



JP Doodles

In these trying times, another task to finish

PAGE 2



On the Moon

A tiny chunk of Oregon lies on its surface

PAGE 4



Into dahlias?

She lost her home and all 1,200 of her dahlias in the Labor Day wildfires

PAGE 5

Canal slows down for fish passage

Less lower river water diverted

WALTERVILLE: The Eugene Water & Electric Board started diverting less water into the Walterville Power Canal last Thursday afternoon. The change was aimed at increasing McKenzie River flows in the bypassed reach of the river to improve fish migration and water quality.

Under the utility's federal operating license, the Walterville hydroelectric project is allowed to divert up to 2,577 cubic feet per second (cfs) into the canal during normal operations. The license requires EWEB to maintain minimum instream flows of 1,000 cfs in the bypassed reach of the McKenzie at all times.

However, in 2018 EWEB made an operational decision to voluntarily adjust the flow going into the Walterville Canal during low flow years in order to maintain 10% more flow in the river than the canal from June through October. Officials say maintaining more flow in the river than in the canal improves fish migration and enhances water quality and recreational use during the summer months.

With the unseasonably warm and dry conditions this spring, and with adult salmon already present in the McKenzie River, the utility made the decision to keep more

Canal slowdown - Page 2

\$102.5 million lawsuit filed targeting utilities

Lane Electric and EWEB blamed for failure to turn off power

Last Friday, May 14th, lawyers representing 70 property owners filed a lawsuit against the Lane Electric Cooperative and Eugene Water & Electric Board seeking damages from the 2020 Holiday Farm Fire. On Labor Day, the wildfire destroyed approximately 430 homes, killed one resident and burned 173,393 acres.

In their 55-page complaint, the Salem Fire Lawyers group asks for \$102,544,945 in restitution based on individual property losses ranging from \$250,000 to \$2.5 million, as well as twice the costs of reforestation, replacement and other restoration efforts.

The Lane County Circuit Court filing alleges the utilities failed to de-energize their circuits on the day of the fire, despite Red Flag Warnings and forecasts for dangerous fire weather, including high winds and single digit relative humidity.

Details of the suit include



Steve Severin

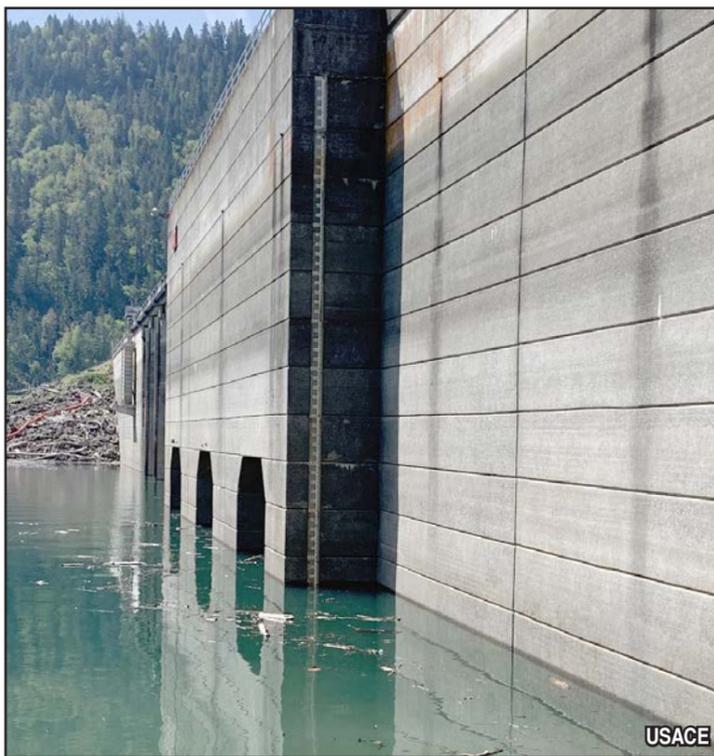
Over 400 homes were destroyed in the Holiday Farm Fire.

charges of negligence by EWEB and the Coop, "When each knew or should have known hazardous conditions existed in and around their power distribution systems

and within the Holiday Farm Fire area that caused the area to be highly susceptible to the start and spread of wildfires."

\$103 million lawsuit - Page 2

Northwest water woes continue for 2021



USACE

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers dams are likely to be at lower levels this summer.

Monthly estimates of available water supply in the Columbia River basin are continuing to drop after a month of record low rainfall in April.

Eugene, Portland and Lewiston, ID, all recorded their driest April on record, according to National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. And, in some basin areas, May is also on track for near-record low precipitation.

Meanwhile, remaining snowpack across the region is a mixed

bag, with much of the region under drought conditions, yet with some northern Cascade snowpacks over 100 percent of normal this time of year.

As warm, dry weather continues, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Portland District is reporting a worsening water year as it strives to refill 13 Willamette Valley reservoirs for the upcoming recreation season.

The Willamette Valley Proj-
Water woes - Page 2

Address signs available

Fire district offering new property markers

MCKENZIE BRIDGE: People have probably noticed the large, green reflective address signs on many properties along the McKenzie Highway. While they are very helpful for visitors unfamiliar with the area, they're even more important for emergency responders to arrive on site quickly.

The Upper McKenzie Rural Fire District Public Education Division is now creating new signs for people who don't have one or had one destroyed in the Holiday Farm Fire. Residents of the rural fire protection district are encouraging the use of the reflective signs when placed as visibly as possible at the entry to properties.

The cost is \$20 per sign. People have an option to order a post on to mount a sign or they can use an existing post.

The signs are double-sided, making them visible to traffic going both directions. Fire officials note that having one of the signs will make it easier and faster for fire department personnel to locate properties when responding to a fire or medical emergency.

For more information, contact the Upper McKenzie Rural Fire Department, 56578 McKenzie Hwy, McKenzie Bridge, Oregon 97413-9617 (503) 822-3479 or online at: shorturl.at/ryJMS.



UMRFPD

Upper McKenzie Fire District patrons can help speed emergency response times by installing highly visible sign, officials say.

Letters to the Editor

Butter Braids delivery delayed

Vida McKenzie Community Center wants to thank everyone who ordered their Butter Braid pastries during the April fundraiser. Because of your generosity, we raised almost \$1500 to help with the rebuilding of the Center.

Originally the product was to be delivered on 5/17/21 but we have been advised the new delivery date will be 5/26/21. Everyone who participated in this event will receive a telephone call to arrange for hand-delivering these wonderful pastries to you at a time that fits your schedule.

Sorry you missed out on this opportunity? Vida McKenzie Community Center will be repeating this fundraiser in October! Also, mark your calendar for July 10th and participate in the Bingo Run. In August, VMCC will be having a "Fire" Sale (pun intended.) In December, of course, there will be our Christmas Bazaar. Check our website (www.vidacommunity-center.com) for more details.

Thanks for helping make the rebuilding of VMCC a reality.

Gerry Aster
Vida

Support SB 762

Oregon's 2020 wildfire season was the most devastating of a decade's worth of extreme fires. More than 1.2 million acres burned. Over 5,000 homes and businesses were destroyed. At least 9 people lost their lives, and thousands lost their homes. Approximately 40,000 people were evacuated, and a half million more were in evacuation warning areas.

Preliminary estimates put the total cost of the 2020 wildfires at \$1.15 billion in damage, response costs, and debris removal. But that does not begin to address the human cost of families and communities dispersed and homes, businesses, and savings lost.

In 2021 we are already seeing early wildfires and evacuations.

Oregon needs comprehensive policy changes and investments now to prepare for and live more resiliently with wildfire. Oregon's land use program provides critical tools — that no other program does — to help meet this challenge. Please tell your legislators to support SB 762. This bill passed one committee on a bipartisan vote, but to get it to the finish line, we need your voice.

SB 762 provides the land use and related tools to protect people, property, natural resources, the land on which we grow food and fiber, and critical infrastructure. These include:

A comprehensive statewide map of wildfire risk, locations of critical services and infrastructure, the Wildland Urban Interface, and other important data layers.

Direction to the Department of Land Conservation & Development to assess updates needed to the statewide land use planning program and local plans and codes to incorporate the wildfire risk map.

Strategically focusing resources to restore Oregon's varied ecosystems, create defensible space to protect people and property, and develop a workforce to prepare Oregon for climate change-induced increases in wildfires.

Strategies to detect, communicate about, and mitigate the environmental and public health impacts of smoke from wildland fires, and the implementation of a clean air shelter grant program.

Oregon needs the comprehensive approach of SB 762 now to prepare and invest in our people, communities, farms, forest, and natural resources for a resilient future — starting with the 2021 fire season.

Mary Kyle McCurdy
Deputy Director
1000 Friends of Oregon
Portland

LAST MINUTE RETURNS — DOUBLY TAXING...



\$103 million lawsuit

Continued From Page 1

Parts of the negligence claims involve, "The absence of wildfires in the area during the preceding decades contributing to an abnormally high fuel load consisting of dry trees, underbrush, grass, and other highly flammable organic matter."

The lawyers also cite, "Phone calls and reports hours before the fires began informing Defendants of high wind, falling trees, sparking power lines, and/or other dangerous conditions at or near their power distribution systems."

Energized conductors coming into contact with tree branches, are blamed for igniting the fire between mileposts 47 and 43.5 of the McKenzie Highway.

"The Holiday Farm Fire devastated our clients' homes, timber, and businesses. It was a life-altering event for our clients", said Rick Klingbeil, a Portland attorney with Salem Fire Lawyers.

"Lane Electric is fully committed to understanding the cause of the fire, which is currently under investigation," Debi Wilson, General Manager of Lane Electric, said in response to the suit. "We are cooperating with federal and state authorities and are unaware that any of our assets contributed to the cause of the fire at this time. A thorough investigation will take time and patience."

Utility spokesman Joe Harwood noted that, "EWEB's deepest sympathies go out to all the residents of the McKenzie River Valley. We take wildfire prevention seriously and our systems are designed to ensure the safety of our community."

Harwood went on to note that, "In early September 2020, EWEB took strong and proactive measures in preparation for a potential wildfire."

The lawsuit filed in Lane County Circuit Court, he said.

"Contains claims against EWEB that are based upon a significant factual error: In fact, as designed, EWEB's lines in the Holiday Farm area de-energized automatically several hours before the Holiday Farm Fire ignited on the evening of September 7, 2020."

Like Lane Electric, EWEB says it, "Will continue to cooperate with any ongoing investigations of the cause of this tragic event. As a customer-owned utility, EWEB is dedicated to truth, transparency and accountability."

Harwood said, "EWEB is committed to being a strong and

compassionate partner in the rebuilding and recovery from the Holiday Farm Fire."

Salem Fire Lawyers is a team of trial lawyers composed of Rick Klingbeil of Portland, Brady Mertz of Salem, Alexander Robertson, IV of Los Angeles, CA and Robert Curtis of Santa Barbara, CA.

Attorneys Robertson and Curtis say they represent approximately 2,000 victims of California wildfires in lawsuits against electric utilities, including the deadly 2017 Thomas Fire and 2018 Woolsey Fire.

Water woes

Continued From Page 1

ect "depends on spring and early summer rainfall to refill and lack of precipitation is making it difficult to fill multiple reservoirs. To help explain the situation, Corps staff will host a virtual public information session, Thursday, May 20th from noon to 1 p.m.

The Corps invites the public to attend the session to learn more about current operations, future forecasts and potential impacts to the Willamette Valley System.

The Corps encourages ques-

tions but asks participants to send any questions in through the "chat" function in the WebEx during the call.

The year-to-date precipitation across the Willamette was 76% of normal, as of May 17. The snowpack is 51% of median for the Willamette. Snowmelt helps keep reservoir elevations up in the summer if it lasts and matches outflows — but it only accounts for roughly 10% of the system's storage.

Canal slows down

Continued From Page 1

water in the river immediately. EWEB had planned to begin diverting less water to the canal on May 20 due to the low flows.

"We decided to put more water in the bypassed reach of the McKenzie River at this time because we are hearing anecdotally that adult Spring Chinook are showing up a bit earlier than usual," said EWEB Generation Manager Lisa Krentz. "This will have a minor financial impact, but with the low river conditions we're experiencing, we felt it was the right decision."

On Thursday morning, the power canal was running at about 1,700 cfs, and the bypassed reach

of the McKenzie was flowing at about 1,200 cfs. With the change flows were projected to be approximately 1,700 cfs with the canal at 1,200 cfs.

This is the third year EWEB has voluntarily decreased diversion into the canal to maintain an additional 10% more flow in the river. This year's "low-flow" operation will continue through October.

The WALTERVILLE powerhouse, located off Camp Creek Road northeast of Springfield, can generate about 8 megawatts of electricity, enough to power approximately 4,000 homes or roughly equal to about 3% of Eugene's average daily consumption of electricity.

Friday 5/21		Saturday 5/22		Sunday 5/23	
McKenzie Valley Mostly Cloudy 120% chance precip High: 66 Low: 41	Santiam Pass Rain/Snow Showers 30% chance precip High: 48 Low: 32	McKenzie Valley Partly Cloudy 10% chance precip High: 73 Low: 45	Santiam Pass Mostly Cloudy 20% chance precip High: 56 Low: 34	McKenzie Valley Mostly Cloudy 20% chance precip High: 69 Low: 48	Santiam Pass Mostly Cloudy 20% chance precip High: 55 Low: 25

McKenzie River Reflections (541) 822-3358 FAX (541) 663-4550
59059 Old McK. Hwy.
McKenzie Bridge, Oregon 97413

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WEATHER REPORT									
READINGS TAKEN AT THE US ARMY CORPS COUGAR DAM				READINGS TAKEN AT EWEB LEABURG POWERHOUSE					
Date	High	Low	Rain Releases	Date	High	Low	Rain	Riverflow	
5/11	82	41	0	480 cfs	5/11	72	39	0	3,120 cfs
5/12	86	52	0	480 cfs	5/12	76	42	0	3,120 cfs
5/13	88	53	0	470 cfs	5/13	80	45	0	3,190 cfs
5/14	82	57	0.47	470 cfs	5/14	81	44	0	3,270 cfs
5/15	86	45	0	480 cfs	5/15	787	45	0	3,240 cfs
5/16	89	48	0	480 cfs	5/16	NA			
5/17	79	48	0	490 cfs	5/17	NA			

Sheriff's Report

May 9: 4:02 a.m: Disturbance, Dispute - 92200 block, Murdoch St. Caller reported a verbal dispute between family members. Deputies responded and determined no crime had occurred.

6:37 a.m: Threat, Harassment - 47800 blk, McK. Hwy. Caller reported finding some misc. small items on his property. He suspects a former tenant is involved.

May 10: 1:07 p.m: Suspicious Conditions. Horse Creek Rd. & McK. Hwy. An area resident reported that a neighbor was observed pushing dirt and driving around a stop sign with his tractor.

May 11: 12:07 a.m: Suspicious Conditions - 47800 block, McK. Hwy. Caller stated he saw three vehicles on a nearby logging road shining spotlights.

11:21 a.m: Disorderly Subject - 93900 blk, Marcola Rd. A disorderly male arrived at a property yelling and screaming. He was unknown to the residents. Deputies responded but were

unable to locate the male. The caller reported that the male departed prior to the deputies' arrival.

6:59 p.m: Assist, Follow Up - 91400 blk, Donna Rd.

7:42 p.m: Intoxicated Subject - Marcola Rd. & Carson St.

8:38 p.m: Arrest - 36700 blk, Keller Ln.

May 12: 11:01 a.m: Theft - 45600 blk, McK. Hwy. Caller reported undisclosed items were stolen from a local business.

11:34 a.m: Traffic Hazard - 55600 blk, McK. River Dr.

12:08 p.m: Elder Abuse - 92000 blk, Marcola Rd.

12:11 p.m: Disturbance, Dispute - 44200 blk, McK. Hwy. Caller reported a verbal dispute between neighbors and a landlord. No crime was determined to have occurred.

5:08 p.m: Suspicious Vehicle - 38400 blk, Shotgun Creek Rd.

6:55 p.m: Civil Problem - 92000 blk, Marcola Rd.

8:37 p.m: Illegal Burn - McGowan overlook.

May 13: 11:48 a.m: Repossessed Vehicle - 39200 blk, McK. Hwy.

12:02 p.m: Theft - 45600 blk, McK. Hwy.

1:31 p.m: Citizen Contact - Leaburg fire station.

3:10 p.m: Reckless Endangering - 88900 blk, Twin Firs Rd.

4:49 p.m: Vehicle Stop - McK. Hwy. & Quartz Creek Rd.

4:57 p.m: Vehicle Stop - McK. Hwy. & Quartz Creek Rd.

5:09 p.m: Motor Vehicle Accident, No Injury - Marcola Rd. & Paschelke Rd.

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

5:20 p.m: Vehicle Stop - McK. Hwy. Mp. 42.

5:55 p.m: Citizen Contact - 59200 blk, N. Belknap Springs Rd.

7:32 p.m: Violation of Restraining Order - 88700 blk, Ermi Bee Rd.

8:36 p.m: Suspicious Conditions - Lat: 44.12924 Long: - 122.24038.

May 14: 12:42 p.m: Attempt To Locate Drunk Driver - 43600 blk, McK. Hwy.

12:48 p.m: Theft - 39500 blk, Luzkow Ln.

12:53 p.m: Citizen Contact - 42800 blk, McK. Hwy.

1:10 p.m: Assist, Follow Up - 45600 blk, McK. Hwy.

1:50 p.m: Vehicle Stop - McK. Hwy. MP 44.

2:52 p.m: Vehicle Stop - McK. Hwy. Mp. 42.

3:43 p.m: Motor Vehicle Accident, Unknown Injury - 45700 blk, McK. Hwy.

6:01 p.m: Burglary - 87300 blk, Cedar Flat Rd.

6:03 p.m: Suspicious Conditions - 90800 blk, Angels Flight Rd. Caller reported a boat parked on a logging road. Deputies were able to determine that the boat was actually on private property and belonged where it had been parked.

8:17 p.m: Vehicle Stop - McK. Hwy. Mp. 44.

8:47 p.m: Vehicle Stop - McK. Hwy. Mp. 43.

9:43 p.m: Vandalism, Littering

Continued On Page 6

State Police Report

May 11: 10:53: Fish & Wildlife, Angling - S. Fork McKenzie below Cougar Dam. Observed a subject actively angling and illegally using bait. Contacted the subject and recognized him from a recent FW violation regarding the take and sale of sport caught shellfish. He did not have an angling license and had illegally harvested a wild rainbow trout from the stream. He was cited and released for No Angling License, Angling Prohibited Method - Bait and Unlawful Take of Wild Trout. His angling rod and trout were seized. Involved: 33-year-old male from Eugene.

May 16: 15:41: Warrant Arrest. While checking anglers along the McKenzie River located a warranted subject out of Eugene. During the contact, the warrant was confirmed and the subject was arrested and transported to the Lane County Jail where he was lodged without incident. Involved: 35-year-old male, 2 counts of Failure

Continued On Page 5

McKenzie Fire & Rescue

May 10: 12:29: 49000 block, McK. Hwy. Brush Fire. Fire Extinguished.

7:44: 35000 blk, Camp Creek Rd. Medical, General. Disregarded En Route.

18:09: 46000 blk, McK. Hwy. Illegal Burning. Fire Extinguished.

May 11: 11:54: Milepost 9, McK. Hwy. Motor Vehicle Accident - Non-Injury/Non-Blocking.

12:42: 42000 blk, McK. Hwy. Medical, Trauma.. Patient Refusal.

6:50: 45000 blk, McK. Hwy. MVA. Blocking/Non-Injury.

May 12: 16:10: Mp. 14 McK. Hwy. MVA. Unknown Injury. Unable to Locate.

May 13: 15:53: 41000 blk, Madrone St. Medical, Trauma. Patient Assessed, Transported.

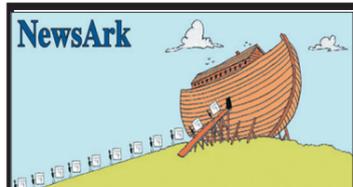
18:20: 42000 blk, Holden Creek Medical, General. Patient Assessed, 1 Transported.

Upper McKenzie Fire/Rescue

May 15: 12:13: Illegal Burn - Cougar Dam Rd./W. King Rd. Unattended burn pile next to a tree stand in a wooded area.

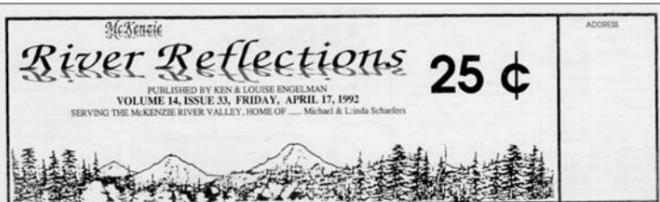
May 17: 11:05: Check Smoke - McK. Hwy./Milepost 40. Call about heavy smoke in the area - no active fire.

14:05: Medical - 51000 block, McK. Hwy. Male, Conscious, Breathing.



...saving stories from the rising tide of time.

From February 7, 1992 edition of McKenzie River Reflections



A Winning Day At Great Race

Couple Survive Crushed Car Wreck

Sunday Accident Blocks Highway 126



A Sunday accident blocked Highway 126 for several hours. A two-car pileup involving a 1987 Lincoln driven by George Miller of 4304 Marcola Highway. Both vehicles then slid westward for approximately 200 feet before coming to rest against a guardrail. Twenty-five rescue workers first had to remove the truck's cargo before using two jaws of life rescue tools for an hour and a half to extricate Miller and his wife, Marie from the vehicle. Both lanes of the roadway were closed to traffic for three hours. One way use was limited to emergency for 10 hours while crews removed the wreckage. George Miller, 54, was admitted in critical condition Sunday night with possible internal injuries and fractured shoulder blades and collar bone. His condition was upgraded to serious on Monday and, according to a hospital spokeswoman, he'd improved to fair condition by Thursday and was not suffering from internal injuries. Marie Miller, 54, was admitted in fair condition and has since been released. Andrew Biggs, 40, both were injured and released. No citations have been issued and an investigation of the accident is continuing.

Annual Event Raises Funds for Community Lions Group
Pentecost headbands of kids got close to the action last Saturday during the 9th Annual running of the Great McKenzie Boat Race sponsored by the McKenzie River Lions Club. Numerous boats ran the course from Dochow to Hordricks Park. First across the finish line in the team drift boat competition was the team of Norman and Norman with a time of 46 minutes and 20 seconds. In second place were Holland & Holland at 49:34, followed by Heinrich & Heinrich in third place with a time of 51 minutes. 8 seconds. Other winners included the kayak category: Dana Barrett with a 48 minute, 17 second time, and Carter Steve West at 55:06.

Jolin, Dominy Attend Town Hall
Local State Legislators Hear About Upriver Concerns

Local politicians were served up a unearguable of state issues following a potluck dinner at the Upper McKenzie Community Center on Wednesday. Appearing at a community Town Hall were State Representative Sam Dominy and State Senator Peg Jolin. Police services were on the mind of LeMan Wells, who wanted to see the resident State Police trooper reassigned to the area. Dominy said he'd actively supported a piece of legislation last year that was supposed to support rural police services. Following the governor's call for reducing all state departments employees by 20%, new hires are not occurring, he said. Jolin said rural police services were expected to be part of the discussions this week in a meeting scheduled with Governor Roberts. She questioned the need for keeping various separate agencies, saying it didn't make sense to drive into town and observe different officers from the cities of Springfield, Eugene and Lane County along the route. Ballot measure 1, which would allow shifting dedicated highway funds to the State Police was supported by Dominy. "Unfortunately, that doesn't mean you will have more police in this area," he added. By supporting placing Ballot Measure 1 before the voters, Jolin said she wasn't endorsing the approach. "People told me they wanted at least to have the option to vote on it," she said. "But personally I will oppose it at the ballot box. There are no guarantees if we set funds aside there will be more police officers." Prior to 1980, some highway tax money was spent on police, but state and district attorneys, shifting the use of money caused a decline in highway maintenance, she said.

Water issues were addressed by Dominy, who said a 1987 state law was being tested along the Coast Fork and Row Rivers in Cottage Grove. Fish protection measures there for chabys by the Army Corps of Engineers have combined with curtailment of instream water rights by the state. Water Resources Dept. That could mean a very dry season between July and September, he said. Water permits from the state, he said, were being revoked in the reverse order of how they were issued. Besides affecting people like farmers who draw water from streams, the restrictions also impact owners of wells within 50 feet of a stream. Both legislators voiced opposition to the McKenzie River Initiative. Dominy referred to his request to the Attorney General on the legality of the proposed ordinance and said he expects a decision by the end of April. One of the biggest potential impacts of the Initiative, he said, would be the "millions and millions of dollars" it could cost in court time to interpret how it would be implemented. Jolin took particular issue with Section 9 of the document, which she said states the ordinance could not effect a taking under either the state or federal constitutions. By voting on this, Jolin said, people would be changing land values and not taking them away.

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Apollo 15 astronaut left a piece of Oregon on the moon

By Finn J.D. John

When the moon is full and hanging low in the sky over Central Oregon, take a good close look at it. In one of its craters, surrounded by tire tracks and boot prints and the abandoned “moon buggy,” a tiny chunk of Oregon lies on its surface.

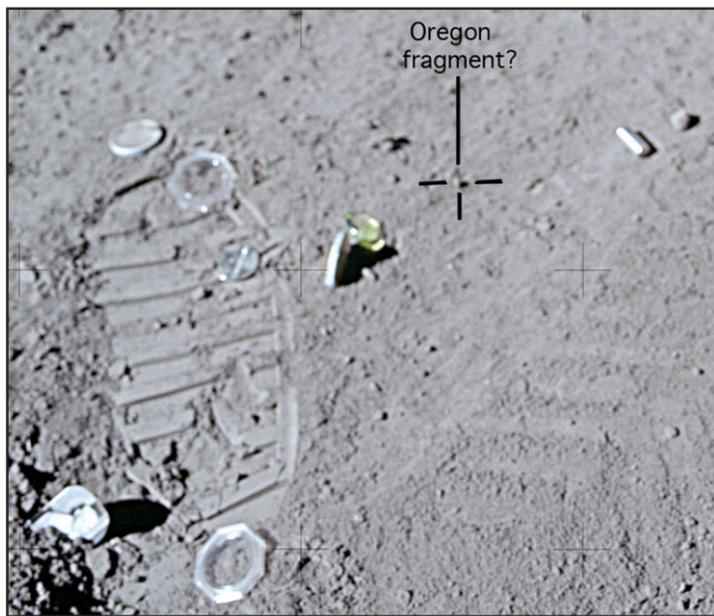
Here’s how it got there:

Starting around 1964, NASA started sending future lunar astronauts to various unusual places to study volcanic geology and to familiarize themselves with landscapes that they thought they might encounter on the moon. Although terrestrial telescopes were excellent in the early 1960s, nobody really knew what the astronauts would find when they arrived on its surface..

So, to give them both scientific knowledge and operational familiarity, astronauts like Buzz Aldrin, James Lovell and Jim Irwin were sent to a variety of places around the world that were known for unique volcanic features: Iceland, Hawaii, Meteor Crater in Arizona — and Central Oregon.

Central Oregon had rather a lot to offer the astronaut-scholars, so they spent a lot of time here. They studied Hole in the Ground, Fort Rock, the Newberry Crater — and, of course, the McKenzie lava fields.

Bend, being a relatively decent-



NASA

Apollo Lunar Surface Journal Editor Eric M. Jones sharpened and annotated this image from the Apollo 15 mission, marking the tiny chip of Oregon lava rock where it lies.

sized town in the middle of all these features, naturally became a sort of field headquarters for NASA scientists and astronauts.

NASA was very pleased with Central Oregon’s helpful and enthusiastic response, and its astronauts and scientists in Oregon started referring to Bend as “Moon Country” — a term that some historians think actually originated with the Bend Bulletin newspaper, but was quickly adopted by NASA personnel.

As the space program intensified, so did NASA’s connection to Central Oregon. In 1965, it staged an international lunar geological field conference in Bend, featuring more than 100 of the best and the brightest members of the team that was then pouring everything it had into the goal of landing the moon shot. Legendary Oregon science journalist Phil Brogan, at the time a staff writer for the Bend Bulletin, must have thought he’d won the lottery.

It was the following year that astronaut Jim Irwin came to Bend; like his colleagues, he came to study and to practice.

When Irwin and the others arrived, the city threw a welcoming dinner for them at the Bend Golf Club. Each astronaut was paired up with a local host, whose job it was to make sure his guest didn’t get bored or overlooked. Irwin was assigned to a fellow named Floyd Watson, the building inspector for the city.

The two of them must have gotten along well, because Irwin remembered Watson five years later, when he was picked for the Apollo 15 moon landing — the first of three lunar missions that involved putting a car on the moon (the Lunar Rover) and driving it around the surface.

When Watson heard his old friend had been picked as the lunar-module pilot for the mission, he got out a chunk of lava rock that he’d picked up near Devil’s Lake — the one near Bend, not the Devil’s Lake in Lincoln City. With a hammer, he chipped a chunk off of it that weighed no more than a few grams, slim enough to slip into an envelope, and then posted it off to Irwin with a letter congratulating him on being selected for the historic mission.

“I am sending you a small sliver of Central Oregon lava that I hope you will be able to deliver to the moon for me,” he added at the end of his letter. “I have five grandchildren who will be eternally grateful to you.”

Off went the letter, and Watson thought little more of it. It had



By Slim Randles

Larry Phillips has a special look about him these days. Oh, he’s a happy enough guy anyway. Has Sharon and the kids and is proud of all of them. His job’s not bad and he makes a living. Bowling on Tuesday nights, that sort of thing.

But it’s more than that. You see, Junior’s a yearling now, and he’s looking good.

Of course, Junior is just what Larry and the family call him. He has a real name, registered with the Jockey Club, that is about that long and means Junior will be eligible for having his shot at racing someday.

Of course, being a yearling, he’s too young to ride. That’s at the very least a year off. But Larry has this pasture and he loves watching Junior run around on it. He sees those churning legs flying through the pasture grass, but what Larry is really seeing are those legs churning up the dirt on the home stretch of the Kentucky Derby in two years. Churning up the dirt with Junior out in front of the rest of them, of course.

Larry and Sharon bought Junior’s mother after saving up for a long time. Sharon took in ironing and Larry worked two jobs for a while until they could afford it. The old mare died a month ago of just being tired, I guess, but she left Junior behind.

And with Junior ... who knows? Of course the racing competition **Continued On Page 5**

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Country Kitchen

By Mary Emma Allen



PICNIC TIME APPROACHING

Warmer weather means picnic time when we enjoy eating out-of-doors, whether it's a backyard barbecue, basket lunch at the lake, or an outdoor meal when we're hiking or traveling. Often children simply like to eat out on the deck or in the yard.

During my childhood, the school and church picnics were annual events each June and July. Usually held at a nearby lake so we could go swimming, but sometimes in a backyard or meadow, they were a tradition in the small towns of America.

My dad and mom recall them from their childhoods, too. Father even wrote about them when I asked him to jot down his memories.

Various Types of Picnics

Traditional Picnic - Although the classic American picnic menu often consists of fried chicken, potato salad, deviled eggs, pickles, rolls, chocolate cake, and lemonade, enjoyable meals can be prepared on the spot. Simply take along bread, sandwich makings, potato chips, pickles, cookies, fruit, and beverage.

Take Along Picnic - Just pack everything into a hamper and cooler and let each person make the meal of his choice when you arrive at your picnic spot. Also, this way your sandwiches won't get soggy, and you don't have them leftover or wasted.

Backyard Picnic Entertaining - For picnics in the backyard when you want to entertain informally in an outdoor setting, you may want to serve somewhat fancier fare. But this can be easy on the cook and leave her cool and calm for

enjoying her guests if she prepares many of the items beforehand.

Barbecues - These have become popular American outings particularly suited to the backyard and involve a variety of meats, vegetables, and even fruit cooked over the charcoal or gas grill.

From the simple hot dog and hamburger fare first common at barbecues, this type of meal now encompasses steak, pork chops, chicken, and fish, skewers of meat and veggies, as well as rotisserie meats.

Theme Picnics - Often picnics and cookouts evolve with a theme. There can be Hawaiian luaus, old-fashioned picnics, and beach parties around the pool, along with movie character fetes for the youngsters.

PISTACHIO - PINEAPPLE SALAD can be a meal accompaniment or dessert. It's refreshing in summer.

Mix together one 20-oz. can crushed pineapple, one 8-oz. container whipped topping (thawed), one 3-oz. package instant pistachio pudding (use dry), 1/2 cup chopped nuts, 1/2 cup halved maraschino cherries, and/or 1/2 cup miniature marshmallows. (I prefer without the marshmallows, but others in our family enjoy them.)

Stir lightly until all ingredients are combined; chill before serving. For something fancy, you can put the mixture into a pie shell or individual tart shells before chilling.

(c) Mary Emma Allen

(Mary Emma Allen writes from her NH home; e-mail: me.allen@juno.com.)



By Slim Randles

Continued From Page 4

will be tough, but that's just the name of the game. Look at Junior there. Doesn't he have that look of eagles in his eyes? Can't you picture him getting his picture taken with Larry and Sharon and the jockey in the winner's circle?

It's happened before. Fast horses come from unlikely places, sometimes. You can't see the future, of course. But there's one benefit to having Junior around that's built in and is already in effect.

It's a fact; no one with a yearling ever commits suicide.

Brought to you by the novel **Sun Dog Days**, by Slim Randles. From www.unmpress.com.

20:27: 87000 blk, Lupe Ln. Flue Fire. Home Owner Extinguished.

23:19: 37000 blk, Shenandoah Ln. Medical, Trauma. Patient Assessed, 1 Transported.

May 15: 17:01: Mp. 12, McK. Hwy. Grass Fire. Unable to Locate.

May 16: 23:07: 44000 blk, McK. Hwy. Medical, General. Patient Assessed, 1 Transported.

23:21: 40000 blk, McK. Hwy. Lift Assist. Lifting Assistance Provided.

driver was violation suspended and had a serviceable arrest warrant issued by Sutherlin Municipal Court. The Failure To Appear bench warrant was cleared by citation and the driver was advised to contact a valid driver. Involved: 41-year-old male from Creswell, brown Oldsmobile.

McKenzie Fire & Rescue

Continued From Page 3

May 14: 11:18: 39000 blk, Hendricks Park Rd. Medical, General. Patient Assessed, 1 Transported.

13:43: 30000 blk, Camp Creek Rd. Medical, General. Patient Assessed, 1 Transported.

15:42: McK. Hwy. Mp. 27. MVA. Non-Injury/Non-Blocking.

State Police Report

Continued From Page 3

To Appear on Criminal Citation.

May 17: 15:52: Warrant Arrest - Marcola Rd, Mp. 14. Stopped a driver for multiple violations. The



Gardening Tips

By Kym Pokorny



Fall in love with colorful, dazzling dahlias

Dahlias are addictive, at least for Julie Huynh Moore, an Oregon State University Master Gardener, who plans to grow 2,000 by the end of May.

That's quite an accomplishment for anyone, but considerably more for Moore, who lost her home and all 1,200 of her dahlias in the Labor Day wildfires. When she was allowed to return after nine days, the ground was empty. Not one of the fully blooming dahlias were left. Surprisingly, after a couple of weeks, sprouts starting showing, but when she dug them up, the tubers were too small to produce quality dahlias so they all came out.

But she's not discouraged. Moore's mother, who lives at the beach and is also an avid dahlia grower, was holding 350 of Moore's dahlias, which she's replanting at her property in Lincoln County.

Moore's love affair with dahlias started seven years ago, when she and her mother decided to move on from their obsession with roses to a new passion for dahlias.

"We used to grow roses, but my mom doesn't have a place for them anymore," Moore said. "We needed a new hobby. Dahlias are a way to spend time together. My mom and I would drive more than two hours to Portland the second Tuesday of every month to go to the Portland Dahlia Society meetings. We'd play with dahlias and have a great time."

Now, Moore is a judge at dahlia shows and has won multiple awards, including a coveted trophy she lost in the fire. Some of her mementos were kindly restored by Larry Smith, a fellow dahlia fan in the society.

There are many reasons to love dahlias. Intricate swirls of petals arrange themselves in so many designs it takes 29 categories to classify. Those are further divided into six sizes and 15 colors. Pompoms, collarettes, mignons, waterlilies: The names are as colorful as the blooms they describe.

"There is every size, every shape, almost every color," Moore said. "If you don't like a specific color, there are so many others. They can stay in a vase for quite a while, they're easy to grow and they brighten up everyone's life. When I'm looking at soil and seeing green coming up, I get excited."

Some of Moore's favorites include 'Ketchup and Mustard,' a 9-inch formal decorative in red and yellow; 'Holly Hill Golden Boy,' a miniature that's less than 4 inches in diameter formed in a ball that's bright yellow; 'Pam Howden,' a 5-inch waterlily that's a light blend of orange and yellow; 'Iris Blackheart,' a 4-inch bi-color in striking dark red and white; and 'Vernon's Obsidian,' an orchid type that's almost black.

Moore, who owns Julie's Dahlias, offers tips for growing her favorite plant:

* Amend the soil with organic

matter such as compost or well-rotted steer or chicken manure or add it to the planting hole. One of the best things to do is feed the soil.

* Get a soil test to know what nutrients your soil may be missing. Dahlias like a pH of about 6.

* Plant after all chance of frost is over and soil has warmed; through June 1, depending on where you live, or when you plant tomatoes in your area.

* Site in full sun in soil that drains well with eye facing up. Plant 6 inches deep and 2 to 3 feet apart depending on the size of the plant. Cover with only 2 or 3 inches of soil and fill in the hole as the plant starts to emerge.

* Place a strong stake next to each hole when you plant. The stake should be on the end of the tuber where the eye is emerging so the plant can be tied up in intervals as it grows. Waiting until the plant is growing can damage the tuber and/or the roots.

* Fertilize when plants start coming up with steer manure or a fertilizer with a balanced fertilizer like a 10-10-10 or 16-16-16. After initial fertilization, drop to a lower nitrogen fertilizer (the first number on the label is lower) or even use foliar fertilizer or fish and seaweed fertilizer. Feed again a month after planting and again another month after that. By mid-August stop using fertilizer.

* Water after planting and then only when the rains stop. Once plants are up keep soil evenly moist but never soggy or the tubers may rot. Check moisture by sticking your finger into the soil up to the second knuckle.

* Snip off dead flowers to keep plant blooming. Disbud if you like long stems with just one bloom to put in a vase. Take the two baby

buds off at the juncture of the main bud.

* Slugs love young dahlias. Bait or set out traps two weeks after planting and continue throughout the season. Earwigs can also be a problem. To help control them, keep debris away from the flower bed and don't let the soil get too wet. Some slug baits also are labeled for use on earwigs. Moore uses iron phosphate bait at the beginning of the season and iron phosphate slug baits with Spinosad insecticide when the earwigs come out later.

* Dahlias will bloom until first frost and then turn brown and die back. At that point, you have the choice of leaving the dahlia tubers in the ground or digging them up. If they remain in the ground, cut back to 2 inches, cover with 4- to 6-millimeter black plastic and cover with mulch. They are more susceptible to dying from too much moisture rather than cold, so, again, well-drained soil is essential. Some people will leave the hollow stalks and hold it in place with a rubber band to keep the tubers from rotting.

Alternatively, once a hard freeze has turned the plants brown, cut back stalks to about 6 inches and dig up tubers. Wash them and let dry for 24 hours in the garage on a tarp or newspaper; don't let them sit on concrete since it wicks away moisture. By now, one tuber will have grown into a clump of them. Divide by removing new tubers from main stem. Keep those with an eye and store in crates or cardboard boxes with newspaper lining the bottom. Layer tubers in vermiculite.

For more information, refer to the Extension pamphlet *Dahlia Culture* or attend the Portland Dahlia Society show the last weekend in August at the dance pavilion at Oaks Amusement Park in Portland. There's also a society Facebook page that gives more information and experts answer questions.



Julie Moore digging in dahlia bed

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Upper Willamette Soil and Water Conservation District



Pure Water Partners (PWP) is a collaborative group of volunteer agencies and organizations who are dedicated to promoting the health and vitality of the McKenzie Watershed. The McKenzie community members who call this special place home benefit from the cooperative approach and efforts of the PWP program.

The Upper Willamette Soil and Water Conservation District (UWSWCD) has been a part of the PWP since its inception in 2012. The UWSWCD is dedicated to assisting the PWP with the Holiday Farm Fire restoration and recovery efforts. The UWSWCD is a division of local government with an elected board of directors whose service area covers the eastern two-thirds of Lane County.

The UWSWCD works in voluntary, non-regulatory conservation, restoration, and stewardship, with farmers, foresters, rural residential landowners, and urban residents to provide education, technical assistance, and project funding. These services help maintain

drinking water quality, promote soil health, enhance fish and wildlife habitat, and maintain the agriculture and forest economy. The UWSWCD partners with local, state, and federal organizations to work on projects for Lane County's environment and economy. Voters recently voted to support the valuable work of the SWCD through a small tax that will allow the District to expand its services, create new programs, and implement the

strategies in our Strategic Plan.

For more information about the UWSWCD projects and services please visit our website www.uwswcd.org or email office@uwswcd.org.

We are humbled and filled with gratitude to be part of the collaborative efforts to protect the McKenzie River.



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 Just east of Blue River 541-822-3820
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 10:30 am - Worship Service & Children's Church
 6:00 pm - Bible Studies and Youth
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McKenzie Bridge Christian Church
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Catholic Church
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 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 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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Community Notes

2021 Kindergarten

A Kindergarten Round-up for the McKenzie River Community School. is scheduled for a Virtual meeting virtual meeting on Wednesday, June 2nd, at 6 p.m.

The Kindergarten is for children who will be five years old on or before September 1, 2021. For more information contact the Elementary Office by phone at (541) 822-3315 or by email at elemoffice@mckenzieisd.org

Please provide the following information in your message: parent first and last name, best contact phone number, physical address, mailing address, email address, incoming student first and last name, and date of birth for incoming student.

The school is looking forward to doing an in-person (based on Corona Virus guidance) tour in August for incoming Kindergarten students and parents to see the classroom, meet Ms. Diaz in person, and see the campus.

Boaters Be Careful

The Eugene Water & Electric Board, at the request of the Oregon Dept. of Fish & Wildlife, is spilling water through Rollgate #3 of Leaburg Dam to help attract hatchery-raised salmon to the left bank fish ladder. In June, ODFW will begin trapping operations to collect brood stock and to deterr hatchery salmon from traveling upstream of the dam and spawning with wild Spring Chinook. Boaters should be cautious, scout the area and launch only if conditions are favorable. The high flow hazard should be less as river flows decrease.

Firewise Grants

Financial grants are available to rural Lane County residents interested in making landscaping and structural improvements to their properties, which can increase the survivability of their home in the event of a wildfire. Residents may qualify for up to \$15,500 in financial assistance. Applications will be a lottery-styled system with priority for first-time applicants as well as high risk vulnerabilities such as wood shake roofs. Homeowners can submit a maximum of two properties per grant cycle year for funding. All online and paper applications must be received by Friday, May 28th, in order to be entered into the lottery-system. Go to: shorturl.at/uDIL8

Rockslide on Rd 19

A rockslide is blocking Forest Service Road 19 (Aufderheide Drive) in the same area as a December 2017 slide that blocked the road and access to Terwilliger Hot Springs for months. Damage assessments are currently underway and officials said the road will be open as soon as possible.

Deer Creek

Forest Road 2654 (Deer Creek Rd) will be closed to the 2655 junction from May 3rd to August

15th due to heavy equipment operations. No vehicle or foot traffic is permitted at any time. The Eugene Water & Electric Board (EWEB) is relocating powerlines near Deer Creek onto the hillside west of the road to improve ecological function and biological productivity for native fish and wildlife, particularly Endangered Species Act-Threatened spring Chinook salmon and bull trout.

Sheriff's Report

Continued From Page 3

- 47800 blk, McK. Hwy.
- 10:01 p.m:** Incomplete 911 Call - 39200 blk, McK. Hwy.
- May 15: 12:42 p.m:** Person Stop - McGowan Creek Mp. 4.
- 12:46 p.m:** Person Stop - McGowan Creek, Mp. 5.
- 1:51 p.m:** Vehicle Stop - McK. Hwy. Mp. 44.
- 2:00 p.m:** Vehicle Stop - McK. Hwy. Mp. 44.
- 2:19 p.m:** Vehicle Stop - McK. Hwy. 43.
- 2:33 p.m:** Citizen Contact - Emerald Empire Rifle Range.
- 2:36 p.m:** Vehicle Stop - McK. Hwy. Mp. 42.
- 2:48 p.m:** Citizen Contact - McK. Hwy. Mp. 42.
- 3:05 p.m:** Vehicle Stop - McK. Hwy. Mp. 43.
- 3:12 p.m:** Smoke - Aufderheide Dr. Mp. 2.
- 3:24 p.m:** Vehicle Stop - McK. Hwy. Mp. 43.
- 4:22 p.m:** Vehicle Stop - McK. Hwy. 43.
- 4:48 p.m:** Vehicle Stop - McK. Hwy. Mp. 27.
- 5:49 p.m:** Traffic Hazard - Marcola Rd. & Camp Creek Rd.
- 7:30 p.m:** Vehicle Stop - McK. Hwy. & Quartz Creek Rd.
- 7:40 p.m:** Vehicle Stop - McK. Hwy. & Quartz Creek Rd.
- 7:08 p.m:** Civil Problem - 51400 blk, Blue River Dr.
- 7:19 p.m:** Vehicle Stop - McK. Hwy. Mp. 41.
- May 16: 7:38 a.m:** Threat, Harassment - 47800 blk, McK. Hwy. Caller reported finding trash on his property. Believes it is his former tenant.
- 2:24 p.m:** Vandalism, Illegal Dump - McK. Hwy. Mp. 31.5.
- 3:26 p.m:** Found Property - McK. Hwy.
- 3:54 p.m:** Suspicious Vehicle - Deer Creek Rd. & McK. Hwy. An out of county deputy was flagged down about a vehicle in that area that the citizen thought may have been stolen. Local records did not indicate any reported stolen vehicles matching the description.

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

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Direct Answers

By Wayne & Tamara Mirchell

Undernourished

A year after living with my girlfriend, with no shred of emotion, she breaks up with me. She tells me every little thing I do annoys her and that I've never done anything nice for her. She wanted a break from us, but still wanted to continue living together.

Now we've had our problems, like any other relationship, and one of the many reasons why we moved in together was because I pushed for it. To make matters worse, her parents despise me. They think I'm some womanizer and that was the only thing I wanted from their daughter.

My girlfriend flatly denied to her parents that she was dating me, let alone living with me. Every time one of her parents came over, we hid all my stuff and I had to leave, sometimes for hours at a time.

Just this past month, when I came home from a business trip, she was very cold to me. She said she needed a break from us. She said hurtful things and that she couldn't deal with me at the moment.

We agreed we could still live together (we have two bedrooms in our apartment) and work on the basis of any relationship, friendship. Two days later, she met this guy and continually went

with him to do the fun things I always asked her to do with me, but she always said no.

When I ask about the other guy, she gives me mixed answers. She told me he likes her, but she is just looking for a friend and doesn't want to give him the wrong impression. Then she gets hurt when he doesn't call and goes to the bar where he is to make him jealous.

I pay all the bills, we share cleaning duties between us, and I've done many other things for her. Now, since she is dating or seeing this guy, I'm at a loss on what to do. I know I can't deal with her right now, and I need to move on and move out.

I feel she has no respect for my feelings as a friend or as a roommate. For the last two weeks, I have barely slept, have no real appetite, and go from okay with how everything is going, to just crying. I tried talking to her about how I feel, told her I still love her and just want her to be happy.

But she gets mad and says she's getting sick of me telling her my feelings.

Rod

Rod, it's hard to get people to understand that having no one is better than having someone who abuses them.

This is true for more than the obvious reason—they are being abused.

The longer you stay, the more seriously you are damaged. The longer you stay, the more likely she will leave you, taking from you the opportunity to learn to stand up for yourself

Furthermore, while she abuses you, you are not growing as a person. You are receiving scars that will take more time to recover from. Lastly, while you are with the wrong one, there is no opportunity to meet the right one.

Don't leave. Kick her out. Stand up and do the deed. "Get out of my house now." If she struggles or equivocates, tell her, "I can call your parents to help you pack."

You also need to talk to someone about habitually undervaluing yourself. You are undervaluing your own talents, your own humanity, and your own personhood.

Perhaps you weren't nurtured when you were young. Perhaps your current situation has beaten you down. But you need help from a person who is on your side. Talk to someone in a professional setting or talk to the person who cares about you most.

It would be better to live alone, than to live alone with this woman.

Wayne & Tamara

write: Directanswers@WayneAndTamara.com

American Life in Poetry

By Kwame Dawes

The insane birds in "Almost Forty", by the always eloquent and emotionally generous poet, Ada Limón, seem to be warning of the coming of winter, but it is time, really, and its passing, that they anthem. Yet, Limón finds strained but necessary comfort in the defiance that comes from desiring a long life and good health.

Almost Forty An Old Story

By Ada Limón

The birds were being so bizarre today, we stood static and listened to them insane

in their winter shock of sweet gum and ash. We swallow what we won't say: Maybe

it's a warning. Maybe they're screaming for us to take cover. Inside, your father

seems angry, and the soup's grown cold on the stove. I've never been someone

to wish for too much, but now I

say, I want to live a long time. You look up

from your work and nod. Yes, but in good health. We turn up the stove

again and eat what we've made together, each bite an ordinary weapon we wield

against the shrinking of mouths.

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 ©2018 by Ada Limón, "Almost Forty" from The Carrying, (Milkweed Editions, 2018). Poem reprinted by permission of Permissions Company, LLC 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.

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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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A family's Love is forever

Oregon on the moon

Continued From Page 4

been a long shot, of course, and there was no guarantee Irwin even remembered who Watson was.

A few months later, Irwin blasted off from Cape Canaveral, packed into the Apollo 15 module with commander David Scott and command-module pilot Alfred Worden. Scott and Irwin spent three days prowling the surface of the moon while Worden orbited above them.

And a few weeks after their return, Watson got a letter from Irwin.

“I did carry your sliver of lava to the moon and left it there,” Irwin wrote — and enclosed an autographed photo of it, with the tiny chip of Oregon denoted with an arrow and the words “Oregon lava on the moon!”

Watson treasured the letter, picture and the chunk of rock that he broke the lunar sliver off of for the rest of his life. And, of course, he never looked at the moon the same way again.

Irwin never told his higher-ups at NASA about the lava, though. This was probably because he and Scott were reprimanded after their return. It seems they’d cut a private deal with a postage stamp dealer to haul a bunch of postal covers up to the moon with them, to be autographed and sold upon their return. With Irwin and Scott in that kind of hot water, they were probably reluctant to admit to having brought up any other unauthorized cargo.

And indeed, NASA officials were at first skeptical about the claim of



NASA Apollo 15 blasts off from Cape Canaveral on July 26, 1971. Inside, probably in astronaut Jim Irwin’s pocket, is a tiny chunk of Central Oregon, destined to be left on the lunar surface.

Oregon lava on the moon.

“I don’t recall any stories about Jim Irwin taking a rock from Oregon and placing it on the surface of the moon,” NASA historian Glen Swanson told Central Oregon journalist Melany Tupper in a 2002 letter. “I think this is pretty unlikely due to the severe weight restrictions and time limitations that the crew had on the lunar surface.”

However, perhaps the letter got NASA thinking about it, because a few years later the space agency got a similar request from Oregon Public Broadcasting reporter Sierra Jenkins, and Eric M. Jones, editor of the Apollo Lunar Surface Journal, took a closer look at some of the photographs from the

mission. Cross-referencing them with Irwin’s letter to Watson, he was able to identify the rock, and confirmed the story as almost certainly true.

Thus, we can consider — with apologies to martyred Great War poet Rupert Brooke — that there’s some corner of a foreign world that is forever Oregon.

(Sources: Tupper, Melany. *High Desert Roses: Significant Stories from Central Oregon*. Fairfield, CA: 1st Books, 2003; Matthews, Denise. “Returning to Oregon’s Moon Country,” *Oregon Documentary Project*, Univ. of Oregon School of Journalism, 2010; Brogan, Phil. “Central Oregon rock rests on the moon,” *The Bend Bulletin*, Oct. 2, 1971; Jones, Eric M. *Apollo Lunar Surface Journal*, at www.hq.nasa.gov)

Finn J.D. John is an instructor at Oregon State University and the author of “Wicked Portland,” a book about the dark side of Oregon’s metropolis in the 1890s. To contact him or suggest a topic: finn@offbeatoregon.com, @OffbeatOregon (on Twitter), or 541-357-2222.

Quote of the Week

“A satirist is a man who discovers unpleasant things about himself and then says them about other people.”

Peter McArthur



A Moment in Oregon History
By Rick Steber (www.rick-steber.com)

May 20 - Mary Ramsey was born in Tennessee May 20, 1787. At age seventeen she married George Wood and they had four children. After George died Mary moved her family west and settled near Hillsboro. She remarried and

outlived her second husband. She lived, and lived, and lived. When she became a centenarian she told friends and relatives about meeting George Washington and Thomas Jefferson but she claimed, “The highlight of my life was the time Andy Jackson asked me to dance.” Grandma Woods, as she became affectionately known, lived to become the “oldest Oregonian.” She died in 1908 at the age of 120.



EWEB commissioners will meet in Leaburg

Tuesday, June 15, 6 p.m.
McKenzie Fire & Rescue Training Center

Eugene Water & Electric Board will host short presentations including programs for McKenzie Valley customers (including rebuilding opportunities), watershed status and investments, the future of Leaburg Canal, wildfire mitigation strategies, and the status of upriver pricing.

All community members are invited, and there will be a general listening session with subject matter experts on hand for a question-and-answer session. Presentations will begin at 6 p.m. For more information, go to eweb.org/upriver-meeting.



HOLIDAY FARM FIRE CLEANUP UPDATE



THE DEADLINE TO SIGN UP TO PARTICIPATE IN THE STATE-LED CLEANUP IS TUESDAY, JUNE 1, 2021.

Holiday Farm Fire survivors who wish to participate in the State-led cleanup of hazard trees, ash and debris must submit a Right-of-Entry form by June 1.

The Right-of Entry form is available at www.mckenzierebuilds.org/right-of-entry-for-cleanup.

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