



## JP Doodles

There's times when expectations meet reality

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## Home Country

"This guy says we been run by lizard folks for a long time now"

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## Good habits

What we do in the garden and kitchen can be problematic

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## Great day for a Parade



Boy Scouts continue to be at the head of the Waltherville Fair Parade.



Plants overflowed the McKenzie River Nursery's entry.



Gerry Aster gave enthusiasm a capital "E."



Hot rod? Of course, what's a parade without one?



Horses, too, always bring smiles to the faces of onlookers.



Every parade deserves a princess.

## Rain cleared the air for Run's return

MCKENZIE BRIDGE: Organizers of the annual McKenzie River Trail Run faced triple threats this year that could have led to cancellation of the event. Hurdles to overcome included increased safety requirements related to a rise in COVID infections, closure of half the planned route due to a wildfire near Deer Creek and poor air quality because of intense smoke infusions from other fires.

Luckily, on the Friday before last Saturday's race, there was good news. "Despite all odds MRTR 2021 is a go!" Race director Tim Hooton was glad to report. "Blessed rain overnight has cleared the smoke and damped the trail dust perfectly. Tomorrow's forecast is shaping up to be excellent. For those of you who bucked the odds you will experience the most technical foot work in MRTR's 34 years so have fun but be safe."

He was referring to changes to the traditional course when the fire closures meant the whole middle section had to be eliminated. In order to cover the 41 miles needed for a 50k event, organizers had to shift to a zone extending East from Blue Pool, another 1 1/2 miles on the Santiam Wagon Road, then a double round of circling Clear Lake and back down to Blue Pool. That meant runners would be passing through lava zones four times.

Following the race, though, runners weren't complaining online.

"Great race directors and awesome volunteers at the aid stations," according to John Lotts. "Always my favorite trail race of the year but this year just reaffirmed that."

Irene Beatriz Ramos provided a positive take as well. "I had an amazing time running this race

for the first time," she noted. "I am also hoping to come back next year."

"Myself and my coworkers

were absolutely thrilled," Hooton said. "We're cautiously optimistic we may be able to be back on the original course next year."



Annie McMahon, 39, of Milwaukee, OR, with a time of 5:27:15 placed first in the women's division.



Emmitt Saunders, 26, of Eugene, posted a time of 3:39:59 to lead the men's category.

## Buch files for re-election to board

Last Thursday, Lane County Commissioner Heather Buch (District 5) filed to run for a second term representing the East Lane County district.

As Chair of the County Commission in 2020, Buch led Lane County's response to crises on multiple fronts. Through the COVID-19 pandemic and the devastating Holiday Farm Fires, Buch notes she ensured her East Lane County district received critical

CARES Act and American Rescue Plan funding. She worked with two simultaneous emergency operations centers, and partnered with mayors and other local leaders to publicize critical and dependable public health information to all Lane County residents.

During the aftermath of the megafire, Commissioner Buch worked with an incident command team, the Oregon Office of Emergency Management, and

FEMA to protect Lane County families' lives and livelihoods. She successfully secured \$27.5 million from the Oregon Legislature's 2021 Special Committee on Wildfire Recovery to support the McKenzie area's recovery.

"As we continue to battle COVID-19 and rebuild from last year's unprecedented fires, I'm committed to jumpstarting the local small business economy and expanding

**Buch files - Page 2**



## Timeline was short for public input on Oregon's new redistricting maps

By Eric Tegethoff  
Oregon News Service  
A small window for public input to discuss the Oregon Legislature's proposed voting maps closed this week.

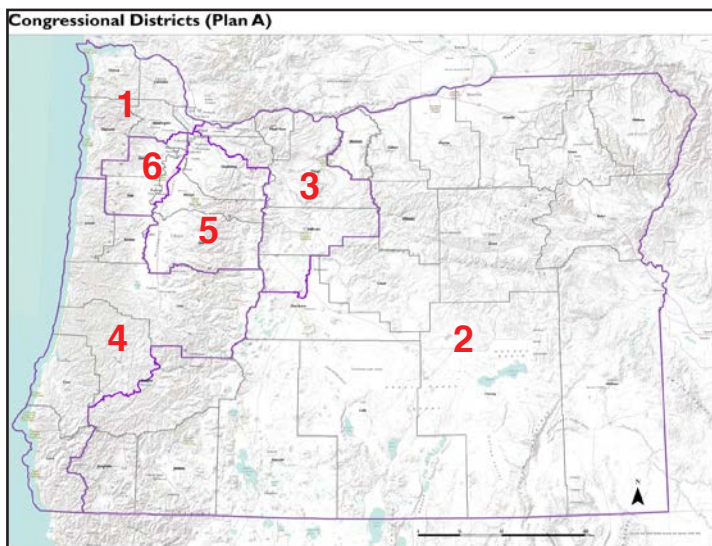
After receiving detailed census data in August, lawmakers released their recommended redistricting maps on September 3rd. They began holding virtual public meetings in the state's five current Congressional districts last Wednesday, with two scheduled for each district through Monday, followed by a statewide meeting that day.

Precious Edmonds, advocacy director for We Draw Oregon, pointed out people of color have seen their power diluted in the redistricting process in the past. Her group worked to make public meetings as

accessible as possible.

On the congressional level,

Oregon received an extra seat, making the redistricting process



The Oregon Legislature released two different maps, with Plan A above, for how to draw its six congressional districts.

Oregonlegislature.gov

especially important for power on the national level. Plans have also been released for the lines of the state's 30 Senate seats and 60 House seats. Edmonds emphasized drawing a line through communities can dilute their power.

"We advocate for, whenever possible, keeping communities as whole as possible to preserve that right," Edmonds explained.

Edmonds noted keeping communities whole also makes it more likely their representative will look like them. She added her organization already has identified some districts that could dilute power for Black, Indigenous and Latinx communities.

The Legislature aims to have new district maps completed by September 27th. More information at: alturl.com/inhyn



# “First Five” almost didn’t get to run



Thirty-four years ago, five men decided it would be fun to run fifty miles, launching the first McKenzie River Trail Run. They met again in Eugene last week - (from left) Jeff Sherman, Robert Cox, Phil Vaughn, George Cox, and John Postlethwait.

Thinking back, Robert Cox recalls, “The weather was nice and fairly warm but I was out of shape. Despite that, he and his brother George joined three other men to spend a day in the late 1980’s running along a trail that passed alongside a river and a lake, through stands of trees both big and small, and on a path that varied from forest duff to lava rock. In years to come hundreds more runners would annually do the same.

George Cox says the outing had been advertised as the first of a planned series of annual events. “I had run several marathons and it piqued my interest because of my history up the McKenzie.” His family background includes growing up along the Old McKenzie Highway and mining claims on Gold Hill.

The other runners had similar experiences they could share with the Coxes, having all run on various trails in the McKenzie drainage at one time or another.

“That’s what we do, we just go running,” according to John Postlethwait. “If things don’t go just right, we still go running.”

And that’s what they did.

Over the last three decades, the McKenzie River Trail Run has more than once faced threats leading to possible cancellations - ranging from floods taking out footbridges or danger from fires.

That very first year it was the latter.

“A fire came and all the volunteers who were to help were Forest Service people,” according to Jeff Sherman.

Because those EMT’s had just returned from several weeks of firefighting, organizers didn’t think it made sense to have exhausted people manning aid stations. They voted to cancel three nights before the scheduled kickoff.

“I heard Jeff and two or three runners were going to show up. We knew it wouldn’t be an official event but the five of us agreed to meet at 7 a.m. that Saturday morning,” Phil Vaughn said.

Although times to cover the course are now recorded and awards given out the “First Five” didn’t race each other.

“We just met to have some fun,” Sherman says. Their wives and some locals pitched in as well to man a couple roving aid stations that meet the group along the route.

After they completed the course, Sherman invited them over to his house for a spaghetti dinner, starting a friendship amongst them that has lasted over the years.

All of them have participated in other running events but all put the McKenzie River Trail Run in a category of its own.

Reminiscing about his experience at other places - from Crater

Lake to Berlin to Miami - Robert Cox said, “This has always been the nicest race as far as I’m concerned. There’s none like the McKenzie and Miami is all road and pavement.”

“Ultra runners are just an amazing community,” according to McKenzie Run director Tim Hooton. ““We’re all kind of odd ducks that are kind of different than other running communities and we always help each other out.”

That might shed some light on what occurred during one of Postlethwait’s training runs.

“Me and my buddy were going to do twenty miles, so we ran up ten miles and back. Five miles up there was a stump and I had a banana but didn’t want to carry it the whole way,”

When he came back down he could see it was still there. When he picked the banana up it was a little bit sloppy.

“Someone had broken it in half, presumably to eat half of it,” he said. “They left half and very carefully put the peel back together so it looked like it was intact.”

Members of the “First Five” have all participated in McKenzie River Trail Runs at one time or another. After their getting together again last week, at least three said they’ll likely be at the starting gate again in the future.



## Buch files

Continued From Page 1

housing with supported services for our unsheltered neighbors,” Buch said. “I’m running for re-election because there’s more work to be done to make our communities more resilient, and I’m not done fighting for Lane County’s families.”

Before her election to the Lane County Commission, Buch spent her professional career running a small real estate business for 15 years, specializing in affordable housing. She also worked as the Special Projects Director for St. Vincent DePaul Society of Lane County, Inc. She is the mother of a young daughter and wife of a Merchant Mariner and U.S. Navy reservist.

Buch was first elected in 2018, when she defeated incumbent Commissioner Gary Williams in a November run-off. District 5 includes the cities of Cottage Grove, Creswell, Oakridge, Lowell, Westfir, Coburg, portions of West Eugene, and numerous unincorporated communities like those along the McKenzie River.

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McKenzie Valley Showers 60% chance precip High: 71 Low: 56	Santiam Pass Showers 60% chance precip High: 57 Low: 44	McKenzie Valley Sct Thunderstorms 60% chance precip High: 65 Low: 50	Santiam Pass Showers 60% chance precip High: 49 Low: 38	McKenzie Valley Showers 60% chance precip High: 62 Low: 47	Santiam Pass Showers 60% chance precip High: 49 Low: 34

WEATHER REPORT					
READINGS TAKEN AT THE US ARMY CORPS COUGAR DAM					
Date	High	Low	Rain	Releases	
9/7	91	60	0	700 cfs	
9/8	88	52	0	710 cfs	
9/9	82	56	0	700 cfs	
9/10	69	49	0.25	700 cfs	
9/11	81	56	0	700 cfs	
9/12	78	50	0	700 cfs	
9/13	77	52	0	720 cfs	
READINGS TAKEN AT EWEB LEABURG POWERHOUSE					
Date	High	Low	Rain	Riverflow	
9/7	86	53	0	2,070 cfs	
9/8	80	53	0	2,070 cfs	
9/9	87	52	0	2,060 cfs	
9/10	82	56	0	2,040 cfs	
9/11	80	44	0	2,070 cfs	
9/12	82	48	0	2,070 cfs	
9/13	80	47	0	2,070 cfs	







# Lynching of innocent man kicked off Vigilante rule in Crook County

By Finn J.D. John

It was the Ides of March — March 15, 1882. A.H. Crooks and Stephen Jory were blazing the boundary lines of some land — cutting big marks in trees to mark what they claimed was the property line — near the ranch of a man named Lucius Langdon, near Prineville.

The two of them broke for lunch, and when they returned, Langdon was waiting for them — with a shotgun.

A few noisy, smoky seconds later, Crooks and Jory were dead. And their killing marked the start of a two-year period of rule by masked gunmen and lynch mobs in the Prineville area that sounds, today, like the plot of a Louis L'Amour novel — the story of the Crook County Vigilantes.

“When a band of men went outside the law ... to revenge the killings, they also hanged an innocent man, and started a rule by gun and rope that is one of the blackest chapters in Oregon’s history,” local rancher and future sheriff James Blakely told a Morning Oregonian reporter, many years later.

Vigilantes and Moonshiners

Blakely himself was no unbiased observer. He would, two years later, be the leader of the community group opposing the Vigilantes. Blakely’s anti-Vigilante group called itself the Moonshiners, because they kept watch when the moon was out, looking for masked Vigilante riders. (Remember, this was decades before Prohibition, when the name “moonshiner” would come to mean something entirely different.)

Blakely’s chief opponent was a frontier character named Colonel William “Bud” Thompson, a hard-fisted rancher, gunfighter and newspaperman. Although Colonel Thompson denied involvement with the Vigilantes, he wrote an eloquent defense of their methods in his book, published 30 years later, along with a noticeably Vigilante-friendly version of the whole story.

It is chiefly from the reminiscences of these two men — Blakely and Thompson — that we have the story of the Vigilante era, and their stories diverge wildly in places.





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Masked Rider Western

The November 1950 issue of Masked Rider Western, a pulp-fiction magazine, features cover art that, by sheer happenstance, is remarkably close to what actually happened to W.H. Harrison at the hands of the masked Vigilantes who lynched him.

The posse rides out

According to Blakely’s account, he (Blakely) was in town with Langdon’s hired hand, W.H. Harrison, when he heard the news that Crooks and Jory had been gunned down. Both men hurried to join a posse that was coming together to go out to Langdon’s ranch and bring him in. Another posse went to Langdon’s brother’s place, in case he’d gone there, but the killer was found at his own ranch.

Colonel Thompson’s account is a bit different. In it, he says Harrison wasn’t with the posse; instead, he was with Langdon at the brother’s place, and Harrison and Langdon fled when they heard the posse approach. Thompson also claims that they found 10 men who were completely unknown to them in the house with Langdon’s brother. It’s this story that most convinces me that Thompson’s is an unreliable account, for in it these 10 armed men are not arrested and nothing is ever heard from them again, as if they were minor characters in a Western pulp-magazine story. It’s almost certain that he made this up in

order to claim the Langdons were the leaders of a gang of outlaws, a gang conveniently made up entirely of strangers from out of town, and to justify the what was about to happen to Harrison, the hired hand — more on that in a minute.

In any case, the posse brought Langdon home under arrest, with Harrison riding with them as a posse member. Langdon was entrusted to Deputy Sheriff John Luckey, and everyone went to bed.

An early-morning lynching

Very early the next morning, though, as Deputy Luckey was sitting by the stove, the Vigilantes made their first move.

“The door was suddenly opened and I was caught and thrown backward on the floor and firmly held, while my eyes were blinded and immediately a pistol was fired rapidly 5 or 6 times. I heard someone groan about the time the firing ceased,” Deputy Luckey wrote in a subsequent report to his boss. “I went to Langdon and found him dead. I looked around and a masked man stood at each door, warning by ominous signs

for no one to undertake to leave the room.”

The Vigilantes then grabbed Harrison — it’s not clear whether he was in the room with Langdon when the masked riders burst in, or whether he came later, attracted by the activity. Langdon’s attackers put a rope around his neck and used a horse to drag him through the streets of Prineville to the bridge, where they strung his by-now-lifeless body from a banister.

Vigilante rule

It was the beginning of the Vigilantes’ reign of their own special kind of law and order in Prineville country — enforced by masked riders with drawn guns and ready ropes.

“The ‘Vigilantes’ who banded together that night to shoot Langdon and lynch the innocent Harrison stuck together for two years, getting bolder and bolder,” Blakely told the Oregonian.

The group took to sending death threats, with skull-and-crossbones emblems, to various people around town — some of whom, certainly, were rustlers and criminals, but others of whom were simply fellow ranchers opposed to their methods.

Colonel Thompson claims the escalation in Vigilante activity was in response to an increase in boldness and criminal activity, apparently by the unknown gang of 10 outlaws first encountered in Langdon’s brother’s house.

Public opinion starts to turn

Public opinion appears to have been on the Vigilantes’ side at first, which gives some credence to Colonel Thompson’s claim that the group formed out of frustration with ineffective local law enforcement. But it didn’t stay on their side for long. In fact, it seems to have turned on them later that year, in December, when the Vigilantes lynched a horse jockey named Charles Luster. The Vigilantes claimed Luster had been about to steal some horses, but most folks in town happened to know that Luster had just refused to throw a horse race at the behest of some prominent Vigilantes who’d bet against his horse; the sudden declaration that Luster was a horse thief seemed disturbingly convenient.

Moreover, in the process of getting even with Luster, the Vigilantes also killed another young man, a friend of Luster’s who was with him that night; the two of them ended up hanging from a juniper tree together with the rancher they’d been having



So jest you rear back and tell ol’ Alphonse here what you think of this, okay? Alphonse Wilson, here, the one they call Windy, a-course, bringin’ you whatever’s the latest stuff you need ta know jest to make your life a bunch gooder.

This here guy did a write-up in a barber shop magazine t’other day ‘bout how we got goldanged lizards runnin’ the United States of Congress! If I’m lyin’ may my suspenders get caught in a grain drill and deposit my butt in the silo!

This guy says we been run by lizard folks for a long time now, only jest he and some other guys was smart enough to notice. Yessir. Said he even saw it on the teevee on the X Files, and you know they don’t fool around.

I jest wanted to straighten out what might be goin’ bent on us here, so I read the whole en-tire story. He said they wasn’t jest like our backyard lizards but a whole heap smarter, ‘cuz they invented stuff and got rich and got elected to the halls of monterzoomer. But they’re bigger. Yep. Size of us. So how you ‘spose them lizards come to take over the gov’ment?

Mighta been them push-ups. Ya see, I told ya I been studyin’ it. We all know that them lizards ... he called ‘em reptiloids, sorta rhymes with hemorrhoids, don’t it? Maybe thass cuz he thinks they’re a pain in the butt. Anyhoo, lizards do push-ups on the wall in the summer, and they eat bugs. Sounds ‘bout right fer Congressionals, don’t it?

So here’s the problem: how can we tell if they’s a lizard-guy before we vote for ‘em? Maybe when they all stand on the stage and the moderate guy asks ‘em questions, should oughta throw in a lizard question or two. You know, like “Senator, do you hibernate in winter?” or maybe “Congress Lady, whattya you think of the taste-a mealy worms compared with ladybugs?”

There’s gotta be a way, or I’ll be a blue-bellied skink. And you can tell ‘em I said so.

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## Quote of the Week

“My mechanic told me, ‘I couldn’t repair your brakes, so I made your horn louder.’”

Steven Wright

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## Gardening Tips

By Kym Pokorny



**Oregon State University**

OSU Extension Service

### Be safe: Develop good habits from garden to table

As more people pick up a hoe to grow their own produce, food safety becomes a concern.

“Most people can’t believe that their own habits could possibly be the source of problems and are not aware what habits can cause risk,” said Jeanne Brandt, a family and community health expert with Oregon State University Extension Service. “We only hear about widespread breakouts of food poisoning from commercial distribution. But what we do in the garden and kitchen can be problematic.”

Brandt is not out to panic gardeners. But the risk is real, especially for children, the elderly, the sick and those with compromised immune systems. Reducing the chances of foodborne illness means changing behavior, including better hygiene, keeping animals out of the garden and using well-rotted compost and manures.

“People have gardened forever and most of us live to tell about it,” she said. “It’s a great healthy activity. A great way to use resources. We just need to be mindful and think about some of the issues. Maybe one thing they can do is keep the cat out of the garden or scrub shovels between dog duty and garden duty. Otherwise carry on. You’re doing a great thing providing fresh produce. We don’t want to discourage anyone from doing that.”

Sara Runkel, a food systems coordinator with OSU Extension’s Small Farms program, explains that foodborne illnesses come from the digestive tracts of animals and humans. She notes that once pathogens come in contact with produce, they’re difficult to kill, which makes good garden practices

all the more important.

“There’s no way to eliminate all chances of illness completely,” Runkel said, “but just being cautious and washing hands and being careful about cross contamination and animals in the garden can reduce the risk.”

Brandt and Runkel offer these recommendations:

Attempt to find out how your garden site was used before you planted. Is there a parking lot nearby or a pasture that may run-off into your garden? Is there lead in the soil from old paint? Is it under an eave where moss killer is used? Consider bringing in soil or using raised beds if you think the existing soil has been contaminated.

Use potable water if possible. Runkel points out that municipal water has practically no risk of carrying pathogens. Surface water has the highest risk. Well water – which should be tested once a year – falls in between. If using surface water, make sure it doesn’t come in contact with the edible portion of the plant; use a drip irrigation system and don’t use overhead sprinklers, especially close to harvest time.

Wash hands and tools between working in the soil and harvesting.

Use separate clippers and gloves for harvesting and working in the soil.

Don’t use dirty wheelbarrows, buckets or other containers for harvesting. Wicker baskets may seem like a good choice, but they have lots of nooks and crannies for pathogens to hunker down. Instead, keep a clean container just for harvest.

Keep animals out of the garden. Though this may be a struggle, it’s important to eliminate feces. For small wildlife, clear debris from around the edge of the garden



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where they can hide. If possible, build a fence. Some gardeners have luck deterring cats with chicken wire laid just under the soil to thwart their attempts to scratch and eliminate. Discourage dogs from following you into the garden. There are repellents or motion-activated sprinklers you can buy at the garden center or home improvement store.

If you make your own compost, the core temperature must be maintained between 131 and 170 degrees for at least 15 days, turning the pile five times, in order to kill pathogens. Bagged or commercial compost has been heat treated and is considered safe. Recommendations are to apply raw manure or untreated compost 90 days before harvest for crops that don’t come in contact with the soil and 120 days for crops that do. If kitchen scraps are included in the compost pile, rats, raccoons and other wildlife will arrive for a meal. Barrel composters are good for keeping animals out.

Don’t let chickens into the garden. Chicken manure is a great soil amendment, but like compost, must sit for 90 to 120 days before applying. Change or wash boots when going from the chicken coop to the garden.

Clean produce with cool, running water once you’ve brought it inside. Soaking vegetables in the sink increases the chance of cross contamination and hot water and soap are not necessary.

Bring as little soil as possible into the house.

“The truth is there are pathogens everywhere and only a limited number can make us sick,” Runkel said. “We know many of them come from the digestive tracts of mammals. So, what we can do is minimize those pathogens from getting into the garden. Take a step back and look at the whole picture from pre-planting through getting the harvest to your table. See if you can identify any points of risk where you can implement one or two practices that could improve your food safety.”

For more information, refer to Extension’s publication You Can Prevent Foodborne Illness.



## Country Kitchen

By Mary Emma Allen



### FROST ON THE PUMPKINS

“The frost is on the pumpkins” was a phrase of my childhood; from a poem Mother quoted us. “And a chill is in the air,” she’d continue.

The nightly temperature is dipping and we’ve started our pellet stove in the morning to get the chill out of the house. We haven’t had frost yet, but the temperature is dipping and the air gets nippy.

Pumpkins in History

Pumpkins for food dates back to the natives of the Americas. They grew pumpkins and squash and developed many ways of preparing them. The natives also taught the early settlers these ways with food.

It’s believed people in Central America originally grew pumpkins. Then those of North America adopted them for food. Their various methods of preparation included baking, boiling, making pumpkin into a soup, drying it, and grinding this food into a meal they used for making breads.

For winter use and preservation, the natives cut the pumpkins into rings and strips. Then they hung them to dry.

Jack-o-Lanterns

Before long in our culture, children will be carving and painting faces on pumpkins to display for Halloween. They remind me of my childhood. One year my sister carved a large pumpkin to place over her head as her costume.

As I browsed through photos I’d

taken over the years, I discovered many with pumpkins and autumn leaves, stonewalls along the roadside and across the fields, as well as children with their jack-o-lanterns. From these, I created a colorful poetry scrapbook album, with the theme Autumn in New England.

Many Pumpkin Recipes

You’ll discover many ways to use pumpkins-from desserts to casseroles to breads and soups. One recipe for Pumpkin Soup calls for it cooked in the rind. I talked with a lady who said she did this and found the soup delicious.

According to an Early Pumpkin Pie Recipe, you cut a slice from the top of the pumpkin, scoop out the seeds, and fill with cavity with milk, sugar, and spices. Then you baked it until the pumpkin was cooked and center mixture thickened.

Pumpkin Soufflé - Combine 1 cup canned or thick cooked, mashed pumpkin with 1/2 teaspoon cinnamon, 1/2 cup firmly packed brown sugar and stir well. Beat 3 egg whites until stiff, then add 1/8-teaspoon salt and fold it into the pumpkin mixture.

Grease a 1-quart baking dish or mold and fill about 2/3 full with the pumpkin. Set in a pan of hot water.

Bake at 350 degrees F. for about 40 minutes. Makes 4 to 6 servings.

(c) Mary Emma Allen

(Mary Emma Allen enjoys autumn in New England with its colorful foliage and pumpkin decorations. E-mail: [me.allen@juno.com](mailto:me.allen@juno.com))



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# Blue Elderberry



Cool September mornings signal the annual return to school, and as kids climb onto buses, migrating birds feast on native fruits, like blue elderberry (*Sambucus nigra* ssp. *cerulea*), to power their own annual return south.

Blue elderberry is a short-lived, deciduous tree with opposite, compound leaves that grows up to 20 feet. Found throughout the western US in moist, sunny sites, its expansive root systems help stabilize eroding streambanks and slopes. Its flat-topped clusters of white flowers ripen into powder-blue berries, favored by migrating grosbeaks, tanagers and vireos, as well as towhees, grouse and quail.

Blue elderberry has found favor with people, too. The flowers, combined with peppermint leaves, are used as a traditional tea for sweating out colds and fevers; its berries are popularly made into

syrup or wine and used to prevent influenza infections. The plant's name reflects the ancient use of its hollow stems to stoke hearth fires: in middle English *aeld* means "fire."

Blue elderberry resprouts if top-killed by fire and the seeds germinate best when scarified by fire. The new seedlings thrive in the nutrient-rich mineral soil and increased light that follows fire, creating the next generation of this lovely tree.

On the one-year anniversary of the Holiday Farm Fire, many residents are busy rebuilding and repairing their homes and lands. Pure Water Partners can assist landowners with their recovery efforts including native revegetation, invasive removal, erosion control and fire fuels reduction. Visit [www.purewaterpartners.org](http://www.purewaterpartners.org) for more information.



## Community Notes

September 18  
A Dime At A Time

10:00am - 12:00pm. Leaburg Store, 42840 McKenzie Hwy. Blue River Bottle Boys Collection/Sorting - Saturday morning sorting sessions every Saturday. Donations can be dropped off at the Leaburg Store and maybe help us bag up the containers! Funds from plastic, glass, and aluminum containers go toward the rebuilding of the O'Brien Memorial Library in Blue River, McKenzie River Clinic, and the Vida McKenzie Community Center - all destroyed in the Holiday Farm fire.

### September 18 - Leaburg Food Pantry



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

### Sept. 20 - Springfield School Board Meeting



7:00pm - 8:30pm. The Board of Directors meet on the 2nd and 4th Mondays of each month (except July). Regular business meetings begin at 7 pm on the 2nd Monday and work sessions are generally held at 4 pm on the 4th Monday of the month in the Administration Building, 640 A St, Springfield.

### September 20 McKenzie Fire District Board



12:00pm - 1:00pm. at Leaburg

Training Center, 42870 McKenzie Hwy, in Leaburg. 541-896-3311.

### September 24 Fish Fry



The Vida McKenzie Community Center is teaming up with Patsy Wilson for a Free-Will Donation Fish Fry Fundraiser at Patsy's Stage Stop Restaurant's back patio from 5 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. on Friday, September 24th. This event is designed to raise funds for the rebuilding of the Community Center, destroyed in the Holiday Farm Fire. Join friends and neighbors for this family friendly event.

## McKenzie Fire & Rescue

### Continued From Page 3

Patient Assessed, 1 Transported.

**9:26:** 36000 blk, Camp Creek Rd Medical, General. Patient Assessed, 1 Transported.

**Sept. 8: 12:34:** 51000 blk, Blue River Dr Mutual Aid. Cancelled Prior to Arrival by Upper McKenzie Fire

**15:238:** 42000 blk, McK. Hwy. Medical, General. Patient Refusal.

**Sept. 9: 14:11:** 39000 blk, McK. Hwy. Motor Vehicle Accident. Unknown Injury. Non-Injury, Non-Blocking.

**14:22:** Thurston Rd. /McK. Hwy. MVA. Unknown Injury. Unable To Locate.

**14:50:** McK. Hwy./Milepost 13. MVA, Non-Injury, Non-Blocking.

**19:29:** 44000 blk, McK. Hwy. Lift Assist. Lift assist only.

**22:05:** 38000 blk, Upper Camp Creek Rd. Smoke Scare. Unable To Locate.

**Sept. 10: 12:14:** McK. Hwy./Mp. 27. MVA. Vehicle Already Left Scene.

**16:04:** 39000 blk, McK. Hwy. MVA. Injury Accident, Dump

Truck Vs. Sedan.

**Sept. 11: 8:20:** Natures Garden/McK. Hwy. Brush Fire. Fire Extinguished.

**13:40:** 7000 blk, Thurston Rd. Deceased Subject. Confirmed.

**16:07:** 38000 blk, MJ Chase Rd Medical, Trauma. Patient Assessed, 1 Transported.

**17:10:** 37000 blk, Camp Creek Rd Medical, General. Patient Assessed, 1 Transported.

**21:40:** Angels Flight Rd./McK. Hwy. Illegal Burning. Investigate.

McK. Fire & Rescue will hold its monthly Board of Directors meeting the Monday; September 20<sup>th</sup>, at noon, at the Leaburg Training Center, 42870 McK. Hwy.

## Sheriff's Report

### Continued From Page 3

- 88500 blk, East of Eden Rd.

**9:26 p.m:** Dead Animal – Camp Creek Rd. & Marcola Rd.

**Sept. 11: 2:40 a.m:** Suspicious Conditions - 36700 blk, Oak Point Rd. Caller advised that an unknown male arrived in a dark color truck and unscrewed some of the security lights near the boat ramp. He was last seen driving eastbound.

**8:21 a.m:** Illegal Burn – Natures Garden St. & McK. Hwy.

**12:36 p.m:** Reckless Endangering - 45300 blk, McK. Hwy. Domestic dispute at a farm amongst family members. One of the involved was reported to have tried to hit a family member with a lawnmower. He was charged with Reckless Endangering and Harassment.

**5:08 p.m:** Speeding Vehicle. 55100 blk, McK. River Dr.

**5:27 p.m:** Unlawful Use of Vehicle - McK. Hwy. & Goodpasture Rd.

**Sept. 12: 9:11 a.m:** Weapon, Shots Fired - 40200 blk, Storment Ln.

**11:50 a.m:** Dead Animal - 44900 blk, McK. Hwy.

**12:17 p.m:** Vicious Animal - 88100 blk, Tiki Ln.

**2:09 p.m:** Assist, Follow Up - 50400 blk, McK. Hwy.

**3:16 p.m:** Suspicious Vehicle - Bunker Hill Rd. & Paschelke Rd. A new black Toyota car was parked with a shattered back window.

**4:04 p.m:** Weapon, Shots Fired - 54400 blk, W. King Rd.

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

An Invitation to Worship

**McKenzie Bible Fellowship**  
45061 McKenzie Hwy – Vida, Oregon  
**Sunday Worship – 10:00 a.m.**  
**Youth Ministries**  
**KidsFest Family Activities**  
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Call 896-3829 for information  
www.mckenziebible.com

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

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St. Benedict Lodge Chapel

1/2 mile off Hwy. 126 on  
North Bank Rd., McKenzie Bridge  
Sat. Eve. 5:00pm  
Sun. Morn. 9:30am;  
web page: [sblodge.opwest.org](http://sblodge.opwest.org)

McKenzie Bridge Christian Church

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

McKenzie Valley Presbyterian Church

Worship is live-streamed, every Sunday at 10:30 am, on the Facebook page for McKenzie Valley Presbyterian Church. Comments on Facebook are appreciated! You may also contact the church for prayer requests, to request an emailed or earth-mailed bulletin, and other information. Phone or send email to Nancy Ashley, [nancy.w.ashley@gmail.com](mailto:nancy.w.ashley@gmail.com), 541-914-1986. We look forward to hearing from our neighbors, either from a distance, or someday, in person!  
Milepost 13 McKenzie Hwy. (541) 747-2604

## State Police Report

### Continued From Page 3

DA for consideration. Involved: Gold Dodge Grand Caravan, towed; Used to commit crime, 35-year-old male.

**Sept. 10: 15:06:** Crash, Injury – Hwy.126E. Dispatched to a crash near milepost 13. On arrival, observed Vehicle #2, a dump truck while a trailer, jackknifed blocking the entire highway.

Vehicle #1 was east of the truck and blocking the westbound lane. The driver of Vehicle #1 was transported to the RiverBend Hospital for serious injuries. The driver of the dump truck was uninjured. Both vehicles were towed from the scene. Follow up at the hospital revealed that the 67-year-old male driver of Vehicle #1 had a BAC of 0.21. Involved: white dump truck, blue Tesla, 59-year-old male from Scotts Glen, OR.

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Direct Answers

By Wayne & Tamara Mirchell

Return to Sender

I don't know which way to go. Four years ago, I met a wonderful guy. Unfortunately, our career paths took us to two separate continents. We have been "together" off and on for the last four years, but physically with each other for about a week. We talked through email with the occasional phone call thrown in. When he proposed, I knew it was coming and did somewhat dread it, because I wasn't certain what I would say. When he did propose, I almost too quickly said yes. I was overjoyed at the time, but as these past few months have gone by (we are still on separate continents), I've been in turmoil. It almost seems I am doing this because it's what everyone expects or wants. But this is not what I want. I really want to let him know I don't think either of us is ready for marriage. But most everyone already knows we are engaged. It wasn't until after I went back to work that I realized I did not know that much at all about him. And he has a drinking problem, in my eyes. When we talk, it's always about how he went to this bar and passed

out in the bed of his friend's truck. One time, he told me he had just gotten rid of his "little black book." That was two weeks after he popped the question. We live on different oceans. Would I have to mail the engagement ring back to him? How can I tell him I think neither of us is ready for marriage, especially to each other. I love him with all my heart, but I think it's time we cut our teenage strings and moved on with life. Sloane Sloane, magic words free us from the constraints of life. Magicians use Abracadabra, Hocus Pocus, and Alakazam. Cinderella's fairy godmother used Bibbidi-Bobbidi-Boo. Ali Baba used Open Sesame. In your letter, you said some magic words. You said, "This is not what I want." "This is not what I want" is truly a magical phrase. It releases us from the outlook and demands of others. Knowing someone through email and the occasional phone call differs completely from in-person, day-to-day living together. At a distance, you can be whoever you want to be to the other person,

because you are not together. Two weeks after the engagement, he ditched his little black book. So, he has been intimate with and dating others this entire time. He was not exclusive with you. That part of the relationship was lacking between you, and he had that part with other women. Then there is the drinking. He acts like a young guy with no responsibilities, and you admit this was like a teenage romance. But you are at an age where your careers are all important, and in four years, you have been together only a few days. In the harsh glare of reality, you see you must go your separate ways. When a relationship ends, people often see it as a loss when it is really a win. Sometimes it takes an engagement or a wedding before people understand the connection simply wasn't there. You were pen pals. The relationship was mostly in your heads. The engagement ring broke the bubble of the fantasy. Now comes the final scene in your long distance, pen pal relationship. Find a safe way to return the ring. You are now mature enough to understand that a magical marriage does not begin with a wish to stop the wedding. Wayne & Tamara write: Directanswers@WayneAndTamara.com

American Life in Poetry

By Kwame Dawes What haunts this loose sonnet by Carrie Green is loss, anticipated loss, but loss, nonetheless. Yet, what emerges is an elegant "pre-elegy". A tender anthem to a father and to the sweetness he represents, an anthem made more intimate by the choice of addressee: "Brother". ROBBING THE BEES By Carrie Green after John Wood

Brother, one day the grove and hives will empty: the neighbor's trees frozen back to stumps, our father's bees scattered across the scrub. But today the scent of orange blossom reaches our patch of sand, and the beeyard teems with thieving wings. Our father works the hives, white shirt buttoned to the neck, hands glove-clumsy. Veiled, he's mysterious as a bride. Brother, we'll want to recall the pollen-dusted light kissing scrub oak and sand pine, the needles smoking

in tin, the bees' stunned flight as our father offers a taste of honey on his pocketknife. Our tongues steal sweetness from the rusted blade. We do not accept unsolicited submissions. American Life in Poetry is made possible by The Poetry Foundation (www.poetryfoundation.org), publisher of Poetry magazine. It is also supported by the Department of English at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. Poem copyright ©2020 by Carrie Green, "ROBBING THE BEES" from Studies of Familiar Birds, (Able Muse Press, 2020.) Poem reprinted by permission of the author and the publisher. Introduction copyright ©2021 by The Poetry Foundation. The introduction's author, Kwame Dawes, is George W. Holmes Professor of English and Glenna Luschei Editor of Prairie Schooner at the University of Nebraska.



A Moment in Oregon History

By Rick Steber (www.rick-steber.com)

September 16 - Oregonians had never seen anything like the fire that swept along the coast in September 1936. Whipped by strong winds and burning through dense gorse, an imported brushy plant that exploded into flames, the fire swept into the town of Bandon. Within a few short hours the town was all but wiped off the map. Nearly 1,500 residents were left homeless and 13 lost their lives. The Red Cross rushed in and quickly erected a tent city. Other organizations helped provide food and relief collections were taken up in towns throughout Oregon. It took several years, but the town of Bandon was rebuilt and this area now serves as the historic center and shopping area known as "Bandon Old Town."

Fishing Report

McKenzie River: All hatchery rainbow trout released into the McKenzie River are marked with an adipose fin clip and anglers must release all non fin-clipped (wild) trout in the mainstem river. The lower 11 miles of the McKenzie River below the Hayden Bridge - and the McKenzie River upstream from Forest Glen Boat Ramp at Blue River - are restricted to angling with lures and flies only, and all trout must be released.

Trout Stocking Schedule: Trout stocking is underway on many lakes and reservoirs throughout the state. Releases of 8" to 10" hatchery fish last week were: McKenzie River below Leaburg Dam - 2,000.

Fish Counts September 9, Willamette Falls Fall Chinook - 2,405 Summer Steelhead - 1,558

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**Local Produce**

Italian plums for sale. \$4/pound, 5-pound minimum. Chemical free. U-Pick or delivered. 541-896-3000 (best

time, a.m).

**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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SHELFNOTES  
FROM LEABURG  
LIBRARY

SEPTEMBER 2021

The Phoenix. What do you know about the Phoenix bird? Is it a real bird? Is it only a myth? And why would you care anyway?

Well, how about this. If you have driven through Blue River lately and paid attention as you drove, you may have seen this bird. It stands on a concrete slab, right next to the main street, across from where Myers Store used to be. It is really hard to miss. And it is magnificent. What it represents is far more important.

Open any good book on mythology and you can learn more than you ever want to know about any mythological beast. I warn you, though. It can become addictive! In this case, that's a good thing. Here's a tiny bit of what you might find out about this particular creature.

The phoenix is a mythological bird whose symbolism and mythology still fascinate us. It is the inspiration for stories, legends, and art that began as far back as 1500 BC. Ancient legend tells of a magical bird, radiant and shimmering, with eyes that

are blue like sapphires. It is a very large, grand bird, with brilliant flame-colored purple, gold and orange feathers and a crimson-red breast. It is often pictured with a long tail and a crest of silver and blue feathers on its head. A truly magnificent thing.

When it knows that its life is at an end it makes a nest of boughs, cinnamon and myrrh, ignites the nest and dies - only to rise again from the ashes on enormous wings spread fully open as it slowly ascends to new life. What a marvelous image.

The Greeks named this bird "phoenix", meaning crimson or purple. However, it is also associated with the Egyptian version called Bennu; and the American Thunderbird; and the Russian Firebird; and the Chinese Feng Huang; and the Japanese Ho-o; and a few others. Regardless of what it is named, all of these cultures have similar stories about this bird, and its symbolism is the same.

The phoenix symbolizes the eternal flame, which can mean

faith, will or passion. It reminds us that no matter how many times we suffer setbacks or tragedy, we have within us the fire to heal and begin again. It shows the world that we have risen from the ashes of pain and sorrow, and have found the path to renewal, and the courage to follow it. It convinces us that we will survive, no matter what.

When you visit Blue River, stop and look at the remarkable sculpture, "Viribus", the Latin word for strength or power. Really look at it. Look at its eyes, its graceful wings, its body made of meticulously placed pieces of metal that once were part of people's homes and belongings, and notice especially the simple round gazing ball filled with the pristine water of the McKenzie River, a river that also symbolizes healing and renewal and life.

The Phoenix. Real or mythological, it's a perfect symbol for all of us here in the McKenzie Valley. One year after the fire, the landscape is healing; homes are being replaced, people are returning with determination and faith, and with a deeper love for this place, this river, this life. From the ashes, we are McKenzie Strong.

I'll see you at the library.

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

Air quality faces dual threats  
from wildfires, gas appliances



Research has found one hour of cooking can produce nitrous oxide levels that would be illegal if found outside.

By Eric Tegethoff  
Oregon News Service

Wildfire season has obvious effects on air quality outside, but hidden impacts on air quality also are lurking inside some homes. Environmental and health groups - as well as the Oregon Health Authority - are warning about burning natural gas inside, such as from gas stoves.

The Oregon Environmental Council's Environmental Health Program Director Jamie Pang-South said cooking with fossil-fuel-based gas appliances releases nitrous oxide, carbon monoxide, methane, and small particulate matter.

"That can cause anything from headaches, nausea, fatigue," said Pang-South. "There's this new study from Power Past Fracked Gas that children in homes with gas stoves have a 42% increase of asthma."

Pang-South had used an air quality monitor to measure carbon dioxide levels while cooking on a gas stove and found concentrations reaching unhealthy levels after 20 minutes of cooking.

One way to reduce levels of hazardous gases is opening windows. But that can be impossible during Oregon's increasingly severe wildfire seasons.

Vivek Shandas is a professor of urban studies and planning at Portland State University. He said he's concerned about folks who have to work outside or take public transportation in these conditions.

Shandas said he wants to improve the health of the state's most vulnerable community members.

"Who are seeing the brunt of not only the wildfire consuming their homes and their belongings," said Shandas, "we're also seeing those whose homes and belongings aren't consumed by the wildfires inhaling a lot of the really degraded air."

Barbara Gottlieb is environment and health program director at Physicians for Social Responsibility, which is also raising the alarm about the effects from gas appliances. She said one solution is building out electrification.

"What it aims to do is to rethink our buildings, our structures," said Gottlieb. "So that they're not being built with either gas furnaces or gas water heaters or gas stoves, but from the start they are electric."

Gottlieb added that this cuts down on indoor air pollution and that the source of energy for electric appliances increasingly is from clean sources like solar and wind.

Vigilante rule

Continued From Page 4

dinner with, and the rancher they'd been working for was shot through a window at a Prineville saloon the same night. Colonel Thompson later tried to claim the four of them had been part of a gang that had ridden through Prineville earlier in the day shooting into the air and threatening to burn the town down, but his is the only account that mentions anything of this kind; again, it seems likely that he was just making up a story to justify the Vigilantes.

After this incident, the residents of Prineville definitively turned against the Vigilantes. But law enforcement was still extraordinarily light and ineffective throughout the Prineville area. Sure, the Vigilantes were throwing their weight around, but could anything be done about them? And would a Crook County without the Vigilantes be even worse?

More innocent people were going to have to die before the

town would commit to doing something about it. We'll talk about how that played out in next week's column.

(Sources: Lundy, Herbert. "When the Juniper Trees Bore Fruit," *Portland Morning Oregonian*, 3-12-1939; Thompson, William. *Reminiscences of a Pioneer*. San Francisco: Alturas Plaindealer, 1912; Brogan, Phil. *East of the Cascades*. Portland: Binford, 1977)

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.



Ralph Lee/ Portland Morning Oregonian

This drawing by Ralph Lee accompanied Herbert Lundy's article in the Portland Morning Oregonian in 1939. It shows the artist's rendering of Lucius Langdon shooting neighbors A.H. Crooks and Stephen Jory on March 15, 1882 — the killing that touched off two years of D.I.Y. law enforcement in the Prineville area by the masked riders and lynch mobs who called themselves The Vigilantes.

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