

Lindsey Bullard

#### Hard News Scenario:

A local baker was found dead in her home this morning, according to police.

Francie Franklin, proprietor of Francie's Fancies, was killed late last night by an intruder in her home at 504 Ash St., authorities said.

When she didn't deliver a wedding cake as expected this morning, the bride's mother went to Franklin's home where she found the front door open and a smashed display case, police said.

"When we got there we found Miss Francie in the kitchen," Police Chief Wilburn Cole said, "She was shot dead."

Police discovered that Franklin was shot once in the chest and the pistol she kept in the drawer underneath her cash register was missing.

Kenton County Homicide Investigator Kelton Kelly said that she was shot with a .22 caliber bullet, but there were no fingerprints found. There was also a red wool ski cap found beneath Franklin's body, but the owner is still unidentified, according to police.

Franklin was 68 years old and had started her business 20 years ago. She had recently expanded by building a small service area at the front of her house.

"She was just an old maid who loved everyone and everyone loved her," Kenton County Coroner Ransom Cranwell said.

Arrangements for Franklin are pending.