



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

Sheriff's Report

Caller observed someone attempting to steal telephone wire. The subject observed the caller watching them and left the area.

PAGE 3

Lack of room?

Don't let lack of yard space keep you from gardening this spring and summer.

PAGE 5

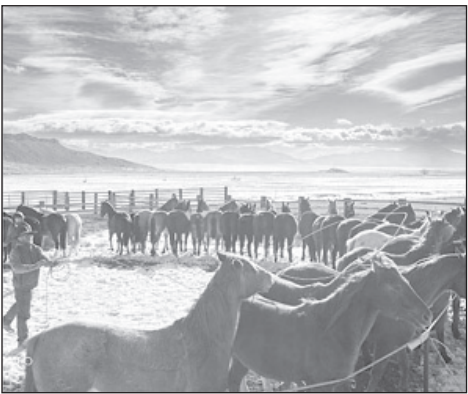


Briefs...



Congratulations to McKenzie High graduates Griffin Withaim, Jane Dellinger, and Salomon Acevedo, the Joe McCall Memorial Scholarship recipients. Each student will receive 1500.00 to help fund their first year of college. These exceptional students were chosen based on their community involvement, academic achievement, and desire to further their education. All three stu-

Congratulations - Page 2



Eight artists from across the country will exhibit work showcasing a variety of digital and analog photography processes, including the collodion wet plate process, cyanotype, infrared, and pinhole photography. An Opening Reception at the Maude Kerns Art Center is set for Friday, May 10th, from 5 to 7 p.m. "Shifting Focus" features Barbora Bakalarova (Eugene, OR), Tracy Barbutes (Groveland, CA), Sarah Grew (Eugene, OR), Rob Hammer (Raleigh, NC), Eric Kunsman (Rochester, NY), Willie Oster-

Shifting Focus - Page 2



Ready to lace up your hiking boots? The McKenzie River National Recreation Trail is now fully open, following the completion of a new trail bridge connecting Trail Bridge Campground with the Deer Creek watershed. Trail #3507. The route starts in an old lava flow from Mount Washington and leads downstream. It crosses the valley floor, allowing more access to many popular recreation sites.

There are more than 500 trails in the Willamette National Forest - from short day hikes to wilderness backpack trips. Be sure to "Know Before You Go" when heading out by checking weather and trail

Trails - Page 2

Suspect in ride share highjacking arrested in Vida

Driver was assaulted in Sisters and dragged out of his vehicle

VIDA: An incident that started at a mental health clinic in Bend wound its way across the Santiam Pass before ending with a car crash in Vida last Friday.

During the course of the investigation, the Deschutes County Sheriff's Office determined the suspect, 21-year-old Joshua Davis Buck, was at the Deschutes County Stabilization Center when he requested a ride share service to Sisters. Once there Buck asked to be dropped off in the vicinity of the Sisters Inn and Suites. When the vehicle came to a stop, the driver, Stanley Collins, was assaulted and dragged out of the vehicle.

According to police, Buck then stole the

ride share vehicle and headed out of town, traveling west on Highway 20 towards the Santiam Pass. Deputies were able to determine the location of the stolen vehicle as it continued westbound on Highway 126.

Deschutes County 911 Dispatch notified law enforcement agencies on the other side of the mountain to be on the lookout for the stolen vehicle.

Shortly after 3 a.m. a caller reported a car wreck near Milepost 34 of the McKenzie Hwy. A male on foot was suspected of being involved in the car-jacking. He reportedly tried to jump into a pickup before attempting to grab the window of another vehicle that might have hit Buck as that

driver avoided him.

At about 4 a.m., deputies with the Lane County Sheriff's Office and officers with the Springfield Police Department responded to the reported multi-vehicle injury crash near Vida. Their investigation determined Buck had crashed the vehicle he had stolen in Sisters, and was actively attempting to steal a second vehicle to continue his escape.

Buck was arrested and transported to an area hospital for evaluation and treatment of his injuries before he was transported back to the Deschutes County Jail where he faces charges that include first-degree robbery, second-degree assault, and unauthorized use of a vehicle, sheriff's officials said.

Getting ready for a comeback celebration

Downtown Blue River was a beehive of activity last Saturday



Shoulders along Blue River Drive, the town's "Main Street," also benefitted during the Cleanup.

BLUE RIVER: People from all over the McKenzie Valley were busy over the weekend when a call went out for volunteers to help during a Cleanup Day. Over three dozen people were armed with rakes, pruners, bucket loaders, and motorized brush hogs last Saturday.

The activity was all in anticipation of a Rebuilding Block Party scheduled for Blue River this Saturday from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. The May 11th event is being sponsored by the McKenzie Community Land Trust (MCLT), McKenzie Valley Long Term Recovery Group (MVLTRG), and Locals Helping Locals (LHL).

"History is in the making!" was how Brandi Crawford Ferguson, Interim Executive Director, McKenzie Community Land Trust, summed up the work day. "It's time to bring people together to celebrate great progress in rebuilding the community

Comeback celebration - Page 10

Hands-on workshop links to area's boatbuilding past

The Colorado River Dory was born in Keith Steele's 1962 Leaburg shop

LEABURG: Transforming lumber into a craft capable of navigating Colorado River rapids was a task well underway at the McKenzie River Discovery Center last week. Twelve students who'd signed up for a ten-day class to loft, build, and launch a Colorado River dory—on the very site where Keith Steele built the first one in 1962—accepted the chore.

Lofting the boat involved transforming initial drawings and photos into a full-size plan. Their result included all the curves of a boat that not only resembled what area guides used but included covered decks with complex curves.

By Thursday, they'd crafted most of the parts—frames and stems—using their loft lines as full-size templates. Luckily, they gained advice from dory builders Brad Dimock and Cricket Rust, who teach an annual class at the famous Woodenboat



There was plenty of attention to detail as Brad Dimock cautioned the class to proceed slowly as they trimmed ribs under the watchful eye of Steve Steele.

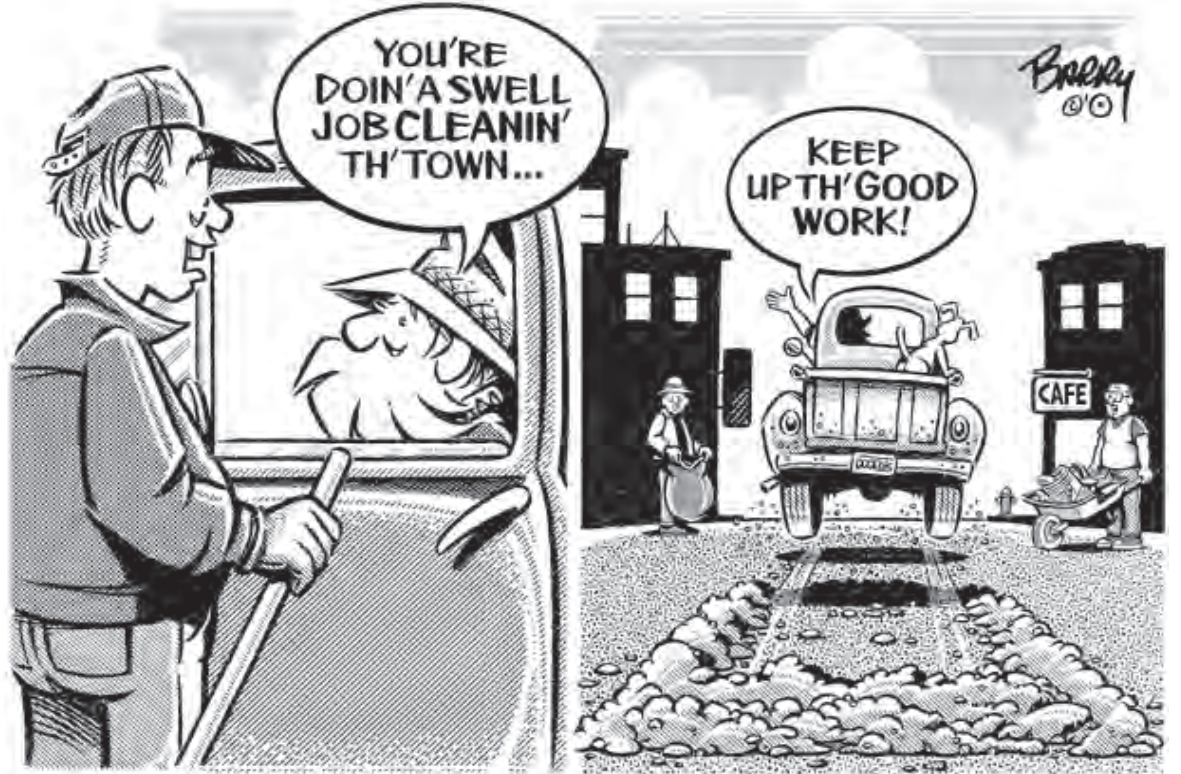
Letters to the Editor

Thank You McKenzie Community!

On behalf of McKenzie Community Track and Field I (Cliff Richardson) would like to extend a heartfelt Thank You to all the volunteers that worked the two Track meets this past week. Your commitment to our youth and those from other communities helped put a cap on the 2024 Track Season at our beautiful Aaron and Marie Jones Community Track. Many of the visiting teams, their fans and coaches expressed their thanks and appreciation for the work you all accomplished. Our 2024 Track Season at the Aaron and Marie Jones Community Track has been declared a success, and that can be attributed directly to all of you who dedicate your time and efforts. This past week the following folks volunteered (and I apologize up front if I miss

listing any folks. You are no less appreciated).

Members of the MCTF Board of Directors: Tim Hooten, Pete Petty, Melanie Brite, Monty Wilson, Cliff Richardson. McKenzie High School: Fred Heins, Jack Devereaux, Brad III. Community: Brent Weiss, Megan Weiss, Allen Acevedo, Sandra Acevedo, Veronique Loggins, Doug Fairrington, John Carlisle, Dan Willis, Sharon Zook, Bill Schaefers, Elaine Bryson, Steve Birkovich, Connie Richardson, Lorinda Marcy, Melissa Norlund, Aaron Norlund, Bob Wilson, Jane Wilson, Lisa Keevers, Vinnie Fulton, Neal Barrett, Kayte Barrett, Brent Meister, Laurel Meister, Sha Spady, Mandy Jones, Paz RamRoopsingh, Rollin Cummins, Silvia Dion, Jared Taylor, Lane Tompkins, Peter Drake, Ira Munkvold, Morgan Munkvold, Judy Cassad, Dennis Johnson, Chris Dion, Fen Willis, Cyrus



Bennett, Ryder Vailes, Allen Acevedo, Salomon Acevedo, Myra Dion, Noah O'Daol, Hayden Harbick, Auden Vailes, Breanna Marino-Kohnin, Lillia Meister, Will

Meister, Atom Fetterhoff, William Valtinson, Jacob Peek, Sapana Mitchell-Chavez, Lyla Boydston, TJ Doolin, Jamie Savidge, Adrian (sorry, didn't get your last name),

and Alsea student/athlete Paisley Jacobsen.

Cliff Richardson
Blue River

Guest Opinion

Is the TikTok Law a Violation of the First Amendment?

By Kevin Goldberg

On April 24, 2024, President Biden signed as part of a foreign aid package passed by Congress a law that could ban the video app TikTok. But can the federal government ban an entire social media platform or other form of com-

munication? Or does that violate the First Amendment?

Because it's almost certain that one or more lawsuits will be filed, we explore whether banning TikTok violates the First Amendment.

What does the TikTok law do?

The law was originally proposed as HR 7521, the Protecting Americans from Foreign Adversary Controlled Applications Act. The law that passed is a modified version of that proposal. It has

been described as a "TikTok ban," but it's a little more nuanced than that.

The law applies to more than just TikTok. It uses the term "foreign adversary-controlled application," which specifically includes TikTok and its China-based owner ByteDance. But it also includes any app:

* With more than 1 million monthly active users who can generate content for others to see.

* That is controlled or at least 20% owned by a "foreign adversary country" (currently defined as China, Russia, Iran and North

Korea).

* That, after going through a prescribed process, is determined to be a threat to national security.

It doesn't say TikTok or other foreign adversary-controlled applications cannot operate – but it functions that way. ByteDance or any other owner or distributor of an app meeting this definition will have up to one year to sell their app or face a one-time penalty of \$5,000 per user. TikTok has more than 150 million users in the United States, so it would have to pay \$750 billion to continue operating. But even if it wanted to operate,

the same penalty applies to anyone who distributes TikTok, and no app store would make it available to users when faced with that penalty.

Does the TikTok law really ban TikTok?

The law's supporters are quick to say it is not a ban – but a choice. It's up to ByteDance to decide whether to sell the company, stop operating in the United States or pay a massive amount to continue operating.

Opponents say that the impact

Guest Opinion - Page 13

McKenzie Eagles Sports Report

By Cliff Richardson

McKenzie Varsity Sports Schedule This Week

The McKenzie Varsity Track and Field teams travel to Sutherlin High School on Friday, May 10 and Saturday, May 11, to participate in the 1A-SD2, 3A-SD5 Championships. Field events start at 1:00 pm and track events will begin at 11:00 am.

McKenzie Boys/Girls Close At Home

Win End Of The Season Meet At AMJ

McKenzie's Varsity Boys and Girls Track teams won their last meet at home, held at the iconic Aaron and Marie Jones Community Track and hosted by both the McKenzie Track and Field organization and McKenzie High School. The Eagle boys dominated their Mt. West League opponents, piling up 100 points on the afternoon, easily distancing second place Siletz Valley, which

earned 42 points, third place Mohawk with 37 points and Mapleton, which finished fourth with 31 points. The McKenzie girls team won their meet with 61 points earned, slipping past second place Mapleton with 53 points, Siletz Valley third with 26 points and Mohawk, which earned 14 points for a fourth place finish.

Both Eagle teams were scheduled to participate in the Gilchrist Small School Invitational on Saturday, May 4, but the meet was canceled due to the weather forecast. McKenzie will spend the next week at the Aaron and Marie Jones Community track preparing for the District Championship meet to be held at Sutherlin High School on Friday and Saturday, May 10, 11. Athletes qualifying at the District Championship will participate in the 2024 OSAA 1A State Championships held at Hayward Field on the campus of the University of Oregon on Thursday, May 16 and Friday, May 17.

Eagles Shine At Chilly/Damp End Of The Season Meet

It was a typical Great Pacific Northwest Spring Day, located in the McKenzie River Valley. Chilly and damp for some, drier and warmer than expected for a few and most folks predicting the day's forecast, wrong! It's

been referenced for many a year, that the most accurate local forecasters were the famous weather predicting Mt. Nebo goat herd down near Roseburg. All that aside, the McKenzie End of the Season track Meet ensued as planned and many thanks to the four teams and dedicated volunteers participating.

It was a fine day at the Aaron and Marie Jones Community Track and the collective participation highlighted what is really good when rural folks assemble, work and support each other while competing. A person might be prompted to say the "day was finer than a frog's hair split three ways and tapered on the ends."

Leading the Eagle boys, freshman Rhys Hamlow won three events. Senior Griffin Withalm and sophomore Will Meister earned two first individual event first place finishes and 1 each in a relay event. And senior Levi Lockard brought home two firsts.

McKenzie girls were led by frosh Lilana Jones and Grace Weiss, both finishing first in two individual events and sharing a first in a relay event.

Hamlow's wins came in the high jump, the pole vault, and the long jump. He cleared the high jump bar set at 5 ft. 0 in. and

Sports Report - Page 11

Briefs...

Congratulations Continued From Page 1

dents plan to attend Oregon State University next fall. This memorial scholarship honored Joe, who loved the McKenzie River area.

Shifting Focus Continued From Page 1

man (Canandaigua, NY), Osceola Refetoff (Los Angeles, CA), and Nolan Streitberger (Albany, OR).

The exhibit is on view through Friday, June 7th, at 1910 E. 15th Avenue, at the corner of 15th and

Villard, in Eugene. For more information, visit www.mkartcenter.org or telephone 541-345-1571.

Trails

Continued From Page 1

conditions and bringing proper gear, food, and water for the trip. For more info, visit <https://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/willamette/conditions/?cid=FSEPRD528449>.

To learn more about the status of your favorite recreation sites and trails in the Willamette National Forest, visit Willamette National Forest -Recreation

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Friday 5/10		Saturday 5/11		Sunday 5/12	
McKenzie Valley Sunny 5% chance precip High: 84 Low: 54	Santiam Pass Sunny 5% chance precip High: 71 Low: 43	McKenzie Valley Sunny 5% Chance precip High: 84 Low: 52	Santiam Pass Sunny 5% chance precip High: 70 Low: 42	McKenzie Valley Mostly Sunny 5% chance precip High: 77 Low: 48	Santiam Pass Mostly Sunny 5% chance precip High: 66 Low: 40

WEATHER REPORT					
READINGS TAKEN AT THE US ARMY CORPS COUGAR DAM				READINGS TAKEN AT EWEB LEABURG POWERHOUSE	
Date	High	Low	Rain Releases	Date	Riverflow
4/30	37	47	0.39 1,385 cfs	4/30	NA
5/1	38	55	0.07 NA	5/1	NA
5/2	40	55	0.74 490 cfs	5/2	NA
5/3	39	62	0.47 NA	5/3	NA
5/4	42	45	0.83 390 cfs	5/4	NA
5/5	38	45	0.68 375 cfs	5/5	NA
5/6	42	50	0.44 322 cfs	5/6	NA

Sheriff's Report

April 29: 4:40 p.m: Suspicious Conditions –McK. View Dr. & Hill Rd. The caller observed someone attempting to steal telephone wire. The subject observed the caller watching them and left the area.

April 30: 4:01 p.m: Assist, Follow Up - 48500 blk, McK. Hwy.

5:53 p.m: Attempt To Locate Drunk Driver - 39200 blk, McK. Hwy.

May 1: 4:20 a.m: Vehicle Stop - 35800 blk, Camp Creek Rd.

9:39 a.m: Suspicious Conditions - 87700 blk, Collins Ln.

10:28 a.m: Suspicious Conditions - 35800 blk, Camp Creek Rd.

11:54 a.m: Theft - 88900 blk, Easy Ln. Ongoing civil issue.

6:02 p.m: Assist Oregon State Police - McK. Hwy. & Milepost 22.

8:12 p.m: Minor In Possession - Cascade View staging area.

May 2: 5:00 p.m: Traffic Hazard - Deerhorn Rd. & McK. Hwy.

7:34 p.m: Motor Vehicle Accident, Driving Under the Influence of Intoxicants- Shotgun Creek Rd. & Marcola Rd.

11:48 a.m: Vehicle Stop - Marcola Rd. & Shotgun Creek Rd.

May 3: 7:59 a.m: Alarm - 89100 blk, bridge St.

9:22 a.m: Foot patrol - Clear Lake Resort.

9:26 a.m: Violation of Restraining Order - 48000 blk, Conley Rd.

1:38 p.m: Assist, Follow Up - Showalter Creek Rd. & Shotgun Creek Rd.

4:46 p.m: Mental Subject - 88100 blk, Tiki Ln.

5:20 p.m: Reckless Endangering

- 92000 blk, Marcola Rd.

9:17 p.m: Assist OSP - McK. Hwy. & Mp. 11.

9:26 a.m: Violation of Restraining Order - 48000 blk, Conley Rd.

May 4: 12:24 a.m: Screaming - 44500 blk, McK. Hwy.

9:11 a.m: Civil Problem - 36600 blk, Camp Creek Rd.

9:16 a.m: Harassment - 36600 blk, Camp Creek Rd.

9:20 a.m: Civil Problem - 36600 blk, Camp Creek Rd.

10:55 a.m: Harassment - 90600 blk, Sunderman Rd.

12:21 p.m: Illegal Dump - 40500 blk, McK. Hwy.

3:57 p.m: Information - 90900 blk, Angels Flight Rd.

4:37 p.m: Suspicious Conditions - 87700 blk, Collins Ln.

May 5: 1:22 a.m: Theft - Terwilliger Hot Springs.

2:23 a.m: Theft - Terwilliger Hot Springs.

10:59 a.m: Theft - Terwilliger Hot Springs.

5:57 p.m: Suspicious Conditions - 42000 blk, Deerhorn Rd.

9:20 p.m: Traffic Hazard - 7500 blk, Thurston Rd.

May 6: 5:55 p.m: Illegal Dump - N. Gate Creek Rd. & McK. Hwy.

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

State Police Report

May 1: 17:56: Crash, Non-Injury – Hwy. 126E, Milepost 22. Driver was eastbound, stated he was fatigued, closed his eyes, and crashed. The vehicle left the roadway and rolled. Airbags deployed, seatbelt worn, no impairment. Driver was cited for No Operator's License, No Insurance, and Failure to Drive Within Lane. No other vehicles involved. Tow responded. Involved: blue Honda Civic, 18-year-old male from Blue River.

McKenzie Fire & Rescue

April 29: 8:45: 87000 block, Cedar Flat Rd. Medical, General. Patient Assessed, Refusal Obtained.

16:06: 46000 blk, Goodpasture Rd. Medical, General. Patient Assessed, 1 Transported.

April 30: 2:44: 8600 blk, Thurston Rd. Medical, General. Patient Assessed, 1 Transported.

10:30: 44000 blk, McK. Hwy. Medical, General. Patient Assessed, 1 Transported.

12:19: 90000 blk, Angels Flight Rd. Medical, General. Patient Assessed, Refusal Obtained.

May 1: 17:54: McK. Hwy./Milepost 22. Motor Vehicle Accident - Patient Refusal, Traffic Control

May 2: 15:30: 42000 blk, McK. Hwy. Medical, Trauma. Patient Assessed.

May 3: 3:38: McK. Hwy. MP34 Assist Police. Patient Assessed, Transported By LCSO.

13:55: 87000 blk, Lupe Ln Medical, General. Patient Assessed, Transported.

18:10: 89000 blk, Whitewater Rd. Medical, General. False Alarm.

May 4: 10:44: 39000 blk,

Camp Creek Rd. Medical, General. Patient Assessed, 1 Transported.

17:38: 40000 blk, Booth Kelly Rd. Medical, General. Patient Assessed, Refusal Obtained.

McK. Fire & Rescue will hold its monthly Board of Directors meeting on Monday, May 20th 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.

Upper McKenzie Fire/Rescue

May. 3: 03:38: Motor Vehicle Accident, Unknown Injury - McK. Hwy. Milepost 34. Male on foot is the involved from car-jacking. Male is up and trying to jump on another vehicle. 03:40: Male tried grabbing caller's vehicle. She took off, might have run him over.

The Upper McK. Fire District's board of directors will hold its monthly meeting at 7 p.m. on Monday, May 20th, at the McK. Fire Station, 56578 McK. Hwy. in McKenzie Bridge.

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The Case of the Klondike Kate Katfight

By Finn J.D. John
Part One

Imagine this story playing out on a television or movie screen near you (or a Vaudeville stage!):

Fade in on a tall, rugged-looking woman in a bright-red “Sergeant Preston of the Yukon” outfit. We hear a voiceover from a gravel-voiced Narrator:

Narrator: “It’s June of 1901. In the Territorial capital of Whitehorse, ‘Klondike Kate Ryan’ is the first woman officer in the history of the Royal North-West Mounted Police, a precursor agency to the famous Royal Canadian Mounted Police, a.k.a. ‘The Mounties.’”

We see a slow montage of shots of Klondike Kate out on the streets of frontier Whitehorse doing Mountie stuff — perp-walking crooks up the jailhouse steps, tacking up “Wanted Dead or Alive” posters at the livery stable, etc. — while the Narrator continues:

Narrator: “The Klondike Gold Rush is at its height in the summer of 1901, so Klondike Kate has plenty to keep her busy. From Whitehorse to Dawson City, the Yukon Territory is crawling with unruly gold miners, or ‘sourdoughs’ as they are called. For Klondike Kate Ryan, it’s all in a day’s work.”

Narrator (cont’d): “But then one day Klondike Kate’s supervisor suddenly calls her into the office. She wonders if she’s made a mistake or something. What could he want?”

Cut to Scene 2: Interior of a frontier police office with rifles on the wall and a big Canadian flag in the corner. A uniformed Supervisor is sitting behind a desk glaring at Klondike Kate, who looks shocked.

Supervisor (angry, shouting) “Officer Ryan! What’s this I hear about you moonlighting as a slutty exotic dancer in variety theatres and ‘gentlemen’s clubs?’ I can’t have Vaudeville hussies on the Force! What have you got to say for yourself?”

Klondike Kate: (baffled) “I don’t know what you’re talking about, sir. I can’t dance. I can’t talk. Only thing about me is the way that I perp-walk crooks up the jailhouse steps. Like that Vaudeville dancing hooker I busted for prostitution a couple months ago, for instance. What was her name? Kate something.”

Supervisor: “Well, that’s not what our sources are telling us. They say you are dancing in your underwear on the stage in front of a bunch of leering perverts and filthy sourdoughs six nights a week. Look at this filth!”

With that Supervisor holds up a handbill that reads “Klondike



Leland John

“Klondike Kate” and an unidentified colleague pose in their costumes for a photo in Dawson, circa 1901.

Kate’s Exotic Frolics! She Dances for Your Enjoyment at The Palace Grande Theatre, Six Nights a Week!”

Klondike Kate: (Puzzled, but with dawning comprehension) “I don’t — wait a minute, the Palace Grande, that’s the dingy doggerly out of which that skanky hussy Kate What’s-her-name was working when I busted her for selling her sweet favors to sourdoughs! As she was going off to serve her month of hard labor for Aggravated Prostitution, I remember her glaring at me and swearing she would get me back. This is her revenge — identity theft! She’s stolen my nickname to get even with me! Can there be any other explanation?”

Supervisor: “Well, yes, there can. But I’ll give you 24 hours to round up proof that this striptease tart is someone other than you. After that, you’ll be fired!”

Klondike Kate: “I’ll get that proof, sir, and save my reputation and my job. You can count on me, sir!”

Transition to Scene 3: Outside the front door of a grubby, disgusting looking “gentlemen’s club” in the crappy part of town. A red light hangs over the door. Klondike Kate marches up to it and yanks it open and enters.

Cut to Scene 4: In the gloomy, disgusting interior of the frontier “Gentlemen’s Club.” Klondike Kate can see her self-proclaimed

namesake on the stage at one end, capering about suggestively in a state of near-total undress while a bunch of filthy, unruly sourdoughs leer and holler catcalls at her.

The dance number finishes and the curtain comes down for intermission. Klondike Kate balls up her fists and storms up to the stage and jerks the curtain aside to enter.

Cut to Scene 5: In the backstage area, Fake Klondike Kate stands in her skimpy stage outfit. She looks startled at first, then a malicious smile touches her features.

Fake Klondike Kate: “Well, well, if it isn’t Officer Righteous herself. How do you like these apples, you holier-than-thou harridan?”

Real Klondike Kate: (angry, shouting) “Stop calling yourself Klondike Kate, you brazen strumpet!”

Fake Klondike Kate: (scornfully) “Forget it! That’s my nickname now! It started as a plan to get revenge on you, but I’ve decided I like it! Now all I have to do to perfect my revenge is to move to Los Angeles, hire a Hollywood agent and get a movie made. After that, everyone will think I am the real Klondike Kate and that you are the faker! That’ll teach you!”

A crestfallen Real Klondike Kate turns away in righteous disgust. Then her eye falls upon a playbill tacked upon the door at Stage Left. It is emblazoned with a picture of Fake Klondike Kate in her dancing suit, and the words “Klondike Kate! Six Nights a

Week!” underneath. In a flash she leaps upon it, snatches it from the door and holds it aloft in triumph.

Real Klondike Kate: (triumphantly) “Aha! Now that I have this, I don’t care what you do, as long as you’re not still whoring around breaking the law, you dirty little trollop. I’ve got my proof right here.”

She smugly holds up the playbill.

Real Klondike Kate (cont’d): “With this proof that it is you and not me, the Real Klondike Kate, twirling around in a skimpy bikini in front of dozens of lecherous sourdoughs, I will redeem my reputation and go on to a long and rewarding career in frontier law enforcement. Farewell, thou dirty Vaudeville ho, thou!”

Fake Klondike Kate: (sobbing) “Curses! I am robbed of my revenge!”

Cut to Scene 6: Outside the police station. We see Real Klondike Kate marching triumphantly up the street, playbill in hand, and entering the station as Narrator speaks in voiceover:

Narrator (voiceover): “And indeed, Klondike Kate Ryan would redeem her reputation that day, and go on to a long and rewarding career as a policewoman. But the dancer would make good on her threat. Years later, after leaving the Klondike, the fake Klondike Kate would indeed hire a Hollywood agent and sell her phony story to the movie industry.

“As a result, today when people talk about Klondike Kate, most people think of the dancer who stole the real Klondike Kate’s nickname and got Mae West to play her on the silver screen. The real Klondike Kate, history’s first identity-theft victim, is mostly remembered only in dry history textbooks, and in the hearts and minds of the few of us who know The Truth.”

Fade to black.

Great story, huh? Somebody get Netflix on the phone, this set-up is good for at least three seasons!

But, of course, the story is completely bogus. The only historically accurate parts of it are the names of the characters and the occupation of one of them — that of Officer Kate Ryan.

The “Klondike Kate Catfight” narrative has evolved over more than 100 years of tellings and retellings in movies, TV shows, and books, ever since the release of a 1915 novel titled Ruggles of Red Gap by Harry Leon Wilson.

Ruggles is a work of fiction that has, over the decades, managed to get merged into the true stories of two different frontier Yukon women, augmented and altered over years of creative embellishments by different storytellers.

The two women were, of course, “Klondike Kate” Ryan the frontier cop, and “Klondike Kate” Rockwell, the Vaudeville dancer

Klondike Katfight - Page 10



By Slim Randles

Doc hadn’t even finished loading his coffee with fake sugar before Steve piped up.

“I think it’s disgusting and weird and unnatural and it should be outlawed!” the tall cowboy said, coming to rest at the philosophy counter of the Mule Barn truck stop.

“Aw Steve,” said Doc, “the coffee isn’t that bad.”

“Coffee? Nay, I say unto you, Doc. It ain’t the coffee ... it’s them Academy Awards on the television. You see them? All them good-looking women Scotch-taping themselves into those dresses so they almost stay on? Those weird guys they’re with who only shave on Tuesdays?”

“And this makes you angry?”

“Sure does, Doc. Those folks make a lot more money than I do and all they have to do is dress up and talk to those red carpet cameras.”

“Those were two months ago, Steve,” said Doc.

“I know,” Steve said, “I recorded them.”

“Well, Steve,” said Dud, “we can do just as good as they can. Stand up.”

Steve looked around and then stood slowly. Dud picked up a bottle of Tabasco sauce and, using it as a microphone, turned to the breakfast crowd in the Mule Barn.

“Good morning, folks, and we’re so happy you could join us here on KRUD this morning to welcome our list of celebrities. Oh, look, it’s Steve, the pride of farrier life and heavy anvils. Steve, wherever did you get that outfit?”

“Well,” said Steve, grinning, “it’s a creation of Levi Strauss, and please note the genuine brass rivets.”

“Give us a twirl there, cowboy.” And he did, to great applause.

“And your headwear today, Steve, that would be what ... Stetson?”

“Yessir. A genuine John B. Stetson original. Five ex beaver fur felt.”

“The sweat stains?”

“Those were added later, actually, Dudley. A genuine cow pen fillip to offset the otherwise stunning look of my entire ensemble.”

“So as not to overwhelm the onlookers, I suppose?”

“Precisely. We don’t want ordinary people to think they’ll never achieve this look, you see.”

“An admirable pursuit,” Dud said.

“Noblesse oblige, I believe,” said Steve.

“Not until lunch,” said Loretta, topping off the coffee mugs. “Breakfast special is bacon and a short stack.”

Don’t attend the Academy Awards ceremony without bringing an extra roll of Scotch tape. You could be a hero!

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Gardening Tips



Don't let lack of room discourage you



By Kym Pokorny
The COVID-19 pandemic inspired millions of people to grow vegetables, but many don't have room for traditional gardening.

Don't let lack of yard space keep you from gardening this spring and summer. Many vegetables grow well in containers on a patio, porch, balcony or windowsill.

Small spaces make it hard to grow some of the larger vegetables, according to Brooke Edmunds, Oregon State University Extension Service horticulturist. For instance, growing corn on a balcony may not be practical. But a wide variety of crops can be planted, including lettuce, herbs, tomatoes, peppers, eggplant, strawberries, kale, chard and spinach.

There are some dwarf and miniature varieties, such as Thumbelina carrots or other baby vegetables that work particularly well in small areas. Vine crops can be put in hanging baskets or grown in oak barrels or large pots and trained vertically on trellises, stakes or railings.

The amount of sunlight available will affect your choice of crops, Edmunds said. Root and leaf crops (beets, turnips, lettuce, cabbage, mustard greens) can tolerate light shade. But vegetables grown for their fruits, including tomatoes, green beans

and peppers must have from six to eight hours of direct sunlight each day. The more sun the better.

Almost any type of container can be used, from bushel baskets, metal drums, and gallon cans to plastic tubs, wooden boxes and well-rinsed cut-off jugs. Ten-inch pots are good for green onions, parsley and herbs. For plants with larger root systems, such as tomatoes, peppers and eggplant, five-gallon containers are best.

No matter what container type you use, adequate drainage is a must, Edmunds cautions. Drill drain holes along the side about 1/2 inch from the bottom and make sure the soil drains well. It also helps to elevate the pot with bricks or boards, off the surface of your patio or pot saucer.

As in bigger gardens, container-grown vegetables can be grown from seed, or they can be planted as transplants.

Good soil really helps. Use a packaged potting soil or

composted soil available at local garden centers. These purchased potting soils make for excellent container gardening because they are lightweight, sterile and drain well. Do not buy topsoil; it can be heavy and drain poorly. Same thing with planting mix.

Plant vegetable seeds according to the instructions on the seed package, Edmunds said. After planting, gently water the soil, taking care not to wash out the seeds.

Vegetables grown in containers need regular fertilization. A soluble, all-purpose fertilizer that can be mixed in water is the easiest type to use with container plants. Fertilize every three to four days with a solution that is half the strength of the recommended mixing ratio.

Dry fertilizers sprinkled on top of the soil offer a second-best alternative. If you use them, fertilize every three weeks. Organic materials including compost, animal manures, blood meal or rock phosphate and greensand can be used for fertilizer as well.

Regular watering is also essential, Edmunds said. The soil in containers can dry out quickly, especially on a concrete patio in full sun. Daily watering is not unusual, but don't let the soil become soggy or have water standing on top of it. Water when the soil feels dry and until it runs out the drain holes. After spring and early summer crops are harvested, the containers can be replanted with late summer and fall vegetables.

For more information on container gardening and other gardening basics, view OSU Extension's publication Growing Your Own Protect Your Investment.



Country Kitchen

By Mary Emma Allen



DANDELION TIME OF YEAR

The golden glow of dandelions spreads a carpet over fields and lawns. Some consider them weeds to be pulled and destroyed, while others look upon these blooms as decorative flowers and edible.

We also associated dandelions with the arrival of robins and other spring joys. We never considered them nuisances in the lawn for they also provided us with food in the way of greens. (Those were the days when greens such as lettuce were offered only in summer at the grocery or our garden.)

I've always enjoyed the dandelions of spring, probably because of my associations with them in childhood. They provided brightness in the large lawn before our farmhouse after the drabness of mud season. They dotted the meadows where cattle grazed. Mother picked the green leaves and served them as salad or boiled or steamed. With the cooked greens she may have added salt pork or bacon.

One of my aunts also was fond of them and was so very annoyed when people crept onto her large lawn and vacant adjacent field and picked them ahead of her, usually at dusk or early morn.

Picking Flowers for Mother

We children picked dandelion bouquets for Mother. I recall my brother pulling off the heads and handing them to her with pride. Mother arranged them in a cereal bowl of water, praising him as

though he'd presented her with exotic blooms.

So today, I enjoy seeing the golden blooms in yards (even our own) and fields. This year they seem especially plentiful, as do so many blossoms and flowers, such as lilacs, daffodils, trillium, lady slippers, and others that grow wild in our woodland yard.

Spring Food Ideas

GAZPACHO - This chilled soup is low in calories and tasty. Also, it's a no-cook dish so is easy to prepare. You can control the sodium and fat with your choice of ingredients; yet take advantage of the vegetables available throughout the summer.

Chop 2 medium cucumbers, 1 medium tomato, 1 small green pepper, 1 small zucchini, and 1/2 medium onion, 3 to 4 scallions into a large bowl. Then add: 4 cups low sodium mixed vegetable juice (some people like tomato juice), 1 tablespoon fresh squeezed lemon juice, 1 teaspoon reduced sodium Worcestershire sauce. (You can leave out the zucchini and enhance with other seasonings of your choice.)

Cover and refrigerate for at least 2 hours. Serve chilled in bowls or mugs. Garnish each serving with a sprig of parsley and slice of lemon.

(c) Mary Emma Allen

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

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PUBLIC NOTICE

FORM OR-LB-1 NOTICE OF BUDGET HEARING
Oregon Department of Revenue

A public meeting of the Upper McKenzie RFPD will be held on May 20, 2024 at 7 a.m. at 56578 McKenzie Hwy McKenzie Bridge, OR 97413 (City) p.m.

56578 McKenzie Hwy McKenzie Bridge, OR 97413 Oregon. The purpose of this meeting is to discuss the budget for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2024 as approved by the Upper McKenzie RFPD Budget Committee. A summary of the budget is presented below. A copy of the budget may be inspected or obtained at 56578 McKenzie Hwy (Street address) between the hours of 8 a.m. and 4 p.m., or online at N/A. This budget is for an annual biennial budget period. This budget was prepared on a basis of accounting that is: the same as: different than the preceding year. If different, the major changes and their effect on the budget are:

Contact: Jason A. Wickizer Telephone number: 541-822-3479 E-mail: uppermckenzieaa@gmail.com

FINANCIAL SUMMARY - RESOURCES			
TOTAL OF ALL FUNDS	Actual Amounts 20 24 -20 25	Adopted Budget This Year: 20 24 -20 25	Approved Budget Next Year: 20 -20
1. Beginning Fund Balance/Net Working Capital	300,000	300,000	
2. Fees, Licenses, Permits, Fines, Assessments & Other Service Charges			
3. Federal, State & all Other Grants, Gifts, Allocations & Donations			
4. Revenue from Bonds & Other Debt	20	20	
5. Interfund Transfers/Internal Service Reimbursements			
6. All Other Resources Except Current Year Property Taxes	46,500	46,500	
7. Current Year Property Taxes Estimated to be Received	240,000	240,000	
8. Total Resources—add lines 1 through 7	586,520	586,520	
FINANCIAL SUMMARY - REQUIREMENTS BY OBJECT CLASSIFICATION			
9. Personnel Services	126,300	126,300	
10. Materials and Services	194,538	194,538	
11. Capital Outlay	173,000	173,000	
12. Debt Service			
13. Interfund Transfers	100,000	100,000	
14. Contingencies	5,000	5,000	
15. Special Payments			
16. Unappropriated Ending Balance and Reserved for Future Expenditure			
17. Total Requirements—add lines 9 through 16	598,838	598,838	
FINANCIAL SUMMARY - REQUIREMENTS AND FULL-TIME EQUIVALENT EMPLOYEES (FTE) BY ORGANIZATIONAL UNIT OR PROGRAM*			
Name of Organizational Unit or Program	FTE for Unit or Program		
Name Fire Chief / Admin Assistant	1.25	1.25	
Name			
Name			
Name			
Name			
Name			

150-004-08 (Rev. 11-19-21) Form 330-2P-1 (continued on next page)

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Community Notes

May 9

Vida/McK Community Ctr

The Vida McKenzie Community Center Board will meet from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. at 90377 Thomson Lane in Vida.

May 9

Watershed Council

The McKenzie Watershed Council's mission is to foster better stewardship of the McKenzie River watershed resources, deal with issues in advance of resource degradation, and ensure sustainable watershed health, function, and use. Location varies, please contact Melanie Giangreco, McKenzie Watershed Council Operations Assistant. Meetings are from 5:00pm - 6:30pm. Contact: Melanie Giangreco (458-201-8150) melanie@mckenziawc.org

May 10

Second Friday Art Walk

The 2nd Friday Art Walk Will be held from 4 to 7:30 p.m. starting at the Emerald Art Center in downtown Springfield, 500 Main St.

Through May 10 UMRFD Hiring

The Upper McKenzie Fire Dept. is hiring Seasonal Firefighters after receiving another grant from the Oregon State Fire Marshall office. The district will be "up-staffing." The program will allow Upper McKenzie RFPD to bring on firefighters as paid staff during the summer months to respond to fires or other emergencies in the area quickly.

If interested in one of the openings, please contact Jenn Wickizer at 541 822 3479 or email uppermckenzieaa@gmail.com.

May 11

Living River Day

The Living River Exploration Day is from 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. at 31799 Green Island Rd, Eugene. Join the McKenzie River Trust and take a walk near the place the Willamette and the McKenzie Rivers meet. Observe 15 years of tree-planting work on Green Island, a habitat for beaver, river otter, and over 150 species of birds.

May 11

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.

May 11

Blue River Block Party

Blue River's Rebuilding Block Party will be held from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. in downtown Blue River to celebrate the rebuilding progress so far, and what is yet to come. See the new and in-progress buildings, hear from community partners in rebuilding, enjoy free hot dogs, and more at a free event for the whole family. Self-guided tours starting at 11, and celebratory remarks at Upper McKenzie Fire Station #2 at 12:30.

May 11

Kids Firearm Safety

Kids Firearm Safety 2 and Teen Rifle 1 classes will be held at noon at 36111 McGowan Creek Road for kids 7 years old and up. Parents must attend with their child (no additional cost). Course content will include: Reviewing the 4 basic gun safety

rules, reiterating the importance of practicing these rules (by both students and parents), and Live Fire - reviewing trigger and muzzle discipline, handling and carrying the firearms, and shooting from 3 different positions (offhand, kneeling, and prone). \$20 fee. For information regarding upcoming classes, visit kidssafefoundation.org

May 11

Mother's Day Painting

Everyone is welcome, ages 15+. Join a fun and relaxing art class at the Upper McKenzie Community Center, 54745 McKenzie River Drive, whether flying solo or bringing your entire squad. It's all about having a good time. This is a step-by-step class; however, let your creativity wander if you don't like following along. Time to unleash your inner artist for just \$30. All supplies are included: aprons, paints, 16" x 20" canvases, brushes, water cups, etc. Sign up by emailing: evergreencreationsor@gmail.com

May 12

Mother's Day Breakfast

The Walterville Grange will host their annual Mother's Day Breakfast on Sunday, May 12th, from 8 to 11 a.m. Pancakes, sausage, ham, scrambled eggs, fruit, coffee and juice are all on the menu. All are welcome. Donations are gratefully accepted. The Grange is also collecting canned food and nonperishable items for the upriver food bank, along with donations for new windows and siding for the west side of the building, that could be completed this summer. The breakfast will be held at the Walterville Community Grange Hall located at 39259 Camp Creek Road in Walterville.

May 13

Parks Committee

The Lane County Parks Advisory Committee meets 2nd Monday of each month from 6 to 7:30 p.m. in the Goodpasture Room, 3050 N

Delta Hwy, Eugene. It advises the Board of County Commissioners on park needs, recommends priorities for projects - including financial and operational development and acquisition. The committee also provides recommendations regarding long-range planning for future park programs and needs, and serves as a liaison group representing the concerns of the community.

May 13

Spfd School Board

The Springfield School Board meets twice during most months during the school year. Regular business meetings begin at 7 p.m. on the second Monday of the month. Work sessions are generally held at 5:30 p.m. on the fourth Monday of the month. All meetings, unless otherwise noted, are held in the Board Room of the Springfield Public Schools Administration Building, 640 A Street, Springfield, OR 97477.

May 13

Spfd School Board

The Lane County Board of Commissioners meetings begin at 9:00 a.m. in Harris Hall, 125 E 8th Ave, Eugene. unless otherwise noted on the published agenda. Regular Board Meetings are scheduled for Tuesday. Wednesday Board meetings are on an as needed basis.

May 14

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.

May 19

VMCC Concert Series

The Vida McKenzie Community Center will kick off its 2024

Community Concert Series on May 19th at 3 p.m. by featuring Kimberly Reeves Parker on piano and Rick Carter on bass. It is fitting that Kimberly is the first performer in VMCC's rebuilt space because she was the last person to perform prior to the Center's building's destruction in the Holiday Farm Fire.

The second performance of the season will be by The Old Time Fiddlers on June 9th, also at 3 p.m. This concert promises to be an energetic, toe tapping experience that will get you out of your seats and even dancing in the isles.

Both performances will be family friendly with a "pay what you wish" format. Music lovers of all ages are invited, and refreshments will be served.

For more information call Gerry Aster: 541-896-3001.

Spring 2024

Master Gardeners

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

An Invitation to Worship

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541-822-3820
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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 Walterville, or on our Facebook livestream. You may also make prayer requests, or request an emailed or earth-mailed bulletin -- phone or send email to Nancy Ashley, nancy.w.ashley@gmail.com, 541-914-1986. We would love to meet you!
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Direct Answers

By Wayne & Tamara Mitchell

A Life To Live



Monica Di Loxley

Our daughter is 27 and has a severe alcohol problem. The last two years have been nightmarish. At last she is in a flat so we have a peaceful home, although my husband and I still brace ourselves waiting to hear of an accident or some other tragedy involving our daughter. Thank God she has no children.

The pattern has deteriorated into her drinking 11 or 12 days and then being hospitalized when her body can't take any more and she goes into withdrawal. We take her to hospital as she has fits when she withdraws, and these fits can be dangerous.

My husband and I are feeling low and know no end. We try and keep each other up. Others have come off the alcohol. She doesn't find AA helpful, and the alcohol services here are depleted in

resources and personnel. We have joined a family group and are helping to restructure it to make a difference in the help drinkers and their families get.

Victoria

Victoria, the power you wish you had--the power to keep her from drinking--is the power you do not have. The power is in your daughter's hands.

The power you do have is the power not to let your daughter's problem destroy you and your husband. So far it hasn't. But why do you feel so defeated? Because trying to stop her from drinking is like trying to stop it from raining. How long can you try to stop the rain before you are worn out?

You can't help but feel overwhelmed when trying to stop something you have no power to stop.

If something happens, you will want to think that the one time you didn't show up for a meeting, the one time you didn't check on her flat, makes you responsible

for what happened. But you are wrong. It won't be what you didn't do, it will be what your daughter did. She is her own destroyer, not you. If a man drives too fast, who is responsible for the accident? He is.

Your daughter knows what happens when she drinks. When she is sober, she chooses to drink. She is in control of her own life. You will want to say, "No, she isn't." But she is. You know why she is? Because neither you, nor your husband, nor anyone else can stop her from drinking. Perhaps one day she will choose to stop drinking, but given her current actions, that day may never come.

You and your husband still have to live your life. That is what you are here for. Create the best possible life you can for yourselves.

Tragedies happen. They are not on our calendar of wants. But no matter what the tragedy, we go on living the best we can.

Wayne & Tamara

and made out with some. Because of this he has doubts I slept with more than the number I gave him.

Now he can't even come to my house because that's all he thinks about. He said he put me "up there." He says he trusts me and knows I am committed to him, but my past eats him up. When I try to talk things through with him, he keeps saying he doesn't know, he just doesn't know. By the way, we weren't together then.

Wendy

Wendy, we don't recommend telling untruths or concealing, except in this one particular instance with men. Many men feel they should be the first one to the top of the mountain--even though the only reason they got to the top of the mountain is because others have been there before them.

Wayne & Tamara

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

Groovin' Low

By A. B. Spellman

my swing is more mellow these days: not the hardbop drive i used to roll but more of a cool foxtrot. my eyes still close when the rhythm locks; i've learned to boogie with my feet on the floor i'm still movin', still groovin' still fallin' in love i bop to the bass line now. the trap set paradiddles ratamacues & flams that used to spin me in place still set me off, but i bop to the bass line now i enter the tune from the bottom up & let trumpet & sax wheel above me so don't look for me in the treble don't look for me in the fly

staccato splatter of the hot young horn

no, you'll find me in the nuance hanging out in inflection & slur i'm the one executing the half-bent

dip in the slow slowdrag with the smug little smile & the really cool shades

A.B. Spellman, "Groovin' Low" from *Things I Must Have Known*. Copyright © 2008 by A.B. Spellman. Reprinted by permission of Coffee House Press. www.coffeehousepress.org

Poet and writer Alfred Bennett (A.B.) Spellman was born in Elizabeth City, North Carolina. He earned a BS in political science from Howard University, where he also attended law school. He published his first book of poems, *The Beautiful Days*, in 1964 while working as a jazz music reviewer. His second book, *Things I Must Have Known* (2008), received an honorable mention from the Gustavus Myers Outstanding Book Award and was nominated for the NAACP Image Award for Outstanding Literary Work in Poetry.

Spellman has written essays and poetry for *Rhythm Magazine* and taught at Morehouse College, Emory University, Rutgers, and Harvard University. In 1975, he became director of the Arts in Education Study Project for the National Endowment of the Arts, where he held a series of positions, culminating in his role as deputy chairman for the Office of Guidelines, Panel and Council Operations. Spellman retired from the NEA in 2005; his service to the organization is honored by the A.B. Spellman Award for Jazz Advocacy. In addition to writing, Spellman has served on a number of arts panels, including the Advisory Group on the National Museum of African American History and Culture of the Smithsonian Institution.

Quote of the Week

"Keep your face always toward the sunshine - and shadows will fall behind you."

Walt Whitman



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Personal

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

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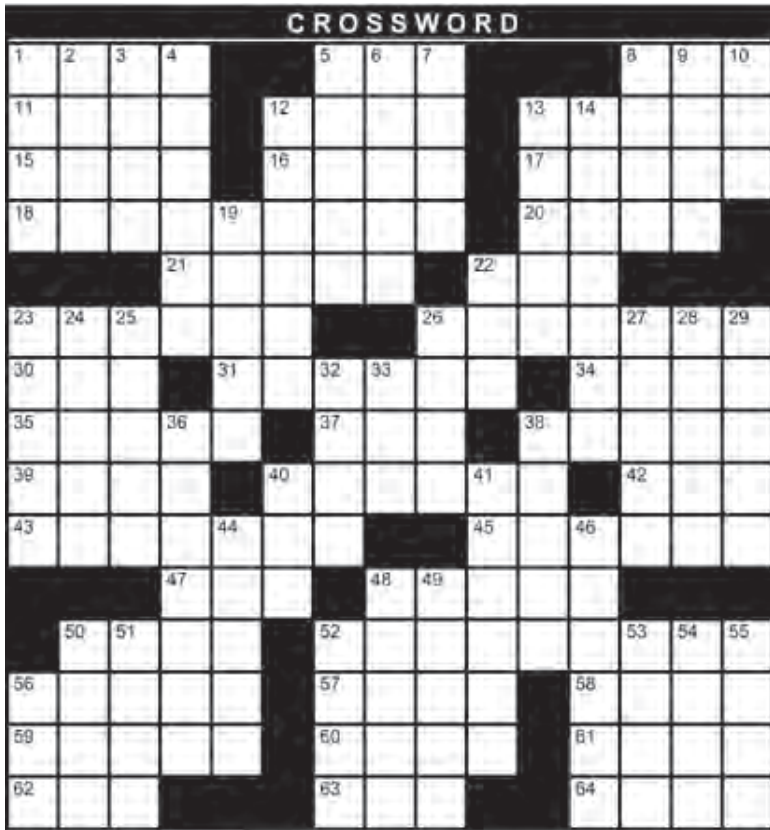
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 - Opposite of WSW
 - French composer Erik Alfred Leslie _____
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 - *Beatle with Wings
 - Poodle minus d
 - England's medieval royal house
 - Rabbit's cousin
 - Nymph chaser
 - Genealogist's creation
 - Blackhearted
 - George Gershwin's brother
 - "For _____ a jolly..."
 - It often goes with a rod

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 - Messes up
 - Chitchat
 - Willow twig
 - Evening purse
 - Win a race
 - Tucker of "Modern Family"
- DOWN
- What the Big Bad Wolf did
 - First name in jeans
 - "Pop it in the _____!"
 - Cuban drums
 - Secret clique
 - Roundish
 - Chronic wasting disease carrier
 - Plug for a barrel
 - *As opposed to urns
 - Pilot's estimate, acr.
 - Herb for treating menopausal symptoms
 - Shop till you drop, e.g.
 - *Flying stallion
 - "The Queen's Gambit" game
 - Take your pick
 - *Biblical Gabriel, e.g.
 - All plants and animals
 - Approximately
 - Shortened word, abbr.
 - Drink request
 - Home to largest mammal
 - Socially acceptable behaviors
 - Malaria symptom
 - *Nocturnal mosquito eater
 - *Lightning beetle
 - Recording studio sign
 - Next to nothing
 - Same as intake
 - Reason by deduction
 - Restraint
 - Academy Award for Best Original _____
 - Chunks of 43,560 square feet
 - Wild hog
 - Itty bit
 - Urban legend
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 - Great Lake
 - Holler
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- Type of feather
- *Comfy seat (2 words)
- Don't put these into one basket?
- Full nelson is _____

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- Pen point
- With signs of wear and tear
- Beyond natural, in U.K.
- Messes up
- Chitchat
- Willow twig
- Evening purse
- Win a race
- Tucker of "Modern Family"

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

Events from May 9th

McKENZIE WATERSHED COUNCIL

Springfield Museum closure
We have big news to share! Here at the Museum we will be closed to the public from January 1 through July 31, 2024, while our staff and...

Acceptin' Applications
Fri May 10 - Fri 10th
Upper McKenzie Fire Dept is hiring Seasonal Firefighters. We are very excited to announce that we've received another great hire from the Oregon State Fire Marshal office, we will be "up-staffing" our...

Vida McKenzie Community Center Board Meeting
Thu May 9th 4:30pm - Sat 11th 5:30pm

EMERALD ART CENTER
Fri May 10th 4:00pm - 7:30pm
2nd Friday Art Walk
Emerald Art Center in Gresham, Springfield

Living River Exploration Day
Join the McKenzie River Trust and take a walk near the place the Watersheds and the McKenzie Rivers meet. Observe 75 years of tree...

Kids Firearm Safety 2 and Teen Rifle 1 classes
Fri May 10th 10:00am - 12:00pm
Pre-Registration Required - Recommended age 7 and up - Parents must attend with their child (no additional cost) - Call for details...

Blue River Rebuilding Block Party
Celebrate rebuilding in Blue River and the grand reopening of the Upper McKenzie Fire District Station #2 - the "Palace of Fire" Station...

Kids Eat Free
Kids eat free!
Every Monday (with adult meal purchase). Takeout, Drive-in, Outdoor seating (417) 729-9088

Blue River Rebuilding Block Party
Celebration of the rebuilding progress in Blue River as the and what is yet to come! See the new and progress buildings tear from...

Lane County Parks Advisory Comm. Etc
The Parks Advisory Committee meets 2nd Monday of each month (except during July & August). It advises the Board of County Commissioners on...

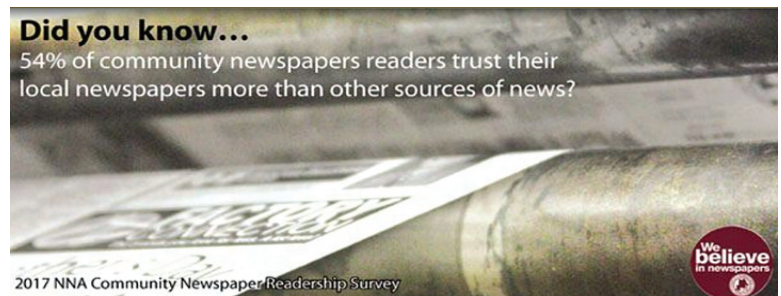
McKENZIE RIVER CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
Tue May 14th
Lane County Board of Commissioners
The Board of Commissioners meeting begins at 9:00 a.m. in Harris Hall, unless otherwise noted on the published agenda. Regular Board...

McKENZIE RIVER CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
Tue May 14th 5:00pm - 8:00pm
Upper McKenzie Cornhole League
Join us for some free Cornhole fun at the Upper McKenzie Community Center while enjoying bags on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of every month.




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2017 NNA Community Newspaper Readership Survey





A Moment in Oregon History

By Rick Steber
(www.ricksteber.com)

May 11 - Captain Robert Gray was born in Rhode Island. He went to sea at an early age, was employed by a Boston based company and sailed to the Pacific Northwest to explore and to trade for furs with the natives. At 4 a.m. on May 11, 1792 Captain Gray and his ship, the Columbia Rediviva, stood off the entrance of a great river. The ship's log noted the wind was blowing strong out of the west, breakers were visible running in a line from shore to shore, and there appeared no visible opening. But Gray ordered sails set and his ship crossed over the bar. The "Great River of the West" had been discovered and Captain Gray claimed it for the United States of America and named it after his ship, the Columbia.

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

May 1, Willamette Falls
Spring Chinook - 2,495
Summer Steelhead - 2,990

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Emergency? Call 911

Comeback celebration

Continued From Page 1



The town's Highway 126 frontage was the focus of some serious brush removal too.

of Blue River and the volunteers making it happen!"

Activities will include a Tour of the new Upper McKenzie Fire Station #2 and its brand-new yellow fire truck. People can also look at the design plan for rebuilding Meyer's General Store (scheduled to break ground in a few weeks).

There'll also be opportunities to check out the progress made by the O'Brien Memorial Library and the McKenzie Valley Wellness Clinic, both scheduled to reopen this fall. Just a few blocks away is the site where the McKenzie Community Land Trust, a new nonprofit founded by locals, will be breaking ground on six firewise workforce homes this fall.

Maps will be available for self-

guided tours of ongoing rebuilding projects and opportunities to see what's being planned by visiting information tables hosted by local groups and community organizations.

Just a half-hour after noon, celebratory remarks will be part of the dedication for the Patricia "Pat" Stanley Memoria Fire Station. Speakers will include community rebuilding organizations and Lane County Commissioner Heather Buch. The McKenzie Valley Long Term Recovery Group will provide hot dogs and beverages for the first 100 hungry people.

BusinessOregon and The Ford Family Foundation fund this community Rebuilding Celebration.

For more details, visit the Events tab at mckenzieclt.org

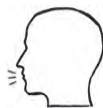
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You're Invited!



The McKenzie River Chamber is inviting you to a listening session to share your ideas about how to shape the future of the McKenzie River regional economy. Come to any session that interests you.

SESSION 2: ARTS & CULTURE ECONOMY

Friday, May 10, 3:00-4:30pm | McKenzie Discovery Center

SESSION 3: NATURE & RECREATION ECONOMY

Thursday, May 30, 3:00-4:30pm
McKenzie High School, District Board Room

All are welcome. Share your thoughts, and learn about Main Street strategies that can help revitalize the regional economy. Listening Sessions facilitated by Rural Development Initiatives.

Questions? Contact Ken Engelman, president@McKenzieChamber.com



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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Klondike Katfight

Continued From Page 4

(who, in most modern versions of this “Katfight” yarn, gets renamed “Kitty”).

Most recently, and probably most egregiously, this myth was repeated by actor and pop historian Matt Falber on a 2018 episode of *Mysteries at the Museum*.

The truth is that Kate Rockwell and Kate Ryan almost certainly didn’t even know of one another’s existence; Ryan lived and worked in Whitehorse, which was at least seven days of hard travel away from Dawson City, where Rockwell was.

Also, Kate Rockwell didn’t perform under “Klondike Kate”; she didn’t acquire that nickname until much later, in the 1920s.

And it also has to be pointed out that Kate Rockwell was, so far as I’ve been able to learn, never a prostitute or sex worker.

She was, though, an Oregonian, and since 1912 she has been part of Central Oregon — both literally and figuratively.

In Part Two of this story, we’ll talk about Klondike Kate

Rockwell’s story — how she became known as Klondike Kate, and how Central Oregon became the chrysalis from which she emerged as the legendary and beloved “Aunt Kate of Farewell Bend.”

(Sources: *Klondike Kate: The Life and Legend of Kitty Rockwell*, a book by Ellis Lucia published in 1962 by Hastings; *Good Time Girls of the Alaska-Yukon Gold Rush*, a book by Morgan Lael published in 1998 by Epicenter; “Klondike Kate,” an article by Nathan Pederson published in 2022 on the *Oregon Encyclopedia*; “History Hunter,” an article by Michael Gates published Dec. 1, 2018, in *Yukon News*.)

Finn J.D. John teaches at Oregon State University and writes about odd tidbits of Oregon history. His most recent book, *Bad Ideas and Horrible People of Old Oregon*, published by Ouragan House early this year. To contact him or suggest a topic: finn@offbeatoregon.com or 541-357-2222.

AC, power banks, mini fridges: Oregon equips Medicaid patients for climate change

By Samantha Young
KFF Health News

Oregon is shipping air conditioners, air purifiers, and power banks to some of its most vulnerable residents, a first-in-the-nation experiment to use Medicaid money to prevent the potentially deadly health effects of extreme heat, wildfire smoke, and other climate-related disasters.

The equipment, which started going out in March, expands a Biden administration strategy to move Medicaid beyond traditional medical care and into the realm of social services.

At least 20 states, including California, Massachusetts, and Washington, already direct billions of Medicaid dollars into programs such as helping homeless people get housing and preparing healthy meals for people with diabetes, according to KFF. Oregon is the first to use Medicaid money explicitly for climate-related costs, part of its five-year, \$1.1 billion effort to address social needs, which also includes housing and nutrition benefits.

State and federal health officials hope to show that taxpayer money and lives can be saved when investments are made before disaster strikes.

“Climate change is a health care issue,” so helping Oregon’s poorest and sickest residents prepare for potentially dangerous heat, drought, and other extreme weather makes sense, said Health and Human Services Secretary Xavier Becerra on a visit to Sacramento in early April.

Becerra said the Biden administration wants states to experiment with how best to improve patient health, whether by keeping someone housed instead of homeless, or reducing their exposure to heat with an air conditioner.

But Medicaid’s expansion into



Oregon Health Authority

The program will pay for AC units, mini fridges to keep medications cold, portable power supplies to run medical devices during outages, space heaters for winter and air filters to improve air quality during wildfire season.

social services may duplicate existing housing and nutrition programs offered by other federal agencies, while some needy Americans can’t get essential medical care, said Gary Alexander, director of the Medicaid and Health Safety Net Reform Initiative at the Paragon Health Institute.

“There are 600,000 or 700,000 intellectually disabled people in the United States waiting for Medicaid services. They’re on a waitlist,” said Alexander, who oversaw state health agencies in Pennsylvania and Rhode Island. “Meanwhile Medicaid has money for housing and food and air conditioners for recipients. Seems to me that we should serve the intellectually disabled first before we get into all of these new areas.”

Scientists and public health officials say climate change poses a growing health risk. More frequent and intense floods, droughts, wildfires, extreme temperatures, and storms cause more deaths, cardiovascular disease from poor

air quality, and other problems, according to the federal government’s Fifth National Climate Assessment.

The mounting health effects disproportionately hit low-income Americans and people of color, who are often covered by Medicaid, the state-federal health insurance program for low-income people.

Most of the 102 Oregonians who died during the deadly heat dome that settled over the Northwest in 2021 “were elderly, isolated and living with low incomes,” according to a report by the Oregon Health Authority, which administers the state’s Medicaid program, with about 1.4 million enrollees. The OHA’s analysis of urgent care and emergency room use from May through September of 2021 and 2022 found that 60% of heat-related illness visits were from residents of areas with a median household income below \$50,000.

“In the last 10-plus years, the Oregon equips Page 10

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MRR McKenzie River Reflections mckenzie river reflections newspaper.com

Oregon equips

Continued From Page 10

amount of fires and smoke events and excessive heat events that we've had has shown the disproportionate impact of those events on those with lower incomes," said Dave Baden, the OHA's deputy director for programs and policy.

And, because dangerously high temperatures aren't common in Oregon, many residents don't have air conditioning in their homes.

Traditionally, states hit by natural disasters and public health emergencies have asked the federal government for permission to spend Medicaid dollars on backup power, air filters, and other equipment to help victims recover. But those requests came after the fact, following federal emergency declarations.

Oregon wants to be proactive and pay for equipment that will help an estimated 200,000 residents manage their health at home before extreme weather or climate-related disaster hits, Baden said. In addition to air conditioning units, the program will pay for mini fridges to keep medications cold, portable power supplies to run ventilators and other medical devices during outages, space heaters for winter, and air filters to improve air quality during wild-fire season.

In March, the Oregon Health Plan, the state's Medicaid program, began asking health insurers to find patients who might need help coping with extreme weather. Recipients must meet federal guidelines that categorize them as "facing certain life transitions," a stringent set of requirements that disqualify most enrollees. For example, a person with an underlying medical condition that could worsen during a heat wave, and who is also at risk for homelessness or has been released from prison in the past year, could receive an air conditioner. But someone with stable housing might not qualify.

"You could be in a housing

complex, and your neighbor qualified for an air conditioner and you didn't," Baden said.

At the offices of insurer AllCare Health in Grants Pass, Oregon, air conditioners, air filters, and mini fridges were piled in three rooms in mid-April, ready to be handed over to Medicaid patients. The health plan provided equipment to 19 households in March. The idea is to get the supplies into people's homes before the summer fire season engulfs the valley in smoke.

Health plans don't want to find themselves "fighting the masses" at Home Depot when the skies are already smoky or the heat is unbearable, said Josh Balloch, AllCare's vice president of health policy.

"We're competing against everybody else, and you can't find a fan on a hot day," he said.

Oregon and some other states have already used Medicaid money to buy air conditioners, air purifiers, and other goods for enrollees, but not under the category of climate change. For example, California offers air purifiers to help asthma patients and New York just won federal approval to provide air conditioners to asthma patients.

Baden said Oregon health officials will evaluate whether sending air conditioners and other equipment to patients saves money by looking at their claim records in the coming years.

If Oregon can help enrollees avoid a costly trip to the doctor or the ER after extreme weather, other state Medicaid programs may ask the federal government if they can adopt the benefit. Many states haven't yet used Medicaid money for climate change be-

cause it affects people and regions differently, said Paul Shattuck, a senior fellow at Mathematica, a research organization that has surveyed state Medicaid directors on the issue.

"The health risks of climate change are everywhere, but the nature of risk exposure is completely different in every state," Shattuck said. "It's been challenging for Medicaid to get momentum because each state is left to their own devices to figure out what to do."

A California state lawmaker last year introduced legislation that would have required Medi-Cal, the state's Medicaid program, to add a climate benefit under its existing social services expansion. The program would have been similar to Oregon's, but AB 586, by Assembly member Lisa Calderon, died in the Assembly Appropriations Committee, which questioned in a staff analysis whether "climate change remediation supports can be defined as cost-effective."

The cost savings are clear to Kaiser Permanente. After the 2021 heat wave, it sent air conditioners to 81 patients in Oregon and southwest Washington whose health conditions might get worse in extreme heat, said Catherine Potter, community health consultant at the health system. The following year, Kaiser Permanente estimated it had prevented \$42,000 in heat-related ER visits and \$400,000 in hospital admissions, she said.

"We didn't used to have extreme heat like this, and we do now," said Potter, who has lived in the temperate Portland area for 30 years. "If we can prevent these adverse impacts, we should be preventing them especially for people that are going to be most affected."



Continued From Page 2

sophomore teammate Hayden Harbick finished second at 4 ft. 10 in. Hamlow's pole vault win was recorded at 8 ft. 6 in. and his winning long jump was measured at 17 ft. 2 in. Eagle freshman Auden Vailes placed sixth in the long jump, with a mark of 12 ft. 11 in. Withalm's 100 meter victory, timed at 11.43 seconds, was sweet for the Eagle senior as he out-sprinted Siletz Valley's Zion Fantroy, who placed second in 11.68 sec. Fantroy has this season's fastest Class 1A 100 m. time in the State (11.05 sec.) and Withalm has owns the second fastest (11.07 sec.). These two student/athletes could potentially face off again at the OSAA State Championships at Hayward Field and that should be fun to watch.

Other Eagles placing in the 100 m. race were senior Salomon Acevedo, who placed fourth in 12.33 sec., freshman Atom Fetterhoff fifth at 12.27 sec., Harbick ninth at 13.13 sec./ Personal Record, Hamlow tenth at 13.37 sec., freshman William Valtinson eleventh at 13.60 sec., and Vailes fourteenth at 14.37 sec. Withalm's winning time of 23.16 sec. in the 200 m. race established a new Personal Record and Fantroy finished right behind with a second place time of 24.21 sec. Harbick took home fourth with a time of 27.28 seconds and another PR. Valtinson finished seventh in 28.63 sec. Meister, the Eagle long distance specialist, won the 1500 meters with a time of 5:06.26 min. and the 3000 m. race in 11:10.46 min.

Meister joined teammates, sophomore Allen Acevedo, Fetterhoff and Valtinson on the Eagle 4x400 m. relay team and the foursome won in a time of 4:31.11 minutes. Withalm ran the final leg of the winning 4x100 relay team, joining Allen Acevedo, Salomon Acevedo and Fetterhoff. The Eagle's time for the event was 45.72 sec. The Acevedo brothers teamed up to claim the top two places in the 400 m., Salomon winning with a time of 56.99 sec., and Allen second in 58.66 sec. Allen Acevedo also finished second in the 800 m. race, posting a time of 2:22.48 min. Cash Adams of Siletz Valley won the 800 m. event in 2:18.11 min.

Lockard's dual victories came in the shot put, 35 ft. 5 in. and the discus, 95 ft. 2 in. McKenzie freshman Noah Borden finished seventh in the shot put, 22 ft. 8 in. and fifth in the discus, 66 ft.

6 in. Lockard also placed fourth in the javelin, throwing a mark of 105 ft. 4 in and Borden threw the implement 60 ft. 5 in., good for ninth place. Mapleton's Alex Burnett won the javelin with a throw of 125 ft. 8 in.

Harbick finished third in the triple jump, landing at 31 ft. 3 in., and Vailes set a new PR mark of 27 ft. 5.5 in., which earned him fourth place. Adams of Siletz Valley won the triple jump at 37 ft. 7 in., also a new PR.

Other event winners were Ewan O'Dea of Mohawk, who set a PR in the 300 m. hurdles with a time of 43.84 sec., and Kyler Adams of Siletz Valley, who set a PR in the 110 m. hurdles with a time of 18.24 sec. Over on the girls side of the track, freshman Liliana Jones won her 100 m. race in a time of 15.21 sec. Eagle teammates, sophomore Paiten Clevenger finished third in the race with a PR time of 17.31 sec., freshman Sapana Mitchell-Chavez took fourth in 17.71 sec., and senior Riley Morales claimed fifth place in a PR time of 22.35 sec.

Jones second win came in the long jump event, a 10 ft. 9 in., mark and she was followed by Clevenger in second place at 10 ft. 6.5 in., and Mitchell-Chavez in fourth place at 8 ft. 0 in. McKenzie's sophomore Grace Weiss won the high jump at 3 ft. 0 in., and also took home first in the pole vault with a PR height of 4 ft. 0 in. Weiss and Jones teamed up with sophomore Myra Dion and junior Beckah Short to win the 4x100 m. relay, posting a 1:01.61 min. finish time. Dion was a second place finisher in the 1500 m. race with a recorded time of 6:32.30 min. and that was a Personal Record. Short won the triple jump, which featured all McKenzie jumpers. Short's mark was 23 ft. 0 in. Weiss was second with 22 ft. 10 in., and Clevenger was third at 20 ft. 0 in.

Short established a PR mark in the shot put, throwing the iron ball 19 ft. 8.25 in, a sixth place finish. Morales placed eighth at 16 ft. 4 in. Maddie Goodell of Siletz Valley won the shot put with a throw of 26 ft. 11 in. and the Warrior junior also took home winning honors in the discus with a mark of 73 ft. 6 in. Dion also set another PR in the javelin, throwing the spear 69 ft. 1.5 in., which was good for fourth. Morales finished the event in ninth place at 40 ft. 6 in., a PR for her as well. Safiya Reed of Siletz Valley won the javelin with a throw of 78 ft. 4.5 in. Other event winners were Mapleton's Natalee Stevens, who won the 400 m., the 800 m., and the 1500 m. Steven's time in the events were respectively, 1:09.09 min., 3:03.77 min., and 5:59.15 min. Steven's Sailor teammate Brooklyn Beecher won the 100 m. hurdles in 22.54 sec., and the 300 m. hurdles in 59.89 sec., a PR time. Lucie Burruss of Mapleton won the 3000 m. race in 12:59.98 min.

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Hands-on workshop

Continued From Page 1



Cricket Rust checking some of the lofting calculations on the curved deck boat.

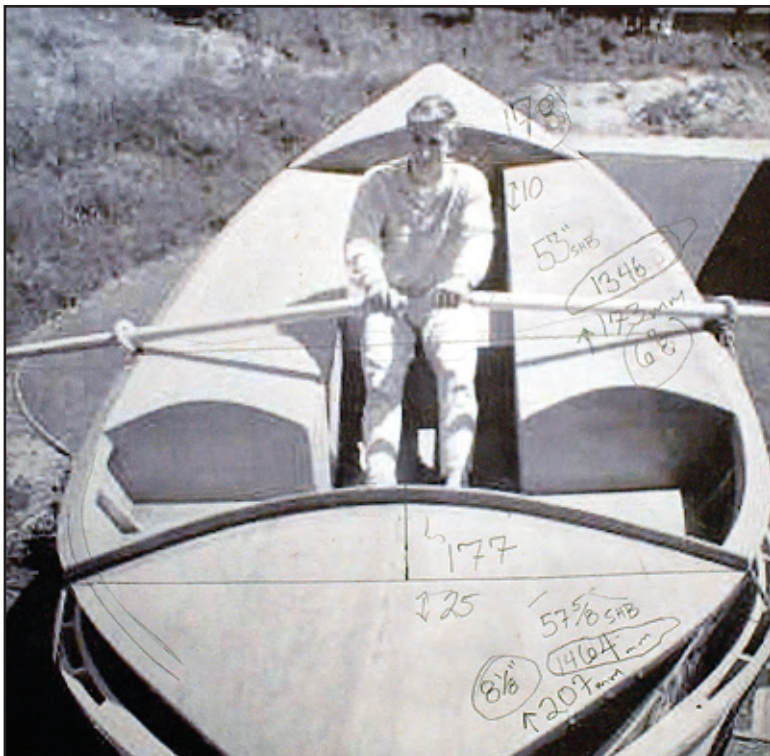
School in Maine.

The remainder of the course will involve installing gunwales, decking, and hardware. Throughout the troubleshooting and problem-solving, class

participants have kept one goal in mind—sometime on day ten, they will launch the boat they built on the McKenzie River near the Discovery Center.



Six inches wider than a traditional McKenzie boat, the Colorado boat constructed at the Old Leaburg Hatchery in 1962 had a flat midsection to help it float a bit higher, combined with curved rocker ends for maneuverability while pivoting.



Some of the lofting measurements on the photo of a Colorado dory.

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In Memory

Ronald Eugene Ringler, Sr.



07/15/1940 - 04/20/2024

Ron is survived by his wife, Barbara Ringler, his brother Lloyd Painter, their children Ronald Ringler Jr & wife Kristie, Mark Ringler, Todd Ringler & wife Candace, Rhonda (Suzie) Ringler, Grandchildren - Ashley, Brandon, Jeffrey, Krystal Kody, Preston, Tanya, Nick, Tyler, Kailyn & 18 great grandchildren. He passed peacefully surrounded by his family.

While we lost our most beloved dad, there was so much

more to him, though to us that was his greatest role. He was also a grandpa, great-grandpa, uncle, friend, co-worker, cousin, coach, brother & stand-in paternal figure to the fatherless.

He was an all around handyman, master mechanic at Wild-ish, Rosboro & many other places. He earned the phrase "If papa can't fix it, nobody can." He enjoyed fishing, hunting, tinkering on all things, anything Pittsburgh Steelers or Oregon Ducks, spending time with his friends, family beloved dog Spanky & caring for his wife.

He served 7 years in the US Air National Guard. Ron & Barb moved to Vida in 1992. They lost their home in the Holiday Farm Fire in 2020 & relocated to Springfield.

Though he will forever be missed, his memory will live on forever in our hearts. His family will host a celebration of life on July 28, 2024 from 1 to 3 p.m. at the Vida McKenzie Community Center, 90377 Thomson Lane Vida, OR.

It was his wish that we laugh, reminisce and smile together during this time.

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Guest Opinion

Continued From Page 2

is clearly a ban. The penalty for continuing operations in the United States is so high that ByteDance really has no other choice than to sell the company or stop operating in the United States. And even if ByteDance is willing to view the massive fine as a cost of doing business, TikTok will be impossible to find in any app store. As the ACLU, the Center for Democracy and Technology, the Electronic Frontier Foundation, and Fight for the Future said in a joint letter to the original bill's sponsors, "Generally, the government cannot accomplish indirectly what it is barred from doing directly, and a forced sale is the kind of speech punishment that receives exacting scrutiny from the courts."

Does the TikTok law raise First Amendment issues?

Supporters also argue that, even if the TikTok law is viewed as a ban, it does not raise any First Amendment issues because it is not targeted at content found on TikTok. Instead, the TikTok law addresses ByteDance's actions – specifically the alleged collection of users' personal information, which critics say is then given to the government of China to use in destabilizing the United States by flooding our social media platforms with disinformation.

Either way, the law does raise First Amendment questions. It's just a question of how much scrutiny the law will get as opposed to whether it will be scrutinized under the First Amendment at all.

If a court accepts the supporters' argument, the law is likely to be viewed as "content neutral" because it clearly has an incidental impact on the speech and expression of ByteDance, of TikTok creators and of TikTok users. The law would then be subjected to what is known as "intermediate scrutiny" from a court, meaning the government would have to demonstrate that there is a substantial need for the law and that the law serves that need.

But it's more likely that a court finds the law is "content based" and requires the government to meet the higher "strict scrutiny" standard involving a compelling need for this restriction on speech

that can only be accomplished through this forced sale or withdrawal of TikTok from the U.S. market.

As opponents have noted, the law effectively seeks to change the ownership – and editorial control – of TikTok. And, further, the effect on TikTok creators and users would in no way be "incidental." The law entirely restricts their content creation and consumption, something that wouldn't be tolerated in any other media. Telling TikTok creators and users shut out from their favorite platform that they can use any other option is no different than telling someone they can no longer shop at their favorite bookstore – but could go anywhere else – or can't read their favorite newspaper – but could subscribe to any other available paper.

The U.S. Supreme Court has addressed this issue in two cases:

* In 1965, the court decided *Lamont v. Postmaster General*. The case involved a law saying any piece of mail from a foreign country that was designated as "Communist political propaganda" would be held at the post office until the addressee confirmed they would like the mail to be delivered to them. To comply with the law, the post office would mail the addressee a card notifying them that foreign Communist propaganda was waiting for them and telling the addressee that the material would be destroyed if they didn't respond within 20 days. The court ruled that even this national security-based delay in the delivery of mail violated the recipient's First Amendment right to receive information.

* In 2017, the court held in *Packingham v. North Carolina* that a North Carolina law that prohibited registered sex offenders from using the internet violated that same First Amendment right to receive information.

Do we really need this ban?

Should the law be challenged in court, the burden will be on the government to demonstrate a need for the law, regardless of which standard of review a court applies. This usually involves identifying some clear harm that comes from

TikTok content.

The House of Representatives' report on the initially proposed bill claims the law is necessary to protect national security and users' personal privacy. These dangers come from adversary countries who "collect vast amounts of data on Americans, conduct espionage campaigns, and push misinformation, disinformation, and propaganda on the American public." Its primary sponsor, Rep. Mike Gallagher of Wisconsin, has cited "the potential for this platform to be used for the propaganda purposes of the Chinese Communist Party."

Another reason given is the danger that TikTok poses to children. Rep. Raja Krishnamoorthi of Illinois, a co-sponsor, says TikTok promotes "drug paraphernalia, oversexualization of teenagers" and "constant content about suicidal ideation."

While both reasons may seem, on their face, to be valid – even substantial or compelling – First Amendment law requires more than just speculative fears of harm. The government will have to present clear, documented evidence – more than sporadic anecdotes – that children are mentally or physically harmed after viewing TikTok content. This will likely require expert testimony and comprehensive scientific studies demonstrating the connection between TikTok and harm to minors.

The same is true for claims that TikTok presents a threat to national security. Though courts are likely to give a bit of deference to the government here, the government will have to present actual proof that TikTok is being used to collect its users' personal information, that ByteDance is taking that information and giving it to the Chinese government, and that the Chinese government is using that information in a dedicated propaganda campaign.

Is there any better way to protect national security than the TikTok law?

The most difficult hill for the government to climb would be demonstrating to a court that the law is the only way to protect children or avoid compromising national security. That's because outright bans on speech are rarely successful in court.

One need look no further than earlier attempts to ban TikTok or

other platforms owned by China-based companies.

In 2023, Montana Gov. Greg Gianforte signed Senate Bill 419 into law, banning TikTok throughout the state. A federal judge quickly ruled that the law violated the First Amendment because the law burdened more speech than necessary, leaving no other ways to obtain the same content, explaining, "The Legislature used an axe to solve its professed concerns when it should have used a constitutional scalpel."

In August 2020, then-President Donald Trump issued an executive order banning TikTok from app stores. Separate lawsuits were filed by TikTok users and by the company itself. A similar ban was imposed on WeChat, a China-based messaging app. Both bans were struck down. As a federal district court judge wrote in the WeChat case, the bans blocked "substantially more speech than is necessary to serve the government's significant interest in national security, especially given the lack of substitute channels for communication."

A similar fate is likely to befall this TikTok law because there are better ways to achieve the goals of protecting children from harm and protecting our national security. These include:

* Enacting more comprehensive privacy protection measures. While controversial, the European Union's General Data Protection Regulation focuses on how companies collect information, how they share that information, and how they disclose those practices, as a means of protecting personal privacy from abuse. This could be applied to all internet sites or just those like TikTok that raise specific privacy and national security concerns.

* Even less invasive is changing U.S. privacy laws and regulations to say users must affirmatively "opt in" to agree to collection of their data instead of the current practice of allowing social media platforms and other internet sites to collect their data unless the user "opts out."

* Any social media platform in China or another foreign adversary nation could be required to make that ownership or control clear to allow users to be fully aware that their data may be at risk.

None of these are perfect solutions, but they do demonstrate the variety of alternatives to an outright ban. Another example is limiting the ban to government-owned or -issued devices or networks. Such a ban issued by the state of Texas was upheld by a federal judge in December 2023 because it afforded those who wanted TikTok other ways to do so, namely by using a personal device or a different Wi-Fi or data network.

Furthermore, it is questionable whether the TikTok ban would even serve those goals of protecting national security and individuals' personal privacy, as well as ensuring that children aren't exposed to harmful content. Other sites provide similar content to children. Other sites also collect personal data, with some making that data available for purchase by data brokers on the open market. So personal data from within the United States is likely to end up in the hands of the Chinese government even if TikTok is not owned by ByteDance or available in the United States.

What's the bottom line on the TikTok law?

It is all but certain that this law will be challenged in federal court on several grounds. One of those will be that the law violates the First Amendment. Because the law will effectively make TikTok unavailable in the United States if ByteDance doesn't sell the platform, that First Amendment challenge is almost certainly going to be successful. The only way the TikTok law can survive that court challenge is to show that it is not actually a ban on speech.

Kevin Goldberg is First Amendment specialist for the Freedom Forum in Washington, D.C. He can be reached at kgoldberg@freedomforum.org.



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