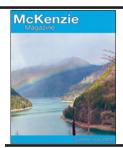
Serving the McKenzie River Valley ... And Subscriber Larry Wilcox of Blue River

Thursday, August 11, 2022 Volume 44, Issue 52



#### INSIDE THIS ISSUE

McKenzie Magazine 2022 Summer/Fall edition

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- ° Building Back
- ° Need An Alibi?

° Business Services

This & the next issue are the last that will be sent via US Postal Service Email your address to rivref2@gmail.com TODAY!

## Fire near Oakridge

Blaze covers over 3,000 acres

By Tuesday, the Cedar Creek Fire near Oakridge had continued to grow. US Forest Service officials reported it was active on over 3,234 acres near Spirit Lake and on the southwestern flank. Fire growth has been minimal on the eastern flank of the fire due to more wet soil conditions and a change in fuel type from dense timber to more sparse conifer for-

ests and meadows.

One water scooper and four helicopters were working to moderate the fire using Hills Creek Lake as a water source.

The fire also continued backing down toward Black Creek Road, where crews are still planning to use as a containment line for the southern flank of the fire.

Fire near Oakridge - Page 2



Crews used an aluminum-based wrap to help protect the Waldo Mountain Lookout. Although the wrap can't offer complete protection it's hoped to prevent the destructive effects of 2020 when the Olallie Lookout burned. Firefighters have been utilizing the vantage point to monitor and track the Cedar Creek Fire's movement.

## The \$250 million question

Will Leaburg continue to generate hydroelectric power?

EUGENE: The Triple Bottom Line (TBL) financial analysis report delivered to the Eugene Water & Electric Board last week was based on social, economic, and environmental factors. The TBL is focused on what the future could hold for the mothballed Leaburg hydroelectric project. After weighing potential the utility's staff offered four options.

Decommissioning the facility and returning the area to conditions before it was built could come at a projected cost of \$250 million, Mark Zinniker, EWEB's generation engineering manager, told the board at the August 2nd meeting. It would cost a similar amount to rebuild the Leaburg canal and return the project to full service he noted.

Two other alternatives - a partial return to service or beefing up the canal to carry off stormwater - were also tied into what the projects could cost, at \$180 million.

Under the economic portion of the TBL study, factors that were considered included cost/rate impacts, impacts on financing and bond ratings, and power price risk reductions. Public safety, local economics, and recreation were part of the social impacts reviewed. The third category, environmental, covered items ranging from water quality or carbon footprints to aquatic resources.



The Eugene Water & Electric Board commissioners are preparing to make a decision on the fate of the Leaburg Lake later this year.

During discussions, board chairman John Brown wondered if there might be some other large costs that should also be factored in. What he had in mind was potentially upgrading the Walterville Canal too since both projects had been part of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission relicensing process that he said had cost "from \$140 to \$150 million."

As part of a public outreach process, EWEB has been holding bi-monthly "upriver listening sessions" at the Lloyd Knox Park. Commissioner Mindy Schlossberg reported she had been at some of those meetings where local residents "overwhelmingly

expressed love for the lake."

One of those residents, Gerry Aster of Vida, gave testimony at the meeting. She called Leaburg Lake a "distinct and valuable feature within the McKenzie Valley, not only to community members but to visitors as well. "

Aster felt that "If Leaburg Dam is removed and the lake is lost, there will be an enormous impact to an area already struggling from the results of the Holiday Farm Fire and its economic impacts to tourism," which she said is the primary industry in the McKenzie Valley.

No decisions were made at last week's board meeting but EWEB's \$250 million question - Page 2

## Fire danger is high

#### Danger level increased on state lands

Fire danger levels on lands protected by the Oregon Department of Forestry Western Lane District and South Cascade District will were increased to "high" (yellow) last Saturday, August 6th.

The escalation came on the heel of recent lightning strikes that caused numerous fires across the Cascades in portions of Lane, Douglas, Deschutes, and Klamath counties. With high temperatures and low relative humidity forecasted, the restrictions are designed to reduce the risk of human-caused fires.

The restrictions affect the public use of power-driven equipment, such as chain saws, mowers, weed eaters, motor vehicles used around fuels, and more.

Other fire prevention regulations that are in effect, include:

\* No debris burning, including piles and debris burned in burn barrels

\* No fireworks on or within 1/8 of a mile of forestlands

\* Smoking while traveling will only be allowed in enclosed vehicles on improved roads, in boats on the water and other specifically designated locations

\* Exploding targets and tracer ammunition, or any bullet with a pyrotechnic charge in its base, are

\* Campfires are allowed only in designated sites approved by the forester. Portable stoves using liquefied or bottled fuels may be used in other locations, with landowner approval

\* Motorized vehicles, including motorcycles and all-terrain vehicles, may not be used on un-improved roads or off-road between 10 a.m. and 8 p.m. during high fire danger. The use of motorized vehicles, including motorcycles and all-terrain vehicles, is allowed at

Fire danger - Page 2

## Corps urges caution on waterways

#### Cites 160% increase in Oregon drownings, boating deaths

Drownings and boating-related deaths needlessly continue claiming lives in Oregon, recently fueled by a heat wave, according to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. The Oregon State Marine Board (OSMB) reported 19 boating-related fatalities in 2021 and the Oregon Health Authority recorded 57 drownings in natural waters in 2020, which is 160% increase from 2019 (35 drownings). Life jackets may have prevented many of these deaths.

"Heat waves can exacerbate drownings and accidents," said Tom Conning, Portland District U.S. Army Corps of Engineers spokesperson. "More people are out on the water, trying to cool off and they don't always wear life jackets. Men, especially between 17-65 years of age, are the worst about wearing life jackets due to several things, including their arrogance about swimming abili-

Even when the air temperature is hot, water temperatures in the Pacific Northwest can still cause involuntary gasping and hypothermia, according to Melissa Rinehart, Natural Resources Management chief.

"It's already too late if you fall into the water unexpectedly with-Caution on waterways - Page 2



The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is cautioning people to be careful as the number of boating accidents has risen.



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## \$250 million question

**Continued From Page 1** 

staff said they intend to deliver a draft report to the commissioners at their October 4<sup>th</sup> meeting.

"Everytime we get a presentation it gets a little more complicated," according to commissioner Sonya Carlson. "I always expect there's going to be more clarification at each iteration and it just seems like there's always some other twists."

Utility general manager Frank Lawson asked the board to give the staff more information on what they expected, asking whether they were looking for an overview or a specific recommendation.

Supporting a specific recommen-

dation, Brown said, "We're supposed to reflect community values but I don't know anything about the technical stuff per se you guys do. Just because you give a recommendation doesn't mean we have to follow it."

A final report and a decision by the board should come in December. Lawson said he expected the process was likely to trigger a lot of internal debates within EWEB's staff members before they present a report that outlines a course of action. "You don't have to agree or disagree," he said. "You can always say you need more information."

## Fire near Oakridge

**Continued From Page 1** 

Heavy equipment began arriving on the scene Monday. Masticators will be deployed to chip small diameter woody material along roadsides to make a safer control feature.

The entire Waldo Lake Wilderness area is closed due to the Cedar Creek Fire. This includes all trailheads and dispersed camping west and north of Waldo Lake. The lake itself remains open as well as campgrounds on the east side. A Temporary Flight Restriction (TFR) is in place in a ten-mile radius around the fire.

Fire restrictions are in place on

the Willamette National Forest with the exception of the Three Sisters, Mt. Jefferson, Mt. Washington, Waldo Lake, and Diamond Peak Wilderness areas. All campfires, charcoal or briquette fires, pellet fires, or any other fires will be prohibited, except in designated campgrounds. Portable cooking stoves, lanterns and heaters using liquefied or bottled fuel are still allowed if they can be switched on and off. Motorized vehicles may operate only on designated trails and roads, including within the Huckleberry Flats and Santiam Pass OHV areas.

## Fire danger

**Continued From Page 1** 

all times on improved roads free of flammable vegetation

\* Chain saws may not be used between 10 a.m. and 8 p.m. during high fire danger. During hours outside of this time frame, chain saws may be used but require that the operator have one shovel and one 8-oz or larger fire extinguisher at the work site. A fire watch is also required for one hour after each chainsaw use

\* Cutting, grinding, and welding of metal is not allowed between 10 a.m. and 8 p.m. during high fire danger. These activities will be allowed during hours outside of this time frame only if the work site is cleared of potentially flammable vegetation and other materials, and a charged garden hose or one 2 ½ pound or larger fire extinguisher is immediately available

The mowing of dead or dried grass with power-driven equipment is not allowed between 10 a.m. and 8 p.m. during high fire danger. This restriction does not include mowing of green lawns, or equipment used for the commercial culture and harvest of ag-

Any other spark-emitting internal combustion engine-use not specifically mentioned is not allowed between 10 a.m. and 8 p.m.

ricultural crops

### **Letters to the Editor**



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



## **Caution on waterways**

Continued From Page 1

out a life jacket, even if you know how to swim," said Rinehart. "We want everyone to enjoy their time at Corps parks and head home safely. We have over 20 life jacket loaner stations for those who don't own a life jacket or forget to bring one."

Recreational boating-related incidents and deaths are beginning to trend upward with the growth in paddling activities which include kayaks, canoes and standup paddleboards. 2020 was a record high number of fatalities, and OSMB staff still note the fatality rate remained higher than the tenyear average.

"We take safety so seriously, it's written into our mission statement," said Ashley Massey, public information officer for OSMB, the agency that serves recreational boaters in the state. "It makes you wonder, would 11 of the victims

during high fire danger. These activities will be allowed during hours outside of this time frame only if the work site is cleared of potentially flammable vegetation and other materials, and a charged garden hose or one 2 ½ pound or larger fire extinguisher is immediately available

who weren't wearing life jackets have survived if they'd been wearing one? For instance, the U.S. Coast Guard's nationwide recreational boating statistics from 2020 show nearly 86% of drowning victims would have survived if they'd worn a properly fitting life jacket."

Portland District reservoirs saw three drownings in 2021 at Fern Ridge, Foster and Fall Creek reservoirs. The district averages more than four million visitors per year at 133 recreation sites across 18 dams and reservoirs in Oregon and Washington. Corps officials urge users to take precautions,

Wearing a life jacket: it will help you survive an unexpected fall into the water and can save your life if you become exhausted due to fatigue, waves or current while swimming.

Knowing your swimming abilities: swimming in natural waters is different from swimming in a pool, and your swimming ability decreases with age.

Expecting the unexpected: if you fall or jump into water that is colder than 70 degrees, you can inhale water from involuntary gasping.

Understanding "boater's hypnosis": this can slow your reaction time almost as much as if you were legally intoxicated.

Eliminating alcohol consumption: Alcohol induces an inner ear condition (caloric labyrinthitis) that can cause you to become disoriented when underwater and not realize which way is up.

District staff stress the importance of water safety year-round, but especially during the summer season because that is when most public recreation fatalities occur.

# McKenzie River Reflections

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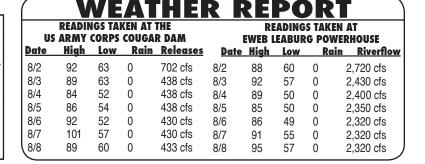
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McKenzie River Reflections, USPS #467-530, PERIODICALS postage paid at Blue River and additional mailing offices. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to McKenzie River Reflections, 59059 Old McKenzie Hwy., McKenzie Bridge, Oregon 97413. Publisher - Ken Engelman.

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#### Saturday 8/13 Friday 8/12 Sunday 8/14 **Santiam Pass** McKenzie Valley McKenzie Valley **Santiam Pass** McKenzie Valley **Santiam Pass** Partly Cloudy Sunny Partly Cloudy **Partly Cloudy** Sunny Sunny 0% chance precip High: 80 Low: 48 0% chance precip 10% chance precip 10% chánce precip 0% chance precip High: 86 Low: 53 High: 86 Low: 54 High: 79 Low: 48 High: 88 Low: 55 High: 82 Low: 52



### Sheriff's Report

July 30: 12:09 p.m: Disturbance, Dispute - 88200 Tiki Ln. Neighbors in dispute over trespassing. One neighbor reportedly fired a gun into the ground.

Aug. 1: 3:01 p.m: Assist Motorist - 45900 blk, McK. Hwy.

3:13 **p.m:** Crim-inal Mischief - Finn Rock Landing. The catalytic converter was stolen from the caller's vehicle while the caller was on the river.

p.m: Disturb-4:30 ance, Dispute - 37300 Parsons Creek Rd. Verbal dispute between daughter and father.

Aug. 2: 12:08 p.m: Disturbance, Dispute - 55200 blk, Delta

**12:23 p.m:** Incomplete 911 Call - 37300 blk, Parsons Creek Rd.

**5:01 p.m:** Theft of Mail - 35200 blk, McK. View Dr.

Aug. 3: 7:43 a.m: Civil Service - 39600 blk, Wendling Rd.

9:07 a.m: Welfare Check -40100 blk, York Ln.

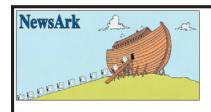
**p.m:** Disturb-ance, 12:09 Dispute - 88200 blk, Tiki Ln. Neighbors in dispute over trespassing. One neighbor reportedly fired a gun into the ground.

6:03 p.m: Smoke - South

9:13 p.m: Suspicious Vehicle -35200 blk, Camp Creek Rd.

Aug. 4: 1:56 a.m: Alarm -39200 blk, McK. Hwy.

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From JuLY 10, 2008 edition of McKenzie River Reflections



Leaburg man airlifted from wreck

Timber harvests continue to plummet

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3:13 p.m: Criminal Mischief -Finn Rock Landing. The catalytic converter was stolen from the caller's vehicle while the caller was on the river.

4:30 p.m: Disturbance, Dispute - 37300 blk, Parsons Creek Rd. Verbal dispute between daughter and father.

**9:31 p.m:** Littering - 47800 blk, McK. Hwy.

**Aug. 5: 1:04 p.m:** Citizen Contact - 88200 blk, Tiki Ln.

1:08 p.m: Abandoned Vehicle -Quartz Creek Rd. & McK. Hwy.

4:54 p.m: Suspicious Subject -38400 blk, Shotgun Creek Rd.

**5:17 p.m:** Vehicle Stop - McK. Hwy. Milepost 27.

5:24 p.m: Vehicle Stop - McK. Hwy. Mp. 27.

**5:30 p.m:** Vehicle Stop - McK. Hwy. Mp. 27.

**5:42 p.m:** Vehicle Stop - McK. Hwy. Mp. 27.

**6:07 p.m:** Vehicle Stop - McK. Hwy. Mp. 27. **6:30 p.m:** Vehicle Stop - McK.

Hwy. Mp. 27. Aug. 6: 1:22 a.m: Assist, Information - Marcola Rd. &

Camp Creek Rd. 9:55 a.m: Unlawful Entry Motor Vehicle - 36100 blk, McGowan Creek Rd.

1:01 p.m: Vehicle Stop - McK. Hwy. Mp. 42.

1:47 p.m: Vehicle Stop - McK. **Continued On Page 8** 

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#### State Police Report

Aug. 1: 11:44: Crash, Non-Injury - Hwy. 126E, Milepost 30. Single vehicle, single occupant was driving west. The operator was driving at a rate of speed according to witnesses. The operator went onto the gravel shoulder on a corner, over corrected, vehicle rotated and exited the opposite side of the road. The vehicle came to rest wedged between the bank and a shoulder. Operator was cited for traffic violation from the crash. Involved: silver/aluminum Hyundai Elantra, 19-year-old male from Leaburg.

Aug. 3: 22:39: Crash, Non-Injury – Hwy. 126E, Mp. 30. Unit #1, described as a red Honda Civic bearing California platrs, was eastbound when the vehicle failed to navigate a corner going into the ditch and becoming stuck. The operator was failing to wear his corrective lenses and this is a dark unlighted highway. The operator had a language barrier and was warned for failure to drive within his lane. The operator arranged for his own tow. Involved: 33-yearold male.

#### McKenzie Fire & Rescue

Aug. 1: 11:44: McK. Hwy. Milepost 31. Motor Vehicle Accident. Non-Injury/Non-Blocking.

**12:44:** 40000 block, McK. Hwy. Medical, General. Patient Refusal.

Aug. 2: 2:03: McK. Hwy. Mp. 30. MVA. Patient Assessed, 1 Transported.

7:33: 90000 blk, Greenwood Dr. Medical, General. Patient Refusal.

9:12: Leaburg Lake. Medical,

Continued On Page 5

#### **Upper McKenzie** Fire/Rescue

**Aug. 2: 22:13:** Medical – 91000 block, Dearborn Island Rd. Male, Conscious, Breathing.

**Aug. 4: 05:18:** Medical – 55000 blk, Delta Rd. Female, Conscious, Breathing.

**06:43:** Medical - 51000 blk, Blue River Dr. Female, Conscious,

Breathing. **18:27:** Fall Injury - 59000 blk, McK. Hwy. Blue Pool. Knee

Aug. 5: 20:39: Illegal Burn - Caddis Ln./McK. River Dr. Camper has a fire going on the

**Aug. 6: 21:23:** Medical – 91000 blk, Alma Dr. Female, Conscious,

**Aug. 7: 07:32:** Medical – 56000 blk, McK. Hwy. Male patient.

The upper McK. Fire district board of directors will hold its monthly meeting at 7 p.m on Wednesday, August 17th, at the McK. Fire Station, 56578 McK. Hwy. in McKenzie Bridge.



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## Murder suspect was auctioned off as a slave

By Finn J.D. John In the first month of 1852, everyone in the frontier community of Cynthian was talking about the big crime wave.

Well, it was big by frontier Oregon standards. Although it was (and still is) the seat of Polk County, Cynthian - which was renamed Dallas later that same year - was a tiny place, with no more than a few hundred residents.

But, it seemed, one of those few hundred people was a burglar and had hit three different homes over the previous few months.

Folks around Cynthian had a suspect in mind, or at any rate, they later claimed they did. Their suspicions centered on a laborer named Return Everman.

Return Everman and his brother Hiram were new arrivals in town, having traveled to Cynthian on the Oregon Trail the previous summer, and were living with the Goff family on their homestead claim as hired hands. The community's impressions of the two were mixed - everyone seems to have gotten along very well with Hiram, but Return had a more squirrely reputation.

So nobody was very surprised when, in January of 1852, Return was spotted sneaking out of Cyrenius C. Hooker's farmhouse when the family was away. And when Hooker came back home and found that the unknown burglar had struck again, he was not slow to point the finger at Return Everman.

There wasn't any proof. Everman, it later turned out, had hidden the pocket watch he'd stolen from the Hooker home under a log by Rickreall Creek, and he stoutly denied having done the burglary.

But Hooker didn't back down.

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**Polk County Historical Society** 

The Polk County Courthouse as it appeared in 1859. It was one of the second-story windows on this building that Enoch Smith leaped out of in a desperate attempt to escape from custody and avoid a death sentence.

And Everman was afraid to back down. He figured that most of the community believed him to be innocent, but he thought if he tried to patch things up with Hooker, they'd interpret that as evidence of a guilty conscience and turn against him.

So he decided it would be best if he just went ahead and, well, murdered him.

"I would rather the news would get home that I had killed a man for trying to injure my character, than for news to go home that I had stolen a watch," he wrote later, in his written confession.

Having decided to do this, he started talking about it very openly. He told his brother Hiram, as well as Samuel Goff (his boss, the owner of the farm at which he and Hiram were living and working) and another friend named David J. Coe. Nobody seems to have taken the threat seriously, though.

A few weeks went by, and a

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group of the neighbors decided to put together a party for a journey south to the gold fields — the gold rush was still in full swing in '52, of course. Hiram Everman was going with them, along with Goff and Coe ... and Hooker. Because Hooker was going, Return Everman refused to join them.

One of the other men joining the party was a Yamhill County man named Enoch Smith. There was no love lost between Hooker and Smith, and when Smith heard Return Everman bragging about his plan to murder Hooker, Smith urged him to go for it and offered to pay him \$250 if he did. At that point Hiram Everman, Return's brother, broke in and told Smith to shut up and keep his money to himself. The whole exchange was witnessed by several of the others - nobody made any attempt to keep it secret. Most likely everyone thought it was all hot air, just a couple of big-talking

men bragging.

Everyone, that is, except Return Everman, who decided that with Hooker on his way to the gold fields it was now or never. So on the morning of Feb. 12, as all the members of the party of prospectors packed for the road, he hurried off to a friend, borrowed a shotgun, and went to Hooker's farm with it.

Hooker was plowing a field when Everman arrived. Why he was plowing the field on the morning of his departure, in the middle of a soggy Oregon February, isn't clear; perhaps he had hired someone to work the land for him and was getting it ready. In any case, that's what he was doing, so Everman stole around into a rail pen at one end of the field, hunkered down, and waited for Hooker to reach him.

When Hooker did, Everman shot him in the back with the shotgun.

He then hurried over to his victim, who, recognizing him, started begging for his life and promising never to say another word about the watch. But Everman, according to his later confession, thought that having started the job, it would be best to finish it; so he pulled his pistol and shot Hooker in the head with it.

Then he headed back to the Goff house.

He found it empty. Everyone was already on the road, including the man Everman had borrowed the shotgun from. So he hurried after the party and caught up with them at their camp, at the end of the day's ride, and returned the shotgun.

"Where have you been?" someone asked him, and Everman replied that the deed was done,

**Auctioned off - Page 8** 



By Slim Randles

Looking around at all the yard signs and hearing politicians tell us on television what a lying crook their competition is, I have to admit I miss Guv Reeve.

Guv had a real first name, but I sure don't recall it now, because this was back in the 1960s and 1970s in the high desert of California. He had his first name legally changed to Guv so everyone would know what he was all about. Every four years, he ran for governor. I worked for the Victor Valley Daily Press in Victorville, which is just 30 miles from Barstow, where everyone's car breaks down on the way to Vegas.

The other folks in the newsroom knew me as the "weirdo reporter" because if someone needed some serious couch time, they were pointed toward my desk.

Guv was maybe in his early 50s when I met him. He came into the newsroom one morning surrounded by four attractive middle-aged women, and all of them were smiling and handing out free cookies.

Guv and I closeted ourselves for the story while everyone else munched cookies, and I learned the Guv Reeve story.

He was a self-proclaimed preacher and lived in a large cabin about 20 miles away in the desert mountains. Yes ... with the sunshine girls.

His mission, he explained, was to gather food and clothing, and when they had enough for a large cardboard box, they would pack it up, find the name of a village in Mexico that he thought might be poor, and mail it to them. Every time one of those boxes "ripened" and was ready for taping, they'd find a different village on the

His election platform was fairly simple: no taxes, more jobs, constant access to free cookies, and the love of God spreading throughout every person in California. You'd think a message that powerful would make his election a slam dunk, but the folks in California elected Ronald Reagan their governor, instead. I met him, too, but he didn't have

No taxes? Cookies? Some days I really miss Guv Reeve.

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#### **Quote of the Week**

"A vacation is having nothing to do and all day to do it in."

Robert Orben





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#### Gardening Tips

By Kym Pokorny



**OSU Extension Service** 

#### Seven steps to water wise gardening



Though the first half of July was determinedly unlike summer, saving water is a keystone to responsible gardening no matter the weather.

"We have a role to play in preserving our natural resources," said Amy Jo Detweiler, a horticulturist with Oregon State University Extension Service. "A water-wise garden is one of the ways to do that regardless of the amount of rainfall where you live"

For instance, in the high desert around Bend where she lives, rainfall during the growing season from May through September is only 5-7 inches. Except for natives, most plants won't survive without supplemental water. On the Willamette Valley floor, rainfall averages 5 inches from June through September. In both areas, planning for a low-water garden makes sense, she said.

In her publication An Introduction to Xerascaping in the High Desert, Detweiler lays out seven clear steps to developing a water-wise garden.

"The most important thing you have to consider is to give all these steps thoughtful consideration," she said. "It's not good enough to do a little here and there. Go through the steps from planning to plant selection and bring them into the landscape."

Other Extension offerings to help with low-water gardening include the publication Conserving Water in the Garden and infographics Keys to Water-Efficient Landscapes, It Pays to Water Wisely, and Landscape Maintenance to Conserve Water.

Amy Detweiler's 7 steps to a water-wise garden

\* Planning and design: Before starting or changing your garden, watch the sun and shade exposure throughout the day, check soil drainage in various parts of the yard, and determine if there are soggy or especially dry areas. In soggy areas, plan for a possible rain garden or bioswale.

\*Use rain barrels or underground cisterns to capture whatever rainfall your climate provides to use in the garden during dry times. Extension's publication Harvesting Rainwater for Use in the Garden can help with that.

- \* Don't leave hardscape out of the equation. Reduce wasted runoff water by using permeable materials, leaving space between flagstones in pathways or patios, and reducing areas with hard surfaces.
- \* Go through books and magazines and visit gardens to get an idea of what type of garden you'd like and be realistic about how much time and effort you want to put into a garden. Consider all of those elements when designing.
- \* Irrigation: Decide if you want or can afford an automatic system or will manually move hose-end sprinklers. Either way can be efficient but must be used appropriately. Know your plants' needs and don't deliver too much or too little water; irrigate deeply and infrequently to encourage deep roots (see "soil" below). If you're watering manually, setting a timer can help you remember when to change the sprinkler or turn it off.
- \* If you use an automatic system, be sure to set the timer so that you use less water in spring and fall. Don't "set it and forget it," Detweiler emphasized. Look for new smart controllers that use weather and other detailed information to deliver exactly the amount of water needed down to the day, time and amount. They can save up to 30 percent of water.

\* Soil: Create well-draining soil

that provides a good environment for plants to get established. Whether your soil is sandy or contains mostly clay, adding organic matter will help improve aeration and water-holding capacity. For sandy soil, that will help keep water from draining through immediately. For clay soil, improving the soil will help water to drain better and keep plant roots from rotting. Water should move through the soil easily enough so that plant roots grow deeply and are able to access moisture during dry times without a lot of supplemental irrigation. Water deeply and infrequently to encourage deep roots. More information is available from the publication Improving Garden Soils with Organic Matter.

- \* Lawn: Plant only the amount of lawn for your needs a place for children or dogs to play or a small area to set off garden beds. "Traditionally, yards are 90 percent lawn," Detweiler said. "Try cutting it down to 60 percent or 40 percent and leave more space for trees, shrubs and perennials." Use the most drought-tolerant grass and, if possible, change to lawn alternatives such as eco-lawns or ground covers like drought-tolerant wooly thyme that allows foot traffic.
- \* Plant selection: When choosing plants, go beyond aesthetics to look at their mature size, and sun and water requirements. Plant them in areas matched to their needs. Although automatic irrigation systems can be adjusted to water different plants in a bed at different rates, it's easier and more efficient to plant in "zones" that keep high-, medium- and low-water plants together. Native plants can be the basis of a water-wise garden, but there are plenty of other low-water plants to choose from, Detweiler said. To determine good choices, check plant labels, ask nursery personnel and use references.
- \* Mulch: Top dress soil with 2-4 inches of mulch. It will help keep the soil cool during hot weather and reduce evaporation, leaving more water in the soil for plant use. Mulch also helps keep weeds down and aids in erosion control. Whether you use organic mulch (wood chips, bark dust, etc.) or inorganic (gravel or small rocks) doesn't make a difference, Detweiler said. All of them help keep moisture in so it's a matter of personal preference.
- \* Maintain: Keep your garden properly weeded, pruned, mowed, watered, and fertilized and plants will be healthier and more suited to fend off insects and diseases. Monitor your garden often and address problems quickly with least-toxic methods. Healthy plants need less water.



# Country Kitchen By Mary Emma Allen

## STRAWBERRY FESTIVALS OF SUMMER

During my childhood, strawberry season provided tasty eating and memorable events. Strawberries weren't available year round as they are nowadays, so were a special treat in summer. Strawberry festivals, hosted by community organizations as fundraisers, were eagerly anticipated in my hometown.

The ladies of the local church conducted the one in our town, although anyone could attend. For a small fee, you enjoyed strawberry delights - shortcake, pie and homemade ice cream with berries. No other food was served, so it was mainly a dessert social time, something we looked forward to during strawberry season each year.

At first it was held at Jack and Nellie's large farmhouse with its spacious lawn and large back and front porches. There were continual sittings. Church ladies made biscuits and churned ice cream as guests arrived. The pies had been made beforehand.

Eventually the event became so large it was moved to the town hall with kitchen and large indoor space for serving. At all of these, adults visited and children played games in the yard. As we girls grew older, we helped serve.

Raising Strawberries

My husband's family, in another state, raised strawberries and Mom prepared many strawberry dishes to feed 8 boys during haying season. Many of the brothers and their families still pick strawberries at "pick your own" fields as a summer activity.

Mom made all kinds of strawberry delights and we still have her recipes.

My family didn't raise strawberries, but got them from a neighbor who did.

Berry Shortcake

Nowadays, I often purchase the frozen buttermilk biscuits and bake only what we need for the particular meal. While warm, we spoon mashed berries over the biscuit and top with whipped topping or a spoonful of vanilla ice cream.

I've found that by using the frozen biscuits, there isn't any waste. I suppose I could bake my usual recipe of biscuits and freeze the leftover ones for future use.

Berry Tarts

You can make fruit and berry tarts with many different types of crusts. These include traditional pastry crust, as well as those made with wheat pastry flour, cookie crumbs (vanilla or chocolate) and graham cracker crumbs,

Arrange your fruit in the crust and then coat with an Orange/Lemon Glaze. In a small saucepan, combine 34 cup fresh orange juice, 14 cup fresh lemon juice and 34 cup honey.

Bring these ingredients to a boil over medium heat and stir constantly. Simmer for about 20 minutes, until slightly thickened. Cool. Then pour desired amount over the fruit in your crust. You may not want the entire amount.

(c) Mary Emma Allen

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

## McKenzie Fire & Rescue

#### Continued From Page 3

Trauma. Patient Refusal.

Aug. 3: 21:33: 35000 blk, Camp Creek Rd. Medical, General. Disregarded.

**22:46:** McK. Hwy./Mp. 30. MVA. Patient Assessed, No Transport.

Aug. 4: 6:45: 51000 blk, Blue River Dr. Mutual Aid. Cancelled

Aug. 5: 10:31: 37000 blk, Camp Creek Rd. Illegal Burn. Inform Homeowner of Burn Restrictions. 7:39: 37000 blk, Worth

**Emergency? Call 911** 

Rd. Medical. General. PatientAssessed, 1 Transported.Aug. 7: 13:07: 1800 blk,

Aug. 7: 13:07: 1800 blk, Inland Way Mutual Aid. Assisted Eugene/Springfield Fire.

McK. Fire & Rescue will hold its monthly Board of Directors meeting on Monday, August 15<sup>th</sup>, 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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### **Community Notes**

#### August 13 **Celebration of Life**

A Celebration of Life for Lonny Hamlow will be held at the Upper McKenzie Community Center on Saturday, August 13th, anytime after 1 p.m. Reflections and stories of Lonny will begin at 2 p.m.

This will be potluck style event with barbecued burgers for everyone. Please feel free to bring sides and beverages to share while people come together to remember what a good and wild life Lonny

#### August 13 Dime At A Time

The Blue River Bottle Boys Collection/Sorting sessions are held every Saturday from 9 -11 a.m. at the Leaburg Store. Donations can be dropped off there as well.

#### August 15

McKenzie Fire & Rescue

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

#### August 17 **Upper McK Fire Board**

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

#### August 18 **Leaburg Food Pantry**

Leaburg Food Pantry. Free groceries provided in accordance with Oregon Food Bank and Food For Lane County guidelines for food distribution to those in need. 3 - 6 p.m. Behind the McKenzie Bible Fellowship Church, 45061 McKenzie Hwy.

#### August 20 Float your Boat

A "Float Your Boat" Poker Run to benefit Vida McKenzie Community Center is set for Saturday, August 20th. The \$50 per hand fundraising event will support the rebuilding of Vida McKenzie Community Center. There will be two float options from the Finn Rock to Leaburg Lake. One includes Marten Rapids and one does not. Float packets will be picked up at the Leaburg Store where entry fee is paid. People will draw a card at specified sites along the float and the best hand wins. A BBQ lunch will be provided at Knox Park, where the winner will be announced and prizes distributed. For more information contact Billy Pruitt at billyp@uoregon.edu.

#### August 6 **Dime At A Time**

The Blue River Bottle Boys Collection/Sorting sessions are held every Saturday from 9 -11 a.m. at the Leaburg Store. Donations can be dropped off there as well.

#### August 8 **Springfield School Board**

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

#### August 20 **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.

#### August 22 **Springfield School Board**

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

#### July 22 **McK River Food Pantry** Free groceries provided in

accordance with Oregon Food Bank and Food For Lane County guidelines for food distribution to those in need. Tues: 11 am - 1 pm, every 2nd & 4th Friday @ McKenzie High School (New Gym)

#### September 10 Walterville Fair

The Walterville Grange will be hosting the 71st annual Walterville Community Fair. This year's theme is 'Let's Eat, Have Fun and Celebrate at the 71st Annual Walterville Community Fair.' We will be having a 5K Waddle walk/run starting at 8 a.m.. Signup is online with Eclectic or you can sign up the morning of the race. Fair entries of baking, canning, produce, arts & crafts, photography, antiques, flowers, and sewing and handicrafts will be accepted from 7:30 to 9:30 a.m. with judging starting at 9:30 (so don't be late!). The Boy Scouts will be doing the flag raising at 10 a.m: with the parade starting at 11 a.m.. The famous Walterville Grange barbecue chicken dinner will start serving at 11:30 a.m: with a full dinner including 1/2 barbecued chicken, corn on the cob, beans, pasta salad, and dessert. All of this is just \$12 (you can't beat that for a full dinner!). A raffle drawing will be held at 3 p.m. There will be lots of local vendors throughout the day so come and check them out. Anyone who would like to sell their wares can rent a table, call 541-915-2163. The Grange would appreciate any extra help, so if you would like to help call 541-521-4760 and leave a message, calls will be returned. You can also call this number if you have any questions. We hope to see you at the fair.

#### September 11 **Live Concert**

The McKenzie Valley Presbyterian Church will ho!+≠st Joey McGee on September 11th at 3 p.m. Joey McGee plays soul, country, folk, gospel, rock & blues in his own style. The 3 hour concert will be held at the church, 88393 Walterville Loop. For more information call 541-896-3001 or 626-437-0539.



## An Invitation to Worship

#### 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 Living Water Family Fellowship
Pastor - Doug Fairrington
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541-822-3820
Gathering Sundays at 10:00 AM,
Children's ministry also.
Come early for a meet and greet continental
breakfast and coffee at 9:30 AM.
Thursdays, 6:00 PM, Celebrate Recovery
(12 Step Program)

#### 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

#### 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

#### McKenzie Valley Presbyterian Church

Please join us for worship Sundays at 10:30 am, either in church on Hwy. 126 just east of Walterville, or on our Facebook livestream. You may also make prayer requests, or request an emailed or earth-mailed bulletin -- phone or send email to Nancy Ashley, nancy.w.ashley@gmail.com, 541-914-1986. We would love to meet you!

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## **Homeowners insurance** deadlines extended

The Oregon Division of Financial Regulation (ODFR) has determined that certain property and casualty insurers should extend timelines for policyholders who suffered losses during the 2020 wildfire season and who have been unable to rebuild or replace property due to circumstances outside their control.

The determination applies to property and casualty insurers who write homeowners policies that specifically contain a time limit of less than three years for rebuilding a home, replacing contents, or both. The ODFR bulletin outlines the communications now required between these insurers and their policyholders who still have active claims almost two years after the wildfires. These insurers are directed to extend the rebuilding timeline and content replacement timeline if the delay has been due to circumstances beyond the insured's control. They are also directed to notify policyholders of any extension by August 30.

For policyholders not being granted an extension until at least September 30, 2023, insurers are required to report certain information to the division, including an explanation why the insurer refused to grant an extension after a thorough examination. The division will continue to monitor the situation to ensure that all policyholders are protected and allocated a reasonable time to rebuild and replace contents given the extreme difficulties they have faced. The division has the authority to take action against any insurer who unreasonably declines to extend timelines.

ODFR says the findings and background of the bulletin speak to the widespread destruction of property, the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, global supply chain issues, arid consequently, the disruption of normal operations across the state for a prolonged

"The 2020 wildfires caused heartbreaking losses, and the recovery process has taken longer than it should due to circumstances completely out of homeowners control," said Insurance Commissioner Andrew Stolfi. "Our actions today are meant to provide wildfire survivors with the certainty they deserve. After nearly two years of struggling to rebuild in the face of unprecedented challenges, every homeowner should be given the time they, need to finish recovering."

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William Randolph Hearst



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#### **Direct Answers**

#### By Wayne & Tamara Mirthell

#### A Bride's Worst Nightmare

I need some serious advice. My boyfriend Jack and I met our senior year in college. After graduation we continued our relationship even though we live an hour apart.

Last Christmas Jack surprised me with an engagement ring. Jack's family and I are very close. In fact, I am the godmother of his sister's first child. Every weekend we have all been working together to get things ready for our wedding. Jack and I talk about how lucky we are to have each other.

Last week I received a phone call around 10 in the morning. Jack told me he was feeling scared and didn't think he could see himself with me three years from now. Later that night Jack called back to say he was sorry, he couldn't go through with the wedding.

As you can imagine, I freaked out. When I asked him why, he responded with, "I don't know." The next day we took off work and met at a hotel to talk. The first few hours we sat at a table and talked about all the positive things in our relationship. I kept waiting to hear something bad, but nothing was

As the night progressed, we

wound up in bed and he held me tighter than ever before. Over and over, he told me how much he loved me. After we made love, he wouldn't let go of me. He kept telling me how beautiful I am, and how much he loved me. Next morning, I woke to him putting his clothes on. He told me he loved me once again, but he needed to be by himself.

After a few days without hearing from him, I got an email from Jack saying all the wedding plans needed to be canceled. I was so confused and upset. Many angry phone conversations took place after that email.

He doesn't want to see me or work on our relationship. He wants to be phone friends, and I am sick over this. I don't understand what happened. His family is upset but naturally they have to stand behind their son.

I lost my best friend, a family, and the love of my life. What do I do at this point? Do you think he just got scared and will come back around? How do I deal with this?

Ann, people act as if there is a single thing called "wedding day jitters." Everyone nervous about getting married is lumped into one category.

Actually, there are two groups of people. The first group feels the excitement of something they have never done before, something which is a major permanent change in life. It is like the butterflies actors feel before a performance. The last thing they want to do is cancel the event.

The second group of people doubts marriage is a good idea for them. Many of them know they are making a mistake, but they lack the strength to stop things. Jack knew how much turmoil this would cause, yet he still put on the brakes. If this crash had come later, after you married, the consequences would have been much worse.

The way to handle this is by facing it directly. Don't apologize or act embarrassed. Contact the people you need to contact. Make your phone calls, write your letters, cancel reservations, and take things back. Facing things and making a clean break helps you move forward.

You had a picture of yourself as a bride, living somewhere else, doing other things. Now you have a new future to build. You have a right to feel angry and hurt, but in time, like many events in life, this will fade to insignificance. This event doesn't define you.

Avoiding a disaster doesn't have a negative impact on your life. It has a positive impact on your life. Wayne & Tamara

Wayne & Tamara are also the authors of Age Difference Relationships, available from Amazon, Apple and most booksellers.

#### American Life in Poetry

By Kwame Dawes War, impending war and exile forced by war, are increasing preoccupations in the work of Ladan Osman-not so much the wars, but the damage that they do to everyday people who are trying to live in this world. In "Sun to God", these walking children and their parents, these laughing children and their parents, will eventually start to run, and will eventually stop laughing. It is a vividly captured accounting of the

#### Sun to God

wars that continue to be waged

around us.

By Ladan Osman The children walked. Then they began to run.

Why are we running, one asked?

#### Fishing Report

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

**Trout Stocking Schedule:** Trout stocking is underway on many lakes and reservoirs throughout the state. Releases of 8" to 10" hatchery fish last week were: McKenzie River above Leaburg Dam - 833, McKenzie River below Leaburg Dam - 2,000, and Leaburg Lake - 1,000.

Fish Counts **August 3, Willamette Falls** Spring Chinook – 37,021 Summer Steelhead – 5,720

Not one knew. They laughed It was the eve of war but they didn't know. The children walked. The children's parents walked. The parents' parents walked. Their shadows spilled ahead. Their shadows lagged behind. Then, they began to run.

No one knew. They ran faster.

They began laughing.

No one was laughing.

Why are we laughing?

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 Ladan Osman, "Sun to God" from The Rumpus, April 26, 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.



(www.ricksteber.com)

August 11 -Jack London, the famous American writer of many novels and short stories set in the Yukon, passed through Medford in 1911 on his way to visit Crater Lake. He rode in a wagon drawn by a four-horse team and was accompanied by his wife and a Japanese servant. He later told a reporter of his impressions of Crater Lake, saying, "It is worth traveling hundreds of miles to see. I thought that I had gazed upon everything beautiful in nature as I have spent many years traveling thousands of miles to view the beauty spots of the earth, but I have reached the climax. Never again can I gaze upon the beauty spots of the earth and enjoy them as being the finest thing I have ever seen. Crater Lake is far above them all."

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#### <u>Personal</u>

The Leaburg Sew & So's meets most Friday afternoons at the McKenzie Fire & Rescue Center. 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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## **Auctioned off**

#### **Continued From Page 4**

and Hooker was dead.

That must have been quite a shock, as all the people Everman had been bragging to for weeks about his murderous plans suddenly realized the man had been serious about it.

Enoch Smith may have been just as shocked as everyone else, although the Oregon Statesman reports that he displayed "the most fiendish satisfaction" at the news; but in any case, he did give Everman \$250. Everman, in his confession, said it was a loan, not actual blood money; but it certainly didn't look very good when it inevitably ended up in court.

Because of course it ended up in court. Nobody as incompetent as Return Everman could possibly last more than a day or two on the lam with a posse on his track. Nobody was willing to go with him, either — brother Hiram included, although Hiram did help him out with a fresh horse. Finally David Coe agreed to go along, and the two of them headed south as fast as they could.

But, of course, it wasn't fast enough. Word of the murder spread through Cynthian just as fast as you would expect such news to spread, and the overwhelming majority of the neighbors were outraged by it. A posse quickly formed, rode to the prospectors' camp, and brought them all back to Cynthian.

Asked if they'd seen Return Everman, Enoch Smith and brother Hiram said no; but someone else in the party apparently decided this was going too far, and spilled the beans. So the posse lit out again on fresh horses, and after 60 hours of hard riding caught up with the two fugitives staying with a farmer in Roseburg.

Back in Cynthian, the fugitives were lodged in an upstairs room in the county courthouse — Polk County didn't have a jail yet. Both the Everman brothers, along with Enoch Smith and David Coe, were put in leg irons under guard there. Return Everman, of course,

was charged with murder; the others were all charged with being accessories before and after the

Of the four, only one "copped a plea" — Hiram Everman pleaded guilty to being an accessory after the fact, for lending Return a horse, and the other charges were dropped. Then David Coe was tried, found innocent, and released.

That left Enoch Smith and Return Everman himself.

Return's case came up first. It was over rather quickly, and he was sentenced to be hanged.

Smith's case was more complicated. Lending Return Everman \$250 after having offered to pay him that same sum as blood money, in front of witnesses, looked an awful lot like a murder-for-hire put-up job, which, of course, was definitely a hanging offense.

But one of the members of Smith's jury balked. The juror believed him to be guilty, but thought the death penalty morally indefensible and refused to be a part of sentencing someone to hang. A new trial would have to be scheduled.

This brush with death scared Smith badly. In desperation he tried making a break from the "jail," jumping out of the two-story window when his guard was getting a drink of water; but he hurt himself too badly to run, and was soon recaptured. Back to court he went and was found guilty. He was sentenced to be hanged a week after Return Everman.

But it was not to be. Return Everman, a day or two before his hanging, wrote a full confession giving complete details of who did what — and completely exonerated Smith in it.

The confession changed the community's sentiments completely. Everyone figured Everman had no reason to lie at that point, just days away from Eternity. Smith's hanging date was postponed a couple of times, and finally, the territorial governor pardoned him.

But probably the most interesting story from this early Oregon murder drama was that of brother Hiram Everman. Hiram, having entered a guilty plea, didn't go on trial; they simply sentenced him to three years in the penitentiary. There was just one problem, though: Oregon didn't have a penitentiary yet.

So in lieu of incarceration, Polk County literally auctioned Hiram off as a temporary slave — an indentured servant on a three-year contract. He was purchased by Theodore Prather, a farmer from the Buena Vista area.

Hiram reported stoically for his term of service to the Prather. He must have been an extraordinarily hard worker, because when, two years into his three-year sentence, he was pardoned by Governor George Curry, Prather didn't hold the loss against Hiram. Instead, he shook Hiram's hand, slipped \$20 into it, gave him a horse and a saddle, and wished him all the best. (He did petition the county commissioners for a refund of the unused portion of his sentence, though, after Hiram left. But the commissioners voted to keep his money.)

Hiram ended up down in the Myrtle Creek area of Douglas County, where he settled down, started a family, and enjoyed a blissfully crime-free life.

(Sources: "The Murder of Cyrenius C. Hooker," an article by Thomas Branigar published in the December 1974 issue of Oregon Historical Quarterly; "Back to the Past: No jail? Auction the prisoner," an article by Scott McArthur published July 13, 2021, in the Polk County Itemizer-Observer)

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.

# SHELFNOTES FROM LEABURG LIBRARY

#### **AUGUST 2022**

My mother was an English teacher – a very good one - which was at once wonderful and maddening for my brother and me as we made our way through our growing up years. Wonderful because she introduced us to marvelous literature and the joy of reading, both of which have influenced

our lives in countless and interesting ways. Frustrating because we could not misspell or mispronounce a word without mom requiring its immediate correction, nor could we get away with using grammar that did not adhere to the rules of strict English parlance. Anything less than an "A" in English on our report cards was simply not tolerated. EVER!

It actually was a good thing because I found that I had a knack for it. I loved doing all of those grammar exercises in our workbooks - the ones that most of the other kids totally hated and could not understand. To me, it just all made perfect sense.

Suffice to say, that laid the groundwork for my love of words written, sung, or spoken, my insatiable curiosity surrounding the origins of certain words, and the fact that I cringe every time I hear a word mispronounced or misused or misspelled and feel compelled to correct whoever said, used, or wrote that word. I apologize right now. I know that it can be terribly annoying to be around me when I am in that mode. Just ask my husband!

To me, it's a game; it's fun. Playing around with words is fun, but you have to know the rules. For instance, here's a bit of nonsense that is really silly but also happens to be true when you think about it long enough. If you have ever wondered why we say tick-tock rather than tock-tick, or dilly-dally rather than dally-dilly, it's because there is an unwritten rule called the I-A-O rule which states: If there are three words together the order is I, A, O (tictac-toe); If there are only two words, the order is I, then either

A or O (mish-mash, King-Kong, flip-flop, chit-chat). Isn't that marvelous?

Or try this one: There is another unwritten rule that has to do with the proper order of multiple adjectives preceding a noun. And the order goes like this: opinion size - age - shape - color - origin - material - purpose - and then the noun. Example: My aunt has a lovely little old rectangular green French silver whittling knife. If you change the order of any of these adjectives, the whole thing gets real messy. (My aunt has a rectangular whittling old French lovely green silver little knife.) Now you see, that is fascinating to me. I could tell you the name of this rule, but you probably couldn't care less. Probably because your mother was not an English teacher!

Words themselves are intriguing, but this goes much deeper than that. It's not just an understanding of the rules of grammar, or spelling, or pronunciation, as important as those are. It's the skillful weaving of endless words into stories, poems, and songs that touch us and fill us with joy, knowledge, pleasure, understanding, and empathy. It's in the books we love that feed our souls with luminous writing that comes from those who understand the power of their gift.

My mother knew what she was doing when she refused to allow us to be slovenly in our use of the English language, and when she insisted that we read every night. Words were my brother's stock and trade as it turns out, as was great literature. He was a very successful trial lawyer in New York, and he read just about every classic piece of literature that was ever written. I began as a speech and hearing pathologist, then taught reading for a while, and finally became a librarian and a writer of sorts.

Not a day goes by that I don't whisper a prayer of thanks because my mom was an English teacher.

I'll see you at the library.

Marty Mealey, Director (Hours: Mon-Thurs: 1:30-4pm; Sat. 10am-1pm)

## Sheriff's Report

#### Continued From Page 3

Hwy. & N. Bank Rd.

**1:55 p.m:** Vehicle Stop - McK. Hwy. & Taylor Rd.

**2:11 p.m:** Vehicle Stop - McK. Hwy. Mp. 52.

**8:39 p.m:** Reckless Driving - Marcola Rd. & Hill Rd.

**8:40 p.m:** Welfare Check - 91800 blk, Blue River Reservoir Rd.

Aug. 7: 2:08 a.m: Suspicious Conditions - McK. Hwy. &



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**11:51 a.m:** Suspicious Vehicle - Parsons Creek Rd. & Marcola Rd.

1:39 p.m: Suspicious Vehicle -Holden Creek Ln. & McK. Hwy. 2:39 p.m: Suspicious Vehicle -McK. Hwy. & Mt. Hagen Rd.

**2:58 p.m:** Abandoned Vehicle - Quartz Creek Rd. & Pond Rd.

3:54 p.m: Disturbance, Dispute - 55200 blk, Delta Rd.

**4:28 p.m:** Civil Service - 87900 blk, Dowdy Ln.

5:42 p.m: Abandoned Vehicle

- 37500 blk, Parsons Creek Rd.

**5:45 p.m:** Threat, Harassment - 37300 blk, Parsons Creek Rd.

7:16 p.m: Suspicious VehicleQuartz Creek Rd. & Pond Rd.7:38 p.m: Citizen Contact -

51500 blk, McK. Hwy.
7:50 p.m: Speeding Vehicle Millican Rd. & McK. Hwy.

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



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