

Serving the McKenzie River Valley ... And Subscriber Will Rutherford of Vida

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Sheriff's Report

Report of a homeowner getting unsolicited calls from a realtor

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Valentine's?

It's time to pay attention to your loved ones and your roses

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Direct Answers

Mentally I was very mean

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What's with the blue dots? Understanding hazard tree removal markings

By Tom Atkinson

McKenzie CDC

Crews around the state are beginning to clear roads and private properties of trees damaged in September's wildfires. The tree clearing is part of the Oregon Wildfire Recovery Debris Management Task Force's effort to provide cleanup for homes and businesses in the eight affected counties – Clackamas, Douglas, Jackson, Klamath, Lane, Lincoln, Linn and Marion. The work paves the way for rebuilding efforts, community recovery and helps revitalize Oregon's economy.

In Lane County, the State contractors are Suulutaaq Inc an Alaskan company with offices in Eugene. They are marking trees for removal with a system of dots and barcodes.

On private property, dead or

dying trees will be removed if they pose a threat to the safety of cleanup crew or public right of ways. Ash and structural debris removal will soon follow, including concrete and other household and construction materials, from private homes and businesses. A list of what is included in cleanup is available.

Hazard trees and ash and debris cleanup are the focus of Step 2 of the cleanup, and includes homes, mobile home parks, second homes, businesses and other structures. (Step 1 involved removal of hazardous household waste and was completed in December.)

Home and business owners must sign an All Wildfire Debris Right of Entry Form with their county to allow cleanup crews onto their property. Visit <https://wildfire.or>

Blue Dots? - Page 2



ODOT

The 2020 Holiday Farm wildfire also affected our transportation system. Roads closed due to flames and smoke when fires were in the immediate area. Debris - like downed trees - created hazards long after the fire was out. Other damage included road surfaces, signs, and guardrails. ODOT says it is working through its four phases of re-opening Hwy. 126 - evaluation, critical services, partial opening and full restoration.

Volunteers with large boat experience wanted

For McKenzie River boat stocking on the lower sections

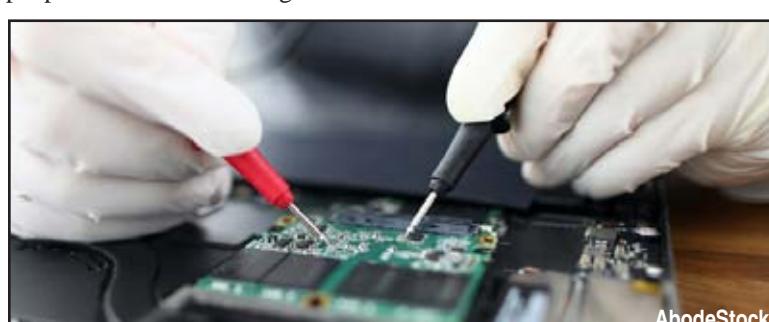
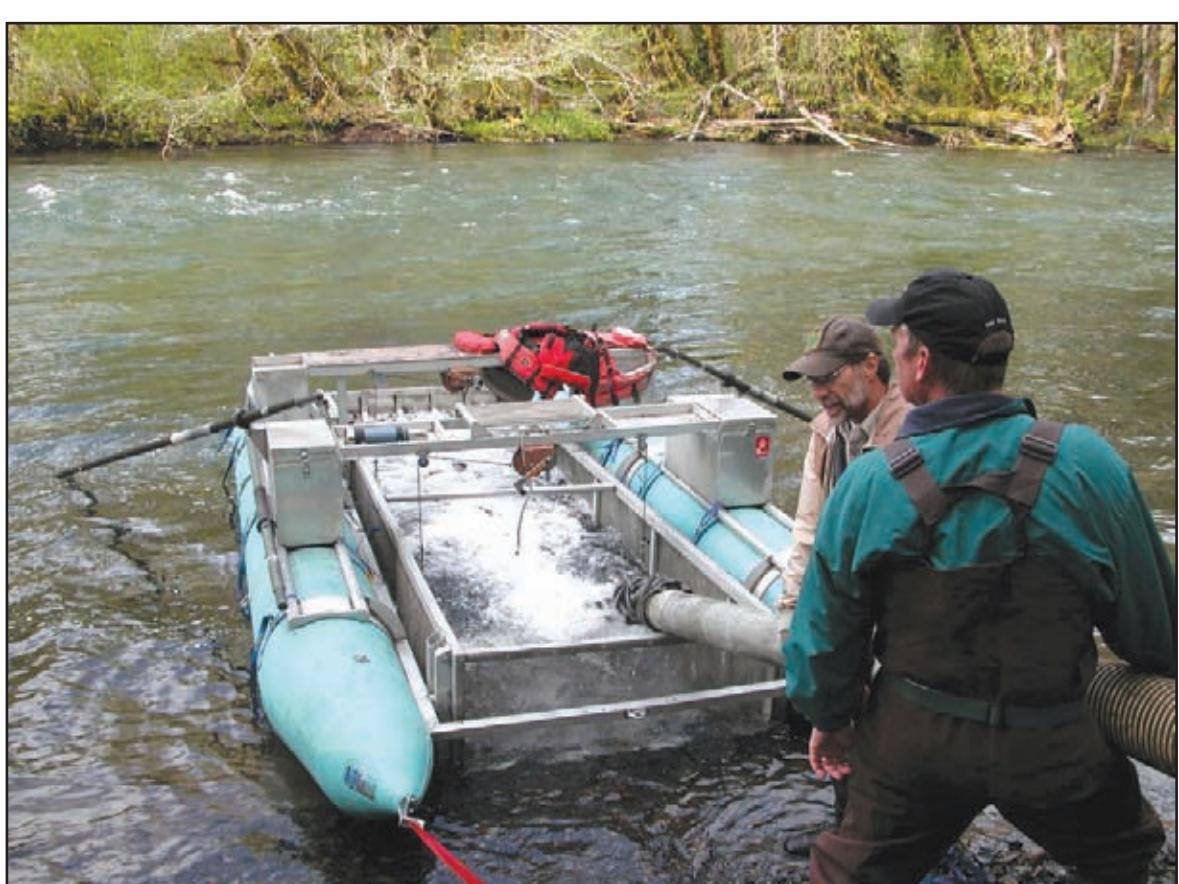
The McKenzie River Guides have been volunteering with the Oregon Dept. of Fish & Wildlife to stock the McKenzie River for nearly 70 years. From late spring to late summer, the upper and lower sections of the McKenzie are stocked with Rainbow Trout. The stocked trout provide a popular spring and summer fishery, attracting anglers from across the

state and country. Officials say the success of the program couldn't be done without the expertise of the guides and the time donated by volunteers who distribute fish from a large stocking raft. ODFW and the Springfield STEP Programs are now seeking a handful of volunteers to join a guide on a stocking trip.

Volunteers must have experi-

ence on a large watercraft/boat and experience going over rapids on a boat. This volunteer opportunity can be physically demanding and requires the ability to lift up to 30 lbs, frequent bending and lifting as fish are netted from the boat and released into the water, frequent use of hand-held winch on the stocking raft, exposure to sun

Boat experience - Page 2



AbodeStock

Many electronics manufacturers only allow repairs of their devices by authorized dealers, which is the issue behind the "right-to-repair" movement.



SHELFNOTES FROM LEABURG LIBRARY

FEBRUARY 2021

How do you feel about the month of February? It has always seemed to me that February was sort of special compared to the other eleven months. To begin with, January and February were not even part of the first Roman calendar, which was only ten months long to correspond with the seasons of the harvest. The rest of the year was just called "winter." Emperor Numa Pompilius added the extra months around 713 BC, with February the shortest month (23 days), the others being 30 or 31 days. But the attempt to align this calendar with the Lunar Calendar wasn't working too terribly well. It kept running amok with the Lunar Eclipses. And then there was the matter of the Roman superstition that "even" numbers were unlucky, so you couldn't have your calendar months ending in "even" numbers. The whole issue was way too stressful, and it took centuries for the various Roman emperors to finally get it together and come up with the calendar we all know and love today.

It just stands to reason that a little month like February ought to be special. After all, it is Black History Month, and President's Day is celebrated in this month.

A lot of cool stuff happens in February. Groundhog's Day, for instance, when that blasted little varmint comes out of his hole in the ground and torments us with his decision of will we or won't we have another six weeks of winter.

And Valentine's Day, when hearts and flowers abound while florist shops and Hallmark stores revel in the revenue.

Along with other well-known commemorative days, however, there are a few which perhaps are new to you. Such as: Abolition of Slavery Day on February 1; National Tater Tot Day on the 2nd; World Cancer Day on the 4th; Statehood Day (Oregon) on the 14th; National Margarita Day on the 22nd; International Polar Bear Day on the 27th; and National Frog Legs Day on the 29th.

For me, the best day in February - bar none - is the first day of Spring Training. Now if you are not a baseball freak, this will mean absolutely nothing to you. If you did not have the good fortune to be born into a "baseball family", then this day will come and go without your notice. But for those of us who belong to the church of baseball, it marks the beginning of another season of possibilities, and the stomach-fluttering anticipation of hearing that first crack of the bat.

No matter what is happening in your town, the nation, or the world, the game of baseball is the one true constant; the thing in which you can lose yourself for a couple of hours and remember how it was when you were a kid watching (or listening) to the game with your dad.

Right now, America seems to be about breaking apart. Baseball is about connecting; it is the tie



that binds. It is people from every station of life, every occupation, every section of the country, every belief, every creed, every color, gathered together for one reason: to watch America's game. It is a game that reminds us of an America that was; the game of our past, but also of our future. It reflects who we have been, who we are, and who we might become.

It links sons and daughters to fathers and grandfathers. It is about time and timelessness, speed and grace, failure and loss, immeasurable hope - and coming home.

So yeah - for me, the quirky month of February is special indeed. Regardless of what Punxsutawney Phil predicts on February 2nd, you can bet that on the 17th, the first day of Spring Training this year, I'll haul out all my baseball stuff just to make sure that it's ready for Opening Day, which is April 1st. (No kidding, it really is on April Fool's Day!)

Perhaps more importantly, I'll pull up all the memories from years gone by when my dad, my grandfather, my older brother and I spent hours listening to Mel Allen call the Yankee games, and the feeling I always had of being "safe at home."

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

Blue dots?

Continued From - Page 1

What the markings mean

ODOT is using these symbols to mark trees in the McKenzie Valley - but be aware that other entities, including utilities and private companies, continue with their own tree removal operations and have their own markings.

Blue dot and QR tag - tree is marked for removal, QR tag has

GOS coordinated, tree variety, height, etc.

Blue dot with X - close to power line.

Red Dot - close to power line.

White marking - wait and see.

Orange markings - previous ODOT Markings in the weeks post fire.

egon.gov/ or call 503-934-1700 to submit a form and for more information. Even people who did not join in Step 1 of the cleanup may still opt into the program.

Participating property owners also need to complete a questionnaire about their property, to help with planning and ensure efficient, safe removal of debris.

Boat experience

Continued From - Page 1

Check will be required.)

Masks must be worn at all fish loading locations. PFDs are required to be worn on the water and will be provided by ODFW along with boat safety equipment. Volunteer should bring their

mask, closed-toed shoes that will get wet (tennis shoes), lunch, water and sun protection.

To sign up, go to: <https://odfwvolunteer.wufoo.com/forms/m1af68uf0aayv3f/>

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.

Friday 2/5	
McKenzie Valley AM Clouds 25% chance precip High: 50 Low: 36	Santiam Pass AM Snow Showers 40% chance precip High: 32 Low: 25

Saturday 2/6	
McKenzie Valley Partly Cloudy 10% chance precip High: 54 Low: 36	Santiam Pass Partly Cloudy 10% chance precip High: 35 Low: 26

READINGS TAKEN AT THE US ARMY CORPS COUGAR DAM					READINGS TAKEN AT FWEB LEABURG POWERHOUSE				
Date	High	Low	Rain	Releases	Date	High	Low	Rain	Riverflow
1/26	42	36	0	600 cfs	1/26	42	31	0.22	4,150 cfs
1/27	42	38	0.38	600 cfs	1/27	36	32	0.30	4,050 cfs
1/28	45	39	0.01	600 cfs	1/28	43	34	0.30	3,830 cfs
1/29	52	42	0.01	600 cfs	1/29	47	38	0.11	3,890 cfs
1/30	50	42	0.04	600 cfs	1/30	47	39	0.03	3,780 cfs
1/31	54	47	0.16	600 cfs	1/31	49	41	0.42	3,650 cfs
2/1	54	49	0.21	420 cfs	2/1	55	43	0.12	3,720 cfs

Sheriff's Report

Jan. 25: 12:33 a.m.: Assist, Information – Blue River area.

11:00 a.m.: Unlawful Use of Vehicle - 49700 block, McK. Hwy.

11:15 a.m.: Citizen Contact - 42800 blk, McK. Hwy.

1:53 p.m.: Assist, Follow Up - 45900 blk, McK. Hwy.

1:55 p.m.: Welfare Check - 91900 blk, Honeybee Ln.

3:06 p.m.: Assist, Follow Up - Pond Rd. & Quartz Creek Rd.

Jan. 26: 12:16 a.m.: Alarm - 44800 blk, McK. Hwy.

11:37 a.m.: Assist Fire Dept. - 45600 blk, McK. Hwy.

10:30 a.m.: Assist, Follow Up - 37500 blk, Upper Camp Creek Rd.

10:31 a.m.: Hit & Run - 5200 blk, High Banks Rd.

11:17 a.m.: Assist, Follow Up - 37800 blk, Upper Camp Creek Rd.

12:16 p.m.: Suspicious Conditions - 49500 blk, McK. Hwy. Report of a homeowner getting unsolicited calls from a realtor

McKenzie River Reflections

about their property.

5:03 p.m.: Welfare Check - 37900 blk, Shenandoah Lp.

Jan. 27: 10:29 a.m.: Assist, Follow Up - Marcola Rd, Mp. 13.

7:58 p.m.: Assist, Follow Up - 48000 blk, McK. Hwy.

9:43 p.m.: Welfare Check - 42800 blk, McK. Hwy.

Jan. 28: 3:56 p.m.: Welfare Check - 39400 blk, Upper Camp Creek Rd.

Jan. 29: 3:11 a.m.: Suspicious Conditions - McK. Hwy. Mp. 29. Report of someone driving an older, light colored sedan appearing to be taking items out of multiple mailboxes.

9:53 a.m.: Assist Fire Dept. - Lat: 44.198426 Long: -122.493558.

1:24 p.m.: Threat, Harassment - 38300 blk, Kickbush Ln. Report of a call from someone claiming to be from Xfinity. When the community member did not provide their personal information the caller began making threats of harm.

4:52 p.m.: Motor Vehicle Accident, No Injury - 38400 blk, shotgun Creek Rd.

5:38 p.m.: Warrant Service - McK. Hwy. Mp. 17.

5:49 p.m.: Alarm - 44800 blk, McK. Hwy.

8:29 p.m.: Reckless Driving - Hwy. 126, Mp. 52.

9:57 p.m.: Suspicious Conditions - McGowan Creek Rd. & Donna Rd. Report of six vehicles headed up McGowan.

Jan. 30: 7:22 a.m.: Vehicle Stop - Marcola Rd. & Paschelke Rd.

7:44 a.m.: Vehicle Stop - Marcola Rd. & Paschelke Rd.

10:37 a.m.: Threat, Harassment - 50000 blk, McK. Hwy.

10:42 a.m.: Motor Vehicle Accident, No Injury - McGowan Creek Rd. Mp. 4.

12:56 p.m.: Traffic Hazard - Lat: 44.068394 Long: -122.839638.

5:33 p.m.: Traffic Hazard - Marcola Rd. Mp. 6.

8:39 p.m.: Burglary - 44900 blk, Leaburg Dam Rd.

Jan. 31: 5:36 a.m.: Assist, Information - 45400 blk, Good-pasture Rd.

11:01 a.m.: Illegal Dump - Lat: 44.174634 Long: -122.991434.

6:23 p.m.: Assist, Information - 42800 blk, McK. Hwy.

7:27 p.m.: Threat, Harassment - 37000 blk, Goats Rd.

7:50 p.m.: Assist Outside Agency - 42800 blk, McK. Hwy.

8:15 p.m.: Suspicious Conditions - 47800 blk, 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

Jan. 26: 17:14: Crash, Non-Injury. Hwy. 126E, Milepost 52.

While headed to a crash during a period of heavy snow, observed a vehicle with its front wheels slightly off the roadway. Stopped & was advised the vehicle, a sedan,

had lost control at low speeds, fish tailed & was struck from behind by a Toyota pickup that was unable to stop in time & slid into it. Both vehicles were drivable after getting the sedan back on the roadway.

Damage appeared to be under \$2,500 & there were no injuries. The driver exchanged info before arrival. Involved: Blue Chrysler, 21-year-old female, 66-year-old male.

18:09: Person Assist - Clear Lake Cutoff, Mp. 10. Dispatched to assist ODOT with a motorist during closure period of heavy snow. Spoke with the subjects, whose vehicles were not equipped to be driving in extreme weather conditions & assisted them getting back on the roadway & headed out of the closure area. The call originally came through as an irate driver that was angry about not being let through, but that appeared to be unfounded after talking with the subjects. Involved: 21-year-old female, 32-year-old male.

Jan. 31: 15:53: Fish & Wildlife, Angling - While checking angler's along the banks of the McKenzie River, located & identified one

Continued On Page 7

McKenzie Fire & Rescue

Jan. 26: 11:32: 45000 block, McK. Hwy. Medical, Trauma. Rope rescue & Transport.

Jan. 27: 14:56: 40000 blk, McK. Hwy. Medical Alarm. Lift Assist Only.

Jan. 28: 17:10: McK. Hwy./ Holden Creek Ln. Motor Vehicle Accident - Non-Injury/Non-Blocking.

18:51: 1200 blk, 66th St Medical, General. Disregarded En Route.

Jan. 29: 9:37: 91000 blk, McBride Rd. Mutual Aid.

Continued On Page 7

Upper McKenzie Fire/Rescue

Jan. 20: 17:19: Illegal Burn - 51000 block, Blue River Dr. 3 large burn piles unattended.

Jan. 23: 12:42: Brush Fire - 49000 blk, McK. Hwy. Single tree on fire - approx. 150 ft. up the ridge.

Jan. 24: 14:36: Motor Vehicle Accident - Milepost 11, Clear Lake Cutoff. SUV rolled over.

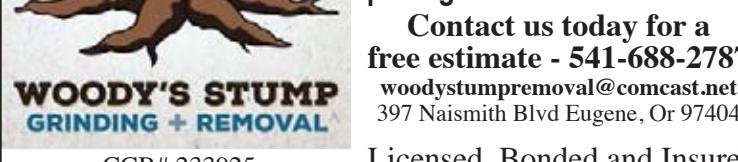
Jan. 25: 07:45: MVA - Mp. 6, Clear Lake Cutoff. Vehicle flipped on its top.

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

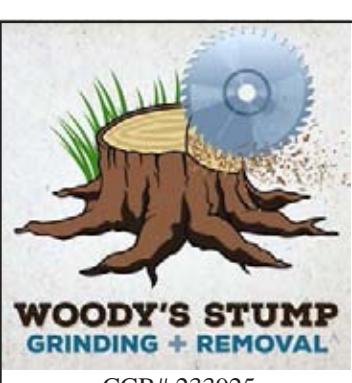


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From May 3, 1991 edition of McKenzie River Reflections



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Port of Astoria was once a hot spot for shanghai operators

By Finn J.D. John

You could think of the last couple decades of the 1800s the “golden age of shanghaiing” on the West Coast. Pick the wrong place to stop for a drink or rent a room for the night — or even just walk down the wrong street at the wrong time of night — and an innocent bystander could wake up the next morning to the vigorous kicks and curses of a “bucko” second mate, huddled on the deck of a four-masted barque headed for Hong Kong.

One of the worst ports for this practice — a port where almost anyone, doing almost anything, could suddenly find himself at sea — was Astoria.

How the shanghaiing business worked

The term “to shanghai” was coined by a preacher in San Francisco, in 1855 — the height of the Gold Rush. The term referred to a particularly aggressive form of a practice known as “crimping.”

The term “Crimping” comes from a Dutch word, “krimp,” a holding pen or tank for live fish. The basic idea is, you set up a boardinghouse for sailors where they can stay on credit while they’re ashore. That way, more of their money is available to spend on debauchery. Eventually, the sailor’s money is all gone, and he is simply living in the boardinghouse — still on credit. He repays that



The West Shore magazine
A street scene, featuring the Odd Fellows Temple, drawn by the staff artist at The West Shore, a literary magazine based in Portland, and published in 1887.

credit by shipping out when the boardinghouse operator gets an “order” from a ship captain who needs a crew member. When that happens, the boardinghouse operator places the sailor on an outbound ship, presenting a claim against his future earnings to cover his room and board.

Rarely did the sailor go willingly back to sea — they always wanted to stay on land just a little longer. So often times the sailor had to be rendered unconscious with a shot of whisky laced with laudanum.

The grateful ship captain would then pay the crimp a bonus of \$30 to \$90 per sailor, depending on market conditions. This bonus was

popularly called “blood money.”

This was what you might call “normal” crimping — a system designed to manipulate sailors into incurring financial obligations that they could only discharge by making slaves of themselves. It was certainly bad enough ... but shanghaiing was worse.

Shanghaiing was like freelance crimping. Rather than selling off sailors he’d enticed into his boardinghouse and encouraged to run up a debt, the crimp would simply prowl the streets with a blackjack looking for some stranger to clobber, roll up in a tarp and cash in.

Shanghaiing had certain

advantages; the up-front costs, obviously, were quite a bit lower. It’s not the way most crimps liked to operate, because it was dangerous and left a trail of deadly enemies — who occasionally returned to the port years later with revenge on their minds. Also, skippers didn’t much appreciate finding out that the “old salt” they’d signed on was a 19-year-old plowboy who’d never been on the water before.

But at times when there weren’t very many professional sailors in town, desperate ship captains would start raising the “blood money” bonuses they offered. The higher these bonuses got, the more tempted crimps were to fill their pockets with knockout drops and go out looking for someone to shanghai.

Astoria in particular seems to have presented the crimps with this sort of dilemma frequently, to the point that they resorted to some desperate measures to try to get crew members.

Shanghaiers making house calls

Historian Martha McKeown recounts the experiences of one newcomer to Astoria, Mont Hawthorne, who came to the city in the early 1880s and took a job cutting timber. Hawthorne was immediately warned by a neighbor to be on his guard. It seemed another neighbor had been kidnapped in the middle of the night, out of his own cabin, and hauled down to the waterfront and shipped out on a windjammer.

Accordingly, Hawthorne took to lugging a rifle and a shotgun with him at all times when he was in the woods. He also packed a

[Shanghai operators - Page 8](#)



By Slim Randles

“Windy, my man,” said Doc, “how are you and the widow getting along?”

“She’s been sorta crepitatin’ up on my blind side, Doc,” Windy said.

“Which side is that, Windy?”

“Very humoristic, Dud. Ha. Ha.”

We had all been watching, as closely as we could, the relationship between Windy Wilson, bachelor, camp cook, cowboy, and teller of tales ... and Mamie Dilworth, aging hippie chick, starer at crystals, vegetarian, widow.

We all knew, those of us who lived vicariously alongside the perimeter of their friendship, that if it could’ve been filmed, it’d be on television longer than The Flying Nun.

“Doc,” said Windy, “ol’ Dame the Dame is a awful nice lady, sure ‘nuf. I have considerationed maybe takin’ our friendship to the next level.”

“What level is that?”

“Steve, that would be puttin’ one of my patented power sneaks on ‘er and holdin’ hands.”

“Be careful you don’t rush these things, Windy. You’ve only known each other a couple of years now.”

“I’ll be careful, Doc, don’t you worry none. Why, we almost got to that there hand-holdin’ when we capper-sized that stock tank boat of mine in the crick. Had to pull ‘er out. Weren’t no grateful smooch,

[Home Country - Page 6](#)

MCKENZIE RIVER Locals Helping Locals



J & M Homes, LLC is teaming up with Gooden-Harrison Construction, Blue Haul Trucking, and 1st Security Bank's Home Lending Branch for a Resource Fair on Feb, 5th, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. & Feb., 6th, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at McKenzie Schools

We will be there alongside other experts in their field to help answer any questions you might have about replacing your home. 541-928-1471



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Gardening Tips

By Kym Pokorny



Roses: When to plant and prune

Valentine's Day is coming up, and that means it's time to pay attention to your loved ones and your roses, too.

On the west side of the Cascade Range, mid-February is generally time to start thinking about pruning, according to Amy Jo Detweiler, a horticulturist with Oregon State University's Extension Service. In Central Oregon, April or May is the best time. In both cases, take your cue from the plants. When the buds begin to swell and get ready to break open, pull out your pruners.

Detweiler recommends using bypass pruners rather than anvil pruners, because they cut more like scissors and won't crush the stems. Make sure they are sharp. Have some rubbing alcohol on hand to for dipping the blades in between cuts, especially as you move from rose to rose.

As you get started, stand back and survey the rose. First cut out any dead, diseased or damaged wood (also called canes). Remove anything smaller than a pencil. Then find three to five of the healthiest canes and clip those back uniformly to 14 to 16 inches above the ground. Make your cut just above a bud that faces outward and prune at a 45-degree slant.

"You want the shrub to grow

outward so that the center remains relatively open," Detweiler said. "That increases air circulation and reduces the chances of disease."

Be sure to clean up and remove all debris.

Detweiler's directions specifically apply to modern roses such as hybrid teas, floribundas and grandifloras, but also pertain to old-fashioned and shrub roses, though those can be pruned taller – just a third of the plant's size. Roses that bloom just once a year should be pruned right after blooming.

In western Oregon, prime planting time is coming up, Detweiler said. However, it's too early for Central Oregon, where gardeners should wait until the ground starts to thaw at the end of April into May. When you go to the gar-

den center to buy a rose, look for a healthy plant with stems that are green and healthy. Dead branches or dieback might indicate disease. Also, make sure the roots aren't winding around inside the pot or growing thickly out the bottom drainage holes.

Whether you live on the west or east side of the mountains, planting is the same, she said. Dig a generous hole, twice as wide as the pot the rose came in and as deep. Mix together one third organic amendment such as planting compost and two thirds native soil that came out of the hole.

Place plant in the hole and fill in with soil and compost mixture. In milder climates, make sure graft line is above ground. In colder climates, bury it 2 inches below ground. Water well. Mulch with 2 to 5 inches of organic mulch, such as bark chips or compost. Keep it level and even, not like a volcano.



Country Kitchen

By Mary Emma Allen



YOU CAN BE AN AUTHOR

Yes, you can be an author...for your family anyway. All of us have stories to tell, memories to relate, information that saves our family heritage.

The writing can take many forms...a journal, a blog, a scrapbook, art work, a box into which you can put notes and memorabilia as you accumulate them.

* My grandfather, grandmother, aunt and mother kept daily dairies/journals at various points in their lives. I've done the same.

* In today's world, blog are ways of saving memories. These are not necessarily private, personal thoughts as we often write in journals and diaries. However, they are remembrances in somewhat story form. I have two blogs - Farm Girl Heritage and One Room School Days - that give insight into yesteryear.

* Scrapbooks might be a literal one or one online that combines photos with stories.

* Small Moments - Write in a paragraph or two about a photo of an incident. Keep these in a

traditional book or online book.

Art Work with Family Stories
- My sister makes sketches to accompany her poems and short descriptions of family memories.

Recipe Collections - You can do as my daughter is...compiling family recipes and stores to accompany them. (See my Country Kitchen of 1/21/21, "Create a Family Cookbook.")

HOMEMADE TOMATO SOUP-, this is a recipe my mom made frequently for supper (the evening meal in those days) when we were growing up.

Use one quart of red tomatoes (ours were home canned tomatoes grown in the family garden), a small onion chopped up, and a pinch of baking soda to reduce the acidity.

Add enough whole milk to serve four to six. Top with a lump of butter and serve the soup hot with homemade bread or crackers. You also can serve with grilled cheese or cheese and ham sandwiches.

(c) 2021 Mary Emma Allen

(Mary Emma Allen writes from her NH woodland home.)

This Space For Rent
rivref@wildblue.net

Holiday Farm Fire Hazard Tree Removal Update

NOTICE - Oregon Debris Management Task Force (DMTF) crews are beginning to remove hazard trees in Rainbow and working west, down Highway 126.

What is a hazard tree and who decides if it needs to be removed?

A hazard tree is a tree that has a structural defect and poses a threat to cleanup crews or public areas. Professional arborists mark hazard trees with blue markings and a barcode. Property owners can call the number below to let crews know whether they want to keep the logs from hazard trees or have them removed from their property.

What about hazard trees on private property?

DMTF has the ability through OAR 734-035-0150 to enter private property to manage trees that pose a threat to state highways. Hazard trees on private property that don't pose an immediate threat to crews or public areas will be left standing and are the responsibility of the property owner.

Questions? 503-934-1700 or ODOT.Wildfire@odot.state.or.us
wildfire.oregon.gov/cleanup | debriscleanupnews.com

Community Notes

A Gem in the making

As soon as the smoke from the Holiday Farm Fire cleared, the board of the Vida McKenzie Community Center began planning to rebuild. See what's been accomplished in just five months by visiting the Open House at the Discovery Center, on the north side of McKenzie Highway, across from Leaburg Lake on February 13th, from 1 to 4 p.m.

People will be able to discuss the conceptual drawing of the new Vida McKenzie Community Center with the architect and the project manager, as well as hear visions for expanded uses of the Center. Most of all, people can voice their thoughts about the building and ways it can serve the community for years to come.

Be part of VMCC's Comeback Campaign! Refreshments. Raffle each hour.

Tammy Pelton, Gerry Astar,
Wendy Anzia,
VMCC Comeback Committee

Debris dump over

Strube Flats, below Cougar Reservoir, is no longer be accepting organic yard debris from McKenzie River residents for disposal. This service was temporary in nature and was set up to benefit community cleanup efforts after the Holiday Farm Fire.

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"Free organic debris disposal was a service to the community that was a small cost to residents and partners with a big benefit to those affected by the fire," said McKenzie River District Ranger Darren Cross. "We are starting the process of chipping the debris and staging additional danger trees from the Oregon Department of Transportation's (ODOT) phase two cleanup of Highway 126."

The Strube Flats area has multiple piles and large log decks. Large log volumes are anticipated to arrive and depart daily with a lot of heavy equipment traffic. People are asked to avoid the 1900-410 Road and the Strube Flats area.

Little Eagles is reconnecting

The Littlest Eagles' early childhood family meet-up will be Zooming from 10 -10:30a.m. each Wednesday, The sessions will include a half hour of games, verses and songs, sharing and dancing. This is geared towards families from the McKenzie community with children under 6 years old, though everyone is invited. If you know a child would feel supported by seeing you "there," please come. People are welcome you to jump on or off according to their family's needs. Zoom Link: shorturl.at/ghxFH



McKenzie River Reflections

McKenzie Schools future plans

For more than a year, the McKenzie School district has been working to assess and identify campus needs through inspections, assessments as well as community input. After the fire, the needs of the community may have changed.

Over the next two months, virtual public meetings will be held to prioritize needs for the campus and listen for ideas that have not yet been identified.

If a bond was to pass in an upcoming election, the district wants to make sure it is making the most of taxpayer dollars as well as available Oregon School Capi-

tal Improvement Matching grant funds. Public input will help focus those efforts.

The first of three virtual zoom meetings was held at 6 p.m. on January 19th. The other two are set for February 1st and February 15th, same time.

Families can check their email for the link or go to the school website.

MEF Wildfire Relief Fund

The McKenzie Education Foundation (MEF) recently received generous donations to assist students and families whose lives have been disrupted by the Holiday Farm Wildfire. If you are the parent or guardian of a

Thursday, February 4, 2021

student who is currently enrolled in the McKenzie School, you can apply for up to \$200 to support the student's learning.

To apply, send your name, phone number, the name of the student(s) who are enrolled, a few sentences about how you will use the money, and the amount you need to mckedfound@gmail.com. If you want to fill out a form, it is available at the Administration Office of the school, and at www.mckedfound.org/mef-wildfire-fund.html. Applications will be looked at on the 28th and 15th of the month. Additional funds may be available in the future.

Donations are still being accepted at MEF, PO Box 274, Blue River, OR 97413 or online at www.mckedfound.org.

Hazard Tree Assessment Through Pure Water Partners



As a result of the Holiday Farm Fire, tree mortality and damage were widespread. Many trees damaged by fire may recover and survive, while others are obviously dead or may die off within 2-6 years. Retaining fire-damaged trees that are likely to live will help mitigate erosion, as well as preserve natural forest processes and critical habitat. However, trees impacted by fire can also be classified as hazards and in some cases should be removed to reduce the risk to life and property.

The Pure Water Partners (PWP) program is working with local partners and contractors to offer free site assessments to identify hazard trees as part of an integrated approach to control erosion on private properties impacted by the Holiday Farm Fire. A licensed arborist should always be consulted to determine stand health and guide decisions to either remove or retain fire-damaged trees. It is recommended that felled hazard trees and slash be retained on site and used as erosion control measures and to retain nutrients. As part of the site assessment, PWP can work with landowners to fell hazard trees on their property that are located along the river within the riparian area or connected upland areas that are in danger of significant erosion. Trees that are outside the identified erosion control areas will NOT be assessed through the Pure Water Partners program.

If you are interested in a free hazard tree consultation with a licensed arborist and assistance with felling hazard trees, please sign up for a PWP site assessment by visiting www.purewaterpartners.org and completing the online application form and access



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www.mckenziebible.com

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

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

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

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

By Wayne & Tamara Mircell

Chasing Shadows

My wife and I are in the process of divorce. There has been a lot of pain from this divorce, even though it was uncontested.

We married at 19 and had our first child at 20. Statistics would say this marriage couldn't last, but it kept going and we had another child at 25. My wife worked for a company that employed mostly women, and most of her clients were men.

In the eighth year of marriage, we started having problems. We worked on them, and I thought they were resolved, but just before our tenth anniversary, she left. I had the children. When I found out she was living with another man, I began divorce proceedings. The grounds were abandonment.

We talked during this process, and she finally asked if she could come home. I said yes.

The following two years were the hardest in my life. Whenever I looked at her, I said all sorts of things. I was not physically abusive, but mentally I was very mean. Eventually we got through it.

We started having problems again around our 21st year. At different intervals, she left about three times. She always returned, telling me she did not know what was wrong, I hadn't done anything, and it was all on her.

I tried with all my heart to help her, but it was as if she wouldn't let me in. Then our lives seemed

to go to completely miserable. I would come home afraid of what to say. Whether she had cooked or not cooked didn't matter. I kept a closed lip.

My youngest child was still living at home. The week before his graduation, I noticed changes in my wife. Her attitude toward the family had grown worse. On Sunday my son graduated, and the following Thursday night she became irate over little things he hadn't done.

Before the end of the evening she told me she was going out for cigarettes. I went to bed. When I woke later and realized she wasn't there, I asked my son. He said they argued, and she said she was leaving.

She went to my daughter's. After several days, when my anger died down, I called. It was then I found out she was going to bars and backwoods beer joints and drinking a lot. Two weeks later, I found out she was staying with some guy.

She hasn't called to talk to our son, who was her heart, and lately she hasn't talked to our daughter. I want to call her and tell her what she means to me, but I don't want her laughing in my face in front of her boyfriend.

Now I'm old and lonely and scared. I'm 42. I don't want to start over again. All I want is her back in my life. I can't understand how someone can walk away from everything they ever loved.

McKenzie River Reflections

Mack

Mack, a couple of nights ago we watched a movie about a divorcing couple. In one scene, the man explains to his adult son how he met his mother. He had accidentally boarded the wrong train, an express train that didn't stop at his station. But on that express train, he met the woman who would become his wife.

Your wife must have been miserable to abandon her kids the first time. But she came back, perhaps because it looked bad, perhaps because she felt it was her duty. But she didn't come back because she loved you. She came back because she failed in her escape.

With your daughter grown and your son coming of age, she tried three more times to leave. Each time she came back for what was missing in her life, and each time she did not find it in you. Then she left for good.

Your letter is not about her. It is about you. You have been living in fear since the first time she left. You can want her as much as you like, but this woman is not the love of your life except in your imagination. Now you are afraid to start over because of the emotional damage this roller coaster has caused you.

You are pursuing her not out of love, but out of loneliness and fear. Those emotions seldom give us the correct answer.

The truth of your marriage is that 20-odd years ago your wife got on the wrong train.

Wayne & Tamara
write: Directanswers@
WayneAndTamara.com

American Life in Poetry

Here's a lovely poem about snow falling on San Antonio by Mo H. Saidi, an obstetrician and writer who, in addition to his medical training, has a Master's degree in English and Literature from Harvard.

Editor's Note: This column (450) is a reprint from the American Life in Poetry archive as we bid farewell to Ted Kooser, and work to finalize the new website and forthcoming columns curated by Kwame Dawes.

The Night of the Snowfall

Snow falls gently in the Hill Country
covering the meadows and the valleys.
The sluggish streaks of smoke
climb quietly
from the roofs but fail to reach the
lazy clouds.

On Alamo Plaza in the heart of the night
and under the flood of lights, the
flakes float
like frozen moths and glow like
fireflies.

They drop on the blades of dormant grass.

They alight on the cobblestones
and live awhile
in silence, they dissolve before
dawn.

The wet limestone walls of the
mission
glow proudly after the night of
snowfall.

We do not accept unsolicited

manuscripts. American Life in Poetry is made possible by The Poetry Foundation (www.poetryfoundation.org), publisher of Poetry magazine. It is also supported by the Department of English at the University of Nebraska, Lincoln. Poem copyright ©2010 by Mo H. Saidi from his most recent book of poems, The Color of Faith, Pecan Grove Press, 2010. Poem reprinted by permission of Mo H. Saidi and the publisher. Introduction copyright @2021 by The Poetry Foundation. The introduction's author, Ted Kooser, served as United States Poet Laureate Consultant in Poetry to the Library of Congress from 2004-2006.

Ski Report

March 2, 2021

The Hoodoo Ski Area reported on Tuesday that new snow fell overnight, leaving the base at 57 inches. Temperatures were 25 degrees mid-mountain and 33 at the base with WSW winds at 23 mph. For more information call 541-822-3337.

Mt. Bachelor reported temperatures of 23 degree at the base and 22 degrees at mid-mountain on Tuesday. Four inches of new snow fell overnight, bringing the snowpack to 80 inches at mid-mountain. Predictions called for snow changing to rain as the day progressed with temperatures in the 20's. None out of 15 lifts were open, along with 120 of the 121 trails. For more information call 541-382-7888.

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Help Wanted:

The McKenzie School District is now hiring bus drivers. Visit our web www.mckenziesd.org explore jobs. 541-822-3338 B j14-28.

Personal

The Leaburg Sew & So's will meet again on Monday afternoons when the McKenzie Fire & Rescue Center re-opens for community activities. Call Sara at 541-896-3059 for more information.

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

Piano Lessons

Now accepting piano students - Beginners, Intermediate and Advanced - all ages. Professional jazz pianist,

classically trained with years of teaching experience. Located in Leaburg. Please call or text 408.391.3477 or email: kimberly@liquidsister.com <http://www.liquidsister.com> SKP-8/16ruc

Quilters/Needle Crafters

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

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THE WALL DOCTOR

Got a hole in your wall? Give me a call! Serving the McKenzie River

Home Country

Continued From Page 4

howsomever."

"So why ramp it up now?"

"Valentine's Day, Steve! Comin' up, ain't it. Yessir, afore

State Police Report

Continued From Page 3

male along McKenzie View angling alone. During the contact, discovered the male did not have a 2021 resident angling license & was also in possession of a wild cutthroat trout. The male was cited for no resident 2021 angling license and warned for the possession of the trout. The trout was logged into evidence at the Springfield patrol office. Involved: 48-year-old male from Eugene.

A Moment in History

Info provided by History.com

January 28, 1986: At 11:38 a.m. EST the space shuttle Challenger lifted off from Cape Canaveral, Florida, and Christa McAuliffe was on her way to becoming the first ordinary U.S. civilian to travel into space. McAuliffe, a 37-year-old high school social studies teacher from New Hampshire, won a competition that earned her a place among the seven-member crew of the Challenger. She under-

long there's gonna be young lovers squarin' off and smoochin' and darin' the world to stop 'em from cuddlin.' I really take to Valentine's Day."

"Buy her a card yet?"

"Thinkin' on it, Doc. But I gotta get jest the right kind. Can't be too moochie-smoochie or she'll get the wrong idear. What I'm lookin' for is one that says, 'Mame, I

went months of shuttle training but then, beginning January 23, was forced to wait six long days as the Challenger's launch countdown was repeatedly delayed because of weather and technical problems. Finally, on January 28, the shuttle lifted off.

Seventy-three seconds later, hundreds on the ground, including Christa's family, stared in disbelief as the shuttle broke up in a forked plume of smoke and fire. Millions more watched the wrenching tragedy unfold on live television. There were no survivors.

kinda like you and think you're smart and kind, And would you like to hold hands and talk about good stuff? And no more a-them tofu tacos, thank you."

"That's a tall order, Windy."

"Valentine's only comes once a year, boys."

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arrived.

13:20: 40000 blk, McK. Hwy. Medical, General. Disregarded.

14:48: 40000 blk, McK. Hwy. Medical, Trauma. Patient Assessed, 1 Transported.

Jan. 31: 8:42: 42000 blk, McK. Hwy. Medical, General. Patient Assessed, 1 Transported.

McK. Fire & Rescue will hold its monthly virtual board of directors meeting on Monday; February 15th. Check the web site www.mckenziefire.com for meeting log-in/call-in information. Information will be posted the week prior to the meeting.

Shanghai operators

Continued From Page 4

revolver on his hip when he had to go to town.

Then one night, he was awoken by a huge racket at the door of his cabin. Someone was trying to force it open.

Hawthorne bellowed a warning, which was ignored, so he put seven rifle bullets through the door. After that, he heard a great crashing through the brush — audible, it seems, even over the ringing in his ears from touching off seven rifle shots in an enclosed cabin — as the crimps beat a hasty and panicky retreat. They never bothered him after that. A minister's shanghai story

However, a couple of them did make an attempt on the town's Methodist minister, George Grannis. According to Dillon, Grannis went one Sunday to ring the bells in his church. On his way back down the stairs, someone suddenly stepped up behind him and threw an overcoat over his head, while another pinned his arms to his sides.

The would-be shanghaiers surely thought this would be a doddle. How hard could it possibly be to kidnap a preacher? Clergymen are the "turn-the-other-cheek" people — soft of cheek and tender of foot. After all, who ever heard of a trained, successful prizefighter deciding to quit the ring and become a Methodist minister? Preposterous, right?

Grannis kicked out at the place in space which he was pretty sure contained one of his assailants, and was rewarded with the feel of a solid hit. The other one then lost his grip enough for Grannis to get a solid head-butt in. The three of them tumbled down the stairs to the bottom, and when they got there, Grannis was on his feet and moving like a pro. A few violent, painful seconds later, his assailants decided they'd bitten off more than they could chew and ran for it.

The next day, Grannis noticed one of the local crimps was missing a few teeth. And after that day, he was left in peace to minister to his flock.

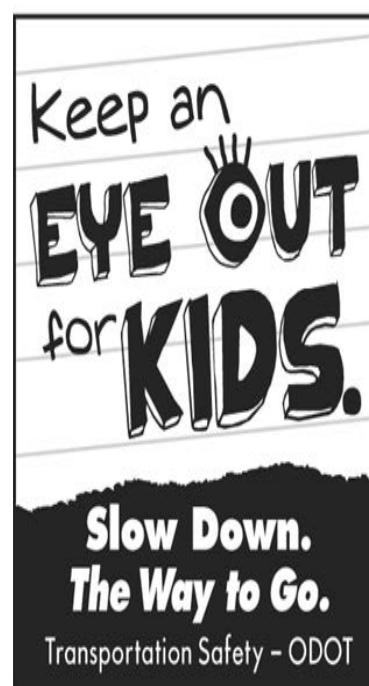
(Sources: McKeown, Martha Ferguson. *The Trail Led North: Mont Hawthorne's Story*. New York: Macmillan, 1948; Dillon, Richard. *Shanghaiing Days*. New York: Coward McCann, 1961)

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

Quote of the Week

"Ambition is a poor excuse for not having enough sense to be lazy."

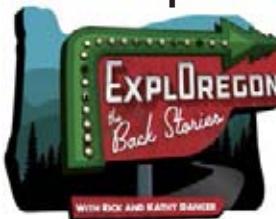
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