



Delivering targeted news for the McKenzie Valley community since 1978

### Municipal mother

Members of the real Aid Societies had matured into one of the fiercest and most serious cohorts of old ladies the world had ever known.

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### 2023 Graduates

Names and photos from both the McKenzie & Thurston High Schools graduating classes.

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## Time to design

### Options for Blue River are on the drawing table

**BLUE RIVER:** People will have a chance to match ideas with engineered outcomes during a community meeting on Saturday, June 24th. The session, organized by Lane County Public Works has been scheduled to discuss possible changes to the ways

traffic navigates its way along Blue River Drive. Up for review are three different designs for two different sections of the roadway. One covers the "downtown" area - from the eastern junction with Hwy. 126 to the Blue River Bridge. The other area covers the

area from the bridge, past the community track and school, to the western Hwy. 126 intersection.

In the downtown section provisions for different types of parking, room for cyclists, and the placement of utilities and walkways are



Option 1 for the downtown section of Blue River Drive.

## Summer firefighter grant

### Upper McKenzie receives additional funds

By Lemont Southworth  
**MCKENZIE BRIDGE:** The Upper McKenzie Rural Fire Department (UMRFD) has received a summer firefighter grant for



the second year in a row. The grants are offered by the Oregon State Fire Marshal (OSFM) mostly to rural fire departments to allow them to enhance on-site firefighters during the fire season and minimize response time. The goal is to catch and control small fires before they get out of control and turn into wildfires. Their motto for the grant program is "Keep Small Fires Small". The program started in 2022, largely in response to the horrendous wildfire season of 2020 of which the Holiday Farm Fire was a part. UPRFD wants to express our sincere appreciation to OSFM for the grant program. As a volunteer de-

**Firefighter grant - Page 12**

## On the Trail again



Runners made their way uphill to the beat of the Samba Ja drumming group from Eugene as they passed by Sahalie Falls. Participants in the 32nd rendition of the McKenzie River Trail Run also benefitted from some cooler temperatures last Saturday as they passed by scenic wonders like Clear Lake, lava fields, and the aquamarine waters of the Tamolitch Pool. In the Men's Division Charlie Sikkema of North Vancouver, BC, posted a top time of 3:24:02. Brooke Carmen of Portland's time of 4:24:51 garnered first place for women athletes.

## Prescribed fire improves habitat

### Benefits result both for plants and animals

By Andrew Avitt, USFS Pacific Southwest Region

Prescribed fire, the intentional and scientific use of fire on the landscape, reduce risk to communities that dot the wildland landscape. But there are other inhabitants the Forest Service considers when preparing for a prescribed fire — the wildlife that calls those very same wildlands home, that rely on forests for food and shelter.

Brandon Dethlefs, a prescribed fire and Fuels specialist on the Shasta-Trinity National Forest, recently walked the fire line on Backbone Ridge, overlooking Shasta Lake near Redding, California. He did not see destruction as the flames crept across the ridge, he saw renewal.

It's a natural process, he says, one that has been a part of the landscape since the beginning.

"Historically fire burned through this area naturally every five to 10 years for thousands of years. That process kept the fuels pretty tidy," said Dethlefs, referencing the dead trees, brush, and litter on the forest floor. "Prescribed fire is an important tool for us to restore that balance."

Fire was not only used by Indigenous peoples but also has occurred naturally since time immemorial. It has been a key factor influencing the evolution of plants and animals.

Wildfire and Wildlife Experts Unite

The prescribed fire that Dethlefs and other firefighters with Shasta-Trinity National

Forest implemented in early April focused on a 3,000-acre peninsula on Shasta Lake.

When planning a prescribed fire or any other action that will influence the land, the Forest Service gathers an interdisciplinary team of specialists — silviculturists, hydrologists, engineers, and fishery biologists, among others. They all contribute their expertise in planning a project like the one on Backbone Ridge.

Todd Johnson is one of those experts. He has worked with the Forest Service as a wildlife biologist for 25 years. He said that when it comes to stewarding the land and restoring fire to the landscape, plants, and animals are at the top of the list for consid-

**Fire improves habitat - Page 11**



Todd Johnson/USFS

The Shasta Salamander is one of the many species that the interdisciplinary team of fire and wildlife experts took into account when planning for the prescribed fire on Backbone Ridge.

# Guest Opinion

## Shop local: Protecting the free flow of public information

By Ken Paulson

There's admirable support for independent local businesses these days.

Many expected Amazon to put local bookstores out of business, but after a steady decline in the aughts, independent stores have had a resurgence, fueled in large part by a sense of community and the need to support businesses in our own backyards.

We've seen the same thing with independent record stores. Though few saw the revival of vinyl coming, there has long been a concerted effort to support local record stores because of their value to the community. Against the odds, many independent record stores are thriving, thanks in part to Record Store Day promotions that bring local customers to their doors.

Of course, there are also the ubiquitous campaigns to "Buy Local." Although local businesses can offer unique merchandise and enhanced customer service, a driving force behind these campaigns is that we should support businesses in our hometowns. Neighbors support neighbors.

The most independent and local business in any community, though, is the local newspaper. Stores come and go, and malls open and close, but the local newspaper is often the only institution in town that has been there for decades, serving our parents and grandparents before us. Local

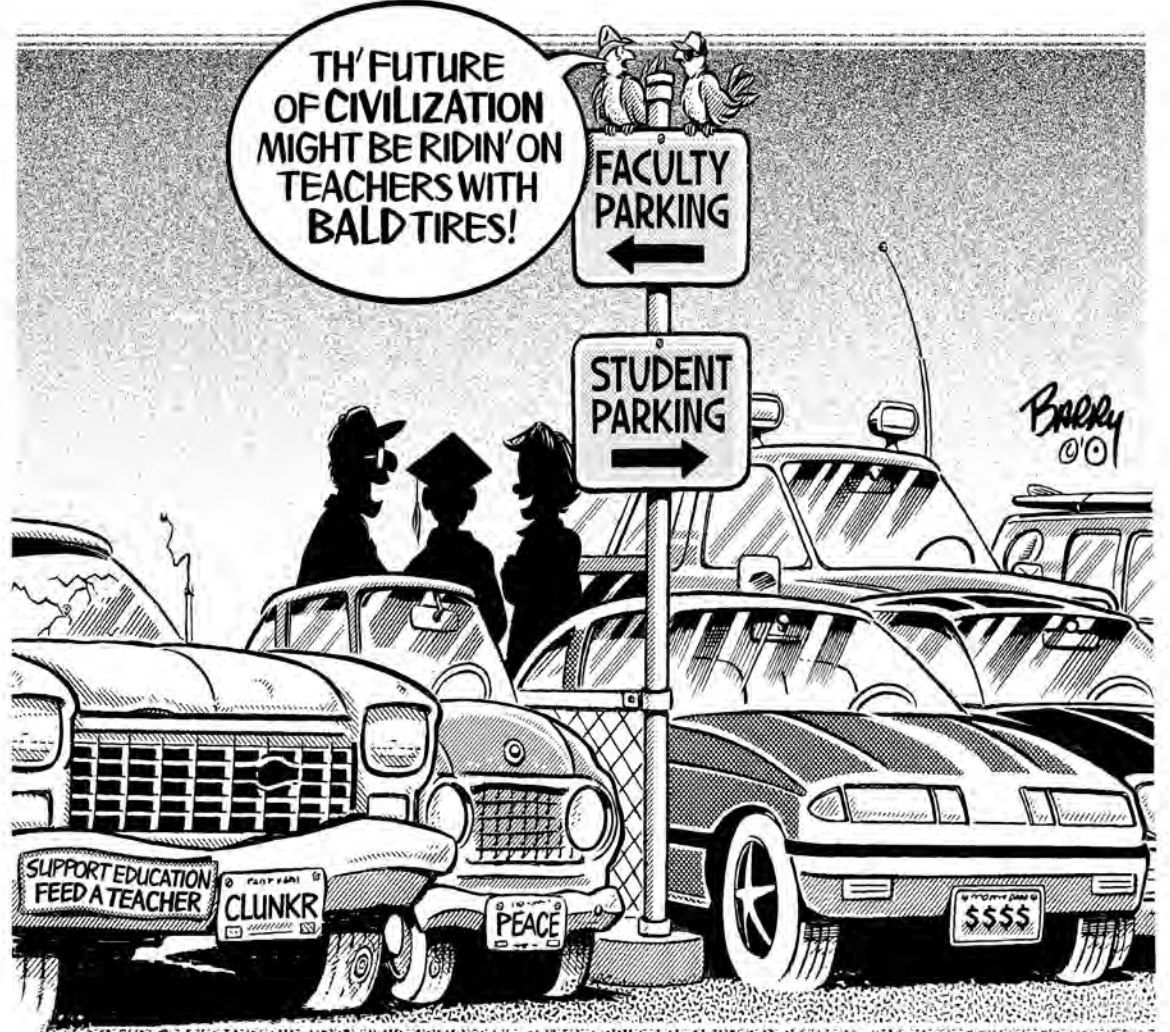
newspapers need our support.

Of course, the most immediate way to help is to subscribe. For some reason, Americans (and many around the globe) have decided that news should be free. It's not a coincidence that we're a nation long on polarizing opinions and short on insight. Every dollar spent on news is an investment in the community, and in turn, a more-informed populace.

Just as independent record stores and bookstores have niches that set them apart, so too do local newspapers. One of those is the publication of local legal notices. These concern budgets, public meetings, election dates, foreclosures, property auctions, and other important public matters, and their publication is often mandated by law.

It's a natural fit for newspapers, the local business committed to keeping an eye on the government and looking out for the community's interests. The revenue from those ads also helps underwrite this critical watchdog work.

Inevitably, though, government officials try to tamper with this ideal arrangement. During my tenure as dean of the College of Media and Entertainment at Middle Tennessee State University, I received a call from a local legislator who knew of my past work as editor of USA Today and an advocate for transparency. He explained that he thought it would be a great idea to have those public notices published and posted online, saving the costs associated with publishing the notices



in a local newspaper. He asked whether I thought would be a good step, and my reply boiled down to "Only if you don't care about democracy." I still don't know why he thought I would be an ally.

This was not an isolated effort. There are ongoing efforts by those required to pay for the public notices to cut newspapers out of the mix, creating a government outlet to publish the information.

Think about that. Public legal notices are designed to keep the public informed about what gov-

ernment is up to. Do we turn that responsibility over to government officials, while also taking revenue away from the one local business dedicated to keeping the government honest?

The week of Feb. 6 included National Yogurt Day and Send a Card to a Friend Day and yes, a celebration of the value of public notices in the state of Tennessee. With all due respect to fermented milk and friendships, the latter is a very big deal.

Consider stopping at your local bookstore and picking up the work

of a local author. You may want to dust off that turntable and refresh your record collection at a local shop. And in any way you can, offer your support for local newspapers, and democracy to boot.

Ken Paulson is director of the Free Speech Center at the College of Media and Entertainment at Middle Tennessee State University and former dean of the College of Media and Entertainment at MTSU.

# Torn fins, embedded hooks

### Spawning salmon and steelhead returning to hatcheries



Damaged fins, embedded hooks and gouges indicate snagging, or intentionally hooking a fish someplace other than in the mouth. Signs of the illegal technique are visible on salmon and steelhead as they reenter the hatchery system for spawning.

OSP F&W Troopers discovered fish with embedded hooks, sliced fins, circular scabs, and other evidence of illegal tactics, while assisting ODFW hatchery staff during the spring salmon spawning season.

Snagging occurs when a person

hooks, or attempts to hook, a fish anywhere on its body other than inside the mouth. Although snagging is an unlawful practice with steep consequences, many people still engage in this unethical behavior, according to OSP F&W Trooper Cameron Jamison.

"Indicators that a person may be attempting to snag fish include quickly and repeatedly ripping large lengths of line through the water, repeated yanking of the fishing rod from water level to over the shoulders or head and failing to release fish which have been hooked anywhere on their fins or body," Trooper Cameron said.

Evidence of snagging and other injuries becomes apparent during annual collection processes, when hatchery workers collect and sort salmon and steelhead for spawning.

During the collection process, hatchery staff, with assistance from OSP F&W Troopers, check for tags that indicate when and where each fish was released as a smolt, along with other tracking information. The data from these collections is used to determine the health of the fish populations and to assist in determining future rules and regulations.

Salmon and Steelhead then go into holding ponds until the hatchery accumulates the number of fish necessary to repopulate that hatchery and river system. When hatchery workers reach a target number of salmon and steelhead, they contain the fish in holding ponds for spawning.

Steelhead in good condition

after spawning are released back into the lower sections of the same river in hopes that they will head back out to the ocean and have another opportunity to return to the hatchery next year to spawn again. Salmon and steelhead at the end of their lifecycles are placed in streams to decompose as part of the stream enrichment program.

By the time salmon and steelhead return to the hatchery they've

typically reached the end of their lifecycle. Seventy percent of salmon and steelhead harvested in Oregon originate from a hatchery, and ninety five percent of the salmon and steelhead harvested in the Willamette River originate from a hatchery. In 2022, hatcheries estimated returns of about 142,000 salmon and 27,000 steelhead.

## Letters to the Editor

Letters To The Editor should contain no more than 250 words. All letters must be signed and include an address and phone number. Addresses and phone numbers will not be published upon request. Deadline for submission is Monday at 5 pm.



# McKenzie River Reflections



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## WEATHER REPORT

READINGS TAKEN AT THE US ARMY CORPS COUGAR DAM

READINGS TAKEN AT EWING LEABURG POWERHOUSE

Date	High	Low	Rain	Releases	Date	High	Low	Rain	Riverflow
6/6	93	53	0	372 cfs	6/6	87	48	0	3,340 cfs
6/7	84	55	0	372 cfs	6/7	88	50	0	3,340 cfs
6/8	75	54	0	372 cfs	6/8	79	50	0	3,330 cfs
6/9	73	54	0	372 cfs	6/9	76	53	0	3,210 cfs
6/10	80	55	0	377 cfs	6/10	75	35	0	3,100 cfs
6/11	86	50	0	380 cfs	6/11	82	48	0	3,030 cfs
6/12	86	54	0	377 cfs	6/12	84	52	0	2,980 cfs

Friday 6/16		Saturday 6/17		Sunday 6/18	
McKenzie Valley Partly Cloudy 5% chance precip High: 81 Low: 54	Santiam Pass Partly Cloudy 5% chance precip High: 70 Low: 44	McKenzie Valley Cloudy 20% chance precip High: 73 Low: 47	Santiam Pass Mostly Cloudy 20% chance precip High: 60 Low: 36	McKenzie Valley AM Clouds 20% chance precip High: 66 Low: 45	Santiam Pass Partly Cloudy 30% chance precip High: 52 Low: 32

# Sheriff's Report

**June 4: 8:05 a.m:** Criminal Mischief - 56500 blk, McK. Hwy. The back door to the area fire station was damaged.

**June 5: 7:54 a.m:** Suspicious Vehicle - Camp Creek Rd. & Oak Point Rd.

**10:24 a.m:** Theft - Paradise Campground. Two bicycles and misc. camping gear were stolen.

**12:00 p.m:** Hit & Run - 39300 blk, McK. Hwy. A caller reported that a vehicle left the scene of a crash at an area business. No description of the Vehicle was provided.

**6:27 p.m:** Illegal Fireworks - Old Mohawk Rd. & Marcola Rd.

**June 6: 1:59 p.m:** Theft - 41800 blk, Madrone St. A caller reported a theft that occurred in 2022 involving a suspect that is known to the caller.

**5:55 p.m:** Theft - 45400 blk, McK. Hwy.

**June 7: 12:58 a.m:** Lost Subject - Lat: 44.067063. Long: -122.950487.

**3:16 a.m:** Alarm - 91800 blk, Mill Creek Rd.

**4:28 p.m:** Dog At Large - 90300 blk, Thomson Ln.

**5:48 p.m:** Foot Patrol-Paradise Campground.

**6:01 p.m:** Vehicle Stop - Taylor Rd. & McK. Hwy.

**6:12 p.m:** Suspicious Conditions - Horse Creek Rd. & McK. Hwy.

**6:37 p.m:** Assist Fire Department-McK. Hwy. Milepost 14.

**6:58 p.m:** Dog At Large - McK. Hwy. Mp. 42.

**June 8: 7:20 a.m:** Abandoned Vehicle - 41100 blk, Deerhorn Rd.

**10:45 a.m:** Theft - Showalter Creek Rd. & Shotgun Creek Rd.

**11:21 a.m:** Assist, Follow Up - Marcola area.

**4:48 p.m:** Assist Police

Department - 49900 blk, McK. Hwy.

**June 9: 12:24 p.m:** Safety Hazard - Bellinger Landing.

**5:18 p.m:** Disturbance, Dispute - 56400 blk, Old Foley Ridge Rd.

**5:41 p.m:** Assault - 7900 blk, Thurston Rd.

**6:10 p.m:** Disturbance, Dispute - 38100 blk, McK. Hwy.

**5:18 p.m:** Disturbance, Dispute - 56400 blk, Old Foley Ridge Rd.

**9:25 p.m:** Disorderly Subject - Goodpasture Rd. & McK. Hwy. A caller advised that an intoxicated male was on the bridge, screaming at passing vehicles.

**June 10: 2:25 a.m:** Menacing - 89700 blk, Upper Johnson Creek Rd. Domestic dispute where one partner reportedly assaulted the other and grabbed them by the throat. Deputies responded and arrested the aggressor.

**7:38 a.m:** Suspicious Subject - 37600 blk, Upper Camp Creek Rd. A caller reported that a male in his 30's was going door to door looking for either a store or a hospital.

**11:22 a.m:** Fraud - 94400 blk, Marcola Rd.

**12:37 p.m:** Incomplete 911 Call - Lat: 44.185306. Long: -122.906713.

**5:28 p.m:** Traffic Hazard - 40500 blk, McK. Hwy.

**5:34 p.m:** Tree Down - Marcola Rd.

**9:49 p.m:** Strangulation - Lat: 44.059706. Long: -122.220213.

**June 11: 4:07 p.m:** Assist, Follow Up - Paradise Campground.

**7:00 p.m:** Suspicious Vehicle - Silver Creek Landing.

**June 11: 7:00 p.m:** Suspicious Vehicle - Silver Creek Landing.

**8:36 p.m:** Disturbance, Dispute - 40000 blk, Deerhorn Rd.

**10:24 p.m:** Vicious Animal - 92500 blk, Paschelke Rd.

**11:17 p.m:** Disturbance, Dispute - 39900 blk, McK. Hwy.

**June 12: 2:23 p.m:** Assist, Follow Up - Cascade View staging area.

**2:35 p.m:** Traffic Hazard - 39400 blk, Upper Camp Creek Rd.

**5:06 p.m:** Assist, Follow Up - Leaburg area.

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

**15:28:** 51000 blk, McK. Hwy. Medical, Heart. Mutual Aid Provided.

**19:41:** 38000 blk, Upper Camp Creek Rd. Medical, General. Patient Assessed, 1 Transported.

**June 7: 1:39:** 35000 blk, Camp Creek Rd. Police Assist. Patient Refusal. by Medic 4

**18:28:** Mp 14 McK. Hwy. MVA. Non-Injury/Non-Blocking.

**3:56:** 88000 blk, Bridge St. Public Assist. Lift Assist.

**7:31:** 88000 blk, Bridge Street Public Assist. Lift Assist.

**June 8: 8:58:** 47000 blk, McK. Hwy. Medical, General. Patient Assessed, 1 Transported.

**14:41:** 88000 blk, Bridge St. Public Assist. Lift Assist.

**17:37:** 91000 blk, Leashore Dr Medical, Trauma. Patient Assessed, 1 Transported.

**20:30:** 42000 blk, Holden Creek Ln. Public Assist. Lift Assist.

**Continued On Page 4**

## Upper McKenzie Fire/Rescue

**June 6: 15:25:** Medical - 51000 block, McK. Hwy. Female, Conscious, Breathing.

**June 7: 17:50:** Medical - 56000 blk, Hall Dr. Female, Conscious, Breathing.

**June 8: 14:06:** Medical - 54000 blk, McK. River Dr. Female, Conscious, Breathing.

**21:13:** Illegal Burn - Delta Dr./Burton Dr. Attended burn pile.

**June 10: 11:32:** Medical - 57000 blk, McK. Hwy. Male, Conscious, Breathing.

**June 11: 14:19:** Brush Fire - 88000 blk, Aufderheide Dr. Tree stump and grass on fire.

**June 12: 06:10:** Medical - 54000 blk, McK. River Dr. Female, Conscious, Breathing.

The Upper McK. Fire District board of directors will hold its monthly meeting at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, June 21<sup>st</sup>, at the McK. Fire Station, 56578 McK. Hwy. in McKenzie Bridge.

## State Police Report

**June 9: 18:59:** Traffic - Marcola Rd. & Old Marcola Rd. Driver was stopped for improper display of front plate. He admitted having a suspended driver's license, Driving While Suspended violation, and was unable to provide proof of insurance - warned for improper display of plate. Vehicle was towed from the scene. Involved: white Lexus IS3, 25-year-old male from Fall Creek.

## McKenzie Fire & Rescue

**June 6: 1:44:** McK. Hwy./Milepost 19. Motor Vehicle Accident. Non-Injury/Non-Blocking.

**9:58:** 88000 block, Millican Rd. Medical, Trauma. Patient Refusal.

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

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# First woman cop was Portland's "municipal mother"

By Finn J.D. John

By the time Walt Disney Productions released "The Rescuers" in 1977, the idea of a "Rescue Aid Society" dedicated to the eradication of kidnapping felt quaint, old-fashioned, and fun.

But not many years earlier, when memories of the Progressive Era were fresher, it would not have scanned that way. In fact, "The Rescuers" was first pitched in 1962, at which time Walt Disney himself killed it. And that was probably a good call: members of the real Aid Societies were still alive and had matured into one of the fiercest and most serious cohorts of old ladies the world had ever known. A cartoon that seemed to poke fun at the great accomplishments of their younger lives, even gentle and good-natured fun, would have brought them out of retirement ready for battle.

And Walt knew what they were capable of — he had been there in those Aid Society ladies' heyday. And he'd been working in show business — one of the industries they regularly locked horns with.

No, "The Rescuers" would not come out in 1962. It would have to wait until every society lady who in her youth had made it her life's work to stamp out "white slavery" was gone, along with Disney himself, before it could be safely made.

For that was what the Aid Societies were about. They weren't dedicated to finding and rescuing little orphan kids who had been kidnapped by evil flame-haired swamp witches to steal diamonds. They were anti-human-trafficking organizations.

And one of their most prominent and effective members was a Portland woman named Lola Greene Baldwin, known to history as the first paid female police officer west of the Rockies.

Lola Greene was born in 1860 in Elmira, N.Y., and raised in Rochester. She grew up following a decidedly non-traditional



Oregon Historical Society  
Lola Greene Baldwin as she appeared in her mid-90s, shortly before her death.

education path that ended with her acquiring her competency Abraham Lincoln-style, as an autodidact by firelight at night, after she was forced to drop out of school when her father died.

After passing the relevant exam, Miss Greene took a job as a schoolteacher in Lincoln, Neb., and it was there that she met and married her husband, LeGrand Baldwin, a prosperous local dry-goods merchant.

After the wedding, the custom at the time was for the former Miss Greene to leave her schoolteacher job and settle into "keeping Mr. Baldwin's home for him and bearing his children" full-time. She found, however, that these wifely duties didn't come to a full-time job for her.

She also chafed at being cloistered away from the world. It was now the 1880s, and American society was still in the throes of a change in how it viewed a woman's place. The traditional pre-Civil-War view was the "cult of True Womanhood," according to which the proper role of a wife was kind of like a domestic chaplain-mascot. She was to stay in the home, having babies and setting a great example to the children and focusing all her energies on helping her family

stay clean, morally upstanding, and as sin-free as possible, letting her husband do all the work out in the world.

But then had come the runup to the Civil War, and the great work of Abolition, and women had done great things to end the social evil of slavery. And after the war, many ladies decided they preferred to stay active, and started looking for other charity work to occupy their energy.

Of course, there was plenty of injustice in the world for a lady to work to fight. Bright-eyed girls who fell in love with and married men who turned out to be secret drunkards, little orphans walled up in cold stone workhouses, innocent country girls tempted into a "life of shame" by a visit to an opium den on a dare.

So, that's how the Abolition movement led middle- and upper-class American women to start leaving their homes and working for change in the world. They did it with a Bible in one hand and their hearts in the other, leaning on each other for support. It all kicked off, more or less, nine years after the war with the "Temperance riots of 1874," when groups of them dressed up in their Sunday best and held prayer sessions in saloons and roadhouses, pleading with the drinkers there to give up Demon Rum and go home to their neglected families.

And that activity, in turn, led some of the ladies to learn about the plight of the women and girls whom many of the saloons preyed upon.

The typical 1880s saloon was not much like the comparatively wholesome taverns that folks would stop at for a beer on the way home from work a century later. Basically, they were one-stop sin shops. Here's how the model worked:

The saloon keeper would rent a building from an agent. The agent was necessary because the owner of the building was usually a "respectable" member of society, who did not want anyone to know he made his money renting real estate to vice operators.

The saloon keeper would set up his operation in the best part of the building, laying it out with card tables and faro rooms as needed. He would also set up some performance spaces for dancing girls. Then he would sub-let some prime streetfront space to a grill restaurant, which would of course serve liquor from his saloon; and

he would sub-let the upstairs to a madam, who would "stock" it with girls and women.

There would be a sort of promotion track for the girls: they would start out making pretty good money as dancers or as eye candy in the bar, enticing customers to come in and buy drinks; sooner or later most of them would be tempted by the easy money to turn a trick or two; and they would end up aging out of the brothel industry and being discarded like worn-out clothes to make room for the next crop of younger women.

There were variations on this — many saloonkeepers who wouldn't host brothels, and many more that merged the grill into the saloon and used free food as an enticement to customers to come in and drink — but that was the basic model.

So, obviously, a big crowd of hymn-singing ladies there to "save" the drunks was in a great position to observe all of this, or maybe even to be approached by prostitutes wanting to leave the business, or by young girls who were being groomed to take their place in it.

When Lola Greene Baldwin got married and left her teaching job, these lady activists had just started doing something about this problem. They had started creating institutions or homes for "wayward girls and fallen women," with an eye toward giving these erstwhile sex workers an off-ramp — or, better yet, to intercepting the young at-risk teens and giving them some social support so they could more easily stay strong.

In Lincoln, Mrs. Baldwin found several of these institutions to plug into: the Nebraska Rescue Home and the Home for the Friendless. Soon she was, as historian Gloria Myers puts it, "interviewing inmates to determine the best course for their moral salvation."

(Sources: *A Municipal Mother: Portland's Lola Greene Baldwin, America's First Policewoman*, a book by Gloria E. Myers published in 1995 by OSU Press; *Storied & Scandalous Portland, Oregon*, a book by Joe Streckert published in 2020 by Globe Pequot; "Lola G. Baldwin," an episode of *Oregon Experience* produced in 2008 by Nadine Jelsing of Oregon Public Broadcasting)

Finn J.D. John teaches at Oregon State University and writes about odd tidbits of Oregon history. His book, *Heroes and Rascals of Old Oregon*, was recently published by Ouragan House Publishers. To contact him or suggest a topic: [finn@offbeatoregon.com](mailto:finn@offbeatoregon.com) or 541-357-2222.

**CONTINUED NEXT WEEK**



By Slim Randles

Watching the fly fishing going on down at Lewis Creek is a little like box seats at the Bolshoi ballet. You might not even know what those old guys are doing, but dang they seem to do it well.

Long, sinuous casts out from the bank to the Luncker Hole. The Luncker, often dreamed, never caught, but our community would be the poorer without him.

"Fly fishing," said Marvin Pincus, "is just another name for life."

"Or love," said our cowboy, Steve.

"Or frustration," said Dud, who was about to shinny up a tree to cut loose a tangle made by his back cast. He wouldn't have bothered, but that fly hanging down from that tall branch was tied by Marvin Pincus. And was therefore an objet d'arte, which we learned is a French term meaning darned cute. But if left in that tree, it might cause death and suffering to a bird.

"It could be a metaphor," said Windy, making a little scud fly skitter across the surface.

"Metaphor?" Steve said.

Windy shrugged. "Heard that the other day. Means somethin' like that there, I think. Might be a metafive..."

"Don't think so, Windy."

"Thanks, Doc. Jest cogmitatin', you know, 'bout life and when to use a dry fly or when to drag one a-them streamies along and temptationize them fish."

"That's pretty deep, Windy," said Dud, nodding his head.

"Don't think so," Windy said, "Last time I fell in 'twas 'bout three foot or so. I jest fly fish cuz it's more funner than drownin' worms."

"You can say that again!"

"Okay, Doc... I jest fly fish cuz it's more funner..."

Were you aware you can hear six men groan above the noisy chuckling of a creek?

**Fly fishing with a tenkara outfit is even more funner than you thought. [www.tenkarausa.com](http://www.tenkarausa.com).**

## McKenzie Fire & Rescue

Continued From Page 3

**June 9: 0:15:** 8600 blk, McK. Hwy. Slash Pile Re-ignition. Pile Extinguished.

**15:33:** 39000 blk, Deerhorn Rd. Medical, General. Patient Assessed, 1 Transported.

**18:42:** 41000 blk, Madrone St. Medical, General. Patient Refusal.

**June 10: 6:23:** 44000 blk, McK. Hwy. Medical, Heart. Patient Assessed, 1 Transported.

**14:49:** 40000 blk, McK. Hwy. Medical, General. Patient Contact Made, No Needs

**18:19:** 41723 Deerhorn Rd. Illegal Burn. Advised Burning Restrictions, ODF Notified.

**June 12: 2:13:** 88000 blk, Tiki Ln. Medical, General. Patient Assessed, 1 Transported.

McK. Fire & Rescue will hold its monthly Board of Directors meeting on Monday, June 19<sup>th</sup> at noon, in the Leaburg Training Center, 42870 McK. Hwy.

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**Gardening Tips**  
By Kym Pokorny



**Rain gardens help keep pollutants out**



Rain gardens feature hardy, drought-resistant plants in a landscaping design with a purpose. (Photo by Derek Godwin)

As water runs down roofs, over driveways and patios, and off other impervious surfaces, it might pick up pollutants as it flows directly into streams, wetlands, lakes, and groundwater aquifers.

Stormwater runoff from impervious surfaces has been routed directly to streams through stormwater pipes and ditches with little infiltration or treatment, according to Derek Godwin, Oregon State University Extension Service water management and conservation specialist. That's because municipalities focused on getting the water off the property as quickly and efficiently as possible.

However, stormwater runoff has become the No. 1 source of residential pollution for waterways. It also increases potential flooding. Municipalities have responded, by installing rain gardens, a type of green infrastructure, in public and commercial spaces to slow down and treat the water before it enters streams, wetlands, lakes, and groundwater aquifers. They encourage homeowners to build them, too.

Designed and installed properly and planted with the correct plants, rain gardens are like tiny water treatment facilities. Water gathers in the rain garden, soaks into the soil, and is taken up by plants. The water not used by plants moves into deeper soils and groundwater or flows more slowly to nearby streams. The plants and soils filter nutrients, sediments, and toxic materials from the runoff before it gets to waterways.

"Homeowners interested in treating stormwater runoff with rain gardens should first familiarize themselves with how runoff from their roof, driveway, sidewalk, and roads are currently being routed and treated," Godwin said. "Runoff water moving on the surface could be incorporated into a rain garden design with sufficient area and infiltration rates. Runoff drains into the rain garden downslope from foundations and,

if it can't all be absorbed, flows out to a safe, designated location at a slower rate than from impervious surfaces."

Runoff water is piped underground to a street curb and the stormwater drain would need to be modified by disconnecting the downspout and routing the water to a rain garden. Godwin recommends checking with your local jurisdiction to see if building and routing runoff through a rain garden would benefit water quality, reduce flooding, and be permitted for individual property conditions. If approved, the municipality will provide any requirements you must follow such as where to safely route water during large storms to prevent erosion and protect nearby homes, roads, and other infrastructure.

For more information about rain gardens and thorough instructions on how to build one, refer to The Oregon Rain Garden Guide, which Godwin co-authored.

Rain gardens can be designed with a variety of plant types and sizes that offer beauty and bird and pollinator habitats. Since the garden is designed to drain, you don't need plants that withstand months of sitting in water, such as broadleaf cattail (*Typha latifolia*). However, areas at or near where water enters the rain garden are frequently flooded and require plants that survive short periods of standing water and extended periods of saturated soils, while plants on the rim should be suited for drier conditions.

The Rain Garden Guide includes designs and lists of plants for all areas of the state that work in sun or shade. The lists also indicate which plants work in different areas of the rain garden, from wet to dry. Rain gardens are divided into three zones: top (dry), slope (moderate), and base (wet). The U.S. Department of Agriculture's wetland plants database is another good source of native plant information. Also, check nurseries that specialize in ponds.

Godwin recommends selecting plants that can withstand dry summers with little to no extra water or fertilizer after they're established in two or three years. He also suggests keeping stormwater runoff out of the rain garden for at least one year to allow plants and soils to settle in. The goal is low maintenance, but, like any area of the garden, it will need some upkeep, including weeding, pruning, mulching and possibly relocating plants that don't withstand the wet and dry periods.

It seems intuitive to route stormwater runoff to a spot where there's standing water during the wet season, but that's exactly what not to do. The soil in a stormwater rain garden needs to drain well for the water to be treated. Don't put more water in these spaces, Godwin said. Instead, add wetland plants that evolved to live in standing water and enhance biodiversity and pollinator habitat.

Rain gardens slow the water down and allow it to soak into the ground and move slower to the streams. The slower it goes, the less erosion and flooding. The fine sediment that comes with the water causes problems for fish habitats and other aquatic species that rely on clean gravel to see and feed and live and lay their eggs. In addition, a lot of pollutants are attached to the sediment. For example, when phosphorus as part of fertilizer gets into water in excess it contributes to algae blooms and lower dissolved oxygen.

"A rain garden would be like other gardens around your yard - it's meant to drain, it isn't supposed to be a wetland," Godwin said. "The difference is during the rainy season it gets more water than other gardens. You'll have to choose plants that can withstand higher amounts of water during the wet season. On the other hand, they also have to survive our dry summers."



*By Mary Emma Allen*

**ENHANCE MEALS WITH BRIGHT DISHES**

Collecting Pretty Dishes

I've always found dishware interesting and have collected a few odds and ends I can use for bringing color and interest for our meals. Sometimes we think we must have a complete set and moan when a dish gets broken. However, mixing and matching dishes has become popular in recent years.

Using cups (and saucers) of different shapes and designs for tea parties, or when a friend stops by, enables the hostess to serve interesting snacks. It's also a fad to have different (mix and match) place settings when serving a meal. This adds interest and enables the hostess/collector to have more variety in her cupboards. You aren't stuck with one set of dishes (no matter how attractive) you must use for meal after meal.

Where to Find Dishes

My daughter and I enjoy looking for odds and ends of dishes and glasses in second hand and thrift shops and frequently come home with ones we enjoy. We've also discovered dishes in antiques shops. These generally are a bit more expensive, but fun to collect, too.

\* I found a set of four plates and four soup bowls with an attractive strawberry design.

\* I have a number of tea/coffee mugs of various shapes and patterns so I can use different ones each day of the week if I prefer. My mom enjoyed teacups, too. I found a variety of them in her

home when she moved.

\* I discovered a platter with a Currier and Ives pattern.

\* Holiday designs are fun to decorate the table on these occasions.

\* I have a few pieces from dish sets my mom used over the years. I'm always on the lookout for pieces to add to these.

\* My niece used for a holiday tea party a set of glass dessert dishes of my mom's (her grandmother)

What can you find to collect and add pleasure to your meals?

Tea Party Treats

Scoops of ice cream with various toppings to choose from.

Small sandwiches with various fillings. (These can be "make your own with different types of bread and fillings.)

A fancy platter with various types of fruit and dip.

Small cupcakes

By having a variety of "mini" treats the guests can choose from.

(c) Mary Emma Allen

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

**Quote of the Week**

"It is the mark of an educated mind to be able to entertain a thought without accepting it."

Aristotle

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# Community Notes

June 15

## McKenzie Chamber

The McKenzie River Chamber of Commerce meets every third Thursday of the month via Zoom from 10 to 11 a.m. To sign up for a link to the meeting, contact: info@mckenziechamber.com

June 15

## 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.

June 17

## 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.

June 17

## Cookie Bake-Off

Camp White Branch plans to bake several large batches of cookies to freeze and serve as snacks and desserts for all the youth that come through camp this summer. People are invited to come for an hour or stay overnight. Plans include starting with the ingredients to make Chocolate Chip, Oatmeal Chocolate Chip, Sugar, Molasses, No Bake, and Snicker Doodle cookies. People who have a favorite recipe and would like to bake from 1 to 3 p.m, please feel free to bring the additional ingredients you may need. Basics of flour, sugar, eggs, etc. will be provided.

June 17 & 18

## Live theater

A free presentation of Shakespeare's "Julius Caesar" by

the Roving Park Players at 2 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday, 200 W B St, Springfield. No registration is required. Light concessions will be available. Admission is \$3 or free with a canned-food donation. Food donations support the Food Pantry at Willamalane Adult Activity Center and our neighbors in need.

June 17

## 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.

June 18

## Father's Day Breakfast

The Walterville Grange will host the annual Father's Day Breakfast on Sunday, June 18. Bring dad to the Walterville Community Center from 8 to 11 a.m., where Grangers be serving pancakes, scrambled eggs, ham and/or sausage, fresh fruit, and coffee and orange juice. It is located at 39259 Camp Creek Road in Walterville. There will also be a collection for canned food items for the upriver food bank. Donations will gratefully be accepted. Funds are also being collected for new windows and siding for the east side of the community center. For more information call 541-521-4760 and leave a message (calls will be returned).

June 18

## Father's Day Car Show

The 9th Annual Waypoint Community Church Fathers Day Car Show will be back from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. with great food, raffle prizes, kids' games, and much more! Including a return appearance from local favorite Code Red bringing the sounds of summer with some great live rock and roll - plus some of the best Hotrods, Street Rods, Classic Cars, Motorcycles, Rat Rods, Race cars, and lots of other cool rides.

All who attend will receive a free Pulled Pork lunch prepared and served by Salt and Light Catering of Springfield. Much more info coming soon! All proceeds above the cost of putting on this amazing event go to the youth of the Church and Community to attend Summer Camp! Go to www.waypointinfo.org to register. Click on the Carshow tab and follow the prompts. Cost will be \$25.00 per show vehicle. Registration includes an Event T-Shirt and goody bag while they last. For more info or to donate raffle items text or call Jim Randazzo, Event Coordinator at 541 501-2007. Or E-mail jimr5220@gmail.com.

June 19

## McKenzie Fire & Rescue

McK. Fire & Rescue will hold its monthly Board of Directors meeting at noon, at the Leaburg Training Center from noon to 1 p.m.

June 20

## BCC Meeting

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.

June 20

## Mobile Dental Van

The Capitol Dental Care's Mobile Dental Van will be at Orchid Health McKenzie River Clinic, 54771 McKenzie Hwy. in Rainbow from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Call 971-375-3423 or 1-800-525-6800 to schedule your New Patient appointment and dental cleaning with our dental hygienist. Dental screenings are also available to all community members at no charge.

June 20

## 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.

June 21

## BCC Meeting

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.

June 21

## Free Produce

Free high-quality fresh fruits and vegetable provided by FOOD for Lane County, Trillium Produce Plus, & Orchid Health Clinic will be available for community locations free of charge. Who can get Produce Plus? Households & individuals residing in Lane County. All McKenzie River Community members who sign up can be served, as long as they are under the income guidelines. Stop by at Orchid Health McKenzie River Clinic, 54771 McKenzie Hwy. in Rainbow from 1 to 3 p.m.

June 21

## Watershed Wednesday

Join the McKenzie River Trust every Wednesday morning from 9 to 11:30 a.m. at Green Island to help care for this special area where the McKenzie and Willamette Rivers meet. Projects vary based on the season but typically include invasive species removal, habitat care, or planting/tree establishment. To volunteer: www.tfaforms.com/4934694?JobID=a0T3i000008QhJrEAK&ShiftID=a0V3i000007MkcCEAS

June 21

## Upper McK Fire Board

The board of directors of the Upper McKenzie Rural Fire Protection District will meet at 7p.m. at 56578 McK. Hwy. in McKenzie Bridge.

June 21

## McKenzie School Board

The McKenzie School District Board of Directors will meet from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. in the Administration building, 51187 Blue River Dr. The meeting will be livestreamed with viewing available at www.youtube.com/channel/UC14\_qR6FmaelclIzi4UMCeq/videos.

June 21

## Springfilm

The Wildish Theater, 630 Main St, Springfield will screen "Judas and the Black Messiah" at 6:30 p.m. Fred Hampton, a young, charismatic activist, becomes Chairman of the Illinois chapter of the Black Panther Party, putting him directly in the crosshairs of

the government, the FBI, and the Chicago Police. But to destroy the revolution, the authorities are going to need a man on the inside. FREE!

June 23 - 25

## Camp Creek Sales

The Camp Creek Area Garage Sales will be open from Friday through Sunday. Travel around the Camp Creek neighborhood and you'll find plenty of bargains.

June 24

## 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.

June 24

## Celebration & Petfest

Children's Celebration featuring PetFest will provide fun for all family members whether they have two legs, four legs, fins, or scales. These two classic events are now happening at Island Park, 200 W B St, Springfield Willamalane, community partners, and exhibitors will share resources and fun interactive activities including live performances and more from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.. No registration is required; just stop by!

June 24

## Blue River Redesign

Lane County will host a community meeting on from 10 a.m. to noon on Saturday, June 24, to get feedback on three possible concepts for Blue River Drive, including bike lanes, on-street parking, and sidewalks. The meeting will be in the McKenzie School's Old Gym, 51187 Blue River Drive.

July 7 - 9

## Lavender Festival

McKenzie River Lavender is open from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Friday - Sunday for an annual summer weekend featuring the aromatic flower. Take a tour, take photographs, paint, shop for fragrant products, and listen to talks on lavender while enjoying the surrounding purple fields. Also, walk through the fields and cut your own lavender to take home. The McKenzie River Lavender farm, located just east of Walterville, offers a Lavender Labyrinth, specialty lavender products from oils to skincare essentials, u-cut lavender, a country bazaar of local artisans, food, music, and lavender refreshments. The farm is not dog friendly.

Stay in touch with events online with the [McKenzie Community Events Calendar](#).

<h3>An Invitation to Worship</h3>	<p><b>Living Water Family Fellowship</b> Pastor - Doug Fairington 52353 McKenzie Hwy - Milepost 42 541-822-3820 Gathering Sundays at 10:00 AM, Children's ministry also. Come early for a meet and greet continental breakfast and coffee at 9:30 AM. Thursdays, 6:00 PM, Celebrate Recovery (12 Step Program)</p>
<p><b>McKenzie Bible Fellowship</b> 45061 McKenzie Hwy - Vida, Oregon <b>Sunday Worship - 10:00 a.m.</b> Youth Ministries KidsFest Family Activities Small Group Fellowships Men's &amp; Women's Bible Studies Call 896-3829 for information www.mckenziebible.com</p>	<p><b>Catholic Church</b> <b>St. Benedict Lodge Chapel</b> 1/2 mile off Hwy. 126 on North Bank Rd., McKenzie Bridge Sat. Eve. 5:00pm Sun. Morn. 9:30am; web page: <a href="http://sblodge.opwest.org">sblodge.opwest.org</a></p>
<p><b>McKenzie Valley Presbyterian Church</b> 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! <b>Milepost 13 McKenzie Hwy. (541) 747-2604</b></p>	

**Subscribe TODAY!**  
[tinyurl.com/2vf5caa6](https://tinyurl.com/2vf5caa6)

Steve Severin of McKenzie Bridge was seriously injured in an auto accident on May 26<sup>th</sup>. Ever since moving back to the River he has donated countless hours helping countless people throughout the area. Now we can do the same for him and his wife Kathy during his recovery.



Please **DONATE**

Donations are being accepted at the McKenzie Station Pub, Leaburg Store, Everyone's Market, and Takoda's Restaurant - as well as online via Roxanne Wergeland at [tinyurl.com/4ku87awt](https://tinyurl.com/4ku87awt)

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### CROSSWORD

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12		
13					14			15					
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		57	58	59				60				61	62
63						64	65			66			67
68						69				70			
71						72				73			

63. Ruffle on a blouse  
 64. Determine the sum  
 66. Feline sound  
 68. Bronze, e.g.  
 69. Chasing game  
 70. "All joking \_\_\_\_"  
 71. Big Bang's original matter  
 72. Compass bearing  
 73. Type of stocking


**DOWN**

1. Olden-day aerosol can propellant, acr.  
 2. Lawrence, for short  
 3. Aid and \_\_\_\_  
 4. Like gelled hair  
 5. Relating to pelvis  
 6. a.k.a. Xi'an  
 7. Credit card rate, acr.  
 8. Putin's country house, e.g.  
 9. Samoan money  
 10. Deed hearing  
 11. Egghead  
 12. Up to the present time  
 15. a.k.a. melon tree  
 20. Organ swelling  
 22. What organza and forgiveness have in common  
 24. Calm and peaceful  
 25. \*Mr. Addams "The Addams Family"  
 26. Outhouse  
 27. Propelled like Argo  
 29. \*Mr. Winslow in "Family Matters"  
 31. Give the cold shoulder  
 32. Twofold  
 33. \*Mr. Johnson in "Black-ish"  
 34. Glittery stone  
 36. Like certain Ranger  
 38. Seaside bird  
 42. Old hat  
 45. Scatterbrained, in U.K.  
 49. Top seed  
 51. Nickname for dad (2 words)  
 54. Speak like Cicero  
 56. \_\_\_\_ Buchanan of "The Great Gatsby"  
 57. China's Great one  
 58. Often goes with "willing"  
 59. Rumpelstiltskin's weaver  
 60. Upper hand  
 61. Not top-shelf  
 62. Popular symbol of extinction  
 63. \*Mr. Pritchett in "Modern Family"  
 65. \*Mr. Conner in "Roseanne"  
 67. Skin cyst

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


[tinyurl.com/yeye92hx](http://tinyurl.com/yeye92hx)

**Events from Jun 15th**




**Sat Jun 3rd - Fri 16th**  
**Waltville Canal Outage**  
 The outage is scheduled for annual maintenance at the power plant and the fish screens. EWEB may take the unit offline on the 2nd to ...


**Fri Jun 9th 4:00pm - Thu 29th 7:30pm**  
**2nd Friday Art Walk**  
 Emerald Art Center in downtown Springfield




**Thu Jun 15th 10:00am - 11:00am**  
**McKenzie River Chamber of Commerce Board meeting**  
 The McKenzie River Chamber of Commerce is a business organization of volunteers providing members key opportunities for visibility, ...




**Thu Jun 15th 3:00pm - 6:30pm**  
**Leaburg Food Pantry**  
 All are welcome! Please send folks!




**Sat Jun 17th 8:00am - 4:00pm**  
**Living River Exploration Day**  
 Join the McKenzie River Trust and take a walk near the place the Willamette and the McKenzie Rivers meet. Observe 15 years of tree-




**Sat Jun 17th 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




**Sat Jun 17th 1:00pm - 3:00pm**  
**Camp White Branch Cookie Bake-Off**  
 We are going to bake several large batches of cookies to freeze and serve as snacks and desserts for all the youth that come through camp ...




**Sat Jun 17th 2:00pm - Sun 18th 2:00pm**  
**Sounds Like Summer Series - Julius Caesar**  
 Enjoy this local live theater production of Shakespeare's "Julius Caesar" by the Roving Park Players. Light concessions will be available.



**Sun Jun 18th 8:00am - 1:00pm**  
**Father's Day Car Show**  
 The 9th Annual Waypoint Community Church Fathers Day Car Show will be back bigger and better than ever with great food, raffle prizes,



**Mon Jun 19th 12:00pm - 1:00pm**  
**McKenzie Fire District Board**  
 McKenzie Fire District Board meeting. 541-896-3311.



**Tue Jun 20th**  
**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

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**TV DADS**

- ACROSS**
1. Necklace lock  
 6. Blue  
 9. \*Mr. Micelli in "Who's the Boss"  
 13. "The Tortoise and the Hare," e.g.  
 14. Beer acronym  
 15. Check recipient  
 16. Angler's basket  
 17. Circle part  
 18. "Orange" warning  
 19. \*Mr. Keaton in "Family Ties"  
 21. \*Mr. Cunningham in "Happy Days"  
 23. Dad's offspring  
 24. "Jack and the Beanstalk" instrument  
 25. General Post Office  
 28. Plural of cecum
- DOWN**
30. Pompous windbag  
 35. Not written  
 37. Scotch ingredient  
 39. Complain  
 40. Spanish surrealist Joan  
 41. Formed #17 Across  
 43. Press back arrow key  
 44. Not odds  
 46. "Musical" constellation  
 47. Backgammon predecessor  
 48. Louisiana music genre  
 50. Aware of  
 52. Jeans brand  
 53. In a little while, old-fashioned  
 55. Old age, old-fashioned  
 57. \*Mr. White "Breaking Bad"  
 60. \*Mr. Stark "Game of Thrones"

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

**Fill your screen with McKenzie news**



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[tinyurl.com/4f6ndcrh](http://tinyurl.com/4f6ndcrh)

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Transportation Safety - ODOT

# Fire improves habitat

Continued From Page 1

eration.

“I’m talking to the fuels guys all the time. They want to get the work done to reduce fuels across the landscape, but they are also very receptive to how to limit negative effects on plants and wildlife,” said Johnson.

The prescribed fire implemented on Backbone Ridge is a great example of how collaboration works, Johnson pointed out. The area is teeming with wildlife, and each species has its own special relationship to fire, so it’s important for wildlife biologists to consider the benefits and impacts.

Prescribed Fire and Vegetation

When it comes to forest health, thriving wildlife, and thriving vegetation are inextricably linked.

“One example, the black oak, is an abundant source of food for wildlife, especially around Shasta Lake,” said Johnson. “The acorn production feeds a variety of species. Black oak also tends to have good cavities for birds and mammals to establish nests and dens.”

These black oaks need fire to maintain their place on the landscape.

“Black oaks need fire occasionally, to kill off the encroaching conifers. When fire is excluded from a landscape, often Douglas-fir seedlings will grow. And if there’s no disturbance, such as fire, they’ll eventually grow their way up through the oak canopy,



Prescribed fire can reduce the risk of high severity wildfire. This also results in reduced risk to wildlife habitats such as nesting trees. (USDA Forest Service photo by Andrew Avitt)

overtop the oaks, and then slowly choke out the black oaks, depriving them of sunlight and competing for water,” said Johnson.

The migration and propagation of Douglas-firs around Shasta Lake, due to fire exclusion policies in the early 20th century, can be seen today. “Excluding fire from the landscape allowed these trees to spread out across the landscape,” Johnson said. “But if fire had been coming through on a regular basis, there would be quite a bit less Douglas-fir around Shasta Lake than there is now.”

Eagle Habitat

In his biologist role, Johnson also pays close attention to sensi-

tive species. Shasta Lake is home to more than 30 nesting pairs of bald eagles. “So, when we are planning and coordinating the prescribed burn, we are focused on protecting those areas,” said Johnson.

One consideration — protecting big nesting trees like the ponderosa pine.

“Eagles prefer to nest in large trees like ponderosa pine. So, when we are looking at reducing wildfire risk to bald eagle habitat, we are focused on reducing fuels around these trees,” said Johnson. “We’ve lost a lot of these larger trees to high-severity wildfires in recent years, also drought, in-

sects, and disease. Reducing fuels can mitigate each of those risks.

“We also don’t want to create any disturbances for them during nesting season, when they are incubating eggs and raising young chicks,” added Johnson.

There are a number of other species taken into account when planning such as deer, turkey, quail, songbirds, osprey, Shasta Salamanders, and bats.

Fire — Just Another Day for Forests

“For wildlife, trees and shrubs, it’s business as usual, said Johnson.” “It’s common for people to think that wildfire is bad for wildlife, but wildlife has evolved with fire. They have ways to deal with fire.”

During the Backbone prescribed fire, Johnson saw a gray

fox emerge from the brush. “It just came down to the lake’s edge, hung out for a little bit, and then went back up into an unburned pocket on the hillside. It’s not an unnatural thing for them, just another day.”

Explore more! Backbone Prescribed Fire | Flickr Fire teams from the Shasta-Trinity National Forest conducted prescribed burns in Redding, California, on April 15 and 16, 2023. The project’s goals are to reduce dead and downed limbs, commonly referred to as surface fuels. Using prescribed fire to reduce these surface fuels will contribute to reducing fuel loading, aid nutrient recycling, improve wildlife habitat, and support a healthy forest ecosystem.



The prescribed burn that took place over two days, April 15 and 16, was applied in two distinct phases. On the first day, firefighters reinforced a fuel break, by using fire to widen it. On the second day, a helicopter aerial ignition aided in starting low-intensity fires across the peninsula. (USDA Forest Service photo by Andrew Avitt)

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# Preplanning at UMRFPD

By Lemont Southworth  
Fire departments prepare pre-plans for major venues in their districts to assist them in responding effectively and efficiently to emergency calls. Upper McKenzie Rural Fire Department is updating their pre-plans. If you own or manage a business or major venue within the Upper McKenzie Rural Fire Department district and haven't had a pre-planning visit in the last year, please contact the Upper McKenzie Rural Fire Department (541-822-3479) to schedule a visit.

Some of the things they will need to know include the number, size, type of construction, and type of roof of all structures on the property. Floor plans would be immensely helpful. They do not have to be architectural blueprints, just simple drawings that give the layout of each structure including the location of all rooms, doors and windows and stairways, if any. If you are aware of any

concealed spaces please note them on the structure since they can be important for fire control. The location and type of fire extinguishers or other fire suppression devices should be included. They will also want to know the location of utility shutoffs, especially electricity and gas (propane). Any hazards (fuel storage, hazardous materials, dangerous animals, special equipment or unusual features on the property. A plot plan of the property showing driveways, gates, roads, buildings, and any fire suppression services would also be helpful. If you have sprinklers or there are any fire hydrants on or near your property that should be noted and described. Facilities with fire sprinklers usually have a fire department connection (FDC) where the fire department can connect to supplement or augment the on-site water source and should be shown to the fire fighter and noted on floor

plans. The normal use, hours of occupancy, and usual number of occupants of each building and their location within the building is also important.

Pre-plan visits are not fire inspections. The fire fighter for your pre-plan visit will be happy to get answers to any questions you may have and might make a few suggestions if he/she sees something significant. If you want a fire inspection or need one for your insurance, please contact Chief Christiana Rainbow Plews at 541-822-3479.

These pre-plans are reviewed by fire fighters to be better prepared to answer emergency calls. Time is of the essence in any emergency situation. Pre-plan details can assist the department in responding to all emergency situations, not just fires. Having good pre-plan information can reduce delays and help keep fire fighters and occupants safe.

# Firefighter grant

Continued From Page 1

partment, we would not have been able to staff up for the fire season without their help.

Upper McKenzie Rural Fire Department is an all-volunteer department. That means that normally there are no firefighters sitting around the station just waiting to answer calls. Volunteers have to drop whatever they are doing (at home or at work) and head to the fire station in order to respond to a call. The summer firefighter grant allows Upper McKenzie to hire some firefighters to be at the station during peak fire times to reduce response time.

Administering the program puts a lot of extra work on the Chief and the administrative staff, none of which brings any extra compensation. Those who sign up as summer firefighters give up a lot of their summer to be at the station instead of with their families. All of this is because Upper McKenzie Rural Fire Department is deeply committed to caring for our community and our residents.

UMRFD is looking forward to this year's summer firefighter program. In addition to being available for faster response, summer firefighters in 2022 were able to accomplish a lot for the department. As an all-volunteer depart-

ment, it is sometimes difficult to keep up with all the tasks around the station. Our summer firefighters don't just sit around waiting for calls. Last summer they performed a long list of tasks ranging from washing windows to re-striping the parking spaces in the equipment bay and painting parking spaces, including a handicap space in the parking lot. Other jobs included trimming the forest to maintain a proper defensible space around the station, updating Safety Data Sheets for all chemicals in the fire station, and compiling preliminary pre-plans for nearly 60 businesses and other venues in the district. We also did a lot of routine inventory tasks, such as documenting and labeling all the tools and supplies on each piece of apparatus and in storage at the station. All UMRFD volunteers have been trained as wildland firefighters in addition to their jobs as structural firefighters and are well qualified to fulfill the intentions of the OSFM grant. We sent a team to Oakridge last summer to assist with the wildfires there. We support the OSFM motto to "Keep Small Fires Small" and look forward to doing our part this summer.

# Time to design

Continued From Page 1

included in preliminary drawings. Option 1 is based on a 60-foot right of way that could allow for 50 head-in parking spaces on one side of the street. Option 2 would place parking on both sides of the road and create 42 parking spaces, as well as sidewalks. Option 3 keeps the same number of spots to park vehicles as Option 2, but creates a wider 12-foot walkway on only one side of the street.

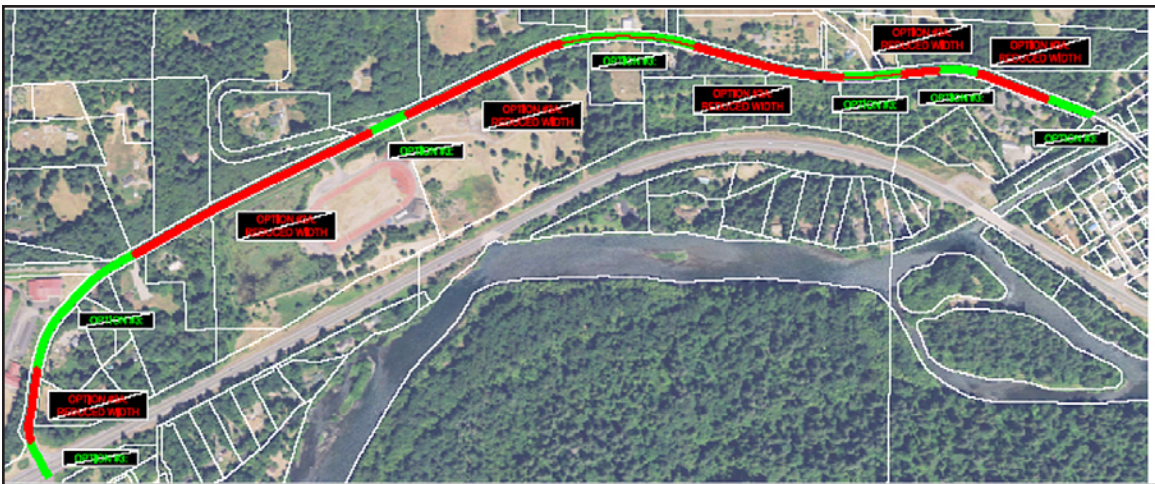
In the western portion of Blue River Drive Option 1 is designed to provide a sidewalk, bike lanes,

and a buffered slope next to the lane of travel. Option 2 adds ditches on both the right and left sides of the road. In Option 3, a 2-foot concrete wall and an optional guardrail are included for sections of the road.

Becky Taylor, Lane County's Senior Transportation Planner, said the Public Works team would "would like to develop a design concept for Blue River Drive that reflects community preferences. Creating a solid

vision for Blue River Drive is needed to provide better direction for people redeveloping in the area. A community-supported plan would also help Lane County pursue grant funding for eventually constructing the desired roadway."

The meeting is scheduled for 10 a.m. to noon in the McKenzie High School's Old Gym. Prior to the meeting, people can review the different design proposals at: [tinyurl.com/ecwsvrhr](http://tinyurl.com/ecwsvrhr).



Option 3 for the west section of Blue River Drive.

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**A Moment in Oregon History**  
By Rick Steber  
([www.ricksteber.com](http://www.ricksteber.com))

**June 8** - David Thompson, of the North West Fur Company, named the Blue Mountains of Northeastern Oregon in 1811 for their distinct blueness when viewed from a distance. This range of uplift mountains is one of the most prominent features in Eastern Oregon with several peaks of more than 9,000 feet. Oregon Trail pioneers faced relatively few major changes in elevation until they reached the Blue Mountains. Here the trail climbed steeply, and in the heavy timber narrowed to only allow for the passage of wagons in single-file. Once the pioneers had fought their way over this range and dropped to the Columbia Plateau the only obstacle remaining before the Willamette Valley was the Cascade Range.

## Fishing Report

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

**Trout Stocking Schedule:** Trout stocking is underway on many lakes and reservoirs throughout the state. Releases of 8" to 10" hatchery fish this week were: McKenzie River above Leaburg Dam - 833, McKenzie River below Leaburg Dam - 5,067, Leaburg Lake - 1,000, Blue River - 600.

**Fish Counts**  
**June 8, Willamette Falls**  
Spring Chinook - 14,059  
Summer Steelhead - 521

## CROSSWORD SOLUTION

C	L	A	S	P	S	A	D	T	O	N	Y
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A	L	L	O	Y	T	A	G	A	S	I	D
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## SUDOKU SOLUTION

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6	1	2	7	4	9	3	8	5
2	6	1	5	9	8	7	3	4
3	9	4	6	7	1	8	5	2
5	8	7	3	2	4	1	6	9

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