



JP Doodles

Appreciating that rooftop pitter patter

PAGE 2



Treasure

On the edge of a continent, crunching a trillion dollars of gold under your feet

PAGE 4



Home Country

Marvin realized he was casting a fly rod from a wheelchair onto dry pavement

PAGE 4

Serving for decades

Five McKenzie volunteers total 192 years

WILSONVILLE: At the Oregon Fire Chief's Association Awards luncheon last week five McKenzie Fire & Rescue volunteers received recognition for their long-term commitment to the community. They were all awarded the OFCA Award

of Excellence.

The OFCA is the only statewide forum that recognizes individuals for their long-term professionalism acts of courage and heroism.

"We were very honored to nominate them and thrilled

when we received notification that they were selected for the award," McKenzie Fire & Rescue Chief Darren Bucich said. "Combined, these gentlemen have dedicated 192 years to McKenzie Fire & Rescue."



McKenzie Fire & Rescue volunteers from left: Dana Burwell – 45 Years, Thomas Maddock – 45 Years, Rusty Flanders – 37 years, Dale Ledyard – 35 Years, and Jim Ellis – 30 Years of service.

Canopy fires = high mortality

Wind, heat and drought on western Cascades

In early September 2020, severe winds, high heat, and prolonged drought conditions led to the explosive growth of wildfires along the western slopes of the Cascades Mountains in the Pacific Northwest. The fires engulfed enormous tracts of forestland, destroyed communities, took dozen of lives, and cost hundreds of millions to fight.

In a first-of-its-kind study

examining burn patterns from the 2020 Labor Day fires, researchers at Portland State University studied the influence of weather, topography, vegetation and other factors on burn severity in areas where the fires killed more than 75% of the trees.

Their research confirms that extreme winds over the Labor Day holiday were the primary driver of the destructive force of the

fires yet demonstrates how forest vegetation structure (canopy height, the age of trees, etc.) and topography played a significant role in burn severity patterns.

According to the study's co-author, Andrés Holz, associate professor of geography at Portland State, the wet temperate forests of the Cascade Mountains in the Pacific Northwest have a history of experiencing megafires of the scale of those that burned in 2020, but none had occurred since the early twentieth century. Because the scope and scale of the burns were unprecedented in modern times, they provided the research team a unique opportunity to gain a better understanding of the factors that influence the high severity of burns in these rainforests, including those on the western slopes of the Cascades. That understanding can inform planning for future land-use management in forestlands

Canopy fires - Page 8



Crews responded to Washington's Cub Creek Fire during the 2021 fire season.

Deer Creek is on the mend

Recovery work continues in a "living laboratory"

MCKENZIE BRIDGE: Deer Creek could be seen as an example of building back better by moving toward the past. The large McKenzie River tributary is one of three upriver areas where the effects of human activities are being counterbalanced by human interventions that mimic nature

Over several decades, logging in the Deer Creek drainage, combined with severe flooding in 1964, scoured out the floodplain, clearing all vegetation. Following the flood, and for years to come, officials say the U.S. Forest Service salvaged most of the trees and logs that remained along the stream.

Other human interactions included creating berms that straightened the channel and caused the majority of the remaining wood, gravels, and fine sediments to be flushed out into the mainstream river. What was left behind was a fairly deep, narrow channel. Often times people heading east during heavy rains would see a muddy waters in the McKenzie until they passed by where Deer Creek tributary flowed in.

Those were among the messages delivered during a tour of rehabilitated riparian areas last week. On view were the results of several projects that have been underway since 2016 to counteract impacts to habitats for native species, - including threatened Spring Chinook Salmon and Bull Trout.



Last Thursday as about 2 inches of rain fell, Jared Weybright, Executive Director of the McKenzie Watershed Council, and Kate Meyer, a Fisheries Biologist with the USFS explained how the addition of logs and berms have helped the Deer Creek drainage change from a fast moving channel to what now looks more like the way the area appeared and functioned in historic times.

During a 2016 project, 200 trees were broken in half and placed in Deer Creek. In addition, 10,000 cubic yards of material was pushed into the mainstem channel to raise the streambed. In the years since all those numbers have greatly increased.

The Water & Electric Board's re-licensing for the Carmen-Smith hydro project was also beneficial. Power transmission lines were moved from along the creek channel to a slope above Deer Creek Road.

While that work was underway, over 1,000 large trees along the 17-acre transmission line corridor were added to restoration work areas.

The results have been encouraging. Back in 2017, spring Chinook salmon

were seen spawning in Deer Creek, for the first time since 1993. In addition, fisheries biologist Kate Meyer says several salmon carcasses have been found in log jams and are providing rich marine-derived nutrients to the freshwater ecosystem. A snorkel survey in the summer also documented juvenile bull trout have been using Deer Creek.

This year, partners including the McKenzie Watershed Council, U.S. Forest Service and the Eugene Water & Electric Board plan to restore the lower 1/4 mile down to the confluence with the McKenzie River. Realignment of the McKenzie River Trail and relocating a pedestrian bridge are in the planning stages too.

\$442 million more for fire relief

Public meeting at McKenzie School next Wednesday

The Oregon Housing and Community Services (OHCS) published a draft Action Plan for a \$422 million disaster recovery grant this week, funded by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). Officials say the effort, known as "ReOregon," was established to support individuals, households, and communities that are still recovering from the 2020 Labor Day Fires.

Assistance will primarily come in the form of new

permanent housing in the areas most impacted by the disaster. The proposed programs target fire survivors who were renters prior to the disaster or people who lost a home they owned.

"Feedback from the community plays a critical role in the development of the plan and recovery programs," according to Alex Campbell, chief external affairs officer for Disaster Recovery and Resiliency at Oregon Housing and Community Services.

"That is why we want to make it easy for Oregonians to do so in whatever format works best for them. In particular, we are very interested to hear from fire survivors themselves and will be visiting four of the most-impacted counties to hold public hearings."

Through June 1st, OHCS is seeking public comment on the draft Action Plan for spending the funds, known as Community Development Block Grant-Disaster

Fire relief - Page 7



McKenzie Varsity Sports
Schedule This Week

The McKenzie Varsity Track and Field Teams participate in the 1A - SD2 Special District 2 Championships held at the Aaron and Marie Jones Community Track, this Friday, May 13. Field events will start at 11:00 am and Track events will begin at 1:00 pm. Twenty-one District 2 Varsity teams are scheduled to participate.

District Track Championship
Comes To Aaron and Marie
Jones Community Track

Twenty-one Class 1A Varsity Boys and Girls Track and Field teams converge, this Friday, May 13, at the Aaron and Marie Jones Community Track venue. At stake is the opportunity to qualify for the OSAA State 1A Track and Field Championship Meet, which is scheduled for Thursday, May 19 and Friday, May 20, and held at Hayward Field, on the campus of the University of Oregon. This will be the final, and largest meet, this season, sponsored by the McKenzie Community Track and Field organization. Please plan to attend and enjoy a quality High School Varsity Boys and Girls Track and Field meet at one of the finest Track venues in the Pacific Northwest.

Local Eagles Enter
District Championships
With Top Ten Marks

Several McKenzie Varsity Track and Field Boys athletes enter the 1A - SD 2 Special District Championships this Friday with top ten District marks. Sophomore Levi Lockard currently owns the District 2 third best Shot Put mark of 38 ft. 10 in. Greg Reedy of Days Creek has the District and State best mark of 47 ft. 0 in. Lockard will compete in the Discus holding onto the seventh best District mark of 103 ft. 5 in., but will again face a State best competitor, Ray Gerrard of North Douglas, who enters with a 145 ft. 11 in. best throw.

Eagle Trent Peek owns a fifth best District Javelin throw of 120 ft. 2 in., Lockard is sitting tenth at 117 ft. 6 in. and both will again face Gerrard who enters with the top District record of 144 ft. 8 in. Peek’s tenth place Triple Jump mark of 32 ft. 5 in. follows Joseph Shepard of Mapleton who owns a current, State fifth best mark of 40 ft. 11.25 in.

The McKenzie 4x100 m. Relay team (Solomon Acevedo, Thomas Hayes, Griffin -Withalm, Peek) has the District 2 fifth best time of 50.30 sec., and the top time is held by Days Creek, 46.75 sec., which is also a fifth State best going in. Acevedo has run a District ninth best time of 2:33.39 min. and Logan Gant of North Douglas

leads that event with a 2:12.93 min. best. Griffin-Withalm has run a 11.98 sec. 100 m. best and will be attempting to overcome District 2 leader Keith Gaskell of Days Creek, who enters with a State second best time of 11.31 sec.

Eagles Set Several Personal
Records At Crow Meet

McKenzie Varsity Track and Field athletes earned several personal records last week, Tuesday, May 3, while participating in the annual Crow Cougar Country Cinder Classic. Both Eagle teams placed fourth in the team scores.

The Triangle Lake boy’s team won the day with 104 pts., holding off second place North Douglas, which earned 100.5 pts. Host Crow finished third with 93.5 pts., followed by the Eagles in fourth with 87 pts, Mapleton, fifth with 35 pts., and Elkton sixth with 3 pts.

The Triangle Lake girl’s team also won their meet with a dominating score of 134 pts. North Douglas finished second with 100 pts., and Crow earned third place with 69 pts. McKenzie was fourth with 43 pts., and Mapleton was fifth with 15 pts.

Eagle Thomas Hayes won the 100 m. race with a personal record

by Adrian Caulley, who finished second in the Long Jump with a 11 ft. 4 in mark, third in the Triple Jump at 22 ft. 1 in., and sixth in the 100 m., finishing in 16.17 sec. Eagle teammate Rebekah Short set a personal record for herself in the Triple Jump, leaping 20 ft. 6 in. for a fourth place finish. Short also took home seventh place in the 200 m. with a time of 39.20 sec. McKenzie’s Hailey Prater finished with the meet with a couple of third place finishes, 21 ft. 3 in. in the Shot Put and 78 ft. 11 in., in the Javelin, the latter mark a personal record. Prater also finished eighth in the Discus with a throw of 46 ft. 10 in.

McKenzie Takes On Class 3A
Track At Pleasant Hill

McKenzie and Mohawk, both Class 1A teams, traveled to Pleasant Hill, last Wednesday, May 4, to tackle Class 3A opponents in the 3A - SD4 Track and Field meet. Class 3A teams Cascade Christian, Creswell, Harrisburg, La Pine, South Umpqua, Sutherlin, and host Pleasant Hill rounded out the competition.

In the Girls competition, Eagle Adrian Caulley finished third in the Triple Jump, setting a personal record mark of 23 ft. 6.5 in. Caulley also finished sixteenth in the Long Jump at 11 ft. 4.25 in.

The McKenzie foursome of Solomon Acevedo, Hayes, LeClair and Peek had the highest Eagle running event finish for the day

time of 12.50 sec. McKenzie teammate Trent Peek set his own personal record in the 200 m., finishing second in the event and timed at 26.44 sec. Levi Lockard took second place in the Discus with a personal record mark of 103 ft. 05 in. Eagle teammate Cody Morales finished sixth in the Discus with a throw of 74 ft. 05 in. Morales, in his first Hammer throw event, finished second with a throw of 75 ft. 08 in. and Lockard was sixth with a toss of 50 ft. 11 in. Peek set his second personal record of the day in the Javelin, throwing the implement 120 ft. 02 in. Lockard followed in sixth place with a toss of 105 ft. 8 in. and Hayes finished eighth at 84 ft. 4 in. McKenzie’s Solomon Acevedo’s third place finish in the Long Jump was a personal record 15 ft. 10 in. and Hayes finished fifth with his second personal record mark of 15 ft. even. Lockard took home second in the Shot Put with a toss of 38 ft. 6 in. and Morales was tenth at 27 ft. 4 in. Hayes finished second in the 400 m. race with a time of 1 min. 10 sec., and Peek also finished second in the Triple Jump with a hop, skip, and jump mark of 32 ft. 9 in. Eagle teammate Jamie LeClair finished third behind Peek, with a leap of 30 ft. 6 in. LeClair set his own personal record in the 800 m. run, finishing the race in 5 min. 47.21 sec. Acevedo took fourth in the 800 m. with a time of 2 min. 37.38 sec.

The Eagle girls team was led

and she finished eighteenth in the 100 m. with a time of 15.65 sec. McKenzie teammate Rebekah Short finished eighteenth in the Long Jump with a leap of 10 ft. 2.25 in., finished twentieth in the 100 m., timed in at 16.49 sec., and finished thirteenth in the 200 m. race, crossing the finish line in 35.84 sec. McKenzie’s Hailey Prater finished sixth in the Javelin event with a throw of 74 ft. 1 in., twenty-second in the Discus at 48 ft. 4 in. and tied for fifteenth in the Shot Put, with a toss of 21 ft. 4 in.

Levi Lockard led his team at Pleasant Hill with a third place, personal record mark of 38 ft. 10 in. in the Shot Put event., a seventh place finish in the Discus with a 96 ft. 6 in. toss, and a ninth place finish in the Javelin, a stuck mark measured at 97 ft. 11 in. Eagle teammate Trent Peek finished sixth in the Javelin at 108 ft. 3 in. and Cody Morales finished twenty-third at 80 ft. 3 in., which was a personal best for the Eagle junior. Morales also threw the shot 27 ft. 2 in., another twenty-third place finish, and he took home twenty-second in the Discus with a 73 ft. 1 in. throw. In the Long Jump, Eagle Trent Peek tied for fourteenth at 16 ft. 0.5 in. and he was joined by teammate Thomas Hayes, who finished twenty-third with a leap of 14 ft. 10 in. Eagle Jamie LeClair set a personal record in the Triple Jump, 31 ft. 1 in., which was good for thirteenth.



The McKenzie foursome of Solomon Acevedo, Hayes, LeClair and Peek had the highest Eagle running event finish for the day and that came in the 4x100 m. Relay. The team ran the race in 51.52 sec., good for sixth place. Acevedo finished ninth in the 100 m., in a personal record 12.67 sec., and followed up with another personal record in the 200 m., finishing the race in a twelfth place time of 25.93 sec. LeClair’s 28.27 sec., twenty-second place finish, also set a personal record for the Eagle athlete. Peek finished thirteenth in the 100m., running the distance in 12.76 sec., and he was followed across the finish line by Hayes, who was timed at 13.40 sec. LeClair ran the 400 m. run in a fifteenth place time of 1 min. 6.6 sec., and Hayes finished eighteenth in 1 min. 8.33 sec.

Mt. West League Middle
School District Results


The McKenzie 5/6 Grade Boys team won their MWL MS District meet, scoring 119 pts. The Eagle 7/8 Grade Boys team finished third with 116 pts., following winner Crow, which scored 187 pts.

The McKenzie 5/6 Girls team tied for first with Triangle Lake, both teams scoring 45 pts. McKenzie’s 7/8 Grade Girls finished third with 84 pts. Triangle Lake won the 7/8 Grade Girls competition with 156 pts., and Alsea finished second with 94 pts.

In the Boys competition, the Eagle results were as follows. 100 m. 5/6: First, Fen Willis, Second, Liam Acevedo, Fourth, Noah O’Doal. 100 m. 7/8: First, A. Acevedo, Fifth, Rhys Hamlow. 200 m.: First, A. Acevedo,

Seventh, Avery Thoms. 400 m. 7/8: Fourth, F. Willis, Fifteenth, and N. O’Doal. 800 m.: Fourth, Cylas Sughroue, Fifth, A. Thoms. 1500 m.: Fourth, William Meister, Sixth, C. Sughroue. 3000 m.: Third, W. Meister. 100 m Hurdles: Third, R. Hamlow. 200 m. Hurdles: Third, F. Willis. 4X100 m. Relay: Second, (A. Acevedo, L. Acevedo, R. Hamlow, W. Meister), Third, (Jacob Norlund, N. O’Doal, F. Willis, C. Sughroue). Shot Put: Eighth, Jacob Peek. Discus 5/6: First, T.J. Doolin, Second Phillihp DuFault. Discus 7/8: Fourth, J. Peek. Javelin 5/6: First, T. Doolin, Second, J. Norlund, Third, Owen Young. Javelin 7/8: Eighth, J. Peek, Tenth, P. DuFault. High Jump 5/6: First, J. Norlund, Third, L. Acevedo, Fourth, O. Young. High Jump 7/8: Fourth, Skyler Lethcoe. Long Jump 5/6: First, L. Acevedo, Fourth, O. Young, Sixth, A. Thoms. Long Jump 7/8: First, A. Acevedo, Second R. Hamlow, Seventh, J. Norlund.







In the Girls competition, Eagle results were as follows: 100 m. 5/6: First, Nellie Sullivan. 100 m. 7/8: Sixth, Mya Triplett. 200 m. 7/8: Second, Claire Weiss. 800 m.: Second, C. Weiss. 1500 m.: Second, Myra Dion. 3000 m.: M. Dion. 100 m. Hurdles: Second, M. Triplett. 200 m. Hurdles: Second, N. Sullivan. 4X100 m. Relay: Second, (M. Triplett, Sophia Joy, C. Weiss, N. Sullivan). Shot Put 5/6: Second, S. Joy, Fifth, Aly Peek, Sixth, Gracie ‘Mackenzie. Shot Put 7/8: Sixth, Emma Sewell. Javelin 5/6: First, A. Peek. High Jump 7/8: Third, E. Sewell. Long Jump: First, N. Sullivan, Twelfth, G. Mackenzie.

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Friday 5/13		Saturday 5/14		Sunday 5/15	
					
McKenzie Valley Rain 40% chance precip High: 59 Low: 50	Santiam Pass Rain/Snow 40% chance precip High: 46 Low: 36	McKenzie Valley Cloudy 20% chance precip High: 68 Low: 51	Santiam Pass Light Rain 70% chance precip High: 55 Low: 38	McKenzie Valley Cloudy 20% chance precip High: 68 Low: 51	Santiam Pass Mostly Cloudy 20% chance precip High: 58 Low: 39

WEATHER REPORT									
READINGS TAKEN AT THE US ARMY CORPS COUGAR DAM					READINGS TAKEN AT EWEB LEABURG POWERHOUSE				
Date	High	Low	Rain	Releases	Date	High	Low	Rain	Riverflow
5/3	61	38	0.08	2,055 cfs	5/3	47	42	1.29	9,510 cfs
5/4	75	39	0	NA	5/4	62	39	0	8,700 cfs
5/5	55	42	1.99	2,045 cfs	5/5	72	47	0.27	8,330 cfs
5/6	55	46	1.41	3,678 cfs	5/6	58	45	1.50	12,996 cfs
5/7	46	39	1.55	3,619 cfs	5/7	58	45	0.82	17,520 cfs
5/8	42	37	0.54	3,718 cfs	5/8	58	45	0.54	17,200 cfs
5/9	50	34	0.04	3,228 cfs	5/9	48	39	0.83	12,569 cfs

Sheriff's Report

April 30: 11:37 a.m.: Theft - 38400 block, McK. Hwy. The operator of a purple Ford Mustang got gas and left without paying for it. Last seen headed towards Springfield.

11:55 a.m.: Theft From Vehicle - 90300 blk, Sunderman Rd. A caller reported that someone stole several items from within their vehicle.

9:20 p.m.: Attempt To Locate Drunk Driver Drunk Driver - Old Mohawk Rd. & Marcola Rd. A large, white box truck was reportedly speeding and driving without headlights on. Last seen turning onto Old Mohawk Rd.

May 2: 2:50 a.m.: Medical Info - 45500 blk, McK. Hwy.

3:58 a.m.: Alarm - 3100 blk, McK. Hwy.

8:09 a.m.: Suspicious Vehicle – Booth Kelly Rd. & Deerhorn Rd.

9:22 a.m.: Traffic Hazard - Marcola Rd. Milepost 4.

3:02 p.m.: Civil Service - 38900 blk, Hendricks Park Rd.

3:04 p.m.: Motor Vehicle Accident, No Injury - 91800 blk, Marcola Rd.

3:26 p.m.: Citizen Contact - 41900 blk, Deerhorn Rd.

May 3: 2:27 p.m.: Assist, Follow Up - 59200 blk, N. Belknap Springs Rd.

4:05 p.m.: MVA, Unknown Injury - 37200 blk, Camp Creek Rd.

8:46 p.m.: Suspicious Vehicle - 44500 blk, McK. Hwy.

May 4: 5:50 p.m.: Unlawful Entry Motor Vehicle - Hendricks Park Rd. & McK. Hwy.

6:43p.m.: RecklessEndangering - Marcola Rd. & Kelso Ln.

May 5: 8:25 a.m.: Hit & Run - Marcola Rd. & Kelso Ln.

8:44 a.m.: Vehicle Stop - Donna Rd. & Hill Rd.

3:14 p.m.: Animal Complaint - 88200 blk, Millican Rd.

3:31 p.m.: Welfare Check - 37300 blk, Parsons Creek Rd.

4:59 p.m.: Animal At Large - Hill Rd. & Marcola Rd.

5:15 p.m.: Vehicle Stop - McK. Hwy. Mp. 42.

5:44 p.m.: Citizen Contact - 91800 blk, Mill Creek Rd.

6:09 p.m.: Vehicle Stop - McK. Hwy. Mp. 48.

6:11 p.m.: Location of Stolen Vehicle - Aufderheide Dr. & McK. Hwy.

6:36 p.m.: Attempt to Locate Drunk Driver - Marcola Rd. & Parsons Creek Rd.

May 6: 2:27 p.m.: Unlawful Use of Vehicle - 88600 blk, Whitsell Ln.

2:49 p.m.: Vehicle Stop - McK. Hwy. & Yeager Rd.

3:18 p.m.: Vehicle Stop - McK. Hwy. & Yeager Rd.

4:14 p.m.: Citizen Contact - 91800 blk, Mill Creek Rd.

4:51 p.m.: Vehicle Stop - McK. Hwy. Mp. 52.

4:57 p.m.: Vehicle Stop - McK. Hwy. & N. Bank Rd.

5:16 p.m.: Vehicle Stop - McK. Hwy. & N. Bank Rd.

5:27 p.m.: Suspicious Vehicle - 49200 blk, McK. Hwy.

7:14 p.m.: Location of Stolen Vehicle - Waterville area.

9:16 p.m.: Assist Fire Dept. - 91600 blk, Alma Dr.

9:46 p.m.: Traffic Hazard – McK. Hwy. Mp.. 29, 30 and 34.

May 7: 9:09 a.m.: Theft - 9000 blk, Thurston Rd.

2:28 p.m.: Suspicious Vehicle - Bridge St. & Deerhorn Rd.

4:51 p.m.: Vehicle Stop - McK. Hwy. & Leaburg Dr.

5:41 p.m.: Vehicle Stop - McK.

Continued On Page 6

State Police Report

May 4: 13:41: Traffic Crimes, All Except DUII – Hwy. 126 E, Milepost 37. Responded to a driving complaint of two motorcycles driving at high speeds and passing on blind corners. The motorcycles were located and they passed police at a speed of 90 mph in a posted 55 mph. A Law Enforcement Data System and DMV check showed one of the drivers was misdemeanor driving while suspended and also had a warrant out of Coos County for criminal driving while suspended. The driver was issued a citation in lieu of custody and a citation for Violation Basic Rule. Involved: white Honda C9R.

May 5: 09:52: Fish & Wildlife (Non-Hunting related) – 40000 block Mohawk River RD. Subject had a history of chickens being killed on his property. The evening of May 2 the subject's motion camera went off, alerting him to something near his chicken coop. The subject went out to investigate and was surprised by a bear in the chicken coop. The subject shot the bear. The subject and the bear ran in opposite directions. The subject tracked the bear through his property, a neighboring property, and onto another. The bear has not

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McKenzie Fire & Rescue

May 2: 2:10: 45000 block, McK. Hwy. Medical, General. Patient Assessed, 1 Transported.

9:07: 41000 blk, McK. Hwy. Medical, General. Patient Assessed, 1 Transported.

19:22: 7900 blk, Thurston Rd. Medical, Trauma. Patient Assessed, 1 Transported.

May 3: 0:23: 88000 blk, Twin Firs Rd. Medical, General. Patient Assessed, 1 Transported.

3:23: 44000 blk, McK. Hwy. Medical, General. Patient Assessed, 1 Transported.

6:01: 88000 blk, Periwinkle Rd. Medical, General. Patient Assessed, 1 Transported.

6:54: 87000 blk, Upland St. Public Assist. Lift Assist Only.

16:03: 37000 blk, Camp Creek Rd. Motor Vehicle Accident. Patient Assessed, 1 Transported.

May 7: 23:17: 42000 blk, McK. Hwy. Medical, Heart. Patient Assessed, 1 Transported.

McK. Fire & Rescue will hold

Continued On Page 6

Upper McKenzie Fire/Rescue

May 4: 22:06: Medical – 54000 blk, McK. River Dr. Female, Conscious, Breathing.

May 6: 21:08: Medical – 91000 blk, Alma Dr. Female, Conscious, Breathing.

May 9: 10:05: Medical - Quartz Creek Rd./Huckleberry Ln. Female patient.

The Upper McK. Fire District board of directors will hold its monthly meeting on Wednesday, May 18th, 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 1, 2007 edition of McKenzie River Reflections



50¢

http://mckenzie.oregonnews.com

Volume 30, Issue 10, Thursday, Nov. 1, 2007

Want a sweet deal? - Check Page 7	Friday 11/1	Saturday 11/2	Sunday 11/3
	 McKenzie Valley Sunny - 10% High - 59 - Low - 38	 Santiam Pass Sunny - 10% High - 46 - Low - 24	 McKenzie Valley Sunny - 10% High - 61 - Low - 41
	 Santiam Pass Sunny - 10% High - 50 - Low - 27	 McKenzie Valley Partly Cloudy - 10% High - 52 - Low - 35	 Santiam Pass Partly Cloudy - 10% High - 40 - Low - 19

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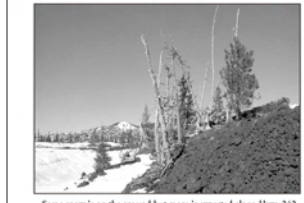
Ninety voters missing ballots

LEABURG: Show or short street's breathing, but sagging mail delivery unless are getting to some 90 Leaburg area residents. Since locked Post Office delivery boxes were eliminated from the old school site, checks, catalogs and magazine deliveries have been affected when new mailing addresses aren't noted.

The biggest irritation came when people found they didn't receive ballots for the upcoming November 6th Special Election. "I know we never wanted to move our dam mailboxes," said Leaburg resident Kathy Thomas. "We were given no choice in the matter."

Thomas feels the Post Office could have made a much better transition. "They're following the

Old McKenzie Pass is closed



Some snow is on the ground but more is expected along Hwy. 242, crossing the Old McKenzie Pass.

MCKENZIE BRIDGE: Travelers will have to wait until next year to enjoy a drive along the scenic McKenzie Pass Highway. The Oregon Dept. of Transportation closed Hwy. 242 for the winter on Thursday morning, November 1st. ODOT spokesman said the closure followed two weeks of early season snowfall at the pass elevation of 5,325 feet.

The department would normally have closed the highway when the early snow arrived, according to spokesman Joe Harwood. "Due to a construction project that kept the west side of the highway closed to vehicle traffic until early September, ODOT elected to remove the snow and keep OR 242 open a bit longer," he said.

The highway follows the original alignment of the McKenzie Highway, OR 126 between Springfield and Sisters, and is open only during the summer travel season. It opened to vehicle traffic this year on September 2nd, following the successful project to realign and stabilize a section of the Dead Horse Grade.

Harwood said the 60-day open period is well below average

Boardwalk proposed at Leaburg boat ramp



John Bennett points out details of new boat ramp that could be constructed on Leaburg Lake across from the Old McKenzie Fish Hatchery.

VIDA built a boat landing near Leaburg Lake. The Eugene Water & Electric Board is having no better luck than county commissioners had when they dropped anchor on the idea six years ago.

While the EWED board met at the Vida Community Center last week they heard much of the same: mounting opposition and opponents of first life's sites had used in the past. Yet some new issues did surface.


One involved keeping pace with water-related recreation. A new boat ramp was originally conceived to replace Rita's Landing, which was expected to be at least partially submerged when the utility raised lake levels. Now that won't happen, people told EWED other pressures have come into play.

River guide Steve Schaefer said a new ramp is needed to take pressure off the Hellrich Landing. Despite being an extremely popular take out point, Hellrich said that location has very limited parking spaces. "The danger won't be to park along right-of-way anymore," he said. "Which means more boats will have to take out downstream."

In 2006, the highway opened on June 29th and closed on Nov. 7th. Built in the mid-1930s, the highway became a seasonal scenic highway in the 1960s with the completion of the Clear Lake-Bellevue Springs section of OR 126. Even during its tenure as the main route between the southern Willamette Valley and central Oregon, the narrow, winding roadway and high elevation made the highway too difficult to maintain and keep clear during the winter months. During the summer, about 300 cars a day travel the highway.

Harwood said the 60-day open period is well below average

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Treasure of lucky prospectors may be out there

By Finn J.D. John
Imagine you're a gold prospector from the Willamette Valley, on your way to the California gold fields in the first year of the 1848 gold rush.

You're a little late to the party, and you've chosen to try to reach the gold fields in a somewhat unusual way: By going over the Coast Range to the beach, and traveling south along the coast.

As you make your way southward by the great ocean, you reach a broad expanse of black sand. And when the sun hits it just right, you can see it's actually glittering ... with tiny flakes and grains of gold.

You're all alone on the beach. There aren't even any other footprints. Apparently nobody else was crazy enough to try to travel to the gold fields via Coos Bay. Everyone else in the area, such as there are, has decamped inland to the gold fields.

It's just you, on the uninhabited edge of a continent, crunching a trillion dollars' worth of gold under your feet.

Such was the situation in which the Grouleaux brothers, Charles and Peter, found themselves in in the spring of 1849, near the mouth of the Coquille River in what today is Douglas County.

(By the way, the Grouleaux brothers are called "John and Peter Groslious" in some sources.)

Naturally, the brothers abandoned all ideas of going to California now. They settled in and got busy separating the yellow gold from the black sand — pounds and pounds of it.

They had brought plenty of



Harper's
This image was published in Harper's Monthly Magazine in 1856, showing gold miners working sluices on the beach near Randolph.

provisions with them for the journey, and the hunting was good; so they were able to live all summer without leaving their diggings. As their flour sacks were emptied of food, they were promptly filled with "flour gold" from the beach. And at the end of the summer, they returned home to the Willamette Valley, their pack animals creaking under the weight of hundreds of pounds of pure gold. They were now both rich men.

Lots of miners had come back from California with gold, so the brothers' sudden wealth didn't attract much attention. Nor did their calculated vagueness when telling friends and neighbors where they'd spent their summer arouse any suspicions. All miners were like that. Nobody wanted to tell a bunch of potential claim jumpers where they had their stakes planted. Possession was

nine tenths of the law, and anyway plenty of people in 1849 were perfectly willing to commit a secret murder on a lonely stretch of trail to seize control of a lucrative claim.

So when the next spring came, the brothers were easily able to slip away from any prying eyes and hurry back to the beach to spend another season making themselves richer.

And the same thing happened again the next year. In fact, it wasn't until 1853 that someone got wise and figured out where the brothers were going.

Whoever it was that figured that out was much less discreet than the Grouleaux brothers had been. The word was out almost at once, and a colossal gold rush ensued as miners flocked to the beaches.

"Soon a thousand men milled about on the black sands, staking claims for miles up and down the beach," Ruby El Hult writes in

her book. "Cabins, stores, saloons and gambling houses were hastily erected, becoming the boom town of Randolph. Whiskey flowed so freely that the stream along which the best diggings were located became known as Whiskey Run."

Very quickly after that, the Grouleaux brothers sold their claims to two of the newcomers, the McNamara brothers. They cheerfully remarked that they had made enough money off the beach in their first four undisturbed years to last a lifetime.

(They didn't mention any figures, but the McNamara brothers pulled \$80,000 worth out the first year after they bought the claims, and that was after the Grouleaux boys had spent five years skimming the cream.)

The brothers packed their animals up and set out northward on the Randolph Trail, a beaten path along the Coast Range foothills to Coos Bay that followed roughly the same route as Seven Devils Road today.

But they had \$40,000 worth of gold in their saddlebags, and the two of them were almost celebrities in Randolph. Both of them were very nervous about the possibility that they might be robbed on the trail. Highway robbery was common there, since the bad guys knew that successful miners had to use the trail to carry their gold out.

So the boys scouted a good spot that they thought they could find again, and cached the gold in two gunpowder cans under a cedar stump.

Then they continued on their way.

Well, you probably have already guessed what happened next. In fine buried-treasure style, they lost track of where they stashed the two cans. Neither of them returned for many years — they already had five years' worth on which to live, and it just didn't seem worth the trouble.

It wasn't until 20 years later, in 1873, that Peter, by then the only surviving brother (Charles had died in England), came back

By Slim Randles
It was just one of those things. It didn't really mean Marvin Pincus had lost his mind. Consider this yourself for a minute. Marvin had opened the mail that morning and in it was the Fenwick glass fly rod he'd ordered. Oh, it was used, of course. But there's a feel to a Fenwick that only a man dedicated to a life of using dry flies can appreciate.

Marvin had broken his ankle the previous week and was temporarily in a wheelchair. It was his right ankle, so he couldn't drive down to the creek. And there, in his hands, was the Fenwick. He put it together, attached a reel and some four-weight line and set it on the couch and looked at it.

Marjorie was off visiting her sister, so she couldn't help him. But there's a pull, an irresistible draw to a fly rod. He had to cast it. Now.

It took Marvin about 20 minutes to negotiate the front steps with that wheelchair and the Fenwick. Finally, he negotiated the sidewalk and then the edge of the street itself.

Up came the Fenwick. A few swishes in the air told Marvin he'd done the right thing in ordering the rod. So he ran out some line and began casting. About halfway across the street was a large mulberry leaf. He did a double haul on the line and sent the fly toward the leaf. It took several tries before he hit it, but when he made that cast, you could've sold tickets to it. His fly came to rest about three feet above the leaf and then fluttered gently down onto its target. Marvin's smile said it all.

Then the school bus came around the corner full of kids heading home, and Marvin realized he was casting a fly rod from a wheelchair onto dry pavement.

"Hi Mr. Pincus!" yelled one of the kids. "Catch anything?"

"A little slow today, Billy," he yelled back.

"Isn't it hard to catch fish without water?" Billy yelled.

"It's okay, son," Marvin said with a grin. "I'm using a dry fly!"

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Quote of the Week

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Charles Scribner, Jr.

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Gardening Tips

By Kym Pokorny





Bug patrol for organic gardeners

You’ve decided to go organic in the garden, but the products staring back from the nursery shelves seem as daunting as the bugs and diseases they’re meant to control. What’s a gardener to do?

First, take some advice from Weston Miller, a horticulturist with Oregon State University Extension Service. Stop, take a breath and evaluate your garden. How bad is it? Have you really looked carefully?

“With organic gardening, there are fewer options available, so going on bug patrol can be really important,” he said. “If you find them early, it’s much easier to control them.”

In his own 1-acre vegetable garden in Southeast Portland, Miller monitors early and often. When he finds plants overridden with pests, he yanks them out immediately. Usually, plants attacked so vehemently are suffering transplant shock or some other problem.

For less serious, but still bothersome infestations, Miller sometimes turns to organic insecticidal soap, which is effective but must hit the bug to kill it so good coverage is essential. The soap also should be reapplied regularly, usually once a week.

Healthier plants fare better and when he finds bugs, he’ll squash them or wash them off with a squirt of water and let predators on the ground have at them.

giving them the right care.”

Part of that strategy includes creating a diverse ecosystem with a variety of flower shapes and types that will attract beneficial insects that keep pest populations like aphids under control.

“There will still be some aphids,” he said, “but not as many, and they’ll be easier to deal with.”

Except that easy is a relative word in this sense. When you visit the garden center, what should your hand grab off that shelf? The first thing to look for, Miller said, is the OMRI (Organic Materials Review Institute) stamp of approval. Products must qualify for the nonprofit program to be included and they must pay, so you won’t see the logo on all organic products. But it’s a great start.

Keep in mind, just because something is organic, doesn’t mean it kills only what you’re after, Miller said. For instance, pyrethrum, which is derived from chrysanthemums, is a broad-spectrum insecticide that kills bees and other pollinators, as well as ladybugs and the highly helpful ladybug larvae.

“It’s organic, it breaks down quickly and is reasonably effective, but the timing of application is important,” Miller said. “Don’t apply it when bees are out.”

Another effective product is an

organic copper-based fungicide used for peach leaf curl during the dormant period. But you need to be concerned about using it around pregnant women and it will build up in the soil, Miller cautioned.

On the very safe side of the spectrum are products such as iron phosphate for slug control and Bt (*Bacillus thuringiensis*), a bacterium that kills imported cabbage worm.

The best thing you can do, Miller stressed, is to read the label. Don’t buy something that doesn’t list the pest you want to control. And pay attention to any cautions, whether the material is organic or not.

When it comes to fertilizers, organic types must be broken down by microorganisms in the soil so aren’t as quickly available as synthetic, which are water-soluble. To combat that problem, Miller uses a water-soluble fish emulsion for transplants in April and May so nutrients are immediately available for growth.

For any organic gardener, weeds will be the bane of their existence. There just aren’t many good ways to control them organically, except hand weeding. And for persistent perennial weeds like bindweed and crabgrass, that means extremely often.

“Relying on organics will be more work and frustration than most people will want to handle,” Miller said. “Using broad-spectrum synthetic herbicide ahead of planting will save hours per year of frustrating labor. It’s a long-term challenge. Broad-spectrum is worth it. If you’re concerned about it, follow up by adding compost to the soil and use organic from then on. In the organic world, it’s a three-year transition period until the time you can use organic as a term.”

Again, Miller stressed, always read labels. Plan your garden carefully so you grow healthy plants that can withstand pests and diseases and attract natural predators. Spend time checking for diseases and pests and react quickly. That will get you a long way toward a garden that needs minimum input, organic or otherwise.



Country Kitchen

By Mary Emma Allen



DANDELIONS & OTHER YELLOW SPRING THINGS

The brilliant yellows of spring bring cheer and joy. This year the color seems especially bright and prominent in nature.

Forsythia, daffodils and dandelions dress in their most colorful apparel. Wherever we travel on errands around our hometown, this beauty in the world cheers us.

DANDELIONS

Dandelions, often considered weeds or pests, have a long history as a wild flower, salad green, cooked vegetable, medicinal herb, and sometimes pest in our yards.

As children, we enjoyed these "fairy flowers," as we waved the seed heads around or blew on them to create little parachutes floating in the air.

My sister, friends, and I made dandelion chains by connecting the stems. My brothers brought dandelion heads to Mother, a treasure she displayed in saucers of water.

SPRING FOOD

Dandelions have been used as food for years and years. Generally, the entire plant is considered edible and nutritious in some form.

Dandelion greens may be

steamed for a popular spring food. My aunt found this a favorite vegetable each spring. My mother prepared them steamed with ham.

Raw young dandelion greens often are used in salads, along with other vegetables. Nowadays, you can find dandelion greens in many stores.

Flower petals often are used to make dandelion wine.

Ground roots contribute to a caffeine free coffee type beverage.

Victorians served dandelion greens as a delicacy in salads and sandwiches.

Countries in North America, Europe and China have used the dandelion as an herb for medicinal purposes.

What are your favorite dandelion recipes?

(c) 2020 Mary Emma Allen

(Mary Emma Allen writes from her NH home.)

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Notice of Budget Committee Meeting

A public meeting of the Budget Committee of the **McKenzie School District**, Lane County, State of Oregon, to discuss the budget for the fiscal year July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023 will be held at the McKenzie High School Cafeteria. The meeting will take place on **May 18, 2022 at 5:00 p.m.** The purpose of the meeting is to receive the budget message and to receive comment from the public on the budget.

A copy of the budget document may be inspected on or after May 16, 2022 at the district office at 51187 Blue River Dr. Finn Rock, OR, between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. Additional meetings, if needed, are scheduled on May 24, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. and May 25, 2022 at 7:00 p.m.

Members of the public can access the live stream of the meeting at: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC14qR6Fmaelcllzi4UMCeQ>

This is a public meeting where deliberation of the Budget Committee will take place. Any person may appear at the meeting and discuss the proposed programs with the Budget Committee.



Nathaniel Tompkins, Superintendent

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Community Notes

May 13 Track Meet

The track at the Aaron and Marie Jones Community Field in Blue River will be the site for the Mountain Skyline District 2 High School Track Meet this Friday, May 13th. The district includes 23 schools that could be sending athletes to the competition as they vie for a chance to compete in the state championships at Hayward Field in Eugene. Our local track group will be working with the host school, the McKenzie River Community school to stage the event after a two-year pandemic induced hiatus. Spectators are reminded that the district officials will be charging an admission fee to help offset expenses associated with the meet. The field events are slated to begin at noon this Friday to be followed by the track events at 2 pm. Former McKenzie Eagles track coach, Duane Aanestad and former Eagles athletic director, Cliff Richardson have been serving as the meet managers for the meets. They will be heading up a crew of dedicated volunteers for this important event, which is another opportunity for us to show off our excellent track and field facility and the great volunteers that have been working so hard to

make it a very memorable track season. Just another example of our “McKenzie Strong” spirit !

May 14 Plant Sale

The Late Bloomers Garden Club is having a Plant Sale on Saturday, May 14, 2022, 10:00 am to 3:00 pm at Leaburg Fire Station.

May 16 McKenzie Fire & Rescue

McK. Fire & Rescue will hold its monthly Board of Directors meeting at noon, at the Leaburg Training Center,

May 16 Springfield School Board

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.

May 18 McKenzie School Board

Change for May School Board
The budget committee meeting will be the same as posted on the budget committee meeting notice. (May 18 at 5 PM in the cafeteria)
But the Regular School Board

meeting will be Thursday May 19 at 5:30 P.M.

If you could list the regular school board day/date change in several issues that would be great”

(We are changing it because of the meeting in the new gym concerning the

OHCS CDBG Plan meeting on May 18th)

July 16 Spring Flea Market

Spring is the time of year when most of us are motivated to clean our homes, garages and storage sheds to whip our homes into shape. But what to do with all that “stuff” you no longer want or need? Vida McKenzie Community Center has a solution!

On Saturday, July 16th, there will be a Flea Market at McKenzie Valley Presbyterian Church where you can become a “vendor” by purchasing a “space” to sell your new or used goods to the general public. Best of all, you keep all profits.

The highway location in Walterville is great for attracting buyers and VMCC will provide publicity, tables and a yummy snack bar to keep shoppers happy while they browse.

Interested? Contact Tammy Pelton regarding table fees. Reserve your space now! Call 951-970-0176 for more information.

Sheriff's Report

Continued From Page 3

Hwy. & Leaburg Dr.

11:01 p.m: Rescue Operation - Blue River Dam.

May 8: 2:27 p.m: Assist, Follow Up - 56900 blk, McK. Hwy.

3:41 p.m: Assist Motorist - 57900 blk, McK. Hwy.

4:16 p.m: Suspicious Vehicle - 35200 blk, McK. View Dr.

6:39 p.m: Assist, Follow Up - Angels Flight Rd. & McK. Hwy.

7:00 p.m: Vehicle In Ditch - Lat: 44.163407. Long: -122.962344.

May 9: 9:49 a.m: Vehicle in Ditch - Lat: 44.163407. Long: -122.962344.

10:18 a.m: Assist, Follow Up - McGowan overlook.

12:14 p.m: Suspicious Conditions - 38400 blk, Shotgun Creek Rd.

12:52 p.m: Unlawful Use of Vehicle - Camp Creek Rd. & McK. Hwy.

1:17 p.m: Water Rescue - 40600 blk, Deerhorn Rd.

3:58 p.m: Assist, Follow Up - 47800 blk, McK. Hwy.

4:05 p.m: Suspicious Conditions - 44500 blk, McK. Hwy.

4:19 p.m: Citizen Contact - Blue River area.

7:05 p.m: Disturbance, Dispute - 88900 blk, Ross Ln.

State Police Report

Continued From Page 3

been found. Attempted contact with the neighboring property to advise the situation. The subject did notify ODFW as required. After an interview with the subject and a consult with ODFW, it was determined that no violation occurred. Involved: 40-year-old male.

12:13: Fish & Wildlife, Hunting – Hwy. 126E, Mp. 26. Caller reported finding three ospreys. Arrived and located, two of which had the talons removed. Recovered the osprey for further investigation/x-rays. The osprey is in a deep state of decay.

McKenzie Fire & Rescue

Continued From Page 3

its monthly Board of Directors meeting on Monday, May 16th. at noon, in the Leaburg Training Center, 42870 McK. Hwy. The district maintains Facebook, Twitter, and web pages. If you have a question or concern about any Fire District business, give Chief Bucich a call @ 541-896-3311. If he is unavailable, please leave a message and he will respond ASAP.



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May is Wildfire Awareness Month

The Oregon Department of Forestry and other fire prevention experts urge the public to exercise caution when disposing of yard debris this spring. The drought conditions this year put Oregon at a higher risk of wildfire.

May is Wildfire Awareness Month, which is a great time to trim trees, bushes, and tidy up plants around your home that could catch fire. This is what we call creating a “defensible space” around your home and property. As you begin spring clean-up, the Oregon Department of Forestry and Keep Oregon Green urge you to consider alternatives to burning.

Preferable options aside from burning include composting or recycling. Check with your local disposal company for recycling options. You can also cover a part of the pile with plastic to keep it dry until the fall when it’s safer to burn. Delaying your burn plans will give the debris more time to cure and avoids spring holdover fires as fire risk increases with hotter, drier weather.

“We expect this year to be another dry fire season, so the more we can reduce human-caused fires the better,” said Mike Shaw, Fire Protection Division Chief. “Fire prevention is something that all Oregonians should have at the forefront of their mind. Humans cause the majority of Oregon’s

fires, but they can also prevent them.”

Seventy percent of wildfires in Oregon are human-caused fires, with debris burning being the number one cause. By waiting to burn or taking extra steps to control a fire, Oregon can significantly reduce the risk of creating a large wildfire.

If burning now is the only option to dispose of yard debris, fire prevention specialists ask people to follow safe burning practices. The following tips can help stop run-away burn piles:

Call before you burn – Burning regulations vary by location depending on the weather and fuel conditions. If you are planning to burn, check with your local Oregon Department of Forestry district, fire protective association, fire department, or air protection authority to learn about current burning restrictions or regulations, and if you need a permit.*

* Know the weather – Burn early in the day and never burn on dry or windy days, because fires can spread out of control more easily.

* Clear a 10-foot fuel-free buffer around the pile – Make sure there are no tree branches or power lines above

* Keep burn piles small – Large burn piles can cast hot embers long distances. Keep piles small, maximum of four feet by four feet. Add debris to the pile in small amounts as the pile burns.

* Always have water and fire tools nearby – When burning, have a charged water hose or a bucket of water, and shovel on hand to put out the fire. Drown the pile with water, stir the coals, and drown again, repeating until the fire is out cold.

* Stay with the fire until it is out cold – State laws requires monitoring of debris burn piles from start to finish until it is out cold. This law is intended to ensure sparks or embers that jump from the fire can be put out quickly.

* Recheck burn piles. They can retain heat for several weeks and restart when the weather warms up and winds blow.

* Never use gasoline or other flammable or combustible liquids to start or speed up your fire.

* Burn only yard debris – State laws prohibit burning materials or trash that create dense smoke or noxious odors.

* Costs of run-away debris burns– State law requires the proper clearing, building, attending and extinguishing of open fires all year. If your debris burn spreads out of control, you may have to pay for suppression costs, as well as the damage to your neighbors’ properties. This can be extremely expensive.

More tips on wildfire prevention, including campfire safety, motorized equipment use, and fire-resistant landscaping can be found on the Keep Oregon Green website.

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Direct Answers

By Wayne & Tamara Mirthell

Reaching Critical Mass

I'm deeply disturbed about my brother Ed. We're a family that's never gotten deeply involved in each other's problems. We're close but try not to meddle. However, I think Ed has reached a difficult point. He's been married for seven years, and it's been hard for both of them. Ed has been chasing a business dream that never paid off. He's the type of guy everyone admires for his intelligence, charm, and creativity, but he frustrates us all because he can never seem to focus. He's frustrated too. He's sought help in the form of therapy and prescriptions, but it doesn't help. As a family, we've divided on that as a potential solution anyway. In my mind, it's a shortcut to a discovery that isn't likely to pay off. Ed can be sentimental and sweet. He can be touchy and temperamental. His wife is a great person, but she is considering a split and has already contacted a lawyer. They have no children. I don't know if the marriage can be, or should be, saved. Ed is 38, young by many estimations. So at least there's

that. But he feels too old to start over. When I talk to him, he acts as though everything is fairly okay. I don't know if I'm a voice he trusts with the feelings and thoughts he's sure to be having. The rest of the family and I want to help him get his life together. Where do we begin? We all care for Ed a great deal, and for his wife. We realize there's a lot on this journey he'll just have to make on his own. But when you see a person close to you in pain, you feel there must be something you can do to keep his balloon tethered to the ground. James James, each of us is on our own journey. All the people who are dear to us-our mother, our brother, our child-are on their own journey as well. Their successes and failures, their life and death, are largely beyond our control. Your sister-in-law has her own sense of purpose and her own needs. She will make her own decisions. Part of what you feel is grief because if they divorce, she moves out of the family perhaps forever. A human being is like an energy field. Our habits and patterns of

thought, even the way we hold our body and speak, form lines of force that encircle us. These lines of force are difficult to see, but they are real and limit what each of us is capable of doing. Change is always possible, but never possible without the will to change. Countless people transformed their lives when they were much older than Ed, but until he is desperate for change, their example won't help him. If his wife leaves him, it may be the event that finally moves him forward. You see your brother in pain and want to help. Do what seems right to you, whether that means giving to him or withholding from him. At worst, Ed will remain one who muddles through life living below his potential. At best, his failed dreams will be the catalyst that transforms him. Do you think Ed is afraid to start over? Actually, he hasn't yet begun. Wayne & Tamara Necessary Act How do you break up with someone without hurting them? Desiree Desiree, trying to end a relationship without hurting the other person is like a doctor trying to set a broken arm without inflicting pain. The intention is not to hurt but to heal the situation. What is the alternative? You

can't allow bones to knit together in a way that makes the arm useless and misshapen. You can't allow someone to believe a relationship is continuing when you know it is over. Delaying the pain makes the pain greater. Tamara Wayne & Tamara are also the authors of Cheating in a Nutshell, What Infidelity Does to the Victim, available from Amazon, Apple and most booksellers. American Life in Poetry By Kwame Dawes Though born and raised in Jamaica, Stacy Ann Chin has lived in the United States for many years, long enough to have become naturalized to the seasonal patterns of the temperate climates of the northeast. In "First Green" she uses words to paint a surrealist study of the changing season. Her images present like the speckling of a painting, each new image morphing into another fresh and distinctive image, ending with the promise of warmer days. No doubt, Chin's body still hungers for her warmer beginnings. First Green By Stacy Ann Chin Earmark me images speckles pretty with the tears of a child

open windows and summer approaching ominous air-marked with the first green leaf over-turned poems forgotten mouths tinkling humor pages rustling soft sensible shoes cushion/support/words they unwind me orange and gray laces you/me entwined/separate swirled ice cream hinting the weather may soon be warmer 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 ©2019 by Staceyann Chin, "First Green" from Crossfire (Haymarket Books, 2019.) Poem reprinted by permission of the author and the publisher. Introduction copyright ©2022 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.


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A Moment in Oregon History
By Rick Steber
(www.ricksteber.com)


May 12 - A. B. Meacham came west during the California Gold Rush, but when he failed to strike it rich, he came to Oregon and opened Meacham's Station at the top of the Blue Mountains. In 1869 Meacham was appointed superintendent of Indian affairs in Oregon and he was involved in attempting to reach a treaty with the Modoc Indians of Southeastern Oregon. The peace commission was attacked. Meacham was shot five times and partially scalped, but survived and spent the remainder of his life lecturing in defense of the Indians. He died in 1882. The town of Meacham bears his name.

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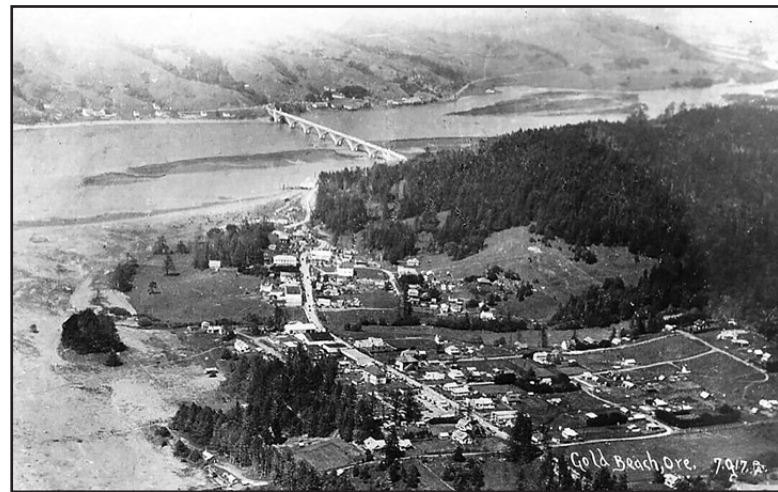


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Fire relief
Continued From Page 1 Recovery (CDBG-DR). People are invited to provide their input on the draft Action Plan in person at McKenzie River Community School's "New Gym" on Wednesday, May 18th. The doors will open 5 p.m. and the public hearing is set for 6 p.m. A summary of the plan and the entire draft Action Plan itself will be made available for review on OHCS' website at: https://www.oregon.gov/ohcs/housing-assistance/Pages/CDBG.aspx. Printed copies of the plan will be available by request. All comments must be submitted to OHCS no later than 11:59 p.m. June 1st. After the 30-day public comment period, feedback will be incorporated into the plan before OHCS submits it to HUD for review and approval before the June 8th deadline.

Lucky prospectors

Continued From Page 4



Postcard
An aerial photo of the town of Gold Beach, at the mouth of the Rogue River, probably made sometime before the Second World War. The Rogue is the source of the gold-bearing black sands on the nearby beaches, after which the town was named.

to the Coquille to “withdraw” his gold.

Peter found the entire landscape so utterly changed that he had no idea where to even start looking for the distinctive cedar-tree stump under which he’d stashed the cans. There were places where the Randolph Trail had changed completely, with old sections overgrown and barely discernible; there were other parts that had been burned over by a forest fire, which had destroyed all the snags, stumps, and other dry wood in its path.

Peter got some friends to help him, promising to split the gold with them, but their efforts were in vain. Other members of the Randolph community joined in as well. But, nobody found the gold, and after a decade or so, the whole thing simmered down into one of those little bits of local legend.

Fifty more years went by. Then, in 1922, Peter Grouleaux’s granddaughter, Lillie Tully, came to town. She had a try for the gold as well, enlisting the help of a local timber cruiser. But after a year or so of hunting, they too were disappointed.

A few years later, in 1931, a rumor started circulating — a very credible one, later given added weight by an article in the Portland Oregonian newspaper — that the treasure had been found. According to the rumor, a young couple out prospecting had spotted a rusty gun barrel sticking out from under an old stump and investigated. They’d found two old gunpowder cans containing 150 pounds of fine gold. After that, the two had left the area as quickly as possible, because the gold had been on private land and they were afraid if anyone knew where they’d gotten it, the landowner and possibly Lillie Tully would try to claim it.

So, was this rumor true? Maybe.

The amount of gold found doesn’t quite line up -- 150 pounds of gold at 1853 prices was worth \$51,000, not \$40,000. But even if the rumor was true, it likely wasn’t the same gold. Painted metal cans of the type gunpowder was sold in don’t last 75 years in the Coast Range; the containers would have rusted to nothing in just a few decades.

In any case, it remains possible, if not particularly likely, that the contents of the original powder cans are still there, buried under the forest duff in a random spot in the middle of the forest — a cache of fine flour gold that would be worth \$3.7 million today.

But rather than tromping through the forest looking for this bonanza, modern-day gold miners would probably be better advised to head for the beach from which it originally came. The black sands of Oregon’s beaches are still full of fine flour gold, especially in places that are far away from streams and creeks that supply the water needed to pan or sluice them. It’s hard work, and not very remunerative; but you can still get gold out of black-sand layers all along the South Coast today, especially in the more southerly, out-of-the-way beaches near Ophir, Pistol River, Port Orford, and of course Gold Beach.

(Sources: *Lost Mines and Treasures*, a book by Ruby El Hult published in 1957 by Binford and Mort; “*Beach Gold Diggings*,” an article by Cain Allen published on the Oregon Historical Society’s Website in 2006)

Finn J.D. John teaches at Oregon State University and writes about odd tidbits of Oregon history. His book, *Heroes and Rascals of Old Oregon*, was recently published by Ouragan House Publishers. To contact him or suggest a topic: finn@offbeatoregon.com or 541-357-2222.

Canopy fires

Continued From Page 1

and the social and ecological impacts of extreme fire events in the context of a warming planet.

The research team developed maps for the extent and burn severity for five megafires and examined fire activity over two time periods: September 7-9, 2020, during which extreme winds fueled the explosive growth of the fires, and September 10-17, 2020, during which the fires continued burning under calm wind conditions. They then examined how the forest structure and topography influenced high-burn severity patterns, whether winds affected the relationship between those factors, and how high burn severity was affected by land management practices associated with land ownership.

“90% of the burning occurred during high winds,” said Cody Every, a Research Associate in the Department of Environmental Science and Management at Portland State and the study’s lead author. “But we also found that vegetation structure and canopy height were significant in determining where the fire burned more severely.”

The research team found that areas with younger trees and low canopy height and cover were particularly susceptible to high mortality rates. As Holz pointed

out, this finding is of particular consequence to lumber production in the state, where trees grown on plantations are typically younger, uniformly spaced and located near communities and critical infrastructure.

Drawing on the historical record, the team, which included Portland State researchers Sebastian Busby and Associate Professor Max Nielsen-Pincus, also suggests that wildfire managers should anticipate re-burns in some areas affected by the 2020 megafires. Recently burned forests typically have higher flammability than unburned areas until the younger forest canopy closes again and finer fuels are shaded.

Given the composition of the temperate rainforests of the western slopes of the Cascade Mountains, where fuel proliferates, and the relationships between factors that contribute to megafires, the research team suggests that treatments such as prescribed fires and fuel reduction are not a practical approach to preventing future conflagrations. Instead, the team argues that we should focus on promoting resilient forests, increasing community preparedness, early suppression response, and hardening infrastructure.

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: McKenzie River above Leaburg Dam – 1,000 and Leaburg Lake – 1,000.

Fish Counts
May 5, Willamette Falls
Fall Chinook – 2,573
Summer Steelhead – 664



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