**Rescue teams responded to Blue Pool again**

TAMOLITCH FALLS: A request for help over the Independence Day weekend drew a multi-agency response to the Blue Pool on the upper McKenzie River. The 911 call on July 2nd reported a subject who jumped off the main rock into the water. Officials said ground crews worked tirelessly to get the injured individual to a suitable hoisting location. Other agencies involved in the retrieval included the Lane County Sheriff’s Search and Rescue, Linn County Search and Rescue, Sweet Home and Upper McKenzie Rural Fire districts, and the U.S. Coast Guard.

**Lavender in the air at annual festival**

The 2020 Holiday Farm fire that damaged the Leaburg Hatchery and forced the early release of Chinook salmon smolts, 2020. In addition, returning wild and hatchery Chinook were subjected to poor ocean conditions that further compromised survival. Due to concerns about protecting wild Chinook salmon that are holding in the McKenzie River near Leaburg Dam and meeting broodstock needs for hatchery production, a portion of the McKenzie River will close to salmon angling effective July 15th. The closure will be in effect from July 15th through December 31st in the mainstem McKenzie River from Leaburg Dam downstream approximately one mile to the mouth of Trout Creek.

Oregon Dept. of Fish and Wildlife officials say angling is impacting a small run of wild Chinook this year because few hatchery Chinook are returning to the McKenzie River basin. The shortage of hatchery Chinook is attributed to the poor survival of juvenile fish that were released at a small size from the Leaburg Hatchery during the Holiday Farm Fire in 2020. In addition, returning wild and hatchery Chinook were subjected to poor ocean conditions that further compromised survival.

**Sheriff’s Reports**

Caller advised a neighbor had a baseball bat and wanted the caller to leave the area. Caller believed alcohol was involved.

**Largest U.S. meteorite**

Hughes had stumbled across the biggest meteorite that has ever been found on American soil, before or since, lying half-buried in the air at annual festival.
While the air was filled with the aroma of lavender, bees were humming in the field. The farm’s specialty lavender products include fresh cut bouquets.

7th to 10th, the McKenzie River Lavender Bloom drew a steady flow of the namesake flower’s fans who enthusiastically got to enjoy the intoxicating “herb of relaxation,” essential scented soaps, oils, and sprays; while also exploring culinary treats, crafts, music, and more.

All were on the grounds of the McKenzie River Lavender Farm which was created, and nurtured, by a remarkable lady - Carol Tannenbaum. Born in Georgia, raised in Alabama and Duke with advanced degrees in chemistry. After graduating, she worked for the Edison Company from North Carolina to Southern California.

After her marriage to Charles “Chuck” Tannenbaum (a retired ophthalmologist), the couple set to Southern California.

To the McKenzie area in 1999. Their journeys led them first to fly fishing and “four seasons!” Their focus on finding a place for cultivating. With her ongoing efforts, expansion of the event, and successful green thumb, Waltherville has become a host to twelve McKenzie River Lavender Festivals.

As Carol has found ways to involve Lane County more each year, she has developed relationships based on her same passion for people within the community. The event included a seminar focused on butterflies, a quartette from Bushnell, and local musicians that added a relaxing atmosphere to complement the mediated essence of lavender.

Among Carol’s passions are promoting lavender education, being active with the Oregon Lavender Association, and sharing the beauty of the McKenzie River area by chairing the Tourism Committee of the McKenzie River Chamber of Commerce, as well as serving as the organization’s treasurer.

reminded about the first lavender she planted back in 2003. Her efforts and passion have turned into an experience to provide support to artisans, musicians, tourism, and cultivation. With her ongoing efforts, expansion of the event, and successful green thumb, Waltherville has become a host to twelve McKenzie River Lavender Festivals. Downriver residents say they came close to having another big fire last Wednesday when it appeared someone tossed fireworks from their car near Milepost 4 of Deerhorn Road and started a brush fire. Fortunately, it was noticed by a passerby who alerted neighbors that included a volunteer officer of the department who was able to call it in. Luckily people living there had basic equipment and were able to attack the fire was a 20' x 20' fire until McKenzie Fire & Rescue arrived. 8 trucks and 18 personnel responded, with several others remaining on standby in Lebanon. (Crews on standby are available as backup resources or if additional emergency calls are received.)

McKenzie Fire Chief Budich said he was thankful for those who worked together for the initial attack, adding that they were able to manage the incident until crews arrived. Once extinguished, the scene was turned over to the Oregon Department of Forestry.

Lavender in the air
Continued From Page 1

Letters to the Editor

Letters To The Editor should contain no more than 250 words. All letters must be signed and include an address and phone number. Addresses and phone numbers will not be published upon request. Deadline for submission is Monday at 5 pm.
Disturbance, Suspicious Conditions
MV A 88000 blk, McK. Hwy.
Assault - McK. Hwy. 40000 block, S.
45000 blk, S. 46000 blk, McK.
ditch. The fire department then
responded the brother who threw
the punch left the residence to
leave the area. Caller believed
who was a fight between two brothers.
Caller advised one brother was
punched and then told not to
call the police. When deputies
responded the mower involved a minor
and their father. The minor was
no longer in the state and was
with their mother. A report was
taken on this incident by the Lane
County Sheriff’s Office.
July 4: 12:42 a.m.: Disturbance,
Dispute - 92200 blk, Carson St.
Caller advised a neighbor had a
baseball bat and wanted the caller
to leave the area. Caller believed
alcohol was involved. Deputies
determined there was no crime.
6:47 a.m.: Shots Fired - 39400 blk,
May Way.
11:01 a.m.: Welfare Check -
92200 blk, Murdoch St.
11:58 a.m.: Shots Fired - McK.
Hwy. Milepost 30.
12:01 p.m.: Suspicious Conditions -
36900 blk, Boiler Creek Rd.
Caller advised smelling drugs
and suspicious activity in their
house. Deputies completed a
welfare check and met with the
caller’s son who lives and takes
care of called. Deputies were unable
to locate him after
searching the area.
10:59 p.m.: Assault - MCK. Hwy.
& Eagle Rock Dr. This was
a report from another law
enforcement agency regarding
a possible assault involving a minor
and their father. The minor was
no longer in the state and was
with their mother. A report was
taken on this incident by the Lane
County Sheriff’s Office.

McKenzie Fire & Rescue
June 26: 11:42: 40000 block, McK.
Hwy. Motor Vehicle Accident -
Non-Injury, Non-
Blocking, Refusal Signed.
23:08: 92000 blk, Marcola Rd.
Mutual Aid. Provide District
Coverage for MVFR.
June 27: 19:40: 88000 blk, Buck
Point Way. Medical, General. 4:
Patient Assessed Decreased.
11:31: 46000 blk, McK.
Hwy. Medical, General. Patient
Assessed, 1 Transported.
Patient Assessed, 1 Transported.
17:15: 42000 blk, McK.
Hwy. Medical, General. Patient
Assessed, Refusal Obtained
22:21: McK. Hwy./River St
Mutual Aid. Disregarded En
Route.
June 28: 9:32: 45000 blk, S.
Gate Cr. Rd. Medical, General.
Lift Assist.
21:38: 42000 blk, Holden Creek
Ln. Lift Assist. Patient Refusal.
19:29: South Gate Creek Rd.
Water Rescue. Occupants Out
of Water/Boat Underwater.
21:09: Big Fall Creek Rd. Fire,
Brush. Provide Mutual Aid.
June 29: 1:02: 46000 blk, McK.
Hwy. Medical, General. Patient
Assessed, 1 Transported.
8:43: 44000 blk, McK. Hwy.
MVA, Mistaken Phone Activation,
No Accident Found.
June 30: 6:01: 88000 blk,
Partridge Ln. Assist Police.
Staged, Disregarded By LCSO.
8:42: 90000 blk, McK. Hwy.
Welfare Check. Patient Assessed,
1 Transported.
July 2: 8:15: 41000 blk,
Madrone St. Medical, Heart.
Assessed, 1 Transported.
14:22: 88000 blk, Ermi Bee Rd.
Fire, Miscellaneous. Fire
Extinguished.

Mystery House
Aqua Gardens Villa
Now Booking!
Want to sell your home for top dollar? Ask me how!

\[
\text{The Guest House At \quad Aqua Gardens Villa} \\
\text{Now Booking!} \\
\text{Want to sell your home for top dollar? \quad Ask me how!} \\
\text{Kelly Gustafson, broker} \\
\text{541.799.4391 Direct \quad KellyG@windemere.com} \\
\text{Windemere \quad 541.968.2400} \\
\text{Windermere Real Estate | Lane County} \\
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\text{JUDY CASADE} \\
\text{REAL ESTATE}
Largest U.S. meteorite found on neighbor’s land

By Finn J.D. John

It was getting toward the end of the summer of 1902, and West Linn resident Ellis Hughes was getting worried. His neighbor, William Dale, had traveled back to Eastern Oregon to sell some land he owned there. With the proceeds, Dale and Hughes paid half the price of a piece of property next to the Hughes farm. The property belonged to the Oregon Iron and Steel Co., which wasn’t really doing anything with it and which Hughes was pretty sure would be happy to sell, unless, of course, they found out why he wanted to buy it.

Because earlier in the summer, while walking along their property, they had stumbled across the biggest meteorite that has ever been found on American soil, before or since, a heavy half-buried in a remote and thickly forested part of it.

One imagines him gnawing at his fingernails, waiting for things to get back from Dale, hoping it would happen before the property owner got wise. The meteorite he’d plied brush over, but there was only so much you could do to hide a 16-ton hunk of extraterrestrial nickel-iron. Soon or later someone would spot it, and his chance to grab it would be lost.

Finally, realizing that Dale was not coming back, Hughes decided on his own solution:

Theft.

He would simply load the 31,000-pound meteorite onto a wagon in the middle of the night and drag it three-quarters of a mile to his mouth shut a little longer….

But Hughes had worked, if Hughes had kept his mouth shut a little longer….

And drag it three-quarters of a mile to his mouth shut a little longer….

Hughes was out cutting firewood when he noticed it: an oddly-shaped boulder, oddly colored, like rusty iron. Could it be, he wondered, a piece of iron ore?

He consulted his neighbor, William Dale, who came over with a rock hammer and tapped on the strange rock.

Instead of the expected rocky “chug,” the hammer rang with a bell-like “ting” on impact. Dale and Hughes looked at each other. This wasn’t iron ore, they realized; this was straight-up iron. And the only way iron appears naturally on the surface of the Earth in pure form… is when it falls from the sky.

(To be precise, the meteorite is 91.65 percent iron, 7.88 percent nickel, 0.21 percent cobalt, and 0.09 percent phosphorus.)

So, that’s how Ellis Hughes learned that there was a massive, priceless visitor from outer space parked on his neighbor’s land. The plan to steal the meteorite kicked off with Hughes and his wife and stepson cutting a wagon road through the woods to the site, from their home.

Next, Hughes built a super-heavy-duty wheeled platform to put the meteorite on, and a super-heavy-duty captain winch for his horse to drive. Using the winch, with the help of his wife and stepson (and the horse), he managed to roll the massive thing onto the platform, then, anchoring the winch to a big tree in the general direction of home, he started using it to slowly drag the loaded wagon through the woods.

Progress was excruciatingly slow. For days on end the horse walked in circles around the capstan, winding a cable around a spindle and dragging the platform inch by inch along the road.

The best day’s progress was 150 feet. Later in the summer, unseasonably heavy rains turned the wagon road into a mud bog, and progress slowed to just a few feet per day; finally they had to stop and put down planks for the cart to run on.

But finally, three months after they started, the Hughes family had stolen their meteorite safe and sound on their own land.

This was the point at which a wise man would have spent the winter carefully and painstakingly repairing the damage to the neighboring land, filling in the crater out of which the meteorite had been dug, and may even planting some small trees and shrubs in the wagon path. A year’s wait, with some careful cultivation, would have gone a long way toward making the casual observer think nothing had happened there.

But Hughes did.

Instead, he used a gazebo over the meteorite to start charging people 25 cents a head — worth about $9 in modern money — to see it.

The meteorite was a big sensation, and for a few weeks it was the talk of the town. It was, in Hughes’s words, the biggest meteorite ever found in the U.S., and at the time the third biggest in the world.

Very soon, though, rumors started to circulate that Hughes had not found the meteorite on his own land. Wherever Hughes reached the ears of the Oregon Iron and Steel Co., people, they sought to look for evidence — and found it.

They started off by offering to buy it from Hughes for $50, basically reimbursing him for the expense of dragging it out of the woods. But Hughes said no, so the company sued him, demanding its return.

In court, Hughes argued that the meteorite was a natural thing belonging to the land — it was personal property, belonging to the Native Americans. Presumably he was working with the Indians at this point, and probably had made some sort of deal with them, because two tribes leaders supported his case.

Lewis and Clark Indians testified on his behalf. The meteorite, they told the judge, was theirs, a holy object belonging to the Clackamas people.

It was a surprisingly plausible argument, and in a modern court of law it would probably be a no-brainer; after all, if the president of Oregon Iron and Steel left his briefcase behind after a visit to a Clackamas village, they wouldn’t be allowed to keep it based on a claim to have found it on their land.

But, of course, that’s just all right.

In court, through clever arguments, the Hughes family managed to keep the meteorite in their possession.

Very soon, though, rumors started. The Hughes family hadn’t found the meteorite on their land, but it was probably big, and Hughes would never know if this bird favored his yard or was just another bird looking for a home.

But he was back and flitting with a good-looking lady dove up putting together the “Dove Tree.”

Doe always wondered whether doves mate for life, and this was the same Mrs. Wheezer he sees every year, or if Wheezer had to court a new lassie each spring.

“I'll see if it look to,” said Doe, knowing that he wouldn’t.

But he did go over to the concrete block wall and clean out the little nook where the top block by the gate. Doe had put dirt in it years ago, and each spring, the Wheezer family hauled in two shovels full and made a place to raise their family.

And each spring, as Mrs. W. sat out on the front porch and looked at the “Dove Tree” Doe would never know if this was the same Wheezer he had found the meteorite on his land.

Wonder how long doves live?

Doe thought. Wonder how long old Wheezer will last? I’ll have to look it up.

No he won’t.

Brought to you by Wild Birds Unlimited. They have lots of things to keep those birds happy and healthy. For your local store: webmaster@wbu.com.
Coffee grounds can improve soil and kill slugs

By Kym Pokorny

The most consumed drink in the world has more benefits than just keeping us awake. Spent coffee grounds can be used as a soil amendment and compost ingredient, while liquid coffee acts as an effective slug killer.

According to various sources, between 400 billion to 1 trillion cups of coffee are consumed around the world every year. No matter the number, that’s a lot of coffee, which means a lot of spent coffee grounds are created. Using coffee grounds in the garden keeps them out of the waste stream and gives gardeners another option for caring for plants and dealing with slugs.

Linda Brewer, Oregon State University Extension Service soil scientist, said coffee grounds can be worked into the soil or added to a compost bin but should be done with some restraint.

“The big message is that generally, people are too enthusiastic,” Brewer said. “You really need to take the recommended dosages to heart. I’ve seen coffee grounds piled up where there was too much coffee or coffee grounds had been put in too many places. Like most kitchen waste, it is a fine amendment for the soil, but like any other thing, coffee grounds can be overdone.”

Contrary to popular belief, it’s a myth that coffee grounds are acidic and will lower the pH of the soil. After brewing, the grounds are typically pH 6.5 to 6.8. Research shows that whatever change coffee grounds bring to the soil is short-lived, Brewer said. So, don’t depend on them to keep a lower soil pH. Some plants like rhododendrons, azaleas, blueberries, gardenias and blue-flowering hydrangeas require a lower soil pH to thrive and coffee grounds won’t do that.

For more information about the pH, see Extension publications “Acidifying Soil in Landscapes and Gardens East of the Cascades” and “Acidifying Soil for Blueberries and Ornamental Plants.”

Although coffee grounds provide some nutrients (1% to 2%) and micronutrients, they aren’t a major source of plant nutrients. As coffee grounds break down, nitrogen is tied up by soil microorganisms using it to grow and reproduce. To adjust, add a nitrogen fertilizer or other source of nitrogen like composted animal manure, alfalfa meal, or grass clippings when the uncomposted coffee grounds are incorporated.

Even though coffee grounds provide minor amounts of potassium, phosphorus, calcium, and magnesium and very minor amounts of iron, copper, manganese and zinc, these nutrients aren’t supplied in sufficient quantity to satisfy plant needs. Coffee grounds are best at improving soil. As the coffee grounds feed the soil microbes, microbial glues are released that promote good soil structure and improve drainage.

When using coffee grounds as a soil amendment, Brewer recommends working in a half inch to a depth of 4 inches. If used as a mulch on top of the soil, a layer of leaves or bark mulch helps keep the grounds from drying out and repelling water.

When using grounds in the compost bin or pile, layer 2 parts leaves to 1-part fresh grass clippings to 1-part coffee grounds by volume. Coffee filters can be thrown in, too. Turn once a week and let the compost be ready in three to six months. The composition of the compost pile should not exceed 20% coffee grounds by volume, or it can be toxic to plants.

Excess coffee grounds, if applied to the soil before composting, have multiple effects on the soil system. In addition to microorganisms using the nitrogen temporarily, the caffeine residues in the spent coffee grounds can suppress germination and slow the growth of some crop plants. If you get coffee grounds from coffee shops, you can store them tightly covered. Mold may grow on the grounds, but these can be composted, where the mold will contribute to decomposition.

Perhaps more exciting than the positive effect of coffee grounds as a compost material, is its potential as a slug killer. Brewer said. Research shows that using coffee grounds with water as a soil drench caused 100% of slugs to leave the treated soil and subsequently die of caffeine poisoning. A 2% solution of caffeine applied to the growing medium of orchids killed 95% of the orchid slugs, which gave better control than a liquid metaldehyde product – the common slug bait.

To make a 1% to 2% soil drench, add 1-part water to 2-parts brown coffee, brewed for example. Use 1 cup of water to 2 cups of coffee. To reduce slug feeding on foliage, add 9-parts water to 1-part brewed coffee and apply as a spray. “A soil drench applied to bare soil will be applied diluted coffee to a sample of leaves and wait for a few hot days. This coffee drench can be used to apply diluted coffee to a sample of leaves and wait for a few hot days. This coffee drench can be used to apply diluted coffee to a sample of leaves and wait for a few hot days.”

Brewer said, “If there’s no damage, go ahead with spraying.”

Country Kitchen

By Mary Emma Allen

STRAWBERRY SHORTCAKE

As I click on Facebook pages of various Allen family members I see numerous pictures of strawberry picking and eating. Strawberries in summer are a family tradition going back to my husband and his brothers growing up on a NH farm. They had a large strawberry patch and picked as many as 100 quarts of these berries in a day. I was informed when I joined the family.

They ate them mashed and stirred into a glass of milk for a refreshing snack when coming in from the hay field. Mom made strawberry shortcake for many supper meals during berry season. If there were enough berries, she made strawberry jam. When they grew up and had gardens of their own, the boys raised strawberries. One of the eight boys had a commercial “pick your own” strawberry fields. Nowadays, the “boys”, their children and grandchildren still go out on outings to strawberry fields where they pick multipe quarts of strawberries each summer.

Next: Strawberry Tarts

Strawberry festivals provided memorable events in my childhood. The ladies of the local Methodist Church conducted the one in our town, although anyone could attend. For a small fee, you enjoyed strawberry delights - shortcake, pie and homemade ice cream. No other food was served. It was such a delightful event that we looked forward to during strawberry season each year.

Nowadays, the “boys”, their children and grandchildren still go out on outings to strawberry fields where they pick multipe quarts of strawberries each summer.

Strawberry Tarts

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At first it was held at Jack and Nellie’s large farmhouse with spacious lawn, back and front porches. There were continual settings. Church ladies continued to make biscuits, churn ice cream as people arrived. The pies had been made beforehand.

Eventually the event became so large that it was moved to the town hall with kitchen and large indoor space for serving. At any of these, adults gathered and children played games in the yard. As we girls grew older, we helped wait on tables.

During this season, you may want to serve these tasty treats in home for family and guests.

Berry Shortcake

We often purchase the frozen buttermilk biscuits and bake only what we need for the particular meal. While warm, we spoom mashed berries and fruit over the biscuit and top with whipped topping or a spoonful of vanilla ice cream.

I’ve found that by using the frozen biscuits, there isn’t any waste. I suppose I could bake my usual recipe of biscuits and freeze the leftover ones for future use.

Berry Tarts

You can make fruit and berry tarts with many different types of crusts. These include traditional pastry crust, as well as those made with wheat pastry flour, cookie crumbs (such as chocolate) and graham cracker crumbs.

(c) Mary Emma Allen

(Mary Emma Allen writes from her NH home. e-mail: meallen@juno.com)
**July 25**  
**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.

**July 26**  
**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.

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**McKenzie River Reflections**  
**Thursday, July 13, 2023**

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**Community Notes**

**July 13**  
**Safety Study**  
The Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) will host a community open house to share an update on the Highway 126 East Safety Study. It’s a drop-in open house starting at 6 p.m. so residents can talk with ODOT staff in person, ask questions about the project, and provide input. It will be held in McKenzie Fire & Rescue’s Leaburg Training Center.

**July 13**  
**Vida McKenzie Board**  
The board of directors of the Vida McKenzie Community Center will meet at 4:30 p.m. at the McKenzie Valley Presbyterian Church, 8388 Willow Valley Drive.

**July 14**  
**McFood Pantry**  
The McKenzie Food Pantry will be open from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the McKenzie Bridge Christian Church, 56334 McKenzie Hwy, in McKenzie Bridge. Free groceries are provided in accordance with Oregon Food Bank and Food For Lane County guidelines for food distribution to those in need. It’s open every 2nd & 4th Friday.

**Blueberry Art Show**  
3rd annual Blueberry Art Festival Art Show Friday, July 14, 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. at 89849 Greenwood Dr. The Pacific Rim Art Gallery art show includes jewelry, paintings, and a grand opening ceremony on Friday evening. The Blueberry Patch opened their field from June 10th to July 15th for artists to come and paint. Online registration for The Great Blueberry Paint Out opens June 14th at 1st. at www.pacificrimgallery.com with an artist prospectus online. Artist fees range from $15 to $35, total information cost is $35 for Open Division and $45 for Professional Division. Award winners are announced July 15th. An artist from Brent Burkett will be the Juror.

**July 14**  
**Friday Art Walk**  
The 2nd Friday Art Walk will be held from 4 to 7:30 p.m. starting at 5000 E 8th Ave (Emerald Center in Springfield).

**July 15**  
**Living River Day**  
The Living River Exploration Day is from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at 31799 Green Island Rd, Eugene. Join the McKenzie River Trust and take a walk near the place where the Willamette and the McKenzie Rivers meet. Observe 15 years of tree-planting work on Green Island, a habitat for beaver, river otter, and over 150 species of birds.

**July 15**  
**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.

**July 16**  
**Watershed Wednesday**  
Green Island, 31799 Green Island Rd, Eugene, from 9 -11:30 a.m. Join McKenzie River Trust and take a walk near the place where the Willamette and the McKenzie Rivers meet. Observe 15 years of tree-planting work on Green Island, a habitat for beaver, river otter, and over 150 species of birds.

**July 17**  
**Spiff School Board**  
7 p.m - 8:30 p.m. The Board of Directors meet in the Administration Building, 640 A St, Springfield.

**July 17**  
**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.

**July 17**  
**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.

**July 17**  
**McK Fire & Rescue**  
will hold its monthly Board of Directors meeting every Saturday from 9 - 11 a.m. at the Leaburg Store. Donations can be dropped off there as well.

**July 17**  
**McK Fire & Rescue**  
McK Fire & Rescue will be the Juror. $45 for Professional Division.

**July 18**  
**Friday Art Walk**  
The 2nd Friday Art Walk will be held from 4 to 7:30 p.m. starting at 5000 E 8th Ave (Emerald Center in Springfield).

**July 18**  
**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.

**July 18**  
**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.

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**An Invitation to Worship**

McKenzie River Presbyterian Church  
Please join us for worship Sunday at 10:30 a.m. whether in church on Hwy. 126 east of Walterville, or on our Facebook livestream. You may also make prayer requests, or listen to our bulletin – phone or send email to Nancy Ashley, nancy.washley@gmail.com 941-886. We would love to meet you!

McKenzie Bible Fellowship  
May 10th, 2007  
mckfellowship@gmail.com  
McKenzie Bible Fellowship  
31799 Green Island Rd, Eugene, OR 97402  
 info@mckenziebiblefellowship.org  
info@mckenziebiblefellowship.org  
McKenzie Bible Fellowship  
31799 Green Island Rd, Eugene, OR 97402  
info@mckenziebiblefellowship.org  
info@mckenziebiblefellowship.org

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**Catholic Church**

St. Benedict Lodge Chapel  
1/2 mile off Hwy 126  
126 on North Bank Rd.  
General Store, 91837 Taylor Rd  
541-896-0500  
web page: sbchapel.ag.org

**Living Water Family Fellowship**

Gathering Sundays at 10:00 AM  
Children’s worship also available  
Info: 541-896-0500  
Gathering Sundays at 10:00 AM  
Children’s worship also available  
Info: 541-896-0500

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**This Space**

For Rent  
riv2@gmail.com

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**Blue River Water Board**  
The board will meet at 6 p.m. A link to the meeting is available at:  
bluerivervalleypark.org

**Blue River Park Board**  
The board will meet at 6 p.m. a link to the online meeting is:  
bluerivervalleypark.org

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**Watershed Wednesday**  
Green Island, 31799-31601  
Green Island Rd, Eugene, 97402  
info@mckenziechamber.com  
info@mckenziechamber.com

**Watershed Wednesday**  
Green Island, 31799-31601  
Green Island Rd, Eugene, 97402  
info@mckenziechamber.com  
info@mckenziechamber.com

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**Click here and stay in touch with events online**

McKenzie Community Events Calendar.

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**Watershed Wednesday**  
Green Island, 31799-31601  
Green Island Rd, Eugene, 97402  
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**McKenzie River Reflections**  
**Thursday, July 13, 2023**

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**Dr. Erin Byrne has joined the staff of the East Lane Veterinary Hospital in Leaburg. A Michigan native, she moved to Oregon prior to starting high school. Her love of animals led her to pursue a bachelor’s degree in animal sciences from Oregon State University, which she received in 2016. During her undergraduate education, she worked with the Oregon Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory at OSU, as well as a research intern. Board experiences expanded her interest in the veterinary field. I attended Oregon State University, resulting in her 2020 graduation from the Carlson College of Vet- erinary Medicine.**

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**Business Beat**
I’m at my wit’s end. My wife of 20 years is leaving me. She said she is sick of me always talking to her. She says she doesn’t care about money or anything else as long as she gets away from me. I pleaded with her to stay and she stayed one night in the spare room, but she refused to talk further.

The next day I returned home from work to an empty house with no idea where anybody was. I delivered for a year to F41. A son not preparing a meal for our teenagers, I went to the restaurant where she worked, I was ashamed to say I created more than one scene in more than one place. I am now barred from the restaurant.

I’m struggling on my own at home, trying for the first time in my life to cook and look after my children, who expect everything to be as their mother did it. I think

my daughter understands, but my son is naïve. He thinks we can have a magic wand and make everything right again. How I wish he was right. I even thought about suicide.

Glenn Glenn, in old Hollywood movies, there was a scene where a girl would fly into hysteria and the male lead would slap her to bring her to her senses. That’s where you are now. You think in the “I can’t believe this is happening” nightmare. Everything seems unreal, and you don’t know what to do next. But have you an ally. Your ally is time. When Mavis Hetherington did the largest study of divorce in the United States, she reported, “Things will probably get worse over the course of this first year, then improve radically.”

Life is so precious you can’t consider hurting yourself because you are convinced this is the most crippling thing you could do to your children. Beyond that, the greatest harm you could possibly inflict is not to let your life unfold.

Move through this with fresh eyes. Life is not a falling apart. It is changing. When change comes the possibility of finding the joy and satisfaction and love which were not present in your marriage.

The way you feel today is not the way you will feel tomorrow, next week, or next month. Take care of your children. This can be the beginning of the life you were destined to live.

Tamar

Parring Shots

My husband and I have agreed to divorce, and both of us are still in the family. We have a shared government attorney. I am a real estate agent. Like all real estate agents, my income is very hit or miss. We have our pension and our property investment coming in on a monthly basis. Don’t trust my husband to be upfront about all our assets. He incorporated with partners, and he’s always kept our real estate investments and business very much to himself. I am sure you have heard all this before, but I would like not to be in the poor house when this is over. Just fair would be the best.

Charlotte, when you deal with other people, it’s best to act in accordance with who they are. If you are dealing with a kind person who always thinks of others, you act one way. If you are dealing with someone selfish and secretive, you act another. It doesn’t matter that you once shared a bed.

In the older days, he was one of war who would fire across the bow of another ship as a signal to stop, so they could have a chat. There is no reason your divorce should be acrimonious, but you need a lawyer to represent your best interests. He can fire a shot across your husband’s bow, so the two of them can stop for a chat.

Wayne

Wayne & Tamar are the authors of The Young Woman’s Guide to Older Men, The Friendship Solution, and Cheating in a Naselle—available from Amazon, Apple, and bookstores everywhere.

American Life in Poetry

The Poetry Foundation is now providing a Poem of the Day.

The Applicant

By Sylvia Plath

First, are you our sort of a person?
Do you wear
A glass eye, false teeth or a crutch,
A brace or a hook.

Rubber breasts or a rubber crotch,

Stitches to show how missing?
No, no? Then
How can we give you a thing?

Stop crying.

Charlotta. Empty? Empty. Here is a hand.

To fill it and willing
To bring teacups and rollaway headlines

And whatever you tell it.

Will you marry it?

It is guaranteed
to thumb shut your eyes at the end
And dissolve of sorrow. We make no new stock from the salt.
I notice you are stark naked. How about this suit —

Black and stiff, but not a bad fit.
Will you marry it?

It is waterproof, shatterproof, proof
Against fire and bombs through the roof.

Believe me, they’ll bury you in it.

Now your head, excuse me, is empty.
I have the ticket for that.

Come here, sweetie, out of the closet.

Well, do what you think of that?

Naked as paper to start


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July 13 – Peter Skeen Ogden was a fur trader and one of the most influential men in the Oregon Country. He was born in Canada, joined the North West Fur Company and was transferred to the Columbia District in 1818. He led countless trading and trapping expeditions, visiting and exploring the Snake River country, Central Oregon, Utah, Nevada and Northern California. He succeeded Dr. John McLoughlin as Chief Factor of the Hudson’s Bay Company at Fort Vancouver in 1845 and used his influence to secure the release of the 53 women and children held captive after the Whitman Massacre. Ogden died in 1854 and is buried at Oregon City.
Oregon to sue woodstove sales
Nine other states demanding greater regulation

By Alex Baumbach
Oregon Capital Chronicle
Oregon’s attorney general plans to join nine attorneys general in suing the federal Environmental Protection Agency for failing to ensure newly manufactured wood-burning stoves and fireplace
does not contaminate the air and harm public health. Ellen Rosenblum and the attor
general from Alaska, Illinois, Maryland, Massachusetts, Minne
sota, New Jersey, New York, Ver
mont and Washington notified the agency on June 29 of their intent to sue, giving it 60 days’ notice to take action or negotiate to avoid a lawsuit.

They allege the agency has failed to adequately update its emissions standards for residen
tial wood-burning stoves and fireplace to ensure compliance with the Clean Air Act. Though the agency began regulating wood heaters for emissions in 1988, a recent report from the agency’s Office of Inspector General found that current standards and the cer
fication process, last updated in 2015, are flawed.

“The current program does not provide reasonable assurance that wood heaters are properly tested and certified before reaching con
sumers,” the attorneys general wrote in the lawsuit.

An agency spokesperson Melissa Sullivan declined to comment Wednesday in an email.

“Because of ongoing litigation, EPA has no further informa tion to add,” she wrote.

The attorneys general say the EPA’s oversight program has failed to adequately update its testing and certification process for them.

In 2009, Oregon’s Department of Environmental Quality found that more than 590,000 homes in Oregon had a wood-burning device. More than half of them were wood stoves or wood fire
aples, and about 40% of those were not certified. Its survey found statewide that about 17% of wood-burning devices used as a main source of heat and 37% were used as a secondary source of heat.

The Environmental Protection Agency estimates there are more than 6 million old and inefficient wood-burning stoves in the U.S. today.

Wood smoke contains a number of harmful air pollutants, including carbon monoxide and fine particulate matter that can lead to asthma, cancer, and de moria, the agency says.

A 2021 analysis of 250 certified wood heaters on the market by the nonprofit Northeast States for Co
ordinated Air Use Management and the Alaska Department of En
vironmental Conservation found that more than 160,000 homes in the state have wood-burning devices and 40% of them were not certified.

None was in compliance with regula
tory requirements, the analysis found. It concluded that the agency’s certification program did not ensure that wood heaters sold in recent years were any cleaner than those sold prior to 1988, the first year that emissions standards were established for wood-burning stoves.

The attorneys general said that wood-burning stoves are most often used in communities already disproportionately im
pacted by pollution.

“These many of these devices will be installed in communities that are overburdened by environmental harms and other inequities, fur
er exacerbating environmental justice issues,” they wrote.

A state study in 2009 found that nearly 600,000 Oregon homes used wood

burning devices and 40% of them were not certified. (Getty Images)
Federal judge tosses Oregon lawsuit over mail voting, tabulation machines

By Julia Shumway
Oregon Capital Chronicle

A federal judge has tossed a lawsuit intended to end mail voting and electronic voting tabulation in Oregon, saying “generalized grievances” about the state’s elections aren’t enough to give a group of unsuccessful Republican candidates and other election deniers standing to sue.

U.S. Magistrate Judge Stacie F. Beckerman dismissed the suit late last month. Plaintiffs, led by former school superintendent and 2022 Republican gubernatorial candidate Marc Thielman, are appealing her ruling.

“Plaintiffs allege that Oregon’s computerized vote tabulation and mail-in voting systems violate their constitutional rights, including violations of the Due Process Clause, the Equal Protection Clause, and then-Secretary of State Shemia Fagan. The lead plaintiff in that case, Jennifer Gunter, has filed three lawsuits against county clerks in Washington and Wasco counties. The former meteorologist who denies Oregon’s citizens’ and is ‘a statewide standard for more than two decades, and to prevent ballots from being counted by machines. Beckerman’s nine-page opinion didn’t get into the merits of the complaint but whether Thielman and other plaintiffs had legal standing.

Thielman was joined by state Sen. Dennis Linthicum, R-Klamath Falls, and several unsuccessful Republican candidates: Ben Edl, who lost his Democratic Senate President Rob Wagner of Lake Oswego, Sandra Nelson lost to Democratic Rep. Ken Helm and Diane Richard and Pam Lewis lost local elections in Coos County, Rich for county clerk and Lewis for a county commission spot. An other plaintiff, Chuck Wiese, is a

AMNH

Two small boys clown around in the holes of the 16-ton Willamette Meteorite, where it sits on display in the American Museum of Natural History in New York in 1911.

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Three Sisters Wilderness lightning fire now out

MCKENZIE BRIDGE: On July 5th, a lightning-caused fire was reported in the Three Sisters Wilderness near Mink Lake Basin north of Park Trail #3530. Named the Moonlight Fire it involved approximately 2 acres. Initially, 10 smokejumpers were on the scene working to suppress the creeping and smoldering fire. A medium-sized type 2 helicopter was sent in later that day, working out of the McKenzie Bridge Airport.

On July 7th the McKenzie Fire 20-person hand crew, as well as 4 additional Helitack personnel hiked in to help support Moonlight Fire located in the Three Sisters Wilderness near Mink Lake Basin north of Park Trail #3530. They continued to support the incident using full suppression tactics to contain the fire. There wasn’t a threat to structures or nearby communities but people were advised to stay out of the area.

Officials said the fire was managed by McKenzie River Ranger District using full suppression tactics to contain the fire. There wasn’t a threat to structures or nearby communities but people were advised to stay out of the area.

The fire danger level in the Willamette National Forest has risen to “high” and the Industrial Fire Prevention Level is at II. There are currently no public use restrictions in place for fire, but Forest Service officials are urging everyone to exercise caution while recreating in the woods, especially if they have a campfire. A campfire should also be kept small and at least five feet away from any flammable material, including overhanging tree limbs.

Crews were able to complete the mop-up and fire suppression repair on Monday morning. The fire is now officially called out. All personnel and equipment have been released from the fire.

Additionally, fire crews put out 7 small fires in the Willamette National Forest over the weekend. All fires are now out.

Many of those fires were abandoned campfires. People are reminded to extinguish campfires, drown them with water, stir, drown, and continue until cold to touch. “Smothering” a fire with dirt is not sufficient to put the fire “dead out.”

ODF and OSU to begin updating wildfire hazard map

The Oregon Department of Forestry will soon begin work with Oregon State University to update the wildfire hazard map based on direction provided in Senate Bill 80, passed by the 2023 Oregon Legislature. This is in addition to the work ODF and OSU have been doing to incorporate feedback provided by landowners and local governments following last year’s initial map rollout.

Senate Bill 80 advances Oregon’s wildfire programs established by the 2021 Legislature’s Senate Bill 762. Senate Natural Resources Chair Dr. Jen Golden (D-Drogue Valley), guided SB 80 towards passage. “The revisions this bill makes,” said Golden, “address the plain fact that we’ll meet the massive wildfire challenge ahead only through a rock-solid collaboration between state and federal agencies, local officials, community leaders and affected property owners. We’ll succeed if Oregonians see this as their program, not the government’s. SB 80 takes big strides in that direction. The bill wouldn’t have been possible without the careful work of the Wildfire Programs Advisory Council—19 citizens from different backgrounds, professions and locations—who are charged with guiding us over time towards a more effective wildfire program. We’re lucky to have their service.”

After passing as SB 762 in 2021, ODF worked with a rule-making advisory committee on administrative rules to govern the map. Those rules, passed by the Board of Forestry, along with scientific expertise on modeling wildfire occurrence and behavior from OSU, led to the mapping of wildfire “risk” at a property tax parcel level for 1.8 million parcels in Oregon. However, lack of clarity about the map’s purpose and limited time for outreach and education about what it would mean for property owners resulted in concern about and opposition to the map. ODF plans to engage communities throughout the upcoming revision process to better inform Oregonians on the process, science, and purpose of the updated hazard map.

While the updated map is still required to use climate, weather, topography, and vegetation in assessing wildfire potential, SB 80 brings a few significant changes to the map:

- Clarifies the purpose of the map as being a tool to:
  - Inform Oregon residents and property owners about their wildfire exposure by providing transparent and science-based information.
  - Assist in prioritizing fire adaptation and management options for the most vulnerable locations.
  - Identify where defensible space standards and home hardening codes will apply.
- Changes from five “risk” classes to three “hazard” classes.
- Revisions to “high” and the Industrial Fire Prevention Level.
- Changes the appeal process: Properties in a high hazard class may be appealed as a contested case hearing described in Oregon Revised Statute Chapter 183.
- ODF and OSU are still working on the process and timeline for releasing the updated wildfire hazard map. Updated notifications will be reviewed by the Wildfire Programs Advisory Council for recommendation.
- Changes the appeal process: Properties in a high hazard class may be appealed as a contested case hearing described in Oregon Revised Statute Chapter 183.

The map is still under development. The updated map is required to conform with the new law and in existing administrative rules to govern the map. However, the following activities are planned:

- Complete a draft revision of the map that includes both previous and science-based information.
- Convene a rulemaking advisory committee to address the existing administrative rules to conform with the new law and incorporate lessons learned during county meetings.
- Schedule and attend community meetings across the state as described in SB 80 to share community-level revised maps with county representatives, gather local feedback, and provide clear information on how wildfire hazard is assessed.
- Publish a draft map online.
- Draft property owner notifications and solicit input from the Wildfire Programs Advisory Council.
- Publish a draft map online.
- Send notifications to property owners in high hazard zones inside the wildland-urban interface boundary, including instructions on how to appeal the designation.
- Publish the final map online, including the results of successful appeals.
- “ODF appreciates direction from the Legislature and the time to get the map right. We’re eager to engage communities and discuss the increasing hazard of wildfire across Oregon,” said State Forester Cal Mukumoto. “Having the time to solicit and incorporate community input is critical to Oregonians understanding the environmental hazard of wildfire.”

Smoke observed from the Moonlight Fire alerted officials.