



Serving the McKenzie River Valley ... And Subscriber David Arts of Springfield

Sheriff's Reports

A male wearing a military uniform wearing a nametag that said, 'Kirby' was trying to sell items to people.

PAGE 3

Turning on the charm

The gregarious 13-year-old boy who had been informally adopted into Portland opium smuggler's household had come a long way

PAGE 4



Upgrades underway

Clear Lake cabins have been getting a facelift



Parks employee Adam Brenneman at work on Cabin 11 at the Clear Lake Resort.

By Alex Paul
CLEAR LAKE: Linn County Parks staff members have been busy refurbishing three rustic cabins at the Clear Lake Resort - installing log-like fiberglass reinforced concrete siding that is fire-retardant and likely to provide long-term durability against rugged winter weather.

On a recent Monday morning Adam Brenneman and Brett Tetzlaff were busy removing decades-old wooden shutters and mixed siding materials from the cabin's exterior walls.

Brenneman said the interior of two of the

cabins had been refurbished in 2020 and one in 2021. The work included new sheetrock, flooring, beds, stainless steel tables, and new curtains.

The project was expected to take about three weeks and will include new vinyl-clad windows in two of the units. The Number 16 cabin will retain its historic windows, which have been reconstructed.

Exterior siding ranges from T-111 on the newer cabins to decades-old cedar shakes on Cabin 15.

[Upgrades underway - Page 8](#)

Clinic rebuild takes a U-turn

McKenzie Valley Wellness to seek new architect

RAINBOW: Unresolved issues affecting design and siting decisions have been points of discussion during recent meetings of the non-profit McKenzie Valley Wellness (MVW) board of directors. At a meeting on November 15th, the board voted 3 to 1 to terminate their agreement with Pivot Architecture of Eugene. Voting to leave Pivot were Steve Severin, Jane Wilson, and Robin Roberts. Opposed was Val Rapp. Galen Phipps was out of town.

"We made that decision after considerable discussion and consultation with industry experts before the board meeting as well as a discussion during the meeting," according to MVW president Val Rapp. "We made this decision as a board and we believe it's in the best interest of our project and our community. We believe it's our best way to control costs and use as many local contractors as possible."

Some of the issues discussed at an October board meeting were concerns about drawings submitted by Pivot that included wrong

measurements for property line setbacks, discrepancies between exterior and interior renderings, and the placement of overhangs - as well as what was described as an overall appearance that would "make the clinic look like all the others on Willamette Street (in Eugene)."

Lack of information regarding septic and electrical issues was a concern as well. Until information is confirmed, the placement of lines for the proposed Blue River Sanitary District could impact the location of the building on the MVW property. Missing as well as information on whether Lane Electric will feed the site with overhead or underground lines.

"We appreciate the work that Pivot has done toward designing the new health clinic in Blue River," Rapp says. "However, we are very concerned about the cost estimates and budget proposals associated with Pivot's design."

She said McKenzie Wellness is also alarmed about the building budgets that the O'Brien Memorial Library and the Upper McKenzie

Fire Department are facing in their own planning processes with Pivot. "We understand that building costs have gone up," she said. "Some of our board members have just rebuilt homes themselves. But we think we can control costs."

The next McKenzie Valley Wellness board meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, November 29th at 7 p.m. at the Living Water Fellowship building, 52353 McKenzie Hwy. "Our MVW Board is developing a strategy on our next steps to plan our rebuild of the health clinic," Rapp said. The rebuild will be the first topic on the agenda.

In the interim Carmen Graham of the Oregon Department of Justice says the DOJ is reviewing the Public Records request filed by McKenzie River Reflections on October 31st. The filing asked for the questions the DOJ posed to McKenzie Valley Wellness and their responses. Graham said the review and redactions should be completed by next Tuesday.

Economists expect a 'mild' recession

Taxpayers can expect more returns in 2024

By Julia Shumway
After months of record revenue growth, Oregon economists now expect the state to enter a "mild" recession next summer.

State economists told a legislative panel on Wednesday that economic forecasters in Oregon and around the country anticipate a recession within the next year because inflation remains higher than the Federal Reserve wants it to be, with the Fed expected to continue raising interest rates. In a quarterly report released Wednesday, officials from Oregon's Office of Economic Analysis likened the interest rate hikes to slamming on a car's brakes.

"Slamming on the brakes of a speeding car

will cause it to skid and even fishtail," the report said. "The question is whether the driver is able to pull out of it or end up in the ditch. Most economists today believe a recession is likely, even if the exact path of the economy is uncertain."

The forecasted recession envisions losing about 24,000 jobs, primarily in construction, manufacturing, and related industries including finance and transportation. It would likely be rougher in the Portland suburbs and central Oregon, where rapid population growth means a significant portion of the local economy is tied to construction.

State economist Mark McMullen told lawmakers the signs of an upcoming recession are different this year than they have been in the past. It will be driven by a decline in housing and business investment due to high-interest rates, he said. The current forecast calls for employment rates, which have risen quickly and steadily since plummeting in the early days of the pandemic, to dip in late 2023 and begin rising again the following

[More returns in 2024 - Page 10](#)



Oregon is expected to pay a record kicker in 2024.

'20-21 education impacts are now centralized

Includes key data on students, teachers and schools

SALEM: "The 2020-21 school year was like no other school year in history," according to Colt Gill, Director of the Department of Education. "The vast majority of Oregon's schools started the 2020-21 school year in distance learning due to the global COVID-19 pandemic," he adds.

For students and families, those outside forces created a blended world of school, home life and work responsibilities. "The disruption to regular school-based learning posed complex challenges," Gill said. "Some of our children experienced the loss or suffering of a family member or friend due to COVID-19. All of our kids

experienced some isolation from personal connection with their peers and trusted adults as they transitioned to school in a fully-online space."

Due to disruptions by the COVID-19 pandemic, some data was missing. Now that the Oregon Statewide Report Card is back to its pre-pandemic format, it

includes data never before presented in the annual report.

Some of those details include:

- Students demonstrated significant progress toward being on track by ninth grade. Ninth Grade On-Track data rebounded 9.2 percent from 73.5 percent

[Education impacts - Page 8](#)



Letters to the Editor

It takes a village

This holiday season, pitching in to support a small business may be easier than you think.

Many small towns are proud to feature a vibrant main street, and rightfully so. Busy storefronts are a sign of activity and growth. They also indicate strong community support.

But not every small business gets its start in a brick-and-mortar location. With the popularity of online shopping, more small entrepreneurs are learning that their dream of selling locally-produced food, artwork, and handmade items can be achieved from the comfort of their own homes.

While home-based businesses have their benefits, they also deal with their own set of challenges. Walk-in traffic isn't practical. The curiosity that comes from filling a storefront isn't going to materialize. Catching the attention of community members with a bright sign or colorful display isn't going to be as effective in a residential area.

Instead, these home-based businesses rely on word of mouth. That's where you come in.

Many new entrepreneurs take to social media to advertise their goods. Give them a follow. This allows you to stay up to date on new products or special sales. It also shows the business owner they have your support.

Consider sharing their information in a post on your own page. Your credibility can carry a lot of weight—when you share a local

business with your friends and family, they'll see you as a trusted source and give that business the benefit of the doubt. This can do more to drive sales than any catchy slogan ever could.

Finally, remember a positive review can make all the difference. Many consumers spend time researching a business before making a purchase. Letting others know you've had a good experience can help them feel confident in their investment.

Small entrepreneurs and business owners have been working hard to prepare for the holiday season. Now, it's time to do your part.

Teresa Hoffman
Senior Communications Associate
Center for Rural Affairs
Lyons NE

Lessons from the Ukraine War

After occupying Crimea in 2014 without any pushback from world powers, President Putin decided to invade Ukraine in the east in 2022. He and his puppet advisors thought the Russian military would quickly vanquish Ukraine, but the Ukrainians, with equipment support from NATO, have put up fierce resistance.

The destruction of civilian infrastructure by Russia has infuriated the Ukrainians and hardened the resolve of world powers to help Ukraine. The Ukrainians are fighting to preserve their country and have the advantage of territo-

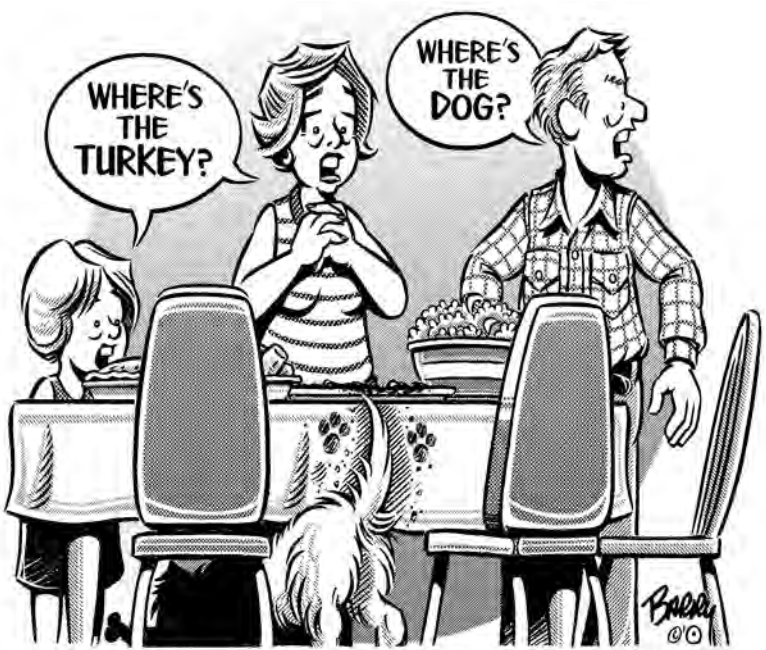
rial knowledge. Also, elements of the Russian army have tortured, sexually assaulted, and murdered Ukrainian civilians, which has stiffened Ukrainian resistance.

Ukraine is fighting an undeclared proxy war for NATO, and NATO military support could have a long-term impact on peace in Europe by standing up to Russian aggression in Ukraine. The supply of military equipment to Ukraine by NATO, including massive amounts of military hardware and ammunition by the U.S., has enabled it to conduct operations to defend the country. Additional sophisticated drones, anti-aircraft missiles, and long-range missiles should be added to the arsenal. We are obligated to help Ukraine because we convinced Ukraine in 1991 to give up its arsenal of nuclear weapons and send them to Russia in return for U.S. security guarantees.

NATO countries now realize they have to increase their military forces in response to Russian ambitions in Europe, and NATO should expeditiously approve Ukraine's admission and then deploy defensive military forces into Ukraine.

The U.S. has gained valuable military planning information about the Russian military, including the use of our weapons systems against them. This could help us in the future if we have to implement military planning and operations against Russian forces. Additionally, the Ukraine War is depleting Russia's military equipment and bloodying its military personnel.

Donald Moskowitz
Londonderry NH



finance reports showed her outspent two to one. She appears to be winning decisively. In Senate District 15 Democrat Janeen Sollman also was heavily outspent but seems to be winning by about the same margin as Patterson.

Obviously, not all campaign finance leaders are losing; often, money flows to candidates who are thought to have a good chance of winning. But that usually means factors other than cash are critical.

Republicans appear clearly to have flipped just one state Senate district: 16, the northwestern Astoria-St. Helens-Tillamook district which was represented until early this year by then-Democrat and now-non-aligned Betsy Johnson. There, Republican Suzanne Weber did outspend Democrat Melissa Busch, but changes in the district, the fact that Weber was an incumbent House member with a strong Tillamook base and her close relationship with Johnson probably were much bigger factors.

(You might count District 6, in the eastern Linn County area, as

a flip, but the boundaries of that district were so strongly changed that it is really a new, and much more Republican, district.)

Similarly, in the Columbia Gorge-area District 26, another open seat, Republican Daniel Bonham heavily outspent Democrat Raz Mason (though the contribution levels were not out of the norm for a legislative race), but Bonham appears to have won. The district has been held by a Republican for some years, and probably would stay that way unless the Democrat had an unusually strong campaign.

An overall impression of Oregon politics on the morning after the election: The fundamentals have not drastically changed.

Randy Stapilus founded Ridenbaugh Press in 1988 and has published more than two dozen books, many of them about Idaho, starting with *Paradox Politics* in 1988. He has worked for Idaho newspapers at Boise, Nampa, Pocatello, Lewiston and Caldwell. oregon-capitalchronicle.com

Guest Opinion

You need more than money to win an election in Oregon

By Randy Stapilus

Remember those news stories about the massive campaign contributions on behalf of nonaffiliated Oregon governor candidate Betsy Johnson? For months her campaign treasury outpaced all others; she was the beneficiary of many millions of dollars, including more than \$3 million just from Nike co-founder Phil Knight.

As this is written on Wednesday morning, the Oregon governor's contest isn't settled yet – Democrat Tina Kotek is barely leading Republican Christine Drazan – but this much we know: Johnson isn't in the hunt. With about half of the vote counted, she was pulling 8.8% of the vote.

It turns out people still were willing to vote for Democrats and Republicans.

When it comes to the question of whether backers of a minority group can simply buy their way to an election win over a stable political majority, the answer in Oregon seems to be: no.

We saw dramatic evidence of that this spring in the Democratic primary election in the 6th Con-

gressional District when candidate Carrick Flynn was backed with millions from a cryptocurrency billionaire; he came in a very distant second to a much less-funded competitor.

Vast amounts of out-of-state campaign funds were dropped on Oregon in the last few months, much of it aimed at congressional races but with significant amounts filtering down to legislative seats. Generally, it seemed to change little. In almost all cases, the result you'd expect based on normal voting patterns held up in this year's election.

Democratic Senator Ron Wyden, whose re-election never seemed to be in doubt, was running at about 56% of the vote on Wednesday; he took 57% in each of his last two elections.

U.S. House districts 1, 2, and 3, which are all very strong for their parties (blue, red, and blue respectively) all voted according to the norm. The other three districts are all more competitive and attracted large amounts of out-of-state funds, mainly on the Republican side. But House Dis-

trict 4 went decisively Democratic, while the other two remained closed on Wednesday. The heavy spending on advertising probably had some effect, but only at the edges (which might be enough to make the difference in District 5, where the Republican contender was leading).

In a column several weeks ago, I labeled the 16 Oregon state Senate seats up for election by the probability of winning – lean, likely or safe, Democratic or Republican. All 16 went in the partisan direction I suggested, and the primary drivers in those choices concerned the usual partisan trend of the district, the nature of the candidate and – but definitely a lesser consideration – partisan spending. Looking at those races now, none seem to have been decided primarily by campaign funding.

Consider Senate District 3, in the Medford area, a politically competitive region where Democrats have a small advantage. Incumbent Democrat Jeff Golden was outspent more than three to one by Republican Randy Sparacino; the results so far show Golden ahead, of where he logically might be if both candidates spent equally.

Democrat Deb Patterson has an energetic contest in Salem-area Senate District 10; October

2023

RECOGNITION

It's time to vote for the Reader's Choice for the McKenzie River's Man, Woman & Business of the Year

Cast your vote by December 23rd
Fax, write, or email their name and an explanation of why you think they're the best in the McKenzie Valley

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MRR

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| Friday 11/25 | | Saturday 11/26 | | Sunday 11/27 | |
|--|---|--|--|---|--|
| | | | | | |
| McKenzie Valley AM Showers 30% chance precip High: 54 Low: 36 | Santiam Pass AM Showers 30% chance precip High: 36 Low: 16 | McKenzie Valley PM Showers 30% chance precip High: 49 Low: 38 | Santiam Pass PM Snow Showers 40% chance precip High: 42 Low: 23 | McKenzie Valley Showers 60% chance precip High: 48 Low: 35 | Santiam Pass Snow Showers 60% chance precip High: 42 Low: 126 |

| WEATHER REPORT | | | | | | | | | |
|--|------|-----|------|----------|---|------|-----|------|-----------|
| READINGS TAKEN AT THE US ARMY CORPS COUGAR DAM | | | | | READINGS TAKEN AT EWEB LEABURG POWERHOUSE | | | | |
| Date | High | Low | Rain | Releases | Date | High | Low | Rain | Riverflow |
| 11/15 | 49 | 31 | 0 | 327 cfs | 11/15 | 51 | 31 | 0 | 2,700 cfs |
| 11/16 | 50 | 33 | 0 | 350 cfs | 11/16 | 64 | 35 | t | 2,410 cfs |
| 11/17 | 45 | 29 | 0 | 350 cfs | 11/17 | 52 | 25 | 0 | 2,260 cfs |
| 11/18 | 49 | 29 | 0 | 350 cfs | 11/18 | 42 | 31 | 0 | 2,150 cfs |
| 11/19 | 28 | 47 | 0 | 350 cfs | 11/19 | 60 | 26 | 0 | 2,080 cfs |
| 11/20 | 45 | 26 | 0 | 350 cfs | 11/20 | 48 | 28 | 0 | 1,510 cfs |
| 11/21 | 48 | 31 | 0 | 346 cfs | 11/21 | 47 | 30 | 0 | 2,110 cfs |

Sheriff's Report

Nov. 8: 1:14 p.m: Suspicious Subject - 42800 block, Leaburg Dr. A male wearing a military uniform wearing a nametag that said, 'Kirby' was trying to sell items to people. Subject was associated with a red BMW car.

Nov. 9: 1:50 p.m: Burglary - 53000 blk, McK. Hwy. A house that is under construction was broken into. Undisclosed property taken.

Nov. 12: 5:29 p.m: Harassment- 37100 blk, Camp Creek Rd. Caller reported receiving mean messages over social media from former friends.

10:38 p.m: Disturbance, Dispute - 39200 blk, McK. Hwy. Verbal dispute between patrons at a local business. No crime established.

Nov. 13: 8:19 a.m: Theft - 8900 blk, Thurston Rd. A caller reported that tenants moving from the location were throwing away the caller's personal items.

8:53 a.m: Theft - 52900 blk,

McK. Hwy. Mail stolen from lock box.

5:28 p.m: Disturbance, Dispute - 39400 blk, Mohawk Loop Rd. Dispute between landlord and tenants. established.

Nov. 14: 10:12 a.m: Suspicious Vehicle - Camp Creek Rd. & Skyhigh Dr. A deputy patrolling checked on a vehicle parked in the area.

Nov. 15: 9:44 a.m: Lockout - Old Marcola Rd. & Woods Rd.

1:49 p.m: Child Abuse - 42900 blk, Leaburg Dr.

Nov. 16: 10:01 a.m: Welfare Check - 44200 blk, McK. Hwy.

11:00 a.m: Towed Vehicle - 88900 blk, Easy Ln.

3:04 p.m: Motor Vehicle Accident, Unknown Injury - Marcola Rd. Milepost 5.

5:25 p.m: Disorderly Juvenile - 38700 blk, Natures Garden St.

7:13 p.m: Mental Subject - 91800 blk, Mill Creek Rd.

8:50 p.m: Citizen Contact - 91800 blk, Mill Creek Rd.

Nov. 17: 10:45 a.m: Foot Patrol - Showalter Creek Rd. & Shotgun Creek Rd.

11:22 a.m: Unlawful Use of Vehicle - 89300 blk, Old Mohawk

Rd.

1:38 p.m: Traffic Hazard - 36400 blk, Camp Creek Rd.

1:46 p.m: Welfare Check - 36300 blk, Sherra Ln.

4:44 p.m: Criminal Mischief - 87000 blk, Cedar Flat Rd.

5:17p.m: Disturbance, Dispute - 39400 blk, Mohawk Loop Rd. Dispute believed to be verbal only between a landlord and tenant.

5:29 p.m: Disorderly Juvenile - 38700 blk, Natures Garden St.

6:34 p.m: Blocked Driveway - 40100 blk, Mohawk River Rd.

8:16 p.m: Information - 91800 blk, Mill Creek Rd.

Nov. 18: 1:56 p.m: Towed Vehicle - 88900 blk, Easy Ln.

Nov. 19: 1:59 a.m: Audible Alarm - 7000 blk, Thurston Rd.

4:23 a.m: Illegal Fireworks - 39400 blk, Walterville Ln.

5:45 a.m: Injured Animal - Marcola Rd. & Sunderman Rd.

8:14 a.m: Dead Animal - 90300 blk, Hill Rd.

8:23 a.m: Civil Service - 92100 blk, Marcola Rd.

9:57 a.m: Warrant Service - 37300 blk, Parsons Creek Rd.

12:38 p.m: Dog At Large - Marcola Rd. Mp. 5.5.

Nov. 20: 6:47 a.m: Disturbance, Dispute - 92200 blk, Treston Ln.

11:30 a.m: Suspicious Conditions - Gemstone Rd. & camp creek Rd.

5:42 p.m: Disturbance, Dispute - 90700 blk, Hill Rd.

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

State Police Report

Nov. 19:01:16: Crash, Non-Injury - Hwy. 126E, Milepost 27. Responded to a single vehicle crash. An Acura sedan left the roadway and crashed into a ditch. No injuries were sustained and the driver arranged for a tow. Involved: gray Acura TL, 29-year-old male from Springfield.

McKenzie Fire & Rescue

Nov. 14: 12:12: 56000 block, Hall Rd. Mutual Aid. Cancelled by

UMF.

15:44: 40000 blk, Deerhorn Rd. Medical, General. Patient Refusal.

Nov. 16: 10:43: 44000 blk, McK. Hwy. Medical, General. Patient Assessed, 1 Transported.

15:54: Marcola Rd./Milepost 5. Mutual Aid. Disregarded by MVFR.

Nov. 17: 9:16: 41000 blk, McK. Hwy. Medical, Trauma Patient Assessed, 1 Transported.

13:48: McK. Hwy./Blue River Dr. Motor Vehicle Accident - Non-Injury, Non-Blocking.

19:13: 7000 blk, Thurston Rd. Medical, General. Patient Assessed, 1 Transported.

Nov. 18: 1:13: 45000 blk, McK. Hwy. MVA. Non-Injury, Non-Blocking.

Continued On Page 10

Upper McKenzie Fire/Rescue

Nov. 17: 13:46: Motor Vehicle Accident - McK. Hwy./Blue River Dr. Three vehicles, unknown injuries, partially blocking.

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

MRR

McKenzie River Reflections

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

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Annual Bridge Lighting Celebration

Join us December 3
4 pm to 7 pm at Upper McKenzie Community Center
54745 McKenzie River Drive

- Shop Vendor booths for Holiday Gift Giving
- Enjoy hot cider, cocoa & cookies
- Watch the decorated river rafts float down the river in a parade
- Visit with friends and neighbors
- Find out more about the history of the McKenzie River
- See our new remodeling plans!

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Gardening Tips

By Kym Pokorny



Oregon State University

OSU Extension Service

Poor soil? Build up with raised beds



It’s a lucky gardener who digs into great soil right off the bat. Most often, it takes years of adding organic material to bring it up to snuff.

There is a shortcut, however. For areas of the garden where you need the best soil, filling a raised bed is a quick solution.

“Raised beds are great, especially in western Oregon where gardeners deal with mud and rain,” said Brooke Edmunds, a horticulturist with Oregon State University Extension Service. “In urban areas, we typically have soils of poor quality. Raised beds allow you to build up and get a good root system despite that.”

How you build a raised bed depends on personal preference and resources. Making an unframed bed is the easiest and cheapest way to go. But because there’s no enclosure, you’ll work harder to keep it in place. Additional soil and organic matter will need to be added more often since erosion washes it away. And because of the slope, unframed beds take up more space, which can be at a premium in urban gardens.

Start a mounded bed with a pass or two of a rototiller to 2 to 3 inches deep or more, said Edmunds, author of Extension’s

just-revised free publication *Raised Bed Gardening*, which includes detailed instructions. If you prefer, use a spade to turn the soil. Add a 2- to 3-inch layer of compost and dig or till that in. Shape the beds, leaving sufficient pathways.

Building a contained raised bed can be more expensive, depending on the materials chosen, but could be worth the extra cost because you won’t have to add soil as often. Most commonly, wood is used. You’ll want to avoid treated wood, such as old pressure-treated



Raised beds are most often made of wood. Be sure to avoid lumber treated with chemicals.

lumber or railroad ties, because they may leach chemicals into the soil. Cedar and redwood cost more but last longer than other wood. Concrete bricks, thick edging pavers, or retaining wall blocks are also possibilities. Even rocks will work if you’re adept at stacking them.

When designing a bed, keep the width at about 4 feet so that you can easily reach into the middle. Stepping into the bed will compact the soil and reduce drainage capacity. Plus, it’s a hassle. For children, build an even narrower bed. If someone in a wheelchair will use it, have the sides the appropriate height to accommodate them. Other than that, shape the beds to fit the space, again being sure to leave adequate space for paths.

Whether you mound a bed or frame it, Edmunds recommends buying fresh soil mix either bagged from a garden center or in bulk from a landscape company. Avoid topsoil, which typically doesn’t drain well and isn’t rich in organic matter. If purchasing in bulk, try to take a look in person. It should be loose and fresh smelling, and shouldn’t contain rocks or have hard clods.

“The most important thing people should know is to buy good soil,” she said. “You need good drainage and high organic matter, especially when growing edibles.”



Country Kitchen

By Mary Emma Allen



THE PLEASURE OF BIRD FEEDERS

My daughter and I are trying to determine how to outwit the squirrels so we can enjoy the pleasure of bird feeders and watching our feathered friends.

Watching the birds in all seasons was a pleasure my mother passed along to me. She called her children’s attention to the birds as they built nests, raised their young, gathered around the feeders, and sang cheery songs.

Mother owned several bird books, which she kept handy to identify new species and seek information about the various birds. I recall how pleased she was to acquire a large book with colorful pictures, *The Birds of America* by John James Audubon. It was more expensive than most books she usually purchased. I imagine the money came from her egg sales, from the chickens we raised.

I was pleased to find this bird book still existed and was in good condition when I had to move Mother to our home as she developed Alzheimer’s. I can visualize her now pouring over the pictures and calling our attention to the various birds.

My Enjoyment of Birds

From Mother I learned to appreciate and enjoy the birds around our farm home and to discover those in other parts of the country wherever Jim and I lived and traveled.

I’ve written about birds in poetry and story and often included them in my paintings and illustrations.

One of my friends finds the poems, Lord Baltimore Oriole and Red-Winged Blackbird her favorite pieces in my anthology for children, *Tales of Adventure & Discovery*.

Family Fun

My daughter, as a youngster, also enjoyed winter bird feeding. One year a gift she desired for Christmas was a bird feeder. She received a feeder from each of her grandmothers.

Bird watching is a fun activity for children and helps develop their interest in nature and the creatures of the outdoors. Shut-ins find much pleasure in watching bird feeder visitors outside their windows, too.

PORK CHOP CASSEROLE makes a nice winter dish. Place 3 lean pork chops in a casserole dish; sprinkle over them 4 tablespoons raw rice, 1/4 sliced onion, salt and pepper as desired. Place 3 more lean chops over this and spread 1/2 sliced onion over the chops along with 1 finely chopped green pepper, salt and pepper. Pour one 15-oz. can stewed tomatoes over all (a larger can if you want more juice).

Bake 1 1/4 hour (or until chops are tender and rice is cooked) at 350 degrees F. If pork chops are not very lean, you may want to trim some of the fat off and brown them lightly in a skillet first, drain off the excess fat before placing in casserole.

(c) Mary Emma Allen

Mary Emma Allen writes from her NH home.



THE GUEST HOUSE

AT

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Community Notes

November 25

McKenzie Food Pantry

Free groceries provided in accordance with Oregon Food Bank and Food For Lane County guidelines for food distribution to those in need. 2nd & 4th Friday, at the McKenzie Bridge Christian Church from 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. Shop for yourself or have food delivered to car. Questions? - call Robin 541-844-8838.

November 26

One 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.

Nov. 25 - Dec. 31

Ornament Contest

Ornaments have been placed on three non-wilderness trails in the McKenzie Ranger District. People should take only take one ornament per household so other families can enjoy the same thrill. Every ornament on a given trail features the same design. Beginning on November 25th, eagle-eyed hikers and visitors can hit the trail to track down an ornament; once they've found one, they can register to win the grand prize - and put the ornament on their tree in their home. Ornaments will be placed on family-friendly trails and more arduous paths alike, giving hikers of all abilities the chance to win. Details will be released on November 25th at: tinyurl.com/39nc5nn9.

November 28

Springfield School Board

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

December 3

Christmas Bazaar

Even though Christmas lights and décor have been evident along McKenzie Highway for several weeks, the area's seasonal festivities actually "kick off" with Vida McKenzie Community Center's Annual Christmas Bazaar. The Bazaar will be held at Walterville Community Center and Grange on Saturday, December 3rd, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Guests will be greeted by the wonderful smells of breakfast and lunch items offered at the snack bar and by the glitter and charm of gift items offered by over 20 artisans. A Children's Choir from McKenzie School will be performing at 10, followed by the arrival of Santa Claus at 10:30.
Santa's Workshop will provide an opportunity for children (young and old) to snap a photo with Santa or for youngsters to decorate Christmas cookies, create hand-made Christmas cards or shop for their family (all items \$10 or less.) A bevy of raffle items will be waiting for the lucky winners and guests will also learn about the wonderful progress in the rebuilding of Vida McKenzie Community Center, destroyed in the 2020 Holiday Farm Fire.
Since VMCC is partnering with the "Bottle Boys" to raise money

for non-profits in the McKenzie Valley, guests are encouraged to bring bags of cans and bottles to the Bazaar to aid in this valley-wide recycling effort.
VMCC's Christmas Bazaar is a not-to-be-missed event. Come one! Come all!

December 10

Library Grand Opening

McKenzie Fire Station Community Room and Leaburg Library
The Leaburg Library will celebrate the Grand Opening of the "Angler's Roost" from 2 to 4 p.m. on Saturday, December 10th. The new one-of-a-kind collection featuring over 500 rare, collectible fly-fishing books donated by Tom Ripp, and a smaller collection donated by the estate of Kevin Winter. This collection includes books about fly-fishing, fly-tying, lake fishing, river fishing, best places to fish here and abroad, history of fishing, books by legendary authors, diaries and memoirs, wonderfully written stories with beautiful illustrations, books that everyone would enjoy reading.
The celebration will begin in the Community Room at 2 p.m. with opening remarks, an overview of the collection by Tom Ripp, and the dedication, followed by an open house at the library where people can peruse the collection.
Refreshments will be served in the Community Room and in the Library during what's sure to be a fun afternoon.

December 9

McKenzie Food Pantry

Free groceries provided in accordance with Oregon Food Bank and Food For Lane County guidelines for food distribution to those

December 10

Light up the Valley

December 9

The McKenzie River Chamber of Commerce is sponsoring a Light up the Valley contest for area businesses. Vote for your favorite business lights by 5 p.m. on Friday, December 9th at: Nadine@windermere.comm. Winners will be announced at a Holiday Lights Depot event on December 11th, with prizes awarded for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place finishers. It will be held from 2 to 5 p.m. at the Leaburg Fire Station.

December 13

Holiday Dinner

The Walterville Grange will host an Open House and Holiday Dinner at 6 p.m. on December 13th. On the menu will be turkey, ham, dressing, mashed potatoes and gravy, rolls, coffee and juice as well as side dishes and desserts people are encouraged to bring. Visiting and viewing displays will start at 6 p.m, followed bt dinner at 6:30 and a program at 7:30. The Grange is located at 39259 Camp Creek Road in Walterville.

December 13

Reforestration

Oregon State University Extension Services will host a discussion on Reforestation after the Fire to discuss considerations for planting trees after a property has experienced a fire. Topics will in-

clude reforestation practices, vegetation management, dealing with overhead dead wood, and creating planting plans. The Oregon Department of Forestry will be available to answer questions about forest practice laws and regulations, as well as other, partner organizations that provide resources for after fire recovery.
The event, from 2:30 to 4:30 p.m, is free, but registration is required. It will be held at McKenzie Fire and Rescue, 42870 McKenzie Highway in Leaburg. Please register for the event to receive meeting information. This is a hybrid event and you can attend in-person or online. Register here: <https://extension.oregonstate.edu/lane/events/reforestation-after-fire-lane-county>.

Season of giving trees

The Upper McKenzie River Fire District has one at the Upper McKenzie fire station, another at the Orchid Clinic in Rainbow, and one at the McKenzie Community School. Ornaments have been place on the trees with an age range on it. People can take one of the ornaments and leave the other one, purchase a gift suited for the age and have it preferably at the school or the fire station by the December 9th. For questions call Lacy Joy 541-554-0209 or Jess Boykin at 541-654-9292.

Quote of the Week

"Good judgment comes from experience, and a lot of that comes from bad judgment."
Will Rogers

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THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 24, 2022

Volume 47, Issue 12

Serving the McKenzie River Valley... And Subscriber Charlene Anderson

Sheriff's Reports

PAGE 1

PAGE 2

PIT stop ends low speed pursuit

Driver created a "parade" of backed up cars

Wreck retrieved from Mt. Jeff

GoFundMe campaign aids pilot's family

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Direct Answers

By Wayne & Tamara Mirthell

A Familiar Melody



Sanjuti Kundu

What is the definition of a “player?” I remember the line “players only love you when they’re playing” from an old Fleetwood Mac song, but I never understood it.

Three years ago I met a man I thought the most wonderful person in the world. He was 42. Until he was 37 he had a pattern of short relationships. Then, against his life pattern, he married and had a child. For him it was a bad choice. She was a substance abuser.

When I met him, we were both divorced. I was never allowed to meet his friends. Everywhere we went I felt he was on the prowl for someone else. It’s that instinct thing we’re supposed to listen to. As time went by, he didn’t want to help me with even little things. Then I learned he had been spending time with a woman down the street.

In retrospect, with all I went through, I now see the definition of a player. Why I was kept around so long is a mystery. Probably because we each had a child, a child who was crushed when we

parted.

When a person denies their life pattern and leads others to disaster, it’s hard to think about a fresh start. My question after this long story is how do you recognize a player earlier?

Marti, the answer is another question. Do you have to try to fit a square peg in a round hole before you realize it won’t work? Or can you acknowledge what you see and skip the useless attempt.

The ability to recognize a player speedily depends on our self-deception level. Your intuition saw the signs. Your head recognized the pattern. Your want overruled what you knew and sensed.

Another part of the song says what your want and need denied. “Said I loved you and you believed it was true. That’s hilarious.” Who are players? Thieves. Shadows. They take what does not belong to them. They get what they want and leave you with nothing.

You were looking for love and a lifetime marriage. His pattern was a series of short relationships. Most of the time the answer is right before our eyes, but we won’t accept what we see. We try to force the square peg in the round hole. After, we wonder why.

Wayne

Another Dimension

What is more important in marriage, love or companionship? I love a woman. I know she loves me with a deep and loyal love. Still we hurt each other with words. Often I feel we neither

complement each other nor are we soul mates.

Derek

Derek, the Irish short story writer Frank O’Connor wrote a story called “The Impossible Marriage.” In it a woman named Eileen and a man named Jim find each other. Though they lived in the same section of Cork, they never noticed each other until the time was ripe.

Neither is free to marry because of family obligations, but they marry anyway. The marriage is something of a joke to people around them because they can’t share the same household. They are only free to be together a few evenings a week and for short vacations.

Despite this, they are extraordinarily happy. After a while, unexpectedly, Jim dies. At the funeral Eileen tells Jim’s aunt it won’t be long before she and Jim are together again. When the aunt protests Eileen will find happiness again, Eileen says she could never find such happiness a second time.

By the end of the story everyone realizes that this marriage, which seemed like a parody of the real thing, was so complete and so perfect that beside it their own marriage appears hollow.

Most writers get this kind of story wrong. Their intuition tells them it’s supposed to be like this, but they surrender to self-doubt and think no one will believe it.

Wayne & Tamara

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

American Life in Poetry

By Kwame Dawes

I must admit that I leave “In Patient” still wondering, “Is she alright?” I suspect that Erin Evans knows this, and what she wants to say is that this moment of humor, a distraction from the thing that is feared—a husband checking his wife’s heartbeat with a stethoscope—may, in the end, be far less important than the quirky observation. Perhaps he is listening for the sound of a child’s pulse, perhaps he’s testing a new stethoscope, perhaps they are just playing “doctor”, perhaps, perhaps.

In Patient

By Erin Evans

My husband holds the cold stethoscope to my chest—his brown eyes averted, he listens carefully, like someone taking directions on the phone on how to save another life.

My heart is a room full of dispatchers waiting for those strange-hour, desperate calls, trained to keep you on the line while help arrives.

But what he says, smiling up at me, after he’s listened awhile is, “I think I can hear the ocean.”

And I know he must be right—

that what he hears is some small part of the 95% of water on earth yet to be explored, that there is still no word for life that doesn’t sound like the hush of

the ocean.

We do not accept unsolicited manuscripts. American Life in Poetry is made possible by The Poetry Foundation (www.poetryfoundation.org), publisher of Poetry magazine. It is also supported by the Department of English at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. Poem copyright ©2022 by Erin Evans, “In Patient” from Nimrod International Journal. Volume 65. Number 2, Spring/Summer, 2022. Poem reprinted by permission of the author and the publisher. Introduction copyright ©2022 by The Poetry Foundation. The introduction’s author, Kwame Dawes, is George W. Holmes Professor of English and Glenna Luschei Editor of Prairie Schooner at the University of Nebraska.



A Moment in Oregon History

By Rick Steber
(www.ricksteber.com)

November 24 - Sarah Winnemucca, a member of the Paiute tribe, was born in 1844. As a young girl she went to work on a ranch where she learned the English language. When many of the Paiutes were placed on the Pyramid Lake Reservation, Sarah stepped into the national spotlight, appealing for the white man to provide the Indians with adequate food and clothing. Sarah spoke to her people, saying violent resistance was counterproductive, but she could not stop the Paiutes from joining in the Bannock Indian War. After the war, Sarah continued to travel and lecture, and she met with President Rutherford B. Hayes and asked that the Paiutes be allowed to return to the Great Basin. Promises were made, but once again, the promises were broken. Sarah died in 1891.

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If you want to drink, that’s your business. If you want to stop, that’s ours. AA Group meets Wednesday 6:00pm-7:00pm and Sunday 5:00-6:00pm at the McKenzie Valley Presbyterian Church, 88393 Walterville Loop, a block from the Walterville Shopping Center. N/c-sub 5/15/-5/11/14

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Fishing Report

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

Fish Counts

November 17, Willamette Falls
Fall Chinook – 2,714
Winter Steelhead – 6,620

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5. *Certain toy G.I.

8. Miss America’s accessory

12. Pot inhale

13. Morsel of Little Miss Muffet’s meal

14. Private

15. Larger-than-life

16. Children’s author ____ Blyton

17. Post-Its

18. *Sticks and spools toy set

20. One of the Olsens

21. Gibson garnish

22. Middle-earth creature

23. Bias
26. Neat in appearance

30. Chasing game

31. Chancellor, in Europe

34. Not happening

35. Anomie, alt. sp.

37. Local area network

38. Re-attempt

39. Wyatt Earp’s card game

40. Common parakeet, colloquially speaking

42. Snakelike fish

43. Not yet a wife

45. *Like certain toy Cathy

47. Mine deposit

48. Water nymph

50. Cassette contents

52. *Illuminated picture maker

Solution on Page 6

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

Solution on Page 6

56. Wainscots
57. Play parts
58. The Fonz: “Sit ____!”
59. Face-to-face exams
60. Not this
61. Brainchild
62. Homey, alt. sp.
63. “Fight for You” singer
64. High rocky hills

DOWN

1. Editor’s mark
2. African antelope
3. Related
4. Suppose
5. Political club, in the olden days
6. Celestial hunter
7. Whirlpool
8. *Sno-Cone, actually (2 words)
9. Opposed to
10. “As ____ on TV”
11. Retail posting acronym
13. Blood-red
14. Beginning of essay
19. “Dear Diary” bit
22. Hockey legend
23. “The Office” people, e.g.
24. Veranda on Oahu
25. Ancient Greece marketplace
26. “The ____ Show” (1976-1980)
27. Sacred song
28. White heron
29. *Raggedy Ann or Strawberry Shortcake, tenderly
32. *Professor Plum and Colonel Mustard game
33. Little bit
36. *Avenues and rail roads game
38. Betty Ford Center, e.g.
40. Spelling contest
41. Superlative of icy
44. Edible herb
46. Quick and skillful
48. Specialty
49. Rose oil
50. Tropical edible root
51. Dwayne Johnson’s 2022 role
52. Wooden slat
53. ____-China
54. Part of a traditional wedding cake
55. Greek Hs
56. *Play- ____

Upgrades underway

Continued From Page 1



Adam Brenneman and Brett Tetzlaff with old shutters and windows from the cabins.

Brenneman said shakes that are in usable condition will be kept in inventory to use for future repairs on other cabins.

Linn County Parks Director Brian Carroll said this is the first time the county has used fiber-glass-concrete materials that resemble wooden logs. The process to make them has been around for decades and is expected to increase fire protection while maintaining the rustic look and feel of the cabins.

“It’s more expensive, but we believe it’s going to be much more durable,” Carroll said. “in the winter, snow often drifts up against the buildings and we believe this will keep out moisture better as well.”

In addition to the cabin renovations, parks staff will also install two yurts.

It takes about a week and a half to construct a yurt, along with some more extra time to build an adjacent wood deck, Brenneman said.

The new structures will join one already in place at Clear Lake, along with other yurts that have proven to be popular throughout Linn County Parks sites.

Clear Lake Ranger J.R. Ersparner said business was brisk this year. “We ha excellent boat rentals and overall sales were

up, even though we were short-staffed,” Ersparner said.

The members of last summer’s staff that returned were experienced and that helped. In addition, Ersparner said the weather was nice and the number of days impacted by smoke inversions were low.

“It never got crushingly hot,” Ersparner said. “We didn’t have any weather extremes.”

The summer season was also a good year for fishing. “I saw lots of full stringers of fish,” Ersparner said. “The biggest fish was 24 inches long and it was caught by a 7-year-old boy.”

Ersparner said that while some county crew members are renovating the cabins and adding the two yurts, he will be “deep cleaning” the cabins and servicing refrigerators and heaters.

“The cabins are open all winter,” Ersparner said. “This is a great place to use as a home base to go skiing at Hoodoo or snow shoeing.”

Now in his third season at Clear Lake, Ersparner admits, “I never get tired of how beautiful this place is.”

Alex Paul is the Communications Officer for Linn County Parks.

Education impacts

Continued From Page 1

in the 2020-21 school year to 82.8 percent in the 2021-22 school year.

- For the third year in a row, reporting of non-binary students increased as represented in the fall membership enrollment.
- The number of women serving as superintendents increased from 30 percent in 2017-18 to 36 percent in 2021-22.

- Foster care information is included in the Statewide Report Card for the first time. Data included are for the ELA and Math performance, regular attendance, and 9th Grade On-Track to graduate.

- Updated NAEP data resumes after a national pause due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

- This report includes Measures of Interim Progress (MIP) data for all of the indicators included in the ESSA accountability system.

“Together, we lifted up lessons learned,” Gill said. “We prioritized mental health and well-being as well as learning and academic growth for all of Oregon’s children and youth. The last two years have shown us what we’re capable of. It is a strong reminder of the spirit of engagement and partnership, and working toward a shared goal.”

To view the report, go to: tinyurl.com/ytcb2en.

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Oregon’s friends in

Continued From Page 4

in prison, awaiting trial on war-crimes charges.

Yosuke Matsuoka was a product of his time. But more than that, he was a product of another time, and another place — of the late 19th century in one of the roughest, least refined parts of the American frontier: The shanghaiing-era Portland waterfront.

And it showed. Just after the war’s end, a Japanese reporter asked him what Americans were like. This was his response:

“Now assuming that you are walking on a small path in a field, which is so narrow that only one person can pass through, and an American comes from the opposite direction,” he said. “You are facing each other and neither side is willing to yield his right of way. Soon becoming impatient, the American will clench his fist and sock you in the jaw. Taken by surprise you may lower your head and let him pass by. Next time when you meet him on the same path, he will simply raise his fist. He considers that the best solution.

“On the other hand,” he continued, “if you do not retreat the first time, and engage in a counterattack, the American will be shocked and take another look at you. ‘Well, this fellow knows what he is doing’; so recognizing, he will become your best friend.”

Responding to this quote, David Lu, Matsuoka’s biographer, writes, “This was the America of cowboys, of confrontation at ‘High Noon,’ and of the Wild West. And this image of the bygone era acquired in the still underdeveloped Pacific Northwest was to govern Matsuoka’s thinking when he negotiated with the United States.”

As evidenced by the fact that he was still thinking this way in 1945, after it was all over and his “punch the cowboy and he will become your pal” strategy had failed again and again, Matsuoka never really learned this lesson.

And yet: Is it possible that the crafty old diplomat was actually right? Certainly not in his own lifetime, but in ours, Japan has become many Americans’ favorite foreign country. In fact, according to Gallup’s annual World Affairs poll earlier this year, 82 percent of Americans regard Japan “Mostly favorably” or “Very favorably.” This puts Japan in fourth place, behind France (84%), Great Britain (86%), and Canada (87%).

As the rawness of the wounds of the war has faded to a memory, a certain admiration and respect for an uncommonly gutsy old adversary remains. In fact, that analogy of the American cowboy and his Japanese new best friend sitting side by side at the bar in a saloon, each with a shiny new black eye, having a beer together — that actually seems pretty spot-on, doesn’t it?

There is something else Matsuoka was long-term right about, too, and this is where this story actually gets a little spooky. It was a famous speech, one that he gave in Geneva in 1931 as the League of Nations debated what to do about the Manchuria Incident (the invasion by rogue Japanese army officers, you’ll remember). Matsuoka stood before the world



A newspaper drawing from the Portland Morning Oregonian published during the December 1893 trial of William Dunbar and his associates on opium smuggling charges. Coblenz was one of the customs inspectors working under James Lotan.

on that day, and this is what he said:

“Humanity crucified Jesus of Nazareth 2,000 years ago,” he declaimed. “And today? Can any of you assure me that the so-called world opinion can make no mistake? We Japanese feel that we are now put on trial. Some of the people in Europe and America may wish even to crucify Japan in the 20th century. Gentlemen, Japan stands ready to be crucified! But we do believe, and firmly believe, that in a very few years, world opinion will be changed and that we also shall be understood by the world as Jesus of Nazareth was.”

This speech was not well received, especially by serious Christians who felt it was borderline blasphemy if not worse. But in Japan it was a sensation. Translations were printed and distributed. The speech was used in schools’ English language programs alongside Shakespeare. A phonograph record was made of the speech and sold in shops.

And again, looking back on that speech from 1945, it sure must have looked like that had been just a lot of hot air, liberally spiced with bitter irony. Japan had been “crucified” indeed, on a cross not of gold but of uranium, and for what?

But by 1962 it actually made some sense. In fact, if someone had brought it to Nikita Khrushchev’s attention during the Cuban Missile Crisis after he made the conscious decision to risk being ousted as leader of the Soviet Union by reaching past the big red button on his desk and picking up the phone instead ... a decision that has to have been influenced by the spectacle of Japan’s burning cities and radiation-ravaged people and the gut-wrenching journalism of John Hersey in his eyewitness account of Hiroshima after the Bomb ... maybe Khrushchev would have understood, and agreed with, Matsuoka’s sentiment.

It is entirely possible, if not likely, that Japan’s atomic sacrifice saved the world from nuclear holocaust 17 years later. The argument goes like this: Hiroshima became a sacrificial lamb on that day and a few days later Nagasaki became another, giving the world a small taste of what nuclear holocaust might look like in the era of multi-megaton hydrogen bombs. After seeing that film footage

and reading those eyewitness accounts, no one would ever be able to think of nuclear war in purely abstract terms again. No one would ever be able to hold “national pride” in one hand, and “thermonuclear war” in the other, and think for one second that they were of similar value.

And that is a gift the whole world received in 1945, paid for

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in full with the blood of Japanese innocents. The gift they bequeathed us was a visceral demonstration of why such weapons must never be used again. And we may never know if we owe those innocents our own lives ... but it seems likely, doesn’t it?

So, maybe — just maybe — we would all be dead today and our beautiful planet a scarred and smoking cinder if it hadn’t been for an incompetent drug smuggler on the old shanghaiing-era Portland waterfront taking a little Japanese boy into his household, 130 years ago. And if that’s not the “butterfly effect,” I’d just like to know what is!

(Sources: Agony of Choice: Matsuoka Yosuke and the Rise and Fall of the Japanese Empire, 1880-1946, a book by David J. Lu

published in 2002 by Lexington Books; “Yosuke Matsuoka: The Far-Western Roots of a World-Political Vision,” an article by Masaharu Ano published in the Summer 1997 issue of Oregon Historical Quarterly; “Americans Rate Canada, Britain, France, Japan Most Favorably,” an article by Megan Brenan published on news.gallup.com on March 14, 2022)

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 or 541-357-2222.

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McKenzie River Reflections

Serving the McKenzie River Valley ... And Subscriber Harry Wilson of Harlingen, TX

Fall Sports
Schedules for both Thurston & McKenzie high schools

PAGES 4 & 5

NewsArk
Dozens of camera shutters were in action when stars made appearances in Rainbow. But the biggest news that week was about more dams.

PAGE 7

Rafter drowned near Paradise Campground

McKENZIE BRIDGE: On Sunday, at approximately 8:18 a.m., the Lane County Sheriff's Office received a report that a raft had overturned in the McKenzie River near Paradise Campground. Paradise Campground is located just upstream from McKenzie Bridge. While on route, deputies learned that one of the three involved rafters was unconscious and CPR had been performed by bystanders and paramedics. At 9:14 a.m., paramedics at the scene advised the involved male had died. Lane County Sheriff's Sergeant Tom Speldrich said deputies arrived on the scene and began investigating the circumstances of the death. The initial investigation revealed that the men's raft capsized and the involved male had gone underwater for some period of time before being pulled to shore by bystanders. All three men had lifejackets in the boat, however, none were wearing them at the time of the accident. Police said the name of the deceased is being withheld at press time.

Hatchery salmon returning nutrients to waterways

Owners warned to keep dogs away from carcasses

Volunteers with the OR Dept. of Fish & Wildlife's Salmon and Trout Enhancement Program have been busy all around the state slinging salmon carcasses into rivers and streams.

Why are there dead salmon in the river? If you live close to a river or stream in the Willamette Valley, you might come across salmon carcasses or see ODFW staff and volunteers slinging carcasses into the water during September and October.

In September, salmon will begin the end of their life's journey in Willamette Valley rivers as they gather to spawn and die. Historically, thousands of adult salmon spawned and died in these rivers and streams, supplying essential nutrients to fuel the stream ecosystem. The salmon also feed bears, otters, raccoons, skunks, turkey vultures, eagles, hawks, ravens, and other animals as well as fertilize trees and vegetation along the stream banks.

September is also when ODFW hatcheries spawn salmon for future smolt releases. After the salmon are spawned, ODFW staff and volunteers distribute the salmon carcasses from the hatcheries to rivers and streams throughout the Willamette Valley for stream nutrient enrichment.

Hatchery salmon carcasses distributed to rivers and streams around Oregon enrich the food web of stream systems. By returning hatchery brood salmon carcasses to local rivers and streams, their bodies can provide nutrients for algae and other aquatic plants, as well as food for aquatic invertebrates that

in turn provide forage for larger species such as fish.

While this contribution of nutrients is vital to the entire ecosystem, salmon carcasses may harbor bacteria in their blood that can make dogs very sick. Salmon poisoning is caused when dogs eat a salmon carcass infected with an organism in the blood called *Nericketesia helminthoeca*. Without treatment, salmon poisoning is often fatal. Symptoms include severe vomiting and diarrhea. Fortunately, with treatment most dogs will survive.

From September through December, dog owners should be vigilant about keeping their dogs away from dead salmon. While ODFW tries to avoid areas such as boat ramps, campgrounds, and parks when distributing salmon, rivers and streams will carry salmon downstream to areas where dogs may encounter them. If you see your dog eating a dead salmon, or even around one, take them to the veterinarian right away. Don't wait for your dog to get sick as prophylactic treatments can prevent a more serious illness. The sooner your dog gets treated, the less likely they will get sick and need expensive treatments.

Learn at: tinyurl.com/npzrcufj

Sam Saquatch named Guide of the Year

Pacific Northwest Outsiders announce 2022 pick

SEATTLE: Early in 1927, when the Eugene Water & Electric Board decided another power source was needed it didn't plan 10,000 years in advance. Nor did the utility have to consider what natural disasters might occur in the next million years. Today, though, potential seismic or mega-flood events are part of the design requirements mandated by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC).

2022 marks 95 years since EWEB made the decision to build the Leaburg hydroelectric project. It is also a time when the useful life of the facility has run out. Choices for its future range from full modernization to minor upgrading as well as the possible removal of all structures.

This December, FERC commissioners are planning to choose one of four options that will range between \$179 million to \$257 million. Any decision will come with requirements for decades of consultations involving a wide range of agencies and interest groups — all monitored by FERC.

"Regardless of what alternative the board chooses we are going to need a FERC license," according to Mark Zimker, the utility's generation engineering manager. He estimates issues raised during those discussions would likely be resolved by 2025 or '29.

From there the timeline would likely extend another 5 years before the final plan is actually implemented and the physical

Construction of the Leaburg Canal began in late 1928 and the hydroelectric project went into service on January 6, 1930, with a rated capacity of 7500 kva.

work gets underway. Adding all that together — people could expect the Leaburg project to be back in service, continue to only act as a channel to transport rainwater, or be completely removed — by 2035 or 2037.

Underlying issues involve how the project was originally built. In some places, the levees that form the canal channel are up to 50 feet tall. Material to build them was taken from the surrounding landscape which in some places has led to structural deficiencies.

EWEB had always kept an eye on seepage, which is considered to be normal in similar structures. But over the last 15 years, the seepage had tripled. In 2018 FERC ruled Canal containment — Page 10

Can we live with wildfires?

Documentary film explores what could be done

Nearly 20 years ago the Biscuit fire burned across half a million acres in Southern Oregon. It also exposed a college sophomore to the controversy, science, and politics at play during and after the blaze.

That student was Trip Jennings who assembled a team to grapple with the complex debate around the fire and worked with scientists, advocates, and local citizens to capture the story in a documentary.

More than a decade later, the Eagle Creek fire ignited the Columbia River Gorge, a scenic area just a half hour from Jennings' home. As the fire burned, legislators proposed that would allow clearcut logging in the forests after the fire. The community was shocked and angry," he recalls. "People were searching for answers, and I noticed that people were sharing my nearly two-decade-old student film. I was taken aback. Was it possible that little to nothing else was available to communicate this message?"

After the fire, he took to the air with an expert scientist to assess the burn and created a short film that has been viewed by hundreds of thousands of people.

Over the last four years, Jennings has also visited burned landscapes and communities destroyed by fire. "I am deeply committed to changing the national conversation around wildfire," he says. That message is delivered in a new film he says shows how people can "have healthy forests and safe communities, and that we can prepare for and adapt to fire."

His new documentary, "Elemental: Rethinking our Relationship with Wildfire" will be shown in Rainbow later this month. Go to Page 5 for more details.

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More returns in 2024

Continued From Page 1

year.

“It’s rather mild, at least from a historical perspective,” McMullen said.

There are three reasons to expect a mild recession, he said. First, businesses, financial markets, and people expect inflation to slow. Second, the labor market has been so tight that employers aren’t likely to let go of workers even if their sales are slow. And finally, many people still have higher savings from wage growth, stimulus payments, and limited spending during the pandemic – though those savings are concentrated in higher-income households.

Some of the state’s urban areas are most at risk, forecasters said. Clackamas, Columbia, Deschutes, Jackson, and Washington counties, along with rural Crook and Gilliam counties, are at the highest risk because much of their economies depend on the construction, manufacturing or transportation, and warehousing. The Portland suburbs, Bend and Prineville are growing quickly with many jobs in housing construction, while 10% of Gilliam County jobs are in transportation or warehousing. That county’s largest employers are landfills.

Other rural counties used to have more volatile economies when they relied on the timber industry and mills would regularly shut down and reopen, McMullen said. Now, those rural counties don’t experience the same economic booms as the rest of the state, but they also don’t see the same downswings in bad economic times.

Meanwhile, Oregon lawmakers will begin drafting the state’s next two-year budget in a couple of months, and they’ll have about \$3 billion less to work with than they did during the current two-year budget cycle. That’s because many wealthy Oregonians cashed out capital gains in 2021 and federal stimulus checks increased the amount of money collected in state income taxes.

The state will also pay out 2024 a record “kicker” tax credit, which is triggered when the state collects more in personal income taxes than it budgeted. Oregonians who paid taxes in 2022 and 2023 will receive credits totaling \$3.7 billion when they file their tax returns in 2024, with larger credits for those who paid more in taxes.

“We’ve never seen kickers like this,” McMullen said.

Lawmakers can reduce or eliminate the tax credit with a two-thirds vote – 20 senators and 40 representatives. They did so in the early 1990s when the nation faced a recession tied to the Gulf War, and progressive groups have long pushed for legislators to reduce or reform the kicker.

But such a vote seems unlikely next year. Democrats will still have a majority in the Oregon House and Senate, though they lost their supermajorities in both chambers.

Getting enough votes to suspend the kicker would require not just every Democrat but multiple Republicans in the House and Senate to vote for it, and GOP legislative leaders have consistently pledged to protect the kicker as is.

“Before we all run away thinking we can quickly spend that kicker on something else or hold it, that’s a high bar and a pretty big lift and there’s probably better things to spend your time on,” Sen. Lynn Findley, R-Vale, warned his colleagues.

Rep. Nancy Nathanson, D-Eugene, asked whether pandemic-induced changes to consumer spending will affect how Oregonians spend their extra money from the kicker. More people purchased goods online than from local brick-and-mortar stores, and it’s unclear how much of the money returned to taxpayers will make it to Oregon businesses.

McMullen said much of the tax rebate already goes to people who may not spend it. People who pay more in taxes receive higher kickers, and while people living paycheck to paycheck spend nearly every dollar they have, people with more money might save their rebates.

Oregon’s lack of a retail sales tax has also made it hard to track spending trends, McMullen said, but the state will have more data because of the corporate activity tax passed in 2019. The tax applies to businesses’ gross receipts and effectively functions as a hidden sales tax because businesses pass the costs on to consumers.

“One place that’s pretty darn clear is that when we give out a big kicker, video lottery sales go through the roof,” McMullen said.

Legislative Democrats and Gov. Kate Brown responded to the forecast by saying Oregon is well-positioned to weather economic challenges. In a statement from Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam, where she is traveling on a trade mission, Brown praised the state’s “continued fiscally responsible decisions.”

“Because we have made prudent financial decisions, the state has the ability, if needed, to invest in resources to help Oregonians who may feel its impacts,” she said. “With this forecast, the Legislature should also be prepared, as they enter the upcoming session, to respond to economic challenges and take meaningful action to benefit Oregon’s working families.”

House Speaker Dan Rayfield, D-Corvallis, agreed that Oregon’s almost \$1.8 billion in cash reserves leaves the state in a good position. It still would take a three-fifths majority – 18 senators and 36 representatives – to tap into the reserves.

“The state has historic cash reserves and is set up better than ever to handle any potential eco-

nomic downturn thanks to years of responsible budget management by Democratic leadership,” Rayfield said. “We are poised to take advantage of the upcoming 2023 legislative session, soften the impacts of any potential downturn, make our communities safer, and focus investments on working families and communities of color.”

And Senate Majority Leader Rob Wagner, D-Lake Oswego, pledged that Democrats will continue recent spending on health care, housing, and other sectors.

“We will continue to build on our recent historic investments in health care, housing, jobs, and education,” Wagner said. “Due to the fiscally responsible leadership of Oregon Democrats, our state’s budget reserves are currently the strongest they’ve ever been in Oregon’s history.”

His counterpart in the House, Rep. Julie Fahey of West Eugene, said spending by the Oregon Legislature and recent federal money from the Biden-Harris administration made the state’s economy strong. She called for continued spending to address the state’s ongoing affordable housing crisis, provide support for mental and behavioral health and drive down the cost of living.

“We also know that should a global recession hit, Oregon is prepared to mitigate its impact because of the work Democrats have done to set aside historic levels of reserves,” Fahey said. “This work will allow us to continue supporting our most vulnerable communities.”

Legislative Republican leaders, meanwhile, issued a joint statement saying it was a time to be cautious and prepared.

“Hard-working Oregonians continue to pay the price of high inflation and take the brunt of the current recession,” said Senate Minority Leader Tim Knopp, R-Bend. “The upcoming legislative budget and policy decisions made around the economy must be focused on relieving their burden, not adding to it.”

Rep. Vikki Breese-Iverson, R-Prineville, and the House minority leader added that legislative Republicans will oppose any new taxes.

“Oregonians spoke in the recent election by breaking the supermajority in the Legislature,” she said. “Republicans will respond in the upcoming legislative session by holding strong against growing government or taxes.”

Julia Shumway has reported on government and politics in Iowa and Nebraska, spent time at the Bend Bulletin and most recently was a legislative reporter for the Arizona Capitol Times in Phoenix. An award-winning journalist, Julia most recently reported on the tangled efforts to audit the presidential results in Arizona.

McKenzie Fire & Rescue

Continued From Page 3

4:56: 42000 blk, McK. Hwy. Medical, Trauma. Patient Assessed, 1 Transported.

10:21: 40000 blk, York Lane Medical Alarm. False Alarm.

Nov. 19: 11:17: 39000 blk, McK. Hwy. Medical, General. Patient Assessed, 1 Transported.

Nov. 20: 14:48: 37000 blk, Camp Creek Rd. Medical, Trauma. Patient Assessed, 1 Transported.

16:53: 37000 blk, Camp Creek Rd. Brush Fire. Investigate, Burn Pile.

23:08: 39000 blk, Camp Creek Rd. Medical, General. Patient Assessed, 1 Transported.

McK. Fire & Rescue will hold its monthly Board of Directors

meeting on Monday, December 19th at noon, in the Leaburg Training Center, 42870 McK. Hwy. The district maintains Facebook, Twitter, and web pages. If you have a question or concern about any Fire District business, give Chief Bucich a call @ 541-896-3311. If he is unavailable, please leave a message and he will respond ASAP.



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