



OSP Reports

Involved male was breaking windows of his own vehicle

PAGE 3



Lost gold?

There was a gold pan on the floor with a few nuggets in it

PAGE 4



Roll your soil

Could you make ceramic pots out of the soil in your garden?

PAGE 5

Poacher cut and ran Suspect shot deer from a driveway

CAMP CREEK: A poacher fled the scene leaving behind both the buck deer he shot on private property, and the head he had just cut off the animal as a trophy. Oregon State Troopers are now asking the public to be on the lookout for a vehicle related to the December 9th incident.

Troopers describe the subject as about 5'1" tall, with brown hair and a brown beard. He left the scene in a late 1990's white Chevy flatbed pickup. The truck is likely a 3500 diesel and a witness reported seeing several toolboxes or gang boxes on the bed of the truck. They also said the poacher had difficulty starting the vehicle, so it might have mechanical issues.

According to authorities, the man shot the deer from a private driveway near Upper Camp Creek



Road. Troopers aren't sure if the man realized how close he was to nearby residences. He killed the animal near a house and along an active driveway leading to multiple other houses. When a passerby asked the man what he was doing, he fled the scene.

The passerby told police he was not aware of any illegal activities but found it strange that the man ran away, jumped in his white flat-bed truck and drove away. Shortly after, someone discovered the deer's carcass and head. Neighbors notified an OSP Fish and Wildlife trooper of the incident.

OSP Troopers received the call at 7 p.m. and Senior Trooper Josh Wolcott brought the unit's Conservation K-9, Buck, to conduct a field survey. Within 45 minutes, Trooper Wolcott and Buck were on scene conducting a field search for weapons, ammunition, and other evidence left behind in tall grass and woody shrubs.

"Our K-9 Buck is extremely useful in cases like this," Wolcott said, "He can locate evidence by scent, which otherwise would require several troopers with metal detectors running a grid pattern to find. And it doesn't matter if it's dark out, as it was in this incident."

The Conservation K-9 was gifted to OSP by the Oregon Wildlife Foundation, a non-profit dedicated

Poacher cut and ran - Page 4

County approves adding five more Sheriff's deputies

\$7.2 million in federal funds for LCSO, \$6.5 million for Public Works

EUGENE: In a unanimous vote last Tuesday, the board of commissioners approved hiring more police and fixing Lane County's most dangerous roadway. With money that comes from the extension of federal Secure Rural Schools Act, the Sheriff's Office will add five deputy sheriffs, two detectives, and one sergeant. Public Works will receive money earmarked to deal with a 28-mile stretch of deteriorating pavement along Territorial Highway.

During the February 1st virtual meeting, county administrator Steve Mokrohisky noted that money sourced through the federal Secure Rural Schools Act (SRS) had declined about 90% since the 1970's when timber harvests generated much more income. The county in the past, he said, had avoided using one-time funding to pay for ongoing services like rural police coverage.

"Last year the board approved a five-year plan to fund public safety and road maintenance," Mokrohisky noted. "The Sheriff's Office and Public Works team have really worked collaboratively to find the win-win," he said.

The board's vote allocates \$13.7 million in road fund payments under the SRS act extension. Up to \$7.2 million over 5 years will go

to improved rural patrol services. An estimated \$6.5 million was designated to replenish the Public Works road fund reserves and fund future Territorial Highway improvements.

During his presentation, Sheriff Cliff Harold told the board that between 2008 and 2012, his office had to cut 200 positions and lay off 100 personnel. Currently a typical shift sees 3 deputies and a sergeant assigned to cover 4,800 square miles. "Contract deputies do not work during the graveyard shift so are not available to assist in emergencies," Harrold added. In 2021, the sheriff pointed out there were 60,548 calls for service - amounting to an average of 165 calls per day.

County Engineer, Peggy Keppler, said the money coming to Public Works would help, "Reduce the impacts of revenue fluctuations and economic downturns." As an example, she pointed to the \$2.6 million in reserves that had been utilized during the first year of the Covid-19 pandemic to offset losses in gas tax receipts.

\$2.5 million of the Public Works SRS allocation would go to the reserve fund, with the other \$3.9 million set aside for Territorial Highway.

That 42-mile long roadway

was transferred to Lane County from the Oregon Department of Transportation in 2019. Although its acceptance came with a \$30 million improvement allocation, there's still a lot of work to be done.

Territorial is Lane County's "highest fatal and severe crash highway, Keppler said. She was particularly concerned with a 28-mile section. Within that range she said problems included, "several landslide areas, multiple failing fish passage culverts and failing pavement structures."

The county has already been busy in addressing some of those concerns, Keppler said, and has finished a realignment and slide repair project at Stony Point for \$5.4 million.

Sheriff's deputies - Page 8



Sheriff Clifford Harrold

Cougar refill delayed

COUGAR DAM: The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers says it will delay refilling Cougar and Fall Creek reservoirs and conduct spill operations at Foster Dam because of recent litigation. The delay will impact boating and recreation activities.

"However, because annual water year forecasts have high variability, it will be difficult to predict with certainty all potential impacts until later in the spring," according to a spokesman.

"Every year, we strive to meet the public's expectations surrounding water availability within the Willamette Valley System of reservoirs during the summer," said Erik Petersen, operations project manager. "There are and will always be constraints on how we manage water. People can look to last year's drought and several challenging water years over the

Cougar refill delayed - Page 4

Public asked to help redesign Blue River Park

Online virtual meeting set for this Saturday, February 12th

BLUE RIVER: People are invited to take part in a community discussion on plans for redeveloping the Blue River Park, which was severely damaged by the Holiday Farm Fire. Details of what may be possible are included in a 15-page master plan for the property developed by Audret Ryciewicz, a student with the Masters of Landscape Architecture course at the University of Oregon.

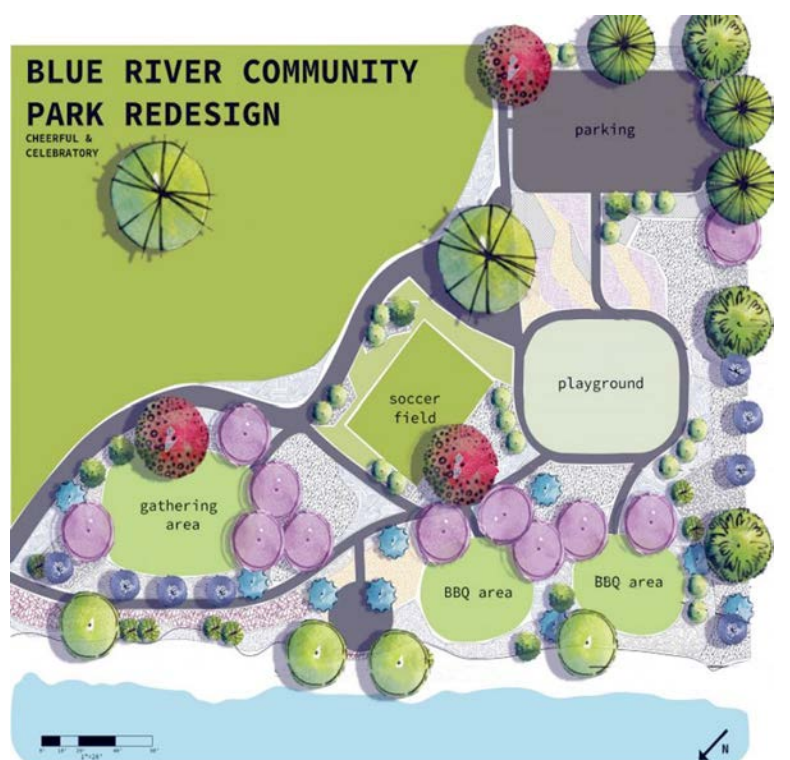
The Blue River Park Board says it will the virtual open house to learn gain more public input and "help redesign the park into a space for the whole community."

In advance of the virtual event, they're encouraging people to go to <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/BlueRiverPark>. There they'll find a 5 to 10 minute survey designed to get feedback to help guide the redevelopment of our community's park.

In the master plan developed by Ryciewicz are a number of suggested features and design approaches. Some of those ideas include using permeable paving in the parking lot and constructing a rain garden to reduce pollution from runoff. Off the main paved area people could travel along a foot path with leading through an interpretive area with signage that tells the story of the area ranging from native peoples to gold mining, logging and the construction of dams.

Other features of the proposed plan include a natural play area for children, gardens, a stage, dog park, pet memorial garden, soccer and baseball fields, BBQ areas.

The virtual event is set for to start at 10 a.m. on Saturday and last for about two hours. The Zoom link for the meeting can be accessed at <https://uoregon.zoom.us/j/9276635286>.



A portion of redesign plans for the 70-year-old Blue River park will include the area around the former playground/picnic area.

Guest Opinion

Are There Too Many Salmon in the North Pacific Ocean?

By Gregory T. Ruggerone and James R. Irvine

Since everyone wants more salmon, the question “Are there too many salmon in the North Pacific Ocean?” might seem odd. However, it is worth considering the potential effects of healthy and abundant salmon populations that often migrate thousands of kilometers at sea where they intermingle and compete with distant depleted populations for prey.

It is not surprising that fishery managers are primarily concerned with maintaining those populations that return to regions they manage with little consideration for how these populations might adversely affect other salmon. Likewise, hatchery managers release large numbers of juvenile salmon to maximize harvests in nearby salmon fisheries, often with little consideration for, or understanding of, potential competition effects on other distant salmon populations that compete for the same common pool of resources at sea.

The numbers of Pacific salmon surviving to adulthood increased following the 1977 ocean regime shift, peaking in 2018 when approximately 950 million pink, chum, and sockeye salmon returned from the ocean. This increase was likely the result of favorable ocean conditions combined with the release of large numbers of hatchery-origin juvenile salmon. Releases of hatchery salmon into the North Pacific reached approximately 5.5 billion juvenile salmon in 2019, a sharp increase since the 1960s when approximately 0.6 billion hatchery salmon were released each year. Approximately 40% of the total salmon biomass in the Pacific during 1990 to 2015 was made up of hatchery salmon, especially chum and pink salmon. Clearly hatchery salmon are now key components of the epipelagic North Pacific Ocean. Then in 2020, the harvest of Pacific salmon unexpectedly and precipitously declined. We wanted to know why.

In 2019, salmon abundance remained exceptionally high (~854 million salmon). Together the 2018/2019 period was the highest two-year period of salmon abundance on record since 1925, nearly 20% greater than the previous two-year high in 2009/2010, and more than 3.2 times higher than average abundance during relatively low salmon production years from 1960 to 1975.

Pink salmon dominate the abundance of Pacific salmon returning from the North Pacific, reaching approximately 700 million maturing fish in 2018 and nearly 640 million fish in 2019. The exceptional return in 2018 was highly unusual because pink salmon abundance is typically highest in odd-numbered years.

Approximately 88% and 68% of the total pink salmon abundance were from Asia in 2018 and 2019, respectively. In contrast, peak abundance of pink salmon in North America occurred in 2013

and 2015 (more than 300 million fish per year). Overall, pink salmon represented approximately 74% of total salmon abundance in 2018/2019.

Most pink salmon are of natural origin, but abundance of hatchery pink salmon during 2005 to 2015 was greater than abundance of wild chum salmon and approximately equal to abundance of wild sockeye salmon. Total chum and sockeye salmon represented only 14% and 12%, respectively, of total salmon abundance in 2018/2019. These values exclude Chinook and coho salmon, whose combined reported commercial catch was 1.5% of total salmon catch from the North Pacific during 2018/2019 and approximately 5% of total salmon catch, on average, during 1925 to 2020.

The high abundance of Pacific salmon in recent decades came to an abrupt end in 2020. Commercial catch statistics for all salmon species indicate Pacific salmon harvests, which provide an index of abundance, declined more in 2020 than in any other year on record since 1930. Commercial salmon catch declined by approximately 187 million fish compared with average catch during the previous 10 years. Although the COVID-19 pandemic likely reduced commercial catch to some extent in some regions, most fishery reports and preliminary escapement estimates indicate that low abundance rather than harvest reductions from the COVID-19 pandemic were primarily responsible for the unusually low catch in 2020.

The following details illustrate the issue of commercial catch declines in 2020 for each species. Harvests of each species of Pacific salmon declined 35%, on average, in 2020 when compared with the previous 10-year average. Harvests of Chinook salmon in 2020 were the lowest on record since 1925, declining 54% compared with the previous ten years. Chum salmon harvests in 2020 declined 42%, followed by pink (-40%), coho (-27%), and sockeye salmon (-10%).

Sockeye salmon harvests declined relatively little because returns to Bristol Bay in the southeastern Bering Sea remained robust and offset the exceptionally low harvests of sockeye salmon in the Gulf of Alaska, British Columbia, Washington, and the Columbia River. The decline in sockeye harvests in regions beyond Bristol Bay and the Alaska Peninsula, which intercepts many Bristol Bay sockeye salmon, was 44%. Pink salmon returning to the Norton Sound region in northern Alaska in 2020 continued with relatively high returns that began in 2016, providing evidence for the beneficial effects of the warming ocean on some salmon species in the extreme north.

We hypothesized that a tipping point was reached in the North Pacific Ocean, leading to the substantial decline of all five species of Pacific salmon in 2020. We suggested that the tipping point was caused by the combined effects of unusually frequent marine heatwaves since and exceptionally abundant pink salmon during

2018 and 2019. This hypothesis is partially supported by recent research on the combined effects of sea surface temperature (SST) and pink salmon abundance on productivity (return per spawner) of 47 sockeye salmon populations (brood years 1976–2009) ranging from the Fraser River in British Columbia to Bristol Bay, Alaska.

This research found that a 1.5°C increase in SST was associated with a 23% increase in sockeye productivity in the Bering Sea, a 9% productivity increase in the Gulf of Alaska, but with a 12% decline in productivity in the southern region (British Columbia and Southeast Alaska). Frequent heatwaves likely contributed to the growing abundance of pink salmon in the north while also contributing to a northward shift in the adverse effects of high SST on production of other salmon species.

The research also found that a 119 million increase in pink salmon abundance was historically associated with a 9% decline in sockeye productivity in the Bering Sea and the Gulf of Alaska, and a 21% decline in British Columbia. This finding is consistent with a trophic cascade caused by abundant pink salmon and other studies indicating adverse effects of pink salmon on the growth, age-at-maturation, survival, and abundance of sockeye salmon, Chinook salmon, coho salmon, chum salmon, marine fishes, seabirds, and potentially southern resident killer whales. Additional evidence of adverse interactions between pink salmon and other species is shown by the biennial patterns in marine species that are consistent with the biennial pattern in pink salmon; a pattern that cannot be explained by physical oceanography alone.

The adverse effect of numerous pink salmon on vital rates of other salmon species has the potential to be far-reaching because salmon migrate long distances. For example, 11–38% of Chinook salmon sampled on the southeastern Bering Sea shelf during 2005–2010 originated from the west coast of the contiguous United States. Furthermore, commercial catch of Chinook salmon in Alaska, Russia, and British Columbia (which includes many southward migrating Chinook salmon), and the average weight of Chinook



salmon in Alaska are negatively correlated with pink salmon abundance during the three years in which Chinook salmon overlap with pink salmon at sea. The diets of Chinook and pink salmon can significantly overlap, especially when pink salmon are in their second year at sea, as both species consume small fishes, squid, and zooplankton.

Preliminary 2021 commercial harvest data indicate a tremendous surge in pink salmon from the low numbers observed in 2020, despite the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. Commercial harvests of pink salmon in Alaska and Russia rebounded and led to the largest harvest of pink salmon on record since 1925 (~515 million pink salmon, all regions combined).

Sockeye salmon abundance in Bristol Bay, Alaska, set a record high in 2021 — 66 million fish (catch and escapement). apparently in response to favorable early marine growth in the Bering Sea, relatively few pink salmon returning from the North Pacific in 2020, and few pink salmon in the Bristol Bay region. Pink salmon and Bristol Bay sockeye salmon are the primary reason for the resurgence of total salmon in 2021.

In contrast, overall commercial harvests of Chinook, chum, and coho salmon, as well as non-Bristol Bay sockeye salmon, remained low throughout Asia and North America during 2021. Relative to harvests during 2010 to 2019, chum salmon harvests declined the most (-38%), followed by Chinook (-33%), coho (-25%) and sockeye salmon beyond the Bristol Bay and the Alaska Peninsula management area (-27%).

In British Columbia, harvests of all five species appear to have been very low in 2021, with preliminary estimates of total commercial harvest being less than 10% of the average harvest during 2010–2019.

The jury is still out on the valid-

ity of our tipping point hypothesis in which the combined effects of high back-to-back pink salmon abundance (2018 and 2019) and frequent marine heatwaves led to large reductions in the abundance of all species in 2020.

The record high harvest of pink salmon in 2021 represented approximately 81% of all salmon harvests, and approximately 87% of all harvests if the large harvest of Bristol Bay sockeye salmon are excluded. In contrast, harvests of other salmon species in most regions of the North Pacific remained very low relative to 2010 to 2019.

Given the sudden and widespread decline in salmon abundance in 2020, we suspect that factors during late marine life were important to the widespread decline in addition to factors during early marine life and freshwater residence. The exceptional abundance of pink salmon in 2021 raises the concern for rapid recovery of salmon in many regions, but it is difficult to predict whether high pink salmon abundance will exacerbate poor feeding conditions for other salmon species in the near future or partially offset the benefit of favorable ocean conditions if conditions improve.

Regardless, with such high abundances of pink salmon returning from the North Pacific as it warms and their effect on the growth and survival of other salmon species, we ask: are there too many salmon in the ocean and if so, should hatcheries continue to release up to 5.5 billion salmon each year of which nearly 1.5 billion are pink salmon?

Gregory T. Ruggerone (Natural Resources Consultants, Inc.), James R. Irvine (Fisheries and Oceans Canada, Pacific Biological Station), and Brendan Connors (Fisheries and Oceans Canada, Institute of Ocean Sciences)

Friday 2/11		Saturday 2/12		Sunday 2/13	
McKenzie Valley Partly Cloudy 10% chance precip High: 59 Low: 36	Santiam Pass Sunny 5% chance precip High: 11 Low: -1	McKenzie Valley Partly Cloudy 10% chance precip High: 61 Low: 39	Santiam Pass Mostly Sunny 5% chance precip High: 11 Low: 1	McKenzie Valley Partly Cloudy 10% chance precip High: 61 Low: 41	Santiam Pass Partly Cloudy 10% chance precip High: 12 Low: 0

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
2/1	41	32	0.02	673 cfs	2/1 45 35 0.14 3,960 cfs
2/2	41	35	0.01	NA	2/2 46 36 0.06 3,810 cfs
2/3	48	36	0	717 cfs	2/3 45 38 0.11 3,790 cfs
2/4	50	31	0	NA	2/4 54 33 0 3,650 cfs
2/5	52	37	0	NA	2/5 52 39 0.03 3,520 cfs
2/6	54	35	0	702 cfs	2/6 58 33 0 3,460 cfs
2/7	53	30	0	695 cfs	2/7 63 32 0 3,430 cfs

Sheriff's Report

Jan. 28: 6:53 p.m: Disturbance, Dispute - 88900 block, Ross Ln. A dispute was reported between the caller and her ex-boyfriend. Deputies made contact and determined no crime had been committed.

Jan. 29: 3:11 a.m: Suspicious Subject - McK. Hwy. & Cedar Flat Rd. A person was observed along the highway. Deputies responded and gave the person a ride to a nearby hospital.

12:57 p.m: Threat, Harassment - 39700 blk, Deerhorn Rd. A caller advised that the driver of a black SUV has been honking their horn as they drive by the caller's house for months.

Jan. 31: 9:12 a.m: Theft of Mail - 37000 blk, Parsons Creek Rd.

9:36 a.m: Reckless Endangering - Deerhorn Rd. & Bridge St. Caller reported that a truck driver was driving too fast for the

conditions and failed to slow down or pull to the side to accommodate oncoming traffic.

1:54 p.m: Illegal Burn - 8600 blk, Thurston Rd.

2:29 p.m: Assist, Follow Up - 55200 blk, McK. River Dr.

8:18 p.m: Littering - 47800 blk, McK. Hwy.

Feb. 1: 9:14 a.m: Civil Service - 92000 blk, Maple Ln.

12:02 p.m: Stranded Vehicle - Terwilliger Hot Springs.

12:38 p.m: Burglary - 54700 blk, Caddis Ln. Caller reported that undisclosed property was taken from the caller's residence.

4:49 p.m: Assist, Follow Up - 37300 blk, Camp Creek Rd.

4:54 p.m: Disturbance, Dispute - 37300 blk, Parsons Creek Rd. Caller reported a verbal dispute between her and her father.

4:57 p.m: Assist, Follow Up - Blue River area.

10:32 p.m: Burglary - 8000 blk, McK. Hwy. Caller originally believed house had been burglarized but no crime was substantiated.

Feb. 2: 2:35 a.m: Driving While Suspended - 92200 blk,

Murdoch St.

12:28 p.m: Suspicious Vehicle - 38600 blk, McK. Hwy.

12:43 p.m: Disturbance, Dispute - 54600 blk, McK. River Dr.

4:04p.m: Suspicious Conditions - 38600 blk, McK. Hwy.

7:46:43 p.m: Citizen Contact - Vida area.

Feb. 3: 4:23 p.m: Fraud - 44200 blk, McK. Hwy. - A caller reported they were victimized in a phone scam in January.

Feb. 4: 5:12 a.m: Disturbance, Dispute - 37300 blk, Parsons Creek Rd.

2:42 p.m: Theft of License Plate - 42000 blk Deerhorn Rd.

4:23 p.m: Citizen Contact - 91800 blk, Mill Creek Rd.

6:42 p.m: Vehicle Stop - McK. Hwy. Mp. 27.

8:32 p.m: Suspicious Vehicle - 40300 blk, Deerhorn Rd.

Feb. 5: 12:26 p.m: Disturbance, Dispute - 37300 blk, Parsons Creek Rd.

12:32 p.m: Disturbance, Dispute - 92100 blk, Marcola Rd.

6:26 p.m: Towed Vehicle - 38400 blk, McK. Hwy.

9:02 p.m: Littering - 47800 blk, McK. Hwy.

11:37p.m: Disturbance, Dispute - Marcola Rd. & Murdoch St.

Feb. 6: 12:18 a.m: Suspicious Conditions - 49100 blk, McK. Hwy.

1:20 p.m: Reckless Driving - 8400 blk, McK. Hwy.

1:41 p.m: Water Rescue - McK. River.

3:29 p.m: Traffic Hazard - Marcola Rd. & Donna Rd.

7:46 p.m: ATL Drunk Driver - Marcola Rd. & Old Marcola Rd.

10:48 a.m: Civil Service - 92000 blk, Maple Ln.

11:44 p.m: Welfare Check - 9000 blk, Thurston Rd.

Jan. 7: 7:16 a.m: Suspicious Vehicle - Blue River Reservoir Rd. & McK. Hwy.

11:21 a.m: Traffic Hazard - 87400 blk, Cedar Flat Rd.

1:41 p.m: Reckless Driving - 93100 blk, Marcola Rd.

2:42 p.m: Citizen Contact - McK. Hwy. & Bear Creek.

4:17 p.m: Driving While Suspended - Holden Creek Mp. 1.

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

State Police Report

Feb. 2: 08:33: Crash, Non-Injury - Hwy. 126E, Milepost 11. Westbound black 1978 Chevrolet Monte Carlo left the roadway to the right and struck a traffic sign post, an EWEB utility pole, and a CenturyLink telephone box before stopping in blackberry bushes. The driver stated he fell asleep. The vehicle was left at the scene for owners to arrange for a tow. Driver was cited for Driving Uninsured.

Continued On Page 8

McKenzie Fire & Rescue

Jan. 31: 13:53: 8000 block, Thurston Rd.. Illegal Burn. No fire upon arrival, caller to contact LRAPA.

Feb. 1: 8:26: McK. Hwy./Deerhorn Rd. Motor Vehicle Accident. Non-Injury, Non-blocking.

9:49: 50000 blk, McK. Hwy. Medical, General. Patient Refusal.

14:18: 35000 blk, Camp Creek Rd. Medical, General. Canceled on scene.

Continued On Page 8

Upper McKenzie Fire/Rescue

Feb. 3: 15:56: Medical - 49000 block, McK. Hwy. Male, Conscious, Breathing.

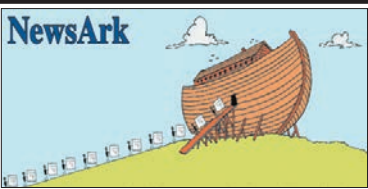
16:19: Medical - 55000 blk, Delta Rd. Male, Conscious, Breathing.

Feb. 5: 10:00: Medical - 54000 blk, McK. Hwy. Female, Conscious, Breathing.

17:14: Medical - 50000 blk, McK. Hwy. Female, Conscious, Breathing.

Feb. 6: 08:37: Medical - 54000 blk, McK. River Dr. Female, Conscious, Breathing.

The Upper McK. Fire District board of directors will hold its monthly meeting on Wednesday, February 16th, at the McK. Fire station, 56578 McK. Hwy. in McKenzie Bridge, at 7 p.m.



...saving stories from the rising tide of time.

From December 14, 2006 edition of McKenzie River Reflections

McKenzie River Reflections

Volume 29, Issue 16, Thursday, Dec. 14, 2006

50¢

http://mckenzie.oregonnews.com

Friday 12/15

McKenzie Valley Showers - 60%

Santiam Pass Showers - 70%

High - 43 - Low - 33

Saturday 12/16

McKenzie Valley Rain/Snow - 30%

Santiam Pass Set Snow - 40%

High - 39 - Low - 23

Sunday 12/17

McKenzie Valley Partly Cloudy - 10%

Santiam Pass Partly Cloudy - 10%

High - 40 - Low - 29

Auto meters coming on line

McKENZIE BRIDGE: CRT Deschamps was one of a four-man crew installing new automated meter readers for the Lane Electric Cooperative in July. Averaging from 60 to 65 changes overs per day, the workers have reprogrammed and replaced more than 12,000 meters.

Close to 95% of Lane Electric's old electro-mechanical meters have been replaced by new solid-state electronic AMR meters. The project is expected to come in below the allotted budget figure of \$3.1 million, according to David D'Aranzo, the utility's Manager of Member & Regional Affairs. "Conservative projections indicate about a 7-12 year payback on \$3.1 million which, by today's business standards, is a very, very good investment," D'Aranzo noted.

Currently, crews are focused on installing line-conditioning or "signal enhancement" equipment throughout the coop's service area to read the meters that have already been exchanged. "As well, of our twelve substations, seven of them have DSL in them and are communicating with our office," D'Aranzo said. "The remaining five have been scheduled and we are waiting for the bulk communications to be installed. Once DSL is installed

Replacement canal bridge planned for 2009

WATERSVILLE: A \$3.5-million replacement for the Watersville canal bridge has been scheduled for early 2009, according to Oregon Dept. of Transportation officials. The work would be paid for by ODOT's Region 2 construction fund, according to Joe Harwood, the agency's public information officer.

The scheduled replacement comes after a string of accidents related to the narrow appearance of the existing concrete structure. The crossing has been the site of numerous accidents over the last few years, despite efforts by ODOT to lessen what Harwood calls an "optical illusion" that frightens some drivers who encounter oncoming traffic. Last year, a more open framework replaced what had been new steel railings. This spring, the agency plans to spend another \$100,000 on interim measures to make the screening even less imposing.

Later this month, ODOT personnel will be going door to door in the Watersville area to talk to residents about other possible changes. One proposal, which seemed to generate support at a public meeting last year, would involve closing the Page Lane Hwy. 126 intersection. Instead, traffic would use the Watersville Loop intersection to access the highway.

If that change gains the support of landowners and other area residents, Harwood said the state would approach Lane County to carry out the closures, as well as participate in realigning the Watersville Loop intersection to create a 90 degree, rather than acute angle, alignment.

"Folks were really welcoming at the meeting, didn't come in with their minds made up and listened," Harwood said. "But we're still listening too, if anyone else has another solution."

Court charges local teacher

McKENZIE BRIDGE: A McKenzie High School English teacher had her day in court last Wednesday. Blamely, Noelle Sauvignon, 37, of McKenzie Bridge, was sentenced in Lane County Circuit Court on a felony charge of delivery of drugs (marijuana) to a minor. Under Level 8 sentencing guidelines, a felony conviction could range from as much as three years prison time on one end of the scale to probation and enrollment in a rehabilitation program on the other.

Sauvignon was also charged with two misdemeanors — furnishing liquor to a minor and endangering the welfare of a minor.

The case developed after students reported the teacher had shown up at a birthday party in McKenzie Bridge, following her arrest on November 22, she is no longer teaching at McKenzie High.

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Federal fight for rural communities continues

Washington, D.C. Working to secure vital funding for the nation's rural schools, roads and services, U.S. Senators Ron Wyden and Gordon Smith are filing amendments to authorize and fully fund a one-year extension of the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000, commonly known as the county payments law.

Despite the Bush Administration's commitment to enact a one-year fully-funded extension of the county payments safety-net, the law was allowed to expire in September. A one-year extension of the program, including a portion to be paid out of timber receipts, would provide up to \$500 million nationally for 700 rural counties in more than 40 states. The senators' proposal would fully fund the extension — without a new tax or raising existing taxes — by closing a tax loophole that currently allows government contractors to avoid their tax obligations.

"The county payment's program has been a lifeline for our rural communities," Wyden said. "It would be inconceivable for Congress to recess for the year without ensuring that our schools and law enforcement officials have the resources they need to keep their doors open. Our amendment offers a locally responsible way forward."

"We need a long term solution that Oregon can depend on," Smith said. "We will continue to pursue every available funding avenue until the county payment program is extended. Congress must not default on its obligation to Oregon."

The senators' proposal would provide a revenue stream for county payments by withholding the federal taxes from payments the federal government makes to government contractors providing goods and services. The federal government does not currently withhold taxes on payments made to government contractors and a recent study by the Government Accountability Office revealed that a surprisingly large number of those contractors have never paid their federal taxes.

The two Oregon senators filed the amendment to the tax extension bill and plan to file it on the Continuing Resolution. U.S. Senators Ron Wyden and Gordon Smith also cosponsored the amendments.

The Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000 established a six-year payment formula for counties that receive revenue sharing payments for the United States Forestry Service (USFS) and Bureau of Land Management (BLM) lands. Based on historical timber receipts, the formula established a stable source of revenue to be used for education, roads and various other county services in rural areas.

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Lost cabins and gold mines tantalize

By Finn J.D. John

Lost or abandoned cabins pop up so often in legends of missing gold mines and buried treasure that they are almost a cliché.

Most of them follow a clear pattern or formula — in fact, all lost-treasure stories do: The seeker stumbles across the treasure while doing something else; he is called away for some reason; and he can never find his way back, despite devoting years to fruitless searching.

There may not be a more faithful example of that pattern than the story of the lost cabin of Steamboat Mountain.

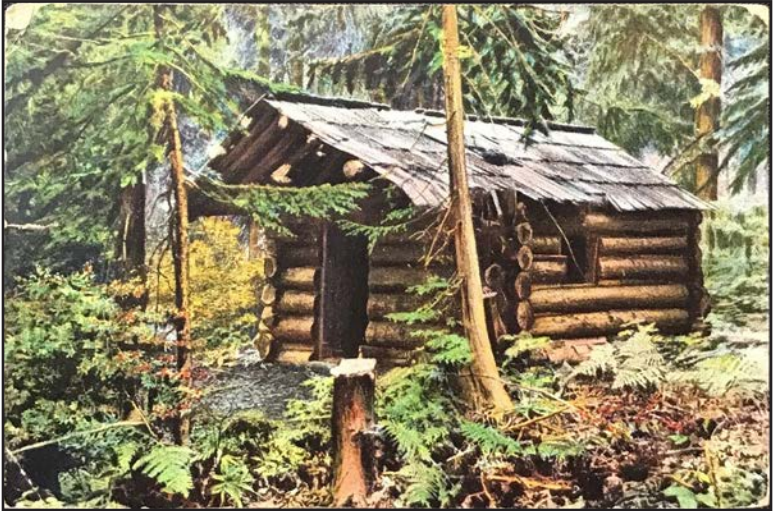
The Steamboat Mountain Lost Cabin Gold Mine story dates back to 1870, when two prominent citizens of Central Point, Constantine Magruder and Doc Lee, took some time off to do some deer hunting near the Applegate River in Jackson County.

The two of them made camp near a small spring on the side of Steamboat Mountain, and for a couple days they each rode out separately in the morning to hunt, returning to their camp at night.

On the third day, Magruder came across an old abandoned log cabin, with a partly collapsed roof, tucked away in a grove of heavy trees in a spot that appeared to have been chosen for concealment. It had been abandoned for years, maybe decades; a tree was growing up through its floor where the roof had fallen in.

Magruder dismounted to investigate. It looked as if it had been abandoned in a hurry — by someone who had come to a bad end; there was a gold pan on the floor with a few nuggets in it, near a miner’s pick.

Magruder pocketed the nuggets, looked around a little more, and got back on his horse. It was late, and he was a long way from camp. Hurriedly he made his way back, arriving just in time before the twilight faded completely into



Postcard image of a miner’s cabin near Spokane, in the Cascade Mountains, published by M. Rieder of Los Angeles. This postcard was postmarked March 26, 1908.

blackness, and told Dr. Lee about his discovery.

Magruder and Lee decided to run into town the next day to restock their provisions before investigating; they were running low, and they wanted to have as much time as possible to hunt for the diggings, which must be near the cabin.

Back in Central Point, they told a blacksmith, Bill Hays, about their find. Hays got very excited. Unlike the other two, he was familiar with the story of “Old Set-Em-Up,” the prospector from Yreka who had a secret cabin and gold mine up north in Oregon. “Old Set-Em-Up,” according to the story, stayed in his secret cabin working his secret mine all summer in 1851 and 1852, returned to Yreka for the winter loaded with gold, and basically kept the whole town in drinks all winter long. His nickname was derived from the shout of “Set ’em up for the house!” with which he habitually announced his arrival at the saloon each night.

Then, in 1853, Old Set-Em-Up vanished, touching off several decades of prospectors scouring through the woods of Southern Oregon looking for his cabin and

mine.

It was Old Set-Em-Up’s cabin that Hay thought his friends might have stumbled across.

Hay joined Magruder and Lee on their return to their camp. But in typical “Lost Gold Story” style, they were unable to figure out where their camp had been. And without their old camp as a starting point, Magruder had no idea how to find the old cabin.

The three of them hunted for several days without success. They came back several more times to search, over the next five years; but they never did find the old cabin again.

The other Lost Cabin story involves a miner who decided that, rather than wandering all over the backcountry digging holes and hoping to find gold in them, he’d dig someplace where he KNEW he’d find gold:

In the strongbox chained to a Wells Fargo & Co. stagecoach.

This miner — whose name I have not been able to learn — was in Boise City when he somehow learned that a particular stagecoach would be transporting a big haul of cash and gold along a trail that ran through country he knew well. The temptation was

apparently just too much for him.

So a few days before the run, he saddled up, loaded his pack horse with provisions and equipment as if going into the mountains to prospect, and told everyone he knew that he was headed into the wild country around Silver City to look for gold.

A few miles outside town, he turned around and headed back to the stage road, to a spot at the base of a steep climb where he knew he could stop the stage.

The coach got there just around dusk, and the miner got the drop on the driver easily. He tied him up securely and gagged him, tied the team to a tree, and then used his miner’s pick to “prospect” in the strongbox.

Not surprisingly, he immediately struck pay dirt.

The robber loaded down his pack horse with 100 pounds of gold, stuffed all the banknotes in his pockets, and slipped away, leaving the driver helpless.

The next day, the coach having failed to arrive, riders went out to search, and easily found the tied-up driver. But they were almost too late. It was late afternoon on a very hot day, and he had been lying in the scorching sun all day. He very nearly died, and was too delirious to say anything for several days as he recovered.

By this time, the robber was in The Dalles, prospecting around a bit to maintain his cover, and keeping an eye on the Boise newspapers whenever he could. In this way, he learned that a partner of his, who had set out on a prospecting trip a day or two after he had, had been arrested for the robbery. Then the partner was convicted and sentenced to eight years for it.

Conscience-stricken, the robber nearly decided to give himself up; but instead, he went into the mountains and built himself a little cabin and lived in it as a hermit.

Lost cabins and gold - Page 8



By Slim Randles

Steve pulled his pickup to the curb in front of Windy Wilson’s small house and started to become erect. This has become more of a project than it used to because there’s still a lot of Steve to uncramp, and he’s not as young as when it was easy.

“Come on in, Steve,” Windy yelled. “Coffee’s on.”

Steve petted the dog, Ramses, and then went to the kitchen table. “Kinda wondering why you asked me to come over, Windy. I mean, heck, we talk to each other every morning over coffee at the Mule Barn.”

“This here’s gotta be a private conversation, Steve,” Windy said, pushing his hat back some as he sat. “Need your advice.”

“You sick? You should go see Doc if you need some help.”

“Naw, I’m fitter’n a fried egg, Pard. But I wanted to see about getting’ me one a-them honorary degrees ... you know, like ol’ Doc did.”

Doc was recently honored by Jerry Hat Trick Junior College with an honorary Associate in Arts degree in Humanities. And they don’t even teach humanities there, but Doc had contributed to their new gym.

“How far’d you go in actual school, Windy?”

“Oh, I got pretty high up into high school there,” he said, “but my grades wasn’t too pretty good, so I quit and become a cowboy on ‘em.”

Steve stirred more sugar into his cup. “Don’t know what to tell you. An honorary degree isn’t something you work for, you know. The school usually looks around for someone who has gone ‘way beyond the ... well, what’s expected of them. Not sure how you’d do it. But this is America, Windy. Americans don’t quit. Americans figure out new ways of doing things. Americans usually need a coffee refill.”

“I’ll take care of that,” Windy said, “and I’ll work on that ‘way beyond American stuff later, if it don’t get too cold.”

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Poacher cut and ran

Continued From Page 1

to preserving wildlife and habitat across the state. Buck is the only OSP canine unit trained specifically to detect carcasses. He can also detect human scent, gunshot residue and other evidence of poaching.

Senior Trooper Wolcott and area residents worked together to field dress the deer and pack it out. OSP Troopers donate salvaged meat to local charities and non-profits. In this case, the meat went to a local church, which will distribute the meat to local families in need.

“The silver lining to poaching cases like this—where we are able to locate the animal while it’s still salvageable—is that the meat is

put to good use,” Wolcott said.

Members of the public are asked to contact Oregon State Police Tip-line at 1-800-452-7888, *OSP (*677), or email at TIP@state.or.us Reference case #SP21-342721. Members of the public who wish to support the Conservation K-9 program may do so through the Oregon Wildlife Foundation.

The Stop Poaching Campaign educates the public on how to recognize and report poaching. This campaign is a collaboration among hunters, conservationists, land owners and recreationists. Our goal is to increase reporting of wildlife crimes through the

TIP Line, increase detection by increasing the number of OSP Fish and Wildlife Troopers and increase prosecution. Oregon Hunters Association manages the TIP Line. This campaign helps to protect and enhance Oregon’s fish and wildlife and their habitat for the enjoyment of present and future generations. Contact campaign coordinator Yvonne Shaw for more information. Yvonne.L.Shaw@odfw.oregon.gov.

The TIP Reward for information that leads to an arrest or citation in this case stands at \$500 or four ODFW hunter preference points.

Cougar refill delayed


Continued From Page 1

last couple of decades to see some of the difficulties we face. However, we must find ways to protect threatened fish species if we want to continue enjoying the other benefits these dams provide and will absolutely align with the intent and direction of the court.”

It’s expected Cougar won’t be substantially refilled until May 1st. Officials say the Corps will attempt to reach 1,571 ft. by July 1st; however, no boat ramps will be available at that reservoir elevation, “and typically, precipitation available to refill after that date is

minimal.”

They also note the Willamette Valley is primarily a rain-driven system rather than a predominantly snow-melt system, as is common with other Northwest reservoirs.



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Gardening Tips

By Kym Pokorny



Oregon State University

OSU Extension Service

Like diamonds, clay soils are forever

When you walk about your yard on a wet day, do your shoes stick in the mud? Could you make ceramic pots out of the soil in your garden? If the answers are yes to both, odds are you have clay soil, one of the biggest challenges for the home gardener.

Clay soils in the Willamette Valley are the result of geologic actions that took place during the end of the last ice age – some 10,000-14,000 years ago, said Linda Brewer, senior faculty research assistant in Oregon State University’s College of Agricultural Sciences. Repeated flooding on an apocalyptic scale overflowed into what is today the Willamette Valley.

Very fine clay particles take far longer to settle out of water than larger sand and silt particles, Brewer explained. On average, these larger particles settled out further north in the valley, although clays can certainly be found in the Portland area. The largest clay particle is more than 1,000 times smaller than the smallest sand particle. Gravity causes these larger particles to settle out first.

Clay soils are difficult to work up and develop into a good seedbed. Dry clay tends to be very hard and, if wet, it tends to be very sticky and difficult to manage. But clay soils have their attributes, Brewer said. Clay particles are so small that they have slight electrical charges. These charges hold on to plant nutrients, far better than sand. Clay soils also store large amounts of water in the very fine spaces between their particles. This ability contributes to their stickiness and plasticity.

However, this water, held in such small pores, becomes difficult for plants to take up as the soil dries. Sandy soils drain readily because the spaces between the particles of sand are much larger.

Bark, manure, leaf mold and compost are among the organic amendments commonly used to improve clay soil, Brewer noted. Applied to the soil surface, these materials form a protective blanket that slows evaporation and reduces soil hardening.

to rototill or dig these materials into their garden beds, Brewer said, but experience has shown that the best and easiest way is to apply two or three inches of organic materials to garden beds, without trying to mix them in.

“Like diamonds, clay soils are highly structured at the atomic level,” Brewer said. “No amount of sand added to a clay soil will change its texture. The large sand particles provide a surface onto which the tiny clay particles adhere. The result can be more difficult to manage than the original clay.

“Think of the action of a potter’s hands on the clay as the potter’s wheel turns. The potter pulls the clay against the rotation of the wheel. In addition to shaping the clay, this action aligns the individual clay particles, and increases the strength of the clay. I emphatically recommend against rototilling sand or vermiculite into clay soils. The action of the tiller is like the action of the potter’s wheel.”

Organic matter serves as food for earthworms, insects, bacteria and fungi that transform it to soil nutrients and humus. These soil dwellers decompose and break down organic matter. Decomposer bacteria give off “glues” that aggregate soil particles, improving drainage and make the soil easier to work.

When a large amount of organic material is added to the soil under warm and moist conditions, microorganisms multiply rapidly. Since they construct their bodies from the same nutrients that plants use, in the short term, they

compete with plants for nutrients. Composted materials have been at least partially broken down and may have more nutrients available when applied.

To overcome the temporary lack of nutrients, gardeners might try adding low-nitrogen organic material like wood chips to the soil in the autumn, or smaller amounts at a time in the spring, when warm weather will hasten break down. Or apply a complete organic fertilizer as a source of nutrients.

Remember that nitrogen is highly soluble in water, Brewer said. Manures, which are high in nitrogen, should be added only when there are actively growing roots able to take up nitrogen. Applying manure in the autumn is a wasted effort. In areas with high-rainfall winters, the nitrogen will have run off or leached below the rooting zone by spring.

Gypsum – calcium sulfate – is an amendment that improves clay soils. After exposure to water, the calcium sulfate molecule will dissociate. Free calcium ions have a positive charge that attracts the negatively charged clay particles, encouraging aggregation. Ammonium lauryl sulfate is a surfactant that can encourage infiltration of water into dried clay, and may make it easier to mechanically aerate clay soils. Their commercial reputation as a “spray on aerator” is an exaggeration, Brewer said.

Fertile soil with good tilth does not come about with a single or even several additions of organic material, but from a consistent soil-building program.

“Repeated additions of organic matter do change clay soils, but these additions must be at least annual in order to maintain the changes,” Brewer said. “And the soil will remain clay – forever.”



Photo by Lynn Ketchum
Rolling a ribbon of soil helps determine how much clay it contains.

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“All those who believe in psychokinesis, raise my hand.”
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Country Kitchen

By Mary Emma Allen



CHECKING OUT “NOVEL” FOODS

Reading about foods novels can be fascinating. Sometimes there are complete recipes. In other cases, we’ll find a brief description of a regional food that entices us to search for the recipe. Also, some of these food references may bring memories and recipes to mind.

For instance, when reading a mystery book set in eastern Maine, I encountered a character peeling apples and then proceeding to make an apple cake, which she served with vanilla ice cream. As I read, I began to get hungry for cakes made with this fruit. The author casually mentioned other regional recipes during the course of the book.

Some books, like the mysteries about Goldy the caterer, by Diane Mott Davidson, naturally include food. Since Ms. Davidson’s books have become popular, you find more of this type...mysteries with recipes in the back.

Foods in Children’s Books

Children’s books also contain recipes that give the flavor of the area or era. While substitute teaching, I read a chapter to the youngsters from The Witch of Blackbird Pond by Elizabeth George Speare.

Kit found living with her cousins in Puritan Connecticut very different from life in Barbados. Learning to cook was just one of her many challenges. When making Corn Pudding for the family’s breakfast, she became impatient. Instead of slowly spooning the cornmeal into the boiling water, Kit finally dumped in the whole cup. A gelatinous mess resulted which the family

silently ate.

This brought to mind the Corn Pudding or Cornmeal Mush that was a standby when I was growing up. Sometimes we had it for breakfast, alternating between oatmeal and cream of wheat. Mother also prepared this dish for Sunday supper instead of serving a full meal after the large dinner.

I liked it when Mother had some lumps in the mush. She was frustrated because it wasn’t completely smooth. However, she didn’t have the mess that Kit did!

Foods Add Authenticity

Referring to foods the characters are eating, adds authenticity to the story background. This doesn’t have to be a detailed description, just mention of grabbing an oatmeal cookie filled with raisins, stirring up someone’s favorite chocolate cake, making apple pancakes for breakfast. You’ll often receive a sense of region and season this way, too.

Because of my culinary interests, I sometimes jot down the food and recipes mentioned in books, so keep a note pad beside me.

APPLE FRITTERS - a recipe from my childhood.

Beat 2 eggs. Mix and sift 2 1/2 cups flour, 2 1/2 teaspoons baking powder, 1-teaspoon salt, 1-teaspoon sugar.

Add 1 cup milk, 1/2 cup cream, 1 cup peeled, chopped apples and eggs to the dry ingredients; stir. Drop onto hot greased griddle and cook as you would pancakes.

Mother often served these for supper along with bacon or sausage.

(c) Mary Emma Allen
(Mary Emma Allen writes her New Hampshire home; e-mail: me.allen@juno.com)@juno.com)



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Community Notes

February 11 Chili Feed

The Walterville Grange will be holding its annual Chili Feed on February 11, from 5 to 7 PM. This will be held at the Walterville Community Center, located at 39259 Camp Creek Road, in Walterville. Be sure to bring your family and enjoy our homemade chili with cornbread, salad, cookies, and beverages. We will be following state COVID-19 protocols with masks and spacing. We will also be collecting canned food for the upriver foodbank. Donations will also be accepted. Please join us for some delicious food and friendship. To go containers will be available for those who want to take it home to eat.

February 11 McKenzie Food Pantry

The McKenzie River Food Pantry will be open from 11 a.m. to

3 p.m. in the new gym located on the McKenzie School campus.

February 12 Valentines Dinner

Valentines Dinner to benefit Vida McKenzie Community Center on Saturday, February 12th from 6-8pm at McKenzie Valley Presbyterian Church. \$20/person, \$100/table of 6. Reservation suggested. Gerry Aster 552-896-3001

February 16 Upper McK Firer Board

The will meet at 7p.m. 56578 McK. Hwy. in McKenzie Bridge

February 13 Leaburg Food Pantry

The Leaburg Food Pantry is open from 3 to 6 p.m. at the

McKenzie Bible Fellowship, 45061 McKenzie Hwy.

February 17 Leaburg Food Pantry

The Leaburg Food Pantry is open from 3 to 6 p.m. at the McKenzie Bible Fellowship, 45061 McKenzie Hwy.

February 21 McKenzie Fire & Rescue

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

February - April Fuels Reduction

McKenzie Fire & Rescue, in partnership with Northwest Youth Corps, is compiling a list of residents within the fire district boundaries who are interested in participating in a fuels reduction program that will occur between 2/22 and 4/21.

The primary focus of this program will be driveway access and 30-50' around the home.

The funds for this program have been made available through the

Senate Bill 762.
For more information, call McKenzie Fire & Rescue at 541-896-3311.

Grants for Arts

Lane Arts has opened applications for their Artist Grant program. This opportunity is open to individual artists of all disciplines. This year it allows applicants the flexibility to apply for funding in one of three areas:

Project: to move forward a new project or creative endeavor that contributes to career advancement or artistic development
Process: to engage in administrative or artistic learning, skill-building or professional development that contributes to improved business or artistic practice

Progression: to bolster artistic business capacity through equipment or supply purchasing, staffing or other operating expenses.

The grant program is funded by City of Eugene Cultural Services Division and administrated by Lane Arts Council. Questions? Call Eric Braman at 541-485-2278, eric@lanearts.org

Library Reopened

The volunteers and Board members of the O'Brien Memorial Library have been busy, including a cleanup day at the build site for the new library in Blue River. An Ebooks program has been purchased and is available for patrons. Answers to questions about using this new program is at obrienlibrary.org or email at obrienmemorial-library@gmail.com. The library has been closed for some time due to the snowstorm and the Covid surge. Fortunately, the snow is gone, the parking lot is clear of ice and the surge is now improving. The O'Brien Memorial Library reopened inside the Upper McKenzie Community Center in Rainbow on Monday February 7th, at its regularly scheduled hours. Masking and social distancing measures are still in effect..



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William Randolph Hearst



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<h2>An Invitation to Worship</h2>	<p>Living Water Family Fellowship 52353 McKenzie Hwy - Milepost 42 Just east of Blue River 541-822-3820 Sunday: 9:30 am - Sunday School for all ages 10:30 am - Worship Service & Children's Church 6:00 pm - Bible Studies and Youth Thurs. 6 pm - Celebrate Recovery (12-Step Program)</p>
<p>McKenzie Bible Fellowship 45061 McKenzie Hwy – Vida, Oregon Sunday Worship – 10:00 a.m. Youth Ministries KidsFest 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 Bridge Christian Church 56334 McKenzie Hwy, McKenzie Bridge, OR 97413 9:30 a.m. Sunday school for all ages 11:00 a.m. Worship Service & Nursery Need a ride? Call 541-822-3289</p>	
<p>McKenzie Valley Presbyterian Church Worship is live-streamed, every Sunday at 10:30 am, on the Facebook page for McKenzie Valley Presbyterian Church. Comments on Facebook are appreciated! You may also contact the church for prayer requests, to request an emailed or earth-mailed bulletin, and other information. Phone or send email to Nancy Ashley, nancy.w.ashley@gmail.com, 541-914-1986. We look forward to hearing from our neighbors, either from a distance, or someday, in person! Milepost 13 McKenzie Hwy. (541) 747-2604</p>	
<p>Every Tuesday 8:15 am, silent meditation at Leaburg Library. Bring your own practice; we set the timer for 30 minutes. No religious affiliation, sponsored by the McKenzie Valley Holiday Farm Fire Long Term Recovery Group. Just show up, or contact Sara Stanley, 530-520-8901.</p>	



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Direct Answers

By Wayne & Tamara Mirchell

Cupid Doesn’t Deliver

I would like to ask you about alienation of affection. Is there such a law? How hard is it to prove, and what are the penalties? I have been married four years and recently caught my wife cheating on me. I forgave her and tried to work things out, but unfortunately she moved in with her lover. They have been together two months. My wife is from Russia, and I believe she used me just to get her green card. Mutual friends have told me so. I have considerable property. Can I get an annulment? If I was successful, would she be entitled to anything? Also, I supported her two children for four years. Can I sue her for the expense? Ira, we are not lawyers, but you need to think about things before you talk to one. If you succeed in hurting your wife, there will be lasting negative effects on you. People who plot the demise of others always end up hurting themselves. Each of you had a role in this. Your wife was in dire straits with two children to care for. She was like a mother bear doing what she needed to do to protect her cubs. Perhaps she thought she could

force herself, or trick herself, into making this arrangement work. People under stress don’t think very clearly. You must have seemed like salvation to her. You offered her paradise, but you did yourself harm by going into a situation where you would look like a savior. Whatever made her believe this was love, or at least acceptable, disappeared when she came over here. She is not the same woman anymore. Work out a reasonable solution with your wife. Realize you can’t order love the way you order a pizza. Cupid doesn’t deliver. Tamara A Story Without End I have been dating a man named Cal for the past six months. We are very close and treat each other extremely well. We talk frequently about a long-term future. I couldn’t ask for things to be better. But there is one major problem. Cal’s ex-girlfriend repeatedly interferes in our relationship. She is what you would call a psycho. Almost every weekend we go out to clubs and then to an after bar party. When we are out, we run into her and she picks fights with us. We have had drinks thrown in our faces. Once when we were out, I

turned around to say something to her, and she kicked me in the head. I fell down a flight of stairs. She was two stairs above me when I turned, so it might have been an accident. She has also broken into our house and smashed a window. Cal tells her to leave us alone, but she won’t do it. She phones her every week. Cal will say things like, “I still love you, but I’m not in love with you.” However, she is not the kind of person who understands that concept. She has made me a very angry person. If this continues, I may walk away from this relationship. That would be giving into her, but I don’t know what else to do. Talena, when you are involved with a stalker, the only solution is to cut them off. There is no middle ground. When property damage and physical assault are involved, things are more than annoying. They are dangerous. Cutting off the stalker means hanging up the phone, changing phone numbers, not going where they go. Each time Cal talks to this woman, she has succeeded in extending their relationship. He can’t say, “I love you, but I don’t want to see you.” Mixed messages never work. At this point, the ball is in Cal’s court. If he doesn’t end this relationship, you have to wonder if some part of him wants it to continue. Wayne

American Life in Poetry

By Kwame Dawes There is in Jericho Brown’s vast poetic mythology, a series of touchstone terms that are rich with resonance. The word crossing refers, in part, to the grand crossing of the Atlantic in the “Middle Passage”, to the many rivers crossed by those fleeing enslavement, and finally to the great crossing from this mortal territory to the other unknown territory that we must all make. And in this poem, “Crossing”, he reminds us that above everything else, confidence, faith (“more than a conqueror”), courage and wreckless optimism (“I am the one who leaps”) are good companions on this journey. Crossing By Jericho Brown The water is one thing, and one thing for miles. The water is one thing, making this bridge Built over the water another. Walk it Early, walk it back when the day goes dim, everyone Rising just to find a way toward rest again. We work, start on one side of the day Like a planet’s only sun, our eyes straight Until the flame sinks. The flame

sinks. Thank God I’m different. I’ve figured and counted. I’m not crossing To cross back. I’m set On something vast. It reaches Long as the sea. I’m more than a conqueror, bigger Than bravery. I don’t march. I’m the one who leaps. We do not accept unsolicited submissions. 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 ©2019 by Jericho Brown, “Crossing” from The Tradition (Copper Canyon Press, 2019.) 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)

February 10 - James Marshall came west by wagon train, and although the main body of the wagon train turned south to California, Marshall came to Oregon and spent time in the Willamette Valley before journeying to California. At Sutter’s Fort, on January 23, 1848, Marshall discovered gold and set in motion one of the greatest migrations in history. As miners rushed in they drove Marshall away and he moved into a small cabin on the American River near where he had made his original discovery. He never returned to Oregon and died penniless in 1885.

Ski Report

February 8, 2021 The Hoodoo Ski Area reported on Tuesday that no new snow fell overnight, leaving the base at 56 inches. Temperatures were 42 degrees mid-mountain and 42 at the base with NNW winds averaging 17 mph. For more information call 541-822-3337. Mt. Bachelor reported temperatures of 30 degrees at the base and 41 degrees at mid-mountain on Tuesday. No new snow fell overnight, leaving the snowpack at 65 inches at mid-mountain broken clouds. On Tuesday morning tame winds were coming from the northwest ranging from 10 to 20 mph. 13 out of 15 lifts were open, along with 118 of the 121 trails. For more information call 541-382-7888.

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Personal The Leaburg Sew & So’s will meet again on Monday afternoons when the McKenzie Fire & Rescue Center re-opens for community activities. Call Sara at 541-896-3059 for more information.

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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Quilters/Needle Crafters The Leaburg Sew and So’s meet every Monday from noon to 4 pm.. If you are interested in joining us, call Sara at (541) 896-3059 for more information. S=JS-2/25/10ruc

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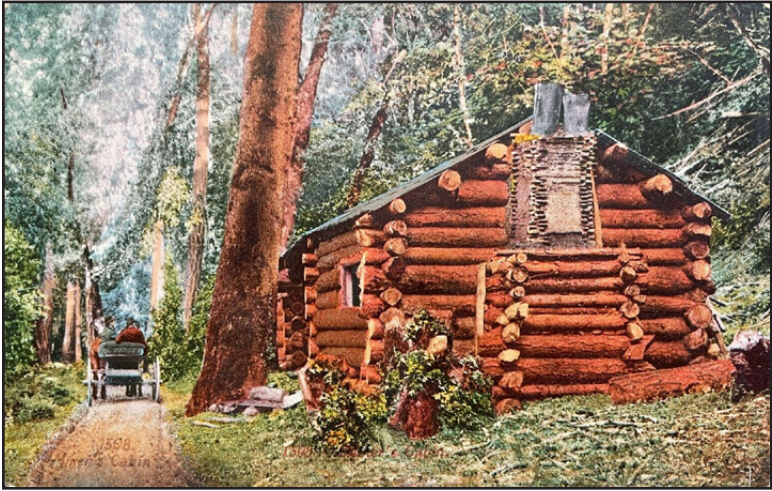
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Lost cabins and gold

Continued From Page 4



Postcard image of a miner’s cabin near Grants Pass, published by Edward H. Mitchell of San Francisco. This postcard was postmarked Oct. 12,

The stolen gold he cached under a stump nearby.

After half a dozen or so years of total solitude, the robber emerged, and traveled back to Boise City. There he found that no one remembered him or suspected him of anything, and his partner’s prison term was nearly up.

But before the robber could do anything else, he got very sick. On his very deathbed, he wrote out a confession, exonerating his partner and giving detailed directions for finding the stump under which he’d stashed the stolen gold.

The problem was, the directions started from the cabin door; and he didn’t mention where the cabin was. All anyone knew was that it was somewhere in the mountains of northwest Oregon.

This kicked off a miniature gold rush in The Dalles and points east. But, so far as is known, nobody

ever did manage to figure out where the robber’s secret cabin was.

The cabin, of course, is long gone. But the possibility remains that somewhere up there in the High Cascades, under the forest duff where 150 years ago a tree grew, nearly \$3 million worth of gold ingots are nestled snugly in the dirt.

(Sources: *Lost Mines and Treasures of the Pacific Northwest*, a book by Ruby El Hult published in 1957 by Binfords & Mort Publishers)

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.

Sheriff’s Report

Continued From Page 3

16:25: 40000 blk, McK. Hwy. Public Assist. Lifting Assistance Provided.

19:06: 40000 blk, York Ln. Medical, Heart. Patient Assessed, 1 Transported.

Feb. 2: 1:49: 41000 blk, Madrone St. Medical, General. Patient Refusal.

12:31: 38000 blk, McK. Hwy. Medical, General. False Alarm.

Feb. 3: 6:29: 40000 blk, Tonga LN Medical, General. Patient Assessed, 1 Transported.

11:19: 87000 blk, Lupe Lane Medical, General. Patient Assessed, 1 Transported.

14:36: McK. Hwy. Milepost 19. Public Assist. Assisted with spare tire.

15:59: 49000 blk, McK. Hwy. Medical, General. Patient Assessed, Refusal

Feb. 5: 17:11: 38000 blk, McK. Hwy. Police Assist. Patient Refusal.

17:16: 50000 blk, McK. Highway Medical, General. Patient Refusal.

Feb. 6: 11:32: 39000 blk, McK. Hwy. Medical, Heart. Patient Assessed, 1 Transported.

13:46: 1300 blk, McK. River. Assist LCSO Search & Rescue. Boat stuck on a log.

20:02: 41000 blk, McK. Hwy. Public Assist. Lift Assist Only.

McK. Fire & Rescue’s February Board meeting has been moved to Tuesday, February 22nd. Same time, same place. The office will be closed on Monday, the 21st, in observance of President’s Day. The district will resume the 3rd Monday schedule in March.

Sheriff’s deputies

Continued From Page 1

Asked by West Lane Commissioner Jay Bozievich if adding more deputies might overload the public defender’s office or circuit court dockets, Harrold said he’d been told adding 5 deputies and 2 detectives wouldn’t have a significant impact. He did feel, however, that it, “would be significant for people who live in unincorporated areas that suffer a burglary. That’s classified as a property crime but it feels very personal if it’s your home.” Harrold added. “Often a

main office deputy will take a report by phone and generally there is no follow up.”

At those lower staffing levels Harrold said there’s often been no response because for situations like a domestic dispute, his office wouldn’t send out a single deputy. “Once we have these positions trained and deployed we’ll be able to increase our minimum staffing from 3 deputies and a sergeant to 4 deputies and a sergeant,” he said. By having 4 personnel per

shift, he expects it would be more likely 2 deputies would be able to respond to a call.

“In the past,” Mokrohisky said, “The SRS payments were like paying your mortgage with your IRS tax return. So relying on that for our ongoing expenses was not a good practice.” Now, he added, “We can make an investment that adds additional value to the community.”

State Police Report

Continued From Page 3

Involved: 55-year-old male from Eugene,

08:33: Traffic Crimes, All Except DUII - Marcola Rd. Mp. 5. Stopped a driver for Reckless Driving. The juvenile driver was cited and released in lieu of custody for Reckless Driving and Failure to Carry Proof of Financial Responsibility. Involved: white Acura CL, 17-year-old male from Marcola.

Feb. 5: 16:53: Agency Assist - 38000 block, McK. Hwy. Troopers were dispatched to assist LCSO regarding a subject possibly experiencing a medical incident near Milepost 11. Investigation

revealed the involved male was actively breaking windows of his own vehicle in the parking lot of a business. Troopers arrived at the location and detained the male without incident. LCSO arrive on scene and took custody of the male for a police officer hold. LCSO transported the male from the location. Involved: blue Humvee HJ3, 36-year-old male from Redmond.



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