



Serving the McKenzie River Valley ... And Subscriber Heather Carter of Springfield

JP Doodles

There are times when folks find there's truth in the absurd.

PAGE 2

Purple tomatoes

Jim Myers did something no one had done before - the first purple tomato containing the healthy compound found in blueberries.

PAGE 5



Wreck lands in wetlands

Trucker said he hit a "golf cart size" boulder



Cleanup crews were involved in a difficult, labor-intensive recovery after a loaded 53-foot chip trailer and truck crashed through a guardrail and landed on its side in a muddy wetland early Thursday morning.

FINN ROCK: The report of a single-vehicle crash on May 20th turned out to be a lucky break for Brandon Hanson, 25. He was westbound near Milepost 38 of the McKenzie Hwy. at 1:45 a.m. when he told police he collided with a large boulder that disabled the Peterbilt truck he was operating. The impact caused the semi's cab and trailer to veer off the roadway, taking

out 11 posts and 6 guardrail panels before dropping 6 to 8 feet into a wetland. The lucky part is that Hanson was uninjured.

The Oregon Dept. of Transportation designated the accident scene as a Hazardous Materials incident at 2:34 a.m. due to the presence of 80 gallons of diesel fuel as well as transmission fluid, antifreeze, and oil in

Wreck lands in wetlands - Page 9

A week of "boats galore"

Celebrations surround McKenzie Drift Boat



Keri Best

Boat builders were busy all week long at the McKenzie River Discovery Center. Turn to Page 2



A wet Spring required a bit of bailing out for owners who'd brought the boats the day before the Wooden Boat Festival at the Eagle Rock Lodge. View video at: tinyurl.com/398esfvv



At 70 years old, the last boat built by Woodie Hindman was a welcome donation to the McKenzie River Discovery Center. View video at: tinyurl.com/mvkd28d

School board race is heating up

Eight candidates are facing off in May 16th election

FINN ROCK: A public forum for candidates seeking seats on the McKenzie School Board hasn't panned out as planned. On Tuesday morning the event's sponsor, the McKenzie Educational Association, reported only four of the eight candidates had agreed

to show up to answer six questions that had been sent in advance of the forum. The questions ranged from prior involvement with the school to challenges facing the district as well as any current courses or programs that should be added to or deleted from

the curriculum.

Candidates who said they will show up on April 28th are Danna Brownell (for Position 1), Sarah Mackenzie (Position 2), Alyssa Brownlee (Position 3), and Jason Wick-izer (Position 5).

School board race - Page 2



People have been questioning the legal status of long strings of campaign signs that have popped up along sections of Hwy. 126 that have been designated as Scenic Byways. After inspecting them, the Oregon Dept. of Transportation reports they were placed outside the right-of-way.

Ridin' the Rapids

By Ken Engelman

A Letter to the Editor was going to be printed in this space. In it the writer had included these words: "On my routine drive over the Santiam Pass this weekend I was horrified at the political signage insulting my eyes and our beautiful roadway. Overdone to say the least, and totally inappropriate on our beloved scenic highway."

During the Wooden Boat Show on Saturday, a couple of other people came up to me to express similar opinions, like "Don't they know it's Earth Day."

Those reactions caused me to check in with ODOT to see what sort of regulations were involved. Basically, the agency's role is limited to what happens within a road's right-of-way width, which generally conforms to an area where utilities place their poles.

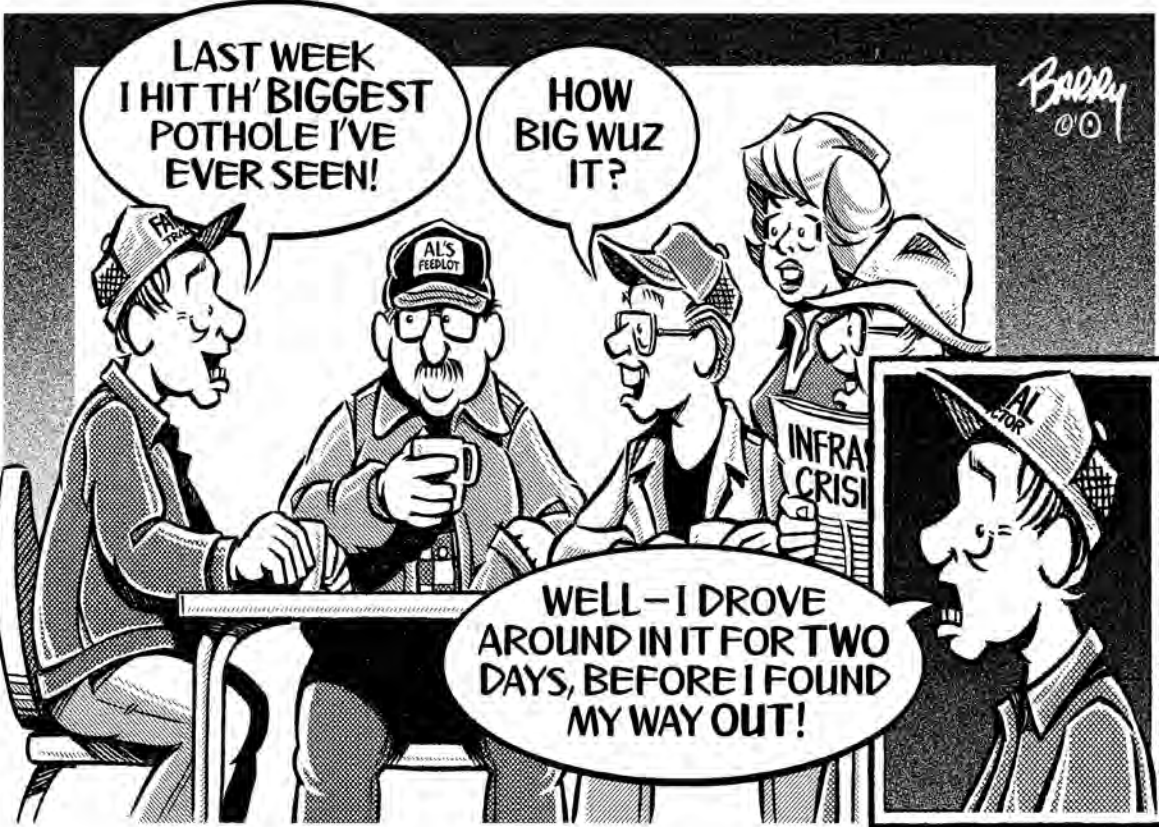
If you'd like to read more detail see ODOT's press release about political signage on Page 9.

In my mind, the sign issue is a debatable, pretty local small-time issue. Unfortunately, the people who told me they had concerns, it was not.

At the boat show the people who wanted to talk made sure no one was close by who might hear what they were saying. The letter writer first didn't want to sign their own name. They later asked me not to print it because they feared reprisals from hangers-on.

Now, I don't think in either instance were the concerns directed at the school board candidates themselves. Instead, there seems to be an undercurrent in this country that warns our "free speech" ability has been severely undercut.

The letter writer said they were afraid because "so many people have guns." Whether a local race is no longer "apolitical" has come up before. The question now, unfortunately - Is it dangerous?



Boat building 101

By Keri Best

Over the past twenty-five years, Jason Hayes has produced a specialized craft - the McKenzie River Drift Boat. How many? "Too many to count," Hayes says. "I lost track a long time ago. Somewhere between 70 to 80 boats."

Besides his own work, he's spent time educating others, including local youth at McKenzie High School and other wood shops to expose and educate the younger generations about the design now known around the world. "I want to help bring up the next generation and the history here," Hayes says.

This week in the old hatchery building at the McKenzie River Discovery Center, he was surrounded by a team eager to learn the ins and outs of the craft while constructing two boats from scratch. The group of participants gathered from across the nation to participate and learn from Hayes.

"This is art; it's art by an engi-



neer," was the way George Sheldon, an economist with the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs from Maryland, put it. As he admired and curves and details put into each boat he added, "It isn't just measurements, Jason has to eyeball his work."

Food for the week-long class was provided by Jon Payne, Shelly Pruitt, and the Vida Café, who were all glad to support the group as they successfully completed the boats in their all-day work sessions.

Letters to the Editor

Earth is in trouble

On April 22nd we celebrated Earth Day, but unfortunately, our earth is in serious trouble.

The Greenland ice sheet is melting at an accelerating rate due to the increase in global temperatures caused by Carbon emissions blanketing the atmosphere, and due to deforestation. The average temperature in the world is increasing by 3.2 degrees centigrade compared to the goal of 1.5 degrees centigrade to sustain a livable planet.

From 2011 to 2020 3.5 trillion tons of the Greenland ice sheet has melted, and at that pace, sea levels could rise by one to two feet by the end of the century. This would inundate many coastal cities.

On the other end of the planet, the Antarctic ice shield is also experiencing rapid melting, which is also contributing to the rise in sea levels.

The world, and especially industrialized countries like the U.S. and China, have to increase the use of renewable energy sources and electric vehicles to reduce Carbon

emissions.

Deforestation is a major problem in some countries, especially the clearing of the Amazon Rain Forest. As land is cleared and Carbon absorbing forests are cut down to make room for farming, more Carbon is emitted into the atmosphere. Also, homeowners over the world who remove trees from their properties are increasing Carbon emissions to the atmosphere.

Extreme weather caused by climate change has increased drought conditions in the world, including the western United States. This has put a severe strain on the water supply in general and has adversely impacted crop yields and the world food supply. The decreased crop production has increased global hunger and it is putting upward pressure on world food prices.

We have to urgently address climate change. Our Earth is in trouble.

Donald Moskowitz
Londonderry NH

Letters to the Editor



Letters To The Editor should contain no more than 250 words. All letters must be signed and include an address and phone number. Addresses and phone numbers will not be published upon request. Deadline for submission is Monday at 5 pm.

School board race

Continued From Page 1

Taya Brock, who is running against Brownell; Kail Harbick who faces Mackenzie; Max Metcalf who is running against Alyssa Brownlee; and Justin Barker who faces Wickizer, did not confirm they will attend.

Some instead took to social media to post their thoughts. Brock referenced her background as a former McKenzie student and athlete, along with her experience with financial matters as the owner of a local restaurant. Metcalf, a rock quarry manager, said he looked forward to encouraging parental involvement and participating in full transparency. Harbick wrote about the importance of family involvement in schools and encouraging parental rights.

The School Board Candidate Forum has been scheduled from 5 to 8 p.m. on Friday, April 28th. It will be held in the old gymnasium at McKenzie High School. People who can attend in person will be able to watch online at: tinyurl.com/mrymyepu.









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WEATHER REPORT

Friday 4/28		Saturday 4/29		Sunday 4/30	
					
McKenzie Valley Sunny 10% chance precip High: 85 Low: 52	Santiam Pass Sunny 5% chance precip High: 70 Low: 44	McKenzie Valley Sunny 10% chance precip High: 77 Low: 50	Santiam Pass Sunny 5% chance precip High: 69 Low: 43	McKenzie Valley Mostly Cloudy 20% chance precip High: 62 Low: 45	Santiam Pass Partly Cloudy 10% chance precip High: 54 Low: 34

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
4/18	41	37	0.36	1,353 cfs	4/18	48	33	0.42	5,730 cfs
4/19	39	35	0.68	1,364 cfs	4/19	53	37	0.35	5,590 cfs
4/20	38	35	0.28	1,364 cfs	4/20	44	35	0.63	5,710 cfs
4/21	49	40	0.16	1,330 cfs	4/21	47	40	0.76	7,460 cfs
4/22	49	40	0.85	NA	4/22	54	43	0.19	8,620 cfs
4/23	49	34	3.54	1,350 cfs	4/23	71	50	0.53	8,570 cfs
4/24	49	34	NA	1,353 cfs	4/24	53	43	0.17	8,800 cfs

Sheriff's Report

April 18: 3:14 p.m: Assist, Follow Up - Vida area.
April 19: 7:01 a.m: Welfare Check - 91100 blk, Yeager Rd.
9:52 a.m: Medical Info Call - McK. Hwy. & Quartz Creek Rd.
11:35p.m: Disturbance,Dispute - 37300 blk, Parsons Creek Rd.
4:28 p.m: Assist Outside Agency - Saddle Dam.
April 20: 7:16 a.m: Down Line - 39300 blk, Deerhorn Rd.
9:22a.m: Suspicious Conditions - 38000 blk, MJ Chase Rd.
April 21: 4:55 a.m: Welfare Check - 54600 blk, McK. River Dr.
12:10 p.m: Blocked Driveway - 92000 blk, Spicer Ln.
3:54 p.m: Theft - 89600 blk, Hill Rd.
5:06 p.m: Unlawful Entry Motor Vehicle - 91500 blk, Cougar

Dam Rd.
8:33 p.m: Unlawful Use of Vehicle - 91000 blk, Hill Rd.
April22:12:06a.m: Suspicious Conditions - 39200 blk, McK. Hwy.
1:06 a.m: Attempt To Locate Drunk Driver - Marcola Rd. & Saunders Rd.
1:39 a.m: Alarm - 37700 blk, Upper Camp Creek Rd.
3:50 a.m: Theft - Terwilliger Hot Springs.
12:38 p.m: Restraining Order Service - 38000 blk, Railroad Ln.
April 23: 12:47 a.m: Disturbance, Dispute - 92200 blk, Carson St.
4:06 a.m: Driving Under Influence of Intoxicants - 95100 blk, Marcola Rd.
7:49 a.m: Disturbance, Dispute - 92200 blk, Murdoch St.
9:54 a.m: Abandoned Vehicle - Marcola Rd. Milepost 9.
10:23 p.m: Medical Info Call - 45100 blk, McK. Hwy.
April 24: 2:15 a.m: Repossessed Vehicle - 91100 blk, Hill

Rd.
4:12 p.m: Suspicious Conditions - 41500 blk, McK. Hwy.**5:23 p.m:** Assist, Follow Up - 91500 blk, Cougar Dam Rd.
5:49 p.m: Disorderly Subject - 39400 blk, Upper Camp Creek Rd.
6:12 p.m: Suspicious Vehicle - 38400 blk, McK. Hwy.
8:47 p.m: Traffic Hazard - Upland St. & McK. Hwy.

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

State Police Report

April 20: 01:53: Crash, Non-Injury – Hwy. 126E, Milepost 38. A commercial vehicle was traveling westbound when it collided with a large rock in the roadway. The vehicle became disabled and drove off the roadway through a metal

guardrail. The driver was not injured. Involved: 25-year-old male, white Peterbilt truck and trailer.

McKenzie Fire & Rescue

April 19: 9:41: McK. Hwy./Quartz Creek Rd. Medical, Heart. Patient Assessed, 1 Transported.
19:06: 45000 block, McK. Hwy. Medical, Heart. Patient Assessed, 1 Transported.
April 20: 1:49: McK. Hwy. Milepost 38. Motor Vehicle Accident. Non-Injury/Non-Blocking.
7:16: Deerhorn Rd. Mp. 1. Power Line Down. Investigate.
7:53: 40000 blk, McK. Hwy. Lift Assist.
12:12: 45000 blk, N. Gate Creek Rd. Fall Injury. Patient Assessed, 1 Transported.
12:31: 44000 blk, McK. Hwy. Medical, General. Patient Assessed, 1 Transported.
20:28: 44000 blk, McK. Hwy. Medical, General. Patient Assessed, Refusal Signed
April 22: 0:03: 39000 blk, McK. Hwy. MVA/Pedestrian. Patient Refusal, Scene turned over to LCSO.
9:07: 44000 blk, McK. Hwy. Medical, General. Patient Assessed, 1 Transported.
10:21: 40000 blk, McK. Hwy. Medical, Trauma. Patient Assessed, 1 Transported.
15:01: 37000 blk, Camp Creek Rd. Medical, General. Patient Refusal.
April 23: 16:41: 89000 blk, Old Mohawk Rd. Mistaken Alarm.
22:15: 45000 blk, McK. Hwy. Medical, Trauma. Patient Assessed, 1 Transported.

McK. Fire & Rescue will hold its monthly Board of Directors meeting on Monday, May 15th 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.

Upper McKenzie Fire/Rescue

April 19: 09:37: Medical - McK. Hwy./Quartz Creek Rd. Female, Conscious, Breathing.
April 20: 01:48: Motor Vehicle Accident - McK. Hwy./Milepost 38. Single vehicle vs. boulder. Involved is not injured, just shaken up. The vehicle is in the ditch.
19:59: Medical – 54000 block, McK. River Dr. Female, Conscious, Breathing.
April 22: 06:16: Medical – 54000 blk, McK. River Dr. Female, Conscious, Breathing.
17:20: Medical – 51000 blk, McK. Hwy. Female, Conscious, Breathing.
April 23: 09:34: Medical – 54000 blk, McK. River Dr. Female, Conscious, Breathing.
April 24: 09:02: Medical – 91000 blk, Mill Creek Rd. Female, Conscious, Breathing.

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

MRR

McKenzie River Reflections

Explore a treasure trove of McKenzie River history - in the back issues of this newspaper. Go to: tinyurl.com/2rkpkxen

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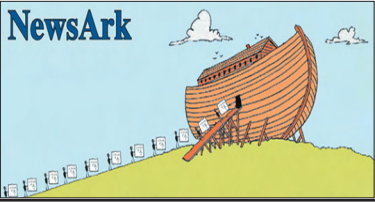
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Tempers sizzle at planning commission

From the January 28, 1983
issue of River Reflections

by Paula Emery
Tempers sizzled Tuesday, January 25th, at the Lane County Planning Commissioners public hearing for the new countywide rezoning plan, though most of them had to be put on the back burner once again. More than 100 Lane County residents, most of them senior citizens from rural areas, showed up at Harris Hall to voice comments and concerns about the new rezoning package.

Gene Kanes, chairman of the planning commission, announced that the Comprehensive Plan Revision, that the county has been working on for the past two years in an attempt to meet the State Land Comprehensive and Development Commission land use planning goals, was rejected by LCDC last week.

The audience groaned and a few disgruntled observers voiced their opinion of the unpopular LCDC decision by quick outbursts.

Gerald Derby of Fox Hollow Road said, "It's just like the knife is in the back."

Lloyd Burns, manager of planning and community development, laid out four steps the planning commissioners could take in trying to meet the state land use goals These are:

1. That the planning commission postpone specific zone change plans until they develop goals and maps.

2. That the county staff present a planned schedule of less than necessary plan policy and map changes. Some changes will require more information gathering and public hearings.

3. That the planning commission must reevaluate all zone change requests based new planned policies and maps prior to public hearings.

4. That staff report all names of people inquiring about the plan and notify those people of any changes.

Burns said there will probably not be another public hearing for 3 to 4 months.

The commissioners then opened up the floor for public testimony.

Board member Suzanne Boyd said the board would only accept general comments. "It's just a shame with all these people here, but the land zones are back in limbo and no one knows which lands will be in which zone."

The zone changes can dramatically affect owners by dictating what they can and can't do with their land and by changing the assessed value (and the taxes) of the property.

Testimony lasted 2 1/2 hours.

Derby said, "We were led to believe we were taking part in this — and some of it was starting to make sense — the next meeting they'll tell us what to do. I'm set up and being led down the trail and stabbed in the back."

He said, "We finally got McCall

(the late former governor, Tom McCall, originator of LCDC) in the ground. I wish we could put a few other things in the ground."

He added that he believed the Lane County planning commissioners were on their (Lane County residents) side with only a couple of exceptions.

Mike Yeager advised the commissioners to make a plan with county residents best interests in mind, not the LCDC. "Let them (LCDC) take the brunt, don't let (local) staff."

He told them, "go slowly, don't make them too confident." They "have to appreciate where people can get lost in the process," he said.

The most strident complaint was that lack of notification of zone changes and a public hearing. Kanes estimated it would cost anywhere up to \$40,000 to notify all property owners of changes throughout the year.

David Hemenway of Cottage Grove said the board has a moral if not a legal obligation to notify owners of significant land use changes.

Planning commissioner Dennis Cuddeback requested Burns to investigate the costs of notification by mail or purchasing advertisements in community newspapers. B.J. Rogers of Dexter lamented the lack of communication between the public and the planning board. The commissioners pointed out that only a small handful of people ever show up for a hearing before final plans are made.

Rogers agreed that "communication with the public is difficult until their ox is gored." He also said that often when they do speak up officials don't listen."

Bill Bain, the county assessor, urged people to be positive and productive and to tell their legislators of their complaints about the LCDC.

William Johnston of Cheshire said, "It's beyond me why this was

not run through the LCDC before it had an audience of people show up for it's hearing."

Kanes responded that the LCDC has recently begun a policy of reviewing plans before submittal and will try to prevent this from happening again.

Several people complained that many property owners have planned to use their land to retire on or dividing it for retirement income. They are now being told that they won't be able to carry out those plans. They urged the commissioners to give major consideration to landowners whose life savings and dreams are often invested in land.

A few people said they were in favor of the LCDC philosophy but they believed that in practice that there were many problems and that rural minorities bore an unproportionately high cost for land use planning.

The planning commission was also urged to find a category for marginal lands. That is smaller than 1 - 6 acre parcels — so those owners won't be stuck in a resource zone where they would be prevented from building or forced to produce an income from the land.

LCDC has not yet but is planning to put a deadline on the county for meeting statewide land use goals. If the county does not meet the deadline the LCDC could impose a moratorium on certain kinds of permits.

The planning commissioners urged everyone who wants to be kept informed of zone changes and public hearings to contact the planning commission in the Lane County Courthouse. It is also possible to find out the zoning for specific parcels of land.

The board said planning division business will go on as usual until they develop a new zoning package. Their hours are 10 am - noon, 1 pm - 2 pm, Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday.



By Slim Randles

As the recession played, and Reverend Jeff opened the church doors before shaking hands with his parishioners, he was surprised to discover he wasn't the first one there.

"Mornin' Rev!"

"Uh, good morning ... Alphonse."

Yes, it was Alphonse "Windy" Wilson, his boots cleaned and a bulldogger Western tie on his pearl-snap shirt, grinning broadly.

He stood next to the minister as the parishioners came past, one by one and shook Jeff's hand. Then they shook Windy's hand ... because there it was, outstretched and ready for a shake.

"Bless you," Windy said. "And a happy May Day!"

"Thank you, Windy," said Mavis.

"And ... you know why they call it May Day ...?"

But Mavis was already gone and Windy was already through three more handshakes. These folks were in a hurry.

"Yo Doc ... you know why they call it May Day?"

But Doc and Mrs. Doc were already halfway to their car.

"I don't know about you, Rev," he whispered, "but these folks are sure in a hurry. Fills me with a consternation at their respirational souls."

Reverend Jeff just nodded and kept shaking hands. Then they were gone, and it was just Jeff and Windy at the top of the steps.

"They sure move on out, don't they? Beats me how you can corral 'em long enough to sermonize 'em."

"That's easy, Windy," Jeff said. "I shut the door."

"Have to try that ... one of these days."

"So tell me," said the smiling minister, "why do they call it May Day?"

"Ah shoot! They got me so flustered I plumb forgot."

Check in with Windy and Doc and the gang in the Home Country book. <http://nmsantos.com/Bookstore/Misc-Books/Home/Home.html>

Quote of the Week

"Always forgive your enemies; nothing annoys them so much."

Oscar Wilde

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Gardening Tips

By Kym Pokorny



Oregon State University

OSU Extension Service

OSU breeding program produced first purple tomatoes with healthy antioxidants



In 2011 Jim Myers did something no one had done before. The Oregon State University vegetable breeder released the first purple tomato containing the same healthy compound found in blueberries.

The Indigo Rose tomato, which took Myers, a professor in the OSU College of Agricultural Sciences, and his team 10 years to develop, took the market – and other breeders – by storm. People liked the tomato’s novelty but the benefits from the anthocyanins in the skin were the draw. Interest in anthocyanins, the pigment that turns the tomato fruit purple and contains healthy antioxidants, was peaking with the public.

In the last 11 years, Myers has continued to improve his line and has added four other purple tomatoes to the mix: Indigo Cherry Drops, a cherry tomato with better flavor and yield than Indigo Rose; Indigo Pear Drops, a sweet, pear-shaped fruit; and Indigo Kiwi, with improved growth habit, flavor and resistance to leaf curl. The latest is Midnight Roma, a paste tomato being used by chefs and home cooks for a sauce that was released in 2021. All are available as seeds sold online and should be started indoors right about now in western Oregon. Some starts will be available at garden centers at the appropriate time for planting

in May, maybe June this year (soil temperature should be 60-70 degrees F). But to get the varieties you want, seeds might be the better bet.

Now, there are 50 progenies from Indigo Rose, five from OSU, and the rest from private breeders using Myers’s germplasm, which are the cells that transfer characteristics from generation to generation. Gardeners were already familiar with purple heirloom tomatoes like Cherokee Purple, Black Krim, and Black Prince but the purple hue in those tomatoes is caused by pheophytin, a pigment that doesn’t contain anthocyanins.

Myers and his students painstakingly crossed – often by hand from male stamen to female style – plants that showed potential to express the purple gene in their offspring. Year after year, he and his team selected the best of the best grown in the field for observation and crossed those until he got a purple tomato good enough to release to breeders and home gardeners.

Myers, who has been with OSU for 26 years and is responsible for breeding a green bean variety used by processors on 80% of the acreage in Oregon, made the cross that led to Indigo Rose from the genetic material of wild tomatoes housed at the University

of California, Davis, in their germplasm collection. The wild stock was collected by two breeders in the 1960s in Chile and the Galapagos Islands.

The breeders crossed the wild tomatoes with cultivated varieties but the research didn’t move forward until Myers began his work in the early 2000s when graduate student Carl Jones was looking at how tomatoes affect human health. As Jones studied the germplasm of the wild species from U.C. Davis, he noticed a purple-ish color that had never been characterized, according to Myers.

Work started in earnest to breed a tomato that combined the health benefits of anthocyanins with the characteristics of a good home-grown tomato, they hoped with some disease distance. Once an edible tomato with some purple was produced, the work turned to field evaluations. For 11 years, Myers and his team planted tomato starts and watched them grow and produce. Every year, they took the tomatoes with the best purple expression and crossed them. They did that hundreds of times, choosing the most-promising tomatoes. None of the tomatoes was produced using genetically modified genes.

“Our big discovery was asking the question, ‘What would happen if we cross the sources of purple fruit that originated from different wild species?’” Myers said. “We made selections in the field and choose tomatoes with the most intense expression, which were more resistant to decay and verticillium wilt and will last longer in the field than normal tomato fruit. We found it.”

You’ll begin to see the latest purple variety, a genetically modified tomato from Europe that was approved last year by the U.S. Department of Agriculture. That differs from Myers’ tomatoes, which were bred traditionally, and selected one by one over many years. The new purple tomato, unnamed as yet, will be released in the U.S. market this year, but won’t be sold in Europe, where GMO products are illegal.



Country Kitchen

By Mary Emma Allen



THE DELIGHTS OF COMMUNITY COOKBOOKS

My daughter and I enjoy watching the videos about cooking, and I’ve realized many of the presenters show recipes from community cookbooks, these generally small collections of recipes contributed by cooks in a local church, organization, town or region.

Memories of Childhood

Some of my favorites are those accumulated from my local community. One I especially value is the 1974 Poughquag Cookbook, compiled by the Methodist Church ladies of the community in New York State where I grew up. As I look through this cookbook, many of the names remind me of my early years there, even though I was living in NH by publication time.

Recipes in this book bring back memories of church suppers, strawberry festivals, and Sunday school tea at Aunt Nellie’s. Her Poppy Seed Cake is there, this dessert she made for special occasions and her teas.

Mother-in-law’s Recipes

My mother-in-law gave me a cookbook, Parish Potpourri, published by the church she attended in Somersworth, NH. Several of Mum’s recipes appear. These also have gone into our family cookbook and bring back memories of meals in her

farmhouse kitchen.

Reflective of Regions

These community cookbooks reflect the regions of the country where they’re produced. They often are fundraisers for an organization. A quilting friend living in Texas gave me, Stitch ‘n Stir, another cookbook my daughter and I enjoy.

Many of these recipes reflect the culinary taste of Texas and give you insight into what cooks there prepare. The Quilters’ Guild of Dallas compiled this book. They also invited me to teach workshops at their quilting convention, as well as serve as a quilt judge.

I’ve found cookbooks as I’ve traveled through Nebraska, Iowa, Utah, Ohio, Florida and many other states. Some of these include foods prepared by the pioneers, while others focus more on foods served today. I also pick up regional cookbooks at yard sales, whether in my hometown or while traveling.

CHOCOLATE CRACKLES

- Combine 1 box Devil’s Food cake mix, 2 slightly beaten eggs, 1 tablespoon water, and 1/2 cup vegetable shortening; stir until well mixed. Shape into walnut-sized balls, and then roll in granulated sugar. Bake on greased cookie sheet at 375 degrees F. for 8-10 minutes.

(c) Mary Emma Allen

(Mary Emma Allen writes from her NH home.)

Did you know...

Community newspaper readers share papers with up to 5 other people?



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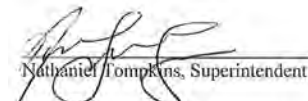
2017 NNA Community Newspaper Readership Survey

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, 2023 to June 30, 2024 will be held at the McKenzie High School Cafeteria. The meeting will take place on **May 17, 2023 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 15, 2023 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 23, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. and May 24, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.

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

4/13/2023
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Community Notes

April 27

Boundary Survey

A meeting to discuss updates to property markers in Blue River will be held starting at 7 p.m. in the old gymnasium at McKenzie High School. Avery Land Surveying of Eugene has been contracted by Lane County to prepare a boundary survey of properties that were included in the original plat of Blue River City and the abutting Sparks Addition. Prior to conducting fieldwork, Jonathan Oakes of ALS is inviting people to a meeting to answer questions and discuss concerns.

April 28

Mother’s Day Tea

The Walterville Grange will be hosting the Annual Play Festival on Friday, April 28th, beginning at 7 p.m. The play festival will consist of three one-act plays from different Granges. Walterville Grange will be hosting Goshen and Mohawk-McKenzie Granges at the Walterville Community Center, 39259 Camp Creek Road. Enjoy refreshments of sandwiches and pie afterwards, please bring a canned food item for the upriver food bank. Donations are gratefully accepted.

April 28

Grange Play Festival

The Walterville Grange will be hosting the Annual Play Festival on Friday, April 28th, beginning at 7 p.m. The play festival will consist of three one-act plays from different Granges. Walterville Grange will be hosting Goshen and Mohawk-McKenzie Granges at the Walterville Community Center, 39259 Camp Creek Road. Enjoy refreshments of sandwiches and pie afterwards, please bring a canned food item for the upriver food bank. Donations are gratefully accepted.

April 30

LTD Survey

Lane Transit District passengers are being asked to participate

in an online survey that will assist the District in evaluating customer satisfaction with fixed or neighborhood bus service as well as to identify opportunities for improvements throughout the District. The survey is available Monday, March 27, through Sunday, April 30, 2023.

The three- to five-minute-long survey is confidential. The survey will be available online at LTD.org beginning March 27, and paper copies will be available at the LTD Customer Service Center in Eugene Station at 1080 Willamette Street. Participants who complete the survey will be eligible to win one of two \$100 gift certificates from Fred Meyer.

May 1

Springfield School Board

7 pm - 8:30 pm. The Board of Directors meet in the Administration Building, 640 A St, Springfield.

May 2

Board of Commissioners

Lane County Board of Commissioners. Harris Hall, 125 E 8th Ave, Eugene,The Board of Commissioner meetings begin at 9 a.m. in Harris Hall, unless otherwise noted on the published agenda. Regular Board Meetings are scheduled for Tuesday. Wednesday Board meetings are on an as needed basis.

May 2

Coffee With Locals

Meet at the McKenzie Bridge General Store, 91837 Taylor Rd. Come have a cup of coffee with the locals (paid for by Locals Helping Locals). Catch up with your neighbors, discuss how you are doing in the fire recovery process, and share your successes and struggles. Contact Brenda Hamlow with questions: (541) 729-9802.

May 2

Family Story Time

From 10 to 11 a.m. at the Camp Creek Church Fellowship Hall, 37529 Upper Camp Creek Rd. Some special fun for children 5 and under (with their adults) to enjoy stories, singing, laughter, and friendship.

May 2

MVW Annual Mtg.

McKenzie Valley Wellness annual membership meeting, from 7 - 9 p.m. Upper McKenzie Community Center, 54745 McKenzie River Dr, and online.

May 3

Board of Commissioners

Lane County Board of Commissioners. Harris Hall, 125 E 8th Ave, Eugene,The Board of Commissioner meetings begin at 9 a.m. in Harris Hall, unless otherwise noted on the published agenda. Regular Board Meetings are scheduled for Tuesday. Wednesday Board meetings are on an as needed basis.

May 3

Watershed Wednesday

Green Island, 31799-31601 Green Island Rd, Eugene, from 9 - 11:30 a.m. Join McKenzie River Trust every Wednesday morning to help care for this special area where the Mckenzie and Willamette Rivers meet. Projects vary based on the season but typically include invasive species removal, habitat care, or planting/ tree establishment.

May 3

Blue River Water Board

The board will meet at 6 p.m. A link to the meeting is available at: blueriverpark.com

May 3

Blue River Park Board

The board will meet at 6 p.m. A link to the online meeting is at: blueriverwaterdistrict.com.

May 4

AMJ Invite

The McKenzie River Community Track & Field will host an

event in honor of Aaron and Marie Jones from noon to 4 p.m. at 51326 Blue River Dr.

May 5

First Friday

First Fridays at Finn Rock Reach are from 9:30am - noon at the Finn Rock Landing, Quartz Creek Road. Join the Friends of Finn Rock Reach from March through November to help care for the Finn Rock Landing area. Projects include tackling invasive species, planting trees and helping to care for the public Finn Rock boat landing, keeping it free and open to the public by McKenzie River Trust. Project sites vary between the Boat Landing and other nearby conservation sites so pre-registration is required. We'll send out details for each project the Tuesday ahead of each event.

May 6

Dime At A Time

The Blue River Bottle Boys Collection/Sorting sessions are held every Saturday from 9 - 11 a.m. at the Leaburg Store. Donations can be dropped off there as well.

May 6

Living River Day

The Living River Exploration Day is from 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. at 31799 Green Island Rd, Eugene. Join the McKenzie River Trust and take a walk near the place the Willamette and the McKenzie Rivers meet. Observe 15 years of tree-planting work on Green Island, a habitat for beaver, river otter, and over 150 species of birds.

May 6

Artists’ Guild Sale

Members of the McKenzie Artists’ Guild celebrate their 30th anniversary at their annual Art Show & Sale on May 6th & 7th from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. 15 artists will display their works at the Leaburg Fire Training Center, 42870 McK. Hwy. Kris Anderson, Janet Biles, Connie Bonn, Kathryn Cannon, Cindy Cartledge, Whitney Crane, Sandy Dunbar, Joe Frank, Ali Hennes, Joyce Hubbard, Marjorie Lewellen, Chris Mark, Lucy Rudy, Janet Savage, & Susan Warner.

May 6

Mother’s Day Tea

A Mother’s Day Tea will be held from noon- 2 p.m. at the Dorris Ranch Barn, 205 Dorris St, Springfield for all ages. Spend the afternoon honoring the mother figures in your life. Enjoy sweet and savory treats in the historic Dorris Ranch barn, pose in our photo booth, and listen to music. Make and take home a unique craft. The price is \$15 in-district and \$18 out-of-district. Registration is required.

May 6

Swampytonk

From 7 to 9 p.m. on May 6th, the Henry Cooper Trio will perform

their “Sampytonk Blues Concert” at the McKenzie Valley Presbyterian Church in Walterville. Soft drinks, coffee, and dessert will be provided. “At Will” donations at the event will benefit the Vida McKenzie Community Center.

May 8

Watershed Council

The McKenzie Watershed Council meets from 5 to 6:30 pm.m. at various locations to foster better stewardship of the McKenzie River watershed resources, deal with issues in advance of resource degradation, and ensure sustainable watershed health, function, and use. Contact: Melanie Giangreco- (458-201-8150) melanie@mckenziewc.org

May 8

Parks Advisory

The Lane County Parks Advisory Committee meets 2nd Monday of each month from 6 - 7:30 p.m. (except during July & August) in the Goodpasture Room, 3050 N Delta Hwy, Eugene. It advises the Board of County Commissioners on park needs, recommends priorities for projects - including financial and operational development and acquisition. The committee also provides recommendations regarding long-range planning for future park programs and needs, and serves as a liaison group representing the concerns of the community.

May 9

BCC Meeting

Lane County Board of Commissioners. Harris Hall, 125 E 8th Ave, Eugene,The Board of Commissioner meetings begin at 9 a.m. in Harris Hall, unless otherwise noted on the published agenda. Regular Board Meetings are scheduled for Tuesday. Wednesday Board meetings are on an as needed basis.

May 9

Tourism Committee

The McKenzie River Chamber of Commerce Tourism Committee meets via Zoom every second Tuesday of the month from 8 to 10 a.m. . Please join us even if you are not a Chamber member. The committee strives to strengthen the support of locals interested in improving tourism and the economic vitality of the entire McKenzie River Valley. Email the Tourism Chair at Treasurer@McKenzieChamber.com to get on the meeting email list.

May 9

Family Story Time

From 10 to 11 a.m. at the Camp Creek Church Fellowship Hall, 37529 Upper Camp Creek Rd. Some special fun for children 5 and under (with their adults) to enjoy stories, singing, laughter, and friendship.

Stay in touch with events online with the [McKenzie Community Events Calendar](#).



Upper McKenzie Community Center, 54745 McKenzie River Dr.

The cooperative holds district meetings to provide members with the opportunity to get a recap of the prior year, learn about upcoming projects and activities, ask questions, and meet district directors.

5:30 p.m. – Doors open/ drinks & refreshments
5:45 p.m. – Welcome

Agenda for the evening

Introductions

State of the cooperative/ looking ahead to 2023/24

Questions ans Answers

6:45 p.m. – Board of Director applicant presentations

7:20 p.m. – Final Comments, door prizes, and drawings

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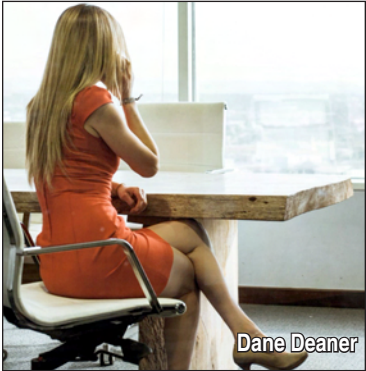
<h2>An Invitation to Worship</h2>	<p>Living Water Family Fellowship Pastor - Doug Fairington 52353 McKenzie Hwy - Milepost 42 541-822-3820 Gathering Sundays at 10:00 AM, Children's ministry also. Come early for a meet and greet continental breakfast and coffee at 9:30 AM. Thursdays, 6:00 PM. Celebrate Recovery (12 Step Program)</p>
<p>McKenzie Bible Fellowship 45061 McKenzie Hwy - Vida, Oregon Sunday Worship - 10:00 a.m. Youth Ministries KidsFest Family Activities Small Group Fellowships Men's & Women's Bible Studies Call 896-3829 for information www.mckenziebible.com</p>	<p>Catholic Church St. Benedict Lodge Chapel 1/2 mile off Hwy. 126 on North Bank Rd., McKenzie Bridge Sat. Eve. 5:00pm Sun. Morn. 9:30am; web page: sbldodge.opwest.org</p>
<p>McKenzie Valley Presbyterian Church Please join us for worship Sundays at 10:30 am, either in church on Hwy. 126 just east of Walterville, or on our Facebook livestream. You may also make prayer requests, or request an emailed or earth-mailed bulletin -- phone or send email to Nancy Ashley, nancy.w.ashley@gmail.com, 541-914-1986. We would love to meet you! Milepost 13 McKenzie Hwy. (541) 747-2604</p>	



Direct Answers

By Wayne & Tamara Mirthell

Reality Check



Two years ago, I made the greatest mistake of my life. I started dating a coworker. She is this beautiful young girl that totally captivated my world when I met her.

As time went by, I realized we have almost nothing in common, including music, food, sports, movies, and outdoor activities, to name just a few. Worst of all, there is no passion between us.

Furthermore, I do not feel welcomed at her house, and I don't fit within her circle of friends for two reasons. I'm seven years older and come from South America. Although I learned to speak English, I have difficulties saying what's on my mind, and when I mispronounce a word, I become the clown of the crowd.

When I mention how we aren't meant for each other, she becomes

very emotional and begs me not to finish it. You may wonder, what's the big deal, just break it up if it's not working. I don't find that easy. We not only work in the same place, but she sits next to me.

I have the kind of job that comes only once in a lifetime. It would be hard to quit, but it would be hard to break up and see each other unless I quit. She is a wonderful girl, but we aren't meant for each other. It hurts me more than anything when she asks if I love her and I lie through my teeth. What a mess, eh?

Javier, you have nothing in common, there is no spark between you, and her friends belittle you. That is the reality. She wants the relationship to continue. That is unreality. An ancient prayer says, "lead me from the unreal to the real." That statement applies to everything, including relationships.

The relationship you two have is not a job relationship. It is a personal relationship. You don't need to give up your job over this, but if you don't act, what happens will come back to haunt you. Accept that there will be some discomfort at work for a while.

Your letter reminds us of so

many others. One man told us he just needed a date to a fraternity party. He inched toward marriage with a woman he didn't love, and they created two children. A woman recounted how she begged her mom, when her suitor called, "Tell him I'm not here!" They married and had four children.

Each marriage ended in divorce. Each divorce was initiated by the person who wanted the marriage. Realize that a person who prolongs a relationship you don't want, will leave the relationship when they no longer want it. That is the path you are on.

Wayne and Tamara

The First Step

If a guy sees or knows a girl he fancies, and if he is a bit shy in asking her out, is there any other way he could do it?

Paul, inaction turns things into monsters when they are not. Vacillation, fantasy and worry immobilize us, but doing a thing resolves a thing.

Each day, millions of guys ask girls out. Sometimes the girl says yes, sometimes no. Either way, the world keeps turning. The playing field is more level than you realize. You may be hesitant to ask, but girls often feel stuck, waiting to be asked.

We are never guaranteed the end result. We won't know what will happen until we act. That's life. Part of getting the job is going

to the interview. Part of scoring the goal is taking the field. Part of getting the girl is asking the girl.

You could send flowers and a note, but why not be direct? Clean your slate and move forward. You're not asking for a kidney or a pint of blood, just a date. Taking action sets you on the path to success, whether this particular girl says yes or no.

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

The Poetry Foundation is now providing a Poem of the Day.

Evening Hawk

By Robert Penn Warren

From plane of light to plane,
wings dipping through
Geometries and orchids that the
sunset builds,
Out of the peak's black
angularity of shadow, riding
The last tumultuous avalanche
of
Light above pines and the
guttural gorge,
The hawk comes.

His wing

Scythes down another day, his
motion

Is that of the honed steel-edge,
we hear

The crashless fall of stalks of
Time.

The head of each stalk is heavy
with the gold of our error.

Look! Look! he is climbing the
last light

Who knows neither Time nor
error, and under

Whose eye, unforgiving, the
world, unforgiven, swings
Into shadow.

Long now,
The last thrush is still, the last
bat

Now cruises in his sharp
hieroglyphics. His wisdom

Is ancient, too, and immense.
The star

Is steady, like Plato, over the
mountain.

If there were no wind we might,
we think, hear

The earth grind on its axis, or
history

Drip in darkness like a leaking
pipe in the cellar.

Copyright © 1985 by Robert
Penn Warren.
Source: From New and Selected
Poems 1923-1985 (1985)

A distinguished poet, novelist, critic, and teacher, Robert Penn Warren won virtually every major award given to writers in the United States and was the only person to receive a Pulitzer Prize in both fiction (once) and poetry (twice). Described by Newsweek reviewer Annalyn Swan as "America's dean of letters," Warren was among the last surviving members of a major literary movement that emerged in the South shortly after World War I. 2022.



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

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ACROSS

1. Attired

5. *Alabama, for short

8. Type of pit, at a concert

12. *Nevada's "biggest little city in the world"

13. October birthstone

14. Don't do this to words?

15. Elusive Himalayan

16. Poet Sandburg

17. Come to pass

18. *Home of the Bourbon Trail

20. Not us

21. Winds to a ship captain

22. *Dish popular in the 50th state

23. *Largest state, by area

26. Dick ____ of "Bewitched"

30. Tombstone acronym

31. Spews

34. Succulent medicinal plant

35. Cast member

37. Greek "I"

38. Gibson garnish

39. Evade payment

40. Like certain pentameter

42. Lenon's wife

43. Fashionable

45. Barely audible words

47. Casino's pull

48. Bear down under

50. Sound bounce-back

52. *a.k.a. Commonwealth

Solution on Page 9

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3				8	4	6		
				3		4		

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Fill in the blank squares in the grid, making sure that every row, column and 3-by-3 box includes all digits 1 through 9.

Solution on Page 9

55. Sing like Sinatra
56. Not working
57. Lymphatic swelling
59. Flourishing
60. Commotions
61. Type of pitcher
62. Not in port
63. Chop off
64. What the phone did

DOWN

1. Have a bawl
2. Potato's soup partner
3. Initial stake
4. Happenings
5. Lickety-split
6. Shenanigans
7. Friend in war
8. *State with longest freshwater shoreline
9. It's enough?
10. Pond gunk
11. Joaquin Phoenix 2013 movie
13. Relating to eye
14. *Michigan's "____ City"
19. Selfish one
22. Pavlova's step
23. Middle East natives
24. Permissible
25. In a fitting way
26. Half a ticket
27. Sober Ness
28. Not a soul (2 words)
29. Operatic voice
32. *Home to Arches National Park
33. Tucker of "Modern Family"
36. *State with panhandle
38. Round openings
40. School of thought suffix
41. Google search category
44. Often-missed humor
46. Hide craftsman
48. Little one
49. Lowest deck on a ship
50. Timeline divisions
51. His was a merry old soul
52. Tiny bottle
53. **"Field of Dreams" movie setting
54. Port in Yemen
55. Tax pro
58. Bit of work

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EWEB

2023 UPRIVER BOARD MEETING

May 16

Doors Open: 5:30 pm

Presentations begin: 6:00 pm

McKenzie Fire Station

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Please join us to meet your elected commissioners and to ask your questions about our work together.

Wellness members asked to support Food Drive



Canned goods like chili are on the Food Pantry's shelves. Some shelves are empty, and the Food Pantry could use community help in getting them fully stocked.

McKenzie Valley Wellness is asking their members to bring donations of canned goods and other food staples to our annual membership meeting on Tuesday, May 2nd, at the Upper McKenzie Community Center, 54745 McKenzie River Dr. The meeting starts at 7 p.m.

The group are collecting food donations for the local Food Pantry. Robin Roberts, president of the Food Pantry, says, "We can use any canned goods. We can use meals in a can, like chili and Spaghetti-Os. Meals in a box are good too, like Hamburger Helper or rice mixes with sauce packets." Non-food essentials like toilet paper are also welcomed.

The Food Pantry gets all its food supplies from FOOD for Lane County (FFLC). Demand is rising at both FFLC and our local Food Pantry, due to the recent end of emergency food benefits enacted during the pandemic. All food donated at the McKenzie Valley Wellness annual meeting will go directly to local households.

Robin notes that the Food Pantry helps about 50 households on the two days each month they are open. Many of the households are seniors on limited incomes, who have to balance rent, heat, and

medical bills with buying food. Some households are families.

The Food Pantry operates out of the McKenzie Bridge Christian Church, at 56334 McKenzie Hwy., in McKenzie Bridge. It is open on limited days and hours, which are announced in advance. FOOD for Lane County provides some fresh produce and frozen meats along with food staples.

Along with the food drive, McKenzie Valley Wellness will conduct its usual business at its annual meeting. Wellness president Val Rapp said, "We will have our first public display of the architect's rendering of our new health clinic and we'll announce who our builder will be. Also, we will serve light refreshments and non-alcoholic beverages. And finally, we'll announce election results for our board of directors."

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Wreck lands in wetlands

ODOT and poltical signs

Continued From Page 1



the truck.

“Fortunately, it appears most of the fuel/oil was contained in the immediate area,” according to Eugene Water & Electric Board Environmental Specialist David Donahue. He reported there was some flow down a small side channel where it enters a larger slough/wetland, but the flow was limited.

Absorbent booms were placed at several locations down the smaller side channel, and very little sheen was observed. Donahue said he walked the entire perimeter of the crash site, and couldn’t find any evidence they had reached the McKenzie River directly through surface flows.

Vacuum trucks were used to remove the 100,000+ pounds of wood chips on board the trailer owned by Bar Seven A Companies of Redmond.

By Friday afternoon, both the truck and trailer were removed from the wetland/slough area. Donahue said, “The wetland area is still a mess, but largely contained

where the truck landed.”

The location was of particular concern because of restoration efforts underway for several years in the Finn Rock Reach area.

“EWEB’s robust source water protection program includes emergency trailers equipped with containment booms - and people like David who are always ready to jump in the water and deploy them - thanks to years of support from our customers and Commissioners who believe in preserving the health of the McKenzie River,” according to Aaron Orlowski, a utility communications specialist.

“Nevertheless,” Orlowski added, “incidents like this can happen, and have the potential to disrupt the source of drinking water for 200,000 people in Eugene. Incidents like this serve as a reminder of the practicality of investing in resiliency and redundancy, and that is why EWEB is working on building a new water treatment facility on the Willamette River.”

Viideo at: tinyurl.com/yf96fpv

As the May 16 elections draw near, political campaigns and their friends should remember that the Oregon Dept. of Transportation will remove political signs posted on the state highway right of way.

“Every election season, we receive complaints from the public and from campaigns regarding the improper placement of political signs on the state highway right of way, where only official traffic control signs and devices are allowed,” according to ODOT Public Information Officer Don Hamilton “Improperly placed signs can distract drivers and block road safety messages,” he added.

Improperly placed political signs will be taken down and held at a nearby ODOT district maintenance office for 30 days. To reclaim signs, go here to find the nearest ODOT maintenance office.

The width of the state right of way varies depending on location and it’s up to the campaigns to make sure their signs are not on the right of way. If unsure about a specific location, campaigns should ask their nearest ODOT maintenance office. If you live on a highway, you can use ormap.net

to find property lines and ensure your signs stay off the state right of way.

Signs are prohibited on trees, utility poles, fence posts and natural features within highway right of ways. They also are prohibited within view of a designated scenic area.

Local municipalities may also regulate the placement of political signs.

Political signs are allowed on private property within view of state highways with the following restrictions:

Signs are limited to 12 square feet but can be up to 32 square feet with a variance from ODOT’s Oregon Advertising Sign service.

Signs cannot have flashing or intermittent lights, or animated or moving parts.

Signs must not imitate official highway signs or devices.

Signs are not allowed in scenic corridors.

No payment or compensation of any kind can be exchanged for either the placement of or the message on temporary signs, including political signs, which are visible from a state highway.

Ski Report

April 25, 2022

The Hoodoo Ski Area is closed on Mon. & Tues; open 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. Wed. to Sat; and Sun. from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. The temperature Tuesday morning was 36 degrees at the base with ESE winds averaging 5 mph. No new snow fell overnight, leaving the snowpack at 100 inches. For more information call 541-822-3337.

Mt. Bachelor reported temperatures of 21 degrees at the base and 30 degrees at the summit on Tuesday. No new snow fell overnight, leaving the snowpack at 94 inches. Weather predictions included moderate winds and expected temperatures in the 40’s. 120 of 122 trails were open, along with 6 of 17 lifts. For more information call 541-382-7888.



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

April 27 - When John William French was a young man he changed his name to Peter and began working for Dr. Glenn on his large California ranch. In 1772 Dr. Glenn sent Pete to Southeastern Oregon to scout the country for a cattle operation. The two men entered a partnership that took control of a vast domain, measuring 17,000 square miles, around the Donner and Blitzen rivers. Pete operated this ranch by feudal power and tried to hold it against an advancing wave of homesteaders. The day after Christmas 1873, Pete French was shot and killed by a homesteader. Much of the land was taken over by the federal government and was incorporated into the Malheur Migratory Bird Refuge.

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Blumhagen Scholarship

The Vida Community Center is sponsoring one \$500 scholarship in memory of Vern Blumhagen for a deserving McKenzie High School graduate entering the sophomore year of a post-high school study. The scholarship will be awarded to a student who has graduated from McKenzie High and completed the freshman year of college with a cumulative grade point average of 2.5 or better at an institution of higher learning that is federally accredited. Enrollment must include at least 3 classes per term. All funds will be paid directly to the institution and be used exclusively for academic expenses. This is a non-renewable, need based scholarship.

Send Applications to: Ms. Gerry Aster, Vida McKenzie Community Center, PO Box 163, Vida, OR 97488. Or Attn: Scholarship Committee gerryaster@gmail.com.

com, 541-896-3001.

Finalists will be invited to be interviewed in late April or early May. Be prepared to speak on these types of questions without the use of notes. We are looking for reasons that we should choose you for the Blumhagen Scholarship Award.

- Explain your career aspirations and your educational plan to meet these goals.
- What impact has the first year of college had on you?
- Where did you find funding for your first year of college?
- How important is this scholarship to you?
- Why do you think you are the best candidate for this scholarship?

We look forward to receiving your scholarship application and wish you success in your educational endeavors.

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Dept. of Forestry decides to not renew firefighting insurance policy

After much consideration, Oregon's State Forester has decided to not renew the Department of Forestry's firefighting insurance policy with Lloyd's of London for the 2023-2024 policy year. This policy was first obtained prior to the 1973 fire season to try to mitigate the impacts of wildfire suppression costs for Oregonians. However, over the past decade, longer, more complex, and costlier fire seasons have led to higher premiums and deductibles that lowered the intended mitigating effects of the policy.

The decision to not renew the policy has no impact on ODF's fire season readiness or firefighting capacity.

"Oregonians can rest assured that dissolving this policy does not mean a lack of protection on the lands we're responsible for," State Forester Cal Mukumoto said. "ODF stands ready, as we do heading into every fire season, to strategically use all resources at our disposal to protect Oregonians and their natural resources."

Mukumoto's decision comes on the heels of a special meeting of the Emergency Fire Cost Committee (EFCC) on April 3, during which the final terms of the policy were presented. Under state law, the EFCC is charged with overseeing the Oregon Forest Land Protection Fund (OFLPF), which is privately funded by landowner assessments and a portion of harvest tax revenues. The fund is used to offset fire cost impacts to the state's General Fund.

The OFLPF is intended to equalize emergency fire suppression costs across the various ODF protection districts when firefighting needs exceed a district's budgetary capacity. The OFLPF is designed to operate as an insurance policy whereby all districts contribute into the fund so that money will be available to any individual district when needed. The OFLPF and the General Fund each pay for half of the department's firefighting costs, up to \$20 million. After that, the General Fund covers costs up to

the Lloyd's of London policy's deductible. Certain suppression costs, primarily those paid for or reimbursed by the federal government, would not count toward the deductible.

In addition to overseeing the OFLPF, the EFCC consults with the State Forester regarding renewal of the insurance policy. For 2023-2024, the deductible was raised to over \$78.5 million, which is 57% higher than in 2021-2022 policy. Oregon's historic net fire seasons costs, even after factoring in inflation, would not meet this threshold, making it highly unlikely that this additional financial coverage would be needed in any given fire season. The premium was quoted at \$4.1 million—nearly equal to both the 2021-22 and 2022-23 policies—for \$25 million in coverage, which has not changed since the 2004-2005 policy.

After the special meeting, the EFCC, which contributes up to 50% of the policy premium, recommended that the State Forester not renew the policy. After reviewing the recommendation, along with other supporting documents, Mukumoto agreed with the EFCC's recommendation and chose to not renew the policy. One of the reasons cited by the EFCC for their recommendation was the decreasing balance of the OFLPF and the desire to preserve those funds for suppression costs and strategic investments rather than paying toward a policy that may not be the best fit for Oregon any longer.

"In many parts of the state, forest landowners large and small are already struggling under significant financial burdens to maintain healthy, sustainable working forestlands," Brennan Garrelts, Chair of the EFCC, said. "In recognition of that, and the reality that ODF and the committee lack sufficient tools to influence funding and policy decisions, the committee must make prudent decisions where they can ensure solvency of Oregon's primary firefighting fund."

Forest needs camp concessionaires

Willamette National Forest Supervisor, David Warnack announced the forest is looking for one or two concessionaires to provide high-quality public services in the operation and maintenance of 52 government-owned campgrounds and facilities for the next 5-10 years.

The forest is offering two concession packages, a north area with 25 campgrounds and facilities, and a south area with 27 campgrounds and facilities, on the Detroit, Sweet Home, McKenzie River, and Middle Fork Ranger Districts, within the Willamette National Forest. One or two special use permits will be issued to the successful applicant(s). The forest plans to make a selection in mid to late fall of 2023, with the successful applicant beginning operations on January 1, 2024.

Prospective applicants can find details about the application process by reviewing the Prospectus for Campground and Related Granger-Thye Concessions documents posted on the Forest website at www.fs.usda.gov/main/willamette/ or by contacting Matt Peterson, Forest Recreation Program Manager, at 541-225-6421. Applicants must submit one (1) hard copy and one (1) electronic copy of their application package,

supporting documents, and business plan. All applications must be received by the forest no later than 4:30 p.m. PDT on Monday, July 10th, 2023.

Complete proposals must be mailed to: Willamette National Forest, Forest Supervisor, Dave Warnack, Attention: Matt Peterson, 3106 Pierce Parkway, Suite D, Springfield, OR 97477.

Applicants must submit the re-

quired processing fee with each proposal submitted. Selected applicant are responsible for the costs of preparing and issuing the permit. Additionally, the selected applicant will be required to undergo a Financial Ability Determination (FAD), unless the Forest Service has conducted a FAD for the applicant within the past year and no changes are necessary to bring it up to date.

PUBLIC MEETING NOTICE

Walterville Community Center Siding and Windows

The Walterville Grange is applying to the USDA Rural Development, Community Facility Grant Program for funding the removal and replacement of siding, windows, and insulation on the west side of the hall for a total project cost of \$39,000. The Walterville Grange will hold a board/council meeting open to the public to discuss the application and provide an opportunity for the public to comment. The meeting is a requirement of the USDA application. The meeting will be held at 7 PM on May 16, 2023, at the Walterville Community Center 39259 Camp Creek Rd. For more information on the USDA Rural Development application please contact Jeffry Dehne at jcdehne@hotmail.com.

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