

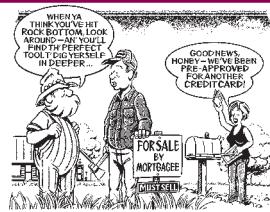


Serving the McKenzie River Valley ... And Subscribers Richard & Brenda Shepard of Rainbow

THURSDAY, JULY 22, 2021
Volume 43, Issue 49

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JP Doodles

Whose doing the real digging?

PAGE 2



Gold in the hills?

Old cemetery is all that's left of the biggest city in Oregon

PAGE 4



Tea Parties

Made me wonder if little girls have tea parties any more

PAGE 5

Judge orders fish protection now

Calls for deep drawdown of Cougar

U.S. District Court Judge Marco Hernandez outlined in a draft order last Wednesday actions that the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers must take to protect threatened wild spring chinook and winter steelhead at its Willamette Valley dams. The case has been in the courts for three years.

Plaintiffs in the case consider the draft order a win, although after years of delay they say the two populations of fish listed as threatened under the federal Endangered Species Act have declined even further.

"It's with mixed emotions that we read this draft order," said Jonah Sanford, Staff Attorney for the Northwest Environmental Defense Center, one of the plaintiffs in the case. "We are thrilled that the Corps must meet the court ordered deadlines for action and also saddened that time was unnecessarily wasted at the expense of salmon and steelhead."

Northwest Environmental Defense Center, WildEarth Guardians and Native Fish Society, represented by attorneys at Advocates for the West initially filed the lawsuit on March 18, 2018 in U.S.

District Court in Portland against the Corps and NOAA Fisheries.

The plaintiffs asked the court to force the two federal agencies to reevaluate the impacts of the Corps' 13 Willamette Valley dams on the threatened fish, to reinitiate consultation and to make immediate operational adjustments to dams on four tributaries of the Willamette River (McKenzie, North Santiam, South Santiam, and Middle Fork Willamette) that the groups say block between 40 and 90 percent of spawning habitat.

In his summary judgement ruling in the case last year, Hernandez said that, "Far short of moving towards recovery, the Corps is pushing the UWR Chinook and steelhead even closer to the brink of extinction. The record demonstrates that the listed salmonids are in a more precarious condition today than they were at the time NMFS issued the 2008 Biological Opinion."

He ordered the parties to submit a briefing schedule within fourteen days to determine the appropriate remedy and after that to

[Fish protection - Page 2](#)

New Salmon plate is on sale now

Classic license tag gets a new look

Oregonians will soon have a choice about how they display their support for salmon habitat. A new salmon license plate design will be available September 1st, or Oregonians can opt for the classic salmon license plate until August. Lowest-numbered new plates will be available through a special auction in cooperation with Oregon nonprofits that support salmon habitat restoration.

The Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board (OWEB) and Oregon Parks and Recreation Department first debuted the salmon plate in 1998. Revenue from the specialty plate protects and re-

stores native salmon habitat. To date over \$8 million of salmon plate funding has been invested in Oregon.

"When coupled with voter-dedicated investments from the state's Lottery, this plate allows salmon supporters to show their true colors and invest in a worthwhile cause – healthy salmon habitat," says Meta Loftsgaarden, Executive Director of the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board. The original plate was one of the earliest custom designs available in the state, and the new design is a colorful upgrade, showing spawning salmon in a clear, cool stream. The new art was created by Gretchen Kirchner, an amateur artist and former graphic designer for the Oregon Watershed En-

Salmon plate - P 2



Mountain rescuers had a busy week

Heli-vac crews flew to the South Sister twice



DCSO

Members of the Deschutes County Sheriff's Office Search and Rescue team and a crew from Airlink Air Ambulance spent hours on the South Sisters mountain last Tuesday rescuing injured hikers.

Last Tuesday, around 4:06 p.m., the Deschutes County Sheriff's Office Special Services Unit was dispatched to an injured 19-year-old hiker on the South Sister Climbers Trail about 300 feet from the summit of the mountain. They determined Bend woman would be unable to walk down the trail without assistance.

Airlink Air Ambulance agreed to transport two Search and Rescue volunteers partially up the trail which would reduce the time and distance required to reach the patient. After attempting the flight, Airlink found weather/visibility conditions were so bad, they had to abort the flight.

Nine SAR volunteers then drove

to the Devils Lake Trailhead and began the hike up to the South Sister summit. Two members of the team were then told about an injured man on the trail who also would be unable to make it down on his own. This patient was found on the South Sister Climbers Trail just above Moraine Lake.

[Mountain rescuers - Page 2](#)

Vaccinated will be able to ride LTD buses for free

In August, Lane Transit District (LTD) will offer a boost with a Vaxpass free bus pass for people who are vaccinated against COVID-19. Federal regulations require all passengers and members of the public to continue wearing a face mask over the nose and mouth when on LTD property and on its buses.

"LTD's August Vaxpass is one way the district can thank community members who are vaccinated and encourages those who aren't to consider getting vaccinated so Oregonians can continue to keep the spread of COVID-19 at a

minimum," said Aurora Jackson, LTD's General Manager. "We want our passengers back on the bus and invite those who may not have been frequent bus passengers in the past to give LTD a try for shopping, visiting friends, or a relaxing night on the town."

The Vaxpass provides unlimited rides from August 1st through August 31st. Benefit codes redeemed after August 1st will provide a pass valid through August 31st. There are no refunds for passes already purchased.

People who have been vaccinated against COVID-19 are encour-

aged to go to LTD.org/vaxpass and register for an August Vaxpass benefit code. Mobile app users can redeem their benefit code through the Umo Mobility app or TouchPass app. Tap card users can redeem their benefit code after registering their card at UmoPass.com.

To find vaccination locations in Oregon, text your ZIP code to 438829 or call 1-800-232-0233.

LTD is maintaining its current service schedule until fall. Bus schedules are here.

Fish protection

Continued From Page 1

work towards the remedies, which his draft ruling of July 14, 2021 outlines.

In his draft order, Hernandez said that "the Corps has fought tooth and nail to resist implementing interim fish passage and water quality measures that it was supposed to begin implementing a decade ago, and that NMFS has been recommending for years. The Court is disheartened by the fact that, when compared to how the Corps should have proceeded had it complied with the BiOp, much of the injunctive relief that the Court is now ordering can be considered, in many respects, a giant leap backward.

"Consequently, the Court has no patience for further delay or obfuscation in this matter and expects nothing short of timely implementation of the injunctive measures and the experts' proposal outlining the parameters for those measures."

"We celebrate today and hope it will mark the decisive moment that saved wild Chinook salmon and winter steelhead in the Willamette River," said Marlies Wienerenga, Pacific Northwest Conservation Manager for WildEarth Guardians. "Judge Hernandez was adamant in his ruling last summer, and again today, that the Corps' operation of the Willamette Valley dams has pushed these fish toward extinction and the agency must take action to reverse that decline."

Hernandez noted that NOAA Fisheries in its 2008 biological opinion analyzing the impacts of the Corps' Willamette Valley projects that "lack of passage is one of the single most significant adverse effects on both the fish and their habitat," and "[w]ater quality problems are one of the major limiting factors in [downstream] habitat."

Among NOAA's reasonable and prudent alternatives outlined in the 2008 BiOp, Hernandez said in the draft order this week that:

"The Corps has not begun operating any of the permanent downstream passage structures required under the BiOp and will not meet any of the future deadlines for doing so; has essentially abandoned plans to build a facility at Lookout Point Dam; and has not begun studying or planning to construct the fourth fish passage facility discussed in the BiOp. Except for the annual deep drawdown at Fall Creek Reservoir, the Corps has not consistently carried out downstream fish passage measures in the WVP."

Nor, Hernandez said, has the Corps constructed the water temperature control tower at Detroit Dam. "Water temperatures below Detroit, Green Peter, and Lookout Point dams continue to be too cold in summer and too warm in fall, and TDG (Total Dissolved Gas) exceedances repeatedly occur below Big Cliff Dam."

"As early as 2017, NMFS determined it was necessary and, as provided in the RPA, requested the Corps begin outplanting adult UWR Chinook salmon above Green Peter Dam; however, the Corps has not done so," Hernandez continued.

The Corps and NOAA Fisheries did reinstitute consultation on a new BiOp in April 2018, but that won't be done until the end of 2023. Hernandez added that it took eight years to complete the 2008 Biological Opinion.

In its arguments before the court, according to Hernandez, the Corps argued it lacked authority for operational changes at the dams. However, Hernandez wrote, "...the Corps has broad discretion...to conduct operational measures that preclude hydropower generation for the benefit of the listed salmonids, so long as hydropower generation is not eliminated during the entirety of the power production period."

Among the interim measures (measures the Corps can do as it and NOAA Fisheries prepare a new BiOp) Hernandez listed in his draft order for the Corps to:

- In the McKenzie basin the Corps shall conduct a deep drawdown at Cougar reservoir and begin spring passage in 2022;

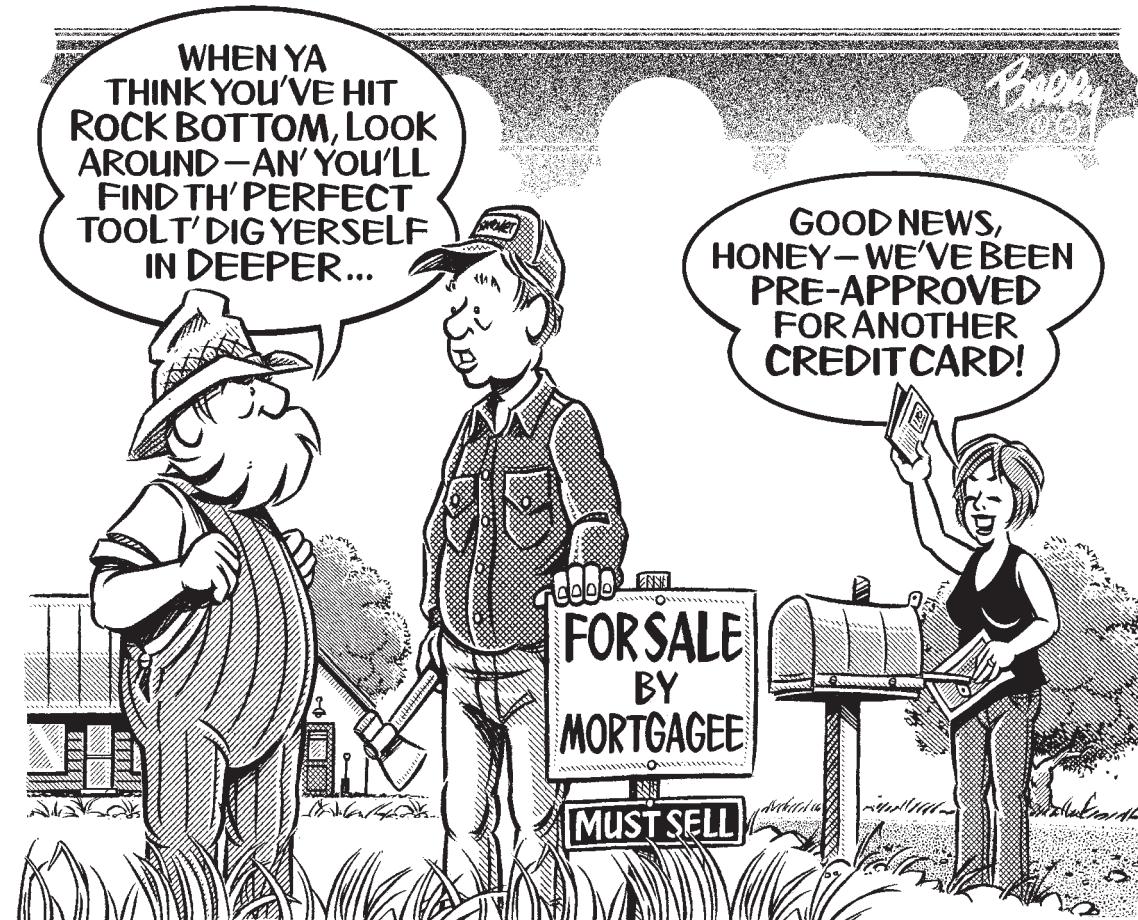
- In the North Santiam basin the Corps will carry out fish passage and water quality operations at Big Cliff and Detroit dams;

- In the South Santiam basin the Corps shall begin outplanting adult upper Willamette River chinook above Green Peter Dam and once that is done, the Corps shall begin juvenile downstream passage. In the fall the Corps shall initiate spring and fall spill operations at Foster Dam;

- In the Middle Fork Willamette basin determine the feasibility of a deep drawdown at Lookout Point reservoir and if feasible begin deep drawdowns in the fall of 2022. Begin spring spill at Lookout and Dexter dams in 2022. Begin a deep drawdown in 2021 at Fall Creek Reservoir. Make improvements to and begin operating the Dexter adult fish facility within two years. In 2022 begin up and downstream passage at Fall Creek Reservoir.

"This represents a true turning point for the Willamette and Oregon's iconic wild fish," said Jennifer Fairbrother, Conservation Director for the Native Fish Society. "Actions are ordered at multiple dams with deadlines as soon as a few months for downstream volitional fish passage and water quality mitigation measures – two of the main actions needed to recover these fish populations."

Throughout the coming years until a new BiOp is completed, Hernandez ordered that an expert panel made up of plaintiffs' experts, NOAA biologists and Corps engineers will advise on completing the interim measures.



The Corps has begun some modifying operations at Detroit Dam to improve juvenile downstream passage survival by releasing water exclusively through the upper regulating outlets when downstream passage rates are high.

Normally, the Corps allows water to flow through turbines for power generation. Instead, the Corps will not operate the turbines between the hours of 6-10 a.m. and 6-10 p.m., except in the case of emergencies, from Nov. 1, 2020 – Feb. 1, 2021.

The Corps said the operation is part of a suite of interim measures that it is planning to implement to benefit ESA-listed salmon in the Willamette River Basin while it works to complete the Willamette Valley System Environmental Impact Statement and associated Endangered Species Act consultation on the Corps' operation and maintenance of the Willamette Valley Project.

Also in 2019, the Corps laid out plans to build a selective water withdrawal structure at Detroit Dam on the North Santiam River at a cost of \$100 to \$200 million. The structure would provide water temperature control downstream of Detroit and Big Cliff dams and it would provide downstream juvenile fish passage, both measures required in the 2008 BiOp that should have been completed much earlier. The Corps would continue to transport adult chinook salmon and steelhead upstream of both dams where they can spawn naturally.

Another measure included in the 2008 BiOp's RPA is downstream fish passage at the Corps' Cougar Dam on the McKenzie River. That project was to be completed by 2014, but the Corps only put out for public review its environmental assessment for the project in March 2019. The EA called for a floating surface screen fish collector in the reservoir coupled with truck and haul transport of the juveniles downstream of the dam.

Mountain rescuers

Continued From Page 1

By approximately 9 p.m., SAR volunteers had made contact and were providing care for both patients, who were separated by at least 1.5 miles of steep and rugged terrain, requiring the rescuers to exercise extreme caution. An additional seven Deschutes County Sheriff's Office Search and Rescue volunteers then responded to the scene.

After weather conditions had improved at 10 p.m., Airlink arrived in the area but was unable to get close enough. The helicopter

landed at a lower elevation and stood by for approximately three hours until SAR volunteers could move the woman using both hand and wheeled litters to the waiting helicopter.

At the same time, medical team members assessed the man's condition and prepared him for transport down the trail with a wheeled litter. He was carried about three miles down the trail to the trailhead where he was released to his family at 2:45 a.m.

Salmon plate

Continued From Page 1

hancement Board. The public can continue to order the classic plate design before they retire in August and can keep the classic plates on their car if they choose, while still supporting habitat projects

The new plates will be available for passenger vehicles through the Oregon Department of Transportation's Driver and Motor Vehicle Services (DMV) beginning September 1st, but when and how Oregonians apply for the new plate matters. To guarantee landing the

McKenzie River Reflections

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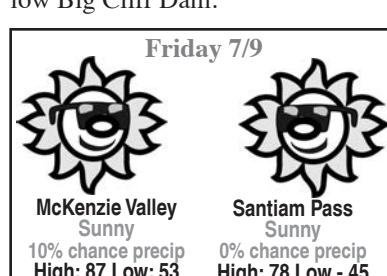
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WEATHER REPORT

READINGS TAKEN AT THE
US ARMY CORPS COUGAR DAM

READINGS TAKEN AT
EWB LEABURG POWERHOUSE

Date	High	Low	Rain	Releases	Date	High	Low	Rain	Riverflow
7/13	99	57	0	390 cfs	7/13	NA			
7/14	92	60	0	390 cfs	7/14	NA			
7/15	91	54	0	390 cfs	7/15	NA			
7/16	85	52	0	390 cfs	7/16	NA			
7/17	91	53	0	390 cfs	7/17	NA			
7/18	90	54	0	390 cfs	7/18	NA			
7/19	93	57	0	390 cfs	7/19	NA			



Sheriff's Report

July 10: 12:22 p.m. Suspicious Conditions - 39000 block, McK. Hwy. Caller reported that a known felon was likely traveling to the Eugene area via Greyhound bus. Eugene PD also advised.

July 11: 9:43 p.m. Disturbance, Dispute - 91900 blk, Marcola Rd. Caller reported a verbal dispute with the caller's father. Deputies responded and determined no crimes had occurred. Parties were separated.

July 12: 11:00 p.m. Threat, Harassment - 90900 blk, Marcola Rd. Caller reported ongoing harassment issues with a neighbor. Deputies made contact and were unable to articulate a crime had occurred.

July 13: 7:49 a.m. Injured Animal - 8700 blk, Latta Rd.

8:13 a.m. Vehicle Stop - Marcola Rd. & Camp Creek Rd.

8:18 a.m. Suspicious Vehicle - Marcola Rd. & Camp Creek Rd.

10:55 a.m. Attempt To Locate Drunk Driver - Deerhorn Rd. & McK. Hwy.

McKenzie River Reflections

10:57 a.m. Reckless Driving - Deerhorn Rd. & Madrone St. Caller reported that a black BMW four door was driving erratically at 80mph. Caller also thought that the driver possibly pulled out a firearm but the caller wasn't sure.

2:16 p.m. Animal Abuse - 42900 blk, McK. Hwy. Caller reported their dog was possibly beaten to death by an unknown suspect(s).

4:36 p.m. Water Rescue - Lat: 44.21570 Long: -122.05697.

6:26 p.m. Threat, Harassment - 90900 blk, Marcola Rd. Caller advised neighbor has been playing loud music and yelling along the fence line.

July 14: 5:19 p.m. Vehicle Stop - McK. Hwy. Milepost 27.

6:18 p.m. Vehicle Stop - McK. Hwy. Mp. 26.

6:28 p.m. Vehicle Stop - McK. Hwy. Mp. 27.

6:39 p.m. Vehicle Stop - McK. Hwy. Mp. 28.

6:57 p.m. Vehicle Stop - McK. Hwy. Mp. 27.

8:44 p.m. Suspicious Vehicle - 35200 blk, Camp Creek Rd.

July 15: 12:07 a.m. Disturbance, Dispute - 7900 blk, Thurston Rd.

1:34 a.m. Welfare Check - 38200 blk, Boscombe Ln.

9:24 a.m. Disturbance, Dispute - 89700 blk, Hill Rd. Neighbors got into a verbal argument over the placement of a fence. Deputies contacted the involved and attempted to resolve the situation.

11:16 a.m. Disabled Vehicle - Marcola Rd. & Old Mohawk Rd.

5:08 p.m. ATL Drunk Driver - 35200 blk, Camp Creek Rd.

July 16: 3:50 a.m. Disturbance, Dispute - 91100 blk, McCauley St. Caller reported being in a verbal dispute with his ex-girlfriend while driving home from Belknap Springs. Deputies responded and confirmed a crime had not occurred.

4:39 a.m. Assist, Information - Quartz Creek Rd. & McK. Hwy.

4:18 p.m. Assist, Citizen Contact - Spicer Ln. & Marcola Rd.

4:29 p.m. Disorderly Juvenile - 90700 blk, Hill Rd.

5:39 p.m. ATL Drunk Driver - Marcola Rd. Mp. 4.

8:05 p.m. Loud Noise - 90900 blk, Marcola Rd.

8:10 p.m. Threat, Harassment - 90900 blk, Marcola Rd.

10:29 p.m. Threat, Extortion - 87800 blk, Cedar Flat Rd. Caller reported that an unknown male threatened to post the caller's daughter's information online if she doesn't Facetime him.

10:52 p.m. Suspicious Conditions - 38600 blk, E Cedar Flat Rd.

July 17: 2:34 p.m. Vehicle Stop - McK. Hwy. & Goodpasture Rd.

2:34 p.m. Animal Complaint - 40700 blk, Deerhorn Rd.

2:42 p.m. Vehicle Stop - McK. Hwy. Mp. 27.

3:03 p.m. Found Animal - Lat: 44.176845 Long: -121.914106.

3:47 p.m. Restraining Order Service - 54700 blk, Caddis Ln.

4:33 p.m. Vehicle Stop - McK. Hwy. Mp. 43.

4:47 p.m. Vehicle Stop - McK. Hwy. Mp. 42.

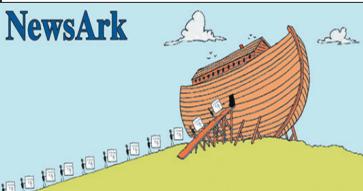
Continued On Page 7

State Police Report

July 12: 13:27 Motor Vehicle Accident - Hwy. 126E, Milepost 15. Involved: silver/aluminum Dodge Ram 1500.

July 15: 20:05 Driving Under the Influence of Intoxicants, Alcohol/Reckless Driving - Hwy. 126E, Mp. 11. A gray Ram pickup was traveling west. Near milepost 11, the pickup left the roadway slightly off the westbound shoulder. The driver over corrected and spun the pickup across the roadway onto

Continued On Page 7



*...saving stories
from the rising
tide of time.*

From May 22, 1992 edition of McKenzie River Reflections

Voters Drop Anchor On 20-01

McKenzie River Initiative Fails - 38,493 to 34,452

River Reflections
PUBLISHED BY KEN & LOUISE ENGLEMAN
VOLUME 14, ISSUE 38, FRIDAY, MAY 22, 1992
SERVING THE MCKENZIE RIVER VALLEY, HOME OF ... SALLY METCALF

25¢

District Cleared Of Religious Charges

A report issued this week by the Oregon Superintendent of Public Instruction revealed strong perceptions by some parents in the McKenzie School District that the District is actively involved in religion. However, according to deputy superintendent Greg McMurdo, the school has not engaged in any uninvestigated acts or current activities without sufficient corroboration.

The December 13 complaint claimed the school district allowed Baptist students to call Catholic classmates "demonic" or "satanic."

Other allegations included charges the district has a policy of placing students in religious affiliation classes, and that teachers have been required to teach creationism and that families who file complaints because of religious affiliation and family privilege are not taken seriously.

In his report McMurdo looked at the question of student harassment.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 5

Cycle Oregon Bicyclists Looking For Area Homes To Stay In

Some Of The Expected 2,000 Riders Won't Be Camping Out

Cycle Oregon V, a seven day bicycle ride through rural Oregon, is coming to the McKenzie Valley on September 14. Although most of the 2,000 bicyclists taking part in the event will set up tents near the Statesboro Greenway campsite, many from 50 miles away would like a softer place to spend the night.

Local organizers are looking for area landlords with an extra space like a spare bedroom, couch, or even a carpeted floor they could make available for one night.

People riding the Cycle Oregon route are a diverse group. Many are professionals with occupations such as lawyers, doctors, accountants or teachers. Others own their own business or work for major corporations. Some are retired, others are young. Most are from Oregon, but many come from all over the country and even from a 72 year old rider. A few years ago the youngest participant was a six year old boy.

The event is scheduled to begin on the morning of September 13 in Eugene. Riders will pedal their way to Oakridge and spend the night. The following morning the Cycle Oregon route will travel over the mountains to the Wallowa Valley and up Highway 126 to Tokatee. On the 15th riders will have breakfast, head east to the Old McKenzie River bridge and ride to the trailhead overland map in Sisters. During the week's journey they are expected to bicycle over 450 miles along a route that includes passing by Crater Lake. Eventually, the tour will come to an end in Medford.

People involved in the ride through Oregon pay about \$400 for a "package tour." That package includes food, shelter, and luggage by tour organizers from campsite to campsite. Also included in the package are three meals a day.

When the 2,000 riders arrive in the McKenzie Valley, they're going to be hungry. Organizing both a dinner on the 14th and a breakfast the following day in the McKenzie River Chamber of Commerce, which will be held in the evenings of September 14 and 15. The chamber is located at 100 N. Main St. in McKenzie Bridge.

Organizers are asking for help in finding local restaurants and lodges to accommodate the tour.

Most riders will be taking their meals at the campsite at Tokatee. There is no requirement for homestays to feed the guitars. However, they do need to be picked up at the Chamber's information booth at the site after dinner and returned the following morning in time for breakfast.

Contact the Chamber of Commerce in McKenzie Bridge.

He said he's now looking for more gas fueled kitchens and to do the cooking as large pots and pans. And of course, volunteers, lots of them, to help prepare and serve the dinner and breakfast.

Area non-profit groups and individuals are encouraged to become involved by writing the McKenzie River Chamber of Commerce, P.O. Box 1017, Leaburg, OR 97489, or by calling 896-3330.

Most riders are from the Northwest, but there are some from as far away as Canada.

"I'm really excited with my job and I glad I got it," she said on her first day on the job. "I think I'll really love living here, it's a beautiful area and I know small communities."

Mariel with two grown children and two grandchildren, Fleishman and she, are moving to the house this day. Until then it's a long weekend commute back home to Grants Pass.

Its Hometown Delivery

New Postmaster Says Small Towns 'Fit'

Blue River may be miles from Wolf Creek or Gold Hill, Oregon, but it feels like home says the new postmaster, Jan Fleishman. A 15 year veteran with the US Postal Service, she took over operations at the facility in May. She replaces Vicki Miller, who moved to Bend.

"I've never been to Bend and I don't know anyone there," she said.

"I'm really excited with my job and I glad I got it," she said on her first day on the job. "I think I'll really love living here, it's a beautiful area and I know small communities."

Mariel with two grown children and two grandchildren, Fleishman and she, are moving to the house this day. Until then it's a long weekend commute back home to Grants Pass.

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Auburn: A long-gone gold town's short but colorful past

By Finn J.D. John

A few dozen miles southwest of Baker City, if you know right where to look, you just might stumble across a few weatherbeaten gravestones — all that's left of an old cemetery.

And that old cemetery is all that's left of the biggest city in Oregon, a teeming rough-hewn metropolis of 6,000 souls that was called Auburn, Oregon.

Auburn was Ground Zero in the eastern Oregon Gold Rush. It was a massive mining camp, pure and simple. It was founded in the spring of 1861, and by 1864 it was already fading away.

Gold in Griffin Creek

The story of the Auburn's founding is as colorful as any of the dramas that played out in its streets. It seems that back in 1861, a prospector named John Adams was in Portland, flashing gold nuggets around and trying to recruit a mining party. He claimed he'd stumbled across the legendary Blue Bucket Mine, but the Native Americans were too hostile for him to risk sticking around, so he needed some strong friends to come work it with him.

In short order he had a group of some 70 eager miners ready to go, and off they went into the hills.

The newcomers soon grew suspicious, though. Adams was not acting like a man who knew where he was going. He was poking around, digging holes, doing exploratory mining — more like a regular prospector than a guy who was leading a group back to a place he knew was loaded with gold.

Now suspicious, the new miners questioned Adams closely, using, shall we say, enhanced interrogation techniques. Finally he admitted it: He'd made the whole thing up. All he'd wanted



Mining in Eastern Oregon.

Postcard image

Auburn was founded by miners who sought placer gold the old-fashioned way, with a shovel and a pan, but more sophisticated techniques were soon in play. One of the reasons Auburn died, though, was a lack of water; the creek that ran through town didn't deliver enough to supply operations like the one pictured here.

was to have a big enough party to be able to prospect without worrying about Indian attacks.

Well, some of these miners Adams had recruited had left crops rotting in the ground and brides-to-be crying at the altar to follow him. Most of them now wanted blood. After a long and lively argument between the miners who wanted to lynch him on the spot, and the ones who wanted to spare his life, a compromise was reached. Adams would be kicked out of camp with no gun, no horse, no knife and no blanket; he'd be given 15 minutes to get himself lost, and after that anybody with a clear shot at him would be welcome to go ahead and take it.

That done, the would-be miners turned and headed for home.

On the way, a group of them stopped to camp for the night in a flat spot by a small creek, and one of them — Henry Griffin — dug a test hole while dinner was

cooking.

Three feet down, he hit bedrock ... and gold.

It wasn't the Blue Bucket Mine, but it was a lot of gold.

Adams, by the way, had been following the party at a distance; some of his friends had been supplying him with food. After this happy discovery, several sources say he was allowed to rejoin the party and stake his own mining claim; I haven't been able to verify this, but it's a nice thought.

Word soon got back to Walla Walla and The Dalles, and soon miners — along with the gamblers, saloonkeepers,

prostitutes, gunfighters and roustabouts that always seemed to show up to help them get comfortable — were pouring into the area, and forming a sort of rough-hewn town made chiefly out of log huts and canvas tents. They called it Auburn.

DIY Law

The law in Auburn was of the classic rough-cut frontier kind. The citizens actually drew up a legal code. It specifically outlawed shooting at or stabbing people in public places; drawing any deadly

weapon with the intent to use it; and drunk and riotous conduct in the streets; other than that, it was pretty much game-on.

At first the town was part of Wasco County, but the county seat was 300 miles away in The Dalles. Dick Pintarich writes that one miner, arrested for killing his partner in their tent, claimed self-defense, and the townspeople decided to send him to The Dalles for trial. Two men agreed to escort him there, and the townspeople advanced \$50 for their expenses. The three of them then vanished, but were seen later prospecting together in Idaho — "no doubt with \$50 worth of new tools," Pintarich observes wryly.

Generally, though, the murder rate in Auburn was kept relatively low by the ferociousness of what passed for justice there. That ferociousness seems to have been reserved for "foreigners," though — Frenchmen, Mexicans and Chileans.

The lynching of Spanish Tom

The most notorious incident in Auburn's short history happened when a Latino man known to history only as Spanish Tom strolled into a saloon one November night in 1862, and tried to get in on a card game being played by Henry Labaree and Jack Desmond. The problem was, he had no cash to ante up, and the other two weren't interested in Spanish Tom's IOUs. Voices were raised, and then Spanish Tom pulled a knife, and a couple seconds later was running out the door as Labaree and Desmond lay bleeding, dying or already dead, on the floor behind him.

When Spanish Tom was recaptured a couple days later, the sheriff and justice of the peace tried to initiate the prosecution process. The two officials started making ready for a speedy trial, probably followed by an execution.

The other 5,998 residents of Auburn, however, seemed not to be in a patient mood. Soon a mob surrounded the judge's office. They weren't here for the trial. They wanted the prisoner — now.

The judge, when he saw which way the wind was blowing,

Long-gone gold town - Page 8

By Slim Randles

Our day is filled with heat at this time of year. It commands our attention and makes our work harder. As we toil, we daydream not about love or success, but things as mundane as shade and a cool drink.

But though the oppressive heat weighs on our brains and taxes our bodies, it is the price we pay for being allowed to spend time outdoors ... and it has its one singular consolation: our summer evenings.

When the sun goes down in summer, it's romantic enough to hug a cactus.

The recipe is simple; keep the earth warm, but just bring out the stars and a soft breeze that cools the skin. Mix this with a fulmination of little night varmint sounds of peeping and chirping and croaking. And guitars. Whether we play them ourselves or just turn on the radio, it is a setting that is perfect for guitars. Villalobos, Fernando Sor, Tarrega, Randy Travis, Doc Watson, Steve Cormier.

We sit in brick-paved patios with something cool and someone sweet and relax and talk about dreams, because on evenings like this, anything is possible. On nights like this, it's difficult to decide whether remembering evenings like this in the past is better than anticipating those to come. All we really know is that it sure is nice to be here right now.

Tonight I'm going to see if I can remember all the words to "Little Joe the Wrangler" and find out if my guitar is still in tune.

Brought to you by The Fly Fisherman's Bucket List by Slim Randles, from Rio Grande Books, and now available at Amazon.com.

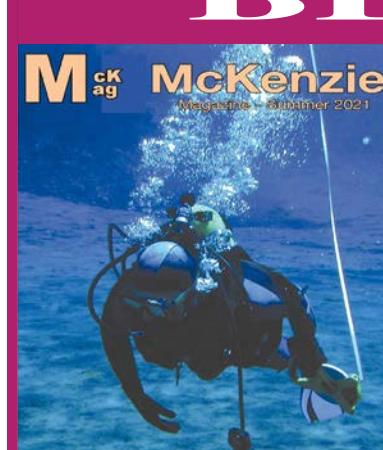
Quote of the Week

"82.7% of all statistics are made up on the spot."

Steven Wright

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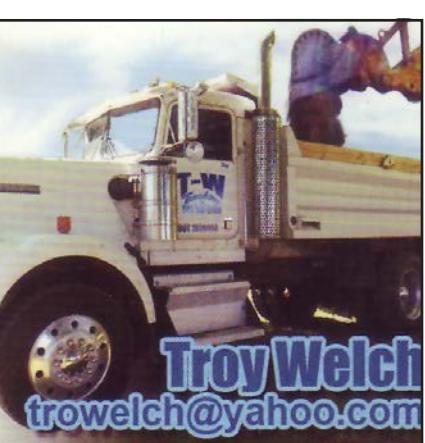
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Gardening Tips

By Kym Pokorny



OSU Extension Service

How to care for heat-damaged plants

Gardeners around the Northwest are distraught by the damage suffered by their plants during the recent heat wave. Questions have come pouring into Oregon State University Extension Service and experts weigh in on what to do now.

There's no denying the damage is severe, said Heather Stoven, OSU Extension horticulturist. Some plants died and others were fried by the record-breaking temperatures. Even some that look extremely bad, like rhododendrons and hydrangeas, can bounce back. Burned leaves don't necessarily equal a dead plant, so patience and

observation is needed.

Here are some recommendations from Stoven and other experts:

- * Go ahead and cut off dead flowers, but try to resist the urge to remove partially dead leaves, and especially don't do any hard pruning. Leaves, dead or alive, will shade foliage that wasn't burned and those with some green remaining will continue to photosynthesize. Pruning forces new growth that will be damaged if there is another heat event and creates a place where diseases and pests can enter the plant.

McKenzie Firewise Board Meeting

The McKenzie Firewise Board convened for the first time on Monday July 12th, as part of a voluntary effort to develop Firewise communities in the McKenzie. Firewise Communities were developed by the National Firewise Protection Association and designed to help communities to become more fire resilient by identifying and reducing fire hazards both in the community and on individual properties.

There will be three separate sections in the McKenzie. The Upper McKenzie includes

McKenzie Bridge, Rainbow, and Blue River; the Middle McKenzie includes Finn Rock, Nimrod, Vida, Leaburg, and Deerhorn; and the Lower McKenzie includes Walterville, Camp Creek, Cedar Flat, and Thurston.

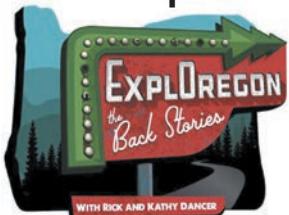
Up next, the Board will work with the Upper McKenzie Fire department, McKenzie Fire & Rescue department, Oregon Department of Forestry, and the Forest Service to conduct community-wide risk assessments. These risk assessments will look at the 30,000-foot view of the



wildland urban interface risks within each community. Once the risk assessments are complete, the Board will start developing an action plan for the McKenzie. There will be an annual educational event or hazard reduction activity for residents to assist in hazard reduction.

If you are interested in becoming a Firewise Community participating landowner and/or attending meetings, please contact Trisha Maxfield at mwsgfacilitator@gmail.com.

Explore PNW Backstories



Join Rick & Kathy Dancer as they introduce you to The Backstories of the Pacific Northwest"

The people, the places, the food, the recreation and the heart and soul of rural Oregon.

Where To Watch

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Instagram pnw_backstories
Youtube PNW Backstories
Email: Rick@rickdancer.com

An Invitation to Worship

McKenzie Bible Fellowship
 45061 McKenzie Hwy – Vida, Oregon
Sunday Worship – 10:00 a.m.
Youth Ministries
KidsFest Family Activities
Small Group Fellowships
Men’s & Women’s Bible Studies
 Call 896-3829 for information
www.mckenziebible.com

Living Water Family Fellowship
 52353 McKenzie Hwy - Milepost 42
 Just east of Blue River 541-822-3820
 Sunday: 9:30 am - Sunday School for all ages
 10:30 am - Worship Service & Children's Church
 6:00 pm - Bible Studies and Youth
 Thurs. 6 pm - Celebrate Recovery (12-Step Program)

Catholic Church
St. Benedict Lodge Chapel
 1/2 mile off Hwy. 126 on
 North Bank Rd., McKenzie Bridge
 Sat. Eve. 5:00pm
 Sun. Morn. 9:30am;
 web page: sblodge.opwest.org

McKenzie Bridge Christian Church
 56334 McKenzie Hwy, McKenzie Bridge, OR 97413
 9:30 a.m. Sunday school for all ages
 11:00 a.m. Worship Service & Nursery
 Need a ride? Call 541-822-3289

McKenzie Valley Presbyterian Church
 Worship is live-streamed, every Sunday at 10:30 am, on the Facebook page for McKenzie Valley Presbyterian Church. Comments on Facebook are appreciated! You may also contact the church for prayer requests, to request an emailed or earth-mailed bulletin, and other information. Phone or send email to Nancy Ashley, nancy.w.ashley@gmail.com, 541-914-1986. We look forward to hearing from our neighbors, either from a distance, or someday, in person!

Milepost 13 McKenzie Hwy. (541) 747-2604

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Community Notes

July 24 - A Dime At A Time



10am - 12pm. Leaburg Store, 42840 McKenzie Hwy. Blue River Bottle Boys Collection/Sorting - Saturday morning sorting sessions every Saturday. Donations can be dropped off at the Leaburg Store and maybe help us bag up the containers.

August 14 Ice Cream Social



Saturday, 1 to 4 p.m. Ice Cream Social Upper at the McKenzie Community Center in Rainbow. More info at umccevents@gmail.com.

August 14 McKenzie River Treasures Community Market



10am-3pm. A new Saturday market is meant to help local businesses and showcase all the wonderful things the McKenzie Valley has to offer. The new "McKenzie River Treasures" market will take place on alternating Saturdays - this weekend at the McKenzie Station Iron Forest, 49701 McK. Hwy. (with vendor setup starting at 8am)

July 26 - Springfield School Board Meeting



7:00pm - 8:30pm. The Board of Directors meet on the 2nd and 4th Mondays of each month (except July). Regular business meetings begin at 7 pm on the 2nd Monday and work sessions are generally held at 4 pm on the 4th Monday of the month in the Administration Building, 640 A St, Springfield.

July 31 - A Dime At A Time



10am - 12pm. Leaburg Store, 42840 McKenzie Hwy. Blue River Bottle Boys Collection/Sorting - Saturday morning sorting sessions every Saturday. Donations can be dropped off at the Leaburg Store and maybe help us bag up the containers.

Through Aug 14 Summer Reading at Leaburg Library



10am - Noon. Leaburg Library is once again holding a summer reading program that is open to all children from preschoolers to 6th graders. Kids and their families will do this together at home, with weekly check-ins at the library. At the end of each week, the child will return to the library, post his or her project on the "Making A Difference Wall" in the hallway, record your reading goal progress, and pick up another bag with book, activity pages and project ideas for the next week. For more information call Marty at 541-896-3817.



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11:00am - 5:00p. McKenzie Bible Fellowship, 45061 McKenzie Hwy. The Food Pantry is now on Saturdays. All are welcome! Please send folks!

Aug. 9 - Springfield School Board Meeting



7:00pm - 8:30pm. The Board of Directors meet on the 2nd and 4th Mondays of each month (except July). Regular business meetings begin at 7 pm on the 2nd Monday and work sessions are generally held at 4 pm on the 4th Monday of the month in the Administration Building, 640 A St, Springfield.

Fish hatcheries open again for visitors



Outdoor areas at ODFW's more than 30 fish hatcheries are back open for visitors. The hatcheries closed to visitors in March 2020 due to the pandemic. Some areas of hatcheries will remain closed for now including picnic areas, drinking fountains, indoor areas and any outdoor areas with close quarters that don't allow for social distancing. They will also remain closed to scheduled tours and large group visits for now.

Emergency? Call 911



Direct Answers

By Wayne & Tamara Mircell

Final Curtain

My girlfriend Jessie and I were together four years. Recently, she went on a two-week family holiday. During those two weeks, I went for a night out with my work colleagues. I got extremely drunk and kissed a girl from work.

I felt guilty the next day, but a few days later I told my friends, who are also her friends, that I wanted to break up with her. I didn't, but I was confused at the time.

The following Saturday, she came home. We went out that night, and I was so confused I told her we should break up. She thought I was playing games.

She left the pub, and I followed. I told her, "I met somebody else." I shouldn't have said it that way, as I did not meet another girl. I just kissed her. It was the biggest mistake of my life.

Over the next few weeks I tried contacting Jessie, but she would not answer her phone or reply to my texts. In the end, sometimes after work I drank too much and sent her text messages, some of which I'm not proud of.

Because I was hassling her, she changed her phone number. I met up with her a few weeks later, and she talked to me for 20 minutes. She said we may be friends again, but that will be it.

I was with Jessie four years, and we had a great relationship. I know we had our arguments,

but every couple has arguments. The problem is, sometimes when we went out drinking, I would humiliate her about her weight, her makeup, or something else.

I know I screwed up. I used to mess with her clothes when we were out in the pub, for example, lifting up her skirt, but that's just me messing around.

I have seen her a few times since we broke up. I send her a letter every week begging or groveling to give me a second chance. I know the mistakes I made and would not make them again.

When I called Jessie's house last Saturday, she wasn't in. She rang me 30 minutes later and asked why I was still writing to her. I asked, could we meet up for a coffee?, but she said she didn't want to as I would cry into my coffee, which is what happened last time.

She says she is happy, and if she went back with me, she would go backwards. She said the next time she sees me in the street, she might say hello or she might not.

My heart inside was crushed. Is there anything I can do to get Jessie back?

Robert

Robert, how is this a mistake?

You kissed a girl in a bar. Perhaps you had too much to drink, but you weren't drunk when you told mutual friends you wanted to break up. And when you broke up with Jessie in a pub, you said you

had someone else.

That's three "mistakes" in a row. That shows intent.

What you didn't tell us is what you were trying to gain. Did you want to make her jump through hoops to get you back? Were you paying her back for an imagined sleight? We don't know.

But she did not come crawling back, you did not get makeup sex, and your plan went awry.

Often with letters like yours, the letter writer thinks they could do better. But the way you went about it, made it impossible for her to take you back. It would make her the beggar in the relationship.

She did what we would have told her to do, had she written us. Don't take calls from him; don't let him whisper in your ear; don't let him wheedle his way back in.

You say you were confused, but you staged such a convincing show it was believed by all. Now you claim it was only an act, but what a great act it was. The audience applauded wildly, and you took a curtain call.

Your letter is about how you didn't get what you wanted, not about how you injured her. All your sorry is for yourself. Why are you concealing why you did it? Because it is not something you can say out loud.

This was the classic breakup intended to hurt, and she was the last to know. You sealed the deal with a kiss. If you can't be honest with us, at least be honest with yourself.

Wayne & Tamara

write: Directanswers@
WayneAndTamara.com

American Life in Poetry

By Kwame Dawes

There is nothing quite like the relief of good news from the doctors. Of course, it is a reminder of the bad news we eventually expect, the faith that the word "cure" demands of us. I have always enjoyed Hilda Raz's wry sense of humor, and this poem is no different.

Pristine

By Hilda Raz

I am sick with worry when you call.

You tell me a story about ears
How the doctor asked about your earaches

Peered in and pronounced
"Pristine."
Clean as a whistle." And you were cured.

Because I am a maker of poems
And you are a maker of music
You tell me the word pristine was perfect.
It was the cure.

Yesterday I went to the hospital
To hear my heart beat in her various chambers.

I knew the sounds:
The Fly Bird from the right ventricle
The Go Go from the left
The Here I am from under the rib.

We do not accept unsolicited manuscripts. American Life in Poetry is made possible by The Poetry Foundation (www.poetryfoundation.org), publisher of Poetry magazine. It is also

supported by the Department of English at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. Poem copyright ©2020 by Hilda Raz, "Pristine" from List & Story, (Stephen F. Austin State University Press, 2020). Poem reprinted by permission of the author and the publisher. Introduction copyright ©2021 by The Poetry Foundation. The introduction's author, Kwame Dawes, is George W. Holmes Professor of English and Glenna Luschei Editor of Prairie Schooner at the University of Nebraska.

Sheriff's Report

Continued From Page 3

5:14 p.m: Vehicle Stop - Blue River Dr. & McK. Hwy.

5:26 p.m: Vehicle Stop - Blue River Dr. & McK. Hwy.

July 18: 12:47 a.m: Loud Noise - McK. Hwy. & Partridge Ln.

5:04 a.m: Alarm - 39200 blk, McK. Hwy..

9:42 a.m: Public Assist - 95000 blk, Marcola Rd.

5:02 p.m: Stranded Boater - Lat: 44.0600700 Long: -122.880990.

Comments as reported may not be complete or accurate. If further information is required contact the Lane County Sheriff's Office.

State Police Report

Continued From Page 3

the eastbound shoulder. There is a wide gravel area on the east lane's shoulder at this location. The pickup then rolled over to top and came to rest. The driver received injuries to his left arm and was transported to the hospital. The vehicle was towed. At arrival at the hospital, the driver showed signs of impairment. The driver stated he had two drinks a bar. The driver's medical blood draw resulted in a BAC of 0.225%. The driver was issued a citation for DUII, but he refused to consent to release any medical records. A warrant will be written for the blood that was drawn by medical personnel. Involved: 63-year-old male from Nimrod.

July 16: 23:45: DUII, Alcohol - Hwy. 126E, Mp. 28. Troopers responded to a motor vehicle collision. A truck towing a small utility trailer swerved off the road, colliding with an adjacent rock wall. During the investigation, Troopers determined the driver was intoxicated. The driver refused tests & invoked his right to counsel before being transported to the Riverbend Hospital for evaluation & jail clearance. Law Enforcement Data System showed the driver's license status to be Revoked - Felony. The driver was lodged without incident at the Lane County Adult Corrections Facility for DUII - Felony, Driving while Revoked - Felony and Reckless Driving. Involved: red Ford F350. 34-year-old male from Springfield.

Upper McKenzie Fire/Rescue

Continued From Page 3

Clear Lake Cutoff. Ham radio operator reports 2 rafters that are stuck on the rapids, not in medical distress.

21:17: Medical – 92000 blk, Blue River Reservoir Rd. Female patient.

July 14: 19:07: MVA – 91000 blk, Mill Creek Rd. Subject just hit the sign for market, down embankment.

July 15: 19:14: Medical – 49000 blk, McK. Hwy.. Female, Conscious, Breathing.

July 16: 01:07: Medical – 56000 blk, McK. Hwy.. Female, Not Conscious, Breathing.

04:28: Vehicle Fire - 2-1/4 miles up Quartz Creek on the main line. Machine fire.

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Personal

The Leaburg Sew & So's will meet

again on Monday afternoons when the McKenzie Fire & Rescue Center re-opens for community activities. Call Sara at 541-896-3059 for more information.

If you want to drink, that's your business. If you want to stop, that's ours. AA Group meets Wednesday 6:00pm-7:00pm and Sunday 5:00-6:00pm at the McKenzie Valley Presbyterian Church, 88393 Walterville Loop, a block from the Walterville Shopping Center. N/c-sub 5/15-5/11/14

Piano Lessons

Now accepting piano students - Beginners, Intermediate and Advanced - all ages. Professional jazz pianist, classically trained with years of teaching experience. Located in Leaburg. Please call or text 408.391.3477 or email; kimberly@liquidsister.com. <http://www.liquidsister.com> SKP-8/16ruc

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The Sew and So's meet every Monday (except holidays) at the McKenzie Fire & Rescue Training Center from noon to 4pm. Come join us. Call Sara at 541-896-3059 for more information. S=JS-2/25/10ruc

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Services

MOWING - Retired gentleman looking to subsidize income. Have zero turn mower with trailer. Also push mower with edger. Can mow up to an acre depending on terrain. From Leaburg Dam to Cedar Flat, Deerhorn Road as well. ALSO WELDING - Need something welded? weekends, emergencies? Call Ron 541-915-9131 BRSM23-30

Shenandoah Neighborhood Sale

Come find a Treasure!!! July 23rd & 24th. From 9-5. Camp Creek to Upper Camp Creek, Then follow signs.

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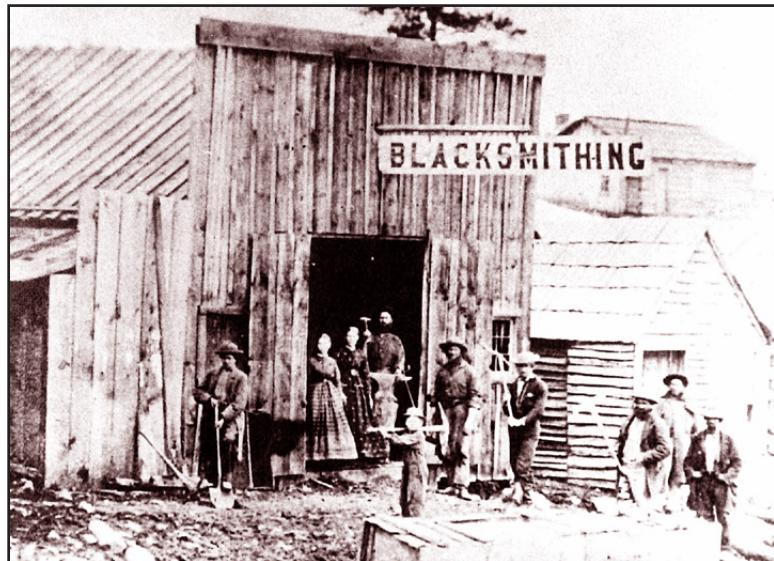
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Long-gone gold town

Continued From Page 4



Baker County Historical Society

The Thomas Vernon blacksmith shop in Auburn. To judge by the amount of milled lumber visible in the picture, this was probably in 1863 or later; for the first few years, planks had to be laboriously cut with whipsaws, so Auburn was chiefly built with logs.

grabbed his docket and ran for his life, leaving the sheriff to hold his ground — which he made a valiant effort to do. But the mob got hold of Spanish Tom's leg iron and used it to drag him away to the hanging tree, letting his head bounce on the ground as they ran.

One of Spanish Tom's friends, whose name is also lost to history, tried to put him out of his misery

with a shot, but missed him and instead wounded three members of the mob. Other members of the mob gave chase as Tom's friend ran for his life. He was too slow, and went down in a hail of bullets.

Eventually the mob got Spanish Tom to the tree, and found him already dead. But they strung him up anyway.

Lane Council of Governments (LCOG), located in Eugene, Oregon, is hiring for the following positions:

Government Services:

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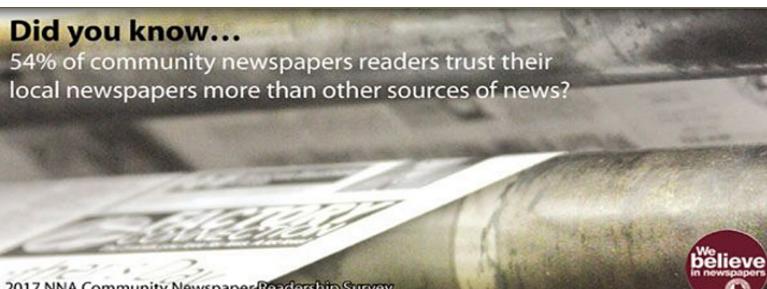
Senior & Disability Services:

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Adult Protective Services (APS) Specialist (bilingual preferred)
Adult Protective Services (APS) Support
Case Manager (Eugene and Florence)
Disease Prevention and Health Promotion Coordinator – 0.5 FTE
Eligibility Specialist (Eugene and Cottage Grove)
Licensing and Monitoring Assistant
Program Manager
Satellite Office Administrative Assistant (Cottage Grove)
Senior Connections Area Coordinator – 0.4 FTE
Senior Meals Site Coordinator (Eugene and Springfield)
Senior Meals Roving Back-Up Site Coordinator

For more information about these and other positions, go to www.lcog.org/jobs.



LANE COUNCIL of GOVERNMENTS Oregon



2017 NNA Community Newspaper Readership Survey

A few weeks later, the sheriff started construction on a new jail — one clearly designed to withstand siege by angry mobs.

Easy come, easy go

The gold in Auburn was gone in what must have seemed like the blink of an eye. Six thousand eager miners can get a whole lot of dirt dug up and moved around, and it took them just two summers to do it. By 1864, the Salem Statesman reported that the town was all but deserted. The action had moved to other nearby towns like Sumpter and Baker City, which had more going for them than just proximity to the gold fields.

Today, those gravestones are all that's left. If you look around, you'll find the graves of Spanish Tom's two murder victims, and of Henry Griffin, the guy who started it all. You'll also find plenty of anonymous graves marked only by a dip in the ground where the coffin collapsed.

Like the people buried in those graves, Auburn is long gone.

(Sources: Pintarich, Dick. *Great and Minor Moments in Oregon History*; Bright, Verne. "Blue Mountain Eldorados: Auburn," *Oregon Historical Quarterly*, Sept. 1961; McLoughlin, Virginia Duffy. "Cynthia Stafford and the Lost Mining Town of Auburn," *Oregon Historical Quarterly*, spring 1977; *oregonencyclopedia.org*)

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McKenzie Fire & Rescue

Continued From Page 3

use during High Fire conditions.

19:03: 41000 blk, Deerhorn Rd. Water Rescue. Patient Assessed, 1 Transported.

July 14: 9:18: 37000 blk, Shenandoah Loop Medical, General. Patient Assessed, Refusal

17:06: 35000 blk, Camp Creek Rd. Medical, General. Patient Assessed, 1 Transported.

21:06: 39000 blk, McK. Hwy. Medical, General. Patient Assessed, 1 Transported.

July 15: 8:50: 39000 blk, Easton Ln Medical, Trauma. Patient Refusal.

13:53: McK. Hwy./Deerhorn Rd. MVA. Patient Assessed, 1 Transported.

19:16: 49000 blk, McK. Hwy. Medical, General. Patient Assessed, 1 Transported.

20:03: 38000 blk, McK. Hwy. MVA. Patient Assessed, 1 Transported.

July 16: 4:33: McK. Hwy./Quartz Creek Rd. Vehicle Fire. Out of District Fire, Handled by ODF.

11:45: Delight Valley/Saginaw Rd. Brush Fire. Mutual Aid Provided.

23:43: McK. Hwy. Mp. 28 MVA. Non-Injury/Non-Blocking.

July 17: 3:19: 43000 blk, McK. Hwy. Medical, Heart. Patient Assessed, 1 Transported.

10:39: 43000 blk, McK. Hwy. Fire Alarm. Cancelled en route.

July 18: 0:26: Deerhorn Rd. Mp. 4. Brush Fire/Illegal Burn. Fire extinguished by owners.



A Moment in Oregon History

By Rick Steber (www.ricksteber.com)

July 22 - William Sargent Ladd was one of the most influential businessmen in Oregon. He came to Oregon in 1851 and built the first brick building in Portland in 1853. A year later he won the election as mayor. He also established the first bank in Oregon and was the principal backer and promoter of the Oregon Steam Navigation Company, 1860; Oregon Telegraph Company, 1862; and Oregon Iron and Steel Company, 1866. Ladd believed in giving back to the community where he made his fortune. He donated ten percent of his income to charitable causes. When he died in 1893, he left an estate valued at ten million dollars.

Fishing Report

McKenzie River: All hatchery rainbow trout released into the McKenzie River are marked with an adipose fin clip and anglers must release all non fin-clipped (wild) trout in the mainstem river. The lower 11 miles of the McKenzie River below the Hayden Bridge - and the McKenzie River upstream from Forest Glen Boat Ramp at Blue River - are restricted to angling with lures and flies only, and all trout must be released.

Trout Stocking Schedule: Trout stocking is underway on many lakes and reservoirs throughout the state. Releases of 8" to 10" hatchery fish last week were: Leaburg Lake - 1,050.

Fish Counts

July 10, Willamette Falls
Spring Chinook – 26,902
Summer Steelhead – 1,415

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