



Delivering targeted news for the McKenzie Valley community since 1978

### Sheriff's Reports

A caller found blood in their bathroom and believed an unknown person may have been inside the house.

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### Want saucy shrubs?

Fall is a great time to plant because the soil is still warm and plants will get a good start establishing a root system

**PAGE 5**



## Tour highlighted area's revival

### From a childcare center to possible track expansion

People on a guided tour celebrating progress in rebuilding after the Holiday Farm Fire found a lot of positive energy in the air last week.

was the Little Eagles Childcare Center now open at the McKenzie River Community School campus.

Highlights of the 2023 Tour included an

opportunity to look at design drawings for the new O'Brien Memorial Library - where groundbreaking will occur on October 27<sup>th</sup>.

Just a short walk from

**Area's revival - Page 2**



The site of the planned "Rose Street Cottages" was one of the stops on the tour on Friday.

## The dangerous consequences of wildland fire dispatcher burnout

### Forest Service survey shows a critical link in wildfire fighting is now struggling

.By Kylie Mohr  
High Country News

Lightning strikes in a dry forest and starts a wildfire. It's a hot, windy day, and the embers quickly spread. Smoke rises, and it's detected, sometimes by satellites, lookouts or people who call 911. Reports bombard an interagency dispatch center: There's a new start, and it needs firefighting resources, fast.

The wildland fire dispatchers who respond are a critical link in the fast-moving series of decisions needed to begin battling a blaze. When a fire sparks, they're the ones responsible for figuring out who's nearby to fight it, and sending resources where they need to be as quickly as possible. "A good dispatcher is make-or-break if you want to keep a small fire small," said Rachel Granberg, a wildland firefighter in Washington. (Granberg asked to keep her employer private because she could lose her job for identifying it in the media.)

Editor's note: This piece discusses suicide and mental health problems among wildland fire dispatchers.

When a new blaze needs

air tankers and helicopters dropping retardant and water, aircraft-certified dispatchers coordinate what's flying where, so the aircraft don't collide. If firefighters get hurt, dispatchers send medical help to often-remote scenes. Once a fire is underway, dispatchers relay crucial information to and from the fire line, including wind, humidity and temperature forecasts that can determine fire behavior and influence planning and safety on the ground.

But the job is stressful, and sometimes traumatic, amid today's larger fires, longer fire seasons and too few colleagues. The U.S. Forest Service conducted a survey of

**Fire dispatcher burnout - Page 10**



Zach Behrens/USFS

Dispatchers look at several computer screens interagency dispatchers work behind the scenes and play an indispensable role following an initial report of a wildfire from fire lookout towers or from 911 calls.

## New clinic ready to rise

"Dig" nitaries marked the beginning on Thursday



East Lane County Commissioner Heather Buch, Orchid Health CEO Orion Falvey, McKenzie Valley Wellness president Val Rapp, and architect Curt Wilson all dug in to kick off reconstruction of the new 3,200 square-foot medical clinic in Blue River. Besides patient exam rooms and office areas, the clinic would be configured so that a portion could be used as a community or multi-purpose room after normal day-to-day hours of operation next to the new Blue River Fire Station, already under construction. People who attended the groundbreaking also had a special treat with a live performance by Kent Roberts original composition of "The Fire of the Holiday Farm." To view a video recording, go to: [tinyurl.com/mr3uhekz](https://tinyurl.com/mr3uhekz).

## Finn Rock Landing closing

Work will extend from October 23<sup>rd</sup> through Spring



ple who use the Finn Rock Boat Landing will have only a few days to use the popular site before it closes for the season next Monday.

Finn Rock Landing, off Quartz Creek Road, will be closed from October 23, 2023 until Spring 2024 for renovations. Improvements to the site will include a better road base, safer traffic flow, and the installation of new parking stalls, ADA-accessible walkways, fencing, bird-friendly lighting, picnic tables, and garbage receptacles.

The site, which attracts as many as 400 people a day

in the summer, is owned and managed by The McKenzie River Trust (MRT).

MRT's Executive Director, Joe Moll, said they know some users will be disappointed. "We understand that this construction closure will be a significant inconvenience for the many river users who launch or take out at Finn Rock throughout the year. But we expect the site improvements to make the landing more accessible,

safe, and enjoyable for all community members and visitors."

Previously owned by the Rosboro Company as a publicly accessible recreation site, it was purchased by the trust in 2016, MRT also acquired the larger Finn Rock Reach habitat conservation area, which has undergone major restoration efforts over the last three years.

# Letters to the Editor

## The only real river is a free-flowing river

I had to pinch myself when I stumbled across the opinion piece in the McKenzie River Reflections written by Rusty Bentz. I know Rusty and to hear him advocate for the four lower Snake River dams blew my mind. He and his brother made their living to a large extent on having access to a free-flowing river to run their boats through the rapids and take rubes fishing for steelhead. (The salmon had long since been destroyed by the dams).

Rusty delved into several ideas as to how one could manage to get a few of the Frankin fish back upstream so they would have something to catch....but here are the facts by every known scientist on the matter:

The Snake River basin's native salmon and steelhead hover on the brink of extinction. Today, only 1-2% of historic wild salmon and steelhead return to spawn above the four lower Snake River dams. Climate change will only continue to worsen these already abysmal percentages. Massive algae blooms in years past as well as this summer in the lower Snake River have prompted the state to issue warnings to not even touch the water. What is wildlife to do?

And the fish?

I would say to Rusty that if he has no problem with these river-killing dams then he should have no problem with damming up his beloved Salmon River and inundating his cabin that sits on the banks of it. Or the Clearwater River and its main forks, the Lochsa and Selway rivers. Also, the Northfork of the Clearwater River, oops, they already destroyed that beautiful river with Dworshak Dam forever destroying one of the largest strains of steelhead in the world. We need to start embracing the fact that these impediments to a free-flowing river are major problems to our environment even beyond fish. Everything is connected and when we destroy one, we set the cast in place for the others to fail.

Hopefully, we can realize that the only real river is a free-flowing river. I think deep down we all know this. We need to rise to the challenge of returning the Snake to as near as we found it as possible instead of shrinking from it and continuing on a path that ultimately will lead to ruin. We can either choose to do the right thing for nature and us or paddle around in the muck and mire that is becoming the Snake River.

Kevin Brown  
St. Maries, ID



# Area's revival

Continued From Page 1

there crews were busy drying in the walls and roof of the Upper McKenzie Rural Fire District's new Blue River Fire Station. It is located right next to the lot where a groundbreaking ceremony for the McKenzie Valley Wellness Clinic was held just a day before the tour.

The McKenzie Community Land Trust's newly acquired land was another stop - at the corner of Rose and McCauley. There, Brandi Crawford Ferguson with the non-profit detailed plans to build 6 affordable/firewise homes in 2024 with their "Rose Street Cottages" development partner, DevNW.

Up at the corner of Rose and Blue River Drive, Tony Casad was performing double duty - outlining the recovery and future visions for the Blue River Park. He also provided an update on the proposed community wastewater system for the town, which could include using part of the park's acreage for a drainfield.

Just down Blue River's "Main Street," Melanie Stanley had a chance to share the design for the Meyer General Store - which is now likely to be the downtown area's first business to be rebuilt. Her plans include bringing back the OLCC authorized liquor store, along with general grocery-type items at affordable prices.

During the lunch break at the McKenzie Community Track and Field, people learned about the non-profit's will share their vision for economic development. t

The our wound up with a walk about and an overview of the adjoining Three Sisters Meadow property. Community



Zach Galloway of TGB Architects (right) explained some of the opportunities - like a hammerthrow court for the track or a possible hotel - that might be in the future for the Three Sisters Meadow site.

"listening sessions" have begun and people are being encouraged to brainstorm ideas about what might happen there.

In his presentation, Zach Galloway explained that wastewater issue could play a large part in what could happen

there, particularly if part of the land would need to be set aside to accomodate a drainfield for the proposed community wastewater projects.

To view a video of what might happen at the Three Sisters site, go to: [tinyurl.com/2zjhh5eh](https://tinyurl.com/2zjhh5eh).

**McKenzie Eagles Sports Report**

By Cliff Richardson

### McKenzie Varsity Sports Schedule This Week

The McKenzie Varsity Cross Country runners will participate in the Umpqua Invite on Wednesday, October 18. The meet will be held at Stewart Park in Roseburg. The Varsity Boys race starts at 4:30 pm followed by the Varsity Girls race at 5:00 pm. The McKenzie Varsity Football team hosts Siletz Valley on Friday, October 20, with kickoff scheduled for 7:00 pm. The Eagles will be celebrating the 2023 Homecoming versus the Warriors.

### Dion Finishes 9th At Lebanon XC

Eagle sophomore Myra Dion finished in the top ten at the Lebanon XC meet held last Wednesday, October 11. Dion toured the 5,000-meter course in 23:31.54 minutes, the Varsity runner's fastest time for the distance this Fall season. East Linn Christian's Daisy Lalonde won the race with a time of 18:40.03 min. Will Meister, also an Eagle sophomore, finished 23rd in the Varsity Boys 5,000 m. race, with a time of 21:23.61 min. Viggio Beck

of Triangle Lake won the race with a finish time of 17:39.48 min.

### Eagles Defeat Watchmen 34-31

The McKenzie Varsity Six-man football team traveled to George Fox University in Newberg last Friday and evidently liked playing in the fine confines as they defeated host C.S. Lewis Academy, 34-31. The victory was the Eagle's first this season under Head Coach Neil Barrett. With the win, McKenzie is 1-4 in Special District 2 North Six-man football League play and 1-5 overall in the 2023 season. The Eagles will host Siletz Valley on Friday, October 20 for their Homecoming game. The Warriors are tied with the Eagles in the League standings along with C. S. Lewis Academy. No team stats were available following the game.

### McKenzie Volleyball Wraps Up Regular Season

The Eagles put a wrap on their 2023 Fall Mt. West League Varsity Volleyball season with a 0-3 loss at Alsea on Monday, October 16. McKenzie lost 25-5, 25-15, and 25-18 versus the Wolverines, which finished their Regular Season schedule in third place at 13-3. Mohawk and Eddyville Charter finished tied for first in the Mt. West League Regular Season each team posting a 14-2 record. McKenzie's record under first year Coach Brad ILL finished at 2-14 in MWL play and 2-15 overall. No game stats were available following the match.

| Friday 10/20   |   | Saturday 10/21  |  | Sunday 10/22   |  |
|--|---|---|--|--|--|
|  |   |   |  |  |  |
| McKenzie Valley<br>Mostly Sunny<br>10% chance precip<br>High: 73 Low: 51 | Santiam Pass<br>Sunny<br>0% chance precip<br>High: 71 Low: 45 | McKenzie Valley<br>Partly Cloudy<br>20% chance precip<br>High: 65 Low: 48 | Santiam Pass<br>Mostly Cloudy<br>20% chance precip<br>High: 61 Low: 38 | McKenzie Valley<br>Cloudy<br>50% chance precip<br>High: 59 Low: 43 | Santiam Pass<br>Showers<br>50% chance precip<br>High: 46 Low: 31 |

**MRR** **McKenzie River Reflections**

Phone (541) 822-3358 FAX (541) 663-4550  
MAILING ADDRESS: 59059 Old McKenzie Hwy.  
McKenzie Bridge, Oregon 97413  
rivref2@gmail.com  
Publisher - Ken Engelman

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### WEATHER REPORT

| READINGS TAKEN AT THE US ARMY CORPS COUGAR DAM |      |     |         |           | READINGS TAKEN AT THE EWING LEABURG POWERHOUSE |      |     |      |           |
|--|------|-----|---------|-----------|--|------|-----|------|-----------|
| Date   | High | Low | Rain    | Releases  | Date   | High | Low | Rain | Riverflow |
| 10/10  | 56   | 47  | 0.64    | 617 cfs   | 10/10  |      |     |      |           |
| 10/11  | 53   | 47  | 631 cfs |           |  |      |     |      |           |
| 10/12  | 65   | 50  | 0       | NA        |  |      |     |      |           |
| 10/13  | 66   | 49  | 0.11    | 1,046 cfs |  |      |     |      |           |
| 10/14  | 59   | 49  | 0.03    | 893 cfs   |  |      |     |      |           |
| 10/15  | 73   | 52  | 0       | 885 cfs   |  |      |     |      |           |
| 10/16  | 57   | 51  | 0.79    | 876 cfs   |  |      |     |      |           |

# Sheriff's Report

**Oct. 1: 2:03 p.m:** Unlawful Entry Motor Vehicle - Koosah Falls (Linn County). A caller reported that their Airpods and wallet were stolen from within their vehicle.

**Oct. 2: 10:31 a.m:** Criminal Mischief - 45200 blk, Goodpasture Rd. An area residence noticed graffiti on the stonework at the Goodpasture Bridge.

**11:09 a.m:** Burglary - 44800 blk, Leaburg Dam Rd. An area residence reported that their 5<sup>th</sup> wheel was broken into and several items were stolen from within.

**10:07 p.m:** Disturbance, Dispute - Fallin Ln. & McK. Hwy. Verbal dispute between caller and caller's ex-girlfriend.

**Oct, 3: 10:35 a.m:** Suspicious Subject - 56900 blk, N. Bank Rd. A male was observed looking through windows in the area - described as

a white male approximate 5'09" with a thin build, wearing a beanie hat, yellow top, blue hooded shirt and black pants.

**8:44a.m:** Suspicious Conditions - 89200 blk, Marcola Rd. A caller found blood in their bathroom and believed an unknown person may have been inside the house. Determined to be blood from a cut on a dog's ear.

**Oct. 4: 2:00 p.m:** Criminal Mischief - 45600 blk, McK. Hwy. A utility box belonging to CenturyLink was found to be damaged.

**Oct. 6: 2:27 p.m:** Fraud - 92500 blk, Pioch Ln. A caller reported that their bank accounts were compromised.

**Oct. 7: 6:20 a.m:** Disturbance, Dispute - La Lone Rd. & Tree Farm Rd. A caller advised that a hunter in the area brandished a gun after the caller told him he could not hunt in the area until 7:15 am.

**5:51p.m:** Suspicious Conditions - 91900 blk, Marcola Rd. A caller

advised that they could not get hold of their juvenile child who was en route to Salem. The child was located and determined to be okay.

**Oct. 8: 11:58:01 p.m:** Suspicious Conditions - 36900 blk, Boiler Creek Rd. An area resident reported hearing people walking in her house.

**Oct. 9: 10:53 a.m:** Theft - 39100 blk, Easton Ln. A caller reported that an undisclosed amount of money was electronically stolen from their bank account.

**2:11 p.m:** Civil, Lockout - 91300 blk, Marcola Rd.

**9:13 p.m:** Suspicious Vehicle - 91900 blk, Mill Creek Rd. A caller reported that a gray or white SUV pulled into the caller's yard and flashed their lights. The vehicle then departed.

**10:03 p.m:** Disturbance, Dispute - Marcola Mp 5. A caller reported an active dispute between occupants of a moving vehicle. the vehicle was located in Springfield.

**Oct. 10: 9:56 a.m:** Welfare Check - 8900 blk, Thurston Rd.

**4:36 p.m:** Assault - 88900 blk, Bridge St.

**7:26 p.m:** Loud Noise - 39000 blk, Hendricks Park Rd.

**Oct. 11: 10:03 a.m:** Traffic Hazard - Deerhorn Rd. & little Deerhorn Ln.

**12:16 p.m:** Alarm - 44900 blk,

Leaburg Dam Rd.

**3:29 p.m:** Assist, Follow Up - 45200 blk, Goodpasture Rd.

**3:44 p.m:** Recover Stolen Vehicle - 90200 blk, Hill Rd.

**8:34 p.m:** Disabled Vehicle - Marcola Rd. Milepost 3.

**4:36 p.m:** Reckless Driving - 39000 blk, Deerhorn Rd.

**6:59 a.m:** Alarm - 39200 blk, McK. Hwy.

**7:11 p.m:** Traffic Hazard - 92000 blk, Carson St.

**8:29 p.m:** Suspicious Vehicle - 89100 blk, Marcola Rd.

**Oct. 12: 11:03 a.m:** Suspicious Subject - 35400 blk, Camp Creek Rd. An area resident called to report that a male that appeared to be transient was seen wandering around the area.

**12:39 p.m:** Civil Standby - 36600 blk, Camp Creek Rd.

**1:57 p.m:** Incomplete 911 Call - Marcola Rd. & Wendling Rd.

**2:05 p.m:** Attempt To Locate Drunk Driver - Marcola Rd. &

**Continued On Page 9**

## McKenzie Fire & Rescue

**Oct. 9: 16:38:** 89000 block, Alexis Ave. Medical, General. Patient Assessed, 1 Transported.

**19:27:** 44000 blk, McK. Hwy. Medical, General. Patient Assessed, 1 Transported.

**Oct. 10: 5:24:** 88000 blk, Tiki Ln. Medical, General. Patient Assessed, 1 Transported.

**7:25:** 88000 blk, Twin Firs Rd. Medical, General. Patient Assessed, 1 Transported.

## Upper McKenzie Fire/Rescue

**Oct. 12: 11:22:** Medical - 55000 block, McK. River Dr. Male, Conscious, Breathing.

**21:20:** Medical - 91000 blk, Mill Creek Rd. Male, Conscious, Breathing.

**Oct. 14: 14:26:** Medical - 48000 blk, McK. Hwy. Female, Conscious, Breathing.

**Oct. 15: 09:41:** Medical - 52000 blk, McK. Hwy. Male, Conscious, Breathing.

**10:57:** Medical - 51000 blk, McK. Hwy. Female, Conscious, Breathing.

**14:46:** Medical - 91000 blk, Taylor Rd. Female, Conscious, Breathing.

**Oct. 16: 12:29:** Medical - 51745 Dexter St. Female, Conscious, Breathing.

**MRR McKenzie River Reflections**

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

|                                       |                                       |                                      |                                      |                                       |                                      |
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By Slim Randles

I think there must be autumnal reasons for Halloween being hued in orange and black. It's a fun time, a magic evening if you're a kid, and if you're a grandpa-type guy, like me, who gets to hand out the goodies.

But the colors of this sweet evening celebration are orange and black, and so is October. In another week or so, our deciduous trees will stand like skeletons against the gray skies of winter, but now we have the orange and black of fall.

It happens right about sunset each day. The sky turns that eternal burnt-umber orange and the remaining leaves and the baring branches of our trees fill the evening with a holy filigree of contrast.

Oh, it's not something we need to do anything about. There's no need for picture taking or anything. But it's just something that we can step outside for ... look toward the west through the lacy pattern of black branches and for a moment, just a short moment, say to ourselves, "Isn't that pretty?"

If the paint store could sell me something that looked even close to that for the walls of the little cabin I have, I'd buy a gallon. Maybe two.

For the best in outdoor and Western art, check out [artvincent@comcast.net](mailto:artvincent@comcast.net).

## Quote of the Week

"If I agreed with you, we'd both be wrong."

Anonymous

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# Grandma Thomson

Reprinted from the September 10, 2003 edition of Echoes from the Past

By Ruth West

A wealth of memories clings around the name, "Thomson's Lodge," and in spite of the fact that the lodge has now passed out of the hands of the Thomson family who founded it in 1860, the name and the famous hospitality of the place will continue.

**One of the eldest resorts in the state to be run exclusively for sportsmen by one family, it was sold during the past week to Mr. and Mrs. Alvin P. Gannon of Portland.**

Dayton and Milo Thomson were the owners of the property, which was divided for the purpose of the sale. Ten acres of land, the lodge, and two houses were in the part sold.

Milo Thomson is retaining part of the farmland and barn which joins on the land where his own house is located, at the rear of the property.

Since 1923 the Lodge has been under the management of Dayton Thomson, who has been forced to sell because of ill health during the past two years.

**Thomson states, that although he is selling all of his interest in the lodge property, he will retain his boat guide business and will handle reservations for boats the same as in the past.**

Although the exact selling price was not given, Thomson stated "that it was in excess of \$35,000."

The Dayton Thomsons are building a new home on their property on the highway side of the river, which joins the Carl Baker property on the west side. They have cleared and graded the property during the past year and they expect to start building their six-room, modern house at once.

### New Policies

The new owners will take possession on Oct. 1. The lodge will continue to open for business under the present management for the remainder of the fishing season. Mr. and Mrs. Gannon are planning to make improvements to the lodge and will continue to run the business for sportsmen the same as in the past.

**They are also considering keeping the lodge open all the year and serving meals to the public.**

Details will be announced later. Gannon is a brother-in-law of Emil Vodjansky, a Eugene real estate broker, who made the sale of the property. Mr. Vodjansky has been a long-time fishing guest at the lodge. Cannon will help Vodjansky with his real estate business on the McKenzie.

**79-year-old Mrs. Carey "Grandma Thomson" reviewed early days for your correspondent.**



The Emmerich Ferry began service in 1904.

Here are a few of the highlights in the life of a woman who has known both the hardship of pioneering in the early days and the comforts of her own apartment in the lodge, over the last few years.

The familiar figure of "Grandma Thomson" sitting in the lobby, will probably be missed more by her friends, the many fishermen who have been coming to the lodge, for years, than any other change that will take place.

Mrs. Thomson will live in a small house, close to the home of Milo Thomson. She and her husband Carey Sr., who passed away in 1938, at the age of 83, came to live in the present place in 1880 in a small cabin. They homesteaded the property as was the general custom in those days. Previous to moving to this location they lived in several other McKenzie River properties, but this place was their final choice for a permanent home. To get from the highway side of the river to their house they had to cross the river. A ferry was built and rough handboats were used. The boats were made of heavy fir slabs and there was not much resemblance between them and the light plywood McKenzie boat of today. Mrs. Thomson recalls that they have had three ferries, two of which were carried away by floods, and three swinging bridges. A swinging footbridge is still in use, but the use of a ferry was abandoned when a county road was built on the south side of the river a few years ago.

In the early days, Mrs. Thomson says the wild animals bravely came up to their buildings, and cougars would come in and kill their calves and other livestock. In those days she did her washing in the river and would heat water on a fire by the river to boil the clothes. Those were also the days when few babies were born in hospitals and doctors could seldom be reached in time to attend a birth, but the neighbors knew they could depend on Mrs. Thomson, who would ride horseback many miles into the hills to care for the mother and baby.

In 1912 they built a farmhouse, which is part of the present lodge. In the new house, they had such

luxuries as cold running water. The new house was built to help take care of the many fishermen who started coming there and asking for rooms and meals. Before this time, tents were used for the sportsmen to stay in.

It was not the intention of Carey Thomson Sr. in the beginning to start a sportsmen's lodge, but when he started using his boats to fish from and rowed for some of his friends, it was not long until the fishermen from other parts of the state were coming and asking him to take them fishing and before he realized it, he had a business. It was not until 1909 that he started rowing for fishermen on a commercial basis, and by that time his oldest son Milo had learned to handle the boats, and he also started rowing

Dayton Thomson the next to the eldest son, started rowing for fishermen in 1911, he was 14 years old at the time. The other two sons York and Carey Jr. started rowing at an early age for fishermen and for a long time the Thomsons were the only ones on the river who rowed boats on a commercial basis. The two younger sons sold their interest in the place to their brothers a few years ago and went into business for themselves, of another kind.

### How It Was Done

Transportation of boats in the early days was considerably different from the present time. The heavy boats would be loaded on a wagon, usually, two or three boats, one inside the other, and the party would start out the evening before driving all night and get as far as Blue River by morning. When cars came into use the fishermen would come along later in their cars to meet the wagon and boats the next morning. Many times the cars would be delayed because the rough roads would cause trouble. They said it was not uncommon for a car to have six or seven flat tires on a trip of this kind,

Many of the fishermen who did not come in their own cars, and those who came before cars were in use, would ride out from Eugene on the stage that was run by John West Sr. West ran horse stages for many years and then ran the

first automobile stage to travel the McKenzie road. Often his horse-drawn stages would beat the auto stage due to tire and car troubles on the rough roads.

The "grandfather" of the present light boat cart, was an ironed wheeled trailer fastened on the back of the wagon, to haul an extra boat. The Thomson family would make boat trips for fishermen as far up the river as Belknap Bridge and as far down the river as Hendricks Bridge. It was 1915 before a Ford car was used to haul the boats and fishermen.

### Good Old Days

Dayton Thomson recalls that in 1910 there was a limit of 75 fish per day, per person, and it was not hard to get the limit.

This is the first "limit" that he can remember of but says there might have been limit numbers set before this. Later the limit dropped to 50 per day and on down, as the fishermen became more numerous, with modern roads and cars and the country became more thickly settled, until we reached our present limit of ten fish per day or 20 fish in any seven days.

**We pause here to try and contemplate what the limit catch will be for the younger generation of today, when they get older and start teaching their children to fish.**

It is safe to say that unless this generation is taught conservation methods and unless the State Game Commission can increase the raising and planting of more fish, this limit may be very small. Those "good old days" when you could stand on the bank of the McKenzie and catch all the fish you wanted to eat, with a bent pin and worm are as far in the background as the rough wagon roads.

We prefer the good roads, and the real sport of catching fish the hard way, with a fly, we have tied. Maybe that's because we appreciate that fish all the more when he does decide to take a nibble at our fly because we know this is a highly educated fish that has been taught to avoid those flies with sharp points. These modern fish are even very particular about the kind of flies you give them. They must closely resemble the flies on the water at the time they are feeding or they just won't take a chance. Maybe the Thomson women are to blame for this, because for many years they have been tying flies and have originated some of the exclusive McKenzie River fly patterns. Mrs. Dayton and Mrs. Milo Thomson still tie many of the flies used by guests at the Lodge.

In 1923 Dayton Thomson, who took over the management of the business, added a new addition to the farmhouse, which was also remodeled. A light plant was installed and later changed over to the Eugene City electric line when through the efforts of Dayton Thomson and others on the river, the service was extended as far up

**Grandma Thomson - Page 9**

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## Gardening Tips

By Kym Pokorny



Oregon State University

OSU Extension Service

### Saucy shrubs strut their stuff in fall



Burning bush (*Euonymus alatus*)

By Kym Pokorny

Mild days and cool nights this fall promised a spectacular show of color, and the promise came true.

“This fall has been the best year for color in recent memory,” said Neil Bell, a horticulturist with Oregon State University Extension Service. “The weather has been perfect for the brilliant show we’re enjoying.”

It takes a slow progression of cool to warm days and cool but not freezing nights to bring on such a glowing display, he said. That kind of weather brings on dormancy slowly and leads to a breakdown of chlorophyll – the green color in leaves – exposing the bright autumn colors.

Although we think of trees (check out this story for 10 suggestions) for fall interest, shrubs also offer rich colors. Now is a great time to look around for your favorites. Most nurseries still have a good selection of plants or you can keep a list to buy in spring.

If you get them now, there’s still time to plant unless your soil is saturated.

“Fall is a great time to plant because the soil is still warm and plants will get a good start establishing a root system,” Bell said. “And after you plant and water your new shrub, the fall and winter will take over the responsibility of watering until next summer.

You’ll want to follow his recommendations on how to plant your new shrub:

- \* If roots are circling the pot, cut off any mass of roots on the bottom of the pot and scuff the

sides of the root ball.

- \* Dig a hole twice as wide as the root ball, but only deep enough that the top of the root ball is level with the soil.

- \* Place the plant and backfill the hole with soil. Don’t add any organic amendments to the backfill soil. Soil amendments should be done to the whole flower bed, not just the planting hole.

- \* Water well.

To get you started, Bell offers six shrubs with amazing fall colors.

**Burning bush (*Euonymus alatus*):** There’s a reason this shrub is so common: The fall color is unbeatable, probably the best of the best, Bell said. The can’t-miss-it red gives the plant its name. Burning bush is an adaptable plant that suffers few problems and will grow in just about any kind of soil, but needs good drainage. Though it can take shade, the color is more intense when it grows in full sun. Winter interest comes in the form of interesting ridges or “wings” on the stems. Although burning bush is usually pruned to keep it shorter, a mature shrub can grow up to 15 feet tall and 8 feet wide. Bell suggests using it as a dense hedge. In some states, especially the Northeast, *Euonymus* spreads so viciously, it’s on noxious weed lists. Not in the Northwest, however, where it is beloved by many. Hardy to Zone 4.

**Blueberry (*Vaccinium* hybrids):** Everyone knows blueberry for the fruit, but it’s really a three-season beauty with flowers in spring, berries in summer, and brilliant fall color. “You can’t miss a blue-

berry field if you drive by in the fall,” Bell said. For a showy display and a better harvest of berries, plant more than one blueberry cultivar. Make sure your soil is on the acid side (low pH) for blueberries to thrive, which often requires amending with sulfur before planting. There’s a lot of color variation, from bright yellow to orange to bright dark red, so visit a nursery now to choose which you prefer. Plant size also varies, so check labels before you buy. Hardy to Zone 5.

**Bloodtwig dogwood (*Cornus sanguinea* ‘Midwinter Fire’):** The stems of this bloodtwig dogwood turn a radiant red in winter, but the bright gold foliage in fall is not to be missed. ‘Midwinter Fire’ qualifies as a three-season plant with fragrant, white flowers in spring that attract butterflies and other pollinators; gorgeous golden fall color; and bright red stems in winter. The best color comes if it’s planted in full sun, but this dogwood can take partial shade, as well. To get the best winter color, cut stems to the ground in early spring. Conversely, the flowers are only borne on the previous year’s stems. To get both, Bell suggests cutting back half of the plant’s stems and leaving the rest. This shrub grows to 5 to 6 feet tall and wide and makes an excellent deciduous hedge. Regular water is needed. Hardy to Zone 5.

**Doublefile viburnum (*Viburnum plicatum* f. *tomentosum* ‘Mariesii’):** A list of colorful fall shrubs wouldn’t be complete without doublefile viburnum. The fiery red foliage rivals the burning bush for its dramatic display. Not to be outdone by fall, spring brings a mass of white flowers in flat clusters, making it look like snowcapped branches. Later, it turns out red berries delicious to birds. Given enough room, this large viburnum (6 to 8 feet tall; 8 to 10 feet wide) will develop an elegant tiered form. Even in winter, the horizontal shape gives it an interesting aspect. Be very judicious with pruning as it can ruin the plant’s tiered branching. Grow in full sun or light shade. Will need only occasional summer water once established. Hardy to Zone 5.

**Witch-alder (*Fothergilla major* and *F. gardenii*):** Both the regular-size and dwarf versions of *Fothergilla* turn on quite the show in fall with fierce orange-red foliage. Spring is another season to appreciate when they develop

Saucy shrubs - Page 9



## Country Kitchen

By Mary Emma Allen



### A HERITAGE OF BARN

Barns are part of my heritage and bring back many memories. I grew up on a dairy farm in the Hudson River Valley of New York State. My dad had a long cow barn with attached milk house. He also had a machinery barn, horse barn (later a garage when we no longer had horses), a barn for storing straw, plus a corn shed.

The upper level of the cow barn was a large hayloft, which we children often used as a play area. There the four of us and our friends played hide-and-seek and other games. Then during summer we helped in the hay fields and getting hay into the barn. During my early years, it was loose hay. Then Father bought a hay baler and we helped arrange the bales in the mow.

#### Barns Across the Country

As my family traveled around the eastern US on annual vacations and eventually my husband and I across the US, I’ve been fascinated by the different types of barns in various regions. I recently was looking through a coffee table book about barns around our country and was awed by the various types.

I’d grown up knowing about barns in dairy country, but have realized, through my travels there are horse stables, tobacco drying barns, barns built for heavy snow loads, those constructed to withstand strong winds, those for storage of food, machinery, and other livestock.

My father raised chickens and sold eggs as well as being a dairy farmer. The two hen houses were 2-story buildings one might have called “chicken barns” although we referred to them as chicken houses.

#### Building Barns

My husband grew up on a dairy

farm, too. When the operation became too large for the original barn, Dad looked to my husband (then beau) to design and build one. Jim was taking mechanical engineering courses at a nearby university, so was credited with the ability to do this job. He and his brothers (there were eight boys) undertook this project. Sixty-five years later, the barn is still standing and is used as a horse barn by the current owners.

Hometown Recipes - Ones that come from a recipe book of my hometown.

**LOUISE’S CHOCOLATE CRACKLES** would have been a hit with chocolate lovers.

Combine 1 box Devil’s Food Cake mix (1 lb. 2.5 oz.), 2 slightly beaten eggs, 1-tablespoon water, ½ cup vegetable shortening. Blend well. Then shape into balls the size of walnuts and roll in granulated sugar.

Place on greased cookie sheet and bake about 375 degrees for 8-10 minutes.

**IDA’S OATMEAL COOKIES** are rich with raisins, coconut and walnuts. Mix together ¾-cup shortening, 1-cup sugar, and 2 eggs.

Add 2 cups flour, 1-teaspoon baking soda, and 1/2-teaspoon salt that have been sifted together three times. Stir in 2 cups oatmeal, 1 cup chopped raisins, 1 cup coconut, 1/2 cup chopped walnuts (more if desired), 4 tablespoons sour milk, and 1 teaspoon vanilla in the order given.

Drop onto greased baking sheet and bake at 350 degrees F. until browned, about 10 minutes.

© Mary Emma Allen

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

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# Community Notes

**October 19**

**Earthquake Shakeout**

On October 19, 2023, millions of people will participate in the largest earthquake drill ever: ShakeOut! Why? Earthquakes can happen anywhere you work, live, or travel, which is why everyone, everywhere should know how to protect themselves should an earthquake occur.

Everyone, everywhere can participate! Individuals, families, businesses, schools, government agencies, and organizations are all invited to join on 10/19 or any day in 2023. <https://www.shakeout.org/register>

**October 19**

**Story Time**

Story Time is back, from 11 a.m. to noon at the Leaburg Library's Children's Room, 42888 McKenzie Hwy, Children of all ages and their parents are invited for stories, crafts, and who knows what other fun things might happen. The library has a wonderful selection of picture books, books for early readers, intermediates and young adults, DVD's and audio-books, as well as fun puzzles and games.

**October 19**

**Leaburg Food Pantry**

Free groceries provided in accordance with Oregon Food Bank and Food For Lane County guidelines for food distribution to those in need. 3 - 6 p.m. Behind the McKenzie Bible Fellowship Church, 45061 McKenzie Hwy.

**October 19**

**Fright Night at the Museum**

Hosted by the Springfield History Museum. Really scary (older kids & adults) Adults - \$5, Kids (5 - 18) \$3, Kids under 5 - free, Families of 5 - \$20. All proceeds go to the museum. Call 541-726-2300 for details.

#frightatthemuseum2023

**October 21**

**Dime At A Time**

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

**October 21**

**CPR/Defibrillator Class**

At McKenzie Fire & Rescue's Leaburg Station, 9 a.m. Contact Clayton at 541-3311.

**October 23**

**Springfield School Board**

7 pm - 8:30 pm. The Board of Directors meet in the Administration Building, 640 A St, Springfield.

**October 24**

**McKenzie Food Pantry**

From 11 am to 1 pm at the McKenzie Bridge Christian Church, 56334 McKenzie Hwy. Free groceries are provided in accordance with Oregon Food Bank and Food For Lane County guidelines for food distribution to those in need. Every 2nd & 4th Friday.

**October 24**

**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.

**October 24**

**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.

**October 24**

**Write Your Life**

The Leaburg Library is delighted to announce that Duane Noriyuki is back with a second "Write Your Life" workshop! This six-week memoir workshop will begin at 6 pm on Tuesday, August 22nd, and will run through Tuesday, September 26th. The program is free and will meet in the library's Annex Room.

To sign up, please contact the Library Director, Marty Mealey, at 541-896-3817, or stop in at the library. We're right next to the McKenzie Fire and Rescue building in Leaburg.

**October 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.

**October 25**

**Lane Electric Coop**

Members of Lane Electric Cooperative can join monthly board meetings, which begin at 9 a.m. at 787 Bailey Hill Rd, Eugene.

Each meeting begins with a member comment period. Individual members have three minutes to address the board at that time. Topics presented will be discussed amongst the board and followed up on accordingly.

If you wish to address the Lane Electric board please complete a meeting request form at least five days prior to the meeting you would like to attend. <https://laneelectric.com/attend-a-board-meeting>

**October 25**

**Wacky Wed. BINGO**

Craig's Lucky Logger Restaurant & Henry's Bar, 39297 McKenzie Hwy. Cards go on sale at 6 pm, Bingo starts at 7 pm. Call 541-726-9088 for reservations in the morning - spots fill up quickly. Burger and brew special all day!

**October 26**

**Story Time**

Story Time is back, from 11 a.m. to noon at the Leaburg Library's Children's Room, 42888 McKenzie Hwy, Children of all ages and their parents are invited for stories, crafts, and who knows what other fun things might happen. The library has a wonderful selection of picture books, books for early readers, intermediates and young adults, DVD's and audio-books, as well as fun puzzles and games.

**October 26**

**Fright Night at the Museum**

Hosted by the Springfield History Museum. Really scary (older kids & adults) Adults - \$5, Kids (5 - 18) \$3, Kids under 5 - free, Families of 5 - \$20. All proceeds go to the museum. Call 541-726-2300 for details. #frightatthemuseum2023

**October 27**

**Library Groundbreaking**

O'Brien Library, 1 to 2 pm 51771 Blue River Drive. After the loss during the Holiday Farm Fire of such a treasure, The O'Brien Memorial Library is excited to share the latest news! Come join us at the Groundbreaking Celebration. Hear about what we've accomplished to date and plans for moving forward. Being such a huge effort, we continue to need our community's support. We cannot wait to see you there!

**October 27**

**McKenzie River Chamber**

The McKenzie River Chamber of Commerce meets every fourth Friday of the month via Zoom from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. To sign up for a link to the meeting, contact: [info@mckenziechamber.com](mailto:info@mckenziechamber.com)

**October 27**

**Trunk or Treat**

Free event, all are welcome! Pumpkin Painting, Best Trunk Contest, Costumes Welcome, Music, Treats & More! At the Orchid Health McKenzie River Clinic - 54771 McKenzie Hwy. Interested in participating with a trunk? Call (541) 822-3341 if you'd like to participate in setting up a trunk or if you have questions.

**October 31**

**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.

**October 28**

**Dime At A Time**

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

**October 31**

**Trout or Treat**

Come and have your picture taken with Herman the Sturgeon from 4 to 6 pm at both the Leaburg Fish Hatchery and the McKenzie River Discovery Center. Meet fishy folks, play fishy games and win fishy prizes - we will also have an extra special raffle item donated by Adventures Northwest - a float trip or fishing trip down the McKenzie River

**November 10**

**Spaghetti Feed**

The Walterville Grange is holding its annual Spaghetti Feed on November 10 from 5 to 7 PM. Spaghetti with meat sauce is on the menu with salad, garlic bread, dessert, and beverages. The Grange wishes to honor all Veterans and hope that you will join us in doing so. Their service is what makes our freedom so valuable. There will also be a raffle where you can pick the prize you want to try to win. This will be held at the Walterville Community Center/Grange Hall located at 39259 Camp Creek Road in Walterville. The Grange is fundraising to replace the windows and siding on the west side of the building, and you are encouraged to add to the fundraising (check out our thermometer to see how much we have already raised). Please come and meet with your family, friends and neighbors to have some great spaghetti and a good time. Donations are gratefully accepted. We are also collecting canned food items for the upriver food bank. Please contact 541-521-4760 for more information. Leave a message and calls will be returned.

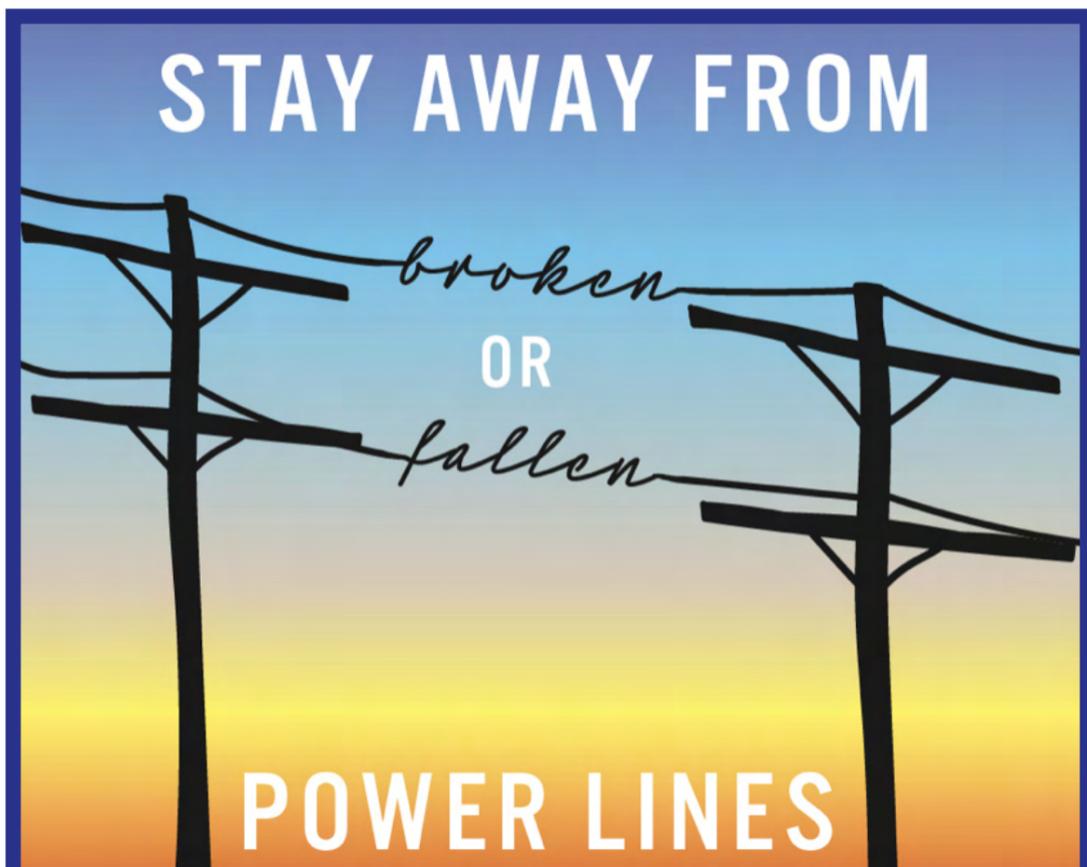


News Sports Opinion History

Community Events Calendar



Click here and stay in touch with events online [McKenzie Community Events Calendar.](#)



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Please join us for worship Sundays at 10:30 am, either in church on Hwy. 126 just east of Walterville, or on our Facebook livestream. You may also make prayer requests, or request an emailed or earth-mailed bulletin -- phone or send email to Nancy Ashley, [nancy.w.ashley@gmail.com](mailto:nancy.w.ashley@gmail.com), 541-914-1986. We would love to meet you!  
**Milepost 13 McKenzie Hwy. (541) 747-2604**



# Direct Answers

By Wayne & Tamara Mitchell

## Justice Delayed



I have three grown children. My elderly father, six younger brothers, and a large extended family live in the old country.

The last time I took my children for a family visit was 15 years ago. The reason I have not gone back is because my youngest brother, who was 21 at the time, "fell in love" with my 13-year-old daughter.

It was hell time for me because I had to watch my child 24 hours a day so my brother would leave her alone. I had no support from my parents. My mother blamed my 13-year-old daughter, and my dad sat around maintaining his inner peace amidst the mayhem.

I was stuck there for two months because I had no money to rush home during the high season or to stay in a hotel. My family's

position is my brother and daughter didn't grow up together. They ignore the fact a 21-year-old has no business messing with a 13-year-old.

I exchange the occasional letter with my dad and brothers. I have no contact with the brother who, I found out years later, managed to molest my daughter several times despite all my efforts to keep her safe.

My daughter had counseling to help her deal with what happened. For a time she was convinced it was "love," but she finally realized she was just a little girl, not responsible for what happened. I still feel guilty for not protecting her.

In 15 years, many of my elderly relatives have passed away. Now I am being told I am overdue for a visit. I told my aunt I could not go back to socialize with my brother because it would negate the injury he caused her. My aunt told me to get over it.

My family in the old country is close-knit. It would not be possible to visit without having contact with this brother and his family. As it is, when I get photos, I discard half of them because I don't want my daughter to deal with memories of him.

Am I being fair to my dad and to the rest of the family by staying

away? Am I being disloyal to my daughter with the contact I have with the family?

What do I say to the relatives? My oldest brother keeps sending photos of my youngest brother as if nothing happened. I cannot put these questions to my daughter, and frankly, this isn't her problem. It's mine.

Ulrica

Ulrica, if your daughter was molested by a stranger, charges would have been pressed and punishment meted out. Neither you nor your daughter would have had contact with the perpetrator or anyone related to him, and those elements would have allowed a measure of healing.

Now you feel torn. Keeping these family members in your life suggests in some fashion that what happened was all right, and it hurts your daughter to know you are in touch with people complicit in a crime. For your daughter, that dismisses the injustice which was perpetrated upon her.

Nobody has been punished here except you and your daughter.

Your family should have had your daughter's best interests at heart, but instead they broke the one bond they had with you, and that is the bond of blood. People in our families don't owe us less of a duty than they owe a stranger; they owe us more of a duty. When that duty is not met, the offense is not lessened; it is doubled.

The relationship with your brother allowed your daughter

to be molested, and your family is still trying to negate their responsibility for what happened. You are perfectly justified in cutting off contact with those involved.

We won't tell you exactly what to say, but you are in a position to give your daughter the justice no court was ever able to.

Wayne & Tamara

**Wayne & Tamara are the authors of The Young Woman's Guide to Older Men and Cheating in a Nutshell—available from Amazon, Apple, and booksellers everywhere.**

## American Life in Poetry

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

### Villanelle with a Line Borrowed from Bishop

By Kimiko Hahn

The child looks out the window at the peeling barn.

The mother sits on the roof and waves at her.

The grandmother sings to the marvelous stove.

The child has put away her Little Marvel Stove

because her grandmother is baking real bread.

The child looks out the window at the peeling barn.

The two inside are preparing dinner for three.

(If the mother comes down from

the roof.)

The grandmother sings to the marvelous stove

a song about some mother on some roof

(likely the mother that is her daughter).

The child looks out the window at the peeling barn.

The child hums along while she stands

to survey her reeling barn and to hear as

The grandmother sings to the marvelous stove.

She's drawn at least half a dozen barns today.

She stops humming and sings her own song.

She looks at her mother atop the peeling barn while

the grandmother sings to marvel the stove.

*Kimiko Hahn is the author of 10 books of poetry, including Foreign Bodies (W. W. Norton, 2020); Brain Fever (Norton, 2014); Toxic Flora (Norton, 2010); The Narrow Road to the Interior (Norton, 2006), a collection that takes its title from Bashō's famous poetic journal; The Unbearable Heart (Kaya, 1996), winner of the American Book Award; and Earshot (Hanging Loose Press, 1992), winner of the Theodore Roethke Memorial Poetry Prize and an Association of Asian American Studies Literature Award. Her book The Ghost Forest: New and Selected Poems is forthcoming from Norton.*

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### Personal

Missing people. Do you have a family member or friend that disappeared under strange circumstances? Is it possible an unknown animal was responsible? We may be able to provide a wider audience in helping determine what became of your loved one. Please contact us at wjevning@gmail.com serious responses only please. pwj-11/19

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 Waltherville Loop, a block from the Waltherville Shopping Center. N/C-sub 5/15-5/11/14

### Piano Lessons

Now accepting piano students - Beginners, Intermediate and Advanced - all ages. Professional jazz pianist, classically trained with years of teaching experience. Located in Leaburg. Please call or text 408.391.3477 or email; kimberly@liquidsister.com. http://www.liquidsister.com SKP-8/16ruc

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### Quilters/Needle Crafters

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

### Satellite TV

DIRECTV for \$69.99/mo for 12 months with CHOICE Package. Watch your favorite live sports, news & entertainment anywhere. One year of HBO Max FREE. Directv is #1 in Customer Satisfaction (JD Power & Assoc.) Call for more details! (some restrictions apply) Call 1-844-808-7532

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### Services

Natures Friend Beautifying Co. Property/rental cleanup, restoration, tree work, blackberry & ivy destruction, pressure washing, Int/ext. painting, furniture refurbishing. Free appliance removal. Call Scottish 541-913-8477. SB=JAB-2/27-3/20/14

Got a hole in your wall? Give me a call! The Wall Doctor - Serving the McKenzie River area. 541-735-2317. p-s15-n3

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### CROSSWORD

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- 43. Breathe in
- 45. Westernmost city in Germany
- 47. Soldier's bed
- 48. Mensch, alt. sp.
- 50. Italian car brand
- 52. \*Jolly livestock raisers?
- 55. Russia's hard liquor
- 56. Ctrl + Z
- 57. Consumes food
- 59. Checks out
- 60. Famous French couturier (1905-1957)
- 61. Heavy Metal's Quiet \_\_\_\_\_
- 62. Caustic soda
- 63. Newsman Rather
- 64. Kill, as in dragon

**DOWN**

- 1. Clever humor
- 2. Unfortunately, exclamation
- 3. Actor Nolte
- 4. Island in French Polynesia
- 5. \*Donut filler
- 6. Checked out
- 7. Bleats
- 8. Rocky & Bullwinkle and Mary Kate & Ashley, pl.
- 9. To a very great degree (2 words)
- 10. Not bright

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**SWEET TOOTH**

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <p><b>ACROSS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. *Bow Wow Wow's "I ____ Candy"</li> <li>5. Money source</li> <li>8. * ____'s Root Beer</li> <li>11. Pelvic parts</li> <li>12. Start of something big?</li> <li>13. Round openings</li> <li>15. RPM gauge</li> <li>16. Cantina cooker</li> <li>17. Car sound, to a toddler</li> <li>18. *Ninepins namesake</li> <li>20. Kiln for drying hops</li> <li>21. They had</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>22. Division, abbr.</li> <li>23. Informal wear</li> <li>26. "Tail" on letter C</li> <li>30. Kamakawiwo'ole's strings</li> <li>31. Real estate sale agreement</li> <li>34. Denials</li> <li>35. 9 a.m. prayer</li> <li>37. Even, to a poet</li> <li>38. *Desert plant harvested for sweet syrup</li> <li>39. Forbidden</li> <li>40. Quickly or slowly, e.g.</li> <li>42. *Sweet ____ brew</li> </ul> |
|--|--|

**Solution on Page 9**

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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 9**

# Stay in touch with what's happening - open the McKenzie Community Calendar!

Click here or go to:  
[tinyurl.com/yeye92hx](https://tinyurl.com/yeye92hx)

Upper McKenzie Fire District Board of Directors monthly meeting. At the fire station, 541-822-3479

**COMMUNITY FOOD PANTRY**

Thu Oct 19th 3:00pm - 6:30pm  
**Leaburg Food Pantry**  
All are welcome! Please send folks!

**AT THE MUSEUM**  
LEARN MORE HERE

Thu Oct 19th 6:30pm - Sat 21st 8:30pm  
**Fright at the Museum**  
Really scary (older kids & adults) Adults - \$5, Kids (5 - 18) \$3, Kids under 5 - free, Families of 5 - \$20. All proceeds go to the museum.

Thu Oct 19th 11:00am - Sat Mar 23rd 2024 1:00pm  
**STORY TIME**  
Story Time is back at Leaburg Library! We invite children of all ages and their parents to join us in the Children's Room every

**SPRINGFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS**  
Every Student. Every Day. 541-822-3479

Mon Oct 23rd 7:00pm  
**Springfield School Board Meeting**  
The Board of Directors meet on the 2nd and 4th Mondays of each month (except July). Regular business meetings begin at 7 pm on the 2nd ...

**CPR & FIRST AID**

Sat Oct 21st 9:00am - 12:00pm  
**CPR/DEFIBRILLATOR Class**  
At the Leaburg station. Contact Clayton 541-896-3311.

Sat Oct 21st 10:00am - 12:00pm  
**A Dime At A Time**  
Blue River Bottle Boys Collection/Sorting - Saturday morning sorting sessions every Saturday from 10 noon. Donations can be dropped

Tue Oct 24th 10:00am - 11:00am  
**Family Story Time**  
Some special FUN at Camp Creek Church for children 5 and under (with their adults) to enjoy stories, singing, laughter, and friendship!

**FOOD pantry**

Tue Oct 24th 11:00am - 1:00pm  
**McKenzie River Food Pantry**  
Free groceries are provided in accordance with Oregon Food Bank and Food For Lane County guidelines for food distribution to those in

Tue Oct 24th  
**Lane County Board of Commissioners**  
The Board of Commissioner meetings begin at 9:00 a.m. in Harris Hall, unless otherwise noted on the published agenda. Regular

Write something  
Tue Oct 24th 6:00pm - Tue Nov 28th 7:00pm  
**WRITE YOUR LIFE**  
The Leaburg Library is delighted to announce that Duane Noriyuki is back with a second "Write Your Life" workshop! This six-week

Wed Oct 25th  
**Lane County Board of Commissioners**  
The Board of Commissioner meetings begin at 9:00 a.m. in Harris Hall, unless otherwise noted on the published agenda. Regular

Wed Oct 25th 9:00am - 10:30am  
**Lane Electric Coop Board of Directors meeting**  
Members of Lane Electric Cooperative can join monthly board meetings, which begin at 9 a.m. Each meeting begins with a member

**BINGO!**

Wed Oct 25th 6:00pm - 9:00pm

Thu Oct 26th 11:00am - Sat Mar 30th 2024 1:00pm  
**STORY TIME**  
Story Time is back at Leaburg Library! We invite children of all ages and their parents to join us in the Children's Room every

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2. Schedule Pickup: We'll come to your vehicle for FREE at a time and place convenient for you.
3. Receive Top Tax Deduction: You may qualify for a tax deduction.

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- Free Pickup & Towing.
- Top Tax Deduction.

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**877-469-8517**

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

# Saucy shrubs

Continued From Page 5

heaps of white, bottlebrush-like blossoms that smell like honey and attract a whole range of bees and other pollinators. Though it will grow in shade, witch-alder will have the brightest color in full sun. The larger one (F. major) reaches 6 to 10 feet tall and grows almost as wide, while the dwarf (F. gardenia) grows 3 to 4 feet tall and wide. They prefer moist, well-drained soil. Birds and butterflies make a beeline to both shrubs. Appropriate for mixed borders, foundation plantings, mass plantings, woodland gardens or an informal hedge. Hardy to Zone 4.

Panicle or PeeGee hydrangea (Hydrangea paniculate 'Unique'): Let's put a different spin on fall with a shrub that has fall color in both foliage and flowers. Though many panicle hydrangeas have flowers that turn to various shades of rose and pink as summer turns to fall, 'Unique' may be the best. It boasts 10-inch long, pure white flowers shaped like cones that turn a clear pink in fall and sit upright against multi-colored foliage. It will put out those pretty flowers from July through October. This large shrub can get anywhere from 6 to 10 feet tall and 8 feet wide. They respond well to pruning to manage their size. You can even prune it into a single-trunk standard, if desired. Since they bloom on the current season's growth, panicles can be pruned in spring without losing any flowers. Unlike other hydrangeas, panicles will tolerate full sun. Hardy to Zone 3.

**Emergency? Call 911**

# Grandma Thomson

Continued From Page 4

the river as the Thomson place. Improvements have been added every year to the Lodge, and there is also a modern rustic type cabin near the Lodge, that sleeps eight people.

The Thomson Lodge has always catered to the more hardy type of sportsmen, who enjoy the rustic atmosphere of the Lodge's good ranch-type meals, served family style. You did not have to "dress for dinner" at this lodge. Fishermen feel right at home in their fishing clothes. Some of the more rugged have been known to let a few whiskers grow. In the early days "Grandma Thomson" was both a cook and waitress and it has been said, that she really knew how to fry fish. Since she retired from the kitchen, hired help has continued to serve the ranch-style meals, for which the place became

# Fishing Report

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

### Fish Counts

**October 11, Willamette Falls**  
Fall Chinook - 2,165  
Summer Steelhead - 1,126



**A Moment in Oregon History**  
By Rick Steber  
(www.ricksteber.com)

**October 19** - Sidney Moss was a surveyor, stonemason, hotelkeeper, storeowner and author. He came west with the Hastings expedition in 1842 and was called on to survey the new town of Oregon City. He performed this duty with nothing more than a pocket compass and a piece of rope that he claimed, "Is exactly a rod long, on a dry day." Moss purchased a lot in Oregon City and constructed and operated the first hotel west of the Rocky Mountains. By 1850 he had amassed a fortune and sent a partner east with \$63,000, a fortune in those days, to purchase merchandise for his store. But the money was lost along the way, and although Moss lived to be 91 years old, he never recovered financially from this setback.

famous.

### Who's Who

The guest registration of the Lodge often looks like a page of "Who's Who." Many prominent people have stayed at the Lodge including Ex-President Herbert Hoover and his sons Herbert Jr, and Allen. C. E. Hooper, manager of the Hooper Radio Survey Service has been a frequent guest at the Lodge. Radio stars Amos and Andy; Rochester and Johnny of the Phillip Morse program, and some prominent Portland businessmen have been coming to the Lodge: Aaron Frank, H. H. Sichel, and Elliott Corbett, to name just a few. People have come here from all over the world. Some of the foreign countries on the register are England, France, China, Indonesia, India, Scotland, Hungary the Hawaiian Islands.

# Sheriff's Report

Continued From Page 3

Mohawk River Rd.  
**3:23 p.m:** ATL Drunk Driver - Camp Creek Rd. & upper Camp Creek Rd.  
**6:43 p.m:** Disturbance, Dispute - 40100 blk, York Ln. Verbal dispute between family members.  
**8:40 p.m:** Suspicious Vehicle - 35200 blk, Camp Creek Rd. A LCSO deputy checked on a vehicle parked at an area business.  
**9:45 p.m:** Suspicious Conditions - 95200 blk, Marcola Rd.  
**10:27 p.m:** ATL Drunk Driver - Marcola Rd. & Wendling Rd.  
**Oct. 13: 10:06 a.m:** Restraining Order Service - 90800 block, Sunderman Rd.  
**10:41 a.m:** Civil Service - 90000 blk, Marcola Rd.  
**12:17 p.m:** Vehicle Stop - McK. Hwy. & Ross Ln.  
**12:49 p.m:** Vehicle Stop - McK. Hwy. & Ross Ln.  
**1:54 p.m:** Subpoena Service - 45600 blk, McK. Hwy.  
**2:37 p.m:** Harassment - 39200 blk, Camp Creek Rd. A caller reported that a neighbor has been

blasting music and harassing the caller.  
**5:31 p.m:** Citizen Contact - 91800 blk, Mill Creek Rd.  
**5:39 p.m:** Suspicious Conditions - 36600 blk, Pico St. A caller that has been granted temporary custody of grandchildren advised that the children's biological parents threatened to take the children back by force.  
**6:17 p.m:** Incomplete 911 Call - 37300 blk, Parsons Creek Rd.  
**6:55 p.m:** Welfare Check - 87800 blk, Cedar Flat Rd.  
**9:38 p.m:** Driving While Suspended - Marcola Rd. & Camp Creek Rd.  
**Oct. 14: 4:36 a.m:** Suspicious Conditions - 44900 blk, Leaburg Dam Rd.  
**11:09 a.m:** Harassment - 36600 blk, Pico St. Caller has temporary custody over grandchild. Child's biological parent has threatened to take the child.  
**12:25 p.m:** Civil Standby - 36600 blk, Camp Creek Rd.  
**12:37 p.m:** Suspicious Conditions - 42800 blk, McK. Hwy. A female was seen messing with a white Mini Cooper. Caller thought the female may have been trying to steal it.  
**1:37 p.m:** Tree Down - McK. Hwy. Milepost 18.  
**1:49 p.m:** Harassment - 55600

blk, McK. River Dr. Caller advised that his landlord has been digging through his shed and yelling at his property. Civil dispute over eviction status.  
**3:27 p.m:** Citizen Contact - 55600 blk, McK. River Dr.  
**4:26 p.m:** Illegal Burn - 45500 blk, Goodpasture Rd.  
**7:07 p.m:** Loud Noise - 39000 blk, Hendricks Park Rd.  
**9:36 p.m:** ATL Drunk Driver - 91100 blk, Marcola Rd.  
**9:47 p.m:** Driving Under Influence of Intoxicants - 35200 blk, McK. View Dr.  
**Oct. 15: 12:12 p.m:** Recover Stolen Property - Lat: 44.13043. Long: -122.57446.  
**12:22 p.m:** Recover Stolen Vehicle - McGowan Creek Rd. Mp. 7.5.  
**12:57 p.m:** Unattended Boat - 56600 blk, McK. Hwy.  
**2:48 p.m:** Alarm - 91800 blk, Mill Creek Rd.  
**6:51 p.m:** Assist, Follow Up - 9000 blk, Thurston Rd.  
**Oct. 16: 6:48:19 a.m:** Alarm - 91800 blk, Mill Creek Rd.  
**1:38:05 p.m:** Assist, Follow Up - 9000 blk, Thurston Rd.

**Comments, as reported, may not be complete or accurate. If further information is required contact the Lane County Sheriff's Office.**

## Opportunity for USFS seasonal jobs

The USDA Forest Service will be accepting applications for permanent seasonal jobs from October 19<sup>th</sup> to November 22<sup>nd</sup>. Hundreds of entry-level permanent seasonal positions are available in exciting and rewarding locations across the nation, including 436 positions in Washington and Oregon and almost 30 on the Willamette National Forest.

Jobs on the Willamette include positions working on trails, recreation facilities, and helping manage wilderness areas, off-highway vehicle, and winter recreation programs.

Permanent seasonal positions offer a 13/13 schedule, which means employees work 13 pay periods (6 months) and have the remaining 13 pay periods (6 months) off. These positions have career status and may be increased to 18/8 (18 pay periods of work, 8 pay periods off) or a full 26 pay periods of work based on unit needs and funding.

Positions will be open to the public and applications will be accepted on USAJOBS. Interested candidates are encouraged to review the information provided on the Forest Service website. Eligible applicants must be U.S. citizens or nationals who are at least 18 years old.

The following live webinars will be available to assist with the Federal hiring process:

\* Tips for Job Seekers Webinar - Tuesday, October 17, 2023, 3-4 p.m. MDT

\* Navigating USAJOBS Webinar - Wednesday, October 18, 2023, 10-11 a.m. MDT

The Forest Service is an equal opportunity employer and encourages For more information, visit: <https://www.fs.usda.gov/working-with-us/careers/recruitment-events/permanent-seasonal-forestry-careers>. tinyurl.com/4mct78sn

## CROSSWORD SOLUTION

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## SUDOKU SOLUTION

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# Fire dispatcher burnout

Continued From Page 1

dispatchers in Oregon and Washington — Region 6 in agency lingo — in the fall of 2022. The survey found that “dispatch is experiencing problems that compromise their own health and safety” as well as “the health and safety of other firefighters,” according to internal presentation materials obtained by High Country News this spring. When dispatching resources are spread thin, it can impair everything from implementing and monitoring prescribed burns to suppressing active wildfires.

“You have to understand the problems before you can try and address solutions,” said Matt Holmstrom, a regional risk management officer for the Forest Service who oversaw the survey. Holmstrom, a hotshot for nearly two decades, is the agency employee tasked with trying to reduce accidents and injuries in the Pacific Northwest and Alaska.

The survey included lengthy interviews with 104 of the 189 dispatchers at the 14 largest call centers in Region 6. Call centers are often staffed by dispatchers from different agencies, so the survey included dispatchers from federal agencies, including the Bureau of Land Management and Bureau of Indian Affairs as well as the Forest Service, along with state agencies such as the Oregon Department of Forestry and Washington Department of Natural Resources.

HCN filed a Freedom of Information Act request for the presentation of the survey results and interview transcripts, but the Forest Service denied it, saying releasing them would compromise its decision-making ability and prematurely announce proposed policies. (HCN appealed the denial and is awaiting a response.) The agency did, however, share emails about the survey’s planning, including one from Alex Robertson, the director of fire, fuels and aviation for the Forest Service in the Pacific Northwest and Alaska, to regional leaders from the Forest Service and other agencies. Robertson wrote, “We have long recognized that our margins for error



**Bob Gray, zone fire dispatcher for the Shasta National Forest at Mt. Shasta, arranging fire-danger chart for the districts on the Shasta National Forest, California. While technology has changed over the years, the pace and intensity of the job remains.**

are so slim now due to vacancies and increases in workload.”

While some centers in the West are adequately staffed, the survey identified recruitment, retention and vacancies as major problems in Region 6. Over half of respondents said they had little to no work/life balance; many felt forced to take on overtime work, struggled to take time off and did not receive adequate breaks. A BLM dispatcher with more than 10 years of experience, who asked to remain anonymous for fear of retribution by his employer, said that experienced dispatchers are overworked and often quit, leading to heavy burdens on those who remain. “It’s a vicious cycle,” he said. Shifts can be up to 16 hours long or more — that dispatcher’s personal record is over 24 — during fire season. “I don’t know how long that pace is sustainable,” Holmstrom said.

A source familiar with the survey said that it identified concrete problems stemming from staffing shortages. In one case, a dispatcher with known gallbladder

issues didn’t have enough time to step away to use the restroom and later needed emergency surgery. The survey also found at least one dispatch center on the verge of collapse, with dispatchers threatening to quit because they were short-staffed, overworked and overlooked.

The dispatcher shortage also impacted wildfire camps this summer. At times, managers send dispatchers out to fires to help with communications. During one large fire that threatened homes in western Oregon in August, however, there were no extra dispatchers to send into the field. A medical unit leader, who asked not to be named because they were not authorized to speak with the media, was pulled away from their duties and sent into the communications tent to operate radios instead.

THE MAJORITY OF SURVEY respondents also noted the mental health challenges prevalent among dispatchers, including burnout, substance abuse and suicide. A Forest Service dispatcher in California, who asked to remain

anonymous so that she could speak freely, said dispatchers aren’t always included when mental health resources are offered to firefighters after traumatic incidents. Those times include instances when firefighters have died during her shift. “Dispatch is a lot of times overlooked,” she said. Overhearing a firefighter fatality and a firefighter suicide are things that, she said, “I’ll never forget.”

Outside research confirms wildland fire dispatchers’ struggles nationwide. Robin Verble, a professor and director of the Missouri University of Science and Technology Ozark Research Field Station, led a recent research report on dispatcher well-being, in collaboration with several others, including Granberg, the Washington firefighter. Of the 510 dispatchers who responded, 10% were considered at high risk for suicide — compared to .3% of the general population. “It’s a shocking and very sad statistic that needs more examination,” Verble wrote to HCN in an email. Seventy-three percent of the surveyed dispatchers had mild to severe depression, compared to 18.5% of the general population. Signs of post-traumatic stress disorder — 33% — were almost five times higher than for the general population.

Dispatchers work in a high-stress environment, Verble said in an interview, and “they’re experiencing really high rates of emotional and mental strain as a result.” One anonymous respondent told Verble’s team, “Many of us are total train wrecks.” Another said, “You listen to enough people dead or dying, it will never go away.” Verble’s study also found that dispatchers struggle with physical health problems — including eyestrain, headaches and backaches — from long, stressful shifts in confined quarters that often lack ergonomically appropriate equipment.

Dispatchers want adequately staffed centers so they don’t have to repeatedly work 16 or more hours a day, missing family dinners in the short term and risking burnout in the long run. They say better pay would help recruit and retain more dispatchers. An average Forest Service dispatcher’s base pay is roughly \$15 to \$20 an

hour. “It’s going to continue to be hard to recruit with the perception that we pay less than McDonalds,” a slide from the Region 6 presentation reads.

The 2021 Infrastructure Law provided temporary pay raises for Forest Service wildland firefighters, but it only included dispatchers who have direct firefighting experience. And even those increases were set to expire at the end of September. According to the advocacy group Grassroots Wildland Firefighters, the recently introduced federal Wildland Firefighter Paycheck Protection Act would effectively result in dispatch center managers getting a pay cut, because it would preserve only a portion of the temporary raises. Other benefits are up in the air: Whether dispatchers are included in a new wildland fire job series that the Interior and Agriculture departments are developing will determine whether they have access to retirement benefits.

Being left out of conversations about pay exemplifies a larger problem — a lack of recognition and respect. Dispatchers said they feel undervalued. As one anonymous dispatcher told Verble’s team, “We are dealing with just as much shit, if not more, than the folks on the line. Take care of us. That is all we ask.” Money alone can’t fix cultural issues, Robertson acknowledged in one of the released emails. “We know this is not a funding issues (sic),” he wrote. “It is much deeper than that and will take years to build back our dispatch organizations.”

Regional and national Forest Service leaders have been briefed on the survey results, Holmstrom said, and some small changes are already underway. Some dispatchers have received additional leadership training to help their teams during stressful situations, and more centers are now sharing training resources to bring dispatchers up to speed more quickly when they fill short-term roles.

But that may not be enough. The agency itself admits, in the survey results presentation, that the creation of stress first aid materials tailored for dispatchers — meant to help them understand and recover from stress — and a commitment to following existing stress management protocols after traumatic events are urgently needed. And over 60% of the dispatchers Verble surveyed said they’d consider quitting if they aren’t included in a permanent pay bump or access to retirement benefits. The Forest Service dispatcher in California feels the same; despite receiving a recent raise, she feels the weight of her challenging job. “I kind of have a love-hate (relationship with it),” she said. “I love being a dispatcher, but there’s also times when it’s stressful. It’s like, ‘What am I doing? Is this worth it?’”

Editor’s note: Are you a wildland fire dispatcher or wildland firefighter who wants to share your experience with High Country News? Reporter Kylie Mohr is reachable for secure communication via the Signal app at 509-953-7883.

Kylie Mohr is a correspondent for High Country News writing from Montana. Email her at [kylie.mohr@hcn.org](mailto:kylie.mohr@hcn.org) or submit a letter to the editor. See our letters to the editor policy.

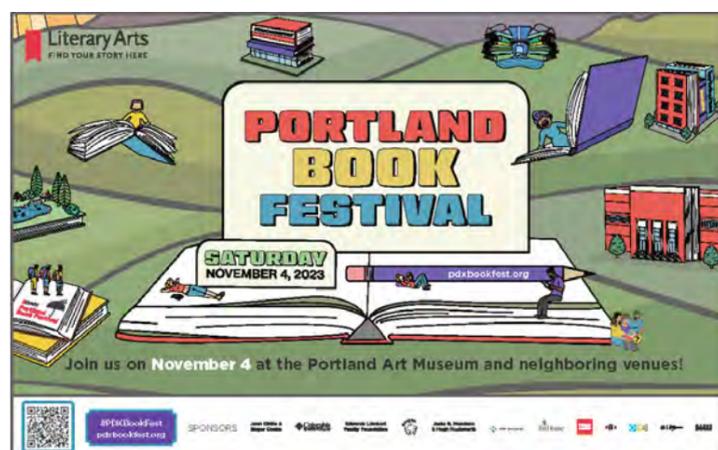


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# Oregon, nine states sue EPA over wood stove pollution

## Emission standards and tightened oversight at issue

By Lynne Terry  
oregoncapitalchronicle.com

Tens of thousands of Oregonians who rely on wood stoves could be at risk for breathing higher levels of harmful emissions than allowed by federal standards – even if they’ve swapped out an old heater for a new one that meets federal standards.

The Environmental Protection Agency, which is responsible for setting emission limits for wood stoves, has not effectively tested new stoves to ensure they meet the latest standards, according to Oregon environmental and judicial officials.

Concerns about wood stove pollution prompted Attorney General Ellen Rosenblum to join nine other states in a lawsuit against the EPA, calling on the agency to update its standards and tighten regulations.

The suit, filed in September in U.S. District Court in Washington D.C., notes that wood stoves are a key source of pollution.

Wood smoke contains fine particles and pollutants such as benzene and formaldehyde that can cause burning eyes, runny nose and bronchitis, according to an EPA report published in 2015. Exposure to the smoke can also cause heart and lung problems and can even be deadly.

Every year wood heater smoke “contributes hundreds of thousands of tons of fine particles throughout the country – mostly during the winter months,” it said. Those emissions, according to a 2020 report, amount to 8% of total



About 5% of Oregon households use wood stoves, and 15% in rural areas do.

particulate emissions in the U.S.

Rural Oregonians are especially at risk.

The state Department of Environmental Quality estimates that 5% of Oregon households – nearly 83,000 based on 2022 Census estimates – use wood stoves for heat and that 15% of rural homes are heated with them.

“This is a serious public health, environmental and consumer protection issue all wrapped into one!” Rosenblum said. “The science is clear: Wood heaters in Oregon are a major source of particulate-matter pollution, which is harmful to our health. The EPA needs to do what they said they would eight years ago: review and, if need be, revise their standards.”

Alaska, Illinois, Maryland, Massachusetts, Minnesota, New Jersey, New York, Vermont, Washington and Puget Sound Clean Air Agency joined the suit. It asks the

court to find the agency in violation of the Clean Air Act and to order a review of the wood heater standards.

Federal requirements

The EPA is responsible for setting emission limits for wood stoves and reviewing and updating them as necessary every eight years under the Clean Air Act. The last time the agency set new standards was in March 2015, following a similar suit by Oregon, New York, Connecticut, Maryland, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Vermont and the Puget Sound Clean Air Agency. The suit says the agency is overdue to revise the standards and has no plans to revisit them until November 2027.

It also says the agency has failed to ensure that new residential wood stoves actually meet those standards.

In February, the inspector general of the Environmental Protection

Agency released a scathing report about the agency’s oversight of its wood stove program. It said the agency’s 2015 standards are flawed and that the agency does not ensure that wood heaters are properly tested and certified before reaching consumers.

“Certification tests may not be accurate, do not reflect real-world conditions and may result in some wood heaters being certified for sale that emit too much particulate-matter pollution,” the report said.

People’s health is at stake, the report said.

“The EPA’s ineffective residential wood heater program puts human health and the environment at risk for exposure to dangerous fine-particulate-matter pollution by allowing sales of wood heaters that may not meet emission standards,” the report said.

DEQ enters the fray

A month following the report, officials at Oregon’s Department of Environmental Quality and the Oregon Health Authority wrote to the Environmental Protection Agency, calling on it to lower its emission standards for particulate matter, which is spewed not only by wood stoves but also by wildfires. The letter noted that many people in communities that are vulnerable to wildfire smoke in the summer also use wood stoves in winter, when weather systems can trap pollution near the ground.

“Oregon is home to unique geographic features that contribute to the beauty and splendor of our natural spaces and also contribute to routine atmospheric inversions that contribute to increased ambient air pollution concentrations,” the letter said. “These inversions occur during winter months when

wood stove use is high, especially in the more rural and economically disadvantaged areas of Oregon.”

It said that Oregonians – and others – should not “carry the burden of EPA’s failed wood stove certification program, especially when state and local governments have invested so heavily in changing-out these stoves over the years with an expectation that they would result in improved air quality.”

Although Oregon Department of Environmental Quality officials have known about the EPA’s faulty program, they’ve not taken action to protect Oregonians, including testing new stoves.

“The Clean Air Act established the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency as the authority for setting emission standards for manufactured products, such as wood stoves. So, DEQ has relied upon EPA’s program to ensure that they meet standards,” an agency spokesperson, Dylan Darling, said in a statement.

He advised Oregonians concerned about wood stove pollution to use seasoned, dry wood and to ensure that the moisture content is 20% or less according to a moisture meter. Homeowners should never burn garbage in a wood stove and should ensure it has the correct amount of draft and that the door is not open during burning.

Darling said homeowners concerned about wood stove pollution could switch to a pellet-burning device or a heat pump, which also cools. Oregon also offers incentives to help residents and landlords switch to clean heat pumps, thanks to a \$25 million allocation by the Legislature last year.

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## There Are Good Things To Keep In Mind



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

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