



JP Doodles

Are things moving faster these days?

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Seed savvy?

Let some plants go to seed and harvest them for planting next year

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Direct Answers

There was so much between us, then it was all gone.

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The River remembers



A flag-raising by Lane County Sheriff's Office and Caren Scrivner's a cappella rendition of the Star-Spangled Banner opened the McKenzie River Community Celebration on Sunday. See more on Page 2.



McKenzie River Locals Helping Locals honored the Upper McKenzie Rural Fire District for their quick action in response to the Holiday Farm Fire.



Pete Petty, right, of the Blue River Bottle Boys, gave \$1,000 checks to McKenzie Wellness, the O'Brien Memorial Library, the Upper McKenzie Community Center and the Upper McKenzie Rural Fire Protection District.



The McKenzie River Community Track served as a refuge for people who were surrounded by flames during the Holiday Farm Fire. Local artist Margaret Godfrey's interpretation of the event was put into physical form by Mike Hartley of Mercury Metal Design and Fabrication.

New water source = \$90 million

Coast Fork/Middle Fork would provide for South and West Eugene

EUGENE: Plans to move ahead on ending the metro area's reliance on the McKenzie River as their only drinking water source got a nod from EWEB commissioners last Tuesday. During their October 5th virtual meeting, board members heard an update on plans that date back for decades.

Wally McCullough, the utility's water engineering supervisor, noted that having a single source of water for a community of almost 200,000 people was an "enormous vulnerability." He went on to say that although the McKenzie River is an excellent source of water, it is also vulnerable to a number of potential threats that include harmful algal blooms, chemical spills and wildfires. "We know that Hayden Bridge (EWEB's current treatment plant) will not withstand a significant seismic event," he added.

In a memorandum, Chief Operations Officer Karen Kelley wrote that EWEB had made numerous attempts to build a second

water treatment plant over the last several decades. During those reviews, the utility looked at sites on both the McKenzie River and the Willamette River.

The earlier efforts Kelley pointed out, had a goal of creating additional capacity while later efforts focused on enhanced resiliency. Since then three different properties have been purchased for both a river intake and a water treatment plant in South Glenwood (off Franklin Boulevard and McVay Hwy.) during negotiations with the Springfield Utility Board.

The design for the new river intake and treatment plant would have a capacity of approximately 16 million gallons per day (MGD).

Testing was done at a sampling point just downstream from the Coast Fork/Middle Fork confluence, where McCullough said a lot of contaminants had been detected. Those tests found metals, pesticides, nutrients, pesticides, and herbicides at very low levels that he said were similar to

what is found in McKenzie River water. A difference, though, was the presence of more bacteria and organics as well as color, turbidity and geosmin (which can cause odors).

The new treatment plant would be designed to treat raw water to better than the regulatory requirements McCullough said, while de-livering about 5 MGD of drinking water to South and West Eugene area municipal water customers.

During an anticipated 2022 - 2024 permitting and design process EWEB staff say the project would cost about \$5.8 million. If a three-year construction plan began in 2026, annual costs would range from \$25 to \$29 million per year, bringing the total price tag

to about \$90 million.

In other business, the board took a look at a draft budget and long range financial plan outlined by fiscal services supervisor Adam Rue. He reported the largest portion of the utility's budget is keyed to the costs of purchased power.

After five years of no overall rate increases, Rue said EWEB will be asking for changes that will impact both its electrical and water customers. Details of what those increases will amount to will be reported at EWEB's November board meeting. In the draft now under review, an increase of 3.25 percent is being considered for electric rates as well as a 4 percent increase for water customers.

During discussions, it was noted the Bonneville Power Administration might also raise their rates by 5 percent if they have to decrease power output levels at the Oroville Dam to improve fish passage there.



Wally McCullough

Fatal crash on Hwy 126

LEABURG: State Police Troopers and emergency personnel responded to a report of a two-vehicle crash at approximately 8:48 p.m. on Monday, October 11th., Wreckage from the accident was blocking Highway 126E near EWEB's Leaburg powerhouse at milepost 19.

Police said the preliminary investigation revealed that a Toyota 4-Runner, operated by Nathan Lee Langan, 29, of Harrisburg, was traveling westbound and crossed into the oncoming lane striking an eastbound Ford F350 Pickup, operated by Richard Edwin Andrews, 42, of Blue River.

Langan sustained fatal injuries and was pronounced deceased. Andrews sustained minor injuries.

The highway was closed for approximately 3 hours.

Oregon State Police were assisted by the Lane County Sheriff's Office, ODOT and McKenzie Fire & Rescue.

Boosting Booster Shots

Oregon's COVID Response and Recovery Unit

By Eric Tegethoff
Oregon News Service
Oregon is following the FDA and CDC, which recommend booster shots for people 65 and older who received the Pfizer vaccine at least six months ago.

Boosters are also encouraged for younger people at risk of severe infection because of other medical conditions, and for front-line workers.

Dr. Kristen Dillon, senior advisor of the COVID Response and Recovery Unit for the State of Oregon, said the vaccines provide good protection, but decline over time and in a more pronounced way for older people.

"That's why the recommendation is so strong, particularly for those who are older, to get the booster, to just get their immunity back up again," Dillon advised. "It's pretty common with vaccinations that it

takes multiple shots for us to get to really robust ability to resist infection."

Dillon pointed out booster shots are common for other vaccines, such as tetanus and flu shots. She urged people to speak with their primary care doctor or go to getvaccinated.oregon.gov to find a vaccine site.

Boosters are not yet recommended for the Moderna or Johnson and Johnson vaccines, but that could change

in the coming weeks.

Dillon argued vaccines are the proverbial light at the end of the tunnel for the pandemic.

"For anyone who's willing to be vaccinated, who sees the value in vaccination, getting boosters just makes the protection that much better for us and helps us all get back to life the way that we really want to," Dillon said.



Along with older people, vaccine booster shots are recommended for workers such as health care and retail store workers.

Guest Opinion

McKenzie River Community Celebration

By Patence Winningham-Melcher

For those of you, that don't know me, I am Patence Winningham, a resident of McKenzie Bridge, formerly a Blue River brat from the 70's and 80's. And as of 2019, Emergency Manager for Lane County. I still can't believe I actually moved into a job that would position me to support and coordinate efforts, in my own community, OUR community's worst day.

When the "Locals helping Locals" group asked me to speak, I really had to think about what direction I wanted to take this speech. My first thought, was to write this stuff down because if I don't I will forget some stuff and my emotions would determine what I'd say.

2020 had an impact. Let's be honest, 2020 really had an impact, from the worldwide pandemic in February, to losing my mother in March, becoming an empty nester in June, to a wildfire that wiped my hometown off the planet in September, yep an impact, a really big one.

Being a McKenzie River community member, my entire life, and commuting to Eugene for most of it. I asked myself what makes a community? Well, I

thought, it's the schools, the churches, the community centers, the fire stations, the library, the post office, the stores and the local watering hole, right? Well yes, to some degree, but those are all just buildings. Buildings that can be replaced, rebuilt, but those buildings brought the real asset to the community, the people. A group of people that provide a sense of belonging being together, adding value to other people, being "connected." Now I don't mean the Blue River Bulletin Board on Facebook, I mean the relationships we have with each other, relationships we have built while, at the post office, at the store, at the library, at school, at the Fire Station.

For me, I have two communities one personal community (home), and the other is my work community, a place I spend a large amount of my time building relationships, trust, planning for, preparing for disasters, working with everyone to make a plan for a bad day. Now, to be clear, when I started in this field in 2007, we made up the scenarios like historic wildfires, large snowstorms and worldwide pandemics, and train and exercise those SCENARIOS, and the real world events were few and far between.

McKenzie Eagles Sports Report



By Cliff Richardson

McKenzie Sports Schedule This Week

The McKenzie Middle School Volleyball team hosts Siletz on Wednesday, October 13, with match time set for 4:30 pm. The Eagle's Middle School Football team follows on the same day, kicking off against Siletz at 5:00 pm.

The McKenzie Middle School teams travel to Avery Park in Corvallis on Thursday, October 14, to participate in the Northwest Middle School XC Showdown. The MS Girls 3,000 meter race starts at 3:30 pm and the MS Boys 3,000 m. event follows with a 4:00 start. A 3,000 m. MS Girls Champions (Top 10) race will start at 4:30 pm and a 3,000 m. MS Boys Champions (Top 10) race begins at 5:00 pm.

McKenzie High School will host Mapleton High School in a Homecoming Flag Football game, Friday, October 15, with kickoff slated for 7:00 pm. Eagle MS Volleyball hosts Eddyville, Monday, October 18, and first serve is scheduled for 4:00 pm.

Flag Your Calendar: Eagle Homecoming Returns

McKenzie High will host

its first Football Homecoming Celebration and Game since the 2020 Holiday Farm Fire and the Covid virus combined to throw an interception in all that's normal and good. To be honest, the McKenzie High Athletic Department, along with all in our community that is McKenzie, took a nasty hit. The iconic football stadium and concession stand on Wade Thomas Field, both built by the long departed McKenzie Booster Club in the early 70's, were destroyed by the Fire and subsequently cleaned up this past summer. The football scoreboard, also donated to McKenzie by the Booster Club, needs to be replaced. Still, standing tall and now easily visible from McKenzie Highway is the southern goal post. A hundred yards northwest, stands the yellow twin goal post (both structures were likewise built and donated by the McKenzie Booster Club and associated businesses/volunteers).

McKenzie High did not see enough athlete numbers turn out for Varsity football and volleyball practices this Fall, which forced the Eagles to cancel both Mt. West League schedules. Meantime, over on the Siuslaw River, Mapleton High School has experienced its own issues with athlete numbers. The Sailors, like the Eagles, had to cancel Varsity football. No Friday night-lights in Mapleton this Fall. But that's where this story takes a interesting and unique turn.

Together, the two Athletic Directors at McKenzie and Mapleton, Fred Heins and Carrie



We are here to recognize those First Responders that ran into the fire that night. Didn't ask questions, didn't wait, but went to do what they do Life Safety, stabilize the incident, and protect the environment/infrastructure. They worked tirelessly to evacuate as many people as they could and stop the fire from spreading. Through planning, training, and real world events, I have to come to know and appreciate our first responders on a personal and professional level. Each and every one of those that supported the evacuation response, the alert & warning notices, to search and rescue efforts brought everything they had to respond this event. Law Enforcement, Fire, Public

Dean, respectively, dusted off their pads, and devised a splendid game plan that ensures Homecoming Activities for both schools will go forward, albeit, not in the traditional sense. And that is where this story gets really cool!

McKenzie loaded up a co-ed team of students last Friday, October 8, traveled to Mapleton and engaged a Sailor co-ed team in a game of flag football. Under the lights and a Mapleton Homecoming. (Unfortunately, the game was called after 2 quarters due to a medical emergency to a fan).

This Friday, Mapleton returns the favor, travels to Finn Rock and Wade Thomas Field to play another game of Homecoming Flag Football. Complete with spectators (you all are welcome to freely attend) and a Homecoming Court and Coronation ceremony. Hats and helmets off to these two schools for getting this right, just when something right needs to happen for these schools and their communities.

Unfortunately, due to the looming virus concerns, the proposed Homecoming Dances will not happen, but the week long hoopla, games and class competitions will. And that's awesome! Memories are being made and stories will be shared years from now.

Here's a challenge McKenzie Folks. Let's fill those sidelines this

Works, Search & Rescue and Utilities, put themselves in some pretty sticky situations, but because they plan for, train for, and exercise these scenarios they were prepared to make quick decisions and act swiftly, saving many lives (those people that make this a community). We must not forget to recognize our neighbors, for many of us reached out to be sure our neighbors had heard the alerts and had a way to evacuate. Building and infrastructure can be replaced, the people cannot. I am thankful every day to see all of those familiar faces, in both of my communities.

Each and every one of us should not become complacent, we all have a responsibility to be

Friday with spectators and cheers. For both teams! When is the last time you saw a flag football game? For me, I think it was back in 1971, when my Dorm team (we were called the Nads, proudly short for, well you might guess!) finished second in the All University Flag Football Championships held on the old Parker Stadium Field at Oregon State University.

Under the Lights! The game this Friday kicks off at 7:00 pm. You might want to show up a bit early, to beat the crowd and find a great spot to set up your lawn chairs.

Eagle Middle School Cross Country

McKenzie traveled its Middle School Boys and Girls Cross Country teams to Philomath last Saturday, October 9, to participate in the Paul Marimen Invitational Cross Country Meet. The event was held at Philomath High School. Eighth grade Eagle Will

prepared to respond to an event of any kind. As we have all seen, every event starts and ends locally. All Local responders are the first in and the last to leave. The State and the Federal Government have limited resources even more so when the entire Pacific Northwest is on fire. We can and must plan to care for ourselves, first your family, our community (your neighbors, your co-workers).

Patence Winningham-Melcher, manager of Lane County's Office of Emergency Management, was the keynote speaker at the day long community event at the McKenzie Community Track & Field.

Meister finished 63rd and sixth grade teammate Avry Thoms crossed the finish line in 146th place in their 3,000 meter race. A total of 165 runners competed in the Boys race.

Eighth grade Eagle Myra Dion was the top Eagle girl finisher, 64th, in the Girls 3,000 meter race. Her sixth grade teammates, Claire Weiss, 101st, Zyla Drake, 118th, and Lillia Meister, 138th places, followed her. A total of 171 girls competed in the event. This Thursday the Eagle contingent travel to sunny Corvallis, to participate in the NW Middle School XC Showdown, held at Avery Park. The races will feature 42 Schools and Club teams from around the region, including Central Linn, Harrisburg, Lowell, Mohawk, Triangle Lake and McKenzie representing the Emerald Youth League.

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Friday 10/15		Saturday 10/16		Sunday 10/17	
McKenzie Valley Partly Cloudy 10% chance precip High: 66 Low: 43	Santiam Pass Partly Cloudy 10% chance precip High: 54 Low: 32	McKenzie Valley Partly Cloudy 20% chance precip High: 68 Low: 46	Santiam Pass Partly Cloudy 10% chance precip High: 58 Low: 35	McKenzie Valley Partly Cloudy 40% chance precip High: 58 Low: 41	Santiam Pass Showers 40% chance precip High: 46 Low: 28

WEATHER REPORT

READINGS TAKEN AT THE US ARMY CORPS COUGAR DAM					READINGS TAKEN AT EWEB LEABURG POWERHOUSE				
Date	High	Low	Rain	Releases	Date	High	Low	Rain	Riverflow
10/5	64	46	0.18	670 cfs	10/5	67	47	0	2,100 cfs
10/6	58	42	0.02	690 cfs	10/6	61	45	0.36	2,140 cfs
10/7	62	35	0	680 cfs	10/7	62	36	0	2,060 cfs
10/8	60	45	0	690 cfs	10/8	58	36	0	2,060 cfs
10/9	63	35	0	690 cfs	10/9	62	32	0	2,050 cfs
10/10	56	42	0.33	680 cfs	10/10	59	43	0.35	2,080 cfs
10/11	50	38	0.05	680 cfs	10/11	58	43	0.18	2,120 cfs

Astoria rich in legends of hidden treasure

By Finn J.D. John

The city and environs of Astoria strike most visitors as the kind of place where pirate loot might be stashed away.

Certainly it seems to have struck Steven Spielberg that way, back in the early 1980s, when the legendary pirate-treasure film *The Goonies* was being shot.

But the town may actually have come by this impression honestly. There are still a few stories about hidden treasure in and around Astoria -- not counting the silver-screen "Goon Docks" story of "One-Eyed Willy."

And who knows? One or two of them may actually be true.

The Coxcomb Hill Cache

THIS STORY IS actually not a pirate-loot story. But it's not much less compelling for all that, and it's arguably more likely true than false -- although the chances that the treasure is still around and discoverable are vanishingly remote.

The story has its start in a rude cabin, now long gone, that lay near the base of Coxcomb Hill.

Coxcomb Hill today is arguably the most prominent feature of Astoria. Perched on its top is the Astoria Column, patterned after the Trajan Column in Rome, jutting 125 feet into the sky from atop the summit, painted in a spiral pattern with a sort of pictorial history of the city and the state.

Inside the column is a spiral staircase that you can climb, so that you can look out over the entire area from its top. The view is spectacular.

The column was built in 1926, financed by the Great Northern Railway and the heirs of John Jacob Astor.

The story of the Coxcomb Hill Cache takes place a few years before construction got started, though, in the early 1920s. At the time, the hill was thickly wooded and outside the pale of development.

An old man had lived a quiet, frugal life in this little shack for many years. But by the early 1920s he had gotten frail enough that he couldn't really continue. Finally he fell ill and was taken to the hospital in terminal decline.



Matt Howry

The Flavel House Museum in Astoria on a sunny day.

The county assumed, based on the man's lifestyle, that he had no money to cover his hospitalization and anticipated burial expenses. The old man knew this, and it bothered him. So he pulled one of the nurses aside and assured her that he had plenty of money to cover his bill with. And, as it became increasingly clear to him that he was dying, he added some details: He had \$10,000 stashed in a coffee can, hidden in a hollow stump 50 feet from his cabin. He'd hidden it away, because he did not trust banks.

(This was actually common in the 1920s. Many people had been ruined in the depression of 1893 by losing their deposits when banks collapsed, and never trusted a bank again. The old man would have been about the right age for this to have happened to him. Readers who remember "The Tower Treasure," the first Hardy Boys novel (1927), may remember distrust of banks as being one of the details used to show the old, miserly, and curmudgeonly nature of character Hurd Applegate.)

The nurse passed the word along to the hospital administrators, who promptly sent a group out to find the hollow stump and retrieve the cash.

They found nothing.

A more thorough search by a group led by the county sheriff followed, and again, drew a blank.

Over the years since, the story

of the Coxcomb Hill Cache has gotten plenty of play in Astoria; and, the area being open to the public, thousands of locals have roamed the slope over the years in quest of the treasure.

Is it still there? Maybe.

It's much more likely, though, as Ruby El Hult points out in her book, that one of the hospital staff members raced out to the scene ahead of the larger search party and snagged the can before they got there. Ten thousand dollars was, of course, a lot of money in 1923 or so -- just over \$150,000 in modern coin -- but it's not a large enough sum for its source to have been hard to conceal or explain, if someone did find it.

Most likely, we'll never know.

The Flavel House Cache

The second hidden-treasure story is much less likely to have any truth to it; but it's a far more romantic yarn, involving a haunted house, a chest full of gold, and a character who had probably been called a pirate more than once by his business rivals.

This "pirate" was Capt. George Flavel, one of the most important mariners in Astoria's history.

Flavel first came to Astoria in 1849 as skipper of a sailing brig. He must have liked the opportunity he saw, because he was back the next year, serving as pilot and first mate on a steamer, and promptly applied for and received the Columbia River's first-ever bar-pilot license.

Moving quickly, Flavel amassed a small fleet -- tugboats and a pilot schooner -- and ruthlessly fended off attempts by other local swells to horn in on the bar-pilotage game. Left with an effective monopoly, he jacked up his rates as high as he could and started

piling up profits.

(Interestingly, he was able to maintain this monopoly for at least 10 years. According to his widow, he did so by being so fearless and so competent that shippers considered him worth the premium.)

By 1858 he had made so much money from bar pilotage that he found his time was better used managing his many onshore investments; so he hired a pilot to run his bar-pilotage service and set about turning the money he had amassed into even more money.

By the early 1880s Flavel was extraordinarily rich, but getting well on in his years. And that is when he built the colossal Queen Anne-style mansion that bears his name.

The 11,600-square-foot mansion would be Flavel's home from its completion in 1885 through his death in 1893, at the age of 69. His family continued living in the place for 40 more years, finally turning the property over to the county in 1933 as a museum, which is now run by the city of Astoria.

(By the way, Astoria has another Flavel House -- built in 1901 by Capt. George Flavel's son, Capt. George Flavel Jr. (yes, he actually followed in his father's footsteps and became a sea-captain too). This newer Flavel House, from outward appearance, looks like a much more likely place to find ghostly hauntings and hidden treasure; and there is quite a story connected with it. But it's rather a long story, so we shall have to save that one for another time.)

According to the legend, during the last eight years of his life while living in his mansion, Capt. Flavel hid away a large stash of money somewhere in the old house. And after his death, supposedly the old captain's ghost wanders around the upper floors of the house during stormy nights, watching over his stash of sovereigns.

To be blunt, the chances there's any truth to this story at all are vanishingly slim. Flavel was a millionaire with a huge portfolio of investments; why would he hide gold in the woodwork around his house? Granted, he might have gone a little loopy in his old age, but he was only in his late 60s when he died, and I haven't come across anything to suggest he had lost his marbles in the runup.

Family members and friends

Hidden treasure- Page 8



By Slim Randles

Dud was especially quiet this morning, sitting in his usual seat at the philosophy counter of the Mule Barn truck stop. He was doodling with his napkin and a feed store ball-point pen.

Doc looked over to see if he could make it out. He couldn't. Bert adjusted his glasses and looked over.

"Murder?" said Bert.

"What?"

"You wrote murder on the napkin," Bert said. "Did I say something wrong?"

"Naw," Dud said, blushing a bit. "It's my book, that's all."

"Still having trouble trying to figure it out?" Doc said, kindly.

"The publishing company suggests I outline it first to kinda get to know where everything goes before rewriting it this time. And you know what they said about the murders..."

"Eight are too many ..." said Doc.

"... in the first chapter," said Doc and Bert simultaneously.

"That's right," said Dud. "My problem is, I can't figure out who to kill first, the duchess or the truck driver."

Bert looked at Doc. "You have a duchess and a truck driver?"

"They met at the opera, or maybe the truck stop. I'm not sure yet," Dud said. "Now I need to kill both of them to make this work, you see, but then there are my other victims, and some of them really need killing pretty bad, but I'm going to have to slip those murders in a little bit at a time."

"A duchess and a truck driver?"

"Well, yeah," Dud said, "but no one is supposed to know about the affair they had back when they were both in college, see? And then when their daughter shows up..."

"The duchess and the truck driver have a daughter?"

"Sure. But she doesn't know her dad's a truck driver until after he's dead, and by then, see, she's on a killing spree... and her half brother, the dukelet, he tries to get her to join Adult Children of Murdered Parents..."

"Hold it right there!" said Doc. "I'll wait for the book. I don't want you to spoil it for me."

Brought to you by The Fly Fisherman's Bucket List by Slim Randles, from Rio Grande Books, and now available at Amazon.com.

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Country Kitchen

By Mary Emma Allen



Seize some seeds from the garden for planting next year

As the gardening season winds down and you pick the season's last vegetables let some plants go to seed and harvest them for planting next year.

"Saving seed can be really fun and is a great way to learn about plants," said Weston Miller, a horticulturist with Oregon State University Extension Service. "If you choose the right types of vegetables, you can keep them going year after year without buying them again."

The key to saving seed is selecting open-pollinated or heirloom plants, which produce offspring with the same traits. Hybrids are bred from two different varieties for characteristics like disease resistance or higher yield and won't come "true to type" in the next generation. Check seed packets or catalog information

so that you know which you are buying.

The easiest crops for saving seed are annual plants that self-pollinate like lettuce, beans, peas, peppers, eggplants and tomatoes.

Collect seed from the healthiest plants and allow them to dry. Harvest lettuce seed when the seed coat turns hard and dark in color. Peas and beans are ready for harvest when the pod dries on the plant. Pepper seeds are ready when the fruit is fully mature and starts to wrinkle.

Seeds from annual herbs like cilantro (coriander), arugula, and calendula are also easy to save. In fact, these annual plants will often self-seed, so if you let the seeds mature on the plants and fall to the ground new plants will start next year.

Tomatoes are a smidgen more complicated. Allow the fruit to fully ripen and scoop the seeds along with the gel that surrounds them and place in a jar of water.

Allow this mixture to ferment for up to five days until the seeds sink to the bottom. Then dry seeds on a paper towel.

Many broccoli family crops (broccoli, Brussels sprouts, cauliflower, cabbage, collards, kale, mustard greens) are all part of the same species and are pollinated by insects. Though it is relatively easy to save seeds from these biennial crops, they tend to cross pollinate easily and you might end up with new (and sometimes tasty) traits.

It is more difficult to save seed from other crops, particularly in a garden setting. For example, beets and Swiss chard are wind pollinated and cross with each other. These plants require at least 3,200 feet of isolation to prevent cross pollination. Similarly, corn is pollinated by wind, making it difficult to isolate without special screening.

Carrots are insect pollinated and cross with Queen Anne's lace, a common weed. Summer and winter squash flowers are also insect pollinated and require isolation to maintain true varieties. The fruit grown from cross-pollinated squash seeds are often bitter tasting, according to Miller.

Store seeds in tightly-sealed glass containers in a cool and dark location. Make sure that you label seeds with the type of seed and the date. A small packet of silica desiccant or powdered milk in the jar can help to remove moisture and keep the seeds dry. The refrigerator or freezer is also a good place for storing seeds that you collect and also seeds that you buy. Put small seeds in envelopes and label them. Place the envelopes in sealable freezer bags.

For information about starting seeds, refer to the Extension publication Propagating Plants from Seed.



Country Kitchen

By Mary Emma Allen



FOODS AROUND THE COUNTRY

During a recent visit to Ohio for our granddaughter's wedding, friends toured us around Amish Country, stopping at places of interest and informing us about local foods and homegrown fruit and vegetables. The homes and businesses were decorated with displays of fall colored items... pumpkins, squash, scarecrows, corn stalks, etc. The farmlands and buildings reminded me of growing up on a farm in New York State.

As Jim and I have traveled around the country over the years, I've found it fascinating to discover places with names of foods. Sometimes the town, county, or geographical landmark will have a connection with the particular food. In other instances, it will simply have been the whim of someone and the name caught on.

Salmon, ID does seem rather logical when you consider the fishing done in that spectacular mountainous area. We've visited friends there and explored this land where Lewis and Clark trekked. In fact, we crossed their trail in places and I've written travel articles about it.

Hot Coffee, MS seemed a very unusual name. We haven't visited that town but met someone who grew up there and eventually returned. Later we found it written up in National Geographic magazine.

Strawberry Area of Utah makes me think of this berry. It's a rather desolate, but interesting part of the state, as one crosses from the Salt Lake Valley to Vernal, near Dinosaur National Monument on the Colorado border. You pass the

Strawberry Reservoir, where Jim and I have pulled off and enjoyed picnic lunches.

Hershey, PA, of course, is named for the company that manufactures chocolate. Years ago, when Beth was about 12 years old, we toured the factory and saw where the various candies were made.

Orchard City, Orchard Mesa, Fruitvale and Fruita, CO exist in fruit raising country. We traveled through there in September just as many of the trees were laden with ripening fruit. Even the air had the delicious aroma.

Rice Lake, WI puts me in mind of the wild rice found in adjacent Minnesota. When we visited friends in that state, Angie prepared a delicious wild rice casserole.

Sturgeon Bay, WI and Troutdale, OR must be connected with those types of fish. Did fishermen settle here?

SOUR CREAM POTATOES is a recipe from Utah. Cook 6 medium-large potatoes and dice into cubes. Combine the following and make a sauce: 1 pint sour cream, 1/3 cup minced onion, 2 cans undiluted cream of chicken soup, 1 1/2 cups grated sharp cheese. Heat the sauce until cheese melts; stir in the potatoes. Place in a casserole dish. (If you think the sauce and resulting casserole is too thick, add some milk or water, until of desired consistency.)

Mix together 1 cup crushed corn flakes and 2 tablespoons butter or margarine and put on top of the potato mixture. Bake approximately 1 hour at 325 degrees F.

(c) Mary Emma Allen

(Mary Emma Allen lives in New Hampshire but loves to travel.)



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Fall Planting



Fall is for planting! As cooler temperatures and fall rain arrives, now is the perfect time to consider planting native trees and shrubs on your property.

Planting in the fall provides many benefits. The cooler air temperatures reduce plant stress and the warm soil temperatures are ideal for root growth. By planting in the fall, root systems are able to become well-established during the winter and spring, giving them a head start on new growth for the following spring and summer. With that additional root and plant growth, plants are also better able to handle drought stress and insects.

Container stock, or plants grown in pots, are readily available at local nurseries. Locally available native trees, shrubs and ground cover come in a wide range of sizes, shapes, and colors that will suit your landscape needs. It is

best to put the right plant in the right place by choosing what to plant based on the characteristics of your planting location, such as whether the soils are wet or dry, the amount of sun/shade and wind exposure, desired views, etc.

In addition to nurseries, local groups such as the Friends of Buford Park Native Plant Nursery and gardening groups are currently having fall sales.

Landowners who sign an agreement with the Pure Water Partners Program are eligible for wholesale prices at select native plant nurseries. For more information, and to sign up for the program and receive a free assessment, visit: <http://www.purewaterpartners.org>.

The Pure Water Partners website also has a list of naturescaping resources that can help you choose native plants for your site conditions.

Community Notes

October 14

Vida McK Com Center

4:30 p.m. Call for current location: 541-521-5900.

Oct. 16

Community Art

A family-friendly, free session of art-making sponsored by artist Benda Cline and the Creative Connections Program will be held on from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. on Saturday, October 9th and 16th at the Living Waters Family Fellowship, 52353 McK. Hwy. in Blue River. Participants can make stained glass mosaics and there will be kid-friendly art activities as well a free lunch.

October 16 - Leaburg Food Pantry

11am - 5pm. McKenzie Bible Fellowship, 45061 McKenzie Hwy. The Food Pantry is now on Saturdays. All are welcome! Please send folks!

October 16

A Dime At A Time

10 a.m. - 12 p.m. Leaburg Store, 42840 McKenzie Hwy. Blue River Bottle Boys Collection/Sorting - Saturday morning sorting sessions every Saturday. Donations can be dropped off at the Leaburg Store and maybe help us bag up the containers! Funds from plastic, glass, and aluminum containers go toward the rebuilding of the O'Brien Memorial Library in Blue River, McKenzie River Clinic, and the Vida McKenzie Community Center - all destroyed in the Holiday Farm fire.

October 18

McKenzie Fire District Board

12:00pm - 1:00pm. at Leaburg Training Center, 42870 McKenzie Hwy, in Leaburg. 541-896-3311.

Oct. 18 - Springfield School Board Meeting

7:00pm - 8:30pm. The Board of Directors meet on the 2nd and 4th Mondays of each month (except July). Regular business meetings begin at 7 pm on the 2nd Monday and work sessions are generally held at 4 pm on the 4th Monday

October 20

Upper McK Fire Board

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

October 30 - Leaburg Food Pantry

11am - 5pm. McKenzie Bible Fellowship, 45061 McKenzie Hwy. The Food Pantry is now on Saturdays. All are welcome! Please send folks!

McKenzie Fire & Rescue

Continued From Page 3

Assessed, 1 Transported.
15:52: 89000 blk, Greenwood Dr. Medical Alarm. Patient Assessed, 1 Transported.
Oct. 9: 2:54: 42000 blk, McK. Hwy. Medical, General. Patient Assessed, 1 Transported.
Oct. 10: 23:06: 90000 blk, Greenwood Dr Medical, General. Patient Assessed, 1 Transported.

Lane Council of Governments (LCOG), located in Eugene, Oregon, is hiring:

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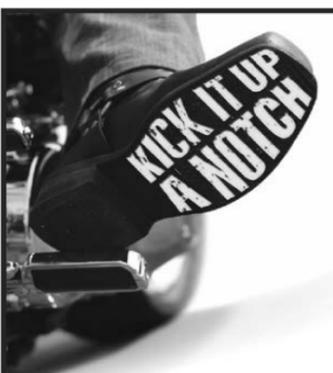
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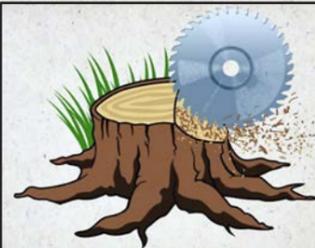
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Catholic Church
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 Sat. Eve. 5:00pm
 Sun. Morn. 9:30am;
 web page: sblodge.opwest.org

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

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Direct Answers

By Wayne & Tamara Mirchell

One Way Streets

I am 35 and the father of two children who live with me.

Shortly after I divorced, I became involved with a woman I had known for a long time. Erin is the mother of one of my daughter's friends. Two years ago she told me she was leaving her husband. I was surprised and happy. There was a mutual attraction between us.

This is where the roller coaster ride began. She left her husband, and I asked her out. She said because she didn't have a separation agreement we could go out with the kids. For basically a year, that is how we did it.

I fell very deeply in love with her. I have never felt so connected to another person in my life. She was guarded in her feelings, but I always felt she loved me, too. I wrote her love letters and bought her presents. Her friends were happy I was in her life after a bad ten year marriage to an alcoholic.

For six months her husband didn't care. Then he begged, pleaded, and threatened to get her back. I knew she didn't love him, but the children were the center of her life. This was the card he played. One week before the divorce, she moved back with her husband. The fear of having her children half time was more than

she could bear.

There was so much between us, then it was all gone. I came to accept that I had lost her and life would go on, but I really had no interest in other women.

Erin and I talked from time to time, mostly about kid stuff. I knew the leopard wouldn't change his spots. Not surprisingly, now she's filing for divorce again.

Once again I am losing sleep at night. Sometimes she acts like she wants to be around me, other times she doesn't. There is a lot going on in her life right now. I know she feels overwhelmed, and another man is not what she needs.

I love this woman with all my heart, but mostly it has brought me heartache. I know she has feelings for me, and she likes the fact I am so attracted to her.

I want her more than anything. Your advice would mean a lot to me.

Ned

Ned, a relationship is the interplay back and forth between two people. The level and quality of their exchange determines whether they are acquaintance, friend, best friend, lover, or mate.

You say your connection to Erin is stronger than what you have experienced before. This says more about you than about her.

You intensely want a relationship. Yet in your own words, you tell us Erin is guarded in her feelings and sometimes doesn't want you around. You don't say that she loves you, but that she loves that you love her.

The connection is incomplete. The driving force behind your desire for her is the desire to have someone to share your life with. For this unique relationship, it must be like no other—better, stronger, deeper, higher. Most importantly, it must flow in both directions.

You have made your feelings known, and after all this time, you are still guessing what her feelings are. Her actions don't confirm your guesses. If you seek to elicit a proclamation of love from her, you will force her into a decision, but a decision is not the same as a connection. Whatever decision she makes will be based on her circumstances, not on her true feelings for you.

You may wait her out and get the decision you want, based on the difficulty of her situation or on your tenacity, but that won't mean you have the kind of connection that can last a lifetime.

You yearn for someone who has the same intensity of emotion for you that you have for them. Don't accept anything less.

Wayne & Tamara

write: Directanswers@Wayne-And-Tamara.com

American Life in Poetry

By Kwame Dawes

Bruce Willard's poem, "Song Sparrow", captures with such intimacy, the interruption of the comforting rituals of time: seasons changing, children growing older, water under the bridge, the world continuing its march. Here, in the midst of this, our long and tumultuous pandemic "season", I am struck by how familiar the breathlessness that Willard describes feels. As with the best poems, the familiarity is formed through empathy—something that poetry teaches us, again and again.

Song Sparrow

By Bruce Willard

That summer we opened the lake cottage, prehistoric sound of loons before us, decades of children at our back, familiar sound of water under the porch eaves.

A song sparrow hit the window just as summer began.

You held it in your hand bent over, unable to breathe another year, working your fingers under its feathers and bone.

We do not accept unsolicited

submissions. *American Life in Poetry* is made possible by The Poetry Foundation (www.poetryfoundation.org), publisher of *Poetry* magazine. It is also supported by the Department of English at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. Poem copyright ©2021 by Bruce Willard, "Song Sparrow" from *In Light of Stars* (Four Way Books, 2021.) Poem reprinted by permission of the author and the publisher. Introduction copyright ©2021 by The Poetry Foundation. The introduction's author, Kwame Dawes, is George W. Holmes Professor of English and Glenna Luschei Editor of *Prairie Schooner* at the University of Nebraska.



A Moment in Oregon History

By Rick Steber
www.ricksteber.com

October 14 - Elijah Davidson and his faithful dog Bruno were on a hunting expedition in the Siskiyou Mountains. Elijah killed a deer but Bruno kept hunting and was soon barking scent. From his excited tone, Elijah figured Bruno had jumped a bear. He went in search and found that Bruno had gone inside a cave. Elijah investigated the underground cavern and was amazed at what he found. For a time he called this place Elijah Caves, later it was referred to as Marble Halls and then Josephine Caves. In 1909 President Taft signed legislation creating a national monument and giving it the official name of the Oregon Caves.

Quote of the Week

"Behold the turtle. He makes progress only when he sticks his neck out."

James Bryant Conant

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Personal

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

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

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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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Hidden treasure

Continued From Page 4



Jennifer Deal

The Astoria Column from the west side of the top of Coxcomb Hill.

and business associates of the old skipper have also, over the years, laughed the legend to scorn. They say it would have been very out of character for Flavel to have done anything of the kind, and that none of them had or have ever heard even a whisper of a hidden cache of loot.

Although, of course, if there were anything to the story, they would be foolish to admit to it, wouldn't they?

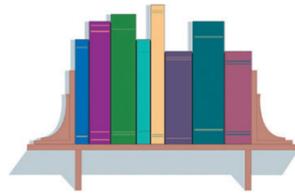
In any case, the curators of the Flavel House are not about to let a bunch of rampaging treasure-hunters into the place to scratch at the woodwork and thump on walls in quest of secret passages. So slim as are the chances of this one being true, even if it were real no

one would be able to do anything about it.

Still, it's a fun thing to think about while exploring the museum ... especially if you're lucky enough to be there on a blustery, stormy day.

(Sources: *Treasure Hunting Northwest*, a book by Ruby El Hult published in 1971 by Binford & Mort; "George Flavel (1823?-1893)," an article by William Stack published in the *Oregon Historical Society's Oregon Encyclopedia* in August 2020)

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



SHELFNOTES FROM LEABURG LIBRARY

OCTOBER 2021

"Something there is that doesn't love a wall." So begins one of Robert Frost's beloved and often quoted poems, "Mending Wall." It's about neighbors and shared boundaries, and the contradiction of the wall itself, i.e., "Good fences make good neighbors."

Do we build walls to keep things in or to keep things out? Sometimes walls are very definitely unfriendly.

Not so with arches, however. Who doesn't love an arch? Arches stand like giant open doors that invite you to come discover what lies beyond. We put arches (arbors) in our gardens in strategic places to entice the visitor to follow the path just to see where it leads. Some cities have huge gateway arches at their entry points to welcome both the traveler and the resident, and to serve as distinguishing symbols.

Springfield used to have an arch. It was built in 1920 with funds raised by a women's club known as the Springfield Ladies Civic Club. No one is quite sure how they raised enough money to build such a thing, but hey, if you want something done and done right, get a group of women together. The result of their considerable effort was an impressive arch that spanned the highway in what was then West Springfield, now Glenwood. It had to have been made of concrete, and its message said "SPRINGFIELD, MCKENZIE RIVER HIGHWAY". I would love to have seen that.

Unfortunately, in 1927 it was completely destroyed by a flooding Willamette River, and was never rebuilt.

The arch was not forgotten, however. In 2010, Tom Lincoln was asked to design a new arch that would pay homage not only to the city of Springfield, but also to the McKenzie River - and design he did. Tom's arch follows the

basic structural lines of the original arch, but it is two-sided, and boasts vivid colors and all kinds of distinctive images and information relevant to the two regions. One side says "Springfield, Gateway To The West", and the other says "McKenzie River Highway, Gateway To The Cascades." On the top is a water feature upon which sits a double-ender McKenzie River drift boat carrying a guide rowing and a woman fishing. A Great Blue Heron, a leaping salmon, and a mother duck and her babies put the perfect finishing touches on this wonderful creation.

Tom and his buddy, Ken Engelman, members of an organization called Friends Of The Springfield Arch, have been vigorously promoting the idea of building this landmark Arch which would define the city of Springfield as a destination as well as the McKenzie River recreation corridor with all of its uniqueness and beauty. (Yes, I said 'beauty'!) You may have seen the two of them (Tom and Ken) at the Gateway Mall or elsewhere, sitting behind a gorgeous mock-up of the Arch, brochures in hand, big smiles on their faces. The replica even has two real live toy cars under the arch - a 57 Chevy and a marvelous 'Tin Lizzy'. I have a sneaking suspicion that they may have conducted a race or two with those cars down the Mall corridor after the place had closed!

Despite all the work and dedication put forth by the members of the Friends Of The Springfield Arch, they are no closer to realizing their dream. ODOT has kind of put the kibosh on the proposed location, at least for the time being.

And the beautiful replica? Ah, there's a story in itself. There are several individual components involved, and no one had enough room to store the whole thing. The

base was in one place, the Arch and the water feature part were stored in the barn at the McKenzie River Discovery Center. My husband Steve and I found these when we brought up an old drift boat to store temporarily. They were in an astonishing state of disrepair, with corners broken off and parts missing. I phoned Ken Engelman who phoned Tom Lincoln who then lovingly gathered all the components and took them to his house. I thought : he's never going to be able to fix that. And it was sad, because the thing was marvelous.

A few weeks later, I got an email from Ken wondering if the library had room to display the Arch. I was gobsmacked! Could not believe that Tom had done what seemed an impossibility, and brought the thing back to life. It took me exactly three seconds to answer Ken - Yes, we will make room!

Tom brought the Arch to the library and it sits proudly on the top of one of the bookcases in our Annex, and it is fabulous. You have to see this to believe that someone not only made it, but repaired it so perfectly. There are brochures that explain the journey that this Arch has been on, and a lovely poster depicting other beautiful arches located all over the world.

One last item of note: We found the trashed Arch in the Discovery Center barn in January or February of 2020. Tom rescued it shortly thereafter. The Holiday Farm Fire burned the barn down in September.

Who doesn't love an arch? Unlike walls, arches are very friendly indeed, and this one is particularly charismatic. You will want to spend some time looking at the details, reading the information, and marveling at the preciseness of this piece of art. You may even be inspired to lend your support for the construction of a real Arch. Wouldn't that be something?

I'll see you at the library.

Marty Mealey, Director
(Hours : Mon - Thurs. 1:30-4pm ; Sat. 10am-1pm.)

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