melvin Ernes-to Valladares, 43, both of Hermiston.

Jahmal Andrelle Crawford, 25, and Teresa Jeanete Fernandez, 35, both of Hermiston.

Douglas Dee Bennett, 88, of Echo, and Ruth M. Otis, 83, of Hermiston.

Mathew Allen Underwood, 41, and Toni Michelle Bentler, 55, both of Hermiston.

intersection of South Highway 395 and South Dunne Street, Stanfield, to remove flowers from the road that were causing a traffic hazard.

SATURDAY, FEB. 5

11:47 a.m. — A vehicle caught fire at Boardman Marina & RV Park, 1 Marine Drive N.E., Boardman, and people used extinguishers to put out the fire.

3 p.m. — Emergency services responded to a vehicle that rolled at Stock Drive Lane and Stoke Drive Road, Heppner. An ambulance took a person to Pioneer Memorial Hospital, Heppner. Morrow County Sheriff's Office arrested a woman for two counts of reckless endangerment and released her. Deputies also cited her for not carrying insurance and not having a driver's license.

8:03 p.m. — Hermiston police responded to a report of an assault on the 600 block of East Ridgeway Avenue.

SUNDAY, FEB. 6

10:56 a.m. — A 911 caller reported she was picking up garbage at the intersection of North Ott and East Punkin Center roads, Hermiston, when she came across a dog food bag that was heavy and emanating a foul order. She requested a Umatilla County sheriff's deputy check out the bag.

5:06 p.m. — A caller reported a male tried to get into a vehicle at the U.S. Postal Service, 200 First St. N.W., Boardman, and still was in the parking lot. Boardman police responded and arrested a man for resisting arrest, giving false information to police and second-degree criminal trespass. Police also cited another man for second-degree criminal trespass.

9:27 p.m. — A man at a residence on Southwest Second Street, Irrigon, reported his girlfriend threw a bottle at his car and broke the window. Morrow County sheriff's deputies responded and trespassed the man, who did not want to pursue charges.

MONDAY, FEB. 7

10:33 a.m. — A caller reported the theft of tools and scrap wire on East Feedville Road, Hermiston.

4:16 p.m. — Local law enforcement responded to a residence on Northeast North Street, Hermiston, on a report of a burglary in progress. Umatilla County Sheriff's Office cited a person.

ARRESTS, CITATIONS**Feb. 2**

• Hermiston police arrested Gerardo Venegas, 32, for first-degree criminal mischief (vandalism).

• Morrow County Sheriff's Office arrested Jennika Mendoza for driving under the influence of intoxicants after a caller at 5:03 p.m. on Southwest Second Street, Irrigon, reported a relative struck his wife and was heading to work intoxicated.

Feb. 4

• Boardman police arrested Casey Luna Lopez, 31, for third-degree assault.

Feb. 5

• Hermiston police arrested Jacob Richard Mack, 27, for third-degree robbery, fourth-degree assault and second-degree theft.

Eagles along the Columbia



Ben Lonergan/Hermiston Herald

A bald eagle Friday, Feb. 4, 2022, perches atop a tree at the McNary Beach Recreation Area in Umatilla. Above: An immature bald eagle Friday, Feb. 4, 2022, soars over the Columbia River at the McNary Beach Recreation Area in Umatilla.



Ben Lonergan/Hermiston Herald

An immature bald eagle Friday, Feb. 4, 2022, soars over the Columbia River at the McNary Beach Recreation Area in Umatilla.

Report: Oregon bridges continue to age, deteriorate

By **PETER WONG**
Oregon Capital Bureau

The latest report about bridge conditions on state highways offers bad and good news for Oregon motorists and truck drivers.

The good news: ODOT is making progress in seismic reinforcement of state bridges, and work is scheduled to start later this year on the George Abernethy Bridge, built in 1970, which carries Interstate 205 across the Willamette River between West Linn and Oregon City. The work will eventually cover nine bridges in a seven-mile stretch of I-205 between Stafford Road and state Highway 213 in Oregon City.

The bad news in the 2021 report released last month by the Oregon Department of Transportation: The percentage of Oregon bridges deemed to be in "good condition" continues to fall, from 40% two decades ago, to 24% in 2021. While Oregon has relatively few state bridges in poor condition, the report also says ODOT is hovering at the edge of the 78% goal it set for bridges maintained in fair condition, and that percentage has been dropping for the past five years.

Time is working against state bridges, more than half of which were built before 1970, during the interstate highway era. A bridge has a normal lifespan of 50 years, although its usefulness can be extended.

Under a 2017 state transportation financing law, \$12 million is generated annually for bridge repairs, up from \$10 million back in 2018. The recent federal infrastructure financing law, which President Joe Biden signed on Nov. 15, will yield a total of \$268 million more earmarked for

bridge repairs over the next five or six years. The federal law also offers opportunities for states to seek competitive grants for bridge work.

Still, at the current rate of three bridges annually, it will take 900 years to replace the 2,750 bridges in the state system. ODOT estimates its bridge maintenance backlog at \$5 billion.

Robert Van Brocklin of Portland, chairman of the Oregon Transportation Commission, said the new federal funding helps with bridges and other transportation needs — but it is not enough.

"We can make progress on many of our goals, but we cannot solve the vast majority of our funding problems with the money from this legislation," he said in a statement after a commission meeting Jan. 20. "We also need to pursue other revenue sources to produce sustainable transportation funding to invest in a reliable, diverse transportation system."

The bridge problem is not new. After state highway officials posted load limits on some bridges on Interstate 5 — Oregon's main north-south corridor — the 2003 Legislature approved a \$2.5-billion financing plan, \$1.6 billion of which went to fixing state and local bridges on key freight routes.

In addition to I-5 and I-84, Oregon's main east-west route, ODOT identified these highways as Fix-It priority routes a decade ago: U.S. Highway 97 through Central Oregon; U.S. Highway 20 between Bend and Burns, U.S. Highway 26 between Portland and the north coast, state Highway 18 from the Portland area to the coast; parts of U.S. Highway 101 on the coast,

and state Highway 58 from south of Eugene to Highway 97.

But the report says important bridges, such as the Columbia Slough Bridge that offers access to the industrial area on Marine Drive in Portland, are left out because they are not on state highways and not on priority routes. Built in 1933, the main span of that bridge has steel girders supported by a concrete foundation, but 11 other spans are timber.

Unlike pavement conditions on highways, there are few alternatives for poor conditions on bridges, other than load limits or long detours.

As for seismic reinforcement, the ODOT report says that work has been done on the northern half of vulnerable bridges on U.S. Highway 97 — a north-south route that cuts through Central Oregon — and construction will start on bridges in the southern half.

Of four seismic projects in Southern Oregon, one is complete, one is under construction, and two are in design.

The Abernethy Bridge retrofitting will start with new foundations and a widening of lanes. A total of nine I-205 bridges between Stafford Road and the Highway 213 interchange in Oregon City will be retrofitted or replaced, depending on surveys. When the project is completed, the Abernethy Bridge will be the first at a major river crossing in Oregon that is built to withstand a major earthquake.

"We are hopeful that there will be more opportunities to apply for additional funds" under the federal law for other projects, the report says.

POLICE LOG

TUESDAY, FEB. 1

2:04 p.m. — A man in custody at the Umatilla County Jail, Pendleton, told the Morrow County Sheriff's Office he wanted to report the thefts of two vehicles. A deputy contacted the man and informed him he could not report vehicle as stolen that were not registered to him.

10:56 p.m. — An 18-year-old woman in Boardman reported her boyfriend assaulted her. She said she was driving and wanted to make contact with a Morrow County sheriff's deputy. The sheriff's office, Boardman police and the Boardman ambulance responded.

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 2

12:51 a.m. — Hermiston police responded to the 600 block of Northwest 11th Street after a caller reported an assault. Police took a report.

12:59 p.m. — A Hermiston resident asked to speak to a detective about fraud. He said a company in California gave him \$4,270 and then took \$1,000 from his account.

2:04 p.m. — Hermiston police initiated activity at Northeast 10th Street regarding a fight.

3:20 p.m. — A Hermiston resident came to the police department and asked to speak to an officer about a scam. She said she received phone calls all day from a company stating she did not pick up a phone that she won, so now she will have to pay them \$1,000 or she will go to jail. She said she has not sent any money.

6:35 p.m. — A trailer fell off a semi at Lamb Weston, 78153 Westland Road, Hermiston, and a car crashed into the trailer.

THURSDAY, FEB. 3

8:14 a.m. — A 911 caller reported someone tried to open her car door while she was in the car with her child on Joy Lane, Hermiston. Law enforcement responded.

4:13 p.m. — Law enforcement responded to a 911 call at Enterprise Rent-A-Car, 80515 Highway 395, Hermiston, on a report of two customers being aggressive with the employee and refusing to leave.

8:10 p.m. — A caller at Columbia View Apartments, 100 Columbia Ave N.W., Boardman, reported he was walking to his apartment when a male assaulted him and threatened to hit him with a rock, and a rock did strike him on the back of the head.

FRIDAY, FEB. 4

2:58 p.m. — Police responded to a 911 call reporting an accident at Columbia Harvest Foods, 1411 Sixth St., Umatilla, where a female driver backed a vehicle into multiple vehicles.

3:11 p.m. — A caller reported a female was lying in the middle of the road at Southeast 13th Street and Idaho Avenue, Irrigon. The Morrow County Sheriff's Office responded and arrested a woman for second-degree disorderly conduct.

5:38 p.m. — A 911 caller at Frontier Court, 105 Main St. S., Boardman, reported a vehicle struck a female. Law enforcement and an ambulance responded, and a man received a citation for driving while suspended.

11:44 p.m. — An officer initiated activity at the

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