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Missing Federal Way woman found in Auburn park

By OLIVIA SULLIVAN
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Kent man, 38, charged with murder; also faces charges in connection to two other homicide investigations.



Screenshot from a GoFundMe page created to raise money for Brandi Blake's memorial service.

A Kent man was recently charged with first-degree murder after being accused of killing a woman and burying her body in an Auburn park in early May, according to the King County Prosecuting Attorney's Office.

Richard Bradley, 38, was charged with premeditated first-degree murder on May 28 in the

death of Brandi Blake, a 44-year-old Federal Way woman who went missing around May 5. Blake died from multiple blunt force injuries and her death was ruled a homicide, according to the King County Medical Examiner's Office.

Bradley is being held at King County Jail in lieu of \$3 million bail. His arraignment is set for June 7 at the Maleng Regional Justice Center in Kent.

Blake's family reported her missing to Federal Way police after she did not return phone calls or respond to social media messages on May 5.

In an interview with detectives, Blake's niece said Blake had brought Bradley and his wife to her Federal Way apartment, then visited Blake's storage unit on May 5. Blake's friend told detectives he met with Blake at a Federal Way hotel on May 5, where Blake said Bradley told her he needed help selling gold that he had stashed from a previous robbery.

Bradley's wife told detectives that on May 5, Bradley and Blake left the hotel room together, and Bradley later returned alone, claiming he had dropped off Blake and that she gave him permission

to borrow her Ford Mustang. Surveillance video showed the Mustang pulling up to a Walgreens in Auburn. Bradley and Blake entered the store, then left shortly after. About two hours later, Bradley was seen arriving to the Federal Way hotel alone in the Mustang.

In the investigation, detectives learned Blake had recently won \$20,000 from the casino and also had a key to Game Farm Park in Auburn, where her body was later found. Investigators also discovered Blake sold drugs.

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As vaccine rates ease, here come the prizes — including \$1 million

Incentives range from big cash drawings to sports tickets and tuition.

By JOSEPH THOMPSON
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Getting vaccinated against COVID-19 could net you \$1 million in cash, among other prizes.

On June 3, Gov. Jay Inslee announced the state's "Shot of a Lifetime" campaign — a slew of incentives ranging from a \$1 million lottery drawing to a suite at a Seattle Mariners game to a year of tuition credits at any college or university in the state.

The effort is part of a push to get at least 70% of Washington adults one vaccine shot ahead of June 30.

Inslee has said reaching that mark would enable him to drop most of the state's pandemic restrictions before July. But vaccination rates are stalling, and Washington isn't on pace to meet the goal early, public health officials said earlier this week.

So far, about 63% of Washington adults have received at least one dose.

Starting next week, the Washington State Lottery will conduct a weekly drawing for \$250,000 for four consecutive weeks. After that, there will be one last drawing for \$1 million.

The only action needed to be eligible for a prize is to be vaccinated. Names of winners will come from the state's immunization database. All previously vaccinated people will be included.

The incentives are open to all Washingtonians, regardless of citizenship status, though proof of residency is required.

Outside of the drawings, the state is dispersing nearly \$1 million to public universities, community colleges and technical schools to administer their own drawings for free tuition and expenses.

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PHOTOS BY OLIVIA SULLIVAN/THE MIRROR

A Todd Beamer High School senior shouts in jubilation at the school's car parade on June 9 leading into graduation weekend.

Seniors celebrate final week before graduation

By OLIVIA SULLIVAN
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Celebrations for seniors started earlier this week with car parades at each high school in Federal Way, leading into a weekend full of graduation ceremonies.

In light of the COVID-19 pandemic, Federal Way Public Schools is hosting commencement ceremonies outdoors at Federal Way Memorial Stadium. The ceremonies will also be live-streamed, allowing loved ones to support and celebrate their graduate virtually.

Seniors are allowed four in-person guests each. The district has set up tents to cover seniors and the graduation stage in case of inclement weather. The stadium seats are covered.

Prior to the ceremonies, pre-recorded graduation speeches and performances will be broadcast online the day of graduation. Students will then proceed to Federal Way Memorial Stadium at their assigned time for the in-person part of graduation, where graduates will walk across the stage and accept their diploma, the district said.

The Mirror's graduation edition publishes Friday, June 18. This edition includes a list of all graduating seniors,



A group of seniors stop for a photo at the Todd Beamer High School car parade sign that reads "have hope."

graduation coverage, a message from the superintendent, and more.

Graduation ceremony schedule

Thursday, June 10: Federal Way High School.
Friday, June 11: Thomas

Jefferson High School.

Saturday, June 12: Todd Beamer High School and Decatur High School.

Sunday, June 13: TAF@Saghalie, Truman Campus, Federal Way Open Doors, Internet Academy, Career Academy at Truman, and the Employment Transition Program.

For times, livestream viewing and more information, visit fwps.org/graduation2021.



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