DEAR READER

Welcome to the Murder at Raccoon Ranch, a murder mystery for teens and adults!

In these pages you will learn about the murder of Julia Wilson, a rich widow, and the reasons her family may have wanted to dispose of her. The mystery is designed to be difficult to solve from the case file alone. Don’t worry, if you’re stumped you will have a chance to question the suspects on October 27, 2018, at the Downtown Library.

You can visit https://aadl.org/murderatraccoonranch for more information. Three winners will be randomly selected from participants who submit the correct answer during the Meet & Greet and will receive a gift card from a local business.

GOOD LUCK AND HAPPY SLEUTHING!
NARRATIVE:

On October 13, 2018 at 10:32 a.m., I was dispatched to Raccoon Ranch mansion after dispatcher relayed a report of a dead body. I was met by Walter Wilson and Krysta Wilson on my arrival, and escorted to Julia Wilson’s bedroom. I observed Mary Wilson, Biff Wilson, and Christina Hautala sitting in the living room area of the house as we proceeded to the bedroom. I was able to see the body of the victim upon entering the bedroom. The victim was facedown, collapsed at the foot of her bed. I checked for a pulse and found none. It was evident from touching the body that the victim was deceased, a call was placed for backup and a coroner to confirm the death.

The victim was wearing a white bathrobe. Blood was evident on hair and the back of the robe. A wound at the back of the head was visible through the hair. The room appeared to be in good order. Walter and Krysta confirmed that nothing was missing from the room, and neither had noticed anything missing from the house.

Walter reported that he found the body earlier that morning, around 09:45 a.m., after noticing that the victim usually would have been out of bed by that time. He remarked upon the irregularity and went to check on his sister. He entered the room and found the body. Walter reports shaking the body before deciding to call for help. A 911 call was placed at that time.

A brief interview with Walter and Krysta confirmed that the only known individuals in the house were Walter, Krysta, Biff, Mary, and Christina. No other individuals were known to have entered or exited the house before around 5:00 p.m. the day before, October 12, 2018.

Interviews were conducted with the persons present when the body was found. Further steps will be determined after receiving the coroner’s report.
Daly: I’m sorry about the death of your sister. I’m sure this must be hard for you, but I’d like to ask you some questions about the events of last night.

Walter: Is this really necessary? I’ve had to wait all this time, and now this!

D: I’m sorry about the wait. Unfortunately, there’s only one of me. I’m hoping to get a timeline of events and eliminate people from the investigation. This is just standard procedure.

W: I see. Well, I’m really not sure what I can possibly tell you.

D: Just what happened yesterday evening, as you remember it.

W: I spent most of my evening in my room.

D: Why was that?

W: Oh! That Mary came in and demanded there be some sort of board meeting for their ridiculous raccoon charity. I offered my help, I have so many ideas about how they could improve things, but of course I wasn’t allowed! They exiled me—in my own home!

D: That must have been upsetting.

W: Of course it was! Well, I took myself up to my room and I had a nice bath and read my book. Then I went to sleep.

D: Is that all you did last night?

W: Well, I would remember.

D: Okay. Do you remember anything unusual about last night? Anything out of place or someone acting strangely?

W: Well, besides being unceremoniously kicked out of a room so that they could have some sort of secret raccoon meeting, no nothing out of the ordinary.

(Continued:)
Continued:

**VOLUNTARY STATEMENT OF**

Walter Moore

D: And you were the one to find the body.

W: Yes, I did.

D: Can you tell me about that?

W: Well, I usually see Julia up and around by nine at the latest. She likes to get a start on the day, a very healthy habit, and often gets up quite early on big days. And the Banquet was supposed to be today, you know, so I expected her to be up. Well, when I didn't see her by nine forty-five, I went up to her room to see if everything was okay. She can get nervous sometimes, having to deal with those ungrateful step-children. So the Banquet is quite stressful for her. I knocked on her bedroom door, but no one answered. And then I opened the door and… [pause] there she was.

D: Did you touch the body at all?

W: Yes, I ran over to her. I thought she had just fallen or something. But as soon as I touched her… She was so cold… I just knew.

D: What did you do next?

W: I called the police.

D: Did you notice anything unusual about Julia's room?

W: About her room? No. But I did notice that a lamp and some decorative pieces were in disarray in the lounge. Probably from that meeting. I straightened things up on my way to wake… well… [Pause]

D: Could you tell me what items were out of place?

W: Let's see... There was a lamp that was moved, some lovely brass bookends in the shape of ships, I gave Julia those for her birthday last year. A letter opener, a copper paperweight.

D: Thank you. Is there any reason you could think of that someone would want to kill your sister?

W: Certainly not! She was a saint. Just the sweetest... [Crying]

D: I'm very sorry about this next question, but I have to ask. Did you kill Julia Wilson?

W: No. I could never... [Crying]

D: Thank you for your time. Here's my card, please contact me if you think of anything else you think I should know.

END OF INTERVIEW.
INTERVIEW: OFFICER CAROL DALY, TRETON P.D.  
INTERVIEWS MARY WILSON – STEPCHILD OF DECEASED 
TIME OF INTERVIEW: RACCOON RANCH, OCT. 20, 11:51 A.M.

DAILY: I know this must be a difficult time for you, but I hope it’s okay with you if I ask you a few 
questions about your stepmother. These are just routine questions to eliminate you from the investi-
gation.

MARY: Yes, yes of course. To be expected, really...

D: Could you start by walking me through your actions last night?

M: Sure. God, what a night. I arrived at the Ranch around nine that night. I needed to call an emer-
gency board meeting. We had to get Walter out of the room and then...

D: What happened?

M: My stupid family has ruined everything, that’s what!

D: Could you tell me more about that?

M: Yes. Yesterday I... well, I found... evidence that someone on the board of the Raccoon Rescue and 
Habitat Rehabilitation Center had embezzled quite a large amount of money.

D: How much money?

M: Uh... well, I guess there’s no point in lying. Around $60,000.

D: That must have been upsetting.

M: Of course it was! My life’s work, my father’s life’s work, ruined... totally destroyed by someone in 
my own family. And I had to find it right before the Banquet. What was I supposed to do, keep it a 
secret from donors? From the people we’re supposed to be helping? If there was only more time we 
could have done damage control, but everything was just so... How can we come back from this? Our 
public image is going to be [Obscured.] I’m sorry if I’m rambling, I just didn’t get any sleep last night.

(CONTINUED:)
D: So what did you do when you found out about this?

M: [Deep breath] The obvious thing, I called a board meeting. The whole family was at Raccoon Ranch, so we were all in one place already.

D: Is there a reason the meeting was at Raccoon Ranch?

M: Not really, only that we were all staying there anyways. It presents a more... united family front when we are able to tolerate each other long enough to get through the banquet.

D: Where in the house was the meeting?

M: In Julia's lounge. She insisted.

D: What happened once you called the meeting?

M: I laid it all out. Told them everything I'd found, showed them the documents.

D: How did everyone react?

M: Just like you'd expect, they tried to blame someone else. No one wanted to hear it. Julia said I must be lying, which is ridiculous. The Raccoon Rescue and Habitat Rehabilitation Center is my whole life, why would I lie about something this important? Not that it really matters to Julia.

D: What happened next?

M: We just yelled at each other for hours. Julia accused me of lying, Biff of lying; it was everyone else's fault. She didn't know anything, used every excuse in the book. As if that were true. Krysta just sat there like a useless lump, and that Tina. Why was she even there? Julia insisted, but she didn't do anything. Just sat in the corner and smirked. What a mess.

D: Do you think Julia knew more about the missing money?

M: Of course she did! Who else would have taken it? She took everything from me and Biff already, and now she wants this.

D: What do you mean by that?

M: She took our father from us, she didn't even care about him, not really, and definitely not once he changed the will so that she got all of his money. He left us with nothing and she didn't even want to give us the time of day once he was gone. If I hadn't been director of the Center by the time he died, she probably would have dissolved the whole endowment for raccoons right then, but I wouldn't let her! I convinced her that it was good for her public image, as if the whole town doesn't really know what she's like. It's the one thing she forgot to change, getting me and Biff off the board. She left it in the will, so we're not going anywhere. [Laughs] Or at least we weren't before all this happened. Who knows what will happen to the center now...
D: Going back to last night, can you tell me more about what happened?

M: Oh, right. Well, we argued until about one in the morning. Biff was the one who called it off. He needed a drink, which I can't blame him for, and then everything kind of broke up from there. We weren't really getting anywhere anyways.

D: And then what happened?

M: It was kind of quiet for a moment. And then Julia said we should all go to bed, since we still had the Banquet the next day. I couldn't believe her, acting as if everyone would just forgive us for “misplacing” $60,000. I told her so, and then she screamed at me until I left.

D: I see. So what happened after you left Julia's room?

M: Her lounge, actually. Well, I was too angry to go to sleep. I went to whatever room I was assigned to and paced around for a while, then I went down to the kitchen. I thought a drink might clear my head. I ended up being there the whole night. I was just trying to figure out a way out of this… this mess. If there's one good thing that comes from Julia's death, it's that we could cancel the Banquet. Not that... well, it's not how I would have chosen for this to happen.

D: Did you see anyone else while you were in the kitchen?

M: Oh yeah, the whole house was up. Biff was there and we had a drink together. We talked for a while, I guess the campaign isn't going great... but he went back to bed after that. That was probably around two-ish. Um. Krysta came in around three thirty; she seemed surprised to see me, actually. Said she wanted a snack and got some chips and then left. Tina showed up around four. She's really not so bad, despite... working for Julia, or whatever. Anyways, like I said, no one really slept last night. Except Walter.

D: Did you notice anything unusual about anyone?

M: Not really, I wasn't in a noticing sort of mood.

D: Can you think of any reason why someone would want to kill your stepmother?

M: She wasn’t a great person, so I can think of loads of reasons. Tina might not know it yet, but Julia was bound to turn on her at some point. We've all of us got theoretically good reasons. [Laughs] That's probably not very helpful. I can't tell you who did it, but I can give you a list of reasons as long as my arm.

D: I'm sorry to have to ask you this, but did you have any reason to kill Julia Wilson?

C: I'm sure people will say I will. What with all the rumors about father's death, and it's not a secret that Julia hasn't been great to us. But no, I didn't.

D: You've been very helpful, thank you for your time. I don't have any more questions at the moment. If you think of anything else you'd like to tell me, feel free to get in touch.

END OF INTERVIEW.
Daly: I'm sorry about the death of your mother. I'm sure this is a very difficult time for you.

Krysta: Yeah, it really is.

D: I'm going to have to ask you some questions about last night. This is standard procedure, we're trying to create a timeline of events and eliminate suspects.

K: Okay.

D: Can you tell me about what happened last night? In your own words.

K: Sure... Mary showed up at like eight p.m. She called a board meeting of the Raccoon Rehabilitation because she said she found out something important? So we all went into mom's lounge. Mom was convinced Mary was making a bunch of drama over nothing, so she wasn't going to get up and go to the study. I had to get uncle Walter out of the room, and that took a little while, especially since no one helped me. Anyways, once it was just the board, and Tina, I guess. Mary told us this whole story about money laundering or fraud... something with the charity's general fund. It sounded pretty serious, but we never really got to look at any of the documents, so who knows.

D: Why do you say that?

K: Well, I've been trying to help with the charity lately. So I've been in our requisition system and I haven't seen anything weird. But I wasn't looking either, so who knows.

D: That's very generous of you.

K: Yeah, I know. Especially since I'm really busy with my new business. Like, business is really good, and I'm just super happy with how it's going. I must've caught the market at the right moment, you know? People are really helped by little things, you know? And crystals store up energy, so I've been filling my jewelry with good vibes by meditating, and I think that's helped a lot. Like a healing art. Um, but anyways, I was trying to make time for the family, so I've been volunteering at the center plus doing the business. It's like kind of a lot? But I'm trying to make time for the family. We haven't always been good at that. I feel like dad would've wanted it, you know?
D: Okay. What happened after Mary made that accusation?

K: Well, a lot of yelling, really. Mom, Mary, Biff, me, sort of. Everyone.

D: How long did that go on for?

K: Oh, you know. Like a while. A couple of hours I guess. Biff finally wanted to go out and get a drink, and things kind of disintegrated after that.

D: What did you do?

K: I went back to my room for a little while. There wasn’t really anything else to do. Everyone was so worked up... I just wanted to get into a clean space and let go of all that bad energy, you know?

D: Did you leave your room after that?

K: No... oh! Well, I guess I went down for a snack at some point. I ran into Mary in the kitchen. She looked pretty upset, but I guess that’s not surprising, given the whole thing.

D: Did you talk to Mary at all?

K: Not really, I just said hi and then went back to my room. It didn’t seem like there was much to talk about.

D: Okay. Can you think of any reason why someone would want to kill your mother?

K: No! I mean, maybe she wasn't always the best to Mary and Biff, but she wasn't a bad person, you know? Anyways, no one would want to actually... [Obscured]

D: I’m sure this must be a difficult time for you. I’m very sorry, but I have to ask you this. Did you kill your mother, Julia Wilson?

K: No... [Muffled crying]

D: Thank you for your time. I don’t have any further questions. If you think of anything further to add, please don’t hesitate to call me.

END OF INTERVIEW.
TRETON POLICE DEPARTMENT
Detective Bureau

TIME 1:23 pm
DATE October 20

VOLUNTARY STATEMENT OF Biff Wilson, Stepchild of the Deceased
MADE TO Carol Daly, Treton P.D.
LOCATION Willow Eaves

DALY: I know this must be a hard time for you, but I'm hoping to ask you some questions about the events of last night. These are just some routine questions, we need to eliminate as many people from the investigation as possible.

BIFF: I'm happy to answer any questions I can.

D: Great. So could you walk me through the general outline of the night, as you remember it.

B: Yes. Let's see, Mary arrived at around nine p.m. She stormed right in and called a board meeting. Julia refused to leave her lounge, she probably thought Mary just wanted to talk about some last minute arrangements for the Banquet, so we had the meeting in Julia's suite. Just the four of us, plus her poor assistant. As soon as Mary got the door shut, she told us about discovering some... fraudulent activity in the general fund of the endowment. It was really very upsetting, but of course we couldn't talk about it... excuse me. [Pause]

D: It's all right. How was the meeting?

B: Well, we tried to come to some understanding of what had happened. Mary was convinced it was a board member and that the whole thing would ruin the Raccoon Rescue and Habitat Rehabilitation, so she was quite upset. I can't say that we all handled it very well, but we did our best to try to talk it out.

D: How did that go?

B: Well, emotions were running high, what with the Banquet the next day and all being under the same roof again. I don't think it was the best time to present such a sensitive topic. To be fair, that didn't mean that Julia and Krysta had to gang up on Mary the way they did. But we all did our best, I'm sure.

D: Okay. So how long did the discussion last?

B: Quite a while. I finally broke things up and went for a drink at one. It was far too late to be arguing, especially with such an important event the next day. I went down to the kitchen for a drink. Mary came down a short while after that and we talked for a while. She was really very upset about the whole situation. I finished my drink with her and then...

(CONTINUED:)
VOLUNTARY STATEMENT OF

Biff Wilson

D: Yes?

B: I suppose it's better if I'm honest about this now. I went up and talked to Julia.

D: Really. What did you talk about?

B: I was hoping that she'd contribute to my campaign this fall. I have a lot of grassroots support, but could use a little help getting the word out. I was hoping Julia would see how much I'm able to offer the community. I asked her to make a donation. [Pause] She refused, and I left. It was a brief conversation.

D: That must have been frustrating.

B: Yes, well, there really wasn't anything to say after that. I was hoping to make an announcement at the Banquet about Julia's support, so I really couldn't wait... I had hoped to time my request a little better, but Mary's discovery really threw things off.

D: So what happened after you left Julia's room?

B: I went back to my room and tried to get some sleep. There was no point agonizing over everything.

D: Did you see anyone else that evening?

B: No. Just Mary and Julia, then I went to sleep. I can tell you I didn't notice anything strange that evening either.

D: I know this is a delicate question, but can you think of any reason why anyone would want to kill Julia?

B: Well, she was quite wealthy. I believe Krysta and Walter are set to inherit quite a bit of money from her. They've both got reasons to want that money. Krysta can't hold down a job and keeps coming up with ridiculous schemes to earn money that always go belly up in about two weeks. I think the most recent one is healing crystal jewelry, or at least that's what she was trying to sell me while I was waiting for Mary to show up and save me. Not that inheriting money would do that one much good, she can't spend money fast enough. Same with Walter... I wonder if it runs in the family? Either way, I know both of those two were always after Julia for more money. So, there you are, two very good reasons.

D: Thank you for your candor. I'm sorry, but I do have to ask this question. Did you kill Julia Wilson?

B: No, of course not. Can you imagine what that would do to my campaign?

D: I see. I don't have any further questions. Here's my card, feel free to contact me if you can think of anything else you'd like to tell me.

END OF INTERVIEW.
Daly: I’d like to ask you some questions about the events of last night. We’re just trying to establish a timeline and eliminate people from the investigation.

T: Sure, go for it.

D: Can you tell me about the events that took place last night?

T: Yeah, what were you wondering about?

D: Well, I heard there was a meeting…?

T: Oh, that. I was honestly trying to stay out of the way of all anything to do with the Raccoon thing or whatever, but Julia insisted that I attend this… board meeting? To take notes. It all sounded super boring, but then Mary walked into the room and things got a little more interesting. She was mad as hell about something to do with the funds for Raccoon Habitats. She basically accused everyone in the room of being able to steal it, and that was fun to watch. It was some good people watching.

D: Did you notice anything in particular when that happened?

T: Just everyone looked totally shocked, it was hilarious.

D: I see, then what happened?

T: Lots of shouting. Lots. I did my best to stay out of the way of that. No need to get pulled into that mess. I had a good time watching everyone in that family have a go at each other, though. Uh, I guess that sounds weird. But it’s like getting to see behind closed doors of these really rich people, and it’s nice to see they scream at each other too.

D: Right. So when did you leave the room?

T: Biff said he was going to go get a drink, I figured that was a good time to get out of there. I went back to my suite and decided to try to sleep.
D: Did anything happen after that?

T: Well, yes. Julia came back into the room, she just wanted to vent about the whole board meeting thing. We talked for a while, and then she went back to her room.

D: What time was that?

T: I'm honestly not sure what time she came in... we probably talked for about an hour or so. I think she left around two a.m.

D: What exactly did you talk about?

T: Julia was really just venting about the family. How ungrateful everyone was, how they were out to get her. She does a lot to keep the family going, and I guess the rest of the family doesn't always get it.

D: Okay. Did she mention anyone specifically?

T: Not really, she seemed frustrated at all of them. I guess Krysta and Walter had been asking her for money earlier today and she kind of saw this whole charity situation as a veiled request for more money.

D: Did you see anyone else before the body was discovered the next morning?

T: Yeah, I did. I don't always sleep super well, and I went down to the kitchen to get a snack at like fourish. Mary was in there, looking really stressed, and I think she had been crying. I also ran into Walter on my way down to the kitchen.

D: What happened when you ran into Walter?

T: I mean, it was a little surprising since he's so big on getting a good night of sleep. Constantly talking about the benefits of a healthy lifestyle... anyways, I waved at him and he kind of waved back. [Laughs] That man is so uptight it looked like he was having a spasm.

D: Thank you. Now, your room is quite close to Julia's, correct?

T: It is.

D: Do you think you would have heard anyone going to Julia's room?

T: Maybe, if they weren't trying to be quiet. I know at least one person went to her room after she left mine, but I don't know who it was.

D: How do you know?

T: I thought I heard the sound of a door closing.

D: Do you know what time it was?

(CONTINUED:)
VOLUNTARY STATEMENT OF Christina Hautala

T: No idea. It wasn't any of my business who was trying to talk to Julia. After that argument, it seemed pretty clear that the whole family was going to be up trying to solve their problems for the rest of the night.

D: Did you notice anything else that seemed out of place that night?

T: I don’t think so.

D: Okay. I’m sorry if this is a bit forward, but what exactly was your relationship with Julia?

T: I’m her assistant. She’s writing a memoir, and I’ve been helping her get papers in order and write things down as she remembers them.

D: And there’s nothing else to your relationship? It’s crucial to the investigation that I know if you had any personal attachment to Julia.

T: Well… look, it’s not anyone’s business what our relationship was. But if you have to know, we were… you know, seeing each other. I’m helping her with the book, but, well, it is kind of an excuse to keep me close, you know? People in this town talk so much we wanted to have some sort of a cover.

D: I understand.

T: I guess now that she’s dead it doesn’t really matter if anyone else knows.

D: We won’t release this information unless it turns out to have direct bearing on the case. I’m sorry, but I have to ask this, is there any reason you can think of why someone would want to kill Julia?

T: I’d like to say no, but after seeing that fight... You should look at the family, I can tell you first hand those people are all very angry. Some of the stuff they were talking about... Biff basically accused Julia of killing Wayne. That’s a pretty good reason to want someone dead. [Laughs] And to be honest, I wouldn’t be surprised if Walter did it. Julia left him money in her will, and Walter was always asking for more money. And Julia wasn’t very nice to him. Just dismissive. I know they’re siblings, but I wouldn’t put up with someone talking down to me like that all the time. It wasn’t a very nice side of Julia that showed up whenever Walter was around, so I tried to avoid him.

D: I’m very sorry, but I have to ask this. Did you kill Julia Wilson?

A: No.

D: Thank you for your time. Here’s my business card if you remember anything else you’d like to tell me.

END OF INTERVIEW.
OFFICER DALY: Ms. Halloway, I'm hoping you can help our investigation into the death of Julia Wilson by answering a few questions.

Halloway: What sort of questions were you hoping to ask me?

D: I am specifically interested in the contents of Julia Wilson's will, and who might have something to gain from her death.

H: Ah, of course. I'm happy to help. I'm afraid I can't speak to the particulars, but I can share the general points, especially since I'm sure the outcome will be common knowledge soon enough.

D: I appreciate your cooperation.

H: Certainly, certainly. Well, the most obvious benefactor is, in fact, Krysta, her only child. Ms. Wilson left the bulk of her estate to Krysta.

D: And how much is her estate worth?

H: Totaling all assets, I'd say a safe estimate is somewhere near five million dollars. Krysta gets the remainder of Ms. Wilson's estate, following the disbursement of her other bequests, which are quite modest in comparison.

D: That's a lot of money.

H: Indeed.

D: Did she leave money to anyone else?

H: Yes, her sibling, Walter, will receive $500,000, cash. Each of Ms. Wilson's stepchildren will receive $50,000 upon her death.

D: Okay, is that all?

H: Oh, yes. She recently amended her will to leave Christina Hautala $250,000 in the event of her death.

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**VOLUNTARY STATEMENT OF**  Bianca Halloway

D: Can you think of any reason why someone would want to kill Ms. Wilson?

H: Well, I just gave you several good ones.

D: Do you have any idea who killed her?

H: No.

D: I don’t have any further questions, thank you for your time.

END OF INTERVIEW.
TRETON POLICE DEPARTMENT
OFFICIAL EVIDENCE REPORT

CASE NUMBER 201800719

DATE 10/13/2018

PREPARED BY CAROL DALY

SERIAL # 951-34888

SUMMARY Photos of items identified as out of place by WALTER MOORE

Item description
Copper paper weight

Item description
Ship motif bookends
TRETON POLICE DEPARTMENT
OFFICIAL EVIDENCE REPORT

CASE NUMBER 201800719
PREPARED BY CAROL DALY
SUMMARY Photos of items identified as out of place by WALTER MOORE

DATE 10/13/2018
SERIAL # CAROL DALY

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Item description
Letter opener

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Item description
Lamp
NAME OF DECEdent

JULIA ALEXANDRA WILSON

DATE OF BIRTH 04/07/1969  AGE 49  SEX F  RACE WHITE

DATE OF DEATH 10/13/2018  BODY IDENTIFIED BY WALTER MOORE, SIBLING OF DECEASED

CASE # 201800719  INVESTIGATING AGENCY TRETON POLICE DEPARTMENT

DATE / HOUR AUTOPSY PERFORMED

10/14/2018, 08:30AM
BY
EUGENE BODKIN, M.D.
555 Elmwood Avenue
Treton, MI 48104
734-794-5555

CORONER'S CASE NUMBER

403-713045

ASSISTANT

MARIA UNDERWOOD, M.D.

SUMMARY REPORT OF AUTOPSY

FULL AUTOPSY PERFORMED

EVIDENCE OF TREATMENT

N/A

EXTERNAL EXAMINATION

The body is that of a normally developed white female measuring 64 inches and weighing 117 pounds, appearing consistent with the age of forty-six years. The body is cold and unembalmed.

The lips of the subject have a blueish discoloration, and there is a small amount of froth found in the mouth of the subject.

There is a laceration located at the back of the

[ CONTINUED: ]
head, above the C1 and C2 vertebrae. The laceration measures 1 inch in diameter, with a circumference of 3.25 inches, and has a depth of .5 inches. There is significant bruising and discoloration around the laceration, suggesting significant internal hemorrhaging.

**INTERNAL EXAMINATION**

SPINAL CORD: Examination of the spine revealed a crushed C1 vertebra and fractured C2 vertebrae. Damage extends to the spinal cord, and likely resulted in loss of involuntary respiratory function and paralysis of some or all of the limbs.

RESPIRATORY SYSTEM—LUNGS: Evidence of sputum within lungs and respiratory system, consistent with death due to asphyxiation.

TOXICOLOGY: Stomach contents are saved. A standard toxicology panel was performed.

**LABORATORY DATA**

All tests returned indicating normal functions.

All drug screens were negative.

**OPINION**

Time of Death: Body temperature, rigor and livor mortis, and stomach contents approximate the time of death between 2:00 a.m. and 4:00 a.m. on 10/13/2018.

Immediate Cause of Death: Asphyxiation as a result of damage to spinal cord caused by an unknown blunt instrument.

Manner of Death: Homicide

Remarks: Unable to conclusively identify the weapon used to inflict the fatal wound on the victim. The small circumference suggests that the weapon was held in the assailant’s hand and used to assist a strike. The weapon has a shallow, blunt point and is roughly cylindrical in shape. Positioning of the blows suggests that a downward strike was used. Given the location of the wound at the back of the skull, the victim may have been unaware of the danger.
TRETON POLICE DEPARTMENT
OFFICIAL EVIDENCE REPORT

CASE NUMBER 201800719
DATE 10/13/2018
PREPARED BY CAROL DALY
SERIAL # 961-34888
SUMMARY Relevant Articles from Treton Today:

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**Treton Today**

August 19, 2018, 8:57pm

**CAMPAIGN DIFFICULTIES FOR WILSON**

A lacklustre attendance at a fundraising event for Bill Wilson spells trouble for the campaign's future. If Bill thought he would ride on the coattails of his father, Wayne Wilson, to success, he'd better think again. Bill is now on the local political scene, having announced his intentions to run for Mayor only last fall. Early speculations suggested that his connection to Wayne would be a boon, but the small showing last night may suggest another outcome for Bill.

"Why should we be giving him any money?" asked Howard Kent, a local of Treton, echoing a common sentiment. "Everyone knows his daddy made millions, he shouldn't need anything from us." Bill has refrained from commenting on his funding sources, but rumors suggest that his pockets may not be as deep as expected.

After Wayne's tragic death in 2014, it was revealed that his widow, Julia Wilson, inherited the bulk of his estate. If Wayne had hoped that Julia would treat his children as her own, the philanthropist may be turning in his grave. "Everyone knows that woman hasn't given those children a penny of their father's money," said Charlie, a supporter of Bill. "She kept it all for herself and left them out in the cold. Bill has no choice but to fundraise for this money."

What do others say to that? "Hooey," says Kent.

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**Treton Today**

August 24, 2018, 3:27pm

**New Resident for Raccoon Ranch**

It appears there is a new resident at Raccoon Ranch, one Tina Huutala. Julia Wilson has been spotted with Tina on several occasions, but an inside source has informed me that Tina now resides at Raccoon Ranch. When asked about this living arrangement, Wilson denied this before making the following statement: "Well, it seemed like a natural step. I'm working on my memoir, as I'm sure you know, and I wanted to have Tina on hand to be there should inspiration strike."

Wilson's explanation hasn't stopped tongues from wagging. A source, speaking on the condition of anonymity, suggested that Tina is just the latest in a long line of lovers. "This one must be serious though," the source claimed, "she hasn't asked any of the others to live at the Ranch before."
Photos of items identified as out of place by WALTER MOORE

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**Is it the charity we need?**

September 6, 2018, 7:04pm

How necessary is the Raccoon Rescue and Habitat Restoration Center? While it may be one of the town's oldest and most revered charities, today's political climate brings the question: is saving the raccoons enough? Wayne Wilson, known raccoon enthusiast, may have wanted to ensure that his furry friends would have homes for life, but now that his charity is controlled by his family it seems like the time for change has come. While our local trash pandas are certainly cute, some would call them a nuisance.

I traveled to the RRHR Center to speak with director, Mary. Her office was a picture of disorganization, filled with bags of seed and too many raccoons. Mary said, "Raccoons are a vital part of our natural ecological system. I think it's very important that we continue to support these unique and amusing creatures." When pressed about the urgency of the RRHR's mission, she declined to comment. Some might consider that statement enough.

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**Sibling Warfare**

September 25, 2018, 4:42pm

This just in! An unnamed source reports having seen siblings Julia Wilson and Walter getting into a heated conversation while sitting down for coffee at some other than local shop Expresso S. Unfortunately, our source could not get close enough to hear the content of the conversation, other than that it was on the subject of money. Could Julia Wilson finally be closing the purse strings? Locals will know that being cut off from the Wilson clan would be devastating for Walter Moore, whose shopping habits are notorious due to his extremely open arguments with his sister. Only time will tell if Julia Wilson has successfully cut off this parasitic sibling.

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Relevant Articles from Treton Today:

**Body Found at Raccoon Ranch**

October 13, 2018, 10:15am

**Bodies Found at Raccoon Ranch**

Big news. A body was just discovered at Raccoon Ranch! Now, most of you know that's none other than the Wilson's mansion. Wayne Wilson, may he rest in peace, died just four years ago under what we'll call somewhat suspicious circumstances. The death was found to be of natural causes, but you can't help but think about how that death came so-so shortly after Julia Wilson finally got Wayne to sign off on that will she drafted up? It's practically the plot line of a soaps' opera, except the police refused to look into the matter. Everyone knows that Julia didn't treat her stepchildren all too well after Wayne's death, which must have stung since he didn't leave them anything in his will. Harmony is not a word generally associated with the Wilson family.

What does this have to do with the body they're currently carting down the hill from the Eaves? WHY EVERYTHING, since the police are refusing to identify the body. It could be anyone from the Wilson family, and I know who I'd put money on. I'll be making updates here as more news is announced.

**Rations for Raccoons Charity Banquet Canceled**

October 13, 2018, 11:45am

The Wilson family announced this morning that the annual Rations for Raccoons Charity Banquet will be canceled due to the unexpected death of family patriarch, Julia Wilson. The announcement came shortly after emergency responders were spotted leaving the Wilson family's lavish mansion with a body.

Mary Wilson, Director of the RRRGC, stood near to family lawyer Bianca Holloway at a small press conference this morning. "Our family is deeply saddened by the sudden passing of my step mother, Julia. We hope that our supporters can understand why we felt we should cancel tonight's events. We are asking for privacy at this time."
Relevant Articles from Treton Today:

**Police Investigate Raccoon Ranch Murder**

Police have confirmed that local benefactor Julia Wilson’s death was the result of violence that occurred under suspicious circumstances. This announcement has stirred many opinions within Treton, given the rumors that have dogged the family since the death of Wayne Wilson. Any one of these family members could have a motive for killing Julia Wilson, and I, as an investigative journalist in training, will do my best to discover the truth.
JillJumps
Do NOT order from Moon Chylde Creations!!!!! I ordered a blue crystal necklace expecting to receive a PUT TOGETHER NECKLACE and all I got was a loose crystal and a coil of copper wire!! WASTE OF MONEY AND MY TIME. If I could give 0/5 stars I would. 1 star

Eliza
WOW disappointing. The crystal was good quality but I can’t say that about the wirework. I guess it looked like the picture if you squinted. 2 stars.
Biff Wilson is the child of local hero Wayne Wilson and has lived in Treton for his whole life. He has been serving the community from a young age, when he started volunteering at his family's charitable endowment, the Raccoon Rescue and Habitat Rehabilitation Center.

Biff supports:
- Raccoon freedom and safety
- Education for children
- The American Dream
- Reinstating Pluto as a planet
RRHRC Mission

It is our mission to spread the knowledge and love of raccoons through educational experiences. We offer a safe haven for injured raccoons. In addition, we strive to provide our local community with a safe place to interact with and learn more about our delightful neighbors, the raccoons. We encourage the spread of these amazing creatures. The RRHRC was Wayne's way of ensuring that his dream for human and raccoon harmony continues into the future.

RRHRC HISTORY

Wayne Wilson founded the Raccoon Rescue and Habitat Rehabilitation Center in 1977. Wayne discovered his love of raccoons early in life, when a raccoon inadvertently saved his beloved dog from a rusty hunter's trap. Since that fateful day, Wayne made it his life's work to support and encourage the spread of these amazing creatures. The RRHRC was Wayne's way of ensuring that his dream for human and raccoon harmony continues into the future. The center opened its premiere raccoon haven in 2006, and has successfully returned over 400 raccoons to the wild since then.
Raccoons are extremely smart. Their intelligence allows raccoons to identify and manipulate objects. These animals have a high capacity for learning and problem-solving, which is why they are often studied in lab tests. Raccoons were once considered to be potential candidates for lab use due to their intelligence. However, because of the cost and ethical concerns, use of raccoons in lab testing has decreased. 

Raccoons have special paws. These paws are unique and allow raccoons to grasp a variety of objects, making them very dexterous. Their paws are filled with nerves, making them extra sensitive. These nerves allow raccoons to easily grasp objects and detect prey with their hands.

Despite the destruction of their natural habitat, raccoons have adapted well to urban and suburban environments. They thrive in areas where humans and raccoons can coexist. The Raccoon Rescue and Habitat Rehabilitation Center is located in the city of Treton, MI, and is easily accessible for visitors to observe and learn about these fascinating animals.
Detective Daly,

After reviewing the accounts of the Raccoon Rescue and Habitat Rehabilitation Center, I can report that the general fund is in deficit by $60,639.27.

The fraudulent transactions appeared at first glance to be typical of the RRHRC charity. However, I was able to establish that several of transactions were in payments for services to a company that does not exist, one Treton Supplies LTD. I cannot say with any certainty what person or persons embezzled the funds, as the system does not track who created or approved transactions.

In two notable cases, the fraudulent transactions were an overpayment for a reimbursement request from Julia Wilson.

Given the access restrictions for RRHRC’s accounts, I agree with the director’s assessment that a board member would have to have been involved with this embezzlement scheme.

The transactions occurred over a period of ten months, with the first unaccounted transaction occurring on December 5, 2017, and the last occurring earlier this month on October 12, 2018. The illegitimate withdrawals can be summarized as follows:

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<th>DATE</th>
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<th>DESCRIPTION</th>
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<td>$498.13</td>
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<td>2/5/2018</td>
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<td>Reimbursement for supplies – Julia Wilson</td>
<td>Overpayment</td>
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<td>2/16/2018</td>
<td>$5,217.87</td>
<td>Raccoon enclosure cleaning</td>
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<td>3/20/2018</td>
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<td>Webcams for raccoon enclosures</td>
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<td>TOTAL</td>
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Best,
Steve McGrath, C.P.A