Serving the McKenzie River Valley ... And Subscriber Patty Starr of Vida

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 2021 Volume 44, Issue 13







JP Doodles

When it all follows you

PAGE 2



Home Country

He was still hopeful she'd someday learn to cook

PAGE 4



Veterans Day

A salute to all who have honored and served our country

PAGE 8

From coffee to concrete

Another round of grants supports local businesses

Security, food, health, construction, gifts, rentals, clothing, and graphics may not seem to have a lot in common. But they all got a boost this month thanks to the Oregon Community Credit Union Foundation and the Springfield Chamber of Commerce. Under a micro-grant program fifteen small businesses and non-profits impacted by the Holiday Farm Fire received checks ranging from \$500 to \$1,500.

Some businesses, like the Indigo Café, are well known. Others, including George R Kruse Excavation, are probably ones that fewer people were familiar with. Both though, were hit hard when the wildfire struck in 2020.

Linda Chmiel, owner/operator of the Indigo Café in Blue River lost everything she owned when flames burned thought the town. The grant money, she said, has in part helped her get back on her feet and aided in replacing her home, business, vehicles and all her belongings. "It's been a long, hard road," she says. Luckily, Linda was finally able to replace her home in early August and reopen her food cart business on October 9th.

Located at 51528 McKenzie Highway in front of her house,



Linda Chmiel is back in her element, serving fresh meals from her Indigo Café in Blue River.

she not only has an easy commute but also better visibility along the roadway's frontage. People, she says, have reacted positively.

"It's so good to see all the familiar faces," Linda says, "especially the little kids," who she says get pretty excited to discover milk shakes on her menu. These days teriyaki chicken and luau plates continue to be among her best sellers but burritos are moving up on the cooler days.

Her current hours run from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., Wednesday to Sunday. Looking ahead, weather

conditions will determine her plans for the season. She now has a covered area with a cozy fire pit for eating or sipping espressos but admits she's keeping an eye on both storm fronts and traffic patterns to determine if she'll close for the season.

George Kruse of Vida says he was an operating engineer in Union Local 701 for two decades. Then he started his own business. Unfortunately, that was the same time that Covid -19 was hitting.

"As one obstacle after another Coffee to concrete - Page 2

Cyber attacks marred 2021 school election

Hateful posts appeared on website

FINN ROCK: Coarse political confrontations devolved from sparring on the national stage to grappling with free speech at a local high school in 2021. And like the big time, the Internet was a weapon of choice in the McKenzie Valley.

Devon Lawson, a ninth-grade student at the McKenzie River Community School, says his interest in politics was sparked two years ago when he realized he was unhappy with what was going on at the federal level. "I decided if something was going to happen, I was eventually going to change it," he recalls.

Typically, student government elections at McKenzie Schools occur over two weeks in September. "I felt we would need more time than that," Devon said of his decision to put together a campaign to run for an Associated Student Body seat during the summer. However, the early launch meant his campaign wasn't operating under the protective umbrella of the school district.

That distinction came face-toface with reality when someone published homophobic remarks

on his campaign website. Devon said the school couldn't do much about it when he reported it to the principal. However, the student placing the posts was later identified.

McKenzie River School District superintendent Lane Tompkins says that although the school can't address student incidents, "The McKenzie School District takes bullying and cyberbullying very seriously. We strive to foster a supportive school environment for all students policy, training, and proactive community-building strategies. We promptly investigate incidents that are brought to our attention."

Tompkins admits cyberbullying can be very difficult to prevent and investigate through methods usually employed by schools, "Because many of the interactions occur on platforms outside of our campus network and outside of the school day. We regularly monitor the usage of our devices and network for inappropriate keywords and messages. When cyber issues arise that cause concern and disruption for our

Cyber attacks - Page 7

People power at the Park

More than seventy volunteers placed over a thousand plants



Hyatt Zeni was happy to do his part to help out with the replanting the Blue River Park last Saturday.

BLUE RIVER: Holiday Farm Fire recovery efforts got a boost last week when dozens of volunteers spent a Saturday digging into the dirt. Over the course of the day, 70 community volunteers helped plant 1,200 native plants and shrubs.

For himself and other park board members Tony Casad, said, "We are so grateful to all of the amazing volunteers who showed

up and for the leadership of the McKenzie Watershed Council and the Upper Willamette Soil and Water Conservation District in helping to make this project possible for the Blue River com-

The wildfire did extensive fire damage to the public park, taking out an old shed, and the baseball backstop, along with badly damaging the outdoor fireplace.

When board members first started assessing the destruction, it looked at times like the park would need to be clear-cut. Yet after much careful consultations with multiple agencies, they were able to save around 30 to 40 trees, without resorting to a total tree removal.

There was also good news when the park received a Federal Emergency Management Agency grant to replace the backstop, repair the shelter's roof and replace all of the signs in the park.

During last weekend's work day, people focused on the area around the playground equipment and along the asphalt path by the old shelter as well most of the upper portion of the park.

Casad credits the many partner organizations for spreading the word about the event, participating, and encouraging people interested in the McKenzie Valley to join residents during the rehabilitation. $Those \, other \, organizations \, included \,$

People power - Page 2

Search still on for missing man

Last location was near BR Reservoir

BLUE RIVER: The Lane County Sheriff's Office is requesting the public's assistance in locating Shane Eldor Sprenger. The 47year-old Springfield man was last believed to have been in the area of the Blue River Reservoir area, possibly picking mushrooms.

Family members say they had been able to talk with with Sprenger until approximately 7:30 a.m. last Wednesday, November 3rd. At that time, he said he'd lost his keys to his truck and needed a ride home.

Sprenger's truck was located by family on November 5th, but he was nowhere to be found. Cell phone location information placed Sprenger in the area of Blue River Reservoir, but the phone had been turned off last Thursday. He was last seen wearing a camo jacket and dark colored work pants.

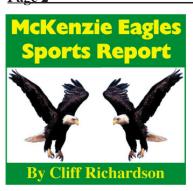
The Sheriff's Office has been utilizing volunteer Ground Search & Rescue K9 teams to search for



Shane Eldor Sprenger

the missing man. However, police say Sprenger may also have left the area. The Sheriff's Office is not requesting any additional assistance searching the area as the presence of untrained searchers can hamper official search efforts.

Anyone with information on Sprenger's whereabouts is asked to contact the Lane County Sheriff's Office at (541) 682-4150. Reference case number 21-6268.



McKenzie Sports Schedule This Week

McKenzie Middle School Girls Basketball will travel to Eddyville on Wednesday, November 10, for a game scheduled for a 4:30 pm tip-off. The McKenzie Athletic Department will host its annual Fall Sports Awards on Wednesday, November 10, in the High School Cafeteria, at 6:00 pm. The Eagle Middle School Girls Basketball team will host Triangle Lake on Monday, November 15, and that game will start at 4:30 pm.

North Douglas Claims Class 1A Volleyball Title

North Douglas traveled over the Cascade Mountain Range, landed in Redmond, and returned home, smiling, with an OSAA Class 1A Volleyball Championship Trophy. The fifth seeded Warriors defeated eighth seeded Crane, 3-1, in the State Semi-Final match held at Ridgeview High School in Redmond, and qualified to face the second ranked St. Paul Buckaroos in the 2021 OSAA State Class 1A Volleyball Championship.

St. Paul earned its berth in the State Championship Match by defeating third seeded Damascus Christian, in a tightly contested match, 3-2. North Douglas defeated St. Paul, 3-1, in the Championship Match, posting match scores of 25-22, 18-25, 25-7, and 25-

Mohawk, the Mt. West League Champion and MWL #1 seed to the State Championships, earned a State First Round bye, but fell on the road in a Second Round match to first ranked North Clackamas Christian, losing in three straight sets, 5-25, 16-25, and 22-25. The defeat ended the Mohawk Mustangs season with a 19th OSAA State ranking. The Mustangs ran the Mt. West League table this fall, posting a perfect 12-0 MWL record and finished 14-6 overall. Mohawk is coached by Heather Vanderploeg and assisted by long time past McKenzie Head Coach Dan Brenner.

Eddyville Charter (9-3, 11-8), the Mt. West League second seed lost its State First Round match, 0-3, to Days Creek (11-3, 18-10), the third seed out of the Skyline League and the MWL third seed, Crow (7-4, 7-6), lost its First Round match at Casco League second seed Perrydale (11-3, 15-6), 0 - 3

Also, locally, Class 2A Monroe (14-0, 22-4) finished its Fall Season with a Third place trophy at the OSAA State Championships. The Dragons defeated Grant Union, 3-1, at Ridgeview High School.

Mitchell/Spray/Wheeler Wallops **Powers In Six-Man Semi-Final**

The Mitchell/Spray/Wheeler team, representing the eight team Special District 4 Six Man Football League, forged a perfect 7-0 League record in dramatic fashion this Fall, scoring 380 points while holding opponents to just 88 points. The lone close game for the Rattlers was against Sp. Dist. 4 runner-up Prairie City/Burnt River (6-1, 6-2) on September 10, which Mitchell/Spray/Wheeler won 26-12.

Over on the other side of the Great State of Oregon, the Powers Cruisers posted their own Special District 3 Six-Man Football League (14 team League) perfect 7-0 record.

Spray/Wheeler held true to form, routing Powers, 53-13, last Saturday, November 6. The State Semi-Final Championship game was held at Crook County High School, in Prineville. Powers wrapped up its fine season at 8-1 overall. Triangle Lake met Alsea in the other Semi-Final six-man game held at Prineville. The Lakers (3-2, 5-2) soundly defeated the Wolverines (5-1, 6-2), with a rout of their own, 53-14.

With the victory, Triangle Lake will now advance to face Mitchell/ Spray/Wheeler in the "unofficial" 2021 OSAA State 6-man Football Championship next Saturday, November 13. The game is considered unofficial because OSAA continues to consider 6-man football a trial activity in the State of Oregon, despite 21 small rural schools and communities around the State enthusiastically participating. As a consequence of the OSAA stance on 6-man football, there will be no official recognition by the organization of the State Championship series. That will have to come from the schools and communities involved.

Mohawk's Rowe Finishes 9th **At State Cross Country Meet**

Mohawk Senior David Rowe ran to a Top Ten Finish, 9th place, at the 2021 OSAA Class 2A/1A State Cross Country Championship held last Saturday, November 6, at Lane Community College. Rowe, the lone boy or girl representing the Mt. West League in the State Championship races, ran the course in 17:32.9 minutes. The 2021 Class 2A/1A Champion is Colin Friend, of St. Stephen's Academy, out of Lake Oswego, and the senior athlete finished with a winning time of 16:23.5 minutes.

Remember When?

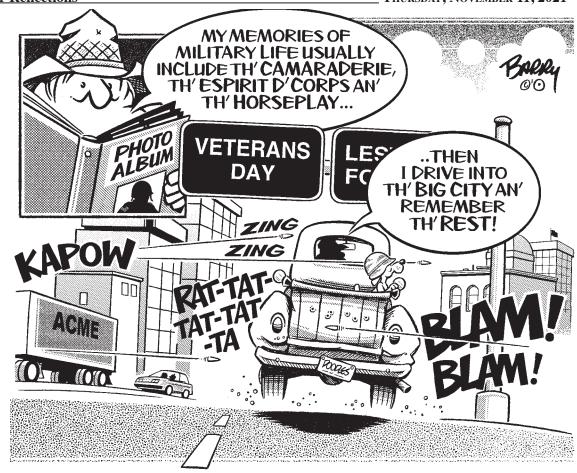
The year was 2001, twenty remarkable Fall Seasons past. Mc-Kenzie was represented at the 2001 OSAA State 2A/1A Girls Cross Country Championships by junior Eagle athlete Molly Schaefers who brought home a tenth place finish. Head Cross Country Coach Jeff Sherman and Assistant Jay Mathisen coached Molly.

The McKenzie Football team, directed by Head Coach Rick Gardner and assistants Gil Lucero and Jamie Dundon, completed its Trico League 11 man season with a 2-4 League record and 2-7 overall. The Eagles, despite the losing season, garnered several post-season awards. Sophomore Eagle Todd Richardson was chosen by Trico League Coaches as First Team All League Punter and Second Team All League Running Back. Richardson would also be awarded Class 2A Third Team All State Punter. Senior Eagles Chris Parazoo and Jordan Crabb were selected Trico Second Team All League Tight End and Offensive Line, respectively. Fellow senior Noah Lambert was awarded Second Team All League Offensive Line and Second Team Defensive Line. Senior Eagles George Weirichs and Ashlev Pearman were each selected to the Trico Honorable Mention All League team as Running Backs. And, sophomore Garrett Cline was awarded Honorable Mention All League at the Ouarterback position.

The Eagle Varsity Volleyball team, coached by McKenzie Head Coach Dan Brenner, his first season, finished eighth in the Trico League with a 0-14 League record and were 0-24 overall.

Letters to the Editor

rivref2@gmail.com FAX 541-663-4550 59059 Old McK. Hwy. McKenzie Bridge, OR



People power

Continued From Page 1

the McKenzie School District, McKenzie River Locals Helping Locals, Lane County, McKenzie Valley Long Term Recovery Group, Ninkasi Brewing, Suulutaaq Corp, Eugene Water & Electric Board, Upper Willamette Soil & Water Conservation District, the McKenzie Watershed Council, McKenzie River Trust, Windermere Real Estate, and Friends of Finn Rock.

"The Pure Water Partners are excited to work with the Blue River Park District to help restore native vegetation after the Holiday Farm Fire," according to Jennifer Weber, Restoration Program Manager with the McKenzie Watershed Counci "We look forward to hosting more opportunities for the community to come together to put a shovel in the ground and help bring back the beauty of this very special community park."

The park is going to have a very different look once different projects are finished, but the park board says they hope that, "By the time we welcome you back it will also be a much better place for locals and visitors alike. We will share ideas going forward and will give everyone a chance to have a say in what the vision for the new Blue River Park will look like."

Casad said, "This planting was

shrubs and bushes for the inner part of the park. We will have another planting focusing on the riparian area in the latter part of January 2022. This will be larger trees, both evergreen and deciduous varieties."

There are also plans to have a town hall meeting to discuss the "Park Master Plan" and get community input. (The Master Plan Draft can be seen on the Park Website Blueriverpark.com).

In addition, board members are encouraging folks to attend the monthly Park Board meetings, which are on the first Wednesday of every month at 7 p.m.

Coffee to concrete

Continued From Page 1

came at me I still had the dream of coming home and trying to start a family business," George remembers.

He admits that first year was tough, only to be followed by the devastating wildfire. "This fire took everything I had - everything I had saved over twenty years to start this business."

George says he collected tools when others went on vacation and now a year later he's working with his son, "Through the high demand people have for help."

Despite losing everything except his excavator to the fire, George has managed to maintain a positive outlook. "To be here right now with my community is exactly where I am supposed to be," he says. "Though we are all struggling with hope through this rebuilding process the generosity of others comes through as another stitch in my faith that is so tightly woven."

George says he's thankful for

and will use it to buy some of the tools he lost, and "To help my neighbors."

His company, George R Kruse Construction is located at 90198

Cascade View Drive in Vida with contact by phone at 541-513-9191 or via email at ore_krusey@ yahoo.com.



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the boost the grant has given him WEATHER REPORT In a clash of "Unbeatens," Mitchell/ READINGS TAKEN AT THE **READINGS TAKEN AT EWEB LEABURG POWERHOUSE US ARMY CORPS COUGAR DAM Friday 11/12 Sunday 11/14** Saturday 11/13 <u>Date</u> <u> High</u> Low <u>Rain Releases</u> Date High Low Rain Riverflow 11/2 45 0.04 640 cfs 55 0.23 3,360 cfs 11/2 53 45 11/3 62 45 0.06 780 cfs 45 11/3 58 0 3,150 cfs 11/4 54 45 0.99 990 cfs 11/4 72 47 0.51 3.580 cfs 11/5 45 43 0.39 920 cfs 11/5 55 47 0.60 4,310 cfs McKenzie Valley **Santiam Pass** McKenzie Valley Santiam Pass McKenzie Valley **Santiam Pass** 11/6 45 39 1.27 900 cfs 42 4,570 cfs 11/6 53 0.70 Rain AM Showers Showers Rain **Mostly Cloudy** 11/7 45 35 0.04 780 cfs 11/7 52 38 0.18 4,750 cfs 90% chance precip 70% chance precip 20% chance precip 50% chance precip 30% chance precip 20% chance pred 51 0.13 High: 61 Low: 52 High: 48 Low - 40 High: 62 Low: 51 High: 51 Low: 39 High: 62 Low: 51 High: 49 Low: 35 .11/8 460 cfs 11/8 52 35 0.16 4,150 cfs

Sheriff's Report

Oct. 28: 5:15 p.m: Criminal Trespass - 91800 block, Mill Creek Rd. A known suspect was reported to be trespassing at an area business.

Oct. 29: 10:20 a.m: Suspicious Conditions - McK. River Dr. & McK. Hwy. A caller reported that there was possibly a male living under a bridge on McKenzie River Dr.

7:12 p.m: Threat, Harassment - 44900 blk, Leaburg Dam Rd. A caller reported that a neighbor waited until she got home to start target shooting.

Oct. 30: 11:02 a.m: Burglary - 44800 blk, McK. Hwy. A local business was burglarized and an undisclosed amount of cash was taken.

12:13 p.m: Criminal Trespass - 44900 blk, Leaburg Dam Rd.

1:28 p.m: Disturbance, Menacing - Shotgun Creek Rd. & Marcola Rd. A caller reported that an unknown person fired birdshot in their direction. No injuries were reported. Determined to have occurred closer to Crawfordsville in Linn Co.

Oct.31:9:35a.m: Fraud - 38800

Found bones not human

Commissioners call for continued payments

control precipitously rational de, corresponding revenues to support schools and tamporusion shank by orders of magnitude. Generating

NewsArk

blk, Camp Creek Rd. A resident advised that their husband's credit card was fraudulently used in Portland.

Nov. 2: 9:57 a.m: Suspicious Conditions - 38400 blk, Shotgun Creek Rd.

11:55 a.m: Fraud - 38300 blk, Wendling Rd.

1:24 p.m: Criminal Mischief -Skyhigh Dr. & Camp Creek Rd.

2:20 p.m: Blocked Driveway -92000 blk, Spicer Ln.

Nov. 3: 6:48 a.m: Reckless Driving - McK. Hwy. Milepost

10:19 a.m: Disorderly Subject – 55600 blk, McK. River Dr.

11:35 a.m: Stalking Complaint

- 91800 blk, Mill Creek Rd. **1:44 p.m:** Assault – 52400 blk,

McK. Hwy.

3:13: p.m: Disturbance, Dispute - 49900 blk, McK. Hwy.

6:14 p.m: Weapon, Shots Fired - 44900 blk, Leaburg Dam Rd.

10:10 p.m: Mental Subject - 38500 McK. Hwy.

10:51 p.m: Criminal Trespass -91800 blk, Mill Creek Rd.

Nov. 4: 7:45 a.m: Weapon, Shots Fired - 44900 blk, Leaburg Dam Rd.

8:14 a.m: Assist, Follow Up -88600 blk, Latta Rd.

2:35 p.m: Suspicious Vehicle Leaburg Dam.

...saving stories

from the rising

tide of time.

From February 16 2006 edition of McKenzie River Reflections

River Reflections 50¢

Looking back at Leaburg

McKenzie's Phone Book is coming

State pols will visit the Valley

9:31 p.m: Disabled Vehicle -

Deerhorn Rd. & McK. Hwy. 9:38 p.m: Suspicious Vehicle -

Missy Ln. & Camp Creek Rd. Nov. 5: 5:04 a.m: Alarm -

39200 blk, McK. Hwy. 6:40 a.m: Assist, Information -89800 blk, Hill Rd.

9:07 a.m: Vehicle Accident, Unknown Injury - 7700 blk, Thur-

4:00 p.m: Violation of Restraining Order - 49900 blk, McK.

7:16 p.m: Motor Vehicle Accident, No Injury - Shadows Dr. & Marcola Rd.

9:48 p.m: Threat, Harassment -44900 blk, Leaburg Dam Rd.

11:04 p.m: Weapon, Shots Fired - 44900 blk, Leaburg Dam Rd.

Nov. 6: 12:49 a.m: Disabled Vehicle – Terwilliger Hot Springs.

1:41 a.m: Weapon, Shots Fired - 35200 blk, Camp Creek Rd.

8:25 a.m: Incomplete 911 Call. Lat: 44.173706 Long: 122.857811.

3:43 p.m: Vehicle Stop - McK. Hwy. & Aufderheide Dr.

7:33 p.m: Vehicle Stop – McK. Hwy. & Aufderheide Dr.

9:41 p.m: Motor Vehicle Accident, No Injury - Marcola Rd. & 42nd ST.

11:57 p.m: Driving Under Influence of Intoxicants - Marcola Rd. Mp. 11.

Nov. 7: 12:49 a.m: Disabled Vehicle – Terwilliger Hot Continued On Page 6

MOVE TO A PLACE



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State Police Report

Nov. 3: 15:56: Trespassing - Lone Rock Timber Sale, off Camp Creek Rd. Timber company witnessed (via cell camera) a silver Toyota RAV 4 drive off the road around their gate. The property is clearly posted with no trespassing signs. Trooper drove to the area and located the vehicle abandoned. For the next couple hours attempted to locate the occupants with no luck. The timber company requested the vehicle be removed off of the property. A non-preference tow was requested and the vehicle was

McKenzie Fire & Rescue

Nov. 1: 10:27: 40000 block, Deerhorn Rd. Medical, General. Patient Assessed, 1 Transported.

13:40: 45000 blk, McK. Hwy. Medical, Trauma. Patient Assessed, 1 Transported.

Nov. 4: 11:33: 8800 blk, McK. Hwy. Medical, General. Patient Refusal.

12:48: 37000 blk, Camp Creek Rd. Medical, General. Confirmed Deceased

Nov. 5: 9:04: 7700 blk, Thurston Rd. Motor Vehicle Accident. Non-Injury, Non-Blocking

Nov. 6: 5:30: 8800 blk, McK. Hwy. Medical, General. Patient Assessed, 1 Transported.

22:51: 42000 blk, Holden Creek Rd. Medical, General. Lift Assist Only.

Nov. 8: 0:45: 88000 blk, Old Mohawk Rd. Mutual Aid. Cancelled by Dispatch, False Alarm.

McK. Fire & Rescue will hold its monthly Board of Directors meeting the Monday, November 15th, at noon, at the Leaburg Training Center, 42870 McK.

Upper McKenzie Fire/Rescue

Nov. 2: 07:49: Medical – 54000 block, McK. River Dr. Female, Conscious, Breathing.

Nov. 4: 11:04: Medical – 91000 blk, Taylor Rd. Male, Conscious, Breathing.

Nov. 8: 11:11: Medical -Milepost14, Clear Lake Cutoff. Man lying on the ground, unknown if this is an accident or not.

14:59: Medical – 56000 blk, McK Hwy. Male, Conscious, Breathing.

21:05: Fire Alarm – 57000 blk, McK Hwy. 2 activations. Called inside, no answer.

The Upper McK. Fire District board of directors will hold its monthly meeting on Wednesday, November 17th, at the McK. Fire Station, 56578 McK. Hwy. in McKenzie Bridge, at 7 p.m.

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By Slim Randles

"Windy," she said, "did you know that some Native American people refer to November as the Hunger Moon?"

Mamie smiled as she placed some uncooked rolled-up ground fish things with spicy what-nots on them. They were wrapped up in what was either alfalfa or a skunk cabbage leaf. Mamie Dilworth was a friendly, neighborly challenge to the aging cowboy and camp cook, Windy Wilson.

"Native Americans?"

"You know ... Indian people."

"Thass right. I memorate that now. You know, Mamie, always wondered 'bout somethin'. You know I was born here in the valley, right? Long time ago now, I guess. But doesn't that make ME a Native American too? And you, too?"

Mamie smiled. "I see your point," she said. "You want some tea to go with your lunch?"

Ol' Windy grinned and patted his mouth with his napkin. "Shore do. What kinda tea we got today, Mamie?"

She told him a name he couldn't pronounce. "And this-year tea ... how does it help a guy out? Oh, thinkin' clearly... got it. Anything else? Digestive properties? And that is? Oh, sorry I asked."

"I'll put the kettle on, Windy," she said, smiling.

"Great idea," he said, grinning. Then he shoveled some of the raw fish to his fairly-new best friend, Mamie's cat. The cat waited between Windy's knees.

Windy smiled and faked a burp as Mamie came in with the tea. He was still hopeful she'd someday learn to cook, but she was sure good company in the meantime.

He'd stop and get taco fixings on the way home.

Brought to you by The Fly Fisherman's Bucket List, published by Rio Grande books and written by Slim Randles, who got wet researching it.

Quote of the Week

"Half the people you know are below average."

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Steven Wright

THURSTON

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Legend of Portuguese buried treasure farfetched, but possible

By Finn J.D. John

Stories about buried treasure are very seldom completely untrue. Even the wildest flight of golden fantasy started out, hundreds or thousands of augmented and embellished retellings ago, as true stories. Maybe that's why people love them so much: One gets to speculating about just how much truth has survived, and if any of that fantasy gold might just be still out there waiting to be discovered.

One particular tale from the Indians of the northern Oregon coast is especially tantalizing in that way, because it's so close to its source. The old treasure hunter who recounted it to author Ruby El Hult in 1958 had it directly from the grandson of the man who originally (according to the story) buried the loot.

Here's the story:

Sometimes in the 1910s or 1920s, Francis L. Watrous of Forest Grove was in the field looking for the Lost Tillamook Mine, a legendary mine supposedly worked by a tribe of Indians who, according to the legend, covered it up after white prospectors murdered two tribe members in a squabble over it.

Watrous's search for the lost mine was just getting started, so he was still making preliminary inquiries to give him a better idea where to start looking. On this particular day, he was on the Siletz Indian reservation, asking if any of the tribe members had heard anything about it. When he put the question to one well-dressed elderly man, the man replied that he had not; but there was a story passed down in his family that Watrous might find interesting.

"My grandfather was a Portuguese sailor and helped bury some boxes of Portuguese coin down on the coast," the old man told him, according to Hult's book. "He went back to look for them, and so did my father, but they could never find them."

The old Indian told Watrous his father had come with a twoship expedition of Portuguese emigrants who'd planned on establishing a group settlement or

Call us at

Ph 541-515-6668

Fax 541-515-6702



Bob Heims, US Army Corps of Engineers An aerial photo of the mouth of the Nehalem River. If treasure hunter Frank Watrous is right, this would have been the most likely place for the

colony on the Santiam River, in the Willamette Valley.

treasure to have been cached.

The colonist made their arrangements in roughly 1845, and at that time the Oregon country was still under joint American occupancy, British. The emigrants made arrangements for their colony with the British. Doubtless they assumed the British Empire, the global superpower of the age, was the more powerful and important of the two countries that shared the territory, and would win out in any dispute over ownership.

But it was more than three years before they were able to get their expedition under way, and when they arrived in Oregon in 1848 they found to their dismay that in the intervening years the U.S. and Britain had ended the joint occupancy agreement and fixed their boundary well away to the north. Also, American settlers had been pouring over the Oregon Trail in covered wagons for about three years, and by 1848 they'd staked out all the best land in the Willamette Valley -- including, of course, the prime farmland on the Santiam that the colony had intended to establish itself on.

Disappointed, most of the colonists decided to go back to Portugal. Everyone who wanted to do so was transferred to one of the two ships. The other ship, which was loaded with provisions for the outfitting of two colony stores, stayed behind, planning to spend another month or two selling and trading its goods with the local Indian tribes before also heading for home.

This ship, the one that stayed behind, also carried five teakwood boxes of gold coins belonging to the colony.

So, the two ships parted. But then the captain of the ship that stayed behind started worrying about all the gold he was packing around. What if a tribe of Indians decided to swarm the ship and loot it? He decided to put in to shore, cache the cash (sorry about that), and pick it up on his return trip after trading away all the supplies.

So the ship anchored just offshore from a small creek that ran into the sea, and the skipper sent a rowboat crew ashore with the five teakwood boxes, giving the crew members (including, of course, the Indian's grandfather) specific instructions for how to hide them. They were to follow the creek up a ways from the sea to a spot where they could dam it up temporarily or divert its flow, and bury the boxes in the creekbed.

This they did. When they were done, they restored the creek to its original streambed and cleaned up all evidence of what they'd done.

As they finished their work, a sudden storm blew up. They hurried to the beach, but when they got there they discovered that their boat had been carried away by a rogue wave. The weather was too thick to see their ship. There was nothing for it but to settle in

on the beach for the night, staying as warm as they could, and hope the weather would be clear by morning.

It was, and they quickly spotted their ship. But it was behaving very strangely. It was very close to the breakers, apparently dragging anchor, but nobody was doing anything about it.

The men hurried to the beach their ship was now looming over. There was no sign of life on board and their shouts went unanswered. Finally, just as it seemed the ship would end up in the breakers, the tide turned, saving it from destruction.

There was still no sign of life on board. The stranded sailors had to spend another night on the beach.

The next morning, they saw that the ship had beached itself a little to the north, across the mouth of a small river. They could see Indians on board looting it.

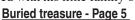
Hurriedly they lashed together a raft and tried to get across the river to the ship, hoping to rescue any survivors; but the Indians fought them off, leaving one of them wounded.

They stayed with the wounded man for a day or two, but then he died. Then, having heard nothing from any survivors, the other crew members concluded that they were now on their own, and struck out overland, trying to make it to

They had very few supplies. Everyone had a cutlass, of course, but they had only one firearm along and not much ammunition, and no food supplies. By the time they made it through the Coast Range, all but one had died of starvation and exposure. Finally the sole survivor -- the Indian's grandfather -- stumbled into the Iler family homestead, near Gales Creek, and was rescued.

The sailor, the story goes, returned to Portugal and got married. But he couldn't give up on the buried treasure so easily, so he decided to move back to Oregon and bring his new family with him. Joining the Hudson's Bay Company, he took a job as a clerk in its Oregon office. His new wife and son (the elderly Indian's father) soon joined him.

After fulfilling his term of service (15 years, according to the story) the Portuguese sailor moved with his little family out to





River Hwy







THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 2021_ McKenzie River Reflections Page 5



Gardening **Tips**

By Kym Pokorny



Dodge the raindrops and finish fall garden tasks

The rains may have started, but there's still plenty that needs attention in the garden - if you're up for it. Layer up and dodge the raindrops and you've got plenty of time to plant, transplant, evaluate and plan for next year.

Gardeners tend to think of fall as the time to put bulbs in the ground, but the warm soil and increasing moisture make it a great time to plant most anything, according to Brooke Edmunds, an Oregon State University Extension Service horticulturist. Transplanting can also be done now, though it's best to move plants that have started to go dormant. If you've got a plant that's still actively growing, flag it and transplant in spring.

In terms of cleaning up the garden, the choice is yours, Edmunds said. Some people like a spic and span look over winter, but leaving some areas of the garden undisturbed will provide shelter for beneficial insects and food for birds and other wildlife. For more information see the OSU Extension article Should I wait to clean up the garden in order to help conserve insects by Gail Langellotto, OSU Extension Master Gardener coordinator and professor in the College of Agricultural Sciences. Whether you decide to cut back and discard

perennials or leave them alone, be sure to dispose of any diseased or pest-infested plant material.

Edmunds also recommends several ways to use fallen leaves. Many gardeners refer to leaves as "garden gold" because they are so useful. Protect empty beds with leaves (straw or other organic matter work, too). A layer of leaves as mulch on the soil surface will protect the soil from compaction and erosion from winter rains.

Shred some leaves to decompose in garden beds. This feeds the soil's microbes, which release nutrients for plants. Use your lawnmower to run over leaves to shred them and then mix in to the top inches of the soil to breakdown over the winter. If you have a thin layer of leaves on the lawn you can use a mulching mower to leave the shredded leaves in place to "feed"

Stockpile leaves in a dry spot to add to the compost pile in spring when there is more green material like grass clippings to balance it out. For information, see Clueless about compost? Expert shares timely tips. For information about how to use compost, see How to Use Compost in Gardens and Landscapes.

Here are some additional fall gardening activities suggested by Edmunds:

Collect seed of annuals such

as zinnias, marigolds, dill and sunflowers (if you can harvest before the squirrels!). Dry them and put in labeled envelopes and store in a cool, dark spot. The refrigerator will work. You can also freeze them.

Take stock of the garden before everything dies down to determine what went wrong and what went right. Think about what is too tall for the front of the bed and should be moved to the back and vice versa. Make notes in a journal or

Evaluate the vegetable garden. What varieties grew and produced well? What didn't? What was too big for the space? Make a list of what you want to plant next year and what you will forgo.

Start a worm compost bin to manage your kitchen scraps. Worm bins can be kept inside or outside in a protected area like a garage, shed or deck.

Don't neglect to clean, sharpen and oil your pruners, Edmunds said. Use soap and water to clean off mud and sap, dry thoroughly to remove all moisture, use a flat file (you can find this in the tool aisle) to sharpen the blades, and then oil the tool to seal against rust. Store in a dry place and you'll be ready for next season!

Remember your feathered friends. Clean out and refill seed feeders (peanuts, sunflower, thistle, millet, cracked corn, and dried fruit will attract a diversity of species), install suet blocks, and mix up fresh sugar water weekly for the hummingbirds (1 part white sugar to 4 parts water).



MEMORIES OF FEED SACK FABRICS

As I sorted through a collection of baby and doll dresses I'd saved from my sister's and my childhood, I came across a little skirt made from a feed sack, red with white floral design on it. This was a very simple project with a drawstring waist and hand hemmed. Although I don't have it, I recall my first sewing project on my 4-H leader's treadle sewing machine...a drawstring apron from the same feed sack fabric. I modeled the skirt at a 4-H fashion show when I was 8 years old.

Have you ever used "feed sack" fabrics for making clothing, quilts and other home decorations? Do you know what these are? When I was growing up, feed for chickens and cattle often was packed in colorful cotton fabric bags. Flour and sugar sometimes were packed in these, too. My first sewing projects, stitched on a treadle sewing machine, were constructed using these colorful fabrics.

Quilts From Feed Sacks -

My aunt and grandmother made patchwork quilts from feed sacks. I also have the quilt I helped them make for my bed. The feed sacks had floral and geometric designs on them and were durable.

A friend told me of a book about feed sack fabrics which I hope to find for my own. It is written by Marian Ann Montgomery,... COTTON & THRIFT, FEED SACKS AND THE FABRIC OF AMERICAN HOUSEHOLDS.

My daughter and I have found feed fabrics at yard sales and in antique shops. When I come across them, these antique items bring back fond memories.

BREAKFAST CASSEROLE is a tasty dish my daughter and her mother-in-law make. You can serve it for breakfast, brunch and other meals.

Brown 1 lb. sausage and crumble it. Cube 6 slices bread.

Beat together 4 eggs, 2 cups milk, and dash of salt ad pepper.

In a 9 x 10-in. or 9x12 in. greased baking dish, sprinkle the crumbled sausage, Cover with bread cubes. Pour egg/milk mixture over the above. Sprinkle with 1/4 cup grated cheddar cheese.

Assemble the night before and let set in the refrigerator overnight.

You can substitute diced ham for the sausage, but don't brown the ham. Bake at 350 degrees F. for 45 minutes.

(c) 2021 Mary Emma Allen

Buried treasure

Continued From Page 4

the coast so that he could resume his search. But he had no luck at all. He found the stream, but he couldn't find the spot. Tillamook County's famous floods had resculpted the landscape and apparently changed the creek's channel to boot.

The sailor's young son joined in these searches, but without success.

The son, when he grew up, fell in love with a girl from the Nehalem tribe and married her. And, of course, the old man who told Frank Watrous this story was their child. He, too, had tried his luck, and had given it up as

So ... what to make of this story? Author Ruby Hult did some digging on the story, and came up somewhat skeptical. The dates line up fairly precisely with known events in Oregon history.

And yet the story itself doesn't hang together very well. Why would the Portuguese settlers go home instead of establishing their colony somewhere else? Although their deal was with the British, the American authorities would have been happy to accommodate them somewhere that was not yet all claimed up. Wouldn't they at least have a look around before sailing halfway back across the world in defeat?

Then, too, why would the colony's treasury be left aboard the trading ship instead of whisked away to safety back in Portugal as quickly as possible? Nobody on the trading ship was going to need any hard currency to trade with Indians.

It also seems like a terrible idea to bury all the money unguarded in a random creekbed, deep in some possibly-hostile tribe's territory, rather than keeping it aboard ship where it could be watched and defended. Plus, wouldn't the captain, the man who had been personally charged with safeguarding it, want to personally supervise the crew when they hid it? He could easily have left the ship in charge of his first officer for the hour or two it took to cache the money.

But, as Hult says, people do sometimes do irrational things. Perhaps the colonists feared any other "unclaimed" land might have not yet have been stolen from the Indian tribes living on it. Perhaps the leader of the colony chose to stay on the trading ship, and wanted to keep the money

There is one thing about this story, though, that rings true and requires not much explanation: the disappearance of the five teakwood boxes.

Burying them in the balmy, pleasant weather of a North Coast late summer, the Portuguese sailors probably would never have guessed that the pretty little creek in which they were burying those boxes was part of a drainage that gets nearly 100 inches of rainfall every year.

Most likely, just a few months after it was buried there, the boxes were washed out to sea by a torrent of muddy water pouring down out of the Coast Range hills.

In fact, if you look closely at an aerial photograph of the mouth of the Nehalem River -which Watrous told author Hult he thought was the most likely candidate for the small river the sailor described -- you'll see it turns sharply southward at the end, running parallel to the beach, with a thin spit separating it from the breakers, forming Nehalem Bay. If you look at the spot where the river finally turns westward and cuts through the beach to the ocean, you'll see that at that point there is a rather large gulley debouching into the river from the nearby hills.

It's not too farfetched to wonder if perhaps, in 1845, the river actually cut straight through to the sea, and that gulley drained into a creek that entered the ocean separately just to its south. If so, the landscape would have been exactly what the sailor described.

And if that's the case, the five boxes of gold would have been probably buried smack in the middle of what today is the main channel of the Nehalem River.

That is, of course, if they ever existed at all.

(Sources: Treasure Hunting Northwest, a book by Ruby El Hult published in 1971 by Binford and Mort)

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-



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SHELFNOTES FROM LEABURG *LIBRARY*

NOVEMBER 2021

Every once in a while someone donates a book that instantly grabs my attention. It could be that the cover is spectacularly beautiful: or it's an author that I particularly like; or the title sends sparks through my conscious mind, and the wheels of recognition spin so fast that I am compelled to sit immediately on the floor, open the thing and read the opening pages.

Such was the case a few weeks ago. The book is called "The Book Woman of Troublesome Creek", and I shall be eternally grateful to whoever donated that book. It is a work of historical fiction - which I love - and it is really two stories seamlessly woven together by Kim Michele Richardson, a remarkable woman in her own right.

The words "Book Woman" are what caught my eye. Book Woman was the name given to the women who from 1935 until 1943 worked for the Pack Horse Library Project which was one of President Franklin D. Roosevelt's WPA programs in rural eastern Kentucky. These women were paid \$28 a month and were charged with bringing books and other reading materials into the poorest, most remote areas of Appalachia where there were very few schools and certainly no libraries. Traveling to these areas was often dangerous, sometimes impossible, and always exhausting. Each Book Woman had to supply her own horse, mule, donkey, rowboat, or whatever it took to make her appointed rounds, and she did that regardless of the weather.

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An Invitation

to Worship

McKenzie Bible Fellowship

Sunday Worship – 10:00 a.m. Youth Ministries

KidsFest Family Activities

Because they had little or no financial help, these Book Women collected donated books, magazines, newspapers, anything that qualified as reading material from any available source: Boy Scouts, churches, women's clubs, PTA's, even the state health department. They made scrapbooks containing recipes, homemade remedies, and household tips that were shared by the mountain folk, and they made children's books, journals and diaries out of donated paper which they hand decorated. They were clever, strong-willed, and dedicated to the belief that they could enrich the lives of the people they served – the people who lived in unimaginable poverty. And they were beloved.

The Book Woman in this story is Cussy Mary Carter. It would have been a fascinating story if it had been just about her adventures in the backwoods of eastern Kentucky, working as a Pack Horse librarian in all the exciting and terrifying situations she might have encountered. But this story has a deeper theme. Cussy Mary is also a "Blue" - the last of the blueskinned people of Kentucky.

The characters of Cussy Mary and her Pa are based loosely on the real-life extended family of Martin Fugate, a French orphan who came to this country in 1820 to lay claim to a land grant near Troublesome Creek, Kentucky. He married a white woman who also carried the recessive blueblood gene for the rare disease called Methemoglobinemia. They had seven children, four of whom were blue. Descendants of Martin Fugate were shunned, shamed



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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 hurs. 6 pm - Celebrate Recovery (12-Step Program

Catholic Church

St. Benedict Lodge Chapel

and forced to live isolated lives because of their skin color.

In this story, Cussy Mary, or Bluet as she is called by nearly everyone, brings us face to face with ourselves. She opens the door of her world for us to literally feel her strength, her fear, her longing, her tenderness, her determination, and her astonishing courage in refusing to allow anyone to take her humanness from her. She finds ways to coexist with hateful racial discrimination of the rural south, and although her story does not include a happily-ever-after ending, she remains unbowed and

As a Book Woman, she has access to books of all sorts, and she cherishes every one she reads. To Cussy Mary, being able to read is "a sanctuary for my heart. And a joy bolted free, lessening my own grievances, forgiving spent youth

undefeated.

and dying dreams lost to a hard life, the hard land, and to folks' hard thoughts and partialities." Books were a way to carry her anywhere.

Kim Michele Richardson's book not only engages us with the remarkable story of the Kentucky Pack Horse Library Project, but it

42840 McKenzie Hwy. Blue River

Bottle Boys Collection/Sorting -

Saturday morning sorting sessions

every Saturday. Donations can be

dropped off at the Leaburg Store.

Funds from plastic, glass, and

aluminum containers go toward

the rebuilding of the O'Brien

Memorial Library in Blue River,

McKenzie River Clinic, and the

November 15

McKenzie Fire District Board

Training Center, 42870 McKenzie

Hwy, in Leaburg. 541-896-3311.

Nov. 15 - Springfield School

Board Meeting

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

Sheriff's

Report

Continued From Page 3

3:36 p.m: Warrant Service -

5:27 p.m: Assist, Follow Up -

6:38 p.m: Weapon, Shots Fired

Nov. 8: 12:13 p.m: Injured

1:19 p.m: Civil Problem -

2:12 p.m: Incomplete 911 Call

3:30 p.m: Citizen Contact -

Comments as reported may

not be complete or accurate. If

further information is required

contact the Lane County Sher-

Animal - Marcola Rd. & Moss

- 44900 blk, Leaburg Dam Rd.

Cascade View staging area.

51100 blk, McK. Hwy.

47800 blk, McK. Hwy.

- 36900 blk, Goats Rd.

37000 blk, Camp Creek Rd.

Springs.

Building, 640 A St, Springfield.

7:00pm - 8:30pm. The Board of

12:00pm - 1:00pm. at Leaburg

McKenzie

Community

also captures and disarms us with a heroine whose luminous voice rings in our ears long after the last page is read.

It is beautifully written with descriptive passages that are so vivid and perfect it is difficult to put the book down.

Thank you again to whoever brought "The Book Woman of Troublesome Creek" to the library. It got my attention.

> I'll see you at the library. Marty Mealey, Director (Hours: Mon – Thurs. 1:30-4pm; Sat. 10am-1pm.)

November 17 **Upper McK Fire Board**

7 - 8:00pm. 5 Upper McKenzie Fire District Board of Directors monthly meeting. At the fire station, 6578 McKenzie Hwy, 541-822-3479

Novembver 18 - Leaburg Food Pantry

11am - 5pm. McKenzie Bible Fellowship, 45061 McKenzie Hwy.

Wildfire Help

A 24-hour-a-day, 7-days-a-week resouce for people seeking information on Oregon wildfires is now available. Information and referrals are available for local, state, and federal resources at 1-833-669-0554 or wildfire.oregon. gov. Case managers will focus on individuals and their families to help meet disaster-recovery needs. More information on ways to stay safe and find aid, as well as update, new information, and community events is available on the website.



A Moment in Oregon **History**

By Rick Steber (www.ricksteber.com)

November 11 - Billy Chinook

was a Wasco Indian. He willingly accepted the white man and served as a guide and scout for the Freemont Expedition. After leading the party south to California he traveled to the East coast and enrolled in Columbia College, where he learned to speak, write and read the white man's language. But Billy Chinook became disenchanted with civilization. He returned home and resumed his Indian ways. In 1855, when the Wasco tribe was called upon to sign a treaty with the United States, it was Billy Chinook who studied the terms and explained the treaty to his tribe. He said the Indians would preserve the right to fish the Columbia River "until the salmon come no more." Billy Chinook died at the age of 63 and his tombstone in the Warm Springs cemetery reads, "William Chinook - A faithful and true friend of the white men."

Community Notes

Vida

Center.

November 13 McKenzie Resource Fair

McKenzie River Corridor residents working to return and rebuild their homes will have an opportunity to meet one-on-one with representatives from Lane County, Lane Electric Cooperative, Eugene Water & Electric Board, Oregon Department of Forestry, Lane County Sheriff's Office, Federal Emergency Management Authority, and Pure Water Coalition. In addition, East Lane Commissioner Heather Buch will attend as well and the Catholic Charities Disaster Case Management will be sending two teams of two Disaster Case Managers to provide information and schedule intake or appointments for Holiday Farm Fire

The Resource Fair will be held at McKenzie High School, Saturday, November 13th, in the school's Old Gymnasium, from 10:00 am until 2:00 pm. Please plan to attend and address with your personal present and past rebuild issues, questions, comments, success stories, frustrations, etc. Lane County officials representing the planning, permitting, sanitation, land use and Disaster Case Manager Departments will be at their respective tables to listen to you. Please plan to attend and pass the word on to our friends and neighbors. All covid virus safety protocols will be followed. This event is sponsored by McKenzie River Locals Helping Locals in cooperation with Mc-Kenzie High School and the above mentioned organizations.

Nov. 13, 20 & 27 A Dime At A Time

10 a.m. - 12 p.m. Leaburg Store,

For Rent rivref2@ gmail.com

This Space

1/2 mile off Hwy. 126 on North Bank Rd., McKenzie Bridge

Small Group Fellowships Men's & Women's Bible Studies Sat. Eve. 5:00pm Sun. Morn. 9:30am; Call 896-3829 for infor web page: sblodge.opwest.org McKenzie Bridge Christian Church 56334 McKenzie Hwy, McKenzie Bridge, OR 97413

9:30 a.m. Sunday school for all ages 11:00 a.m. Worship Service & Nursery Need a ride? Call 541-822-3289

McKenzie Valley Presbyterian Church

Worship is live-streamed, every Sunday at 10:30 am, on the Facebook page for McKenzie Valley Presbyterian Church. Comments on Facebook are appreciated! You may also contact the church for prayer requests, to request an emailed or earth-mailed bulletin, and other information. Phone or send email to Nancy Ashley, nancy.w.ashley@gmail.com, 541-914-1986. We look forward to hearing from our neighbors, either from a distance, or someday, in person! Milepost 13 McKenzie Hwy. (541) 747-2604

Every Tuesday 8:15 am, silent meditation at Leaburg Library. Bring your own practice; we set the timer for 30 minutes. No religious affiliation, sponsored by the McKenzie Valley Holiday Farm Fire Long Term Recovery Group. Just show up, or contact Sara Stanley, 530-520-8901



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Direct Answers

By Wayne & Tamara Mirchell

Closer Than You Think

Well, that's it! I have had my heart broken for the last time. I give up on love. I'm sick and tired of women. One minute they love you and the next minute they don't. I just don't get it, so I give

I have thought about this for a long time. Who needs this garbage? Well I did, but not anymore. Thanks to everyone I gave my heart to and who threw it in the trash.

If it is meant to be that I spend the rest of my life alone, then so be it. Being alone and happy with myself has to be better than being with someone and knowing sooner or later she will break my heart. So I give up!

Ray, I hear your anger and frustration loud and clear. I've been there. Everywhere you go you see happy couples. It seems like you're the only guy in the world who doesn't have someone.

Let's go to the pub and have a brew. Just you and me. Good riddance to women! Who needs 'em! We'll talk sports and politics and bore ourselves silly, because deep down we know what we

really want and need is love. Deep down we know we'll never give up, because to give up on love is to give up on life.

You talk about falling out of love. You fall out of boats, but you don't fall out of love. You fall out of like. Like is that temporary thing, the feeling of newness, infatuation, and sexual attraction. It feels great while it lasts, but when the negatives outweigh the positives, it's over. And when it's over, it feels like you fell out of a boat.

The real deal isn't like that. When you get to the point where you're not playing games with anyone on any level. When you get to the point where you've had it. When you get to the point where you are just living your life, doing what's in you to do. That's when the right person can finally see you and you can see them. That's when you find the love that lasts a lifetime.

That's where you are right now. That's how it happened for me.

Wayne

https://www.facebook.com/ *WayneAndTamara*

American Life in Poetry

By Kwame Dawes

There is a certain delightfulness in the rhythm and play of "Moving to Santa Fe" by Mary Morris, in which she enacts the farewell song of someone moving from an old home to a new one. In Morris' case, she is leaving a childhood home in one part of the country to a new adventure in another part of the country, exchanging red dirt, peaches and armadillos for mud houses and the mesa. If we are haunted by this jaunty poem, it is because the images she invokes sharpen adventure with a tinge of danger.

Moving to Santa Fe

By Mary Morris I packed my boxes, beat the tornado.

My brother followed in his truck with my bed and books of photos.

Good-bye father and mother,

brothers who fed us wild animals. Farewell to the stone house strangled

with red dirt, rose rocks, green hills, and burnt grass. I will miss you, armadillos

and hairy hands of tarantulas crossing the road in the dark. Farewell friends. I'm not far.

Visit me in my mud house under the shadow of the mesa. Bring me peaches.

We do not accept unsolicited submissions. 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 Mary Morris, "Moving to Santa Fe" from Dear October (Texas Review Press, 2020.) Poem reprinted by permission of the author and the publisher. Introduction copyright ©2021 by The Poetry Foundation. The introduction's author, Kwame Dawes, is George W. Holmes Professor of English and Glenna Luschei Editor of Prairie Schooner at the University of Nebraska.

Cyber attacks

Continued From Page 1

students, they are investigated to the fullest extent our resources will allow," he said.

Devon won his bid for the Associated Student Body Business Manager post. He says his campaign had been focused on changes to the dress code as well as issues like student equality related to teacher favoritism and bullying. In his campaign speech, he promised, if elected, "No student will suffer from a sexist dress code under my leadership, no student will have to feel like they have no voice and no student will feel discriminated against by others. Under my guidance, you will all have a voice, you will all have a choice, and you will all be treated as equal human beings."

So far, he feels like he was widely supported, although the district doesn't release election vote counts. However, there are a handful of students who he says make strongly negative comments when they see him in the hallway or bathrooms. Philosophically, "I wouldn't see myself as a successful student leader if I didn't have people who didn't like me," he says.

While the Lane County Sheriff's Office wasn't involved in this incident, McKenzie District Deputy Russ Olson said there are instances where harassment or bullying reaches a threshold where law enforcement should play a role. "If there is any information, whether it's criminal or just for info that they want to share with us, they are strongly encouraged to do so. There have been numerous incidences, not specifically with the school, that parents or businesses just wanted us to be aware of. This is also a great way of tracking repeated incidences or problems."

Olson added that the Sheriff's Office, "Never wants to discourage anybody from calling us because they think they're wasting our time. It's always good information, and there might be something else that we were made aware of that

might link a couple of incidences together."

Tompkins cautioned parents and other people should be aware of what's occurring online. "Although the internet and social media have a wealth of information and the power to connect people across the world, it also has provided an avenue for people to treat people in ways that they never would in person," he feels. "We encourage families to regularly monitor their children's use of the Internet and social media."

Devon says he wants to see the district do better at cracking down on bullying. "It is extremely important and a big issue at McKenzie. During my campaign, I called for student justice and student equality," he notes. "I also campaigned saying I will not tolerate student discrimination and that it would be taken extremely seriously."

Currently, the Student Council is working on an anti-bullying campaign. "We've made posters and plan on holding an assembly strictly on acknowledging bullying will not be tolerated at McKenzie," according to Devon. He says students are also working on getting some activists to hold an assembly at the school and, "Let them talk about why bullying hurts people's mental and physical health."

Devon has branched out beyond the school's student council, moving forward from his realization that he intends to remain politically involved. This year, he expanded his activities with internships as a campaign policy advisor at Patrick Starnes' campaign for Oregon Governor and the Peter DeFazio for Congress campaign. He also became a volunteer with the Human Rights Campaign and the Oregon Riders Society motorcycle group.

Devon says he started, "With my school community and I plan to work my way up, all the way to the top."

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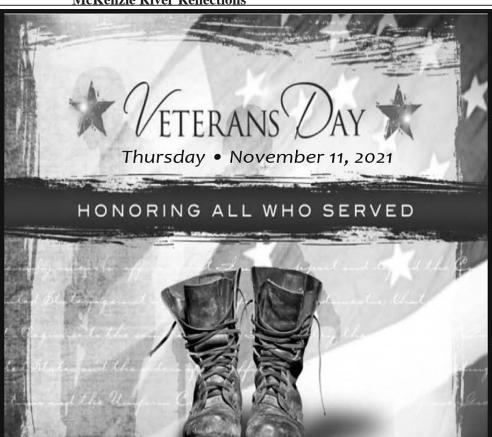
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