



Delivering targeted news for Oregon's McKenzie River communities since 1978

Sheriff's Reports

Deputies responded to an assault that had just occurred and arrested the involved male

PAGE 3

Country Kitchen

Creating a heritage recipe book is a way to save your family food history and stories connected with them.

PAGE 5



Briefs...



In the aftermath of last week's severe weather, Lane County is opening Hendricks Bridge Park - East of milepost 10 on Hwy 126 - for storm debris drop-offs. Private property owners can bring debris free of charge on February 2 to 4, and February 9 to 11, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Accepted debris includes Tree limbs and branches, Trees less than 24" in diameter (larger trees cut down to 24" in diameter or less), and Heavy shrubbery.

Items not accepted include Household

Debris - Page 2



The community has been chipping in to help a Leaburg family recover from their losses in a fire that destroyed their home. Contributions of clothing, bedding, and various household items are being gathered for the family of Rich Campbell and Casey Chafin, their son, and daughter at the Leaburg Store, where their daughter Paris is an employee. This week a GoFundMe page at [tinyurl.com/2n893rpd](https://www.gofundme.com/2n893rpd) had raised \$7,546 by noon on Tuesday.



In December 2023, a new trail bridge was successfully installed on the McKenzie River National Recreation Trail. The 160-foot pedestrian bridge crosses the McKenzie River at approximately milepost 10.5 of the McKenzie River National Recreation Trail. This project replaced the previously failing bridge and also rerouted the trail around a restoration project at Deer Creek. As work on the rerouted trail continues, a temporary detour remains in place. Please hike along Forest Service Road (FR) 2655-713 south to junction of FR 2654 Deer Creek Road and proceed

Bridge- Page 2

Boaters warned of river blockage

Tree below Bellinger extends across stream's right channel

BLUE RIVER: Trees that have drifted into the main channel of the McKenzie River have generated warnings for boaters to stay away from an area located about one mile below the Brukart Landing. The entrance to a small side channel of the river to the south is also blocked with trees.

The Lane County Sheriff's Office is advising people to avoid the area until the hazard can be mitigated by Marine Patrol Deputies.

Officials report there are currently no safe routes through this section of the river - other than portaging (exiting the river) - in order to bypass the hazard.

Coordinates for the blockage are 44.1675, -122.2805.



OR Marine Board

"The Big One," on the Horizon



The Mount St. Helens eruption on May 18, 1980.

By Claire Carlson
The Daily Yonder - Keep it rural

In the Pacific Northwest, there are two types of natural disasters you probably think about fairly often because of either secondhand or lived experience: earthquakes and volcanoes.

Unlike other seismically-active parts of the world, the PNW hasn't had a devastating earthquake in recent history, but it is expected to. A magnitude 9.0 earthquake is due to hit the Cascadia subduction zone, a fault line stretching from Vancouver Island to Northern California, within the next 50 years.

This earthquake would trigger a tsunami that would wipe out many of the rural communities on the Oregon and Washington coast. A 2015 New Yorker article widely publicized this fact, along with a portentous quote from an employee at the Federal Emergency Management Agency's Northwest division: "Our operating assumption is that everything west of Interstate 5 will be toast."

As an Oregon resident just barely east

of Interstate 5, I think about the Cascadia subduction zone a lot, as evidenced by my choice to begin this newsletter with it.

But this earthquake - ominously coined "The Big One" - is not the protagonist (or rather, antagonist) of this week's newsletter. No, I'm interested in another seismically-related phenomenon: volcanoes. One volcano, in particular.

Hellfire and Brimstone

While PNW residents may not remember any major earthquakes, the date May 18, 1980 probably strikes a chord for anyone who was alive and present in the region at the time.

At 8:32am on a Sunday, a magnitude 5.1 earthquake hit southwestern Washington and triggered a landslide on Mount St. Helens, a 9,677 foot volcano that had been showing signs of eruption for months. The landslide - the largest one ever recorded in human history, according to the U.S. Geological Survey - took out both the summit and the cryptodome, a huge bulge on the northern side of the volcano that had formed as magma pushed out from within.

In just a few moments, Mount St. Helens lost almost 1,000 feet of elevation and would lose several hundred more before the day's end as tephra (rock fragments from the volcano's interior) were blasted into the air.

"The Big One" - Page 10

Two hatcheries to be dewatered

McKenzie & Leaburg under DEQ orders

LEABURG: Changes for the 2024 angling season were keynotes in Jeremy Romer's presentation at the McKenzie River Guides meeting last Saturday. The largest will be the shutdown of the Leaburg Trout Hatchery and the McKenzie Salmon Hatchery in June, affecting the stocking of area waterways through the rest of the year, according to Romer, the Oregon Dept. of Fish & Wildlife's Assistant District fisheries biologist.

The change came after environmental groups including the Northwest Environmental Defense Center, The Conservation Angler, and Willamette River Keeper successfully challenged permits for the facilities based on the temperatures of the water they release. Warmer water, they contended, would adversely impact important native species including threatened Bull Trout and Spring Chinook salmon.

To comply with new permits, ODFW will transfer fish raised locally to the Willamette Hatchery in Oakridge. That move will require a shift to stocking days to Thursday in area streams. Further complicating the process will be the extended closure of the Finn Rock Boat Landing this year and the need to transfer fish from the trucks to the stocking raft using nets.

In related stocking news, Romer said there's been some work done on finding a trout stock that is more resistant to cold water diseases than the Cape Cod strain people are used to reeling in. Currently, some testing was started by introducing a West Virginia rainbow trout to some high lakes. They'll be evaluated for survivability, growth, and "catchability," he said and encouraged the river guides to weigh in on whether or not the W. Virginia stock would be a good replacement.

The number of returning native Spring Chinook has been a little above the numbers seen over the last decade. That hasn't been true for hatchery fish and Romer said the reason numbers are down can most likely be tied to the Holiday Farm Wildfire. In 2020, Hatcheries dewatered- Page 11

Guest Opinion

Fixing Measure110

By Charlie Conrad

Conversations regarding Measure 110's (M110) failure and the drug addiction crisis have been ongoing for well over a year and really began in earnest during January Legislative Days. The Joint Workgroup on Addiction and Community Safety Response (JASCR) held multiple public meetings beginning in October 2023 to hear testimony and develop policy recommendations and the corresponding budget request. When short session begins on February 5th the discussions will continue and intensify as various policy options are vetted.

Is it on both the House Behavioral Health/Health Care & Judiciary workgroups and will be involved in the policy discussions. Additionally, the Speaker appointed me to the JASCR budget workgroup to work on developing budget options to submit to the Joint Ways and Means Workgroup, which are due February 7th.

Fixing M110's implementation failures so that people struggling with addiction have access to treatment will take a significant amount of energy and a practical approach informed by the data we have gathered since implementation. A piece of data that struck me most is that on average 200 citations are issued statewide each month, with about 5 people calling the number to seek treatment. That's 2.5 percent, meaning that citations don't work for 97.5 percent of the people. This is a telling statistic – and one which makes

intuitive sense. People suffering addiction, particularly those living on the streets, are focused on the very basics – finding a spot to sleep, finding something to eat, and satisfying their addiction. We have all tried to change a habit before – it is even harder for long time addicts whose brains have been re-wired. They need our help. We need to offer an opportunity to reset, which is why I strongly support recriminalizing possession to an A misdemeanor. Recriminalization allows for an intervention to empower people to make the decision to seek treatment, not from a place of addiction, but rather from a place of sobriety and stability. Hopefully then they will accept treatment, not only for their addiction, but also any co-occurring mental health issues they may be dealing with.

Being arrested for possession should not be an anvil around someone's neck, preventing them from fulfilling their potential and living a meaningful life. Measures to mitigate an arrest through methods like automatic expungements should absolutely be included. People battling addiction should not be outcasts – they need to be offered an opportunity to enter treatment and to pursue recovery.

The significance of fixing M110 can't be overstated. The effects are felt by us all, some more than others, unfortunately. It's time for the legislature to step up, which includes acknowledging and understanding human nature and motivations. This approach is

compassionate. This approach respects people. Providing an opportunity for people to enter treatment while simultaneously improving community safety are solutions I fully support. I look forward to representing our district during this session. Please do not hesitate to reach out to my office any time with your thoughts and concerns.

Charlie Conrad is the State Representative for Oregon's House District 12. Rep.charlieconrad@oregonlegislature.gov, 503-968-1412.



Briefs...

Debris

Continued From Page 1

garbage or recycling, Building materials (plywood, damaged siding, etc.), Regular yard debris (grass, mulch, etc.), Rocks or earth, Tree root balls, and Materials larger than 24" in diameter. People bringing non-accepted items will be turned away. For regular household garbage or special waste, visit www.LaneCountyOR.gov/waste

ation Trail again. The McKenzie River and the McKenzie River National Recreation Trail generate millions in economic activity every year, supporting local businesses and communities, and bringing visitors from around the country and world. The bridge restores the connectivity of the trail, and once the trail reroute is complete, will allow travel along the entire 26-mile length.

FS Bridge

Continued From Page 1

south until it connects with the McKenzie River National Recre-

Send news briefs to rivref2@gmail.com

McKenzie Eagles Sports Report

By Cliff Richardson

McKenzie Varsity Sports Schedule This Week

The McKenzie Varsity Boys and Girls Varsity Basketball teams host Eddyville Charter on Tuesday, January 30 with the Boys game starting at 5:30 pm and the Girls following at 7:00 pm. The Eagle Boys team travel to Siletz Valley on Thursday, February 3 for a game tipping off at 6:00 pm. The McKenzie Girls game with Siletz Valley has been canceled. The McKenzie teams host Triangle Lake on Saturday, February 3. The Boys game will begin at Noon and the Girls game will follow, starting at 1:30 pm.

Eagle Sport Report Sidelined Due To Ice and Internet Issues

The Eagle Sports Report, since the First of the New Year, was sidelined due to the Great Deep Ice-freeze Storm of 2024 that recently hit Western Oregon. As a consequence of that Storm and the

related electrical/internet outages, the Eagle Sports Report was, unfortunately, unable to produce sports coverage for our local high school teams. We apologize for missing those games that were able to play during that time.

Eagle Boys Corral Mustangs For Second Win

McKenzie Head Boys Basketball Coach Neil Barrett's team captured a rare win this season by defeating the Mustangs of Mohawk, 57-46, on Tuesday, January 23. The victory, first Mt. West League counter this season and second win overall, revenged an earlier 20-42 home loss to Mohawk and made even sweeter on the Mustangs home court. The game ended a six-game skid by the Eagles. McKenzie sophomore Will Meister led the team with 16 points, 5 steals and 3 assists. Senior Salomon Acevedo also scored in double figures with 13 points and he added 4 rebounds and a steal. Fellow senior Griffin Withalm pitched in 7 points and sophomore Allen Acevedo added 6 pts. The next evening, Wednesday, January 24, Coach Barrett and the Boys entertained the MWL leading Sailors of Mapleton. The Sailors, 7-0, 15-2, routed their hosts, hanging a 65-22 defeat on the Eagles. Withalm was the leading McKenzie scorer

with 5 points. Freshman Rhys Hamlow added 4 pts and a team high 5 rebounds. Allen and Salomon Acevedo each scored 4 pts and finished with 3 rebounds. Three days and three games in a row, one more consequence to the Great Deep Ice-freeze of 2024, found the Eagles on the West side of the Willamette Valley in Crow, Thursday, January 25. Crow is partnering with City First Christian Academy this season during basketball season and the Cougars are finding that relationship very favorable thus far in MWL play, posting a perfect 6-0 record to keep pace with Mapleton. A February 3 showdown between the Sailors and the Cougars will commence down on the Siuslaw. Eagle Meister led McKenzie versus Crow/City First Christian Academy with 10 points scored and 4 rebounds. Hamlow scored 6 points and led his team with 6 rebounds. Allen Acevedo, Griffen Withalm, and Thomas Hayes all scored 6 points in the loss. McKenzie currently sits in seventh place in MWL standings with a 1-6, 2-13 record. The Eagles are ranked by the OSAA at 82nd out of 82 Class 1A teams.

McKenzie Girls Basketball Drop Three Last Week

The Eagle Girls Varsity Basketball team suffered three

Friday 2/2		Saturday 2/3		Sunday 2/4	
McKenzie Valley Showers 40% chance precip High: 49 Low: 36	Santiam Pass PM Snow Showers 30% chance precip High: 33 Low: 21	McKenzie Valley AM Showers 40% chance precip High: 48 Low: 35	Santiam Pass Mostly Cloudy 20% chance precip High: 33 Low: 21	McKenzie Valley Partly Cloudy 20% chance precip High: 49 Low: 34	Santiam Pass Partly Cloudy 20% chance precip High: 32 Low: 23

Letters to the Editor

rivref2@gmail.com FAX 541-663-4550

59059 Old McK. Hwy., McKenzie Bridge, OR 97413

MRR

McKenzie River Reflections

Phone (541) 822-3358 FAX (541) 663-4550

MAILING ADDRESS: 59059 Old McKenzie Hwy.
McKenzie Bridge, Oregon 97413
rivref2@gmail.com
Publisher - Ken Engelman

To subscribe go to: tinyurl.com/2vf5caa6

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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
1/23	50	41	0.18	577 cfs	1/23	NA			
1/24	48	40	0.34	NA	1/24	NA			
1/25	45	39	0.09	673 cfs	1/25	NA			
1/26	45	39	1.38	680 cfs	1/26	NA			
1/27	51	44	0.73	702 cfs	1/27	NA			
1/28	57	46	0	710 cfs	1/28	NA			
1/29	59	48	0	1,046 cfs	1/29	NA			

Sheriff's Report

Jan. 15: 7:22 a.m: Welfare Check - 87700 blk, Collins Ln.
9:58 a.m: Assist Public - York Ln. & Deerhorn Rd.
10:24 a.m: Welfare Check - 49900 blk, McK. Hwy.
3:46 p.m: Welfare Check - 51100 blk, McK. Hwy.
4:56 p.m: Welfare Check - 40000 blk, Booth Kelly Rd.
6:49 p.m: Welfare Check - 37900 blk, Railroad Ln.
9:57 p.m: Welfare Check - 51100 blk, McK. Hwy.
Jan. 16: 10:06 a.m: Welfare Check - 90400 blk, Sunderman Rd.
10:31 a.m: Assist Public - Terwilliger Hot Springs. Relayed info to Forest Service about a camper stuck in his vehicle behind trees, but not in need of assistance.
10:35 a.m: Welfare Check -

91800 blk, Marcola Rd.
11:54 a.m: Welfare Check - 39000 blk, Hendricks Park Rd.
12:22 p.m: Tree Down- 89800 blk, Old Mohawk Rd.
12:24 p.m: Traffic Hazard - 8200 blk, Thurston Rd.
4:38 p.m: Tree Down- Sunderman Rd. & Edgehill Rd.
4:52 p.m: Tree Down- 88100 blk, Keola Ln.
4:57 p.m: Welfare Check - 40200 blk, Tonga Ln.
5:14 p.m: Tree Down- 38300 blk, McK. Hwy.
5:55 p.m: Alarm - 56900 blk, N. bank Rd.
7:26 p.m: Motor Vehicle Accident, Unknown Injury - 38400 blk, McK. Hwy.
Jan. 17: 12:35 a.m: Down Line - Marcola Rd. Milepost 4.
12:37 a.m: Traffic Hazard - 37100 blk, Camp Creek Rd.
12:46 a.m: Tree Down - 90800 blk, Hill Rd.
1:40 a.m: Tree Down - Millican Rd. & Miller Ave.
4:07 a.m: Incomplete 911 Call - 90600 blk, Sunderman Rd.

10:12 a.m: Welfare Check - 95200 blk, Marcola Rd.
11:31 a.m: Welfare Check - 90300 blk, Shadows Dr.
12:08 p.m: Incomplete 911 Call - 8200 blk, Thurston Rd.
12:20 p.m: Theft of Mail - 38800 blk, Deerhorn Rd.
12:45 p.m: Welfare Check - 92000 blk, Marcola Rd.
2:38 p.m: Assist Public - 88000 blk, Running Spring Dr.
3:28 p.m: Welfare Check - 37900 blk, Camp Creek Rd.
4:05 p.m: Traffic Hazard - Marcola Rd. & Hayden Bridge Rd.
4:36 p.m: Welfare Check - 40000 blk, Booth Kelly Rd.
5:27 p.m: Alarm - 57300 blk, N. Bank Rd.
9:25 p.m: Motor Vehicle Accident, Unknown Injury - Greenwood Dr. & McK. Hwy.
10:32 p.m: Vehicle Stop - Camp Creek Rd. & Marcola Rd.
Jan. 18: 9:12 a.m: Welfare Check - 42700 blk, McK. Hwy.
10:10 a.m: Suspicious Vehicle - Hill Rd. & Old Mohawk Rd.
11:40 a.m: Welfare Check - 42100 blk, McK. Hwy.
12:07 p.m: Welfare Check - 90800 blk, Hill Rd.
12:56 p.m: Welfare Check - 44200 blk, McK. Hwy.
1:15 p.m: Tree Down - 92100 blk, Marcola Rd.

Continued On Page 9

McKenzie Fire & Rescue

Jan. 22: 19:23: 39000 block, Hendricks Park Rd. Down Lines. Confirmed Down Line, Information Passed to LCSO and EWEB.
Jan. 23: 18:47: 38000 blk, McK. Hwy. Electrical Fire. Cancelled, EWEB already on scene.
Jan. 24: 10:03: 37000 blk, Upper Camp Creek Rd. Medical, General. Patient Assessed, 1 Transported.
15:11: 89000 blk, Old Mohawk Rd. Mutual Aid. Disregarded by MVFR.
15:22: 40000 blk, Deerhorn Rd. Medical, General. Lift Assist.
18:24: 39000 blk, McK. Hwy. Public Assist. Vented House After Carbon Monoxide Alarm Went Off.
21:20: McK. Hwy./Canal Ln. Motor Vehicle Accident. Confirmed Old Crash with Intact Flagger on Vehicle & Surrounding Area.
Jan. 25: 9:48: 41000 blk, Madrone St. Medical, General. Patient Assessed, 1 Transported.
15:32: 39000 blk, Camp Creek Rd. Medical, General. Patient Assessed, 1 Transported.
Jan. 26: 8:09: 42000 blk, Holden Creek Ln Medical, General. Patient Assessed, Refusal Obtained.
9:16: 42000 blk, McK. Hwy. Medical, General. Patient Assessed, 1 Transported.
Jan. 27: 3:41: 88000 blk, Running Spring Dr. Medical,

General. Patient Assessed, Refusal Obtained.
12:12: 37000 blk, Camp Creek Rd. Public Assist. Investigated, Nothing Found.
17:04: 88000 blk, Running Spring Dr. Medical, General. Patient Assessed, 1 Transported.
Jan. 28: 8:36: 90000 blk, Gale Creek Rd. Medical, Heart. Patient Assessed, 1 Transported.
McK. Fire & Rescue will hold its monthly Board of Directors meeting on Monday, February 19th at noon, in the Leaburg Training Center, 42870 McK. Hwy. The district maintains Facebook, Twitter, and web pages.

Upper McKenzie Fire/Rescue

Jan. 19: 13:32: House Fire - 43000 block, McK. Hwy. Heavy smoke, several vehicles in driveway unknown if anyone is home.
Jan. 21: 06:31: Motor Vehicle Accident, Unknown Injury - Milepost 10, Clear Lake Cutoff. Blue SUV slid off the side of the road, unknown if any injured.
08:13: Medical - Milepost 1, Blue River Reservoir Rd. Male, Conscious, Breathing.
Jan. 22: 12:16: Electrical Problem - McK. Hwy./Mp. 49. Power pole smoking and sparking, no flames.
13:15: Electric Problem - McK. Hwy./McK. River Dr. Phone pole is smoldering at top - smoke only, no flames.
Jan. 29: 08:24: Medical - 91000 blk, Burton Dr. Patient Not Conscious, Not Breathing.
Jan. 29: 11:21: Medical - 56000 blk, McK. Hwy. Patient fell, can't move or get up.
The Upper McK. Fire District's board of directors will hold its monthly meeting at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, February 21st, at the McK. Fire Station, 56578 McK. Hwy. in McKenzie Bridge.

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

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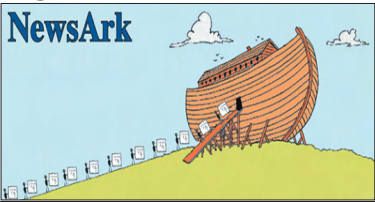
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Man sentenced to 26-1/2 years for Hot Springs murder

USFS was killed in 1996

Reprinted from the January 27, 1999 edition of River Reflections

EUGENE: A three year old murder case came to a close last Wednesday with the sentencing of a 42 year old transient. Michael Robin Walters avoided a death sentence in the killing of Robert Lutz, 62, of Harrisburg by pleading guilty to intentional murder. He is to serve 26-1/2 years in prison.

Lutz had been a USFS volunteer at Terwilliger Hot Springs near Cougar Reservoir. After his retirement from a Las Vegas wrecking yard, he kept busy doing odd jobs like cleaning the mineral pools and rebuilding the steps leading to them. Though Lutz set up a solitary camp for himself near the Springs, he became friends with many of the people who visited. One of them was Walters, who shot him in the chest while the older man was driving him and two other people to Eugene in August of 1996. Lutz never made it to a family gathering over the Labor Day weekend and relatives feared the worst. Police were brought into the matter on September 16 when a motorhome owned by Lutz was

found abandoned in a Raton, New Mexico truck stop. Investigators called his sister in Harrisburg, telling her the vehicle had been rifled and there was no sign of her brother. It had been there for 12 days. In October the prime suspect became a 24 year old transient who was arrested in Denver on a Springfield warrant for a felony weapons charge. Connected to several cancelled checks, a ring and some of Lutz's other personal belongings, police held the suspect for six weeks before releasing him and saying he was not being charged in connection with the murder. On November 30, 1996, a witnesses led police to the spot the body had been dumped on a logging road near the small town of Curtain, in Douglas County. The following summer, Walters was arrested in Osceola, Missouri on July 12 for drunk driving. He was extradited to Oregon on the same Springfield warrant as the earlier suspect. In his first court appearance later that month Walters pleaded not guilty to murder.

Stripes may come back, but not downtown

Reprinted from the March 23, 1984 edition of River Reflections

Yellow lines down the middle of the McKenzie Highway have been a point of conflict since the Oregon Highway Division spent \$4,700 last August to sandblast off several no passing zones. Area residents protested their removal during a 6 Year Plan hearing in Eugene as well as at a special meeting with highway officials at Leaburg in December.

But according to James Gix, Region 3 area Highway Engineer in Roseburg, the stripes had to be removed to bring parts of the McKenzie into compliance with statewide rules for highway markings. Some no passing zones in Cedar Flat, Walterville, Leaburg and Vida were changed from a double line to a dotted line in the compliance change. Some 25,000 linear feet - or nearly 4 miles - of double lines were removed.

Yet the striping controversy continues with the federal government getting into the act. Last week the U.S. Department of Transportation informed the Oregon Highway Division that the state must stripe horizontal curves or face the prospect of losing federal aid construction money. The

threat is similar to one the feds used to cajole states into enforcing the 55 mph speed limit, Gix notes.

Gix says Oregon's non-compliance with the horizontal striping is part of a 30 year old conflict between the federal government and the state. Oregon already outlaws passing on vertical curves where visibility is limited to less than 1,000 feet. Yet even allowing passing on flat curves, Gix says Oregon passing rates are still admirable, ranking 44th highest out of 50 states for safety in passing on curves.

"Will the no passing stripes be repainted in downtown Vida and Leaburg? "Not likely," is Gix's response since those areas are straight-a-ways. More likely is the prospect of more striping added to other areas of those communities - like no passing zones around the Leaburg Lake curve and the Goodpasture Bridge curve in Vida.



By Slim Randles

Almost all of us know how to pronounce pandemic now, and we have a pretty good idea of what it means since everyone we know spent more than a year under virtual house arrest.

But that didn't help Billy much. Billy's our town dog, of course. He's been our town dog since Sally passed away on Doc's porch, and Billy's owner died two weeks later. Sometimes an honored position doesn't require an election.

Billy took right to it. He made his daily rounds to the back door of the Chinese restaurant and the Mule Barn coffee shop. He drifted over to the Rest of Your Life retirement home often to give the old folks another reason to enjoy life.

And there was his job, too. Every weekday morning Billy was on duty at the street crossing where the kids went to school. Martin, the crossing guard, was always there with his vest and his sign, and Billy was the official cross-the-street escort.

But when the pandemic hit, the kids were suddenly home schooled and Martin stayed home as well. This threw a big monkey wrench into Billy's gear box.

So about once a week, a bunch of us masked coffee drinkers would go to the school intersection and stand there until Billy showed up. He'd look both ways and take us across the street, and then continue on his daily rounds.

Just because we're in a pandemic doesn't mean we can't do our job.

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www.savingsbonds.gov
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Preservation funds sought for Belknap Bridge restoration



Close to \$1/2 million in repairs to the Belknap Covered Bridge in Rainbow have been proposed by Lane County Public Works. Similar rehabilitation work was completed in 1992.

EUGENE: The Lane County Board of Commissioners on Wednesday were slated to approve applications submitted by Public Works Dept. for grant funding under the National Historic Covered Bridge Preservation Program (NHCBP) for the Belknap, Office, Unity, and Pengra covered bridges. The program would pay for approximately 90 percent of project costs, with the remainder coming from county coffers.

If approved, work on the Belknap Bridge in Rainbow could take place in 2012. Previous restoration of the structure occurred in 1992, when the structure was re-roofed, decayed or damaged portions of the bridge house were replaced, new floor decking was installed and it was repainted.

Details of the \$434,900 work

plan would include replacing a decayed 40-foot chord section of the bridge, along with a 26-foot diagonal brace that have affected the structure's load carrying capacity. During the rehabilitation, crews would have to lift the bridge to replace the rotten members. After replacement, they would need to "retune" the structure by adjusting each of the bridge's 48 tension rods.

Other items expected to be addressed at the same time include fumigating the structure for bugs, replacing decayed floorboards and stringers, lag screwing loose decking to the stringers, cleaning, blasting and repainting tension rods to protect against corrosion, replacing a section of guardrail and again repainting the bridge.

Need to talk?
Call 988

What is?

Destination Creation

Would you like to turn your business into a unique destination that customers go out of their way to visit? McKenzie River business owners are invited to apply for our Destination Creation Course, a nationally-recognized training program for small businesses to become can't-miss consumer destinations!

RAIN catalysts

Date: Two Saturdays
FEB 24th & MAR 2
Breakfast & Lunch Provided

Location: Vida McKenzie Community Center
FREE - \$800 value
Provided by:
Lane County & RAIN Catalysts

Be Placed on Our Invitation List!
Contact: Melissa Prestinario
melissa@raincatalysts.org

More Detailed Information to Come!



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Gardening
Tips

By Kym Pokorny



Oregon State
University

OSU Extension Service

With the right care, asparagus beds will last



Growing asparagus requires patience – from planting to harvest takes two to three years, but the wait is well worth the reward.

Homegrown asparagus is one of the earliest vegetables of spring. Its quality is much better than store-bought spears, and it's less expensive. Once established, this vegetable is easy to grow. And asparagus is beautiful. A member of the lily family, its fern-like foliage turns from green to gold in fall and can be a backdrop to chrysanthemums or other late-season flowers.

Oregon State University Extension Service horticulturists say preparing an asparagus bed properly will reward you for decades.

Asparagus is a hardy perennial and should be planted as soon as the soil can be properly prepared in the spring. Usually, asparagus is started from 1-year-old plants, rather than from seed. The plants you purchase in early spring have dormant crowns (no leaves) and look like an octopus, with long fleshy roots extending from the crown. Avoid buying crowns that are dried out or have rotten areas.

If you can't plant the crowns right away, keep them cool and moist until you can get them in the ground.

Choose a site for the asparagus in full sun. Foliage will reach a height of 5 to 6 feet during the summer so place your asparagus bed where it won't shade out smaller plants. Good soil preparation is a key to success. It's important to dig deeply to remove weeds and amend the soil with plenty of organic matter. Asparagus will not grow well in heavy, poorly drained soils and doesn't compete well with weeds. Prepare the growing site to a depth of at least 12 inches and add a general slow-release fertilizer. Check the pH with a do-it-yourself test from a garden center or a laboratory, and add lime if your soil is acidic.

Plant your asparagus crowns into the prepared bed about three to four weeks before the last frost date. After amending the soil, dig a trench about 6 inches deep, and place the crowns at the bottom of the trench about 12 inches apart. Place the bud pointing up, spread the roots, and cover the crowns with 2 inches of the soil from

the bed. As the spears lengthen through the spring, fill in the trench with soil, leaving the tips exposed. Keep the soil moisture consistent through the first year so the asparagus crowns can get established.

Starting from seed is less common but can be a less expensive way to make an asparagus bed. It will take an extra year (four rather than three) for seed-started asparagus to reach a harvestable stage. For information on growing seeds, we have a video, as well as an article. You can search the OSU Extension publications catalog or news feed for more resources.

Do not harvest the spears the first spring of planting. They should be left to form "ferns," which provide food for the plant. The second spring after planting, a few shoots can be harvested, but only for a week or two. Leave the rest to feed developing roots. The third spring and thereafter, harvest spears until mid-June, then allow the fern to grow and keep the root crown healthy.

Asparagus should be fertilized in the spring as spears emerge and again right after the last harvest in June for older plantings.

To harvest, grasp 5- to 8-inch-long spears at the base and bend them toward the ground. The spear will snap where it is free of fiber. Spears may also be cut with a knife, but make sure not to damage the emerging spears. Quality deteriorates rapidly after harvest. If you can't eat your asparagus immediately, refrigerate or process it.

Information on how to pickle asparagus is in the online OSU publication, PNW 355 "Pickling Vegetables."

Asparagus varieties recommended for Oregon by OSU include Mary Washington, Jersey Knight, Jersey Giant, UC 157, Purple Passion, Sweet Purple, and Millennium.



Country Kitchen

By Mary Emma Allen



CREATE A HERITAGE
RECIPE BOOK

Creating a heritage recipe book is a way to save your family food history and stories connected with them.

Favorite recipes can tell one aspect of a family story. When were they served? Who traditionally prepared them? Were they handed down through the generations or a new recipe you discovered and recently began serving?

Various Methods of Compiling
Recipes

You'll find various methods of compiling these recipes. Try something mentioned below, combine one or two of them, or seek out something of your own.

* Recipe Cards - These are one of the easiest ways to collect recipes. You can put them in a recipe box, or slide them into compartments in a photo album

* Books made especially for recipe collecting - My daughter found a three-ring recipe binder, made especially for jotting down recipes on the included pages. You also can add sketches.

* Photo albums of various sizes where you can include photos - These have pages for inserting recipe cards and for larger pages with recipes written on them. There is room, too, for photos of family gatherings, youngsters cooking, and foods they've made.

* Albums that incorporate scrapbooking techniques - With scrapbook albums, you can paste or attach recipes on cards or scrapbooking papers. Then adorn with photos and various decorative touches.

* Computer programs that save recipes and stories - There are a

number of programs that enable you to compile a cookbook.

Brainstorming Recipes

Try brainstorming some of the recipes your family enjoys and the stories associated with them. Think of recipes, simple and fancy, that your family enjoys, recipes you and your children want to remember over the years.

Do you have recipes handed down through the generations? We have a lined notebook in which my aunt wrote recipes made for family meals, those from both her grandmothers, other relatives and neighbors.

PIZZA SALAD is a modern one my daughter makes. It became a favorite with her family.

In a large bowl, combine 1 pound cooked and drained macaroni (regular or spiral type), 3 medium seeded and diced tomatoes, 1-pound cheddar cheese cubed, 2 bunches chopped green onions or 1 small onion diced, 3 ounces sliced pepperoni.

In a small bowl combine 3/4 cup vegetable or olive oil, 2/3 cup grated Parmesan cheese, 1/3 cup red wine vinegar, 2 teaspoons dried oregano, 1 teaspoon garlic powder (optional), 1 teaspoon salt, 1/4 teaspoon pepper. Pour this over the macaroni mixture.

Cover and refrigerate for several hours. Top with croutons before serving, if desired.

(You may vary the amounts of ingredients and seasonings to suit your taste.)

(C) Mary Emma Allen

(Mary Emma Allen, who grew up on a farm, often writes about nostalgic and Inspirational topics.)

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**Use it
OR
Lose it**

Ever wonder why small businesses close? Without a supportive local customer base it's very hard to exist.

Economists say every dollar we spend turns over up to seven times. That means a dollar spent "in town" equals a loss of \$7 for local trade, wages, tax support, and other community benefits. Each \$100 spent in the metro area for gas, food, and shopping translates into a \$700 gain for that community, not ours. That \$700 may not seem to amount to much to them, but it does to us.

Let's keep part of the dollars we spend here, and working for us.

mckenzieriverreflectionsnewspaper.com

Shop at Home, it makes \$ense

Community Notes

February 1 Tax Workshop

The Lane County Assessor's Office is offering a free business personal property tax workshop on Thursday, February 1.

What: Free business personal property tax workshop

When: Thursday, February 1, 2024 from 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Where: Harris Hall (125 E. 8th Avenue, Eugene)

Who: Business owners and those responsible for business bookkeeping

The workshop will cover the following topics:

- * Who is responsible for filing
- * How to file a Personal Property Return
- * Personal Property Return timeline/late filing penalty
- * Consequences of not filing a Personal Property Return

A coaching session with a personal property specialist will be available immediately following the workshop.

Please RSVP to Assessor@Lane-CountyOR.gov or 541-682-6798.

February 3 Seedling & Native Plant Sale

The Lane County Chapter of Oregon Small Woodlands Association will host its Annual Seedling & Native Plant Sale on Saturday, February 3rd, at Alton Baker Park (100 Day Island Road, Eugene - Building B: east end of the park). Hours are 8 to 11 or until sold out (please arrive early to receive a number for entrance – sales are on a first come, first served basis).

While waiting to enter pavilion, Oregon Dept. of Forestry representative, Dan Menk, Stewardship Forester with Oregon Department of Forestry, and Lauren Grand, OSU Extension Forester, will be on hand to answer questions. Once the sale begins, folks will be asked to enter as numbers are called.

February 3 Dime At A Time

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

February 3 Disaster Debrief

The Upper McKenzie Community Center will facilitate a conversation following the most recent ice storm and power outage that affected our community. It is scheduled for Sat Feb 3rd, from 1 to 3 p.m. at the Upper McKenzie Community Center, 54745 McKenzie River Drive. Key points will include: "What did we learn?" "What can we do better?" Other topics will include planning and preparedness, communication channels like GMRS radios and internet options, agencies and organizations working together,

supplies and equipment (such as generators), and community needs.

Through February 4 Debris Dropoff

In the aftermath of last week's severe weather, Lane County has opened the Hendricks Bridge County Park for storm debris drop-off. Private property owners can bring debris free of charge Through February 4th 8 am to 4 pm.

Accepted Debris:** - Tree limbs and branches, Trees less than 24" in diameter (larger trees cut down to 24" in diameter or less), and Heavy shrubbery.

Not Accepted: Household garbage or recycling, Building materials (plywood, damaged siding, etc.), Regular yard debris (grass, mulch, etc.), Rocks or earth, Tree root balls, Materials larger than 24" in diameter

Hendricks Bridge Park - East of milepost 10 on Hwy 126 East

February 5 Kids Eat Free

Kids eat free every Monday (with adult meal purchase) at Craig's Lucky Logger Restaurant & Henry's Bar, 39297 McKenzie Hwy. Takeout, Dine-in, Outdoor seating (541) 726-9088.

February 6 Board of Commissioners

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

February 6 Coffee With Locals

Come have a cup of coffee with the locals (paid for by Locals Helping Locals). Catch up with your neighbors, discuss how you are doing in the fire recovery process, and share your successes and struggles. From 10 to 11 a.m. at the McKenzie Bridge General Store, 91837 Taylor Rd Contact Brenda Hamlow with questions: (541) 729-9802.

February 6 Family Story Time

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

February 6 Coffee With Locals

Come have a cup of coffee from 10 to 11 a.m. with the locals (paid for by Locals Helping Locals) at the McKenzie Bridge General Store, 91837 Taylor Rd,

McKenzie Bridge Catch up with your neighbors, discuss how you are doing in the fire recovery process, and share your successes and struggles. Contact Brenda Hamlow with questions: (541) 729-9802.

February 6 EWEB Board Meeting

Customers and the general public are welcome and encouraged to attend in person or watch a live stream of the meeting in real-time at tinyurl.com/bdhw8k7y.

Commissioners hold regularly scheduled public meetings on the first Tuesday of each month, typically starting at 5:30 p.m. Customers and the general public are welcome and encouraged to attend.

An interpreter can be provided with 48 hours' notice prior to the meeting. To arrange for this service, call 541-685-7000.

Each person will have up to three minutes to speak, though the Board President may adjust speaking time as needed. The President will announce the speaking time at the start of the Public Input session.

Alternatively, people may submit written testimony to be provided to the board in advance of the meeting.

February 7 Board of Commissioners

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

February 7 Blue River Water Board

The will meet at 7 p.m. More info @ www.blueriverwaterdistrict.com.

February 7 Blue River Park Board

The board will meet at 7:15 p.m. More info @ [/www.blueriverpark.com](http://www.blueriverpark.com).

February 7 Cornhole League

The Upper McKenzie Cornhole League meets from 5 to 6:30 p.m. at 54745 McKenzie River Drive in Rainbow. Join in for some free Cornhole fun at the Upper McKenzie Community Center. We're tossing bags on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of every month at 5 p.m.! Bring some snacks to share.

February 9 Chili Feed

The Walterville Grange will host their annual Chili Feed on Friday, February 9, from 5 to 7 p.m. Family, and tell your friends and neighbors are invited for some rootin' tootin' homemade chili, cornbread, salad, dessert, and

Looking forward

By Keri Fountain

Many people have found Marty Sullivan to be a friendly member of the McKenzie community since moving here in 1999.

A central Oregon native, he grew up in Bend but had golfed at Tokatee since the late 70's. Marty says he's looking forward to future outings on the greens along the more family time along the McKenzie.

After moving over from the East side, he lived in McKenzie Bridge. Marty got to know more people as a gas attendant for Darin Harbick in Rainbow before moving to Leaburg where he's worked at the Leaburg Store for over a decade. During that time he's seen the small business go through many changes.

"I'd never really been involved in the community, but working for the store has embedded me in it." Part of that experience included seeing familiar faces and "helping those who would come into the store as regulars - or the ones just passing through."

Some of the best parts of his



Marty Sullivan (center) with Jon and Jerryi-Jo Payne of the Leaburg Store.

time behind the counter came after the current owners, Jerri-Jo and Jon Payne, purchased the Leaburg Store in 2020. "Everything JJ and Jon have done is for the good," Marty feels. "They have turned it around and put money back into the store, which has provided a community within its walls for its customers and employees."

Marty says he's now looking forward to his time golfing and "enjoying the beautiful outdoor environment the McKenzie has to offer."

Paver Sales Remain Open

The Vida McKenzie Community Center will continue to offer opportunities to buy engraved pavers for their patio. As a fundraiser, continuing sales will support the completed work and provide for additional enhancements. As batches of new paver purchases are made, the engraver will furnish and install the newly etched pavers. Call 541-953-3440 or willmarlys@gmail.com.

Spring 2024 Master Gardeners

The OSU Extension Service Lane County Master Gardeners have announced their public Pruning class schedule for 2024. Lane County Master Gardeners are offering public pruning classes in the winter and spring of 2024. Class participants will learn about pruning tools and equipment, tool care, as well as techniques to prune specific types of trees and ornamentals. Master Gardeners are eager to share their knowledge and experience with participants and want their class experience to be interactive, fun, and educational. Pre-Registration is required. For a full list of classes, details, locations, and pre-registration information visit our events page: <https://extension.oregonstate.edu/county/lane/events> For more information, please contact the OSU Extension Service – Lane County office, 996 Jefferson Street, Eugene (enter on 10th at the wheelchair ramp) 541-344-5859 or at: <http://extension.oregonstate.edu/lane>

Ice Damage Survey

Lane County is encouraging both renters and property owners to complete an ice damage reporting form that will be used to help the county and its partners understand the long-term recovery needs of the community.

Officials advise people to still work with their insurance companies to pursue reimbursement for eligible damages and repairs. However, there are currently no government resources available to repair private properties or businesses. People can access the form at: tinyurl.com/yh77m3p5



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

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- 1. Contact Us: Call (877) 469-8517 or visit www.veteran.org
- 2. Schedule Pickup: We'll come to your location for FREE.
- 3. Receive Tax Deduction: We'll provide you with a receipt for your donation.

How Your Vehicle Donation Helps Veterans

- Support Veterans Nonprofits
- Free Pickup & Towing
- Top Tax Deduction

How Your Vehicle Donation Helps Veterans: Your vehicle donation directly helps to provide our nation's Veterans with much needed supplies and services, such as: prosthetic limbs, dental care, hearing aids, and more. Your donation also helps to support our nation's Veterans in need of financial assistance, such as: housing, food, and more. Your donation also helps to support our nation's Veterans in need of medical assistance, such as: prosthetic limbs, dental care, hearing aids, and more.

Donate Your Vehicle Today
877-469-8517

While we appreciate every donation, in some cases, we find that we are unable to accept certain vehicles, vehicles, and/or non-motorized vehicles due to the poor condition of the vehicle. If you have any questions, please give us a call at (877) 469-8517.

Ski Report

January 30, 2023

The Hoodoo Ski Resort reported temperatures of 42 degrees at the base and 41 degrees at mi-mountain on Tuesday. No new snow fell overnight, leaving the snowpack at 39 inches. For more information call 541-822-3337.

Mt. Bachelor reported temperatures of 42 degrees at the base and 37 degrees near the summit on Tuesday. No new snow fell overnight, leaving the snowpack at 67 inches. Warmer conditions were expected for the day, with clear skies and surfaces likely to be spring-like. 84 of 122 trails were open, along with 9 of 12 lifts. For more information call 541-382-7888.

A Moment in History

Info provided by History.com

January 25, 1776 - The Continental Congress authorizes the first national Revolutionary War memorial in honor of Brigadier General Richard Montgomery, who had been killed during an assault on Quebec on December 31, 1775.

Montgomery, along with Benedict Arnold, led a two-pronged invasion of Canada in late 1775. Before joining Arnold at Quebec, Montgomery successfully took Montreal. But the Patriot assault on Quebec failed, and Montgomery became one of the first generals of the American Revolution to lose his life on the battlefield.

When word of his death reached Philadelphia, Congress voted to create a monument to Montgomery's memory and entrusted Benjamin Franklin to secure one of France's best artists to craft it. Franklin hired King Louis XV's personal sculptor, Jean Jacques Caffieri, to design and build the monument.

In 1788, it was installed under the direction of Major Pierre Charles L'Enfant beneath the portico of St. Paul's Chapel in New York City.

CROSSWORD SOLUTION

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SUDOKU SOLUTION

4	5	9	1	7	2	8	3	6
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9	2	4	3	8	1	6	7	5
5	3	6	7	9	4	2	8	1

Sheriff's Report

Continued From Page 3

4:50 p.m: Welfare Check - 55400 blk, McK. River Dr.

6:11 p.m: Traffic Hazard - 90300 blk, Hill Rd.

Jan. 19: 5:56 a.m: Medical Info Call - 41600 blk, Madrone St.

9:12 a.m: Welfare Check - 42700 blk, McK. Hwy.

10:08 a.m: Water Patrol - Bellinger Landing.

10:10 a.m: Suspicious Vehicle - Hill Rd. & Old Mohawk Rd. Abandoned trailer, deputy tagged for removal.

10:22 a.m: Welfare Check - 48100 blk, Conley Rd.

12:32 p.m: Welfare Check - 45500 blk, McK. Hwy.

1:37 p.m: Assist Fire Department - 43000 blk, McK. Hwy.

6:11 p.m: Traffic Hazard - 90300 blk, Hill Rd.

Jan. 20: 10:39 a.m: Welfare Check - 92800 blk, Jones Acres Rd.

11:12 a.m: Assault - 39900 blk, McK. Hwy. Deputy attempted phone contact on an ongoing case from several months ago.

1:32 am Assault - 90700 blk, Hill Rd. Deputies responded to an assault that had just occurred and arrested the involved male, Brandon Bentley, for Assault 4 and Strangulation.

1:51 pm Suspicious Vehicle - 36500 blk, Camp Creek Rd. A vehicle reportedly had been parked in the area for a while. it was gone when a deputy patrolled the area.

12:45 p.m: Alarm - 89900 blk, Greenwood Dr.

12:55 p.m: Vehicle Stop - McK. Hwy. & Page Ln.

1:02 p.m: Tree Down - 39500 blk, McK. Hwy.

3:05 p.m: Assist Oregon State Police - McK. Hwy. & Mp. 21.

5:36 p.m: Suspicious Vehicle - 41900 blk, Deerhorn Rd. An occupied vehicle was parked under the bridge. The occupant was warned for violation of park rules.

6:35 p.m: Driving While Suspended - McK. Hwy. & Holden Creek Ln.

7:27 p.m: Hit & Run - 39000 blk, Hendricks Park Rd. An unknown vehicle struck a power pole, knocking down powerlines, and fled the area.

8:05 p.m: Alarm - 39200 blk, McK. Hwy.

Jan. 21: 12:24 a.m: Motor Vehicle Accident, Unknown Injury - McK. Hwy. Mp. 22.

3:48 p.m: Disturbance,

Dispute - Deerhorn Rd. & McK. Hwy. An area resident was upset with workers' ongoing road/power repairs and blocked the roadway with their vehicle, impeding repairs. Deputy responded and resolved the dispute.

Jan. 24: 12:39 p.m: Assist Outside Agency - Deerhorn Rd. & McK. Hwy.

1:32 p.m: Motor Vehicle Accident, Injury - Marcola Rd. & Farkas Ln.

2:15 p.m: Traffic Hazard - McK. Hwy. & Thurston Rd.

2:52 p.m: Suspicious Vehicle - 92200 blk, Carson St. Abandoned vehicle, tagged by weighmaster for removal.

3:36 p.m: Abandoned Vehicle - 92200 blk, Carson St.

5:24 p.m: Harassment - 92000 blk, Marcola Rd.

Jan. 25: 25: 2:15 p.m: Traffic Hazard - McK. Hwy. & Thurston Rd.

5:24 p.m: Harassment - 92000 blk, Marcola Rd. Caller received threatening texts, which stopped after mentioning calling law enforcement.

9:40 p.m: Welfare Check - 91600 blk, burton Dr.

10:22 p.m: Open Gate - 38400 blk, Shotgun Creek Rd.

10:37 p.m: Incomplete 911 Call - 35000 blk, McK. View Dr.

Jan. 26: 10:55 a.m: Welfare Check - 38000 blk, MJ Chase Rd.

12:57 p.m: Subpoena Service - 87900 blk, Tamora Dr.

2:09 p.m: Citizen Contact - River St. & McK. Hwy.

2:58 p.m: Suspicious Conditions - Shenandoah Lp. & Worth Rd.

3:39 p.m: Mental Subject - 7900 blk, Thurston Rd.

4:16 p.m: Violation of Restraining Order - 41400 blk, McK. Hwy.

Jan. 27: 1:59 p.m: Illegal Shooting - McGowan Creek Rd. Milepost 5.5. BLM officer contacted an illegal shooter and gave them a warning.

3:13 p.m: Hit & Run - 92100 blk, Marcola Rd.

4:32 p.m: Suspicious Conditions - Marcola Rd. & Old Mohawk Rd. A communications truck was parked at location for two days, caller concerned someone hurt. Truck was parked to hold up a communications line.

5:03 p.m: Welfare Check - 54400 blk, McK. Hwy.

Jan. 28: 3:19 a.m: 3:19 a.m: Disturbance, Dispute - 89000 blk, Bridge St. Dispute between spouses. Male left, likely intoxicated, and refused to meet with deputies to make a report. Female was contacted at her house, uninjured.

10:45 a.m: Suspicious Subject - 90000 blk, Marcola Rd. A gray "King cab" pickup and two

Improve your business for free



Tumisu/Pixabay

Destination Creation Course, a nationally recognized program for small businesses, is being offered to McKenzie River startups, entrepreneurs, and other enterprise owners free of charge on February 24th and March 2nd.

The two day course will involve two all-day sessions with breakfast and lunch provided. Funding for the classes, valued at \$800, comes from Lane County and RAIN Catalysts.

"This course gave me so many great detailed and concrete ideas for creative marketing for my business. As a new business owner, I also found it very inspiring and a great opportunity to network," said Megan Casad, owner of Pegasus Pie Co., who attended

a prior course held Washington's Skagit County.

Course topics will include: Becoming a Destination Business, Your Unique Positioning, Your Leadership Responsibility, Targeting Your Most-Profitable Customers, Capturing Consumer and Media Attention, Creating a Customer-Focused, Marketing Your Destination Business, and Collective Marketing.

Seats are dependent on acceptance and first come first serve basis. Please send in your application ASAP. The deadline is February 9th at 11:59 p.m. Space is limited. Learn More & How to Apply Online at: melissa@raincatalysts.org.

Quote of the Week

"Competition is the law of the jungle, but cooperation is the law of civilization."

Peter Kropotkin

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"The Big One"

Continued From Page 1



View of Mount St. Helens from Spirit Lake before the eruption. (Photo courtesy of the U.S. Forest Service)

Once a symmetrical, cone-shaped mountain, the eruption carved out the entire north side, leaving a massive crater in its wake.

The Mount St. Helens eruption on May 18, 1980. (Photo courtesy of the U.S. Geological Survey)

Among the many obvious differences between a volcano and an earthquake, one in particular stands out: volcano eruptions are a helluva lot easier to predict than an earthquake. Of course, it's impossible to predict the exact moment of eruption or its severity, but a volcano's got some telltale signs it's about to burst. There are earthquakes, steam, ground swelling, new hot spots, and changes in gas composition.

An earthquake, on the other hand, provides very little for scientists to go off of. The best information comes from looking back in time at an area's seismic history. Scientists can calculate the probability of a significant earthquake occurring within a certain time period, but never exactly when.

Unlike earthquakes, people knew that Mount St. Helens would erupt months before it actually did. A danger zone was mapped out by government officials to show where people should not be when it erupted, and the people living within this zone were told to evacuate prior to the eruption.

Yet 57 people were killed on May 18, 1980, and only three of them were in the designated danger zone, according to Steve Olsen, author of "Eruption: The Untold Story of Mount St. Helens." The rest were in areas labeled safe.

Money Over Lives

The designated danger zone ended where logging by the timber company Weyerhaeuser began. Local officials were reluctant to label logging areas as dangerous because it would stop business. In a National Geographic interview with Olsen, he's quoted saying "if [the eruption] had happened during a weekday, hundreds of loggers would have died. I talked to people who said, 'If it had been Monday through Friday during the day, I wouldn't be here talking with you right now.'"

The fatality number from the Mount St. Helens eruption is an example of mismatched priorities – money over human life. But it's also an example of how little we really do know about the random, destructive forces that lie beneath our feet. Yes, volcanoes are easier

to predict than earthquakes; no, that should not give you peace of mind.

The Powerful Pull of Home

A few people chose to stay home, inside the danger zone, during the Mount St. Helens eruption. The person made most famous by this decision was Harry Truman (not the president), the eccentric 83-year-old owner of Mount St. Helens Lodge along Spirit Lake at the base of the mountain. In response to evacuation efforts, he was quoted saying "they'll never get me off this mountain. Spirit Lake and Mount St. Helens are a part of me – they're mine. They're as much a part of me as my arms and legs."

Truman was more stubborn than a lot of people would be in his situation, but I understand his thinking. Home is people and place; the older you get, the more rooted to place you can become. These strong ties aren't exclusive to rural places – I have ties to several cities – but it's no coincidence that people tend to "go home," to settle in smaller communities, as they age. Harry Truman told journalists that "life comes in three parts."

"First," he said, "you work your ass off and get a few coupons to clip. Then you hang around the crest for a while. Then it's all downhill and clipping coupons if you're lucky – just riding her out. That's where I am now, kind of coming down the hill."

It becomes harder to leave a place the longer you're there, no matter the storms that may be headed your way.

The next PNW catastrophe probably won't be a volcano (knock on wood). But there is significant likelihood the Big One – that 9.0 earthquake – will hit within some of our lifetimes.

Yet even with this knowledge, there are a whole lot of people remaining west of Interstate 5, inside the tsunami danger zone along the rural Oregon and Washington coast. Of the factors inside and outside our control that dictate where we live, I do find it admirable when people choose to stay.

Whether it's a rural-specific characteristic or not, it is certainly one that presents itself strongly in rural communities across the country, and it's my favorite small town trait: the determination, against all odds, to hold onto home.

More than one way

What to do when you don't have your elephant gun? Call the McKenzie River Guides.

That was local Lane Electric Coop lineman Herb Anderson's solution when the tool normally used to fire a string long distances was already busy on another ice storm restoration project.

Instead, Steve Schaefer and Will Rutherford used their boats to pull a 400 foot rope across the McKenzie River just below the decommissioned Rosboro Bridge. Giving them ground support were four other linemen from DJ's Electric, a regional contractor that's often called in to provide extra manpower after large outages.

If nothing else, Herb said he's sure the Coop members who live in the two house on the river's south bank were happy to get their power restored.



Three Sisters Meadow Community Listening Session Scheduled



In the fall of 2021, sisters Kathy, Becky and Jody Jones, owners of the Seneca Family of Companies, donated 16-acres in the core of Blue River for community benefit in response to a written request by McKenzie nonprofit organizations. The property was named Three Sisters Meadow by community representatives to honor the generosity of the Jones sisters.

A community listening session will be held at the McKenzie Community School old gym on Thursday, February 15th from 6-8pm with a tour of Three Sisters Meadow (51480 Blue River Drive) the Saturday prior, February 10th from 1-3pm.

An online survey will be available for those who cannot attend the events, available February 10-24 on mckenzieclt.org/three-sisters-meadow.

To align with the Transportation and Growth Management (TGM) process of rezoning Blue River, the nonprofit representatives want to hear from McKenzie community members and their vision for Three Sisters Meadow - such as jobs, commercial development, housing, or open space. Your feedback will help inform any zoning changes on the site and potential future uses for the land.

Any development that occurs on Three Sisters Meadow will require wastewater infrastructure. The site has also been considered as the location for a community wastewater system. Due to its proximity to the McKenzie River, there are limitations to on-site wastewater capacity, which may limit development. Rob Woodard, Special District Project Manager with Lane County, will share about the wastewater assessments at the listening session.

Laura Buhl, Land Use & Transportation Planner with TGM, will also present at the listening session about the rezoning process in Blue River and how Three Sisters Meadow aligns with it.

Since the community of Blue River is unincorporated, the nonprofit McKenzie River Trust (MRT) was asked by the nonprofit partners to accept the donation

of land as the interim landowner. MRT has been stewarding the property and managing it as public open space.

The nonprofit partners that requested the donation of land are:

McKenzie School District, McKenzie Community Track and Field, McKenzie Valley Wellness, O'Brien Library, McKenzie River Trust, Blue River Water District, Blue River Park District, McKenzie River Guides Association, McKenzie Education Foundation, McKenzie Community Partnership, Collaborative Economic Development Oregon, McKenzie River Locals Helping Locals, Upper McKenzie Community Center, McKenzie River Chamber of Commerce, and Homes for Good.

The partner organizations have met to discuss next steps in this process, facilitated by McKenzie Community Land Trust (MCLT). MCLT is operating as a neutral party. TBG Architects + Planners have been hired with grant funding from the Community Rebuilding Fund to help guide the process and develop a master plan.

The state and Lane County-led Blue River Complete Community Plan Project, expected to end in June, will update the zoning for the Blue River area. These listening sessions will help to uncover what the future may hold for Three Sisters Meadow and ensure that the new zoning code will allow for the long-term community vision at Three Sisters Meadow.

The site visit on February 10 will offer a chance to walk the grounds and discuss the potential uses, while the listening session on February 15 will be more formal, facilitated by TBG Planners. A survey will accompany these sessions and will be made available to those who are unable to attend.

To learn more and participate in the online survey go to mckenzieclt.org/three-sisters-meadow.

Emergency? Call 911

\$10 property fee cut from controversial wildfire funding plan, but big timber could still get break

A January 12th draft of the wildfire funding proposal, sponsored by Sen Elizabeth Steiner, D-Portland, and a workgroup she convened last fall, no longer includes the prospect of a \$10 fee on Oregon's 2 million property holders. Such a fee would have

raised an estimated \$20 million a year, about 15% of the projected total cost for wildfire protection in 2024. The shift came two days after reporting by the Capital Chronicle on the proposal and the first discussions of the plan by lawmakers

during pre-session hearings. The draft proposal still includes cuts to the per-acre fees that timber and ranch landowners pay to the Oregon Department of Forestry for fire protection, potentially saving them up to \$12 million per year. The proposal would create a new State Forestry Department Large Wildfire Fund, but does not include details about where money for that would come from, only that it would be appropriated by the Legislature. A copy of the Jan. 12 draft legislative concept, an early version of a legislative bill, was obtained by the Capital Chronicle on Monday after Steiner's office and Tess Seger, director of communications for the Oregon Senate Democrats, declined to provide a copy. "To avoid any confusion or misconceptions, we're going to hold off on sharing the (legislative concept) until it is more finalized," Seger said in an email. She declined to confirm whether

the draft was the most recent version of Steiner's proposal. Steiner will present her wildfire funding proposal to the Legislature during the upcoming short session that begins Feb. 5. Seger did confirm the \$10 fee is no longer part of Steiner's proposal. "In the past few days it became clear that there wasn't going to be time during the 35-day session to pursue that aspect of the proposal," Seger said in an email. The Capital Chronicle first reported generally about Steiner's wildfire funding proposal Jan. 3, and on Jan. 10, it published an in-depth story on the plan, including the controversial makeup of the work group. Four of the 11 members are employed by industrial timber companies and an industry group. That industry group and one of the timber companies, Weyerhaeuser, donated to Steiner's current campaign for state treasurer while the fire funding

work group was meeting. Steiner had initially sought to create more sustainable wildfire funding streams for the Oregon Department of Forestry, and to cut the per-acre fees east Oregon ranch and small timber landowners pay. Some landowners have seen rates increase 40% following wildfire spending cuts from the Legislature in 2023. But the workgroup she convened appeared to be dominated by members employed by the timber industry. Critics of Steiner's proposal had said charging industrial timber landowners less while asking all Oregon property owners to pay \$10 more was regressive, and would shift wildfire protection costs from companies worth billions of dollars on to everyday Oregonians. "Removing the inequitable \$10 fee is a step in the right direction, but that alone does not 'save' the work group's proposal," Jody Wiser, founder of the watchdog group Tax Fairness Oregon, said in an email. "It is a \$12 million tax break for owners of timber and grazing land.



Northwest Interagency Coordination Center) A controversial wildfire funding proposal has changed in recent days. It's sponsors will no longer ask all Oregon property owners to pay \$10 a year to help offset fire protection costs on forest and ranch landowners.

McKenzie Eagles Sports Report

By Cliff Richardson

losses last week, on consecutive days, as the Mt. West League schedule re-adjusted to the recent storm activities. Over on the Mohawk, the Mt. West League leading Mustangs held the Eagles to single digits, out pointing their old rivals 38-6, last Tuesday, January 23. Mohawk sits atop the MWL alone with a 6-0 record and one game ahead of Mapleton at 6-1. Speaking of Mapleton, McKenzie were the gracious hosts to the Sailors of the Siuslaw

the next evening, Wednesday, January 24, and, despite good old Eagle hospitality, were handed a 19-31 dunking. McKenzie's first year Head Girls Basketball Coach Heather Holte and her young team jumped in the bus with their Eagle boys team counterparts for a ride over to Crow the next evening, Thursday, January 25, for their third game in as many days. That schedule is tough on a good day, with an experienced squad, and the young Eagles found the going tough on a hostile League court. The Cougars defeated McKenzie 30-19, for their second MWL victory, both coming from the Eagles. McKenzie dropped to 1-6, 1-14 on the 2023-24 season and is currently ranked 72nd out of 73 OSAA Class 1A teams. Mt. West League opponent Siletz Valley is the 73rd ranked team. Mohawk, the MWL leader is currently ranked 30th. No game stats were available at press time.

Jobs open with Willamette Forest

The Willamette National Forest is now accepting applications for seasonal positions for the 2024 season. Make a lasting impact on the world around you and unlock opportunities for professional growth and career advancement. Applications must be submitted on www.USAJOB.gov by Wednesday, Feb. 7, 2024. Selections will be made by April 10, 2024, and position start dates range from June 30 to Oct. 6, 2024. Be sure to review the job announcement carefully for deadlines and required information

to include in your application. Join the Forest Service and be a part of the team that is committed to caring for the land and serving people. Our mission is to protect our natural resources for multiple uses for today and for future generations. The Willamette National Forest is hiring for a variety of seasonal positions across a range of program areas, including administrative, archeology, engineering, fire, hydrology, biological sciences, recreation, and timber. Positions

are available for the Santiam River Zone (Sweet Home and Detroit Ranger Districts), McKenzie River Ranger District, Middle Fork Ranger District, and the Springfield Interagency Office. Visit the Forest Service Careers webpage to learn more about career opportunities, benefits, hiring events, and resources to help with the application process. Visit our website at www.fs.usda.gov/willamette and follow us on Twitter and Facebook @willamettenf for the latest updates.

Hatcheries dewatered

Continued From Page 1

fish raised on the McKenzie had to be released about five months ahead of schedule and didn't have good survival rates after heading downstream. Despite the disappointing number of returns Fish & Wildlife was able to capture enough fish to just barely meet the

numbers needed for broodstock. While it's expected returns this year will be up, the impacts of the fire will most likely be noted by the low numbers of five-year-olds that are landed. Countering that, however, was the surprising arrival of Coho in

the left bank fish sorter at Leaburg Dam this year. Though not native to the McKenzie, 50 or more were allowed to migrate upriver. Romer said it's likely an emergency Coho fishery will be designed in August, giving sport fishers a new

Rosanne Cash

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There Are Good Things To Keep In Mind

As we deal with another challenging year, resolutions for change are a good idea. Among actions to avoid, however, would be spending your hard-earned dollars outside our local communities.

Shopping at Home will help McKenzie Valley businesses continue to be supporters of area organizations, schools, and churches that in turn have counterbalanced the adverse impacts of the Lookout Fire..

Working together, we will remain “McKenzie Strong.”

MRR

McKenzie River Reflections

mckenzieriverreflectionsnewspaper.com

Shop at Home, it makes \$ense