



Serving the McKenzie River Valley ... And Subscriber Faith Bokros of Leaburg

JP Doodles

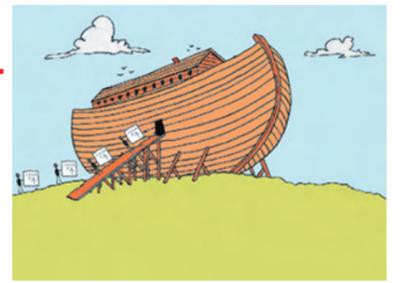
It takes more more than liquid to round out a coffee break

PAGE 2

Dr. Benjamin Franklin Russell

Grandmother Hazel Russell stepped out on the porch and shot a cougar stalking my mother when she was a small child.

PAGE 4



“Big changes” delay wildfire risk map

Fuels reduction and defensible space recommendations



Smoke from a forest burn will be carried away from communities under favorable weather and wind conditions, lessening the likelihood of complaints.

The Oregon Legislature will be considering a number of recommendations for changes related to the statewide wildfire risk map during the 2023 session, some of which would substantively change the map itself. Following conversations last week with the Senate Committee on Natural Resources and Wildfire Programs Advisory Council, the state has decided to postpone the release of an updated draft of the map, which was planned for March 2023.

“As we’ve been working with Oregon State University on technical adjustments to the map and planning for community outreach and engagement, we’ve also been keeping a close eye on the policy conversations happening in different venues,” explained Cal Mukumoto, Oregon State Forester and director of the Oregon Department of Forestry.

“There were some great recommendations that came out of the Wildfire Programs Advisory Council’s first annual report and opportunities identified by Wildfire Programs Director Doug Grafe related to the map that I hope the Legislature gets the opportunity to explore during this session.”

Those recommendations are in addition to several bills proposing a variety of changes ranging from which areas are assigned a risk classification to abolish the map entirely. “We want to avoid expending resources on work that may not align with the new direction that may come from the Legislature this session,” Mukumoto said. Without knowing what decisions will be made by the Legislature, the department does not yet know how

“Big changes” - Page 9

How’s your broadband?

Survey will inform future internet funding

The Oregon Public Utility Commission (PUC) is encouraging Oregonians to report their home internet speed data or lack of internet service as part of Faster Internet Oregon’s internet speed test and broadband mapping survey. Officials say the data will help secure infrastructure funding and ensure it is allocated so every Oregon resident has access to fast, affordable in-

ternet service.

The bipartisan broadband infrastructure funding bills developed by Congress are distributing billions to the states with the goal of making equitable internet access for all Americans a reality. It’s hoped these broadband funding programs will present an opportunity to overcome the enormous challenges that have kept reliable, afford-

able Internet service out of reach for many rural and Tribal communities. Obstacles include low household incomes, low population density, remote locations, and difficult terrain, among other roadblocks.

Developing accurate data to identify where broadband service is and is not available is believed to be an important first step in helping

Internet funding - Page 8

Commission to consider street changes

Proposal would affect Blue River’s downtown

EUGENE: Next Tuesday, the Lane County Planning Commission will get to hear the public’s ideas on how they would like Blue River to look as it rebuilds. A proposed amendment to the county’s land use code could trim back what opponents have called the current language’s excessive right-of-way setbacks.

The Public Works Division developed the proposal after talking to local property owners. A problem was initially identified when plans to reconstruct the O’Brien Library after the Holiday Farm Fire. It was learned the new structure could not meet setback requirements along Blue River Drive. While the current language calls for a 60-foot of right-

of-way width along the road; the code also requires an 80-foot minimum right-of-way width because Blue River Drive is designated as a minor collector road. Added to that was an additional 10-foot setback that would amount to a 90-foot right-of-way width.

Language in the code amendment calls that a width that size not only “impractical to support” but also “it is not necessary to meet the transportation needs for the downtown portion of Blue River Drive.”

In support of a smaller setback, planners point to text in the code saying the intent of development setbacks is “to protect the vested interest of the public in the existing and proposed

capacity of roads...and to prevent or reduce deterioration of property values.”

Also noted was the relatively flat topography of downtown Blue River, which shouldn’t more setbacks along Blue River Drive east of the Blue River Bridge.

People interested in giving testimony can attend the Planning Commission meeting, scheduled for February 7th, at 7 p.m. in the Goodpasture Room at Lane County Public Works, 3050 N. Delta Hwy. in Eugene; or via a hybrid option by phone at 1-253-215-8782 or 1-206-337-9723, or an online video connection at tinyurl.com/njtan4j5.

\$490 million added to wildfire fight

134 high-risk “firesheds” targeted to benefit

WASHINGTON, D.C.: “It is no longer a matter of if a wildfire will threaten many western communities in these landscapes, it is a matter of when,” according to Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack. “The need to invest more and to move quickly is apparent,” he added in announcing the addition of more than \$490 million to 11 key landscapes across the western United States last week. The money has been earmarked for national forest lands, including the restoration “of resilient old-growth forest conditions,” Vilsack said.

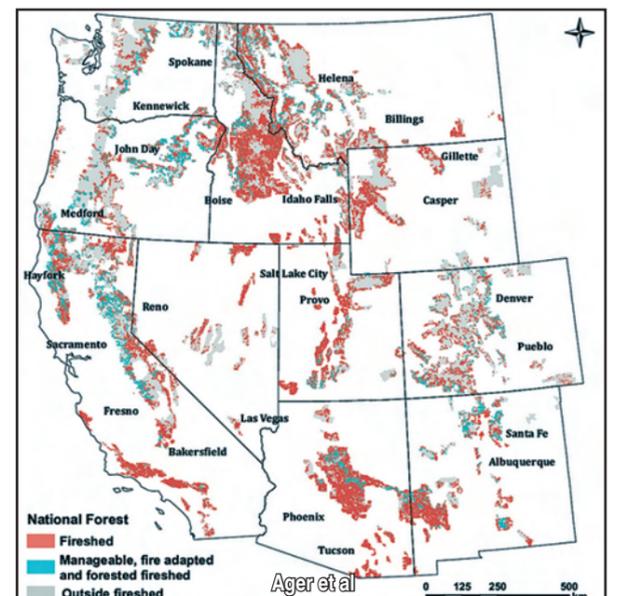
The Forest Service announced their original 10 landscape project areas last year as part of the agency’s broader strategy to protect communities, critical infrastructure and forest resources from catastrophic wildfires. Combined with those initial landscape allocations, the additional dollars announced in January represent a total

USDA investment of \$930 million across 45 million acres.

The work will span 134 of the 250 high-risk “firesheds” identified in the agency’s Wildfire Crisis

Strategy and is targeted at mitigating wildfire risk to around 200 communities in Oregon, Arizona, California, Idaho, Nevada, Utah, and Washington.

\$490 million wildfire fight - P 9



National forest firesheds where ignitions have the potential to cause structure exposure to nearby communities. Eighty-six million acres (62 percent) of the total national forest area have the potential to contribute to wildfires in communities. Areas in blue (19 million acres; 14 percent) are firesheds that are manageable and have fire-adapted conifer forests.

Guest Opinion

Hunters, fishers need to demand better federal management

By Adam Bronstein

Oregon Capital Chronicle

I have been hunting and fishing on public land in the West for over 20 years, and I can tell you through experience that where there are cows, the quality of fishing and hunting has been severely impacted. Where there are no domestic livestock, there are many more trout, elk, deer and moose.

Cows and sheep are invasive species and ecological misfits in the arid West. Bovines were first domesticated in southeast Asia and were exported to the European continent where the climate was wet and grass was plentiful. Cows outcompete ungulates like elk, deer and antelope for these scant resources. Social displacement of ungulates by livestock further shrinks the usable space for wildlife. The dewatering of natural springs and surface water for livestock troughs and pipelines leave wildlife parched and vulnerable, forcing them to travel longer distances for water and risk drowning in manmade tanks and drinkers.

Barbed wire, scornfully referred to as "the Devil's Rope" by western Native American tribes during early settler colonialism, stretches for thousands of miles across the

landscape impeding animal migrations and risking mortal injury and maiming entanglements to those crossing through the gauntlet of fences. Thousands of sage-grouse, a once frequently-hunted game bird, are decapitated each year by flying into strung wire. The fencing directly injures hunting dogs and humans who dare to pass through. I don't know a single chukar (game bird) hunter who doesn't have a harrowing story to tell about an emergency visit to the vet after their dog was injured by barbed wire.

The West is iconic for its native trout, salmon and steelhead populations that are sought after by anglers who directly benefit from healthy habitat. Domestic livestock wreak havoc on streams and rivers, threatening the health and survival of self-sustaining salmonid populations. Livestock decimate streamside vegetation that provides shade to keep waters cool and provide habitat for terrestrial insects, an important component of a trout's diet, and crush undercut banks that provide refuge for fish, spreading out stream channels that warm more quickly and deoxygenating the water. Livestock set off cascades of erosion processes in the uplands too, leading to silt in streams, lower water quality and suffocating fish eggs.



Hunting and fishing in livestock-degraded landscapes and ecosystems takes a toll on the spirit. For me, the discontent goes well beyond knowing that fish and game numbers are being diminished. Seeing and experiencing the impacts from livestock on what would otherwise be untamed wildlands is psychologically painful. It greatly diminishes my experiences and deprives me of a deeper connection with the natural world.

As a concerned group of public land users, hunters and anglers must start making their voices heard by demanding better from our federal land management agencies. We are a powerful economic force so we should play a greater role in decision making. According to the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, in 2019 hunting and angling in Oregon generated \$1.2 billion in spending. Public lands grazing generated \$134 million in state economic ac-

tivity, a mere five-one-hundredths of 1 percent of Oregon's economic output while contributing to less than 2% of the beef we consume in the state.

Sportspeople – and the whole web of life – would be better served by conservation of healthy fish and wildlife populations instead of perpetuating destructive livestock grazing which only benefits the few at the expense of the many. It's time to start raising our collective voices.

McKenzie Eagles Sports Report



By Cliff Richardson

McKenzie Varsity Sports Schedule This Week

The McKenzie Varsity Boys and Girls Basketball teams travel to Triangle Lake on Tuesday, January 31. The Eagle Boys game will start at 5:30 pm and the Girls game will follow at 7:00 pm.

The McKenzie teams will travel to C. S. Lewis Academy, in Newberg, on Friday, February 3. The Girls non-league game will start at 5:30 pm and the Boys game will follow at 7:00 pm.

Eagle Girls Drop Two Mapleton 45, McKenzie 19 Mohawk 45, McKenzie 9

McKenzie Girls Basketball Head Coach Jack Devereaux's team dropped a pair of Mt. West League games last week.

The first, at Mapleton on Tuesday, January 24, saw the Sailors upend the visiting Eagles, 45-19. The win over in the Coast Range, ensured a Sailor sweep of McKenzie in 2022-23 regular season play. The two teams, will meet a third time in the First Round of the Mt. West League playoffs, at 7:00 pm on Monday February 13, with Mapleton hosting. The

winning team will advance in MWL playoffs and the losing team will finish their season.

The Mohawk Mustangs finished off their week with a 45-9 drubbing of their old Eagle rivals, at Finn Rock. Mohawk sits in fourth place right behind third place Triangle Lake in the MWL Girls standings and will be looking to slip up a couple of places as the Regular Season closes down.

No Eagle girl's stats were available from McKenzie at press time.

McKenzie Boys Fall To Mapleton, 54-22 Lose To Mohawk 67-18

The young and inexperienced Eagle Varsity Boys Basketball team continued its Hoops 101 educational experience under McKenzie Head Coach Neil Barrett last week and found the lessons valuable and tough. Tough in the regard that the game outcome's continued with nary a victory yet this season. McKenzie

is 0-11, 0-17. Host Mapleton, 6-4, 7-9, defeated the Eagles 54-22 and Mohawk capped the week with a 67-18 victory in Finn Rock.

Facing a winless season is a difficult pill to swallow, even for a young team such as the Eagles. But through it all, the team players and coaching staff seem to maintain a clear-headed understanding of their skill levels while approaching each outing in a positive manner. While moral victories are wonderful and important for sure, the game at this level is also about skill development and knowledge of the game with the goal to offer a competitive showing against a worthy opponent. There are intrinsic and extrinsic values to learn and earn from sports, which can be applied in every day life. That being said, the Eagles are taking their lumps with a grain of salt and there surely is evidence that while losses are piling up, lessons are being learned and

skills are beginning to show positive progress.

It would be totally unfair to judge these athletes and their Coaches by their season record. Indeed, it remains to be seen, to what degree the Eagles truly desire to get better, the remainder of this season and future. With hard work, dedication, sacrifice and good coaching (nothing less), the game will become more manageable and competition more intense. Wins and more Fun will come in due time with positive input.

Now, less philosophical and more statistical, down on the Banks of the Old Siuslaw against the Sailors, freshman Will Meister led his Eagle compatriots with 9 points scored and he finished with 3 rebounds and 2 steals. Junior teammate Griffin Withalm added 7 points, 2 rebounds, and a steal, sophomore Salomon Acevedo dropped 4 points in the cup and

had a team leading 5 boards, and lone senior Trent Peek finished with 2 points and a rebound. That was the Eagle scoring effort that night. Jovial Jordan finished with 2 rebounds, Allen Acevedo had 1 rebound and 3 steals, and Thomas Hayes and Jacob Peek each hauled in 1 board.

The following Friday at McKenzie, the Eagles were led again by Meister, who scored 8 points and added 1 board and 1 assist. Hayes scored 4 points and had 3 rebounds and Allen Acevedo scored 4 points also while finishing with 1 board, 2 assists, and 4 steals. Salomon Acevedo made 1 free throw, grabbed a team high 6 rebounds and swiped the ball once, and Trent Peek finished with 1 point, 2 rebounds and 2 steals. Jacob Peek added 2 boards and a steal.

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.



McKenzie River Reflections



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WEATHER REPORT

READINGS TAKEN AT THE US ARMY CORPS COUGAR DAM

READINGS TAKEN AT THE EWEB LEABURG POWERHOUSE

Date	High	Low	Rain	Releases	Date	High	Low	Rain	Riverflow
1/24	43	28	0	318 cfs	1/24	50	29	0	2,280 cfs
1/25	42	28	0	337 cfs	1/25	48	29	0	2,180 cfs
1/26	44	29	0	342 cfs	1/26	46	35	0	3,000 cfs
1/27	43	32	0	347 cfs	1/27	49	36	0.07	2,920 cfs
1/28	41	33	0	465 cfs	1/28	44	37	0.21	3,100 cfs
1/29	34	21	0	330 cfs	1/29	45	30	0.16	3,070 cfs
1/30	38	19	0	352 cfs	1/30	40	22	0	2,970 cfs

Friday 2/3		Saturday 2/4		Sunday 2/5	
McKenzie Valley Showers 60% chance precip High: 50 Low: 38	Santiam Pass Snow Showers 60% chance precip High: 35 Low: 26	McKenzie Valley PM Showers 60% chance precip High: 54 Low: 31	Santiam Pass PM Rain/Snow Showers 50% chance precip High: 38 Low: 27	McKenzie Valley Rain 70% chance precip High: 46 Low: 40	Santiam Pass Snow 70% chance precip High: 33 Low: 25

Sheriff's Report

Jan. 19: 5:05 p.m: Disorderly Subject - 90400 blk, Mountain View Ln. Verbal dispute between neighbors.

6:04 p.m: Disturbance, Dispute - 39900 blk, Log Creek Rd. Physical dispute between a landlord and tenant. Minor injuries reported, determined to be mutual combat.

Jan. 20: 5:14 p.m: Disturbance, Dispute - Marcola Rd. Dispute between two family members reported. No crime was articulated.

Jan. 21: 12:58 p.m: Theft - 95200 blk, Marcola Rd. Jewelry and coins were stolen from a residence.

Jan. 22: 3:56 a.m: Harassment - 45100 blk, McK. Hwy. A caller reported that a former girlfriend threatened to have someone come and beat the caller up.

2:17 p.m: Disturbance, Dispute - 92200 blk, Carson St. Verbal

dispute between neighbors regarding the blocking of the street.

5:45 p.m: Suspicious Conditions - 45000 blk, Leaburg Dam Rd. A caller reported that a known suspect walked around a locked gate and trespassed on another person's property.

Jan. 23: 8:12 p.m: Reckless Endangering - 38400 blk Shotgun Creek Rd. A caller was in the area when they heard a shot hit the brush next to them. Caller believed someone may have shot at them.

Jan. 24: 12:40 p.m: Abandoned Vehicle - Carson St. & Marcola Rd.

3:27 p.m: Criminal Mischief - 44800 blk McK. Hwy. A known suspect damaged the electrical panels of an area business and shut off the power.

4:55 p.m: Welfare Check - 45100 blk McK. Hwy.

Jan. 25: 1:07 a.m: Alarm - 92100 blk, Marcola Rd.

10:46 a.m: Unlawful Use of Vehicle - 49800 blk, McK. Hwy.

2:32 p.m: Alarm - 89100 blk, Bridge St.

4:36 p.m: Harassment - 37000 blk, Parsons Creek Rd. A neighbor threatened to run another neighbor over with a car.

5:14 p.m: Suspicious Vehicle - 45600 blk, Goodpasture Rd.

6:40 p.m: Citizen Contact - McGowan overlook.

7:37 p.m: Warrant Service - 91800 blk, Mill Creek Rd.

Jan. 26: 12:02 p.m: Suspicious Vehicle - 45600 blk, Goodpasture Rd.

3:16 p.m: Vehicle Stop - McK. Hwy. & Twin firs.

3:53 p.m: Disorderly Subject - 45900 blk, Goodpasture Rd. Ongoing issue, an area resident was seen running his tractor in the middle of the road again.

3:56 p.m: Vehicle Stop - McK. Hwy. & Goodpasture Rd.

5:06 p.m: Suspicious Vehicle - 41900 blk, Deerhorn Rd.

8:11 p.m: Vehicle Stop - McK. Hwy. & N. Gate Creek Rd.

9:05 p.m: Vehicle Stop - 45600 blk, McK. Hwy.

10:39 p.m: Abandoned Vehicle - 92000 blk, Maple Ln.

Jan. 27: 12:48 p.m: Vehicle Stop - McK. Hwy. & Twin Firs Rd.

3:11 p.m: Vehicle Stop - McK. Hwy. & Holden Creek Ln.

4:04 p.m: Speeding Vehicle - Wendling Rd. & Honeybee Ln.

Jan. 28: 11:57 a.m: Abandoned

Continued On Page 8

McKenzie Fire & Rescue

Jan. 24: 10:12: 42000 block, McK. Hwy. Public Assist. Lift Assist.

11:54: 1000 blk, Billings Rd. Medical, General. Assisted.

Jan. 25: 14:26: 51000 blk, McK. Hwy. Mutual Aid. Canceled By Upper McK. Fire.

15:42: 42000 blk, McK. Hwy. Public Assist. Lift Assist.

Jan. 26: 23:13: 42000 blk, Leaburg Dr. Medical, General. Patient Assessed, 1 Transported.

Jan. 27: 12:27: 87000 blk, Cedar Flat Rd. Medical, General. Patient Assessed, 1 Transported.

Continued On Page 9

Upper McKenzie Fire/Rescue

Jan. 19: 11:40: Motor Vehicle Accident - McK. Hwy./Carmen Smith Hydroelectric Power Station. Non-Injury, Not Blocking. 2 vehicles involved.

Jan. 24: 14:06: Down Line - McK. Hwy./Milepost 44. Tree on power line sagging line to the road - no sparking or arching.

14:44: Medical - 55000 block, McK. River Dr. Male, Conscious, Breathing.

18:07: Medical - 56000 blk,

Delta Dr. Female, Conscious, Breathing.

Jan. 25: 08:22: Medical - 55000 blk, McK. River Dr. Male, Conscious, Breathing.

14:24: Medical - 51000 blk, McK. Hwy. Female, Conscious, Breathing.

Jan. 28: 22:42: Motor Vehicle Accident - Mp. 10, Clear Lake Cutoff. Vehicle vs. tree - blocking hwy..

Jan. 29: 05:47: MVA - McK. Hwy./Mp. 51. Involved: white and black pickup truck with snowplow on the front is now stuck on the tree.

05:58: Large tree in the roadway - Approx 1/2 mile east of Paradise Campground.

07:01: MVA - McK. Hwy./Mp. 37. Road completely blocked both directions.

07:03: MVA - McK. Hwy./Mp. 37. Single vehicle hit by another tree that just fell down.

09:46 Down Line - McK. Hwy. Mp. 50. Tree down blocking both lanes of travel, lines also down.

21:12: Fire Alarm - 57000 McK. Hwy. North smoke fire alarm.

Jan. 30: 13:11: Assist Police Dept. - McK. Hwy./Blue River Dr. Unknown disoriented female. Call transferred to OSP.

Jan. 31: 00:22: Medical - 54000 blk, Caddis Ln. Female, Conscious, Breathing.

The Upper McK. Fire District board of directors will hold its monthly meeting at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, February 15th, at the McK. Fire Station, 56578 McK. Hwy. in McKenzie Bridge.

MRR McKenzie River Reflections

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

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6:30 - 8:30 p.m.

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45061 McKenzie Highway

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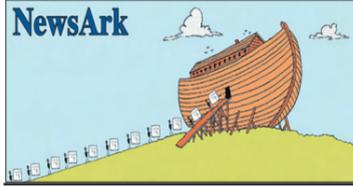
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from the rising
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McKenzie River Memories: The Family of Dr. Benjamin Franklin Russell

Reprinted from the August 22, 2012 River Reflections



Russell clinic in Thurston

By John Russell Gustafson
Memories about life in the McKenzie River Valley run deep in the Russell family. When I was a small boy, I spent many Sundays playing cribbage and listening to the stories about the old days on the McKenzie from my granddad, Fred Russell, and the rest of the family. There were stories about Blue River, Finn Rock, Martin's Rapids, the swinging bridge to Thomson's Lodge, and the family home on Deerhorn Road across the river from Walterville near Taylor's Landing. In the early 1900s, my mother and several aunts and uncles were born there. It was there that grandmother Hazel Russell stepped out on the porch and shot a cougar stalking my mother when she was a small child. The old house has not changed much in the past century.

Many of the most unforgettable stories granddad told me were about the man who brought the Russell family west, his father, Dr. Benjamin Franklin Russell. In 1862 B.F. Russell volunteered in the Union Army (10th New Jersey Infantry). He fought through Virginia with the Army of the Potomac under General US Grant in some of the fiercest battles of the Civil War: Spotsylvania, the Wilderness, and Cold Harbor. He was captured in the Shenandoah Valley in 1864, kept in several Confederate prisons, lost almost fifty pounds from drinking putrid Danville Prison water, tried to escape, and was finally released

from Libby Prison in Richmond to the Union officers' hospital in Annapolis, Maryland in 1865.

After the war, he slowly came west. On the way, he studied under a physician in Wisconsin to become a doctor, got married in Iowa, started a family, and came to Oregon by wagon, finally arriving in the McKenzie River Valley in 1881. On the way to Oregon, family lore holds that he delivered an Indian baby at the request of an Indian chief who provided security for the wagon.

Great-granddad Russell settled his wife Maggie and their family near Taylor's Landing and later moved to Thurston near what is now the Thurston Grange hall. He was one of the first doctors in the McKenzie River Valley. He also was the Thurston postmaster and was active on the school board. His daughters and granddaughters married local men with familiar McKenzie Valley names: Hendricks, Thomson, Bradley, Potter, and Endicott. Dr. Russell traveled the Valley by carriage and horseback tending to families until his later years when his clinic in Thurston became the Lane County Home for the poor. Russell's leather saddlebags, with special pockets for apothecary bottles now belong to his great, great-granddaughter, a physician in Portland. Dr. Russell died in Thurston, now Springfield, in 1902. His tombstone in Mt. Vernon Cemetery reads: "He Fought for Liberty and the Union."

Benjamin Franklin Russell and



BF Russell

his wife had eight children. In about 1912, one of his sons, Dr. John Irving Russell, founded the first hospital in Lakeview, Oregon. Unfortunately, he died about a year later from kidney infection. Another son was my grandfather James Fredrick (Fred) Russell. He married Hazel Waite Bradley, who had come to Oregon from Ohio. Grandmother Hazel, a gentle, strong and independent person, was one of the only Democrats in the Russell family. Most Russells were Lincoln Republicans. Grandma Russell, said to be the best shot in the family, not only killed the cougar that was about to attack my mother near the river, she also shot a deer feeding in her garden from her bedroom window a few days after giving birth to my uncle Ben. Grandmother Russell taught elementary school in the Walterville area. Maude and Margaret, two of her daughters, also taught school. Grandma's mother, Ida Waite, also must have been quite a character. She was a divorcee who moved west from Cleveland. In a family rhyme she is called: "Ida, Maude, Miranda, Kate; Victoria Queen, Minerva Waite-Curtin, Bradley." At least one girl and several cats in the family have been named after her. We have traced the Waite family back to Thomas Waite and the settling of Rhode Island in 1634.

An interesting fact about the Russell family: Three generations in the Russell line were born on the same day, July 4th: Benjamin Franklin Russell in 1835; his son Fredrick, my grand father, in 1877; and my oldest grandson, Jacob Russell Gustafson, in 1997. When I was a boy, the Fourth of July was an especially festive birthday event. We always had a big outdoor picnic in Thurston with rockets, cherry bombs, and American flags flying.

The Russell family was a clan of kidders and practical jokesters. When I was a boy, my granddad convinced me that he could see the chain marks on Finn Rock near Blue River where Pete Finn's mules pulled the huge rock out of the way to make room for the first McKenzie Highway. When there was a wedding in the community, the Russell family sometimes put an aromatic salmon on the motor block of the newlywed's car,

helping to make the honeymoon trip fragrantly memorable. When relatives visited us at our home in Eugene, my mother frequently would "short sheet" their beds and then leave a turnip or a carrot in their luggage before they left.

One of my uncles was Carey Thomson, an expert fly fisherman. He was from the well-known family of McKenzie River fishing guides who owned Thomson's Lodge. President Herbert Hoover, an avid fly fisherman, once stayed there. Uncle Carey took me fishing several times when I was a young boy in his McKenzie drift boat. He was a big-shouldered man and a fine oarsman. In a book about the McKenzie, he is identified as the youngest person to have taken a boat through Martin's Rapids. He once told me that he never learned how to swim well because the McKenzie was too fast and cold. If you fell in, you hoped to use the swift water to float you to a rock or to shore. He was one of the first to own a McKenzie River dory made by Woody Hindman in Springfield.

Memories of the McKenzie Valley also include my dad, Melvin Gustafson, and his family. Granddad and grandmother Gustafson were Scandinavian immigrants who settled near the McKenzie River near Coburg after moving from their homestead in South Dakota in the 1920s. They had eight sons and two daughters. McKenzie River fishing was not a sport for my Grandpa Gus. One day he walked into the farmhouse with a salmon wiggling on his pitchfork. He had speared it in a McKenzie slough near his farm. In 1938 my dad and his brothers bought the Dutch Girl Ice Cream Company, now the Oregon Ice Cream Company, in Eugene. They owned the Dutch Girl Company for more than fifty years.

Our family has many memories of the beautiful McKenzie. In August of 2000, we placed the ashes of my eldest sister, Joan, in a riddle in the McKenzie upstream from the old Russell home on Deerhorn Road. My niece and youngest sister said they could see the river twinkle as it passed by.

Editor's Note: John Gustafson lives in the Washington, DC area. In Oregon, he worked as a state government official during the administrations of Governors Tom McCall and Robert Straub. In 1977, he was asked to come to Washington, DC for a year to share Oregon's natural resource conservation and development ideas and policies with the federal level. He expected to return to Oregon. However, he stayed in DC. In 2005 upon his retirement, he received the US Environmental Protection Agency's Distinguished Career Award, the highest recognition given to federal employees by the US EPA.



By Slim Randles

We all know someone will find Jenkins's cabin. Someday. Oh, it's up there in those hills somewhere. We all know that.

It's become a friendly object of conjecture and speculation. No one living has seen it, as far as we know. Jenkins himself died quietly when he was on one of his infrequent trips to town for supplies. Funny guy, that Jenkins.

He worked in the city for years, mostly as a night watchman in a factory that made diapers. Didn't really enjoy people much, and told us many times how nice it was to just be in the huge factory when it was quiet. Then one day he decided to move to the mountains and make pretty things out of leather. Once in a while he'd have his coffee at the counter at the Mule Barn, but often as not, he'd camp out on the edge of town for the two or three days it took him to sell his crafts and buy supplies. He'd smile and wave from his campsite, then he'd be gone one morning. We wouldn't see him again for months.

Now and then someone would ask him where his cabin was, and he'd just point toward the mountains and say, "Up there." How far up there? "A ways." What was his cabin like? "Not too big."

And so we came to regard the little cabin as an intriguing mystery, an object of local legend. After he died, several of the fellows tried to backtrack him to find the place, but Jenkins evidently didn't take the same trail each time, as though he wanted his quiet times protected from even a friendly visit from one of us. During his lifetime, we respected his wishes. In this country, a man has a perfect right to be a little strange. And, truth be known, we hold a certain admiration for those of us who hear different instructions. But there is something in the human spirit, also, that begs to have its mysteries solved. So now, several times each year, one or two of us will use the mystery of the lost cabin as an excuse to poke our noses into the nuances and seclusions of these hills. We play off our curiosity against our wishes to respect a man's privacy, even when he's gone.

We have yet to discover Jenkins's lost cabin. Maybe we never will. Maybe that wouldn't be such a bad thing, either.

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Gardening Tips

By Kym Pokorny



Oregon State University

OSU Extension Service

Disease-resistant roses make gardening easier



RebekkaD/Pixabay

Struggling with rose diseases often converts affection to frustration for the millions of gardeners who grow the beloved shrubs.

Instead of cursing the big three – black spot, powdery mildew and rust – take the advice of Jay Pscheidt, a plant pathologist with Oregon State University Extension Service, who steers people to roses that enjoy immunity to the threats of these diseases.

“Save yourself a lot of hassle and plant disease-resistant roses this spring for trouble-free bouquets in the summer,” he said. The Pacific Northwest Plant Disease Handbook, which Pscheidt co-authored, offers a list of varieties.

Hybrid teas that smell sweet and are moderately resistant to all three diseases include dark-red Mr. Lincoln; Double Delight with its shades of reds, pinks and whites; pastel pink Tiffany; and sunset-orange Voodoo. Dark-salmon Fragrant Cloud is highly resistant to rust and moderately resistant to powdery mildew and black spot.

Tournament of Roses, a

coral-colored grandiflora, and the heavy-blooming, pink-flowered floribunda Sexy Remy very successful at fighting off the trio of diseases. Sunshine-yellow floribunda Sunsprite and Queen Elizabeth, a classic pink grandiflora, are moderately resistant to all three.

If you want a climbing rose, keep in mind that they require more pruning than shrub roses. Install a trellis or use an archway for a climbing rose, which needs space to grow vertically as well as



rustubokus/Pixabay

horizontally.

Disease-resistant climbing roses include the fire engine-red Altissimo, which is resistant to rust and has medium resistance to black spot and powdery mildew. Lemon-yellow Golden Showers and Joseph’s Coat in rouge and peach hues possess moderate resistance to all three.

You may not find all of these roses at garden centers and other retail outlets. If you’ve got your heart set on one, call first to see if it’s in stock. If you choose to shop online, check out Heirloom Roses, Jackson & Perkins and Edmunds Roses.

At the nursery, roses come with bare roots or in a plastic container. For container plants, dig the planting hole twice as wide as the container. For bare-root roses, dig the hole wide enough so you can spread the roots horizontally. Spring, after the last frost date (late March/mid-April), is a great time to plant roses. Put them in a spot with well-drained soil that will receive six to eight hours of full sun. Water your newly planted roses deeply.

For more information about roses, refer to Controlling Diseases and Aphids on Your Roses. Also available is Roses: Planting and Care in Central Oregon. Although it’s geared for high-desert gardeners, the advice also applies to western Oregon.



Country Kitchen

By Mary Emma Allen



A TRAILS END RECIPE HERITAGE

I’ve discovered, as I read quilting newsletters that quilters are interested in recipes as well as quilting and patchwork patterns and fabric. I’d guess this started at the pioneer quilting bees, when the ladies served refreshments while they worked and again in the evening when families joined them.

This piqued my curiosity about the recipes served in my family during quilting days at Trails End Farm. Here my mom grew up, on a farm that was in the family for about 150 years.

I learned to make quilts and bake bread when I visited my grandmother and aunt at Trails End. Mother told of sewing quilt patches with her mother, grandmother, and neighbor ladies as a child.

My grandfather (her father) mentioned in his journals his mother meeting with friends for a quilting bee, chat, and tea. He described food of that era and growing it on their family farm.

Trails End Quilters Blog

At one time I wrote a blog, Tales of the Trails End Quilters (<http://trailsendquilters.blogspot.com>) about my Trails End quilting heritage and the generations in our family involved in this art. Quilting and fabric art still exist, as my daughter, Beth, and granddaughter, Kara, pursue them.

I’m in the process of researching the Trails End family and delving into their stories and lives. I have a few quilt blocks someone in the family made years ago and my mom saved. There’s also the

quilt, well-worn now, that I helped Nanny make for my bed. Pieces of my mom and dad’s wedding quilt have survived.

Trails End Recipes

Some of the Trails End recipes exist in a notebook in my aunt’s handwriting. I was so pleased when a friend, who acquired the notebook, gave it to me, saying, “This probably will have more meaning for you than for me.” What a delight!

My aunt recorded recipes that caught her attention, those from friends, and ones her grandmothers made. Daughter Beth is in the process of making copies for other family members.

GRANDMOTHER’S CINNAMON ROLLS - Make your usual white bread recipe. Instead of forming it into a loaf for the second rising, roll one or both loaves (most recipes make two loaves) into rectangles about one inch thick. Spread with butter; sprinkle with cinnamon-sugar mixture (sometimes Grandma used part white and part brown sugar); spread raisins over this, up to one cup per loaf.

Roll up as you would a jelly roll. Then cut into 1-inch slices. Place on greased cookie sheet. Let rise, as you would bread. Then bake, around 350 degrees F. for 10-15 minutes, until done.

Remove from oven and cookie sheet. Grandma never put icing or confectioner’s sugar on her rolls; however, you can if you’d prefer.

(c) Mary Emma Allen

(Mary Emma writes from her NH home. Here she researches the recipes in her family’s history. E-mail: me.allen@juno.com)

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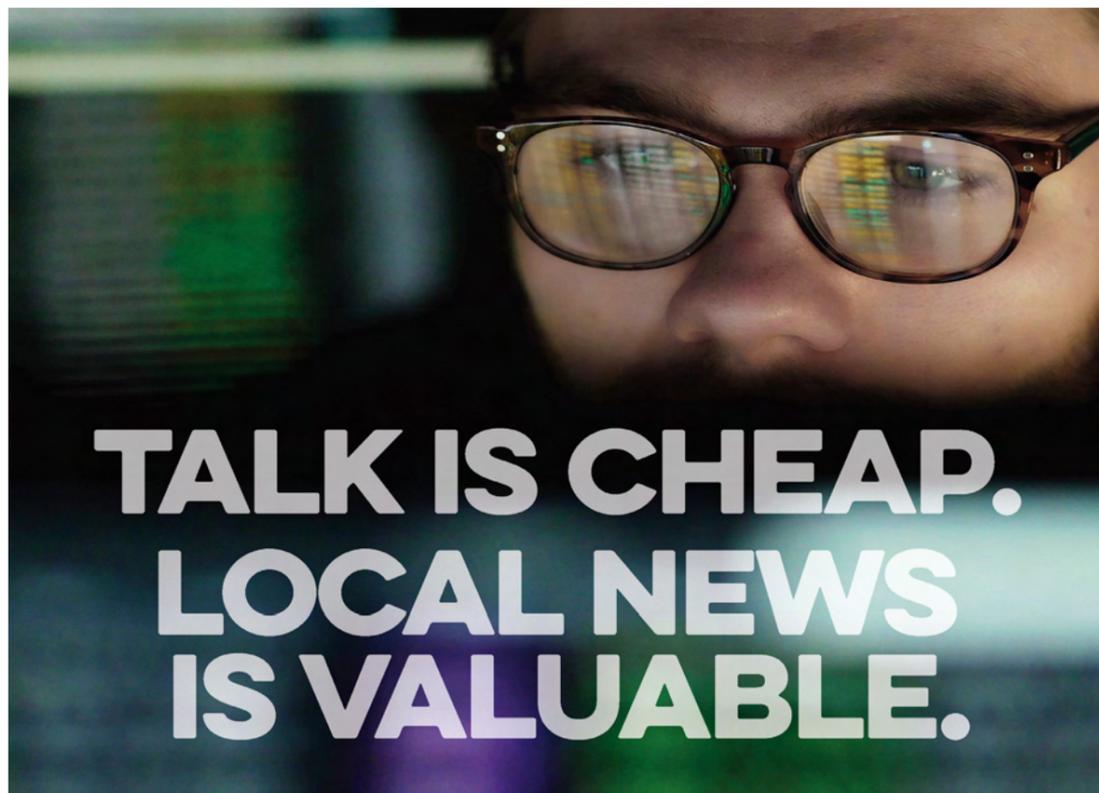
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Lane Transit Board



The Lane Transit District (LTD) Board of Directors elected Gino Grimaldi as its President during its January 2023 monthly meeting. Grimaldi, a retired Springfield City Manager who spent 45 years serving in city government in Arizona, Maine, and Oregon, represents LTD's Subdistrict 1, East Springfield to McKenzie Bridge.

Lane Transit District (LTD) is a special district of the State of Oregon led by a seven-member volunteer board of directors appointed by Oregon's governor. LTD's budget is funded through a combination of fares, taxes paid by local employers and employees, and from state and federal sources.

LTD delivered more than 5 million annual passenger boardings from 30 fixed bus routes and two EmX Bus Rapid Transit lines. LTD's paratransit service, RideSource, provides more than 250,000 trips annually for people with disabilities and Medicaid recipients. More information about LTD is at www.LTD.org.

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Community Notes

Fresh Produce

Orchid Health is partnering with Food for Lane County to offer fresh produce to our community. Food will be available for pickup on the first and third Wednesdays of the month. Please call 541.822.3341 if you would like to sign up.

February 2, 9, & 16 Woodland Planning

Woodland Management Planning Webinar Series. This three session webinar series is ideal for anyone interested in starting a woodland management plan. Learn how to assess your site, integrate existing maps and resource data, collect field information, schedule management activities and how to get help. Thursdays, February 2, 9, & 16, 2023. 3:00 pm - 4:30 pm. Register online at <https://beav.es/5dx>

Questions? Contact Norma Kline at norma.kline@oregon-state.edu or 541-572-5263 ext. 25294.

This is a free series brought to you by the Oregon State University Extension Service.

February 7

Blue River Drive Changes

A Public Hearing before the Lane County Planning Commission will be held on Tuesday, to discuss possible changes to Blue River Drive and Amendments to Lane Code (LC) 15.070 to authorize the creation of special right-of-way setbacks by Order of the Board. People can attend at Lane County Public Works, 3050 N. Delta Hwy. in Eugene; or via a hybrid option (online and/or phone) 1-253-215-8782 or 1-206-337-9723, or tinyurl.com/njtan4j5.

February 7

Forest Management

On Tuesday, February 7th, from 1 to 4 p.m. there will be a virtual meeting open to the public to learn more about the Oregon Department of Forestry's Forest Management Plan (FMP) and Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP).

This meeting will provide an

update on the FMP, the HCP, and the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process.

A proposed agenda and additional details will be provided closer to the meeting date.

More information is available online at the Western Oregon State Forest Management Plan Website and the Western Oregon State Forest Habitat Conservation Plan Website.

February 11

Valentine's Dinner

On February 11th, the Vida McKenzie Community Center will be serving a delicious multi-course dinner from 5 to 7 p.m. at the McKenzie Valley Presbyterian Church. Menu choices will include prime rib, chicken, or vegetarian offerings. All profits help rebuild and equip the Vida Community Center building poised to open late Spring or early Summer 2023. Cost: \$25 per person. Reservations: 541-896-3001 or gerryaster@gmail.com.

February 11

Date Night

A Movie & Dinner Date Night event sponsored by McKenzie Valley YoungLife will be held at the McKenzie Bible Fellowship on February 11th in Vida. The \$20 adult plate will include dinner, movie, dessert and free childcare at the event. The doors will open at 5 p.m. and the movie will start at 5:15 at 45061 McKenzie Hwy.

February 12

Holiday Fair

The McKenzie River Holiday Fair will be open from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on February 12th at McKenzie Fire's Leaburg Training Center, 42870 McK. Hwy. Message Tina Matula on Facebook to reserve table space,

February 14

Dental Van

The Tiny Dental Van, sponsored by the Rural Oregon Outreach Program, will be at the Orchid McKenzie River Clinic every

second Tuesday of the month. Call 360-449-9500 or 800-525-6800 to schedule new patient appointments or teeth cleaning. The dental services will be available from 8:30 a.m. to 2p.m. at 54771 McKenzie Hwy. in Rainbow.

February 18 & 19

Frontier Heritage Fair

The 29th annual Frontier Heritage Fair will be held at the Lane County Events Center/Fairgrounds Auditorium on Saturday and Sunday, February 18th & 19th. The focus of the fair will be the pre-1898 period, including Mountain Men, Civil War, and Old Wst articles and replicas of those periods. Included will be a special exhibit of Oregon prehistory and displays representing the Hudson's Bay Company, a replica of Fort Umpqua at Elkton, the Applegate Trail, the Free Emigrant route, and Northwest Coast Native Art. Showtimes are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday and from 9 to 4 on Sunday. Admission is \$5 for 13 and older, and kids 12 and under are free. The event is sponsored by the Fort Umpqua Muzzleloaders club of Lane County. Call 541-689-4281 or 541-746-1819 for more information.

USFS Jobs

The Willamette National Forest will soon be hiring for the 2023 summer season. Opportunities are available in specialties such as fire, dispatch, recreation, engineering, natural resources, visitor services, and more. Applications will be accepted from January 12th to 19th, on usajobs.gov. Duty locations include McKenzie Bridge, Springfield, Mill City, Sweet Home, and Westfir, Oregon. Seasonal housing may be available. Learn more at: <https://tinyurl.com/4urm6y3x>

LCC Board

Five seats on the Lane Community College Board of Education are up for election in the May 16th Special Election. The winners of each seat, with the exception of Zone 1, will serve four year terms beginning July 1, 2023.

Of the five, two At Large positions up for election:

Position 6, currently held by Rosie Pryor, and Position 7, currently held by Lisa Fragala.

Pryor announced in December she did not intend to run for reelection. The board will have a minimum of three new members when the new terms begin in July.

The Lane Community College District serves a 5,000 square-mile area stretching from the Pacific Ocean to the Cascade Mountains. The district includes most of Lane County, as well as the Monroe School District in Benton County, the Harrisburg Union High School District in

Linn County and a small area in northern Douglas County. The total district population includes about 390,000 people.

Seven elected, non-paid people comprise the LCC Board of Education and have primary authority for establishing policies governing the operation of the college and adopting the college's annual budget. Their charge is to oversee the development of programs and services which they believe will best serve the needs of the people of the LCC District.

Lane County Fentanyl Aware campaign

Lane County Public Health announced the launch of a Fentanyl Aware campaign last week, aimed at addressing the increasing supply and use of fentanyl in Lane County. The effects of fentanyl, a powerful illicit opioid, are seen in the increased calls to 911, emergency room visits, and deaths. The campaign seeks to counteract those effects by promoting knowledge and safety through risk awareness and education.

"Ultimately, we hope the outcome of this campaign is saved lives," said Lane County Public Health Community Health Analyst and Fentanyl Aware campaign coordinator Alexander LaVake. "To that end, we will be providing youth, families, and community members with the tools to stay safe, respond to an overdose, and provide strategies to lower the risk of overdose."

The campaign will include tools like Narcan education, information on the signs and symptoms of an overdose and how to respond, and resources throughout the community.

Fentanyl Aware will promote these educational tools on web and social media channels as well as through partnerships and educational opportunities with several school districts and community organizations.

To learn more and follow the campaign, visit fentanylaware.com



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Catholic Church
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Sun. Morn. 9:30am;
web page: sblodge.opwest.org

McKenzie Valley Presbyterian Church
Please join us for worship Sundays at 10:30 am, either in church on Hwy. 126 just east of Waltherville, or on our Facebook livestream. You may also make prayer requests, or request an emailed or earth-mailed bulletin -- phone or send email to Nancy Ashley, nancy.w.ashley@gmail.com, 541-914-1986. We would love to meet you!
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Direct Answers

By Wayne & Tamara Mirthell

Adult Obligations



Kristyn Lapp

My 12-year-old son recently asked me why his father needs to pay child support. He continued by saying his dad was struggling with paying his own bills and supporting his new family. His dad tells him the fact that he never sees his son is reason enough not to pay.

I am disgusted this topic is being discussed with my son in the first place. I don't know how to respond to this question. Any ideas?

Ivory

Ivory, just as a person testifying in court promises to tell the truth, your former husband made a promise. In front of a clergyman or judge, in front of witnesses and guests, he promised to bear the financial obligations of creating a new life. That promise was so

important it was recorded in a government record.

When he started his new family, it was with the knowledge of a promise he already made. It has nothing to do with how often he sees his son. Even if you two are never married, the child support you receive means the government recognizes his obligation.

At 12, your son doesn't want his father to pull away, but your son thinks unless he can make his father's wish happen, he will lose his dad. Your son thinks appeasing his father will gain his father's love. He is not mature enough to understand this is not another tie made, but another tie broken.

Tactfully and gently, tell your son this matter has been settled in court and is not open to discussion. Child support is no less than what his father's new wife would expect if he left that family. At 12, your son will understand it isn't fair to go back on a promise.

If your son continues to plead his dad's case, let him understand he already has had his answer. This matter was settled by a judge in a court of law.

Wayne

The Nature Of Life

I am a 24-year-old who recently

came out of the closet and am putting my foot in the gay world. What I find is a world of men who are pretty much just after one thing. I have been going out to bars and clubs and have tried meeting people online, but it doesn't seem to change or be any different.

I am a sincere person with a big heart that has already been bruised enough. I am afraid of a relationship that isn't honest or is just convenient for someone else. Should I expect this to be gay, or are there ways to meet men who are not so hard up on a bed-based relationship?

Rex

Rex, it's tough when you want to share your life with somebody and you can't find them, but it is even tougher to waste yourself emotionally on the wrong people. Don't be dragged into relationships that tear you down and make you feel less.

Each moment you are breathing, your heart is beating, and you are living. Don't focus on one thing and say, when that happens, I will have a life. Pursue those things which are under your control: learning, career, events, and interests.

There is only one time in life when there is something called "waiting." It is when you are in the dentist's office paging through year-old magazines, waiting to be called next. You must have faith the right person will come when

the time is right, but when the time is right is not under your control. If you want someone vital, alive, and productive, you must be the same.

As time goes along, you will learn the signals, symbols, and social situations which allow you to be more open about your sexuality. Each of us yearns for love. Make it clear to everyone you encounter that you realize only a long-term, monogamous relationship will satisfy the yearning of your heart.

Tamara

Wayne & Tamara are also the authors of "Cheating in a Nutshell, What Infidelity Does to the Victim", available from Amazon, Apple and most booksellers.

American Life in Poetry

Editor's Note: For nearly 18 years, the Poetry Foundation has supported American Life in Poetry's vision of bringing poetry to wider audiences by distributing contemporary poems to newspapers across the US on a weekly basis. The efforts of this partnership have provided value to millions of readers, poets, and those who love poetry.

In its place, the Poetry Foundation is now providing a

Poem of the Day.

Pound and Brodsky in Venice

By Megan Fernandes

I don't even dig Pound. But in a sunk cemetery in a sinking city poets stick together. Brodsky is buried two feet away and for him

I leave an MTA card and a wild daisy, mutter about the metaphors of transit, tell him how last night, with my feet dangling off the shoreline,

I watched a boat bob an emerald wave. I'm less afraid. Less of a coward than I was a year ago. Now, I am a checklist of risk. When I speak,

the words will not stop falling and this is what I ask before every decision or task: Am I mechanism of gratification or need?

Am I more than what I feed? Indeed, are we not all an only child with no sibling to blame? At Ezra's flat grave, covered in leaves,

I snap up a single shell curled on the slab. There have been no visitors for a long while so I spray for bugs and the poisoned mist carries

over the dead. It is improper and a little funny and I say to myself, "Stop spraying all over the poets." Even this fascist one.

The truth is I'd clear any grave. I want to redeem. To save. That's my thing. My uselessness. A grim reaper too late. A retired priest.

Above, gulls chat and the cattle stars graze the sky. And at my eyeline, insects stumble downwards, graceless, like unpardoned angels.

Source: Poetry (January 2023). We do not accept unsolicited submissions. American Life in Poetry is made possible by The Poetry Foundation (www.poetryfoundation.org), publisher of Poetry magazine.

Ski Report

January 24, 2022

The Hoodoo Ski Area is back to its regular schedule - closed on Mon. & Tues; open 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. Wed. to Sat; and Sun. from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. The temperature Tuesday morning was 32 degrees with NW winds averaging 16 mph. No snow fell overnight, leaving the snowpack at 51 inches. For more information call 541-822-3337.

Mt. Bachelor reported temperatures of 38 degrees at the base and 25 degrees at the summit on Tuesday. Clear blue skies were expected through the day with temperatures in the mid 30's. The summit lift is open again for the season. Winds up top were averaging 36 mph. 119 of 122 trails were open, along with 12 of 15 lifts. For more information call 541-382-7888.

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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 Leaburg Sew & So's are meeting most Friday afternoons at the McKenzie Fire and Rescue Training Center. Please call Sara at (541) 896-3059 for more information. S=JS-2/25/10ruc

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A Moment in Oregon History

By Rick Steber
(www.ricksteber.com)

February 2 - On February 1, 1844 Oregon City became the first incorporated city west of the Rocky Mountains. The community got its start in 1829 when Doctor John McLoughlin, Chief Factor of the Hudson's Bay Company at Fort Vancouver, laid out a two-square mile claim at Willamette Falls and began construction of three houses. The houses were burned by Indians but rebuilt and soon a small fur-trading center was established. The community, originally known as Willamette Falls, was renamed Oregon City and in the 1840s became the final destination for many of the early wagon immigrants and was known as the "End of the Oregon Trail."

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CROSSWORD

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- 50. Port in Yemen
- 52. *Heart-shaped box content
- 56. Range
- 57. Top notch
- 58. Baron Munchausen, e.g.
- 59. Journalists and reporters
- 60. Speed unit
- 61. All is well that does this well
- 62. Bald eagle's nest
- 63. Ever, to a poet
- 64. Tinkerbell's powder

- DOWN**
- 1. "Clueless" catch phrase
 - 2. *Get-together
 - 3. End of a break-up phrase
 - 4. Explosive of Czechoslovakian origin
 - 5. *Winged one
 - 6. September stone
 - 7. Bank on
 - 8. * ____ card
 - 9. Not tails
 - 10. '70s hairdo
 - 11. Sylvester, to Tweety
 - 13. Wholism, alt. sp.
 - 14. Monotonous hum
 - 19. Intestinal obstruction
 - 22. "Wayne's World" catchphrase
 - 23. Japanese port
 - 24. Necklace clasp location, pl.
 - 25. Affirmatives
 - 26. *Kisses' partners
 - 27. National emblem
 - 28. Type of weasel
 - 29. BBQ tool
 - 32. Pasturelands
 - 33. Accompanies wisdom?
 - 36. *a.k.a. St. Valentine's Malady
 - 38. *Muse of love poetry
 - 40. Large edible mushroom
 - 41. Long-legged shore bird
 - 44. Regions
 - 46. Bummed about
 - 48. Bell's invention
 - 49. Laurels
 - 50. Homesteader's measure
 - 51. Active one
 - 52. Soap block
 - 53. Hokkaido language
 - 54. Small amounts
 - 55. Formerly, formerly
 - 56. *Romantic destination

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VALENTINE'S DAY

- ACROSS**
- 1. "Without further ____," pl.
 - 5. Sweet 16 gift
 - 8. Steps to the river, in India
 - 12. *Michael BublÉ's " ____ the Last Dance for Me"
 - 13. Bigger than big
 - 14. Nonkosher
 - 15. Big-ticket one
 - 16. October birthstone
 - 17. *#5 Down's target
 - 18. *Reason to celebrate Lupercalia, Valentine's Day predecessor
 - 20. Make over
 - 21. Omit
 - 22. Hexagonal fastener
 - 23. December birthstone, pl.
 - 26. Most gem'tlich
 - 30. Ed.'s request
 - 31. Two dots above a letter
 - 34. Brussels org.
 - 35. Church recesses
 - 37. ____ or chicken?
 - 38. Encourage (2 words)
 - 39. What hoarders do
 - 40. He crossed the Rubicon
 - 42. Jet follower
 - 43. English county courts, in the olden days
 - 45. Gentlemen's gentlemen
 - 47. Chop off
 - 48. Paparazzo's quest

Solution on Page 6

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Fill in the blank squares in the grid, making sure that every row, column and 3-by-3 box includes all digits 1 through 9.

Solution on Page 6

Internet funding

Continued From Page 1



janeb13/Pixabay

state and local decision-makers determine how to allocate funding to deliver broadband services equitably.

The Faster Internet Oregon speed test and survey, offered in both English and Spanish, is easy, free, and safe to complete. In addition to running the internet speed test, respondents are asked whether they have home internet service, an estimate of the monthly cost, and the address where the speed test is taken.

The data, which is protected from use for any other purpose, will be mapped to identify gaps

in service and used to estimate project costs for future broadband expansion.

"We encourage all Oregonians to take part in the Faster Internet Oregon effort. The data provided will be invaluable as our state looks to make significant improvements in broadband infrastructure connectivity for all Oregon residents, improving access to healthcare, jobs, education, and numerous community resources," said Megan Decker, PUC Chair.

To start the speed test and survey, visit tinyurl.com/4r34fycv.

Sheriff's Report

Continued From Page 3

- Vehicle - 92000 blk, Maple Ln.
- 3:29 p.m:** Citizen Contact - 91800 blk, Mill Creek Rd.
- 3:29 p.m:** Disturbance, Dispute - 92000 blk, Maple Ln. Verbal dispute over the authority of a tow company to tow a bus away from the location.
- 4:10 p.m:** Harassment - 87500 blk, Cedar Flat Rd. A family member known to the caller has been threatening to break the caller's windows.
- 8:45 p.m:** Dispute - 39400 blk, Mohawk Loop Rd. Verbal dispute between landlord and tenant.
- Jan. 29: 12:18 a.m:** Motor Vehicle Accident, Driving Under

the Influence of Intoxicants - 92000 blk, Marcola Rd.

3:50 p.m: Vicious Animal - 54700 blk, Caddis Ln. A neighbor's dog has jumped the fence and attacked the caller's dogs.

Jan. 30: 1:06 p.m: Suspicious Vehicle - McK. Hwy. & Blue River Dr. Welfare check on a disoriented female in a vehicle. Medics and OSP responded along with deputies. Female was transported to an area hospital.

2:40 p.m: Incomplete 911 Call - 93100 blk Paschelke Rd.

6:55 p.m: Abandoned Vehicle - 90200 blk hill Rd.

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

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| Stage Stop Restaurant | Blue Sky Market |
| Lucky Logger Restaurant | McKenzie Station Pub |
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"Big changes"

Continued From Page 3



Rules on prescribed forest burning were tightened in 2007 and 2012.

long it will take to implement that direction.

Members of both the Senate Committee on Natural Resources and the Wildfire Programs Advisory Council have expressed support for continued mapping of wildfire hazards to identify where to direct investments in wildfire mitigation activities including fuels reduction and building defensible space.

"Our goal this session is to get resources and expertise to Oregonians already doing good work on the ground to protect their properties and neighborhoods," said Sen. Jeff Golden (D), Ashland. Golden chairs the Senate Committee on Natural Resources and was the chief sponsor of SB 762. "It's important to get that done and to do all we can to ease the homeowner insurance challenges that the era

of mega-fires has brought us before moving forward with any map."

There is also broad recognition of the need for increased outreach, education, and engagement with communities. "We need an integrated, coordinated and robust communications and outreach effort across all Senate Bill 762 programs to help property owners understand what their classification means, how they can better protect their homes and what resources are available to help them with that work," said Mark Bennett, chair of the Wildfire Programs Advisory Council.

OSU, ODF's partner in the development of the map, will lend technical expertise to upcoming educational efforts related to wildfire risk and hazard. "We are prepared to support state agencies

in education plans and will help develop and implement an operational plan as needed," said Tom DeLuca, dean of OSU's College of Forestry. Other state agencies with SB 762 responsibilities that have a nexus to the map are the Office of the State Fire Marshal, the Department of Consumer and Business Services – Building Codes Division, and the Department of Land Conservation and Development.

"The success of this whole program depends on strong collaboration between state government, local leaders, and property owners in wildfire-prone areas. Building that partnership has to be job number one over the coming months," Golden explained. "When we feel like we're pulling in the same direction, we'll be ready for a much better conversation about the map."

While the Legislature is in session, the department will:

- * Continue to work with OSU on exploring technical adjustments in response to feedback received on the initial map, including concerns related to irrigated lands and classification differences on adjacent lots.

- * Follow the progress of bills related to the risk map to plan quickly and appropriately for any rulemaking actions or other activities required to implement new or changed legislative direction.

- * Work with the Wildfire Programs Advisory Council to identify community needs and with partner agencies to leverage opportunities for outreach, education, and engagement.

\$490 million wildfire fight

Continued From Page 3

"We are building on the investments announced last year and by expanding the Forest Service effort to cover 21 landscapes where communities, critical infrastructure, and our natural resources are most in need of protection from the growing threat of wildfires," said USDA Undersecretary for Natural Resources and the Environment (NRE), Dr. Homer Wilkes. "This is part of our agency-wide focus to reduce wildfire risk across the country. We will use every tool we have to address this crisis and make your communities safer."

Vilsack is also directing the Forest Service to use provisions authorized in the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law to more quickly apply targeted treatments to the high-risk fireheds identified in the Wildfire Crisis Strategy. That directive should open up additional opportunities to pursue science-based reforestation, restoration of old-growth forests, and recovery of other areas impacted by wildfire, he said.

"Doing this work in the right place, at the right time, and at the right scale, combined with the use of emergency authorities, will accelerate our planning, consultation, contracting, hiring, and project work to reduce wildfire risk and improve forest health and resilience," said Forest Service Chief Randy Moore. "Collaboration with Tribes, communities, and partners will remain a priority, and we will continue to use the best available science when carrying out this important work."

This announcement comes on the anniversary of the launch

of the Forest Service's Wildfire Crisis Strategy, which debuted Jan. 18, 2022. A few months later, the agency introduced the initial 10 fire-prone landscapes that are now funded for the next five years through Bipartisan Infrastructure Law funds. In addition, President Biden's Inflation Reduction Act will commit \$1.8 billion to hazardous fuels reduction projects on national forests and grasslands.

Since releasing its Wildfire Crisis Strategy one year ago, the Forest Service and its partners have used the best available science and data to identify the highest-risk landscapes for treatment projects. The Forest Service found that around 80% of the wildfire risk to communities is concentrated in less than 10% of fireheds. These targeted investments focus on fireheds of the highest risk, where projects are ready to begin or to expand.

The 10-year strategy calls for treating up to 20 million acres on national forests and grasslands and up to 30 million acres on other federal, state, Tribal, private, and family lands to assure our forests are more resilient to wildfire and other effects of climate change, safer for communities, and remain key refuges for plants, fish and wildlife.

Over the past 20 years, many states have had record catastrophic wildfires, devastating communities, lives, and livelihoods, and causing billions of dollars in damage. More than 10 million acres – more than twice the size of New Jersey – burned each year across the U.S. in 2020, 2017, and 2015.

McKenzie Fire & Rescue

Continued From Page 3

14:08: 88000 blk, Ermi Bee Rd. Medical, General. Disregarded En Route.

Jan. 28: 18:00: McK. Hwy./ Cedar Flat Rd. Police Assist. Canceled By Dispatch.

20:07: 49000 blk, McK. Hwy. Public Assist. Lift Assist.

Jan. 29: 7:01: McK. Hwy. Milepost 37. Motor Vehicle Accident. Non-Injury/ Removed Hazard Tree.

7:25: McK. Hwy. Mp. 36. Hazardous Situation. Downed Line /Removed Hazard.

7:20: 42000 blk, Holden Cr. Rd. Public Assist. Tree Down/ Removed, Not Dispatched

11:41: 49000 blk, McK. Hwy. Tree down/blocking 11:41 tree down / removed.

20:18: Camp Creek Rd./McK.

Hwy. MVA. Non-Injury, Pt. Refusal.

In order to observe the President's Day holiday, McK. Fire & Rescue will hold its monthly Board of Directors meeting on Tuesday, February 21st at noon, in the Leaburg Training Center, 42870 McK. Hwy. The district maintains Facebook, Twitter, and web pages. If you have a question or concern about any Fire District business, give Chief Bucich a call @ 541-896-3311. If he is unavailable, please leave a message and he will respond ASAP.

Quote of the Week

"One out of four Americans is suffering from some form of mental illness. Think of your three best friends. If they're okay, then it's you."

Rita Mae Brown

Valentine Bonus



There's going to be a sweet surprise at the Vida McKenzie Community Center Valentine's Dinner on February 11th. The Emerald Ring Quartet will be on hand to share music with the community. These ensemble of talented women - Gloria, Cat, Lisa and Barb - perform locally for special occasions, singing in the "barbershop" style.

People might have seen them singing holiday songs in December at Springfield's Main Street Sweets, or singing the national anthem at a Eugene Emeralds baseball game last summer. Call 541-896-3001 to RSVP tickets.

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