



Dirt races

Army Corps okays
"Come-All" in reservoir

PAGE 3



Qwacken

New fleet of rental boats
launched on Leaburg Lake

PAGE 9



Dino dug up

Cleanup volunteers found
abandoned 1962 Ferrari SP

PAGE 10

Scenic discovery could rival Blue Pool



Long rumored, and now on a soon to be released map, the "New Pool" lies just a few miles east of McKenzie Bridge.

"The gorgeous turquoise waters" were the first thing Carl Marten was struck by when he first found a hidden pool hidden in a beautiful gorge. Soon he realized there was more that made it unique when he dipped a hand into the translucent waters. "It was warm," he recalls. "I stared at it in awe for about fifteen minutes before I realized I wasn't dreaming."

If you've got a head for heights, Marten believes the New Pool is also likely to become a popular destination for rock climbers. It lies at the base of three valleys

above where the ancient McKenzie River used to flow, before it was diverted for the Carmen Smith hydroelectric project.

The spot is also surrounded by a massive grove of Douglas firs. Marten says he envisions wooden paths and guardrails could be easily added to help visitors get around while also limiting their impacts on the surrounding fragile environment.

Why is the water warm, compared to the Blue Pool? Marten said he believes the ground here isn't as porous, allowing the pool

Scenic discovery - Page 19

Bald eagles causing predator food shortages

Bald eagles are far from being an endangered species according to a new US Fish and Wildlife Service report that says their population has quadrupled in size since 2009. Over 316,700 bald eagles, and more than 71,400 nesting pairs, were counted in the lower 48 states during the 2019 breeding season, according to the report.

"This is beyond a historic conservation success story," US Secretary of the Interior Bud Hasse said in a news briefing. "It's actually become a crisis for competition among other predators."

"The bald eagle has always been considered a sacred species to American Indian people and similarly it's sacred to our nation," Hasse told reporters. "Now we might have to take serious steps to correct this imbalance"

U.S. Fish & Wildlife officials didn't detail what those measure might entail, although there has been some rumors of a both possible sterilization measures or a limited hunt.

Bald eagle populations severely declined in the lower 48 states between 1870 and 1970 because of hunting, habitat loss and the use of DDT, a powerful insecticide that made bald eagle eggshells so weak they couldn't produce viable



Oregon predators like cougars, coyotes and bears are facing increasing competition from above, according to field studies that generated surprising photos like this one, taken at an undisclosed location in the Western Cascades.

offspring.

Bald eagle populations severely declined in the lower 48 states

between 1870 and 1970 because of hunting, habitat loss and the

Bald eagles - Page 12

Anglers report strange 2021 fish migrations

Impacts of runoff from 173,000 acres of burned lands is something the Oregon Dept. of Fish & Wildlife and other agencies have expressed concern about following the Holiday Farm Fire. Last week one of the more bizarre results surfaced when Todd Bossman reeled in his line at the Hendricks Wayside Park in Walterville.

"I knew I had something big," Bossman says. "But I wasn't ready for what I saw when that fish broke the surface."

"That fish" turned out to be a thunnus alalunga, more commonly known as an Albacore tuna. More surprisingly, Bossman isn't alone.

In just the last week, ODFW has heard from over 30 anglers who've caught similar fish - not in the Pacific Ocean - but in freshwater streams far from sandy coastal beaches.

Strange migrations - Page 13



Todd Bossman says he'll continue to practice catch and release until ODFW rules on keeping saltwater fish caught in inland streams.

Red tape won't hold up simple signage

United States, road signs are, for the most part standardized by federal regulations in the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD).

This year, in a move to help increase tourism, the Oregon legislature approved adopting the Vienna Convention on Road Signs and Signals standards. Under the Vienna Convention system, the Oregon Dept. of Transportation has approved using symbol signs with the intent to transition to

symbols in lieu of words as "rapidly as possible," according to a

Red tape - Page 12



ODOT has placed their first fork-in-the-road sign at the junction of Hwy. 126 & Hwy. 242.

Letters to the Editor

Bottle drive continues

The Blue River Bottle Boys would like to thank River Reflections for the excellent coverage of our "One Dime at a Time" fund raising campaign in River Reflections. Thanks to the wonderful support of our community and the OBRC (Bottle Drop) we have been able to donate over \$7000 to the rebuilding efforts in the McKenzie Valley. Our initial effort was directed toward the O'Brien Library rebuild, however thanks to the tremendous response from folks donating their bottles and cans and a generous donation from the Bottle Drop folks, we have been able to expand our outreach to include the clinic, the

fire station in Blue River and the Vida-McKenzie Community Center. Each of those groups received \$1000 checks and with our previous donation, the library fund has been given \$4000.

We have an opportunity to participate in another promotion sponsored by the Bottle Drop folks that will give us 20% more for containers collected before the end of the month of April. Between now and Earth Day, April 22, our challenge is to fill 150 Blue Bags with clean, uncrushed plastic beverage bottles and cans for inclusion in a video shoot with people from the groups we are helping. Winning the video competition could give us an ad-

ditional \$250. The filled Blue Bags can be dropped off at the Leaburg Market before 7 pm any day of the week. Blue bags are available at several locations: Harbick's Motel in Rainbow, McKenzie Feed and Tackle in Walterville, both locations of Osteostrong in Springfield and Eugene, the Leaburg library, Kley Auto Repair and the Leaburg Market, transfer stations (the dump) in Vida and McKenzie Bridge and McKenzie Mist in West Eugene. Large amounts of glass bottles should be boxed and can be dropped off at the Leaburg Market. The sorting and bagging of those donations not in Blue Bags, will take place every Saturday morning in April at the Leaburg Market beginning at 11 am. Volunteers and donations are welcome.

Pete Petty
Nimrod



McKenzie 2000-01 Run To State Started In Fall

This year's topsy-turvy high school sports seasons, jumbled around thanks to the Covid virus, have football, volleyball, and cross country operating during March Madness, and is labeled OSAA season 1. Following those shortened seasons, baseball, softball, golf and track and field will commence on April 5 for another shortened OSAA season 2. Lastly, basketball and wrestling will start a month later, OSAA season 3, on May 10.

Crazy times for sure, but at least some of the region's student athletes have an opportunity to participate. Unfortunately, McKenzie student athletes have

not seen action yet this year! Recently, the 2001 McKenzie Boys Basketball team's historic, school first, qualification to the OSAA 2A State Basketball Championships in Pendleton, OR was highlighted in a series of articles.

Truth be known, the Run To State began in the 2000 Fall Season, prior to Hoops season. Three Eagle seniors, coached by Jeff Sherman, started early out of the gate that Fall Cross Country season, and ran outstanding races throughout the Fall around the State, proudly representing McKenzie Green and Gold. For their efforts, the Eagle three landed in the 2000 2A OSAA State Cross Country Championship Meet held at Lane Community College, in Eugene, OR.

McKenzie senior Emily Oldham qualified for the State Championship Meet, with a 4th place finish at the District Meet the week prior at the LCC track venue, clocking a 20:48 minute time. At the State Championship Meet, Oldham improved her

time to 20:45 min. and finished in the Top Ten at 5th place (101 runners entered), the highest ever at the time for a McKenzie girl athlete. In the previous 1999 cross country season, Oldham finished 39th in the State Meet. Oldham also qualified for a berth in a Border Clash Meet featuring the best cross country runners from Washington and Oregon.

In the Boys State Cross Country Championship Meet, seniors Kyle Richardson and Casey Cline represented the Eagles. Richardson entered the State Meet with a 3rd place District Meet time of 17:25 min. and Cline with a 5th place time of 17:31 min. At the 2A State Meet, Richardson finished just out of the Top Ten with an 11th place time of 17:44 min. and Cline followed close behind in 12th place running a time of 17:48 min. (104 runners entered). Richardson's finish in the 1999 State Meet was 15th. (101 runners entered).

The foundation (attitude and commitment) for a 2000-01 McKenzie Run(s) To State had been set!



\$300,000 award for Internet access

A \$300,000 OVERCOME grant from US Ignite, the National Science Foundation, and Schmidt Futures has been approved to improve McKenzie Valley internet access. The program was designed to support underserved communities via novel broadband technology solutions.

"Rural communities continue to see a lack of internet services, critical not only for basic daily tasks but also for emergency preparedness and recovery," said East Lane County Commissioner, Heather Buch. "The OVERCOME grant provides an opportunity for consistent, reliable internet for the McKenzie area as they recover from the devastating Holiday Farm Fire."

The grant will fund the development of a new permanent wireless Internet backbone into the McKenzie Valley area. The backbone will be utilized in support of two exciting new projects, including a more resilient internet connection to the McKenzie School.

"McKenzie School District struggles with connectivity and has for decades," said Lane Tompkins, McKenzie School Dis-

trict Superintendent. "The Holiday Fire only made things worse. We lost all of our connectivity for months. With the needs for reliable internet access amplified during this global pandemic, this grant will change the lives of our students, residents and business owners."

Onward Eugene and the McKenzie School District have also teamed up with Elevate Technology Group to construct and pilot a new Citizens Broadband Radio Service (CBRS) in the area. A hundred wifi hotspot devices will be given to local students and households in the burn area of Blue River.

"The innovative solution we are deploying is a good mix of wired and wireless technologies that build on the lessons learned from the pandemic and recent wildfires, said Geoff Turner, CEO at Elevate Technology Group.

Grant funded efforts will kick off April 1st, with construction in May. Grant partners plan to begin Internet service delivery to both the school and surrounding community in the fall of 2021.

Clinic

Continued From Page 8

companies.

"Our organization's widespread recognition is a testament to our first company pillar: Employee Happiness," said Executive Director and Co-Founder Orion Falvey. "We understand that burnout is prevalent in our industry and we've been looking at ways to prevent it."

During the pandemic, Orchid Health retained all employees and raised their company's minimum wage. They offered COVID paid time off (PTO) and mental health days to support employees and compassion fatigue without using their accrued vacation PTO.

When the Oregon wildfires impacted employee's homes and destroyed the Orchid Health McKenzie River Clinic, Orchid provided full paychecks and cov-

ered any needed PTO for all team members impacted by the fires for 5 months.

"These employers are evidence that there are businesses that care about keeping their workforces happy whatever the circumstances," writes Oregon Business Magazine, "and that despite one of the biggest changes to workplace norms ever experienced in a generation [due to the COVID-19 Pandemic], companies can make it work and even come out better from the experience."

Orchid Health's astonishing culture fosters an environment of innovation and autonomy. They put employee happiness first to help empower them to do their best work in the communities they serve.

Local businesses

Continued From Page 8

I assigned several of my crews to access the needs of the homes that had to be evacuated. We quickly realized that there were a lot of farm animals left behind that needed food. The McKenzie Feed Store basically opened their doors and gave us what we needed so we could feed hundreds of chickens, cows, pigs etc. for several weeks." Chris and employee Erika are shown in the photo.

Mickey Sullivan of McKenzie Valley Pump was nominated by Cora Lee Morissey. Cora Lee said that Mickey lost everything in the fire and MVP owner Ted West lost his shop and tools, and yet they were still working to help everyone on the river. She said she

could not thank them enough for their wonderful attitudes and incredible work ethics. Mickey was also nominated by several other community members for volunteering many hours to help those in need.

Taya Brock, and Daniel, of Takoda's Restaurant provided many meals and support for the first responders and fire fighters during the wildfire.

Emergency Animal Rescue Squad, Toni Ray, played a role in getting displaced animals reunited with their owners, and still are, two were reunited recently.

Brian and Kellie Cline of the Vida Cafe were recommended for providing services, meals and

support during the Holiday Farm wildfire.

The McKenzie Chamber also presented an Honorable Mention Plaque to business owners:

Alyssa Brownlee of Horse Creek Lodge. Alyssa took an active leadership role in helping the community immediately after the fire. She housed first responders and people who lost their homes.

Happy Dahlme, Everyone's Market in Vida for providing services, goods, support and staying open to help with the gas and propane needs for the community and first responders.

Friday 4/2		Saturday 4/3		Sunday 4/4	
McKenzie Valley Partly Cloudy 10% chance precip High: 61 Low: 38	Santiam Pass Partly Cloudy 10% chance precip High: 53 Low: 32	McKenzie Valley Cloudy 20% chance precip High: 60 Low: 41	Santiam Pass Cloudy 20% chance precip High: 52 Low: 30	McKenzie Valley Few Showers 30% chance precip High: 56 Low: 38	Santiam Pass Snow/Rain 40% chance precip High: 43 Low: 28

McKenzie River Reflections, USPS #467-530, PERIODICALS postage paid at Blue River and additional mailing offices. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to McKenzie River Reflections, 59059 Old McKenzie Hwy., McKenzie Bridge, Oregon 97413. 541-822-3358

WEATHER REPORT									
READINGS TAKEN AT THE US ARMY CORPS COUGAR DAM			READINGS TAKEN AT THE EWEB LEABURG POWERHOUSE						
Date	High	Low	Rain	Releases	Date	High	Low	Rain	Riverflow
3/23	60	41	NA	320 cfs	3/23	48	33	0.18	4,030 cfs
3/24	52	39	NA	320 cfs	3/24	57	34	0.01	3,570 cfs
3/25	51	43	NA	320 cfs	3/25	47	39	0.47	3,760 cfs
3/26	61	43	NA	320 cfs	3/26	50	35	0.06	3,690 cfs
3/27	72	38	NA	320 cfs	3/27	60	35	0	3,500 cfs
3/28	70	41	NA	320 cfs	3/28	67	37	0	3,370 cfs
3/29	53	49	NA	330 cfs	3/29	61	33	0.19	3,480 cfs

Sheriff's Report

On March 29 at about 1:27pm the Lane County Sheriff's Office was notified of a vehicle crash on Marcola Road near Alder Branch Road. It was reported a motorcycle and a pickup truck were involved in a head on collision. Deputies responded and investigated the crash. Based on statements and the roadway evidence on scene, it appeared that the motorcycle crossed over into the pickup's lane of travel. It is unknown what caused the motorcycle to enter the opposing lane. The airbags inside the pickup deployed and the driver was wearing a seatbelt. The driver of the pickup was uninjured. The operator of the motorcycle was wearing proper riding gear, including a helmet, but was pronounced deceased on scene. The deceased was identified as a 60-year-old Eugene resident. Next of kin are still working on making notifications to family out of the area.

March 13: 12:55p.m: Suspicious Conditions - 92000 block,

Maple Ln. - Caller reported lots of late night noise and traffic at a property.

March 20: 3:20 p.m: Suspicious Vehicle - Shotgun Creek Rd. & Milepost 10. Caller reported a suspicious vehicle with broken windows. Determined to be in Linn Co.

March 21: 12:29 a.m: Suspicious Conditions - McK. Hwy. & Horse Creek Rd. - Caller reported being threatened by a former employee.

March 22: 11:48 a.m: Panic Alarm - 38700 blk, Natures Garden St.

6:24 p.m: Disturbance, Dispute - Marcola Rd. & Spicer Ln.

6:44 p.m: Disturbance, Dispute - 37300 Tree Farm Rd. Domestic Dispute. Deputies responded and determined no crime had been committed. Parties separated for the night.

7:34 p.m: Civil Problem - 91800 blk, Horse Creek Rd.

March 23: 3:25 a.m: Alarm - 91800 blk, Mill Creek Rd.

3:58 a.m: Vehicle Stop - McK. Hwy. & Cedar Flat Rd.

4:34 a.m: Vehicle Stop - McK. Hwy. & Cedar Flat Rd.

7:37 a.m: Alarm - 93100 blk, Marcola Rd.

9:54 p.m: Threat, Harassment - 47800 blk, McK. Hwy.

March 24: 1:20 a.m: Menacing - 39400 blk, Mohawk Loop Rd.

8:27 a.m: Assist, Information - 87900 blk, Running Spring Dr.

10:38 a.m: Suspicious Conditions - Shotgun Creek Rd. & Marcola Rd.

11:44 a.m: Civil Service - 92600 blk, Pioch Ln.

4:46 p.m: Assist, Follow Up - 90600 blk, Sunderman Rd.

5:12 p.m: Vandalism, Criminal Mischief - 39300 blk, McK. Hwy.

7:05 p.m: Assist, Information - McGowan Creek Rd. & Donna Rd.

9:23 p.m: Suspicious Vehicle - 42700 blk, McK. Hwy.

March 25: 8:54 a.m: Animal Complaint - 87500 blk, Cedar Flat Rd.

10:44 a.m: Vandalism, Criminal Mischief - 48000 blk, Conley Rd. Caller reported that an unknown person used an excavator to damage property.

11:38 a.m: Vicious Animal - Charley Ln. & MJ Chase Rd.

1:11 p.m: Unlawful Entry Motor Vehicle - 91100 blk, Marcola Rd.

3:11 p.m: Mental Subject - 91800 blk, Mill Creek Rd.

5:36 p.m: Narcotics, Drug Info - Maple Ln. & Marcola Rd.

9:28 p.m: Burglary - 92600 blk, Paschelke Rd. Caller reported a family member likely stole items from the home.

March 26: 11:33 a.m: Acci-

dent, ATV Injury - Cascade View staging area.

2:13 p.m: Disturbance, Dispute - 91700 blk, Horse Creek Rd.

3:06 p.m: Disturbance, Dispute - 91800 blk, Horse Creek Rd.

5:25 p.m: Menacing - 92200 blk, Murdoch St.

6:29 p.m: Welfare Check - 37900 blk, Green Ln.

8:37 p.m: Hit & Run - 91800 blk, Mill Creek Rd.

March 27: 10:47 a.m: Theft From Vehicle - 35200 blk, McK. View Dr.

11:00 a.m: Hit & Run - 91800 blk, Mill Creek Rd. Caller reported a gray Chevrolet Tahoe or Trailblazer was involved in a traffic crash in a parking lot near

Continued On Page 5

State Police Report

March 25: 08:40: Crash, Non-Injury - Hwy. 126E, Milepost 38. Crash involving two SUVs. In addition to the crash investigation, there was a DUII investigation initiated after evidence was discovered indicating possible intoxication of one of the involved operators. Involved: white Subaru, blue Honda.

22:42: Crash, Non-Injury - Hwy. 126E, Milepost 30. Unit #1 was traveling westbound. Operator #1 stated he was distracted by the headlights of an oncoming vehicle making a right turn from Hwy. 126. When he looked back at the roadway he realized he had drifted off of the roadway. Operator #1 failed to correct the turn and drove

Continued On Page 5

McKenzie Fire & Rescue

March 21: 11:33: 40000 block, McK. Hwy. Medical Alarm. False Alarm.

3/21/2021 McK. Hwy. Milepost 32. Motor Vehicle Accident, Non-injury. Non-Injury/ Non-Blocking.

22:56: McK. Hwy. Mp. 9. MVA, Injury. 2 Patients Assessed, 1 Transported.

March 22: 7:32: Thomson Ln./ McK. Hwy. Patient Evaluation. Patient Assessed, Refusal.

March 23: 5:44: 91000 blk, Taylor Rd. Smoke from a Structure. Out on Arrival, Extension Check.

March 24: 8:40: McK. Hwy. Mp. 38. MVA, Non-injury. Awaited OSP, road crews controlled traffic.

March 25: 22:42: McK. Hwy. Mp. **Continued On Page 5**

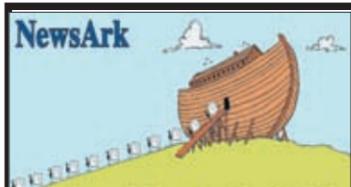
Upper McKenzie Fire/Rescue

March 23: 10:03: Medical - 56578 McK. Hwy. Evaluation.

March 25: 08:36: Motor Vehicle Accident - McK. Hwy. /Milepost 38. Vehicle on its side, person still in car. Unknown injury, blocking traffic.

March 26: 15:18: MVA - McK. Hwy./Mp. 47. Two vehicle accident, one occupant complaining of chest pain.

The Upper McK. Fire District board of directors will hold its monthly meeting on Wednesday, April 21st, at the McK. Fire Station, 56578 McK. Hwy. in McKenzie Bridge, at 7 p.m.



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

From November 5, 1991 edition of McKenzie River Reflections

Roberts Fields Finn Rock Queries
Governors 'Conversation' Reaches Across Oregon

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Day Of Training Stresses Quick Response

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Giant skeleton recalled legend of pirate treasure

By Finn J.D. John

On February 20, 1931, a former Lincoln County commissioner named Elmer Calkins looked behind his tractor at the plow he was pulling and saw human bones strewn out along the furrow behind it.

Calkins was working up a patch of land near the mouth of the Salmon River so that it could be flattened out into a smooth, park-like landscape for the summer camping resort he was building there. The new Roosevelt Highway — Highway 101 — was mostly built, and car-tripping tourists from the Willamette Valley were starting to make beach trips part of their summer plans. Calkins hoped a few of them would come camp at his place so they could play on the nearby beach, a long sandy strand beneath Cascade Head in north Lincoln County known as Three Rocks Beach.

The field he was smoothing out was uneven for a reason: It was peppered with shellfish middens, basically miniature landfills used by Native Americans for disposal of clam and mussel shells, fish bones, and the odd worn-out whalebone club or stone knife. It was in one of these that, unexpectedly, human bones had turned up.

Calkins got off his tractor, got a shovel, and dug up the rest of the body. It was, he immediately noticed, enormous. Most accounts say it was around eight feet tall, and that the skull was over two-thirds of an inch thick in its beefiest spot, with unusually big cheekbones and forehead.

A bit more digging turned up a second, more normal-sized skeleton, the skull of which had been pierced by an arrow and bashed in with something like a stone ax.

Evidence of the truth of a legend?

Calkins and his neighbors at first thought they'd simply stumbled across a Native American burial.



www.westwind.org
Three Rocks Beach, Camp Westwind, the mouth of the Salmon River and Cascade Head as they appear today, photographed from an aircraft in the golden light of an early summer evening. Photo is from the Camp Westwind web site.

But the more they talked about it, the less sense that made. The Native Americans would no sooner have buried a body in a shellfish midden than we would toss one in a landfill today — unless it were the body of a deadly enemy.

Also — there was an old story still being told along the Salmon River estuary, an old Indian tale. According to the story, a “winged canoe” had foundered just inside the mouth of the Salmon, possibly having mistaken it for the Siletz or the Nehalem in the fog. This would have been a fatal error, since it’s sometimes possible to walk across the mouth of the Salmon without getting one’s shirt wet.

The crew, more than 20 men, had rowed ashore with a heavy chest of the type one would fill with pirate loot. This they buried, and then, leaving two of their number behind, set out east over land, never to be heard from again.

The two they left behind, according to the legend, were a gigantic black man and a regular-sized white guy. These two didn’t last long before they made the natives angry enough to kill them.

Now, most of the neighbors thought this story was entirely made up, or perhaps had been “borrowed” from the legend of

the buried treasure on Neahkahnie Mountain, just a couple dozen miles up the coast. But Calkins thought there might be something in it, because he’d frequently snagged his fishing nets on a wreck a little way inside the mouth of the river. Knowing the legend, he’d been curious enough to investigate it one day, and confirmed it; it was in about 12 feet of water, the ribs sticking up and rotting away.

Calling in professional help Calkins contacted Oregon historian Dr. John Horner of Oregon State University (then named Oregon Agricultural College) and Dr. F.M. Carter, a physician with an established practice among the remaining coastal Native American tribes in the area. Carter confirmed that the pedigree of the legend as having come from the tribes and being very old, and after reassembling the skeletons gave his professional opinion that the large one was of African descent — although how he was able to be sure of this, given the body’s unique and freakish size and shape, is not clear. It’s certainly possible that, mindful of the legend, he was expecting to see Africa in it from the outset.

The presence of gold or buried treasure in any story has an immediate corruptive influence on its truthfulness, and this effect seems to have kicked in on this story very early in the process. According to accounts from the 1950s, Horner took the bones back to OSU and actually wrote a paper on the find. However, the bones later mysteriously disappeared from the university, and there’s no sign of the paper having been published. Moreover, Horner died in 1933, so by the time these accounts were published, he couldn’t exactly be asked about

it. The newspapers of the 1930s don’t mention Horner at all — or Carter either, for that matter.

Treasure hunters move in

In any case, the story touched off a wave of trouble for Elmer Calkins, who found himself having to deal with tourists of the wrong sort — tourists who, rather than coming with money and expecting to leave a week later with less, come with no money and hoped to leave a week later as millionaires. Squatters became a problem. One nervy fellow asked permission to set up a fishing camp, and then pitched an enormous tent and started digging for the treasure underneath it; Calkins figured it out when he saw dirt spilling out from beneath one of the walls.

In the 1970s, Calkins’s son, Edward, mounted an expedition to try and retrieve the old “pirate ship” from the bottom of the Salmon, where it had been more or less covered with sand and silt. The younger Calkins claimed he had a special underwater metal detector that only picked up gold and silver and that it had told him, as the Oregonian put it, that there was “booty in the bilge” of the sunken wreck. If anything came of this, the newspapers were silent on it.

The pirate treasure of Camp Westwind

Today, the site Elmer Calkins was plowing up for his tourist camp is known as Camp Westwind. Westwind is a YWCA camp that holds a special place in the hearts of tens of thousands of former campers — few if any of whom know that it is entirely possible, if not particularly likely, that somewhere on its rustic, oceanside grounds there lies a giant box of pirate loot.

Granted, it’s only slightly less likely that the Tooth Fairy lives in a tree house nearby. Still, it’s a fabulous bit of Oregon Coast folklore.

(Sources: *Portland Oregonian*, “Large skeleton found,” 2-21-1931, “Finding of old skeleton hints at early tragedy,” 4-05-1931, and “Buried treasure sought,” 5-19-1974; *Hult, Ruby. Lost Mines and Treasures. Portland: Binford, 1957*)

Finn J.D. John, an instructor at Oregon State University, writes about unusual and little-known aspects of Oregon history. His book about 1800s Portland, “Wicked Portland,” is scheduled for release this summer from The History Press. To contact him or suggest a topic: finn@offbeatoregon.com, @OffbeatOregon (on Twitter), or 541-357-2222.



By Slim Randles

We hadn’t seen our pal, Steve the cowboy, at the philosophy counter at the Mule Barn truck stop for a while. After a week’s absence, he showed back up for his daily ration of caffeine, and it was obvious he’d lost some weight, if not attitude.

“Hospital again,” he said. We nodded. Steve has internal workings situations from time to time. Usually, these happen during a cold snap when the bunkhouse needs extra firewood. He swears this is just a coincidence.

He appreciates doctors a lot, it turns out. Especially young, cute, female-lady-type doctors. He has two of them that look after him. To quote Steve: “Cuter’n a pocketful of baby mouses!”

But nurses? That’s another thing entirely.

“They run this nurse in on me,” he said, “to give me one of them baths, you know?”

Doc grinned. “Cute, was she, Steve?”

“Cute? Doc, her face looked like it had worn out two bodies. She had the exact aerodynamics of a milk carton, and the human kindness of a meter maid. I didn’t stand a chance!”

“Food any better this year?” asked Herb.

We had heard all about 12,000 mile-an-hour toast last year and how they had used it as heat shields on the space shuttle.

“Boys, they don’t have food in that hospital. They just want to tease you by telling you it’s edible stuff. You just take our special Sunday dinner. They called it ribeye steak.”

We waited while he sucked down another cup of coffee and asked Loretta to bring him something that wasn’t good for his situation.

“Ribeye sounds good, Steve.”

“Ribeye? RIBEYE? Say listen, guys, I don’t know what gopher they cut that off of, but it was sure as sin a long-distance gopher. That was so small and tough ... I’ll bet that steak had more miles on it than my pickup.”

Brought to you by Packing the Backyard Horse by Slim Randles. Available at Amazon.com.

Quote of the Week

“A vote is like a rifle: its usefulness depends upon the character of the user.”

Theodore Roosevelt

MVP

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Country Kitchen

By Mary Emma Allen



SPRING & LITTLE LAMBS

Spring reminds me of the little lambs at my uncle's farm in the days of my childhood. I grew up in New York State, and there the week following Easter Sunday was spring vacation from school. We children often spent part of that time at my uncle's farm, where my grandmother lived and my mom had grown up.

Uncle Webster had a small dairy farm, but he also raised sheep. The little lambs greeted us during vacation. He also had a rocky pasture where they frolicked with their moms.

Often there were lambs we helped feed on the bottle. Perhaps the mother didn't have enough milk. Or, if she had twins, she might refuse to own one. Then Aunt Bess (Web's wife) and Auntie (Web's sister) would feed them until the little lambs could get along on their own.

I remember one Aunt Bess raised on a bottle. It would follow her and Auntie around the yard and even come into the kitchen if she could.

Paintings of Lambs

My sister, a cancer survivor, has taken up painting and sketching.

Many of her works of art reflect memories of our childhood. She has done one of Lambs & Spring of our visits at the Trails End Farm. I recently sent my sister a photo of the little lambs we used to see and bottle feed at the farm. Thought it would bring back fond memories to her, as it did for me.

Trails End Recipes

Auntie loved to cook and to teach Sister and me her recipes. I've been fortunate to have acquired her notebook with hand written recipes going back to her grandmother.

CREAMED POTATOES was a farm favorite way of using leftover boiled potatoes.

Dice cooked potatoes into a frying pan or skilled, called a "spider" by my grandmother. Then add some cream or whole milk, but do not cover the potatoes. If you use milk, add a few pieces of butter, homemade on Trails End Farm.

Simmer, stirring often, but do not boil, until the liquid is thickened. Add salt and pepper to taste. (You can add a teaspoon or so of flour so it will thicken more quickly.)

(c) 2021 Mary Emma Allen



Gardening Tips

By Kym Pokorny



"Tree to Know" book turns 70

"Trees to Know in Oregon and Washington," the most popular publication in the Oregon State University Extension Service catalog, celebrates 70 years with a new edition.

Author and Professor Emeritus Edward Jensen, who taught thousands of students about tree identification in his tenure from 1976 to 2014 in the OSU College of Forestry, added several rare species from southwestern Oregon. He also updated botanical names, included additional information on trees and forests of Washington and wrote a short section on how climate change might affect Northwest forests.

To celebrate the new edition's publication, a launch party is scheduled for 6 to 7 p.m. on March 30. There is a limited number of seats to participate in the Zoom webinar, but anyone will be able to watch the livestream on YouTube. There will be book giveaways and pop quizzes to test the audience's knowledge of native trees. By the end of the event, the audience should be able to use tools to identify native conifers and broadleaf trees, as well as 50 non-native ornamental trees; recognize Northwest forest ecosystems and understand how the changing climate will impact them.

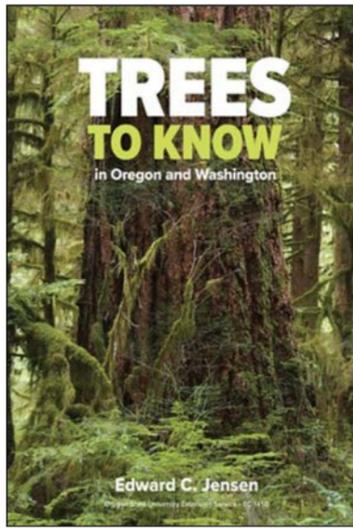
Jensen took over the book from the original author Charlie Ross in the 1990s, when it was still a stapled publication with black-and-white line drawings. This new edition, the third by Jensen, is in full color with most of the photos taken by the author.

The new 173-page edition describes more than 125 trees, each illustrated with several photos, as well as keys that winnow down the genus (plant group). Jensen provides written identification and tells stories about each tree. The stories are about medicinal plant use, Native American plant uses, history and plant characteristics.

"This is more than a tree ID book," Jensen said. "The joy of it is that there's enough information that allows people to ID trees and enough about natural history and ecology that can get them excited about learning about trees and the forest they comprise."

Climate change was an important consideration for the book, Jensen said. With forestry Professor David Shaw's help, he wrote a chapter about how Pacific Northwest forests are likely to adapt to a change in climate.

The book covers the geography of Oregon, Washington, much of British Columbia and the panhandle of Idaho. Jensen



stopped at the California border but includes a few trees that are primarily Californian but cross into southern Oregon. Some of them are very rare, like the Hinds walnut that grows along several creeks near Medford and south into California.

Four cypress species in the are so rare in Oregon that some include only several specimens and some only entered botanical literature in Oregon around 1990. Most of them are common in California and Jensen assumed they were moving into Oregon because of climate change but discovered they are residuals from at least the Pleistocene era, which ended more than 11,000 years ago.

"They each tell an interesting story," said Jensen, who worked on the new edition for a year. "A lot of them are at risk of climate change, wildfires and flooding."

Additional ornamental trees were added to the new edition, which includes them because they are most often seen in urban and suburban areas where people live, while native trees comprise a relatively small number of trees in towns and cities. Many people recognize iconic big leaf maples and Doug-firs, but most new developments are planted with non-natives.

Jensen recommends the book because of its simplicity. While there are a number of books that describe trees of the Northwest, they either have shorter descriptions and less natural history or are complex and intimidating.

Outdoor enthusiasts, gardeners and people new to the Northwest will appreciate the easy-to-read style of the book, which is small enough to be carried on hikes around Oregon and Washington. Order a copy of "Trees to Know in Oregon and Washington" from the OSU Extension catalog.

Sheriff's Report

Continued From Page 3

the intersection of Mill Creek Rd. and McK. Hwy. The driver, possibly intoxicated, left the scene eastbound on McK. Hwy. towards Bend.

12:01 p.m: Vandalism, Criminal Mischief - 39300 blk, McK. Hwy.

12:01 p.m: Vandalism, Criminal Mischief - 48000 blk, Conley Rd.

2:45 p.m: Driving While Suspended - 45600 blk, McK. Hwy.

3:36 p.m: Vehicle Stop - McGowan Quarry.

6:31 p.m: Vehicle Stop - McK. Hwy. & Partridge Ln.

6:43 p.m: Vehicle Stop - McK. Hwy. & Partridge Ln.

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

State Police Report

Continued From Page 3

into the ditch. Involved: green Toyota Tundra, 47-year-old male from McKenzie Bridge.

March 26: 11:41: Traffic Complaint - Hwy. 126E, Milepost 12. Troopers responded to a driving complaint on 126 westbound within the area of Walterville described as erratic operation of a motor vehicle. The driver was subsequently transported to River Bend hospital for possible controlled substance abuse and possible overdose pending further investigation. Involved: gold van, 31-year-old male from Vancouver, WA.

15:18: Crash, Injury - Hwy. 126E, Milepost 47.5. Two vehicle injury crash at the intersection of Mill Creek Rd. Several of the involved individuals were transported to River Bend hospital with non life-threatening injuries. Involved: gray Nissan Kicks, white Chevy Silverado, 15-year-old male from Wichita, Kansas, 58-year-old male from Eugene.

McKenzie Fire & Rescue

Continued From Page 3

30. MVA. Non-injury. Scene handed over to OSP.

March 26: 12:15: McK. Hwy./Walterville Ln. Assist Police. Patient Assessed, 1 Transported.

13:32: 41000 blk, Madrone St. Medical, Trauma. Patient Assessed, 1 Transported.

20:34: 7000 blk, Thurston Rd. Medical, General. Patient Assessed, 1 Transported.

March 27: 8:14: 87000 blk, Lupe Ln. Medical, General. Patient Assessed, 1 Transported.

14:40: 87000 blk, Cedar Flat Rd Medical, Heart. Patient Assessed, 1 Transported.

McKenzie Fire & Rescue will hold its monthly Board of Directors meeting the Monday; April 19th, at noon, at the Leaburg Training Center, 42870 McK. Hwy.. For notary and other business services, please call ahead to schedule an appointment and observe public guidelines by wearing, at minimum, a mask.



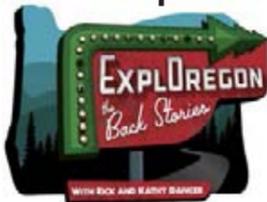
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Community Notes

Meeting Rescheduled

The Eugene Water & Electric Board has decided to postpone its April 20th (virtual) Upriver Meeting. Given some of the difficulties and limitations of holding a virtual meeting, EWEB General Manager Frank Lawson and Commissioners have instead decided to hold an in-person meeting at 6 p.m. on June 15th at the McKenzie Fire & Rescue Training Center. The meeting will be held outside the training center. Topics will include: watershed status and investments, customer programs, including rebuilding opportunities. discussion will center around programs for McKenzie Valley customer recovery specific to the area, wildfire mitigation, McKenzie River generation updates - focusing on the Leaburg Canal and road-mapping future decisions, potential price changes and the status of the upriver Cost of Service Analysis, along with a general question and answer session.

New Wilderness Permits

The Willamette and Deschutes Forests public permit reservations for the Central Cascade Wilderness Permit System begin next week.

On Tuesday, April 6 at 7 a.m. PDT Central Cascades Wilderness Permits will be reservable at Recreation.gov. The permit system begins the Friday before Memorial Day (May 28, 2021) and ends on the last Friday in September (Sept. 24, 2021). Wilderness permits are required for all overnight use in the Mt. Jefferson, Mt. Washington, and Three Sisters wilderness areas. Day-use permits are required on 19 of the 79 trails into those same three wildernesses.

People are encouraged to go to Recreation.gov prior to next Tuesday and create an account. To find the permits put Central Cascades Wilderness into the search bar and

all permit options for day-use or overnight use will show. There is a \$1 processing charge for day-use permits per individual and a \$6 processing charge for overnight-use permits per group. An overnight group can be from 1 to 12 people.

Overnight Use Permit Availability:

40% of overnight permits will be available on April 6, 2021.

60% available of overnight permits will be available on a 7-day rolling window beginning May 28, 2021. The 7-day rolling window means that every day new permits will be available.

Day Use Permit Availability:

20-50% of a trailhead's full season will be available on April 6, 2021.

50-80% of a trailhead's permits will be available on a 7-day rolling window on May 28, 2021. The 7-day rolling window means that every day new permits will be available.

All reservations must be made through Recreation.gov either online, by calling (877) 444-6777 or TDD Line at 877-833-6777 from 10 a.m. - 12 a.m. (Eastern Time Zone). People may go to a Willamette or Deschutes National Forests office to reserve a permit. However, currently Forest Service offices are closed due to COVID-19 and people should call an office ahead of going.

For more information about the permit system and planning a wilderness trip, people should go to: <https://bit.ly/2P18jtT>.

Recovery Info Days

Wildfire Recovery Information Days are being held at the McKenzie River Discovery Center (MRDC) at Leaburg Lake, every Thursday from 10 am - 4 pm. The center will be staffed by: Devin Thompson, Fire Restoration Community Coordinator, representing Northwest Youth Corps and Pure Water Partners; Matt McRae, Dis-

aster Recovery Manager, Lane County Emergency Management; White Bird Clinic, providing informal counseling services and emotional support

On the third Thursday of each month: Lucy Zammarelli, Lane County Health and Human Services

People should park in the public wayside and walk over to the historic hatchery buildings. Please wear a mask, wash your hands and practice social distancing.

This program is generously supported by United Way Lane County, the Ford Family Foundation and other anonymous MRDC

donors.

Scholarships are available

In honor of their late son, Joe McCall, Jerry and Meredith McCall are proud to offer \$5,000 dollars in scholarship monies, to be divided among multiple applicants graduating from McKenzie River Community School. Recipients will be chosen on the basis of their community involvement, academic achievement and a strong desire to further their education at a 4-year university, community college or trade school. These scholarships are designed to finan-

cially help a student, who might not otherwise be able to fund their higher education.

Required documentation includes an unofficial transcript (3.0 GPA required), a brief description about the applicant, their character, background and interests. Also, explain why they would be a great candidate for this scholarship. In addition, attach the names of two references, including address and telephone numbers, along with an additional sheet listing extracurricular activities, honors and awards received.

Applications are due to the high school office by April 30th.

Holiday Farm Fire Recovery Progress Report

Within days after it was safe to enter fire-impacted areas, EWEB, McKenzie River Trust, McKenzie Watershed Council, and the Upper Willamette Soil & Water Conservation District, along with other Pure Water Partners, began working with landowners to identify high priority properties for intervention and stabilize them until the EPA and state agencies could respond to remove and dispose of the hazardous waste, ash/debris, asbestos, and other materials. In addition, the Pure Water Partners worked to pivot the coalition's work towards supporting upriver landowners with burn assessments and erosion control measures.

Here are some of the results of the work of Pure Water Partners (PWP) so far:

- Conducted an immediate response to stage and cover hazardous waste, pull back ash and debris, and/or install erosion control (wattles and silt fencing) between destroyed homes and river at nearly 80 high priority properties.
- Conducted burn assessments on over 230 high priority properties to identify hazard trees and design

erosion control measures tailored to each property.

- Implemented erosion control measures including hydroseeding, check dams, wattles, silt fencing, and jute mats on over 100 properties with the support of Northwest Youth Corps and local contractors.

You can track progress of the recovery and restoration efforts using the web-based dashboard developed by Lane Council of Governments (LCOG) at eweb.org/hff-landowners.

The next phase of watershed restoration efforts will focus on

revegetation using native plant species provided by the Bonneville Environmental Foundation. The PWP plans to replant nearly 100 acres of high priority burned riparian and floodplain areas. To date, over 30 sites and about 50 acres have been replanted.

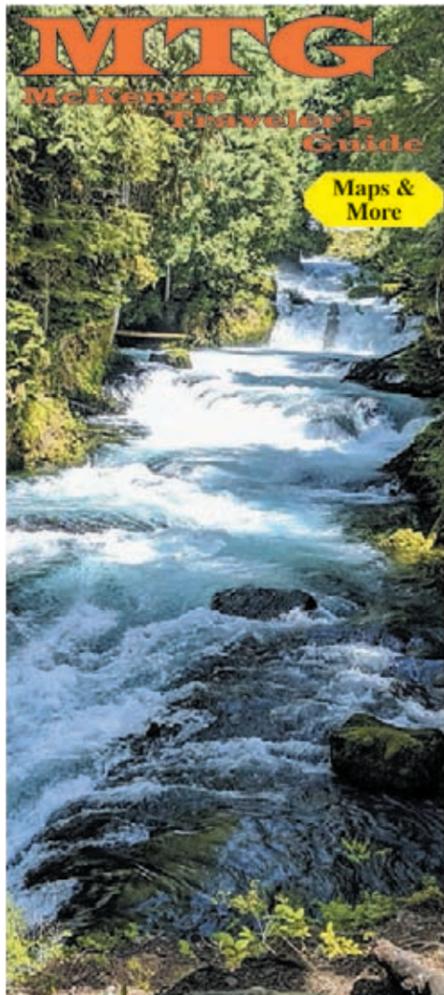
If you are interested in assistance with immediate native tree and shrub planting or long-term riparian restoration projects, please sign up for a PWP site assessment by visiting www.purewaterpartners.org.



Executive Director Position Available
 McKenzie River Chamber of Commerce. Applicant to have good presentation skills, knowledge of all communities' needs, technical skills with computer, website and social media. Attend meetings. More info and resume to info@McKenzieChamber.com. Apply by April 5th. Top three Interviews by April 14th. MRCC is an equal opportunity employer. All qualified persons will be considered.



<p>An Invitation to Worship</p>	<p>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)</p>
<p>McKenzie Bible Fellowship 43661 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</p>	<p>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</p>
<p>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</p>	
<p>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</p>	



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Direct Answers

By Wayne & Tamara Mirchell

Buried Truths

My wife and I married in the early 1980s. I was her first. Sixteen months into our marriage, she took me to a party and made out with another man on the floor in front of me and our friends.

It was intentional. She later said she was trying to make me mad and get a reaction out of me. I saw it as a public emasculation. I grew up in an alcoholic household and was emotionally undeveloped as a result of my childhood. I was mad but I shut down.

A year later she had an emotional affair. There was a public emasculation involved with that as well. We went into counseling and I thought we had resolved the issue.

Several months later, she moved to another city to further her education. I stayed home and worked. When I went to visit eight months later, she told me she had been sleeping with three other men and they were "friendships that got out of hand."

That was another public emasculation. Hours before she told me about the affairs, she took me to a party. I shook hands and chatted with two of the men she had been sleeping with.

We went back into counseling where the goal of the counselor was to keep the marriage together. At the end, I was told it was my fault because I was "emotionally unavailable" to my wife. In my opinion, a lot of that "emotional unavailability" started when boyfriends started.

We did counseling for months.

I couldn't accept what happened. Something snapped, I suppose. I "decided" to pretend that it never happened. I buried it.

My wife's affairs stopped, but I soon started drinking and became a closet alcoholic for a decade. I sobered up 22 years ago.

We were very successful in our careers. I retired two years ago. My head cleared from my extremely busy job, and a year ago I decided to go back in my mind and see if something needed to be addressed.

I realized that for the last 30 years, I never thought about the affairs. I knew they happened but never thought about them. I found that odd.

That's when the panic attack started. Just like in your book *Cheating in a Nutshell*, disgust, anger, and trauma hit me like a brick. It's as if I opened an old door and found everything I left back in the 80s.

I brought it up to my wife. She said she wanted to talk about the affairs but I had always blown it off when it came up (which is true). We went into marriage counseling again, and I went into individual counseling.

These feelings won't leave me alone. I quickly realized that I should have divorced my wife 35 years ago. I told her this. I also learned more details about the last three affairs. They were worse than I thought.

Our conversations over the last year have deepened our relationship. We both realize now there had been a wall between

us for 34 years, and it was my unconscious reaction to the affairs. Our sex life over the last year has also been better than ever.

Still, a powerful voice in me demands retribution. It is furious. It is livid. It is disgusted. It demands divorce. I'm having trouble sleeping. I have mind movies. I get sudden flashes of other men's hands on my wife's body. It's the same voice I killed in the 1980s.

The rest of me knows leaving now would be ridiculous, if for no other reason than it would wreck our retirement. She has been an excellent wife for three decades, and we are very close.

ut the battle in my mind remains. It is constant and sometimes I wonder which side will win. An old wound reopened and a realization that it never healed. I stayed with the source of my trauma.

Phil

A Phil, let's start at the beginning.

You weren't too "emotionally unavailable" for your wife to marry, but you were so emotionally unavailable it excused her affairs and deliberate emasculations. To block those memories, you turned into a closet drinker, buried yourself in work, and she suddenly became faithful.

We don't find that story plausible. How did that fix her excuse—"emotional unavailability"? Even more, as a heavy drinker who buried himself in work, how could you know whether her affairs ended?

The counselor who wanted to "save the marriage" hurt you grievously. PTSD was officially recognized in 1980, and discussions of serious trauma were all over the popular press.

Yet this individual was incapable of recognizing your trauma, right before his or her own eyes.

Your wife got herself a defense attorney and you were without representation. You were not a couple having tiffs over childcare responsibilities or the family budget. You were the victim of your wife's affairs and public humiliations.

This needed one session. "These two don't belong married. She is repeatedly unfaithful." Done.

o instead of one session, the counselor got months and months of pay.

hen, with botched counseling behind you, you found ways to mask the problem.

When you retired, you did not "decide" to go back and reexamine what happened in the 1980s. Those memories disintegrated themselves. In your heart you know, if you had divorced your wife 35 years

ago, you could have had all those years with the woman who was the love of your life.

That's what your wife took from you.

Why are things better than ever? Most probably she senses something from you, and she fears you will make her pay for her actions.

Your mind, your body, and your soul will continue to plague you because disgust, anger, and the traumatic response are baked into us as human beings.

You can't say you have a good marriage and say your soul is crying out for justice. You don't get to ride the fence like that. A well-lived life cannot be lived straddling the fence. Fence-straddling neuters you.

Wayne & Tamara

write: *Directanswers@WayneAndTamara.com*

up and down, he will gather himself, flutter once or twice, and then rise, a streak of dazzling color against a slowly lifting sky.

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 José "Divorce" from Rattle, (No. 70, Winter 2020). Poem reprinted by permission of José Alcantara and the publisher. Introduction copyright ©2021 by The Poetry Foundation. The introduction's author, Kwame Dawes, is Chancellor's Professor of English and Glenna Luschei Editor of Prairie Schooner at the University of Nebraska.

American Life in Poetry

José Alcantara's poem, which appeared in the Winter 2020 issue of *Rattle*, seems simple enough—a splendid and hopeful account of a familiar moment—a bird stunned by a collision with glass, held in the hand and then, recovered, it flies away. Then we return to the title, "Divorce," and we see it's doing what poems like to do, take one moment to describe another, seemingly unrelated moment. In the end it is a poem about resilience and care, something we all need.

Divorce

By José Alcantara
He has flown headfirst against the glass and now lies stunned on the stone patio, nothing moving but his quick beating heart. So you go to him, pick up his delicate body and hold him in the cupped palms of your hands. You have always known he was beautiful, but it's only now, in his stillness, in his vulnerability, that you see the miracle of his being, how so much life fits in so small a space. And so you wait, keeping him warm against the unseasonable cold, trusting that when the time is right, when he has recovered both his strength and his sense of

Ski Report

March 30, 2021

The Hoodoo Ski Area reported on Tuesday that one inch of new snow fell overnight, bringing the base to 98 inches. Temperatures were 30 degrees mid-mountain and 32 at the base with East winds averaging 11 mph. For more information call 541-822-3337.

Mt. Bachelor reported temperatures of 26 degrees at the base and 29 degrees at mid-mountain on Tuesday. No new snow fell overnight, leaving the snowpack at 111 inches at mid-mountain. Tuesday was a sunny day with temperature expected to only rise to the high twenties or low thirties — typical for ushering out March!. Nine out of 15 lifts were open, along with 117 of the 117 trails. For more information call 541-382-7888.

Nez Perce language. In 1846 the press was removed to The Dalles and then taken to Hillsboro where it was used to print religious books and pamphlets. The press was donated to the Oregon Historical Society and is on display in the museum in Portland.

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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 Waltherville Loop, a block from the Waltherville Shopping Center. N/c-sub 5/15/-5/11/14

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Quilters/Needle Crafters

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

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

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A Moment in Oregon History

By Rick Steber (www.rick-steber.com)

April 1 - The first printing press to reach Oregon arrived in April of 1839. The small press was donated by a native church at Honolulu and brought by sailing ship to the Columbia River. It was transported upriver to Walla Walla and taken overland to Henry H. Spalding's Lapwai Mission in Idaho, where it was used to print a book in the

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Sheriff's Report

The driver, possibly intoxicated, left the scene

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Book of Trees

The new 173-page edition describes more than 125 trees

PAGE 5



April Fool's

Our annual edition - don't believe all you read.....

PAGE 1

Local businesses given a boost

Seven businesses nominated by community members and the McKenzie River Chamber of Commerce have been recognized for the help they freely gave after September's Holiday Farm Wildfire. \$500 checks were given to five business-

es: McKenzie Feed & Tackle owners Chris and Michelle Wright were nominated by Fire Chief, Darin Bucich. Darin said "once we felt we had control of the fire, at least around the houses, Clinic - Page 2

Vida Cafe



McKenzie Feed

Horse Creek Lodge



Everyone's Market



McKenzie Valley Pump



Takoda's Restaurant



Animal Rescue Squad



Clinic among top 200

Orchid Health, which acquired the McKenzie River Clinic, has been named one of the "100 Best Companies to Work For" by Oregon Business Magazine. Companies make the list based on the scores from confi-

dential surveys completed by employees who ranked aspects of their organization from corporate culture, to leadership, benefits, and more. Orchid Health ranked 29th overall for mid-sized Clinic - Page 2

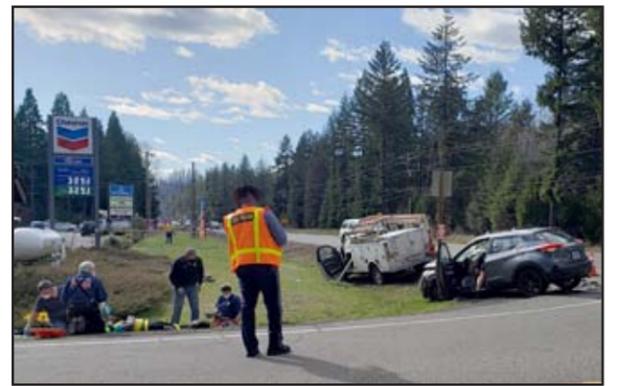
A very busy week

New Post Office taking shape



Replacement of the Blue River Post Office got a jump start this week when two halves of a pre-fabricated office were delivered and placed on a concrete slab. Interior work is scheduled through April 26th, with an Open House to follow.

Wrecks numbers increasing



This accident around 3:15 p.m. on Saturday involving a CenturyLink service truck and a Nissan Kicks sedan was one of a recent rash. For more details on incidents, including a fatality, go to the Police and Fire Reports on Page 3.

Free Wifi returns to Rainbow



Oregon Internet Research has completed their internet access outreach to the McKenzie Valley. However, a new non-profit, McKenzie Community Communications, has installed another free public wifi access box in Rainbow and is planning to install another one in Blue River.

Blue River continues cleanup



Weekends continue to draw volunteers to Blue River to help with a wide variety of tasks - ranging from basic cleanup to continuing tree removal. This weekend one of the larger projects saw power equipment taking down the former metal framed gas station.

They aren't blowing snow



After clearing right of way trees along Hwy. 126, crews from Suulutaq, Inc. are taking the wood chips they made to create ground cover for new grass seed. Believe it or not the machine doing all the work is snow blower.

Shed building is booming



Local residents with fire-related storage woes can be thankful to high school and college students around Lane County who've spent part of their Spring Break constructing what eventually could amount to 100 donated 8' x 8' sheds.