



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

Dynamite ends dispute

Aug. 16, 1906, a powerful explosion jolted residents awake near the little town of Willamette

PAGE 5

Organic overload?

Too much organic matter can have a negative effect. Wait. What?

PAGE 5



Readers pick 2023's
"Best of the River"

Woman of the Year

Females had a significant impact on improving the quality of life in the area last year, judging by the close to a dozen names submitted for Woman of the Year. Most often nominated was Gerry Aster of Vida. Several people were impressed with her "grant writing successes to re-build the Vida Community Center." Others called her an "all-around volunteer" who often works behind the scenes with "magic for meals at events including the Waltherville Presbyterian Church," or making sure activities are well organized, plus filling in to "greet folks, clean up or count donations." She can also be seen "every Saturday assisting the Bottle Boys with

Continued On Page 2



Gerry Aster

Man of the Year

There was a five-way tie in the Man of the Year category, leaving the decision to who provided the best reasoning for the top ranking. The winning candidate, Closen Christian, unfortunately, passed away last year. He'd spent time in a Finn Rock logging camp as a boy and grew up around Waltherville and Blue River. After retiring from his business, Future Logging, he with his wife Marge settled in Vida. It wasn't a complete retirement. He was a Meals on Wheels volunteer, assisting with food deliveries for those in need, and developed

Continued On Page 2



Closen Christian

Business of the Year

Despite being new to the area this year, the McKenzie Coffee Co. has been warmly welcomed by its customers in a spot nestled in the corner of the parking lot at the Leaburg Store. "The owner is cheerful

and adept at concocting delicious coffee drinks. Sometimes her young son helps her and adds some additional cheer. McKenzie Coffee is an example of how a small entre-

Continued On Page 2



McKenzie River Coffee Co.

Putting a crimp in the holiday



Only a shell remained after fire gutted a travel trailer last week at the edge of Thurston.

Some holiday cheer was blunted last week by two incidents just before Christmas. Around 2 p.m. on December 23rd, it was discovered someone had broken into the outdoor mailbox at the Waltherville Post Office. An investigation by the U.S. Postal Service is currently underway.

The following evening, McKenzie and Eugene/Springfield firefighters responded to a vehicle fire just before midnight. Upon arrival at the scene, east of the Thurston Road/Highway 126 intersection, they encountered an abandoned travel trailer that was fully engulfed in flames. Oregon State Police also assisted but no license plate or VIN numbers were found to help identify the owner of the trailer.



Mail drive drop-offs were discontinued after a suspected mail theft in Waltherville.

Historically, Oregon burned more often
Study focuses on West Cascades landscapes

By Steve Lundeberg
OSU

Forests on the west slope of Oregon's Cascade Range experienced fire much more often between 1500 and 1895 than had been previously thought, according to new research by scientists at Oregon State University.

The findings provide important insight, the authors say, into how landscapes might adapt to climate change and future fire regimes.

James Johnston of the OSU College of Forestry led the study, which was published in Ecosphere.

"Wildland fire is a fundamental forest ecosystem process," he said. "With temperatures rising and more and more area burning, we need to know as much as we can about the long-term variability in fire."

Johnson and collaborators at Oregon State, the University of Oregon and the U.S. Forest Service gathered tree



Mike Coughlan/UO

Students, tribal members and others visit the study site.

ring data at 16 sites in the southern part of the Willamette National Forest, in the general vicinity of Oakridge.

Trees form scars after cambial cells are killed by wildfire heat, he said. These scars are partially or completely covered by new tissue as a tree grows, and tree rings tell the story of when the fire exposure occurred.

Using chain saws, the scientists collected samples from 311 dead trees – logs,

short snags and stumps. Seventy-three percent of the samples were coastal Douglas-fir, and 13% were ponderosa pine. The remainder were sugar pine, noble fir, red fir, incense cedar, western red cedar, mountain hemlock and western hemlock.

"We cross-dated a total of 147,588 tree rings and identified 672 cambial injuries, 479 of which were fire scars," Johnston said. "The

Burned more often - Page 9

Man, Woman, and Business of the Year

Continued From Page 1

Woman

their ‘Dime at a Time’ campaign to help with the restoration of some of our institutions lost in that fire.”

In second place was Vida Postmaster Michelle Palaniuk. One citation noted that “Michelle is brilliant...kind, caring, steadfast, and is a huge part of the glue that holds our sweet fragile community of Vida together... both before, especially during, and after the fires.” Another called her “a most kind and thoughtful person, always thinking of and doing for others. She never forgets a birthday or a holiday and is always on the bright side of every situation, encouraging others.”

Others people called out for their contributions were:

The McKenzie River Community Charter School’s Corey Christensen for “always having time for students and is always supportive and fair.”

Jonnie Helfrich, “continues to advocate for tourism in the McKenzie Valley through the boards of the McKenzie River Chamber of Commerce and Travel Lane County.”

Marty Mealey, for “putting her heart into the Leaburg Library.”

Rachele Mark, Owner of McKenzie River Coffee Co. “a barista is as sweet as can be.”

Joy Slack with Major Family Funeral Home, “has been serving families for 20 years with her heart and soul. Making every family part of her family.”

Val Rapp, “a tireless advocate and worker for McKenzie Wellness in support of the clinic,” “has only the best interests of the clinic and the community at heart.”

Robin Roberts was nominated for “giving herself to this community for years with little to no recognition. She goes above and beyond with her work with the food pantry, clinic, and more. She is just a good person.”

Librarian Priscilla Oxley, who passed away suddenly several months ago was remembered for her “vision, wisdom, and dedication,” in addition to being “well known and respected in our community.” Priscilla, another note said, “was always positive and supportive of others, never wanting any praise for herself. Her example was of a life of service, which made a difference for the McKenzie River community.”

Also nominated was Taya Brock, owner of Takoda’s Restaurant in Rainbow.

Man

the Holiday Farm RV Park at Rainbow - as well as the Inn at the Bridge - while also supporting the McKenzie River Guides Association. And, it was noted, “he loved his McKenzie River friends and neighbors dearly.”

Other submissions were: McKenzie Schools superintendent Lane Tompkins for serving on numerous community committees that are supporting recovery efforts. “He worked long hours to get his CDL to help out the district in a time of need,” a note said, adding that, “he gives his whole self to the community that he loves.”

Neil Barrett was nominated for Man of the Year because he volunteers his time and expertise in the attempt to restart athletics at McKenzie High School.



“He is patient and kind,” they wrote, adding that, “he is a team player!”

After he retired from EWEB around 18 years ago Rick Wilson has annually volunteered to pick up the trash from Milepost 8 to 16 along Hwy. 126. “He also drives up the McKenzie often to see if anywhere else has a lot of trash,” it was reported, including “spending the week before Christmas cleaning up small Styrofoam balls that blew out along the highway for over 100 yards, getting cuts down his arms while getting them out of a blackberry patch.”

Craig Gustafson was recommended for volunteering as the project manager for the rebuilding of the Vida Community Center (which is very close to completion).

Tony Casad was cited for his “dedication to improving the Blue River Water District and Blue River Park at a high professional level, improving livability for all involved.” Also noted was his “focus beyond Blue River to attract all residents from the McKenzie River communities and tourists.”

Business

preneurial business can thrive in our 60-mile-long valley.” Someone else added they felt it offers, “a very impressive beverage and goodie menu, and a friendly greeting.”

People suggested two other establishments for Business of the Year:

The Leaburg Store was rated as “an excellent, upgraded business for the McKenzie River Valley,” that is, “friendly and well stocked. Others said, “they care about locals and helping causes.” One per-

son noted that “the store is well stocked with what the neighborhood needs compared to larger in town shopping, plus several local goods such as hats, shirts, and more to celebrate the McKenzie. The staff are a great crew. Plus, it provides tremendous support for the Bottle Boys.”

Takoda’s Restaurant gained votes for “helping out the community when they can - like donating meals to firefighters and search and rescue parties. They support our local students and teach them skills beyond the classroom.”

McKenzie Students of the Month

For November/December we focused on “Value” in RIVER. These students value their education; their peers, teachers, and resources.



High School student Coulter Lyon makes valuable use of his class time to get work done. He is always attentive during class. Coulter also values his fellow classmates. He is intentional to consider and include them. Coulter is valued in our community.



Middle School student Brennon Quesada values his education. He takes a genuine interest in doing well on his homework and assignments. He is a positive peer and a good friend. He is helpful to teachers and peers. He makes McKenzie a better place.



LANE ELECTRIC
Your Touchstone Energy AC cooperative

(541) 484-1151 • www.laneelectric.com

Letters to the Editor

rivref2@gmail.com
FAX 541-663-4550
59059 Old McK. Hwy.
McKenzie Bridge, OR 97413



McKenzie River Reflections



(541) 822-3358 FAX (541) 663-4550
MAILING ADDRESS: 59059 Old McKenzie Hwy.
McKenzie Bridge, Oregon 97413
rivref2@gmail.com • mckenzie river reflections newspaper.com

DEADLINE: For all advertising, photos, notices and articles is 5 pm every Monday.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

Yearly.....\$32.00
2-Years.....\$58.00
3-Years.....\$76.00

McKenzie River Reflections assumes no financial responsibility for errors in advertisements. However, if McKenzie River Reflections is at fault, we will reprint without charge, or cancel the charge, for that portion of the advertisement which is in error.

Publishing Editor: Ken Engelman

Phone 541-822-3358
rivref2@gmail.com

© 2024 MCKENZIE RIVER REFLECTIONS

All rights to reproduce the contents of this newspaper, including advertising copy, is reserved by McKenzie River Reflections.

An independent newspaper, McKenzie River Reflections is dedicated to publishing items of interest to the McKenzie River Valley. McKenzie River Reflections is available by subscription in digital form or on the news stands in the following communities: Camp Creek, Cedar Flat, Walterville, Leaburg, Vida, Blue River, Rainbow, and McKenzie Bridge.







WEATHER REPORT

READINGS TAKEN AT THE US ARMY CORPS COUGAR DAM

Date	High	Low	Rain	Releases
12/26	50	44	0	472 cfs
12/27	56	45	0	444 cfs
12/28	51	43	0	532 cfs
12/29	58	47	0.38	385 cfs
12/30	48	44	0.40	422 cfs
12/31	46	39	0	422 cfs
1/1	46	33	0	502 cfs

READINGS TAKEN AT EWEB LEABURG POWERHOUSE

Date	High	Low	Rain	Riverflow
12/26	49	45	0.17	3,580 cfs
12/27	53	41	0.01	3,570 cfs
12/28	54	40	0.10	3,460 cfs
12/29	52	45	0.02	3,360 cfs
12/30	63	46	0.40	3,450 cfs
12/31	52	38	0.30	3,620 cfs
1/1	52	35	0	3,480 cfs

Friday 1/5		Saturday 1/6		Sunday 1/7	
					
McKenzie Valley Rain 80% chance precip High: 45 Low: 37	Santiam Pass Snow 80% chance precip High: 31 Low: 24	McKenzie Valley Rain 80% chance precip High: 42 Low: 36	Santiam Pass Snow 80% chance precip High: 28 Low: 21	McKenzie Valley Showers 40% chance precip High: 43 Low: 36	Santiam Pass Snow Showers 40% chance precip High: 27 Low: 21

Sheriff's Report

Dec. 20: 3:20 p.m: Disturbance, Dispute - 92200 blk, Carson St. Verbal dispute between caller and a known person.

5:59 p.m: Disturbance, Dispute - 54400 blk, McK. Hwy. A caller reported threats /harassment from ex-boyfriend.

Dec. 21: 6:34 p.m: Suspicious Conditions - 92200 blk, Carson St. A caller reported that a known person was lingering around the property and possibly grabbing items from over the gate.

Dec. 22: 1:32 a.m: Burglary - 88400 blk, Stephens Rd. A caller thought they heard an unknown person in their house. It was determined to be a family member moving about.

2:46 a.m: Burglary - 92100 blk, Marcola Rd. A caller reported hearing noises that led them to believe that someone unknown

was possibly breaking into their house. Deputies responded to the area and checked the residence.

2:12 p.m: Suspicious Subject - 95200 blk, Marcola Rd. Two unknown males were found on the caller's property collecting cans. The males argued when confronted, but ultimately left on foot on Marcola Rd.

3:11 p.m: Illegal Cutting of Forest Products - Marcola Rd. & Bowman Rd. A BLM agent checked out with people trimming trees on BLM land.

4:57 p.m: Theft - 39900 blk, McK. Hwy. A caller reported that their dog was missing and that they suspect it was taken by a person known to them.

5:19 p.m: Suspicious Conditions - 44800 blk, McK. Hwy. A caller reported that an unknown male started yelling at the caller when the caller parked his semi-truck to get pizza from an area business.

Dec. 23: 2:45 a.m: Suspicious Conditions - Marcola Rd. & Nadeau Rd. A female was seen in

the area attempting to flag down traffic. Deputies patrolled but were unable to find her.

1:51 p.m: Disturbance, Dispute - 92200 blk, Carson St. Former tenants were previously evicted from a residence and have formally trespassed from the location.

1:52 p.m: Suspicious Conditions - 39300 blk, McK. Hwy. A postal box was found open at the Waltherville Post Office. USPS is investigating.

Dec. 26: 1:32 a.m: Burglary - 88400 blk, Stephens Rd.

11:49 a.m: Assist, Follow Up - 87300 blk, Cedar Flat Rd.

12:53 p.m: Welfare Check - 48100 blk, Conley Rd.

3:49 p.m: Subpoena Service - 49700 blk, McK. Hwy.

4:03 a.m: Theft - 39900 blk, McK. Hwy.

4:30 p.m: Assist, Follow Up - 91900 blk, Taylor Rd.

Dec. 27: 1:02 p.m: Repossessed Vehicle - 37700 blk, Camp Creek Rd.

5:02 p.m: Criminal Mischief - 87900 blk, Keola Ct. A caller advised that someone trespassed on 4-wheelers and damaged the caller's property.

6:03 p.m: Vehicle in Ditch - 38500 blk, Wendling Rd.

Dec. 28: 8:42 a.m: Theft - 92000 blk, Marcola Rd. A caller advised that his hearing aids were stolen.

11:46 a.m: Vicious Dog - 55600 blk, McK. River Dr. A caller advised that a beige German Shephard named "Jack" charged at her. She felt the dog would have bitten her if she had not been in her vehicle.

Dec. 29: 11:29 a.m: Civil Standby - 38500 blk, E. Cedar Flat Rd.

11:50 a.m: Mental Subject - 36300 blk, Sherra Ln.

12:17 p.m: Fraud - 37500 blk, Parsons Creek Rd.

3:29 p.m: Suspicious Subject - 52900 blk, McK. Hwy. An elderly, possibly disoriented female was seen walking along McK. Hwy.

5:42 p.m: Attempt To Locate Drunk Driver - Partridge Ln. & McK. Hwy.

7:42 p.m: Disturbance, Dispute - 89200 blk, Old Mohawk Rd.

7:59 p.m: Alarm - 88700 blk, Skyhigh Dr.

Continued On Page 4

McKenzie Fire & Rescue

Dec. 22: 11:40: 43000 block, Deerhorn Rd. Fire, Structural. No Fire Upon Arrival, Checked For Extension.

20:05: McK. Hwy./Flowerdale Rd. Assist Police. Disregarded by LCSO.

Dec. 23: 9:55: 88000 blk, Bridge St. Medical, General. Patient Assessed, Refusal Obtained.

10:45: 46000 blk, McK. Hwy. Fire Alarm False Alarm.

10:55: 36000 blk, Camp Creek Rd. Public Assist. Lift Assist.

Dec. 24: 11:02: 43000 blk, McK. Hwy. Illegal Burn. Homeowner Extinguished Fire/ Education Provided.

23:40: McK. Hwy./Thurston Rd.. Fire, Vehicle. Fire Extinguished.

Dec. 25: 5:40: 9000 blk, Thurston Rd. Medical, General. Patient Assessed, 1 Transported.

12:54: 41000 blk, Madrone St Medical, General. Patient

Assessed, 1 Transported.

Dec. 26: 15:55: 88000 blk, Bridge St. Medical, Trauma. Patient Assessed, 1 Transported.

Dec. 27: 9:48: 87000 blk, Cedar Flat Rd. Medical, Heart. Assist, 1 Transported.

Dec. 28: 8:19: 8000 blk, Thurston Rd. Medical, General. Assist, 1 Transported.

8:39: McK. Hwy. Milepost 37. Motor Vehicle Accident. Non-Injury, Non-Blocking

Dec. 29: 5:09: 90000 blk, Sunderman Rd. Mutual Aid. Disregarded PTA.

6:49: 41000 blk, Deerhorn Rd. Medical, General. Patient Assessed, Refusal Obtained.

McK. Fire & Rescue will hold its monthly Board of Directors meeting on Monday, January 15th at noon, in the Leaburg Training Center, 42870 McK. Hwy.

Upper McKenzie Fire/Rescue

Dec. 28: 21:26: Medical - 54000 block, McK. River Dr. Female, Conscious, Breathing.

Dec. 27: 14:07: Motor Vehicle Accident, Injury - 91000 blk, Blue River Reservoir Rd. Vehicle is off road, male passenger is inside deceased.

Dec. 28: 08:41: MVA, Unknown Injury - McK. Hwy./ Milepost 37. Single vehicle into ditch.

21:26: Medical - 54000 blk, McK. River Dr. Female, Conscious, Breathing.

Jan. 1: 06:31: Medical - 54000 blk, McK. Hwy. Male subject.

20:54: Medical - 52560 McK. Hwy. Requesting a medical evaluation for male patient.

The Upper McK. Fire District's board of directors will hold its monthly meeting at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, January 17th, at the McK. Fire Station, 56578 McK. Hwy. in McKenzie Bridge.

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

2022 August 11 Vol. 44, Issue 52	2022 August 4 Vol. 44, Issue 51	2022 July 28 Vol. 44, Issue 50	2022 July 21 Vol. 44, Issue 49	2022 July 14 Vol. 44, Issue 48	2022 July 7 Vol. 44, Issue 47
\$1.00	\$1.00	\$1.00	\$1.00	\$1.00	\$1.00
Add to cart	Add to cart	Add to cart	Add to cart	Add to cart	Add to cart
2022 June 30 Vol. 44, Issue 46	2022 June 23 Vol. 44, Issue 45	2022 June 9 Vol. 44, Issue 43	2022 June 2 Vol. 44, Issue 42	2022 May 26 Vol. 44, Issue 41	2022 May 19 Vol. 44, Issue 40
\$1.00	\$1.00	\$1.00	\$1.00	\$1.00	\$1.00
Add to cart	Add to cart	Add to cart	Add to cart	Add to cart	Add to cart
2022 May 12 Vol. 44, Issue 39	2022 May 5 Vol. 44, Issue 38	2022 April 28 Vol. 44, Issue 37	2022 April 21 Vol. 44, Issue 36	2022 April 14 Vol. 44, Issue 35	2022 April 7 Vol. 44, Issue 34
\$1.00	\$1.00	\$1.00	\$1.00	\$1.00	\$1.00
Add to cart	Add to cart	Add to cart	Add to cart	Add to cart	Add to cart
2022 March 31 Vol. 44, Issue 33	2022 March 24 Vol. 44, Issue 32	2022 March 17 Vol. 44, Issue 31	2022 March 10 Vol. 44, Issue 30	2022 March 3 Vol. 44, Issue 29	2022 February 2 Vol. 44, Issue 28
\$1.00	\$1.00	\$1.00	\$1.00	\$1.00	\$1.00
Add to cart	Add to cart	Add to cart	Add to cart	Add to cart	Add to cart
2022 February 17 Vol. 44, Issue 27	2022 February 10 Vol. 44, Issue 26	2022 February 3 Vol. 44, Issue 25	2022 January 27 Vol. 44, Issue 24	2022 January 20 Vol. 44, Issue 23	2022 January 13 Vol. 44, Issue 22
\$1.00	\$1.00	\$1.00	\$1.00	\$1.00	\$1.00
Add to cart	Add to cart	Add to cart	Add to cart	Add to cart	Add to cart
January 6, 2021 Vol. 44, Issue 21	2021 December 16 Vol. 44, Issue 18	2021 December 9 Vol. 44, Issue 17	2021 December 2 Vol. 44, Issue 16	2021 November 25 Vol. 44, Issue 15	2021 November 1 Vol. 44, Issue 14
\$1.00	\$1.00	\$1.00	\$1.00	\$1.00	\$1.00
Add to cart	Add to cart	Add to cart	Add to cart	Add to cart	Add to cart

MOVE TO A PLACE THAT MOVES YOU

McKenzie River Specialist
Exceeding Expectations
Nadine Scott, broker
Top Producer at
Windermere Real Estate since 2010*
541-915-0807
nadine@windermere.com
nadinescott.com

* based on Windermere's annual Top Producers List

JUDY CASAD

541-968-2400

Top Producer
Windermere Real Estate | Lane County

WillhiteRE@gmail.com
www.McKenzieHomes.com

Thinking of buying or selling? We can help!

We have over 30 years experience specializing in McKenzie Real Estate. Contact us for a professional no-obligation market analysis, or for assistance with all your real estate needs.

Deborah Willhite
Principal Broker / Licensed in State of Oregon
541-912-1523

Austin Willhite
Broker / Licensed in State of Oregon
541-954-8202

Want to sell your home for top dollar?
Ask me how!
Kelly Gustafson, BROKER
541.799.4398 Direct | KellyG@bhhsnwrep.com

©2019 BHHS, LLC. An independently operated subsidiary of HomeServices of America, Inc., a Berkshire Hathaway affiliate, and franchisee of BHHS Affiliates, LLC. Berkshire Hathaway Home Services and the Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices logo are registered service marks of HomeServices of America, Inc. *Equal Housing Opportunity

Real Estate Professionals

Keep in Touch - Weekly -
Subscribe to the McKenzie's own newspaper
tinyurl.com/2vf5caa6

By Finn J.D. Johnson

In the small hours of the morning of Aug. 16, 1906, a powerful explosion jolted residents awake near the little town of Willamette, which today is a neighborhood of West Linn. It came from the direction of the nearby Tualatin River.

The cause was soon discovered. When the first rays of the morning sun fell on the Oregon Iron and Steel Co.'s diversion dam, located a little over three miles from the river's mouth, a 20-foot-wide hole had been blasted in its center. The river water was still gushing through it.

Executives of the Oregon Iron and Steel Co. were outraged. In newspaper interviews the next day, they pledged that the dam would be speedily rebuilt, and for weeks afterward, newspapers like the Hillsboro Argus and the Oregon City Enterprise ran advertisements from the company offering a \$500 reward for information leading to the arrest of whoever blew it up.

They also fanned out around the neighborhood of farmers and residents along the Tualatin River upstream from the dam, making the same offer. But nobody seemed to know anything. Most of the residents wouldn't even admit to having heard the blast.

They all knew, of course. Some of them had been in the party that had crept up to the dam in the pre-dawn darkness, set the charge, and touched it off.

It was a fitting and, to the neighbors, satisfying ending to a dispute that had been dragging on for 18 years, pitting a handful of aggrieved farmers against a powerful, well-connected manufacturing company that was the pride and joy of the Portland metropolitan power elites.

And it was the end of the dispute, too. Although they did send work parties to the scene a few times, the company's vows to rebuild the dam turned out to be mostly just talk. The dam remained damaged; apparently, it still held back enough water to keep the river levels high enough for the company's needs. The \$500 reward was never claimed. And the Oregon Supreme Court was spared the need to go on record



Lake Oswego Public Library

The diversion dam as it appears today at relatively low river levels. All that remains is the concrete foundation, although some remnants of the structure can still be seen on the far shore.

correcting the rather embarrassing typographical error that had been the last straw for the Tualatin Valley farmers.

The dam drama had its roots in the early 1870s, when the Tualatin River Navigation and Manufacturing Company installed the base portion of the dam across the river, to raise the water levels high enough for riverboats to use it.

This was intended to make it easier for Tualatin Valley farmers to get their crops to market. But also, there was quite a bit of demand for waterborne access to what was then called Sucker Lake (it was renamed Oswego Lake in 1913). A decade or so before, a dam at the mouth of Sucker Creek had created the lake, but it was not of much commercial use without a connection to the outside world. So the company hired a crew of Chinese workers to dig and blast a canal through the bedrock connecting the Tualatin River with the upstream end of the lake.

The canal worked OK, but they soon found that it would work far better with a higher dam.

By this time lake access was especially important because of a company named Oregon Iron Company, the first iron foundry west of the Rockies. It was located right there in the community of Oswego (it wouldn't be renamed Lake Oswego until 1960), and used the lake, canal, and river to ship products out to Portland and

beyond. Boosters hoped it would turn Oswego into “the Pittsburgh of the West.”

Tualatin Valley farmers used the river for commerce too, of course; so at first, they were very happy about the dam. In 1882, when the iron foundry sought their buy-in for a plan to replace the existing dam with a bigger one, raising its height to 4.5 feet, they signed on. In exchange, the company agreed to keep the river clear of snags and navigation hazards and maintain a steamboat service on the river to get their crops to market.

But the company broke the deal almost immediately. They never bothered to clear the river and they never started steamer service. By the time they were ready and able to start on the project, they no longer needed it; a railroad connection came through that same year, which handled their freight needs far more economically than the waterway could.

So for five years, the company didn't do anything at all. The dam remained as it had been.

That changed in 1888, but not in a good way. When the dam went in, it was a four-foot-high base which the company topped with a four-foot riser, for a total of eight feet of impoundment.

The problem with this was, although it kept fresh river water flowing through Lake Oswego and increased the power output at the Sucker Creek dam that supplied the foundry, it flooded hundreds

of acres of previously productive farmland upstream.

From the neighbors' perspective, the company had offered them a deal that it had ignored utterly, renegeing on every clause at the first opportunity. As a result, they had, they felt, literally had land taken away from them without compensation.

The Oregon Iron and Steel Co. felt similarly hard-pressed because the canal it had built between Sucker Lake and the river was only navigable at higher water levels. Although they no longer needed to navigate on it, if they allowed the canal to become unnavigable, the law would force them to abandon their water rights there.

So the company didn't budge,
and off everyone went to court.

At first, the farmers met with little success in court. This probably wasn't a huge surprise; Portland plutocrats William M. Ladd, Simeon G. Reed, and Henry Villard were among the owners and executives of the Oregon Iron and Steel Co., so taking the company on was like declaring war on all the political and business elites of the whole Portland Metro area. Three farmers filed lawsuits demanding a total of \$22,500 in damages. All three suits were dismissed.

Finally, in 1897, farmer August Krause filed another lawsuit. In it, rather than asking for compensatory damages, he sued for specific performance — asking the court to order the dam removed.

(Sources: When the River Ran Backwards, a book by Jamie Ditzel published in 2021 by Tualatin Historical Society; “Why Farmers Once Blew Up a Tualatin River Dam,” an article by Barbara Sherman published in the July 2021 issue of Tualatin Life; archives of Hillsboro Argus, Hillsboro Independent, and Portland Morning Oregonian newspapers)

Finn J.D. John teaches at Oregon State University and writes about odd tidbits of Oregon history. To contact him or suggest a topic: finn@offbeatoregon.com or 541-357-2222.

Continued Next Week

McKenzie River Reflections

\$1.00

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2022
Volume 45, Issue 12

Serving the McKenzie River Valley ... And Subscriber Charlotte Archer of Wida

Sheriff's Reports

Control plugs now

PAGE 5

Why advertise in River Reflections?

PIT stop ends low speed pursuit

Wreck in the river kills Mr. Jeff

Driver created a "parade" of back

line campaign aids pilot's family

Because your customers are reading it.

THE DRIVER of a 1990s-era Ford Taurus was finally able to get the driver of the cream-colored Kia Soul to stop before directing the driver to pull into the lake's river parking lot by Leuking Lake.

The driver reportedly almost ran over a deputy before heading back onto the

MT. JEFFERSON: The family of a pilot killed in an accident in the Mount Jefferson Wilderness get some help from a Ground-Mc campaign, according to Lane County Sheriff Mike ...

search for the downed airplane. Life Flight flew to the area but was not able to identify a crash site due to weather conditions. The United States Coast Guard also responded but was also ...

of the crash was not survivable. Recovery of the Piper Cherokee presented significant challenges, Duncan said, and the US Forest Service - Willamette National Forest, and the National ...

Donate Your Vehicle

Call (877) 469-8517 to donate
your car, truck, boat, RV,
and more today!

How It Works:

1. Contact Us
Call (877) 469-8517
2. Schedule Pickup
We'll come to your
vehicle for FREE,
at all times and places
convenient for you.
3. Receive Top
Tier Donation
You may qualify for
a tax deduction.

How Your Vehicle Donation Helps Veterans

With vehicle donations already being an important vehicle service with much needed programs and services, such as:

- American Red Cross and American Red Cross Disaster Relief
- Delivering Aid Skills Training, and Employment Initiatives
- Coast Emergency Disaster Relief and Helping to Restore Veterans
- Coast Veterans Service Outreach (CVSO) Therapy and Crisis Counseling

Donate Your Vehicle Today

877-469-8517

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

Veteran Car Donations

Need to talk?
Call 988

***Sheriff's
Report***

Continued From Page 3

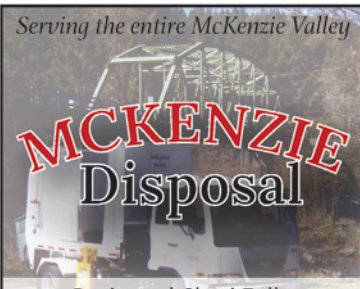
8:46 p.m: Assist, Follow Up - 39900 blk, McK. Hwy.

Dec. 30: 7:00 a.m: Civil Standby - 38500 blk, E. Cedar Flat Rd.

10:02 a.m: Vicious Dog - 55600 blk, McK. River Dr.

11:54 a.m: Burglary - 39900

Serving the entire McKenzie Valley



MCKENZIE
Disposal

Darin and Cheri Fuller
(541) 988-3016
PO Box 695, Walterville, OR 97489



Gardening Tips

By Kym Pokorny



Oregon State University

OSU Extension Service

Some gardens have too much organic matter



If you're a gardener, you've heard it a thousand times: Add compost to improve the soil, feed the microbes that release nutrients, and grow better plants.

But what if that isn't always the case? Believe it or not, research by Oregon State University found too much organic matter can have a negative effect. Wait. What?

There are the environmental consequences of fertilizer leaching and runoff, the expense and time to buy and apply the compost or other organic matter and, in some cases, plants burn and die from too many nutrients, according to Mykl Nelson, instructor in the OSU Department of Horticulture.

Nelson suspected that urban gardens are over-enriched. After a two-year research project, his thesis panned out. The soil samples Nelson took in 27 gardens averaged 13% organic material; the recommended minimum is 3% to 5%, according to numerous studies, including by Cornell University Extension Service.

Nelson knew there was a lot of anecdotal information that raised beds with organic material added to clay soil encourage it to drain faster, warm quicker, open up air and water pathways, help suppress weeds, insulate the soil against heat and cold, and cut down on erosion. In sandy soil, organic matter holds water that would otherwise slip through. All true.

"But as we looked into the amount of organic matter in urban gardens there wasn't much research on garden soil, at all," said Nelson who ran the study for two years. "Most soil studies have been done with native or agricultural soils."

To unearth how much organic material, usually compost, ends

up in garden beds, Nelson queried more than 80 people; 27 qualified to participate in the study because they were within the urban growth boundary and closest to his location. All who agreed to the test were OSU Extension Master Gardeners because of their interest and ease of contact.

Nelson looked at raised beds, both in-ground and built, and expected to find soil significantly more enriched in constructed beds which are usually filled with imported, non-native media. He took core soil samples at several levels in the center of each bed. The beds were planted with either vegetables or annuals (no trees or berries). Then he mixed the soil samples and examined the results in a lab. He was right: Organic matter averaged more in raised beds.

"Every bed was at least above the recommended minimum," he said. "There's no hard suggestion for organic matter levels, but there's a lot of support that says more organic matter leads to better crops. Up to a certain amount, it does, but there's a limit. One of the sites had 30% organic matter. They told me they used all compost. Their pepper plants were burned and died by the end of the season. There's an example of going too far."

Organic matter, Nelson said, correlates with elevated phosphorus and microbial activity. If there are too many nutrients for the plant to use, phosphorous may run off if the soil erodes into waterways. In addition to phosphorus, nitrogen is likely to leach out of the soil unless a slow-release product like feather meal is applied.

High levels of phosphorous build up over time if too much manure or manure-based composts are used and soils with excessive

phosphorous can contaminate waterways if the soils are left unprotected and erosion occurs, said James Cassidy, a senior instructor in the OSU Department of Crop and Soil Science Cassidy, who was not involved with Nelson's study..

The rub is what to put in built beds. Nelson suggests filling the bottom with carbon materials – wood chips, limbs, straw – and topping with compost blended with loamy soil and other suitable materials. Bark mulch facilities will have an appropriate product. To save money, offer to go in with neighbors or friends on a truckload. Always, take a sniff of the product to see if it smells fresh. If it doesn't, don't buy it.

Cassidy admits, "I'm afraid I am the source of many gardeners gone astray. I've spent a lot of time selling 'add organic matter' and I'm afraid I'm a victim of my success in that regard."

Both Cassidy and Nelson mentioned several times that the most important thing a home gardener can do is to get a soil test. If the organic material is at 3% to 5%, it's okay. Hold off adding more for a year or two and test again. See how it changes. It might be time to ease off fertilizer and organic compost. Conversely, if you need more, add ½ inch or so, not the 2 to 4 inches often recommended.

If you have heavy clay soil you may need more; adding organic matter can help open the soil structure and get more water and air to plant roots.

Unfortunately, Cassidy said most people want a recipe. When it comes to soil, nutrients, and plants, that isn't possible. Testing is as close as it comes.

Get a lesson in collecting soil samples in Extension's A Guide to Collecting Soil Samples for Farms and Gardens. Find suggestions of labs in Analytical Laboratories Serving Oregon and learn to interpret the results in Soil Interpretation Guide. Or feel free to bring the results to your county Extension office for Master Gardeners to decipher.



Country Kitchen

By Mary Emma Allen



A GIFT OF TEA

My friends, as well as my family, know that I enjoy tea. So gifts of this beverage make their way to me. My daughter and grandchildren have given me various types of tea bags, as well as loose tea, for Christmas and other special occasions. This was no exception with Lady Grey Tea, Scottish Breakfast Tea, Green Tea and Rooibos Red Tea in the gift bag from Beth.

"Aren't you tired of getting tea?" my daughter asks.

I tell her I always look forward to tea. She knows my favorites and usually adds something new each time. This year it was the Scottish Breakfast Tea, which is tasty.

Cup of Tea for Relaxation

For a warming beverage to start the day, or during a break at work, a cup of tea can't be beat.

"Have a cup of tea and we'll chat," my mom would say when I arrived at her home, 275 miles from mine. My grandmother enjoyed tea every afternoon at 3 o'clock. Anyone around would stop and sit with her at the kitchen table.

Tea in American History

As I delve into the life of early Americans during my research for various articles, I come across the frequent references to tea as a favored beverage. Modern day hospitality often calls for a cup of coffee offered to guests. However, in colonial days, tea generally was the more common brew at any hour.

Some say tea was first sold in a

public shop in Boston around 1680. Before long it was found in most apothecary shops. One researcher claimed that more than 7,800,000 gallons of tea was drunk by one and a half million colonists. In the streets of New York City, peddlers sold "tea water" from push carts.

Tea Time Treats

To accompany your tea, perhaps you'd like to try DONUT MUFFINS. They are cooked like muffins, but taste somewhat like donuts.

Mix together the following ingredients until dampened: 2 cups flour, 2 rounded teaspoons baking powder, 2/3 teaspoon salt, 1/2 teaspoon nutmeg, 1/2 cup sugar, 2 2/3 tablespoon dry milk, 2/3 cup water (or 2/3 cup milk instead of the dried milk and water), 1 large egg, 1/3 cup melted shortening or oil.

After filling paper-lined muffin tins 3/4 full, sprinkle each muffin with a mixture of cinnamon and sugar. Bake at 375 degrees F. for 20 minutes. This recipe makes one dozen muffins.

(c) Mary Emma Allen

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

Quote of the Week

"Hate. It has caused a lot of problems in this world, but it has not solved one yet."

Maya Angelou

Professional & Courteous Family Owned & Operated Funeral Home Since 1961

- Serving Families with Dignity & Grace
- Large Chapel with Reception Room
- Personalized Brochures with Photos
- Details Such as Social Security & Legal Documents
- Out of Town Arrangements
- Special Attention to Veterans
- Services to ALL Cemeteries
- Advance Planning

Wheelchair Accessible

A family's Love is forever

541 746-9667 112 A St. Springfield

www.MajorFamilyFuneralHome.com

~ Pre-Plan with ~

Major Family FUNERAL HOME

What is?

Destination Creation

Would you like to turn your business into a unique destination that customers go out of their way to visit? McKenzie River business owners are invited to apply for our Destination Creation Course, a nationally-recognized training program for small businesses to become can't-miss consumer destinations!

RAIN catalysts

Date: Two Saturdays
FEB 24th & MAR 2
Breakfast & Lunch Provided

Location: Vida McKenzie Community Center
FREE - \$800 value
Provided by:
Lane County & RAIN Catalysts

Be Placed on Our Invitation List!
Contact: Melissa Prestinario
melissa@raincatalysts.org

More Detailed Information to Come!

This Space For Rent

rivref2@gmail.com

HAD ENOUGH OF FACEBOOK?
So have more than 500 national brands that don't want their ads placed next to hateful, divisive or fake content.

ADVERTISE WITH THE TRUSTED SOURCE
YOUR LOCAL NEWSPAPER

America's Newspapers

America's Newspapers is a national association supporting journalism and healthy newspapers in our local communities.

McKenzie River Reflections

59059 Old McKenzie Hwy.
McKenzie Bridge, OR 97413

Your community newspaper since 1978

rivref2@gmail.com

The Perfect Gift for Tea Lovers

We've made holiday shopping easy!
Save 15% on all teas, teaware, and gifts at
ARTOFTEADEAL.COM/34 with code MB15.

❖ ART OF TEA

Code MB15 valid on online orders placed until December 31, 2023, at 11:59 PM PST. Discount does not apply to gift cards, wholesale orders, or Tea of the Month Subscriptions. Code cannot be combined with any other offer or discount.

Community Notes

January 4

Children’s Story Time

The The O’Brien Memorial Library is offering Storytime on the 1st Thursday of each month at 1:30 p.m. Enter the world of imagination and learning by joining our staff volunteer who will read a story and lead an activity for the young ones. Connect with other parents and let the kids mingle. Join us at our temporary location at the Upper McKenzie Community Center and see all the colorful, amazing children’s books and DVDs we have. We can’t wait to see you at the UMCC, 54745 McKenzie River Drive in Rainbow.

January 6

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.

January 6

Vision Board Making

Want to make a vision board “road map” for the new year? This will be a fun and creative way to reflect on the past year and set goals and aspirations for the upcoming year. People will be guided through the process of setting intentions before the exercise begins with goals, lessons and gratitude. Personal vision boards will be created over the course of about an hour and a half with time for reflection and interpretation at the end. The session will be held from noon to 2 p.m.

What to bring: Scissors, magazines to share and cut up (if you have any, if not no worries.) All other materials (poster board, glue, etc) will be provided. The cost is \$20 per person. This will be a smaller and more intimate setting so space is limited. Text John at 541-510-8405 or send the Upper McKenzie Community Center a message on Facebook to reserve a spot.

Jan. 22 through Feb. 12

Woodland Management class

OSU Extension Forestry offers Woodland Management class for Lane County Woodland Owners
Woodland owners can build skills for caring for their trees by taking Oregon State University Extension Forestry’s Woodland Management: A basic forestry short course. This course teaches owners of wooded property how to assess their trees, understand the ecology of their woods, enhance wildlife habitat, get a fair deal when selling logs, and take practical steps to keep their woods on track to provide enjoyment for years to come.

Oregon State University Extension will be hosting this course on Monday mornings from

10 a.m.- 12 p.m. from January 22nd through February 12th, 2024, at the OSU Extension Office in Eugene. A full day field trip is included on February 26th. The Cost to attend is \$40 per individual or \$50 for two or more participants from the same family.

Pre-registration is required and must be received by January 15th. To register or learn more, visit beav.es/qny or contact Carrie Mack at 541-237-6808 or carrie.mack@oregonstate.edu.

Oregon State University Extension Service prohibits discrimination in all its programs, services, activities, and materials on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, gender identity (including gender expression), sexual orientation, disability, age, marital status, familial/parental status, income derived from a public assistance program, political beliefs, genetic information, veteran’s status, reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Accommodation requests related to a disability should be made at least two weeks before the event to contact Lauren Grand, 541-579-2150 or lauren.grand@oregonstate.edu.

January 8

Parks Advisory Committee

Lane County Parks Advisory Committee meets from 6 to 7:30 p.m. in the Goodpasture Room, 3050 N Delta Hwy, Eugene. The Parks Advisory Committee meets 2nd Monday of each month (except during July & August). 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.

January 8

Spfld School Board

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

January 9

Board of Commissioners

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

on an as needed basis.

January 9

Tiny Dental Van

The Tiny Dental Van, sponsored by the Rural Oregon Outreach Program, will be at the Orchid McKenzie River Clinic, 54771 McKenzie Hwy, every second Tuesday of the month in Rainbow. A first visit will include a patient assessment, intraoral photos, teeth cleaning, charting, and X-Rays. Call 360-449-9500 or 800-525-6800 to schedule new patient appointments or teeth cleaning.

January 9

Tourism Committee

The McKenzie River Chamber of Commerce Tourism Committee meets via Zoom on the second Tuesday of every month. Please join us even if you are not a Chamber member. The committee strives to strengthen the support of locals interested in improving tourism and the economic vitality of the entire McKenzie River Valley. Email the Tourism Chair to get on the meeting email list: Treasurer@McKenzieChamber.com

January 9

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.

January 9

McKenzie Food Pantry

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

January 9

Save Leaburg Lake

The “Save Leaburg Lake” Committee meets at the Vida Windermere Office, 45632 McKenzie Hwy. in Vida, on the second Tuesday of each month. For more information, call Nadine Scott at 541-915-0807 or email nadine@windermere.com to join the email list.

January 10

Wacky Wednesday

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

January 10

McK School Board

The McKenzie School District Board of Directors will meet from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m.in the District Administration building, 51187 Blue River Dr. The meeting will be livestreamed with viewing available at www.youtube.com/channel/UC14_qR6FmaelclIzi4UMCeQ/videos. Submit Public Comment to public.comment@mckenziesd.org for review and submission to the meeting minutes.

January 11

McK Watershed Council

The McKenzie Watershed Council’s meets from 5 to 6:30 p.m. Contact: Melanie Giangreco-(458-201-8150) [mckenziewc.org](mailto:melanie@</p></div><div data-bbox=)

January 10

Watershed Wednesday

Green Island, 31799-31601 Green Island Rd, Eugene, from 9 - 11:30 a.m. Join McKenzie River Trust every Wednesday morning 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.

January 11

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.

January 13

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.

January 13

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.

January 15

McK Fire & Rescue Board

The McKenzie Fire District Board meeting will be held from noon to 1 p.m. in the Leaburg Training Center, 42870 McKenzie Hwy. Dor information call 541-896-3311.

January 16

Board of Commissioners

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

January 16

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.

Jan. 22 & Feb. 7

Wildfire Recovery

The State of Oregon is providing funds for Holiday Farm wildfire recovery and all are welcome to join the conversation – the next Committee meetings are Monday, January 22 and Wednesday, February 7, both from 1-4 PM and there is time set aside at the beginning and end for comments and questions. The State of Oregon program is called PIER - Planning, Infrastructure, and Economic Revitalization – visit <https://lane-countyor.gov/PIER> to confirm meeting time and dates, sign up for project updates, provide comments, and get information on upcoming meetings and materials.

February 9

Chili Feed

The Walterville Grange will host their annual Chili Feed on Friday, February 9, from 5 to 7 p.m. Family, and tell your friends and neighbors are invited for some rootin’ tootin’ homemade chili, cornbread, salad, dessert, and beverages. The Chili Feed will be held at the Walterville Grange Community Center, located at 39259 Camp Creek Road, in Walterville. As usual, there will be a collection of donated canned food for the upriver food bank. The Grange is also still taking donations for the new siding and windows on the west side of the building, so feel free to add to the donation can (check out the thermometer to see how it’s going). Donations for the meal will also be accepted. For more information, please call 541-521-4760 and leave a message (calls will be returned).

Paver Sales Remain Open

The Vida McKenzie Community Center will continue to offer opportunities to buy engraved pavers for their patio. As a fundraiser, continuing sales will support the completed work and provide for additional enhancements. As batches of new paver purchases are made, the engraver will furnish and install the newly etched pavers. Call 541-953-3440 or willmarlys@gmail.com.

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

Community Center receives defibrillator for new building

VIDA: McKenzie Fire & Rescue has donated a new defibrillator to Vida McKenzie Community Center after the Center’s Board of Directors recently completed a CPR/AED training course. This equipment is easy to use and provides verbal prompts to help any first responder, whether formally trained or not. Training is recommended, however, and is available through McKenzie Fire & Rescue.

Hopefully, the equipment will never be needed but, if it is, the new AED will make it possible for a prompt response to a cardiac emergency at the Center, while awaiting the arrival of profes-



sional assistance.

The Vida McKenzie Community Center is grateful to McKenzie Fire Chief Darren Bucich, not only for providing this valuable equipment, but for installing it too.

<h2>An Invitation to Worship</h2>	<p>Living Water Family Fellowship 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>McKenzie Bible Fellowship <i>45061 McKenzie Hwy – Vida, Oregon</i> Sunday Worship – 10:00 a.m. Youth Ministries KidsFast Family Activities Small Group Fellowships Men’s & Women’s Bible Studies Call 896-3829 for information www.mckenziebible.com</p>	<p>Catholic Church St. Benedict Lodge Chapel 1/2 mile off Hwy. 126 on North Bank Rd., McKenzie Bridge Sat. Eve. 5:00pm Sun. Morn. 9:30am; web page: sblodge.opwest.org</p>
<p>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! Milepost 13 McKenzie Hwy. (541) 747-2604</p>	

Ski Report

December 19, 2022

Mt. Bachelor reported temperatures of 36 degrees at the base and 30 degrees at the summit on Tuesday. No new snow fell overnight, leaving the snowpack at 25 inches. It also marked the first day of operations for the new Skyliner Express, the resort’s first 6-pack lift. Clouds were expected throughout the day, with a chance of precipitation. 65 of 122 trails were open, along with 10 of 15 lifts. For more information call 541-382-7888.

More snow is needed before the Hoodoo Ski Resort will open for this season.

A Moment in History

Info provided by History.com

January 4, 1847- Samuel Colt rescues the future of his faltering gun company by winning a contract to provide the U.S. government with 1,000 of his .44 caliber revolvers. Before Colt began mass-producing his popular revolvers in 1847, handguns had not played a significant role in the history of either the American West or the nation as a whole. Expensive and inaccurate, short-barreled handguns were impractical for the majority of Americans, though a handful of elite still insisted on using dueling pistols to solve disputes in highly formalized combat. When choosing a practical weapon for self-defense and close-quarter fighting, most Americans preferred knives, and western pioneers especially favored the deadly and versatile Bowie knife.

Though never cheap, by the early 1850s, Colt revolvers were inexpensive enough to be a favorite with Americans headed westward during the California Gold Rush. Between 1850 and 1860, Colt sold 170,000 of his “pocket” revolvers and 98,000 “belt” revolvers, mostly to civilians looking for a powerful and effective means of self-defense in the Wild West.

CROSSWORD SOLUTION

S	O	U	P	S		A	F	C		E	S	P	Y
O	P	T	I	C		S	E	A		C	A	N	O
S	T	A	L	E		H	E	R		O	R	A	L
S	H	A	N	T		P	L	U	N	G	E		
		F	I	R		B	I	A	S				
C	P	A				C	O	C	A		H	I	C
O	R	B	S			T	O	R	N		N	O	R
C	O	A	T			H	A	R	E	M		W	E
O	F	F	A	L		L	A	V	A		L	E	A
A	S	T	R	A	L		G	E	N	T		D	K
						T	Y	P	E		O	H	M
						G	L	O	V	E	S		T
A	L	I	B	I		A	T	E		R	A	I	L
K	O	R	E	A		L	E	A		N	O	R	S
A	W	A	Y			M	A	R		Y	U	K	O

SUDOKU SOLUTION

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

Emergency? Call 911

Burned more often

Continued From Page 1

scars allowed us to reconstruct 130 different fire years that occurred at one or more of the 16 sites before a federal policy of fire suppression went into effect early in the 20th century.”

- The main takeaways:
- * Fire was historically far more frequent in western Oregon Cascades landscapes than previously believed.
 - * Indigenous peoples likely used fire to manage large areas for resources and probably altered landscapes and fire regimes in significant ways.
 - * There are important present-day restoration opportunities for fire-adapted systems in western Oregon.

“Also, our study produced little evidence of the kind of large, wind-driven fires that in 2020 burned 50,000 to 75,000 hectares in the watersheds immediately to the north and south of our study area,” Johnston said. “Only 39% of fire years were recorded at more than one site, only 11% were recorded at more than two sites, and only 3% at more than three sites – in a study area of 37,000 acres, that strongly suggests that most historical fires were relatively small.”

Across all 16 sites, the average fire return interval – the length of time between fires – was as short as six years and as long as 165. In general the differences in those averages were strongly associated with vapor pressure deficit or VPD, basically the drying power of the atmosphere. The higher the



James Johnston looks for evidence of past fire in the southern part of Willamette National Forest.

VPD, the shorter the time between fires.

However, historical fire in stands seral to Douglas-fir – stands that, if left alone, would end up with Douglas-fir as the dominant tree species – was much less strongly linked with dry air.

“We interpret the extraordinary tempo of fire in those stands, and the climate pattern associated with fire there, to indicate Indigenous fire stewardship,” Johnston said. “We saw some of the most frequent fire return intervals ever

documented in the Pacific Northwest, but the enormous volume of biomass that these moist forests accumulate over time is often partly attributed to long intervals between wildfire.”

The authors note that humans have occupied the southern part of what is now the Willamette National Forest for at least 10,000 years. A variety of Indigenous cultures, including the Molalla, Kalapuya, Tenino, Wasco, Klamath, Northern Paiute and Cayuse, probably used the area for trad-

ing, hunting and the collection of plants.

“Removals happened very quickly, with most Native people taken to the Grand Ronde, Warm Springs and Klamath reservations,” said co-author David Lewis, a member of the Grand Ronde Tribe and an assistant professor of anthropology and Indigenous studies in OSU’s College of Liberal Arts. “Removal of the tribes took their cultural stewardship practices, their use of annual cultural fires, from the land, radically altering how the forests were managed.”

By 1856, most remaining members of Willamette Valley and western Oregon Cascades tribes had been forcibly removed to reservations. Extensive clearcut logging on the Willamette National Forest started in the late 1940s and continued for four decades.

“Now, Forest Service managers want fine-grained information about forest vegetation and historical disturbance dynamics to manage lands in ways that promote resilience to climate change,” Johnston said.

He added that the Forest Service is working closely with the Southern Willamette Forest Collaborative, a group based in Oakridge, to plan a variety of restoration treatments.

Joining Johnston and Lewis on the paper were the College of Forestry’s Micah Schmidt, now working with the Umatilla Tribe in northeastern Oregon, and Andrew Merschel. Co-authors also included William Downing of the U.S. Forest Service and the University of Oregon’s Michael Coughlan.



THE GUEST HOUSE

At
AQUA GARDENS VILLA

Now Booking!

McKENZIE BRIDGE, OREGON
WWW.AQUAGARDENSVILLA.COM
541-687-0036



Butcher's Deluxe Package

- 4 Butcher's Cut Top Sirloins (5 oz.)
- 4 Air-Chilled Boneless Chicken Breasts (4 oz.)
- 4 Boneless Pork Chops (5 oz.)
- 4 Individual Scalloped Potatoes (3.8 oz.)
- 4 Caramel Apple Tartlets (4 oz.)
- 1 Omaha Steaks Seasoning (3 oz.)
- 8 FREE PureGround™ Filet Mignon Burgers (6 oz.)**

74222ZKA separately \$221.94
SPECIAL INTRODUCTORY PRICE \$99.99

Get 8 FREE Burgers

1.888.497.1173 ask for 74222ZKA
OmahaSteaks.com/Deluxe8172

Savings shown over aggregated single item base price. Standard S&H applies. Exp. 12/31/23. | Omaha Steaks, Inc.



THE LEABURG STORE

“Mix 6”
Craft Beverages
Hot Food To-Go
Firewood
Over 30 Kombuchas

Christmas Tree Permits

MP 20, McKenzie Hwy
(541) 896-0500



Hale Honeybells

The once a year citrus sensation!

ONLY \$32.99*

Reg. Price \$44.99
Special Limited Time Offer!

35% SAVINGS INCLUDING SHIPPING

BUY 12 GET 12 MORE FREE!

Call 1-855-440-1424 to order item 2692X or Visit HaleGroves.com/H4YU32

* Only \$32.99 (reg. \$44.99) plus \$7.99 shipping and handling per pack to 48 contiguous states. Some restrictions may apply. Limit 5 boxes per customer. IC: H4YU32

SUPPORT LOCAL NEWS

SUBSCRIBE. DONATE. ADVERTISE.

Forest Service Employees recognized at ceremony



The Willamette National Forest Disaster Recovery Team - Brett Blundon, the DRT Staff Officer, is in the center accepting the award from Acting Regional Forester Liz Berger. Deputy Regional Forester Merv George Jr. is on the far right in the photo.

As December wore down, the USDA Forest Service honored employees and partners for exemplary work, dedication and commitment. The Pacific Northwest Region Regional Forester’s inaugural Honor Awards Ceremony was held on December 13th in Portland. This year’s theme for the awards was “Growing Towards the Future: Celebrating Success in a Changing World.”

“The theme of this year’s event reflects the forward-thinking approach demonstrated in the work we do here. I have been truly inspired by the innovative spirit, drive, commitment, and collaborative efforts that define our award recipients,” said Liz Berger, Acting Regional Forester. “Our employees are trailblazers, embodying the Forest Service core values and leading the agency in rising to the challenges of our changing world. The efforts of our award recipients are shaping our present for the better and paving the way for a more resilient future.”

Berger and Deputy Regional Forester Merv George Jr. presented awards for 12 categories to employees and partners across the Pacific Northwest, which includes 16 National Forests, two National Scenic Areas, a National Grassland, and two National Volcanic Monuments within the states of Oregon and Washington. The Regional Honor Award categories and recipients included:

The Willamette National Forest Disaster Recovery Team included: Brett Blundon, Lowell Evans, Heidi Anderson, Erick Larkin, John Trebesch, Shadie Nimer, Molly Baumann, Joseph “Dock” Chastain, and Sydney Randall.

The Willamette National Forest (WNF) has experienced several large fire events including the Middle Fork Complex in 2021, the Cedar Creek Fire in 2022 and a number of severe fires this past fire season. The Disaster Recovery

Team worked to identify, design, and implement tens of millions of dollars of work in Fiscal Year 2023 and has already set up a complete program of work for Fiscal Year 2024.

Their current allocation of funds for recovery work is from Fiscal Year 2021 to Fiscal Year 2026 is \$124 to \$164 million. Since 2017, the forest has seen in excess of 400,000 acres of mixed severity fire (better than 25% of the 1.6-million-acre forest). In early 2021, the Willamette National Forest Leadership Team decided to stand up a Disaster Recovery Team to plan, implement and monitor this critical work. From day one the team hit the ground running. The goal was for them to plan, sequence, budget, contract, administer, coordinate grants and agreements, develop strategic communication, as well as monitoring and upward report writing. During planning and implementing restoration work from the 2020 fires, the Willamette NF experienced the Middle Fork Complex in 2021, burning 42,000 acres. In 2022, the WNF also experienced the Cedar Creek Fire, resulting in fire effects on another 127,000 acres. Lastly, the Willamette NF had another significant fire year in 2023, seeing several large fires, impacting in excess of 62,000 acres. During this time (since January 2023), the Willamette NF Disaster Recovery Team has worked tirelessly with district and Forest staff to identify, design, and implement tens of millions of dollars of work. This team has done an outstanding job implanting this critical work in Fiscal Year 2023 and has already set up a complete Program of Work for Fiscal Year 2024. The team is also working on finalizing all documents and photos for timely upward reporting that shows criticality of the work and that we are a wise investment.



*Congratulations to all three -
The McKenzie’s Man, Woman
and Business of the Year!*

THURSTON
PACK N' SHIP

• Mailboxes • Fax • Scan • Copy • Ship • Pack •

Find us at
5729 Main St
Springfield, OR 97478

Call us at
Ph 541-515-6668
Fax 541-515-6702

• FedEx • UPS • United States Postal Service •

RIVERVIEW MARKET
& DELI

Fishing Tackle • Worms
Lane County Parks Permits
Espresso • Ice
Day Fishing Licenses

Hot Food
Fresh Sandwiches
Take & Bake Pizza
Groceries • Deli

35286 Camp Creek Rd. 541-747-0321

MCKENZIE FEED & TACKLE

Pet Supplies Quality Pet Food Livestock Feed Fresh Eggs

McKenzie Feed and Tackle

541-741-0191
39355 McKenzie Hwy

We're proud
of you!

Tackle & Bait Gifts Knowledgeable & Friendly Staff

River
Roofing

541-746-5000
1-800-844-2145

1484 South B Street, Springfield
www.riverroofing.com

CAC

Companion Animal Clinic

Where Wise Pets Bring Their People!

5620 Main St, Springfield, 541-747-2307
cacvets.com facebook.com/CompanionAC

Member Owned, Member Controlled

LANE ELECTRIC

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

Serving Lane County Since 1939

541-484-1151

Herrick Farms

Always "Farm Fresh" fruits & vegetables

88088 Maillican Rd. 541-741-1046

Hole in the Wall
Barbecue

Gary Rodgers

(541) 726-1200
Fax: (541) 741-0048
1807 Olympic Street
Springfield, OR 97477
www.holeinthewallbbq.com
gary@holeinthewallbbq.com

the TRUSS co.

www.thetrussco.com

Merry Christmas!

541-688-8671

29336 Airport Rd • Eugene

Serving The Entire
McKenzie Valley

McKENZIE DISPOSAL L.L.C.

DARIN and CHERI FULLER, Owners

541-988-3016 • Box 695, Waltherville, OR 97489

Major Family

FUNERAL HOME

112 No. "A" St., Springfield 541-746-9667

McKenzie
Station Pub

RESTAURANT • BAR • ESPRESSO

Check for Seasonal Hours

Lunch and Dinner - Full Bar - Cocktails
House Smoked Meats, Sandwiches

56393 McKenzie Hwy. McKenzie Bridge 822-6006

COLD
WATER
FACT

Body heat can be lost
25 times faster in cold
water than in cold air.

weather.gov