

# WWII CASUALTY FINALLY COMES HOME



Staff photo by E.J. Harris

Verla Tomlinson of Spokane looks over funeral arrangements Tuesday with Pendleton Pioneer Chapel, Folsom-Bishop funeral home director Ron Martin in Pendleton. Tomlinson is making interment arrangements for her brother, Army Air Corps Staff Sgt. Ray Thompson, who died when his bomber crashed in the jungles of Papua New Guinea, during World War II.

## Thomson will be laid to rest after almost 70 years

By KATHY ANEY  
East Oregonian

Almost 70 years after a World War II airman crashed in a Papua New Guinea jungle, his family will bury him in a Pendleton cemetery.

Army Air Corps Staff Sgt. Ray Thompson, 25, and nine

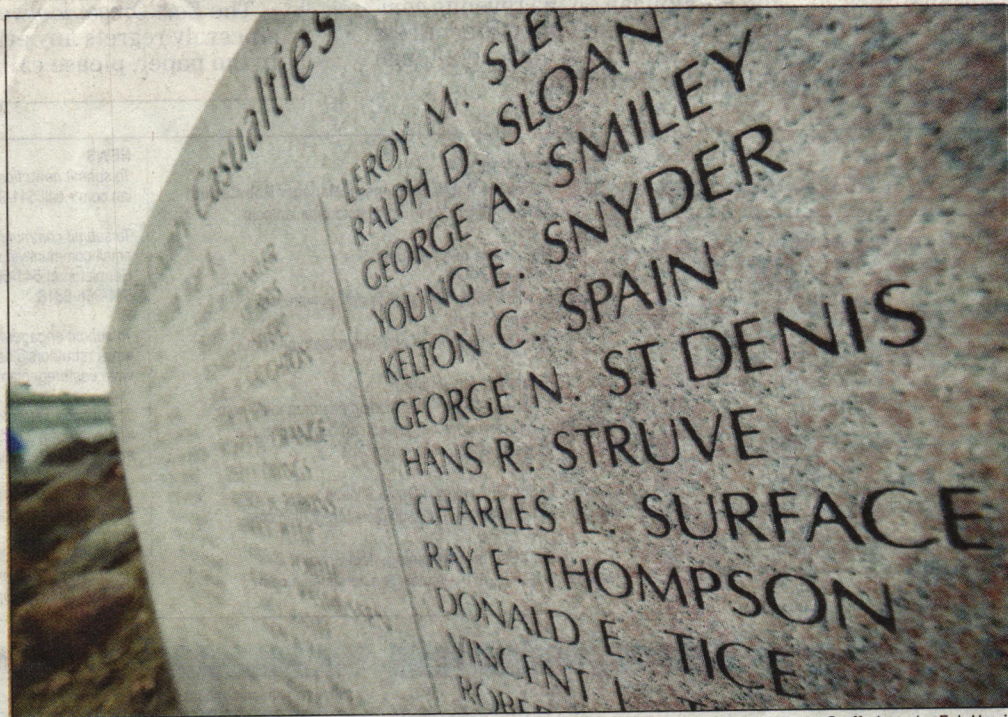
other men vanished from the sky in 1944. The B-24 crew took off on a bombing mission and never arrived at the target.



S/Sgt. Thompson

The Army declared him dead two years later.

In 1973, 2002 and 2008, B-24 wreckage and remains of the 10 airmen were discovered at three different sites. DNA testing identified some of the bones as Thompson's. Verla Tomlinson, the last of the six Thompson siblings, found out in November that



Staff photo by E.J. Harris

Army Air Corps Staff Sgt. Ray Thompson's name is etched on a memorial in the Veterans Memorial Garden at Pendleton Pioneer Chapel, Folsom-Bishop Funeral Home in Pendleton.

she finally could bury her big brother.

While growing up in their

Pendleton home, Ray was her gentle protector and the one who settled sibling

squabbles, crafted scooters

See THOMPSON /8A



se the safety of our  
 icked into the motel  
 under his own name,  
 wasn't recognized un-  
 norning when a desk  
 vision story about the  
 ed the Lincoln City po-  
 id.  
 made threats against  
 nis family and law en-  
 while behind bars,  
 epartment spokesman  
 said Tuesday. But au-  
 t'n't learn of the threats  
 e bodies of the grand-  
 found and authorities  
 ooking for Boysen.  
 went to our staff at the  
 rectional Center and  
 had been threatening to  
 Lewis said.  
 ation was passed on to  
 eputies, and that's why  
 Sheriff John Urquhart

member who became concerned  
 that the couple hadn't answered  
 their door.  
 Authorities haven't said how they  
 died. Investigators determined that  
 Boysen had been searching the In-  
 ternet for gun shows.  
 The motive for the killings re-  
 mains unknown, King County  
 sheriff's Sgt. Cindi West said.  
 "Between the family and detec-  
 tives we have no idea," she said. "It's  
 just bizarre. The family loved and  
 supported him the whole time he  
 was in prison."  
 On Tuesday, the King County med-  
 ical examiner's office identified the  
 couple as Robert R. Taylor, 82, and  
 Norma J. Taylor, 80. The couple died  
 Saturday. The cause and manner of  
 their deaths remains under investi-  
 gation, the medical examiner said.  
 Associated Press writers Jeff Barnard  
 in Grants Pass, Ore., and Doug Esser  
 in Seattle contributed to this report.

Pendleton Public Library, 502  
 S.W. Dorion Ave., Pendleton.  
 Learn how to access the Internet  
 easily and safely. Free, but regis-  
 tration required. (541-966-0380).  
**PRESCHOOL STORY TIME,**  
 10:15 a.m., Pendleton Public Li-  
 brary children's area, 502 S.W.  
 Dorion Ave. (541-966-0380).  
**STORY TIME,** 11:15 a.m. to  
 noon, Hermiston Public Library,  
 235 E. Gladys Ave., Hermiston.  
 (541-567-2882).  
**LENTEN LUNCH,** 11 a.m. to 1  
 p.m., First United Methodist  
 Church, 352 S.E. Second St.,  
 Pendleton. Lunch includes Carrot  
 Chowder or Cheesy Taco soup,  
 bread, pie and beverage for \$7,  
 soup and bread only for \$4.50 or  
 pie and coffee for \$3.50. (541-  
 276-2616).  
**SIMPLE SCIENCE,** 3:45-4:45  
 p.m., Children's Museum of East-  
 ern Oregon, 400 S. Main St.,  
 Pendleton. Children will learn  
 about bones, rock and fossils and  
 create their own fossil imprint.  
 Free, but preregistration required.  
 (541-276-1066).  
**MID-WEEK LENTEN WOR-  
 SHIP SERVICE,** 6 p.m. light soup  
 supper, 7 p.m. worship service,  
 Peace Lutheran Church, 210  
 N.W. Ninth St., Pendleton. Ser-  
 mon: "The Prodigal Son" with Rev.  
 Quinton Kimbrow.  
**NUTS AND BOLTS OF FACE-  
 BOOK FOR BUSINESS,** 6 p.m.,  
 Freestyle Pizza, 1226 Sixth St.,  
 Umatilla. Learn how social media  
 can be helpful to your business.  
 \$20 for Umatilla Chamber mem-  
 bers, \$30 for non-members, \$5 for  
 each additional person from your  
 business. Tickets are available at  
 the Umatilla Chamber office.  
**SOUP SUPPER AND VES-  
 PERS SERVICE,** 6 p.m. soup is  
 served, service begins at 6:45  
 p.m., Good Shepherd Lutheran  
 Church, 420 Locust Road, Board-  
 man. Free. (541-481-6132).  
**CRIBBAGE NIGHT,** 6:30 p.m.,  
 Great Pacific Wine & Coffee Co.,

**THURSDAY,  
 MARCH 14**  
**DRIVER SAFETY WORK-  
 SHOP,** 8:45 a.m. to 4 p.m.,  
 Tamastlikt Cultural Institute,  
 47106 Wildhorse Blvd. Pendleton  
 OR Hermiston Municipal Court,  
 330 S. First St., Hermiston. Fo-  
 cused on ages 50 and over but  
 all ages are welcome. Cost is \$12  
 for AARP members, \$14 for non-  
 members (must show proof of  
 membership), and class is limited  
 to 25. A lunch break will be pro-  
 vided; bring a sack lunch or make  
 arrangements. Pre-registration is  
 required. (Pendleton: Georgina  
 O'Connell 541-443-2231; Her-  
 miston: 541-667-5092).  
**INDUSTRIAL FORUM,** 1-3:30  
 p.m., Port of Morrow Riverview  
 Room, 2 Marine Drive, Boardman.  
 Panel discussion on regional in-  
 dustrial development trends, site  
 demands for depot's industrial de-  
 velopment prospects. (Dr. Donald  
 Chance 541-481-4693).  
**CULINARY KIDS,** 3:45-4:45  
 p.m., Children's Museum of East-  
 ern Oregon, 400 S. Main St.,  
 Pendleton. Children will prepare  
 green eggs and ham and learn  
 cooking skills. Cost is \$1 for  
 members, \$2 for non-members.  
 Preregistration is required. (541-  
 276-1066).  
**ARC OF UMATILLA COUNTY  
 BINGO,** 6 p.m. doors open, bing-  
 o starts at 7 p.m. 215 W.  
 Orchard Ave., Hermiston. (541-  
 567-7615).  
**ROUND-UP UNIVERSITY:  
 EARLY FATHERS,** 6 p.m., Ham-  
 ley Slickfork Saloon, 8 S.E. Court  
 Ave., Pendleton. Professor  
 Lucia Dawson will share information  
 on Roy Raley, Til Taylor and Wal-  
 lace Smith. Free admission. Buffet  
 dinner available for \$10.  
**FAMILY STORY TIME,** 6:30-  
 7:15 p.m., Pendleton Public  
 Library children's area, 502 S.W.  
 Dorion Ave., Pendleton. Books,  
 songs and activities for entire fam-  
 ily. (541-966-0380).

# Cigarette tax by \$1 a pack

at sell tobacco prod-  
 extremely regressive  
 tians," said Mark Nel-  
 st for R.J. Reynolds  
 any and 7-Eleven Inc.,  
 ience stores sell about  
 orth of cigarettes each  
 n.  
 oduct that people are  
 ight encourage them to  
 ending that could im-  
 alth in order to pay for  
 on, said Rep. Jason  
 id.  
 l moral hazard in this  
 r said, noting he's not  
 icking cigarettes out of  
 oung people.  
 ack, Oregon's tobacco  
 in the country and be-  
 nal average of \$1.49,  
 lermann-Franzen, ad-

vocacy and communications man-  
 ger at the American Lung  
 Association.  
 The tax hike would discourage  
 children from smoking and would al-  
 so encourage some adults to quit  
 smoking or smoke fewer cigarettes,  
 she said.  
 "We're going to see their health  
 outcomes improve, we're going to  
 see their quality of life improve too,"  
 Hermann-Franzen said.  
 Because it raises revenue, an in-  
 crease in the cigarette tax would  
 require support from three-fifths of  
 the House and Senate, which would  
 require bipartisan support in the  
 Democrat-controlled Senate.  
 Rep. Vicki Berger, of Salem, the  
 top Republican on the revenue com-  
 mittee, told The Associated Press  
 that the measure would be a tough  
 sell among Republicans.

## Corrections

The East Oregonian works hard to be accurate and sincerely regrets any errors. If you notice a mistake in the paper, please call 541-966-0818.

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To submit community events, calendar items and Your EO News: email community@eastoregonian.com or call Tammy Malgesini in Hermiston at 541-564-4539 or Renee Struthers in Pendleton 541-966-0818.

To submit engagements, weddings and anniversaries: email rstruthers@eastoregonian.com or visit www.eastoregonian.com/community/announcements

To submit a Letter to the Editor: mail to Managing Editor Daniel Wattenburger, 211 S.E. Byers Ave. Pendleton, OR 97801 or email editor@eastoregonian.com.

To submit sports or outdoors information or tips: 541-966-0838 • sports@eastoregonian.com

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## Forecast

**TURSDAY** **SUNDAY**

Breezy with periods of sun  
 Windy with clouds and sun

**EAST**  
 2° 41° 64° 38°

### REGIONAL CITIES

	Today			Thu.		
	Hi	Lo	W	Hi	Lo	W
Astoria	57	46	r	55	45	c
Baker	61	35	c	64	36	pc
Kend	64	38	c	66	36	pc
Brookings	61	45	c	58	41	pc
Burns	62	32	c	66	35	pc
Enterprise	61	38	c	65	42	pc
Eugene	63	43	c	61	46	c
Heppner	66	44	c	66	45	pc
Hermiston	69	43	c	69	39	pc
John Day	64	42	c	66	35	pc
Klamath Falls	65	36	pc	64	32	pc
La Grande	65	42	c	68	45	pc

