

Woman, 3 Grandchildren Killed On N.D. Reservation

NEW TOWN, N.D. (AP) — A well-kept northwestern North Dakota home teemed with FBI investigators Monday as they tried to piece together evidence in the grisly week-end shooting deaths of a woman and three of her grandchildren.

In a nearby community, a man described only as a "person of interest" in the killings apparently killed himself just hours after their deaths.

Martha Johnson, 64, and three of her grandchildren — Benjamin Schuster, 13, Julia Schuster, 10 and Luke Schuster, 6 — were gunned down in the home Sunday afternoon, Mountrail County Sheriff Ken Halvorson said. Johnson's husband was out hunting. A fourth grandchild, a 12-year-old boy, was in the home but wasn't hurt and called 911, the sheriff said.

New Town is on an American Indian reservation called Fort Berthold. The suicide that followed occurred in Parshall, a reservation community about 20 miles from New Town. The man, in his 20s, killed himself with a knife in front of a deputy and a highway patrolman, Halvorson said.

Authorities declined to identify the "person of interest," but did say he was an enrolled tribal member. Neither Johnson nor her grandchildren were members, Halvorson said.

The FBI is leading the investigation into the deaths because the federal government has jurisdiction over crimes on reservations. FBI spokesman Kyle Loven declined to release details, citing the ongoing investigation.

He said late Monday that the name of the man who killed himself and what role — if any — he played in the deaths would not be released until authorities pieced together what happened.

Both Halvorson and the FBI said they didn't think there was any danger to the public, but New Town, a community of fewer than 2,000 residents, remained on edge Monday. Slayings are relatively rare in North Dakota, which is home to fewer than 700,000 people. FBI statistics show that in 2011, only 24 murders and non-negligent manslaughters occurred.

Megan Hale, 22, lives across the street from the Johnsons' home. She said that the youngsters seemed to have moved in with Martha and Harley Johnson recently. She never saw the children's mother, whom authorities declined to identify.

Hale knew Martha Johnson as a friendly neighbor.

"She was a nice lady. She was always out in the yard working," she said. "It's very sad. It's unreal."

School

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pliance with SB 183, which defines "sexting" as a Class One misdemeanor. In addition, the policy protects students' privacy in regards to some students posting images of teachers and classmates on Facebook pages without consent.

"There are some nasty things going on with the use of cell phones," said YSD superintendent Dr. Joe Gertsema. "This will be an evolving policy and gives some additional guidance to administrators in the district."

Gertsema added that phones and other devices can be used in a positive way. For instance, some teachers use them to have instant surveys or informal exams in the classroom.

The school board also made changes to the textbook loaning policy. The change puts the district in line with SB 186 which now includes both digital and print textbooks but does not yet include any digital hardware as part of the law.

The board heard a report from Lt. Mike Burgeson of the Yankton Police Department about joint programs between the district and police, including the D.A.R.E. program, and a potential school resource officer program in the future.

"We want to create an effective learning environment with the safety and security of students and teachers in mind," he said. "There is mutual respect and cooperation between the police department and the school district."

Additional agenda items included:

- Authorizing the business manager, Jason Bietz, to define the scope of work and advertise proposals from energy performance contractors
- Accepting a proposal from Discovery Benefits for COBRA administrative services for the YSD employee medical and prescription drug benefit plan
- Members heard a report from Mount Marty College professor Nick Shudak on the new Master of Education program

At the end of the meeting, officials met in executive session to discuss negotiations and a personnel matter.

You can follow Andrew Atwal on Twitter at twitter.com/andrewatwal

NOV. 23, 24, 25
WRECK IT RALPH
DIGITAL UP AND RUNNING!
Fri. 7:30 PM • Sat. 7:30 PM • Sun. 4 PM
Students \$2.00 Adults \$5.00
Idle Hour Theatre
Tripp, SD

Joe's Substation
Rural Lesterville • 605-364-7414
Will Be Closing at 1:00pm Wednesday, November 21st
(no chicken buffet that night)
Happy Thanksgiving

Rounding 3rd Bar & Casino
304 W. 3rd, Yankton
Scheduled Entertainment
Music Starts at 9PM
Nov. 34/24.....Onward Etc.
Nov. 30..... No Music
Tattoo Contest
Dec. 1.....Mike & Jay
Party Room Available **BOOK YOUR CHRISTMAS PARTIES NOW!**

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Sunday, Nov. 25th
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Buffalo @ Indianapolis
Tennessee @ Jacksonville
Denver @ Kansas City
Minnesota @ Chicago
Atlanta @ Tampa Bay
Seattle @ Miami
Late Games
Baltimore @ San Diego
San Francisco @ New Orleans
St. Louis @ Arizona
Night Game
Green Bay @ New York Giants
Monday, Nov. 26th
Carolina @ Philadelphia

VFW Post 791
209 Cedar
OPEN TO THE PUBLIC
Wednesday & Sunday
5-7pm Cooks Choice
Thursday
6-7pm – Domestic Beers \$1.50
5-7pm – Hamburger/ Pizza Burger & Fries \$5.00
Friday
Karaoke with Papa Ray 9pm-1am
Hot Turkey Sandwich Serving 5:30-8:00
Saturday
No Band
Regular Menu 5:30-8:00
Bingo Wed. at 7:00pm Sunday at 6:30pm
Happy Hour M-F 4:30-7:30
Chislic Served Last Wednesday of Each Month

Out On The Town

Lutefisk Dinner
Saturday, December 8th • 5-8pm
prepared by Kip & Doug Larson
Reservations Only Please Call by Nov. 23rd
605-665-3562 after 3pm
VFW Post 791
209 Cedar, Yankton

WJ Ranch 11th Annual COWBOY CHRISTMAS
Saturday & Sunday, Nov. 24-25
10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. each day
(Located 7 mi south of Yankton, SD just off Hyw. 81)

- Horse & Buggy Rides Each Afternoon
- Pony Rides Each Afternoon
- Trick Roping Shows
- Crafts For Kids
- Family Activities
- Refreshments

Hey Kids! I'll be at the ranch on Saturday at 1 p.m.!

Come Meet Letta, the Christmas Pony!
Featuring: Clothing, Primitives, Western Decor, Florals, Jewelry, Metal Work, Pottery, Woodworking, Candles, Christmas Decor, Food Gifts & More!
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Extends an Invitation to All Former Members of Charlie Battery to the 15th Annual
CASINO NIGHT
Saturday, Dec. 1st
Riverfront Events Center • Cost: \$14/person

1800-1830	Social Hour
1830-1930	Buffet
1930-2000	Program
2000-2400	Casino Open

For more information, please RSVP by Nov. 23rd
605.668.3045
Jay.Pipes@us.army.mil

Godfather's Pizza
\$6.00 Buffet
All Day, Everyday!
Includes Drink AND Tax!
Lunch Buffet
Monday-Sunday 11-1:30
Evening Buffet
Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday Night
5:00-7:30
Not good with other coupons or senior discounts. Some restrictions apply.
2101 Broadway, Yankton, SD **605.665-2525**
ULTIMATE FEAST \$26.99
Large Specialty, Large 1-Topping and Medium Dessert Streusel
Present coupon when ordering. Valid at participating locations. Not valid with any other specials or coupons. Delivery extra. Add \$1.00 for Mozza-Loaded Crust. Sales tax not included. Expires 1/7/13.

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Monday's Earn Double Points on Players Club Card from 11AM-2PM and 6PM-8PM
Saturday, November 24th
\$50 Cash Drawings
Every 1/2 Hour from 7:30PM to Midnight
Snow Blower Drawing at 10:00PM
(Must earn 25 pts. to receive a entry form)
OHIYA RESTAURANT
November 22 Thanksgiving Day
All Day Buffet \$12.00
OHIYA BINGO
Thursday & Friday
\$16 Pays \$50, \$7 X-tra Packet
Saturday
\$20 Pays \$75, \$7 X-tra Packet
Warm-Ups 6:00PM, Reg. Session 6:30PM

Mgmt. has the right to make changes at any given time.

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