



Delivering targeted news for the McKenzie Valley's communities since 1978

Sheriff's Reports

A nude female was observed at the Greenwood Boat Landing, possibly associated with a red Pontiac car.

PAGE 3

Beneficial bats

With a swish of his cape, Count Dracula ruined the reputation of bats forevermore. Maybe.

PAGE 4



Govenor, fire officials say wet winter could delay wildfires, but drought persists

By Julia Shumway
Oregon Capital Chronicle
A wet winter is likely to delay wildfires, but ongoing drought in eastern Oregon could make for a worse fire season east of the Cascades, Gov. Tina Kotek and state fire officials said Tuesday.
Kotek's press briefing came just ahead of a forecasted heat wave bringing temperatures in the 90s to the Willamette Valley later this week.

"Even this week, we are seeing how quickly the weather can turn hot and dry," she said. "Oregonians should prepare for fire season. Prepare your yard, have an evacuation plan, have a to-go kit. Have a plan if there's smoke in your community. And above all, do everything you can wherever you are to prevent fires from starting in the first place."

The Oregon Department of Forestry already has 22 firefighters helping combat ongoing wildfires in Alberta, Canada, where nearly 1 million acres have been destroyed and 30,000 people have evacuated, said Mike Shaw, the department's fire chief. As fires continue over the summer, firefighters from western states and several Canadian provinces will help each other.

Shaw said rainy conditions this spring and a strong winter snowpack are good signs. The snowpack – snow accumulated on mountains



A fire burns in the Umpqua National Forest in 2017.

– is at about 140% of its normal level for this time of year.

But dry conditions persist in much of the state, and Kotek has declared drought emergencies in six counties. Fire is a bigger risk in dry areas.

"The persistent drought will play out over the summer in areas where fires start and those drought conditions exist," Shaw said. "Not certain yet how much spring rain we're gonna get through the rest of this month and into June, and that will really dictate when we enter our fire season."

Even in areas at lower risk for fires, Oregonians can be affected by smoke from fires throughout the state. Leah Feldon, director of the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality, said the agency continu-

ally monitors air quality throughout the state.

People should download the OregonAir app through the Apple App Store or Google Play store to see air quality and smoke conditions in their area, Feldon said. Depending on the air quality, people may want to stay inside or take extra precautions.

A majority of wildfires are human caused so Oregonians can help prevent them. Check local restrictions before starting fires, including campfires, and make sure fires are fully extinguished before leaving. If the ground isn't cool to the touch, a fire hasn't been fully extinguished.

Driving and parking on dry grass or trailing chains, mufflers or other car parts can spark a blaze. And Or-

Drought persists - Page 8

A 25-year legacy

Nearly 25 years after, mentions of the Thurston High School shooting bring back painful memories for local residents. For most it was hard to comprehend a mass shooting could happen here, much less in a school. Since then, and Columbine a year later, fatal shootings have become more frequent, while debates on making schools safer, gun control, and sentencing juvenile offenders remain unresolved.

Thurston High remembers its own

Articles from the May 26, 1998 edition of McKenzie River Reflections

By Leah Carlson
Two days after a tragic shooting in Springfield, an American flag waves in the wind, and rich splashes of color adorn the chain link fence next to Thurston High-School.

Flowers of every kind, notes with prayers or well-wishes, and candles make up the offering of sympathy and hope. Mourners and other community members walk solemnly and thoughtfully along the fence.

At least ten media vans with satellites crowded the street by the fence, and television newscasters attempted to speak with people. One couple simply refused a request from a local television broadcaster. An area along the fence was sectioned off by yellow caution tape and signs that said "Press-free zone, Let us mourn in peace, and Friends and family of Ben Walker."

Most of the notes along the fence were of healing, but some pointed to the anger that people have felt: "Why Kip Why" in large red letters, a white paper plate with-

the scribbled words, "You'll be sorry, Kip," and a hanging sign that said Two Words: "Gun Control."

Two students have died from gunshot wounds in the shooting by suspect Kip Kinkel Thursday morning in the school cafeteria. Mikael Nickolauson, 17, died as a spray of bullets from a Ruger .22-caliber rifle hit the students. Ben Walker, 16, succumbed Friday morning at McKenzie-Willamette Hospital from a gunshot to the head.

Nine more students remain hospitalized at either the McKenzie- Willamette Hospital or Sacred Heart Medical Center.

As a Springfield 6th-grader played "My Heart Will Go On" on his bass clarinet, one note along the fence seemed especially applicable: "John 14:18, 27: 1 will not leave you comfortless. I will come to you ... Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you ..."

Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid."

School shooting suspect's home stuffed with booby traps

DEERHORN: Investigators on Saturday were still searching the home of a fifteen-year-old Thurston High student accused of killing his parents and two classmates.

Kipland Phillip Kinkel

was arraigned in Circuit Court on Friday charged with aggravated murder in the deaths of Bill Kinkel, 60, his wife Faith, 57, Ben Walker, 16, and Mikael Nickolauson, 17. Police believe the Kinkels were killed

Wednesday afternoon.

The following morning, around 8 a.m. witnesses saw the suspect appear with a .22 rifle at the school cafeteria, open fire, and empty a 50-round clip. Before he

Booby traps - Page 4

Forest begins prescribed burns

The Willamette National Forest is beginning prescribed burning across approximately 600 acres in the next few weeks, depending on how weather and fuels conditions develop. Officials say fire managers will be closely monitoring temperature, humidity, and winds to ensure specific conditions are met and prescribed burns will only be implemented if all parameters are in accordance with the developed burn plans. They'll also be working with State Smoke Management Forecasters to ensure favorable smoke management conditions, and to limit smoke impacts to roads and communities.

In areas where prescribed fires are conducted, fire personnel will continue to patrol and monitor burned areas until the fire is burn is declared out.

Prescribed burning is a tool to improve forest health and increase resiliency to wildfire. It involves igniting a controlled,

low intensity fire to consume undergrowth and post-harvest organic materials under specific conditions of temperature, wind, and humidity. This limits fire behavior and reduces the likelihood of heavy smoke impacting nearby communities.

"Prescribed burning uses low intensity fire to remove hazardous fuels and replicate the natural fire disturbance process under strictly defined weather and fuels conditions" says Chris Donaldson Deputy Fire Staff Officer. "These types of projects reduce risk and can increase habitat diversity across the landscape."

Specific information will be provided prior to each burn day as fuels specialists verify weather conditions are conducive to burning, and smoke clearance is granted. For information, follow the Willamette National Forest Facebook page or Twitter (@WillametteNF).

Funding to create more than 330 homes approved

"Affordable homeownership" includes Blue River

The Oregon Housing and Community Services (OHCS) announced this week the approval of 34 new homeownership development projects that will lead to the creation of 337 new affordable homes. The goal is to increase homeownership opportunities of low- to moderate-income people and families in rural and urban communities over the next three years.

In Blue River, a wildfire recovery area, Local In-

novation and Fast Track (LIFT) funds will support a new community land trust (CLT) created by a group of residents with a mission to build affordable housing. With the help of developer DevNW, McKenzie Community Land Trust will build six new homes in downtown Blue River for those who lost their homes in the Holiday Farm Fire.

OHCS released a notice of funding availability (NOFA) in December 2022

and received 53 applications for about \$65 million in available funding. All the developments focus on building housing that is responsive to their community's needs and using innovative, climate-friendly, and accessible design methods. Some of the funding will be used to advance culturally responsive approaches and increase homeownership opportunities for members of Oregon's federally rec-

Homes approved - Page 4

Ridin' the Rapids

By Ken Engelman

When then meets now.

The morning of May 21, 1998, seemed like most others. Inside the Whitewater Cafe in Blue River, the regulars had ordered their regulars, and the small talk was flowing. Until someone said, "Turn that up."

Those words came from someone pointing to the black and white TV screen in the cafe. On it was an image with the words, "Thurston, Oregon."

At first, all of us were bemused to see a local place appearing on a national TV network. But our bemusement was quickly dashed - turning to horror and disbelief.

What we were watching was the beginning of what's become

a never-ending tragedy - the first widespread TV coverage of a mass killing of students at a school in the United States. Many Americans today think these ongoing tragedies began with the attempted bombing and the murders at Columbine, Colorado in April of 1999. But like Thurston, there had already been others.

Here's how Louise Engelman put it in her Riverviews column that week:

"The McKenzie Valley discovered in a very shocking way that we are a whole community. Our neighbors drew us into the pain with a heartbreaking tragedy. Most of us know someone who was personally affected by this insane event. Consequently, all of us were drawn into it. It can happen here.

It's time to pull off the blinders and begin thinking of the world as the community we all live in."

When then meets now.



Letters to the Editor

Everyone wins when we support small businesses

Small businesses play a critical role in creating jobs, driving economic growth, and contributing to the overall well-being of rural communities. In many areas, they are the backbone of the local economy, providing essential goods and services.

Spring offers a good reminder of the importance of these entrepreneurs' contributions, with National Small Business Week, Small Business Month, and other

recognitions celebrated in May.

For consumers, it's a great time to research what's available in their community, instead of hitting the road to shop at larger chain stores. Directories and websites listing local businesses can be a good starting point, in addition to local newspapers and social media, as small businesses often use them to advertise their services.

It's important to be patient, as some local businesses do not have the same selection as larger chains and may need to make an order. But, they almost always

offer unique products not available elsewhere. Here are some examples:

Local farmers markets: Farmers markets are the place to find fresh produce, and artisanal food products like cheeses, baked goods, and jams.

Independent bookstores: These businesses offer a curated selection of books, often with a focus on local authors and topics.

Craft breweries and distilleries: Increasing in popularity, many of

these businesses offer unique, locally made beers and spirits.

Clothing boutiques: Independent boutiques often offer unique, locally made clothing and accessories.

Home goods and decor shops: These shops can offer unique and interesting products that are locally made, often with a focus on sustainable and eco-friendly materials.

Locally-based services: Businesses such as local grocery and

hardware stores, salons, restaurants, and other services keep small communities thriving.

When consumers shop locally, everyone wins, as the money stays in the community, supports other local businesses, and contributes to the overall economic health of the area.

Kim Preston
Center for Rural Affairs
Lyons, NE

McKenzie Eagles Sports Report

By Cliff Richardson

McKenzie Varsity Sports Schedule This Week

The McKenzie Varsity Track and Field teams travel to Bend on Saturday, May 20, to participate at the Mt. Skyline 1A Special District 2 Track and Field Championships. The meet will be held at the Summit Track Complex, on the campus of Summit High School. Gates will open at 8:00 am and events will start at 10:00 am.

McKenzie Boys Sixth/ Girls Ninth At 1A-SD2 NW Sub-District Meet

The North Douglas girls and the Triangle Lake boys teams took home first place honors at the 1A-SD2 NW Sub-District meet held last Friday, May12, at the Aaron and Marie Jones Community Track. The Sub-District meet featured 10 girls teams and 9 boys teams, competing to qualify for the 1A Special District 2 Track and Field Championships to be held next Saturday, May 20, at

Summit High School in Bend.

The North Douglas girls won the meet last Friday, earning 162 points, while holding off second place Triangle Lake, which finished with 143 points. Crow was a distant third with 56 points followed by Cascades Academy of Central Oregon in fourth with 45 points. The bottom half of the field finished with Yoncalla at fifth with 31 points, Mohawk sixth with 29 pts. Mapleton seventh with 26 pts., Elkton eighth with 18 pts., McKenzie ninth with 11 pts., and Mannahouse Academy (Eugene) tenth with 5 pts.

The Triangle Lake boys easily won the team race finishing with 142.5 points on the day. Yoncalla finished in second, earning 97.5 pts. followed by North Douglas at third with 82 pts. Mohawk took home fourth with 69.5 pts. Crow right behind in fifth with 62 pts., and McKenzie in at sixth with 61 pts. Elkton earned 44.5 pts. good for seventh place, Cascades Academy of Central Oregon finished eighth with 36 points and Mapleton was ninth with 22 pts.

Eagle Qualifiers For District Championships

The McKenzie boys Track and Field team qualified five individuals and two relays to the 1A Special District 2 Track and Field Championships. The girl's

team qualified one, Beckah Short, who will represent the Eagles in the 300 m. hurdles and the triple jump. Short is the 14th seed in the 300 m. hurdle event and the 10th seed in the triple jump. Salomon Acevedo qualified in the100 m. race (10th seed), and the 200 m. race (7th seed). Teammate and brother Allen Acevedo also qualified for the 200 m. (13th seed). Jovial Jordan will represent McKenzie in the 110 m. hurdles (9th seed), the 300 m. hurdles (16th seed), and the pole vault (7th seed). Levi Lockard qualified for the shot put (7th seed) and the discus ((10th seed). Will Meister will run in the 3000 m. race for McKenzie as a 12th seed.

The Eagles 4x100 m. relay team (Jordan, A. Acevedo, S. Acevedo, and Trent Peek Van Sickle) will compete as a 10th seed and the McKenzie 4x400 m. relay team (Meister, A. Acevedo, S. Acevedo, and Van Sickle) will enter the competition as a 5th seed.

Jovial Jordan Wins 1A-SD2 NW Sub-District Pole Vault

Eagle sophomore Jovial Jordan, in his inaugural season competing in the pole vault event, won the Sub District meet, clearing the bar at 7 ft. 6 in. Jordan was the lone McKenzie athlete to win an event at the meet. Jordan also finished 5th in the 110 m. hurdles with a time of 22.05 seconds, a Personal

Record, and he finished 8th in the 300 m. hurdles with a time of 56.66 seconds, also a new Personal Record. Logan Gant of North Douglas won both hurdle events, the first in 17.56 seconds and the latter in 43.99 seconds, a PR for him. McKenzie's Levi Lockard took 3rd in the discus with a throw of 98 ft. 10 in., a Season Record, and earned another 3rd in the shot put with a toss of 37 ft. 4 in. Teammate Jacob Peek earned 10th place in the discus with a throw measured at 70 ft. 5.5 in. and a 14th place in the shot put with a toss of 27 ft. 4.5 in., which was a PR. Ray Gerrard out of North Douglas won both events, the discus at 144 ft. 10 in. and the shot put at 40 ft. 2.5 in. Dakota McConnell of Triangle Lake left the meet with a 1st place

throw in the javelin, 148 ft. 4.5 in., which established a new PR. Lockard finished that event in 10th place with a throw of 96 ft. 1 in. and Peek followed in 10th place at 61 ft. 3 in.

Salomon Acevedo ran a 4th place time in the 100 m. race, 12.30 sec., and he was followed across the finish line by Trent Peek Van Sickle in a 6th place time of 12.61 sec., and Allen Acevedo at 8th place in 12.63 sec. Cannon Smithers of Cascade Academy of Central Oregon won the 100 m. in 12.06 sec., a new PR. Salomon Acevedo ran 25.32 seconds in the 200 m. race, earning the Eagle 3rd place. Allen Acevedo ran a new PR time in the 200 m., 25.75 seconds and he finished 4th. That race

Continued On Page 4

Friday 5/19		Saturday 5/20		Sunday 5/21	
McKenzie Valley Mostly Sunny 10% chance precip High: 80 Low: 54	Santiam Pass PM Thunderstorms 40% chance precip High: 76 Low: 48	McKenzie Valley Partly Cloudy 10% chance precip High: 79 Low: 53	Santiam Pass Partly Cloudy 20% chance precip High: 72 Low: 47	McKenzie Valley Partly Cloudy 10% chance precip High: 75 Low: 49	Santiam Pass Partly Cloudy 10% chance precip High: 64 Low: 39

MRR

McKenzie River Reflections

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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
5/9	65	45	0.02	1,492 cfs	5/9 54 45 0.12 6,460 cfs
5/10	68	41	0	NA	5/10 69 42 0 5,980 cfs
5/11	75	48	0	NA	5/11 71 49 0.47 5,810 cfs
5/12	84	49	0	1,308 cfs	5/12 72 46 0 5,880 cfs
5/13	86	53	0	1,319 cfs	5/13 84 50 0 6,230 cfs
5/14	86	55	0	1,310 cfs	5/14 92 51 0 6,870 cfs
5/15	84	63	0	1,330 cfs	5/15 93 52 0 7,180 cfs

Sheriff's Report

May 4: 10:22 a.m: Assault - Terwilliger Hot Springs. A caller reported getting into a physical altercation with the driver of another vehicle after the other vehicle hit the caller's parked vehicle.

4:07 p.m: Suspicious Conditions - Keller Ln. & Sunderman Rd. An anonymous caller reported that signs were put up on Keller Ln. that indicated anyone driving on the road would be shot. Signs determined to be on private property.

May 5: 10:55 a.m: Suspicious Conditions - Lat: 44.228940. Long: -122.893765. A caller found two suspicious looking mounds of dirt.

12:08 p.m: Hit & Run - 38100 blk, McK. Hwy. A caller reported that a neighbor struck the caller's

vehicle with a van. Deputies responded and determined that the damage to the caller's truck was old damage.

May 7: 3:49 p.m: Criminal Trespass - 92200 blk, Carson St. A caller reported people moving stuff away from the caller's grandmother's house. Determined to be civil in nature.

10:02 a.m: Suspicious Conditions - Lat: 44.228940. Long: -122.893765. Mounds of dirt determined to be caused by a burrowing animal.

May 8: 6:30 p.m: Suspicious Conditions - 38400 blk, Shotgun Creek Rd. A caller reported seeing a person camping in the area that the caller believed to be a missing person from the Springfield Police Department.

May 9: 10:58 a.m: Assist Outside Agency - 54600 blk, Caddis Ln.

2:10 p.m: Unlawful Use of Vehicle - 52300 blk, McK. Hwy.

6:01 p.m: Assist Follow Up - Blue River area.

6:40p.m: Suspicious Conditions - 58500 blk, McK. Hwy.

7:20 p.m: Suspicious Conditions - 87800 blk, Upland St.

May 10: 10:39 a.m: Disturbance, Dispute - 92200 blk, Carson St. Civil dispute over property. No crime articulated.

2:39 p.m: Suspicious Conditions - 87300 blk, Cedar Flat Rd. An elderly caller reported that they thought unknown people were on the caller's property. Deputies responded and conducted a welfare check. No trespassers were located.

3:23p.m: Suspicious Conditions - 90200 blk, Greenwood Dr. A nude female was observed at the Greenwood Boat Landing, possibly associated with a red Pontiac car.

3:44 p.m: Citizen Contact - Dollar Rd. & Cash Creek Rd.

6:40 p.m: Suspicious Conditions - 58500 blk, McK. Hwy. A caller reported finding women's clothing in the area. The caller reported that the clothes showed up within the previous few days.

9:37 p.m: Attempt To Locate Drunk Driver - Marcola Rd. & Sunderman Rd.

May 11: 3:01 p.m: Subpoena Service - 39700 blk, Deerhorn Rd.

3:28 p.m: Alarm - 92400 blk, Marcola Rd.

5:09 p.m: Suspicious Conditions - 91100 blk, Yeager Rd. A caller reported that someone from the LCSO called the caller's home health care provider to try and get information about someone.

May 12: 12:46 a.m: Assist, Follow Up - 93100 blk, Marcola Rd.

12:59 p.m: Vehicle Stop - McK. Hwy. & N. Gate Creek Rd.

1:30 p.m: Citizen Contact - McK. Hwy. & N. Gate Creek Rd.

1:56 p.m: Vehicle Stop - McK. Hwy. & N. Gate Creek Rd.

3:03 p.m: Vehicle Stop - McK. Hwy. Milepost 50.

4:17 p.m: Restraining Order Service - 90200 blk, Hill Rd.

5:22 p.m: Suspicious Conditions - 34800 blk, McK. View Dr. A caller advised that a pickup bed camper showed up on the corner of the caller's property within the past week.

5:45 p.m: Suspicious Conditions - Vida area. A caller reported that a known person punched the caller a few years ago and now the caller wants the person arrested. Caller sounded to possibly be intoxicated or suffering from mental health issues.

6:23 p.m: Foot Patrol - 39500 blk, McK. Hwy.

6:30 a.m: Reckless Driving -

Continued On Page 8

Ln.. Fall Injury. Patient Assessed, 1 Transported.

17:31: McK. Hwy./Deerhorn Rd. Motor Vehicle Accident. Non-Injury.

May 9: 2:35: Marcola Rd./Camp Creek Rd. Vehicle Fire. Disregarded.

15:55: 47555 McK. Hwy. MVA. Non-Blocking/Non-Injury.

18:49: 88310 Little Deerhorn Ln. Medical, General. Patient Assessed, Refusal Signed.

May 10: 14:53: 40365 Tonga Ln. Medical, Trauma. Patient Assessed, 1 Transported.

May 12: 13:46: 42826-Blk McK. Hwy. Smoke Scare. Unable To Locate.

15:57: 37821 Camp Creek Rd. Medical, General. Patient Assessed, Refusal Signed.




May 13: 12:10: 37602 Upper Camp Creek Rd. Medical, General. Patient Assessed, 1 Transported.

16:47: 89715 Upper Johnson Creek Rd. Vehicle Fire. Fire Extinguished Prior To Arrival.

































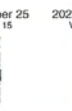

19:03: 92221 Treston Ln. Mutual Aid. Provided Manpower.

May 14: 13:03: 38480 McK. Hwy. Medical, General. Disregarded.

May 15: 2:46: 42019 Deerhorn Rd. Medical, General. Patient Assessed, 1 transported



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

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McKenzie Fire & Rescue

May. 8: 10:46: 40365 Tonga

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Upper McKenzie Fire/Rescue

May 11: 10:40: Medical – 91000 block, Taylor Rd. Female, Conscious, Breathing.

May 13: 21:06: Illegal Burn – 55000 blk, McK. River Dr. Report of a bonfire as big as a house attended by approx. 3 people, catching trees on fire around it.

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



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Continued From Page 2

was won by Brody Robinson of Mohawk in 24.98 sec. McKenzie’s Will Meister turned in a 9th place PR time of 5:37.60 min. in the 1500 m. race, and a 7th place time of 13:02.97 min. in the 3000 m. race. The 1500 m. race was won by Triangle Lake’s Viggo Beck in 4:39.18 min. and the 3000 m race honors went to Wyatt Humphrey of North Douglas, who ran the distance in 10:38.47 min.

McKenzie’s 4x400 m. relay team comprised of Meister, A. Acevedo, S. Acevedo, and Van Sickle, finished 3rd with a time of 4:09.63 min. and that race was won in 3:49.21 min. by Triangle Lake’s Mitch Dumford, Porter Overvaugh, Yosiah Baker, and Beck. The Eagle’s 4x100 relay team of Jordan, the two Acevedos, and Van Sickle finished 5th in a time of 50.19 seconds and the top time went to Mohawk’s foursome of Ewan O’Dea, Konor Robinson, Tyler Wallace, and B. Robinson, which finished in 47.54 sec.

Other boys event winners were Jay Brust of Cascade Academy of Central Oregon in 400 m., 54.67 seconds, a PR, Beck of Triangle Lake in the 800 m., 2:19.17 min., Ashton Hardy of Yoncalla in the high jump, 5 ft. 10 in., Noah Leary of Yoncalla in the long jump, 18 ft. 9.75 in., a Season Record, and Leary in the triple jump, 40 ft. 05 in.

Beckah Short Jumps 4th In The Triple Jump

McKenzie sophomore Beckah Short finished the triple jump in 4th place last Friday at the 1A Sub District meet. Short’s leap was measured at 23 ft. 11.75 in. and Brooke McHaffie of North Douglas won the event with a hop, skip and a jump of 32 ft. 6.5 in., which established a new PR. McHaffie doubled up with a win in the long jump, leaping 14 ft. 7 in. Short jumped a new Personal

Record in the long jump, 12 ft. 4 in., and that earned her a 10th place mark. Running in the 100 m. race, Short finished with another 10th place with a time of 15.90 sec.

Teammate Jane Dillinger took home 13th with a time of 17.40 seconds and North Douglas Warrior Audri Ward won the event in 13.71 sec. Eagle Dillinger established her own new PR in the 200 m. race with a time of 36.70 sec, a 13th place finish and that race was won by Shahailey Rogers of Crow in a PR time of 29.06 sec.

McKenzie senior Hailey Prater finished out her day at the track with a 6th place mark of 70 ft. 4 in. in the javelin (won by Feirin McConnell of Triangle Lake: 98 ft. 4 in.), a 7th place finish in the shot put at 22 ft. 4 in. (won by Natalie Hescock of North Douglas with a PR distance of 25 ft. 2.5 in.) and an 8th place finish in the discus at 58 ft. 11 in. (won by McConnell of T. Lake at 77 ft. 11 in.).

Other event winners were Lucy Barrowcliff, Mohawk, in the pole vault, 7 ft. 0 in., Kiele Riggs of Triangle Lake, in the high jump, 4 ft. 10 in. PR, Mia Piscopo of North Douglas in both the 400 m., 1:03.04 min. PR and the 800 m., 2:35.16 min., and Zuzana Szymanska of Crow in both the 1500 m., 5:28.39 min. PR, and the 3000 m., 12:42.36 min. Triangle Lake’s Samara Baker also finished the meet as a double event winner, running the 100 m. hurdles in a PR time of 16.68 sec., and the 300 m hurdles in a PR time of 48.32 sec. The Triangle Lake 4x100 relay team of Ella Mather, Baker, Madeline Brewster, and Riggs ran the fastest time of 52.82 seconds and the Laker 4x400 m. relay team of Mather, Brewster, Jessica Bottensek, and Baker topped all other competitors with a time of 4:36.11 min.

A Huge Shout Out Of Thanks To All McKenzie Track Volunteer 2023!!!!

McKenzie Track and Field would like to recognize all the following dedicated volunteers who made this 2023 high school track season a success. There were many challenges to overcome this season and the remarkable and

dedicated volunteers listed below were graciously willing to give up their time, energy and resources, to ensure this 2023 track and field season was a winner.

As always, the Spring athletic season can present itself as a challenge alone, and this Spring certainly did just that. Scattered snowstorms, cold rain, wind and finally, Old Mother Nature responded to the many calls for dry and sunny. So we jumped right out of our rain gear and into the frying pan. Or so it felt for the last two meets. Nonetheless, we collectively, as a Community, pulled it off and can now look forward to more and better events at our wonderful Aaron and Marie Jones Community Track venue. Thanks again, McKenzie, you are indeed, special!!

Wade Scofield, Steve Schaefers, Gerry Aster, Jamee Savidge, Connie Richardson, Bob Wilson, Neil Barrett, Elaine Bryson, Steve Birskevich, Silvia Dion, Bill Schaefers, Brent Weiss, Dave Hunter, Melanie Brite, Sharon Zook, Joe Zook, Leslie Zook, Veronique Loggins, Shelly Pruitt, Marilyn Cross, John Carlisle, Pete Petty, Monte Wilson, Brent Caulley, Sarah Hunter, Doug Fairrington, Heidi Dyson, Vinnie Fulton, Alex Jones, Megan Weiss, Dan Willis, Mandy Jones, Tom Nash, Jay Selvester, Brenda Hamlow, Seth O’Hare, Spencer Wallace, George Winters, Jacqueline Drake, Devin Thompson, Rollin Cummins, Ira Munkvolde, Brent Meister, Laurel Pfeifer Meister, Kiger Plews, Tim Hooten, Michael Bergmann, Molly Jackson, Jack Devereaux, Fred Heins, Lorinda Marcy, Kami Hayes, Melissa Norlund, Cliff Richardson, Anna Reidmann, Myra Dion, Salomon Acevedo, Allen Acevedo, Trent Peek Van Sickle, Will Meister, Jacob Peek, Devon Lawson, Levi Lockard, Beckah Short, Jane Dillinger, Jovial Jordan, Hailey Prater, Owen Acevedo, Noah O’Doal, Fen Willis, Liam Acevedo, TJ Doolin, Nelli Sullivan, Mira Willis, Zyla Drake, Ally Peek, Jacob Norlund, and all the other student helpers. My apologies if I missed naming anyone, you are as important and appreciated.



By Slim Randles

“I took Duckworth to the dog show up in the city last weekend,” Dud said.

The other members of the Mule Barn truck stop’s world dilemma think tank and philosophy counter just looked at him.

Doc put it gently. “Dud, was this so he could get some inspiration on looking good?”

Duckworth was a medium-sized dog that found Dud while Dud was walking and thinking about the novel he’s writing. No one answered the ad he put in the Valley Weekly Miracle, so he was henceforth known as Duckworth, for some reason Dud seemed to want to keep to himself. To be honest, Duckworth looked like he fell out of the ugly tree and hit every branch on the way down.

“No, I was going to enter him in the dog show,” Dud said. “Took him right up to the registration table and tried to get him in a class. The lady there looked at ol’ Duck and asked to see his papers.”

Dud grinned. “I told her they were back home on the floor of the laundry room. She didn’t think it was funny.”

Now Duckworth had been introduced to the other dogs in the group at the sale barn, as is the custom, and Dud’s pals had been hesitant to ask much about him. Duckworth looked like something put together by a committee with a sense of humor. Oh, he was a dog ... no doubt about that. But what kind of dog was he? It made for interesting coffee speculation, that’s for sure.

“You know,” Dud said, “Anita was against me getting any kind of dog until Duckworth came along. When I explained to her that Duckworth was a bird dog ... a duck dog, actually, and that he’d help me bring more birds home, she finally gave in.”

“He’s a bird dog?” Steve said. “What kind?”

“Now that’s what that dog show lady asked me, you know? I had to explain to her about canardly terriers, because she wasn’t familiar with them.”

“Canar...”

“Canardly terriers, you betcha,” Dud said, grinning, “why, I’ll bet you canardly tell what kind of terrier he is!”

For the best friend a human being is able to have, please consider adopting a dog or cat from your local shelter.

Booby traps

Continued From Page 1

was subdued 24 students had been shot.

An hour and a half later police found the Kinkel’s bodies in their 88082 Chita Loop home. Their search was cut short when Kinkel reportedly told investigators there were explosives in the house.

Late Thursday afternoon a number of boxes of chemicals and fire-works were discovered in a crawl-space under the house. Soon, investigators found what they called a “very sophisticated device” and a quarter-mile radius around the area was evacuated.

That night, area residents reported hearing several small explosions as the team detonated parts of the bombs. Explosive experts were at the scene until 11:30 p.m. on Thursday.

Early Friday morning another complex device was found in the crawlspace, along with two crude pipe bombs. Police cut a one-foot by two-and-a-half-foot hole in an exterior wall so they wouldn’t have to carry the bombs through the house. Let back inside, a forensic team from the Oregon State Police crime lab identified the Kinkel’s bodies. Both died of gunshot wounds. By 1:30 that afternoon, Faith Kinkel’s body had been removed. Before her husband could be retrieved, another bomb was discovered at approximately 3 p.m. It was another two and a half hours before crime scene investigators could go back inside,

The Sheriff’s Office also reported finding a number of hard copy Internet printouts and other written material on the fabrication of explosive devices. In all, more than ten bombs were discovered.

Found in the crawl space under the house was an 18-inch square cardboard box, a standard grocery

bag, a canvas backpack, an 18 by 12-inch yellow tin box, a bag of charcoal, and lighter fluid.

Inside the containers, police located a kitchen timer and batteries connected to a solid 6-inch square of white chalky substance. In the paper bag was a household fire extinguisher connected to a digital timer and what appeared to be an arming switch. After transporting the extinguisher in a bomb trailer, police said it was detonated, yielding force similar to high explosives.

The bomb squad found more of the chalky substance as well as containers labeled zinc oxide, aluminum sulfate, two cans of acetone, and three bottles of denatured alcohol. The containers also held quantities of fireworks. Thirty of them, police said, had been altered to increase their explosive potential.

Inside Kip Kinkel’s bedroom was a pineapple-style hand grenade on an open display shelf. At the end of his bed were two olive-drab 155 mm US Army howitzer shells. All were later confirmed empty.

Continuing the search, police found a one-pound device in the closet constructed from three soda cans with an attached fuse. Several PVC pipe bombs were turned up in the bedroom and in a crawl space above it.

Investigators said the pipe bombs had electronic circuits and initiators on them that only required a filler to make them functional. One of them measured three feet long by 2 inches in diameter. Police also found a large number of empty fireworks casings in the attic that had been cut open to remove their explosive charges.

Homes approved

Continued From Page 1

ognized Tribes.

“Oregon has a vast network of partners committed to building housing that will not only be affordable for homebuyers now but will support wealth building that will impact future generations,” said OHCS Director Andrea Bell. “This is especially true in rural areas of our state where housing prices have skyrocketed preventing many families from realizing their dream of buying a home.” HCS website.

Among many projects, the pre-development and capacity-build-

ing funds will support Wallowa Resources to hire staff to focus on the development of a 21-acre site that will lead to the construction of 10-20 affordable homes in Joseph, an area that has fallen behind in building housing.

Of the seven Homeownership Development projects funded by General Funds, the Williams & Russell CDC Homeownership Project is to build 20 townhomes on land acquired through eminent domain for urban renewal in the early 1970s to make way for the expansion of Emanuel Hospital,

now owned by Legacy Health.

“This funding helps create a path forward for the Black community in Portland to reclaim land ownership where it was once taken from them,” said Bryson E. Davis, president of Williams & Russell CDC. “By lowering the barrier to entry, future homeowners are afforded the opportunity to participate in generational wealth building and create a sense of belonging in a centrally located neighborhood and in a range of housing types informed by community input.”

This Could Be Your Ad Contact

rivref2@gmail.com



Gardening Tips

By Kym Pokorny



Oregon State University

OSU Extension Service

Beneficial bats help control garden insects



With a swish of his cape, Count Dracula ruined the reputation of bats forevermore. Maybe.

In the 125 years since Dracula came on the scene and spooked us into believing bats are bad, we're beginning to get a grasp on the truth: Their voracious appetite for insects turns them into a living pesticide that saves farmers billions of dollars a year and helps rid our backyards of insects like mosquitoes, moths, grasshoppers, flies and beetles. Some species are critically important pollinators for crops ranging from bananas to agave.

Still, there is plenty of false fodder contributing to their scary reputation. Bats aren't flying mice. In fact, according to Bat Conservation International, they are more closely related to humans. Bats don't get tangled in your hair. Bats aren't blind. Of the three species out of 1,300 that feed on blood, only one targets mammals.

All of these are limited to Latin America. (If you really want to know, they don't suck blood, they lap it "like kittens with milk," BCI says on its website.)

Most importantly, bats are no more likely to get rabies than other mammals. However, in any given year, some bats likely do contract and develop the disease, said Dana Sanchez, wildlife specialist with Oregon State University Extension Service.

"People should report and avoid any contact with a bat that acts oddly, such as flying during the day, approaching people, or crawling on the ground," said Sanchez, who is the co-author of the new Extension publication Getting to Know Oregon's Bats. "It could be affected by rabies or another disease, such as white-nose syndrome."

Report sightings to the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife website or by phone at 866-

968-2600 or your local health department where professionals can advise you on the steps to take.

Bats need little encouragement to hang around. They roost in dead trees, caves, and other dark, quiet places, including bat houses. You'll see them at dusk and can recognize them by their zigzagging flight pattern.

To attract them to your garden and to help with their conservation, construct a bat house or provide other roosting places. Bat boxes resemble large birdhouses but are open on the bottom and partitioned into several narrow spaces. Patterns are available on the Bat Conservation International website.

"One of the biggest problems that bats are facing right now is loss of habitat," Sanchez said. "We can try to mitigate that with bat houses."

Other factors threatening bats, Sanchez added, are wind energy development, white-nose syndrome, and broad changes to water and foraging resources due to climate change.

Of the 15 species of bats in Oregon, the most common are the little brown bat (*Myotis lucifugus*), long-legged bat (*Macrophyllum macrophyllum*) and big brown bat (*Eptesicus fuscus*). The Western pipistrelle (*Pipistrellus hesperus*), the smallest bat in the U.S., weighs in at one-tenth of an ounce and can be found in Eastern Oregon.

More bat facts from Bat Conservation International:

* Bats are the only mammal capable of true flight.

* Bats can be found everywhere in the world except some islands and the polar regions.

* Bats hibernate in winter.

The size of bats is quite varied. The bumble bee bat in Asia has a wingspan of only 7 inches, while the giant golden-crowned flying fox in the tropics of Asia, Africa, and Europe can have one of up to 6 feet.

* Some bats are solitary and some live in colonies of 20 million.

* In addition to insects, some bats feed on fish, frogs, lizards, and fruit.

* Many bats are listed as threatened or endangered.



Country Kitchen

By Mary Emma Allen



FLOWERS OF SPRINGTIME

The gold of daffodils and forsythia, the soft pink of apple blossoms, white and purple of violets and lilacs all brighten our world in springtime. This year, at my daughter's home, I've discovered that one apple tree has glorious dark pink blossoms.

The flowers of springtime, which continue on into summer, brighten our spirits and combine with birdsong to bring back memories and make the world seem glorious midst any troubles.

Flowers Evoke Memories

There must be flowers in your life that evoke memories of a particular place, occasion, or person. Are these wild flowers, bouquets and corsages from a florist, or a plant someone gave you?

* Lily of the Valley - A multitude of these fragrant flowers grew under the edge of the forsythia bush near the farmhouse porch. Whenever I see or smell these flowers, I'm transported back to the vision and memory of the lilies of the valley of childhood.

* Dahlias - My dad liked dahlia blooms. As long as I can recall, he'd purchase dahlia bulbs and plant them at various locations along the porch and in the flower garden. Even in his elder years, Father purchased dahlias and planted them at Mother's and his retirement home.

* Mimosa - Jim and I encountered these lovely feathery blooms outside our duplex, during his pilot training days, near Lubbock, Texas. We were enthralled with these blossoms until we realized they were the

cause of Jim suddenly developing hay fever. For some reason he had an aversion to them. If he hadn't been scheduled to graduate from pilot training in about a month and assigned to another base, we would have had to seek another abode.

* Chrysanthemums - These blooms of autumn were dear to Mother's heart. They formed the bouquets Mother and her sister carried at her marriage to Father. Theirs was a November wedding and chrysanthemums were plentiful. Bronze and gold mums predominated in their bouquets, Mother said.

Recipe With Memories

MAYONNAISE CAKE was a dessert of childhood. Mix together 2 cups flour, 1 1/2 teaspoons baking soda, 4 tablespoons cocoa, 1-cup sugar, 1 1/2 teaspoons baking powder. Add 1-cup cold water, 2 teaspoons vanilla and 1 cup mayonnaise or salad dressing. Mix together well.

Bake 35 minutes at 350 degrees F. Bake in two 8- or 9-inch layer pans. Ice with favorite vanilla icing or cream cheese icing.

(c) Mary Emma Allen

(Mary Emma Allen writes for children and adults from her home in the NH woods.)

Quote of the Week

"You can't turn back the clock. But you can wind it up again."
Bonnie Prudden



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Community Notes

Sip & Shop Cancelled

The Ladies Sip and Shop Fundraiser that was scheduled for May 20th at the McKenzie Valley Presbyterian Church has been postponed until next year. We are sorry for any inconvenience this may have cause anyone. It will be rescheduled for a date that does not conflict with any other event.

May 18 McKenzie Chamber

The McKenzie River Chamber of Commerce board will meet from 10 to 11 a.m. via Zoom. To sign up for a link to the meeting, go to: info@ McKenzieChamber.com.

May 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.

May 20 Living River Day

The Living River Exploration Day is from 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. at 31799 Green Island Rd, Eugene. Join the McKenzie River Trust and take a walk near the place the Willamette and the McKenzie Rivers meet. Observe 15 years of tree-planting work on Green Island, a habitat for beaver, river otter, and over 150 species of birds.

May 20 Plant Sale

The Late Bloomer's Garden Club's plant sale will be held from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at McKenzie Fire & Rescue's Leaburg Training Center. There will be a wide variety of plants, refreshments, and a raffle drawing.

May 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.

May 20 Art With Ellen

Children are invited to take part in drawing lessons with Ellen at the Emerald Art Center, 500 Main St, Springfield, from 12:30 to

2 p.m. The lessons will revolve around the seasons and holidays. Designed especially for children, ages 6 - 10. \$90 for children of members, \$110 for children of non-members.

May 23 BCC Meeting

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

May 23 Family Story Time

From 10 to 11 a.m. at the Camp Creek Church Fellowship Hall, 37529 Upper Camp Creek Rd. Some special fun for children 5 and under (with their adults) to enjoy stories, singing, laughter, and friendship.

May 23 MVW Meeting

McKenzie Valley Wellness will hold a board meeting on Tuesday, May 23, at 7 p.m. The in-person meeting is at the Living Water Fellowship building at 52353 McKenzie Hwy. in Blue River 97413. To access the Zoom meeting, contact Vall Raap at valgeneskrine@earthlink.net.

May 26 McKenzie Food Pantry

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

May 27 Living River Day

The Living River Exploration Day is from 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. at 31799 Green Island Rd, Eugene. Join the McKenzie River Trust and take a walk near the place the Willamette and the McKenzie Rivers meet. Observe 15 years of tree-planting work on Green Island, a habitat for beaver, river otter, and over 150 species of birds.

May 27 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.

May 29 Springfield School Board

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

May 30 BCC Meeting

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

May 30 Family Story Time

There will be some special FUN at Camp Creek Church - for children 5 and under (with their adults) to enjoy stories, singing, laughter, and friendship. 10 to 11 a.m. at the Fellowship Hall, 37529 Upper Camp Creek Rd.

May 31 BCC Meeting

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

June 2 First Friday

First Fridays at Finn Rock Reach are from 9:30am - noon at the Finn Rock Landing, Quartz Creek Road. Join the Friends of Finn Rock Reach from March through November to help care for the Finn Rock Landing area. Projects include tackling invasive species, planting trees and helping to care for the public Finn Rock boat landing, keeping it free and open to the public by McKenzie River Trust. Project sites vary between the Boat Landing and other nearby conservation sites so pre-registration is required. We'll send out details for each project the Tuesday ahead of each event.

June 2 Cornhole League

People interested in forming a Cornhole League can sign up at a member's meeting from 6 - 7 p.m. at the Upper McKenzie Community Center in Rainbow. Days and times will depend on people's availability during the sign-up at 54745 McKenzie River Drive.

June 2 UMCC Annual Mtg

The Upper McKenzie Community Center's Annual Members Meeting will be held from 6 - 8 p.m. at 54745 McKenzie River Drive. Tour the community center and see the newly remodeled kitchen and bathrooms, get updates, learn about the UMCC's goals and future plans, and meet the board members and cast your ballots. There will also be a potluck, so bring a dish, side, or app to share (bring tableware if you can).

June 3 & 4 DRACO Sale

The Annual DRACO "That's Incredible!" Garage Sale will be held on Saturday, June 3, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Sunday, June 4, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. with sale sites throughout the Deerhorn Ranch Acres Neighborhood - all in one nice, easy-to-walk location. Antiques, tools, sporting goods, and tons of miscellaneous. Location: 6 mi. east of Walterville on Hwy 126, near mp 17. Follow the signs across the bridge to the sales.

June 3 Start & Seed Swap

Want plant starts? Have any plant starts to share? Come to the McKenzie River Valley Start and Seed Swap (Giveaway) in downtown Blue River June 3 from 9 to noon at 51748 Cascade Street in Blue River. You don't need to bring anything with you, but if you have plants/seeds to share, please do. All varieties of plants and seeds welcome - vegetables, ornamentals, cuttings, annuals, perennials, flowers, natives. For more information contact Sarah Hunter at 541-632-3636 and leave a message.

June 3 Living River Day

The Living River Exploration Day is from 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. at 31799 Green Island Rd, Eugene. Join the McKenzie River Trust and take a walk near the place the Willamette and the McKenzie Rivers meet. Observe 15 years of tree-planting work on Green Island, a habitat for beaver, river otter, and over 150 species of birds.

June 3 Dime At A Time

The Blue River Bottle Boys

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

June 4 Pride Outside

A Pride Outside Bird Walk will be held from 8 to 11:30 a.m. at Green Island in Eugene. The McKenzie River Trust is inviting LGBTQIA2S+ friends and neighbors to the island for a morning bird walk at the Willamette Confluence. Led by queer local bird nerds, this walk will be full of fun and education for birders of all ages and levels.

June 4 Boat Inspections

The Lane County Sheriff's Office is partnering with Bi-Mart stores to sponsor Free Boat Inspections to help boaters prepare for the summer season. It will be held on Sunday, June 4th from 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. at the Mohawk Bi-Mart, 1521 Mohawk Blvd, in Springfield. Bring your boat (any kind) for a free inspection.

June 6 BCC Meeting

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

June 6 Coffee With Locals

Meet at the McKenzie Bridge General Store, 91837 Taylor Rd, Come have a cup of coffee with the locals (paid for by Locals Helping Locals). Catch up with your neighbors, discuss how you are doing in the fire recovery process, and share your successes and struggles. Contact Brenda Hamlow with questions: (541) 729-9802.

June 6 Family Story Time

From 10 to 11 a.m. at the Camp Creek Church Fellowship Hall, 37529 Upper Camp Creek Rd. Some special fun for children 5 and under (with their adults) to enjoy stories, singing, laughter, and friendship.

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

<h2>An Invitation to Worship</h2>	<p>Living Water Family Fellowship Pastor - Doug Fairington 52353 McKenzie Hwy - Milepost 42 541-822-3820 Gathering Sundays at 10:00 AM, Children's ministry also. Come early for a meet and greet continental breakfast and coffee at 9:30 AM. Thursdays, 6:00 PM, Celebrate Recovery (12 Step Program)</p>
<p>McKenzie Bible Fellowship 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: sbldodge.opwest.org</p>
<p>McKenzie Valley Presbyterian Church Please join us for worship Sundays at 10:30 am, either in church on Hwy. 126 just east of Walterville, or on our Facebook livestream. You may also make prayer requests, or request an emailed or earth-mailed bulletin -- phone or send email to Nancy Ashley, nancy.w.ashley@gmail.com, 541-914-1986. We would love to meet you! Milepost 13 McKenzie Hwy. (541) 747-2604</p>	



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2012 NNA Community Newspaper Readership Survey



Direct Answers

By Wayne & Tamara Mirthell

Neither A Borrower...

Abigail Keenan

I moved from Los Angeles to Europe with my husband and children. My sister’s husband left her with three children. She sent an e-mail today asking me to “give” her \$1,000 so her lawyer will continue representing her. My sister already owes her lawyer \$9,000. She owes my other sister \$5,000, and she never talks about paying it back. She is trying to convince a judge she needs more money from her ex so she won’t have to move. Her ex-husband has offered 65 percent of his paycheck. It sounds like a lot, but my sister has taken out second mortgages on her home and her house bill is \$1,500 a month, not including taxes. I don’t know if she is in debt, or if she is just used to being able to pull money out of purse whenever she wants and not having to budget. I know she

rarely cooks and usually takes the children out for fast food. She asked for government aid, but they say her income is too high to qualify for any help. My husband is worried if we give her \$1,000, she will assume she can keep asking. Do you have any suggestions?

Trish

Trish, you are concerned about your sister’s welfare and would like to respond to her needs, but your husband understands the actual situation. Your sister goes through money as if it is water. She doesn’t budget or live within her income. The equity in her home has vanished. Her ex gives her most of his income, and it is still not enough. Your sister engages in magical thinking. She is trying to make reality conform to her habits and outlook. Offering her financial help will only encourage her belief in magical solutions. The obvious solution is to sell the house, reduce the debt load, and bring expenses in line with income. She may need to move to another neighborhood and make other lifestyle changes, but that is what is called for. Give her unlimited emotional support and guidance, but don’t subsidize her flight from reality. That may sound harsh, but it is the

kindest thing you can do for her. Wayne

Soap Box

My mother is quite the religious evangelist and political zealot, and it’s getting in the way of our relationship. She insists on discussing her views every time we speak, and she assaults me with unsolicited information by way of letters and one-sided telephone rants. It doesn’t work to ignore her newfound fanaticism or request we not discuss religion and politics. Saying I have to get off the phone is most effective, but I am still up nights being upset. If I request an end to the alarmist messages, she insults me or sends a nasty note. After a period of silence, she’ll do something like send me an engraved Bible with cash inside and an inscription from “Your ever-loving mother.” A dear friend died recently, and I sent a copy of the obituary to my mother. She, in turn, sent me a religious diatribe having nothing to do with my loss. I was devastated. Renee

Renee, in the back of your mind is an idealized picture of domestic life, like one of those Currier & Ives lithographs called “The Happy Family.” It’s not going to be like that with your mom. Your mother isn’t talking to you so much as she is talking to all those people who won’t stand there and listen to her, for like all zealots, she creates a loathing for her beliefs. She likely treats

everyone this way, but they have an advantage. They are not her daughter. As you free yourself to leave her presence, you will realize how you gave her power, and she will realize it is in her power to have you stay or to send you away. Tamara

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

American Life in Poetry

The Poetry Foundation is now providing a Poem of the Day.

Bermudas
By Kamau Brathwaite
marine to noon on AmericasAirplane

First the dark meer begins to breathe gently into green into light & light green until there are like blue

ribs upon the water. dreaming and the ribs of water’s colour are the gills of the first fish breathing the first land the first eye

-lann until there is what shd not be here on the water white

footsteps of sand from the bottom of the ocean become the thin road to Eleuthera long & thin upon the water walking until there is suddenly a black stone a dark veil kabala surrounding by whorls of worship green water scallops folding into themselves like soft

jewels the first huge fish out of creation w/ribs veins glimpse of a tail & deep channels in between

where they will be mountains & ridges & villages & ozure indigo sunsets of lapis lazuli & white salt marking its finely corrugated edges & stretching out into thousands of tongues. miles

of soft drifting labials. like pellucid love on the water. this fish from the air of so many so many untangles & 10 thousand years later there are trees

glistening sunlight & listening rain & white streets & houses & people walkin bout & talkn to each other on the water & across its blue echo & thinking of horses & houses & now soon after midday there are great ob

-long blotches like a stain of milk & a great spider spreading itself along the pale glazing bottom of the water. and this great planet passing upwards towards us out this silence & drifting & blessing of the water

Edward Kamau Brathwaite is the author of numerous collections of poetry, including *Elegguas* (2010), the *Griffin International Poetry Prize* winner *Slow Horses* (2005), *Ancestors* (2001), *Middle Passages* (1992), and *Black + Blues* (1976). His first three collections, *Rights of Passage* (1967), *Masks* (1968), and *Islands* (1969), have been gathered into *The Arrivants: A New World Trilogy* (1973). He is also the author of *Our Ancestral Heritage: A Bibliography of the Roots of Culture in the English-speaking Caribbean* (1976) and *Barbados Poetry: A Checklist: Slavery to the Present* (1979).

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

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Sheriff's Report

Continued From Page 3

89100 blk, Marcola Rd.
May 13: 2:25 a.m: Alarm - 39300 blk, McK. Hwy.
2:33 a.m: Vehicle in Ditch - Lat: 44.131147. Long: -122.929351.
12:14 p.m: Medical Info Call - 37600 blk, Upper Camp Creek Rd.
1:49 p.m: Menacing - 91900 blk, Taylor Rd. A caller reported an ongoing dispute with a neighbor. Stated the neighbor tried to strike

the caller with a rake during a property dispute.

May 13: 12:14 p.m: Medical Info Call - 37600 blk, Upper Camp Creek Rd.

7:55 p.m: Assist, Information - 92200 blk, Treston Ln.

9:13 p.m: Illegal Burn - 55400 blk, McK. River Dr.

9:28 p.m: Fire, Information - 92200 blk, Treston Ln.

9:50 p.m: Shots Fired - 89700 blk, Upper Johnson Creek Rd.

10:01 p.m: Illegal Fireworks - 42700 blk, McK. Hwy.

May 14: 12:14 a.m: Warrant Service - 42100 blk, McK. Hwy.

8:05 a.m: Theft - 59200 blk, N. Belknap Springs Rd.

11:56 p.m: Alarm - 38400 blk, Shotgun Creek Rd.

May 15: 11:31 a.m: Theft - 59200 blk, N. Belknap Springs Rd.

11:38 a.m: Assist, Follow Up - 51100 blk, McK. Hwy.

1:27 p.m: Water Patrol - 91800 blk, Blue River Reservoir Rd.

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

This Space For Rent
rivref2@gmail.com

CROSSWORD

1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8		9	10	11	12
13						14				15			
16						17				18			
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65						66	67			68			
69						70				71			
72						73				74			

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THE 1990s

- ACROSS
1. Deep cavity

6. Weasel-related onomatopoeia

9. Supernatural life force

13. French treat

14. Snake-like fish

15. Major Italian city

16. Ring around the sun, pl.

17. Pitcher's stat

18. Donated part

19. *Russian President

21. *"Nevermind" band

23. *"Walkin' on the _____" by Smash Mouth

24. Google search tool

25. Took the bait
28. Between larva and adult

30. Data input device

35. U in I.C.U.

37. Dems' opponents

39. One of Florida Keys

40. Be furious

41. *Canada/Mexico/U.S. trade agreement acronym

43. Agitate

44. Between free and freest

46. Molokai party

47. *Telephone Tammy or Sky Dancer

48. Unquestioning ones

50. Greek muse's strings

52. Slightly insane

53. Messy substances

Solution on Page 9

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			9		8			
		4	6	7				8
	5	8	4	9				
					5	7		
9		6					5	

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

Solution on Page 9

55. Santa _____ winds, CA
57. *TV show with Central Perk
61. *Popular Disney movie with a genie
65. Caterpillar precursor
66. Accompanies wisdom?
68. *Pinky or The Brain
69. Architectural projection
70. CrÈme de cassis plus wine
71. Un-written exams
72. _____pool or _____pit
73. One or some or all
74. Find new tenant

DOWN

1. *"_____ Breaky Heart" by Billy Ray Cyrus
2. Highlands hillside
3. Raise the roof
4. Leopard marks
5. Bungle (2 words)
6. Part of a hammer
7. "_____ the land of the free..."
8. Heathrow craft
9. Type of missile, accr.
10. Aquarium organism
11. Indian bread
12. "_____ Kerenina" by Tolstoy
15. Breadcrumb, e.g.
20. Contain the ashes
22. Pen juice
24. Amount in one's lap, pl.
25. *The Vampire Slayer
26. Accustom
27. *"A _____ to Kill" and "Nick of _____"
29. Bell sound
31. Front or back one
32. Factual evidence
33. Quick and nimble
34. *First cloned mammal's name
36. Swarm like bees
38. Don't go
42. Pertaining to the ear
45. Pertaining to reign
49. Motion of assent
51. Bewitch
54. Port city in Japan
56. *Christian Dior's "J" _____"
57. Mass of particles
58. Of low density
59. Pupil controller
60. December 24 and 31
61. Bald eagle's nest
62. Two-fold
63. Same as island
64. *TV show "Empty _____"
67. *"_____ and Juice" by Snoop Dogg

Emergency?

Call 911

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

tinyurl.com/yeye92hx

Events from May 18th

Submit Event

Write something

Tue Apr 18th 6:00pm - Tue May 23rd 8:00pm

"WRITE YOUR LIFE" Writing Workshops at Leaburg Library

Everyone has stories to tell, and they need not be spelled correctly or written in perfect grammar to be meaningful. What's more important ...

EMERALD ART CENTER

art happens here

Fri May 12th 4:00pm - Thu Jun 1st 7:30pm

2nd Friday Art Walk

Emerald Art Center in downtown Springfield

Upper McKenzie Fire District Board

Wed May 17th 7:00pm - Mon Jun 5th 8:00pm

Upper McKenzie Fire District Board of Directors monthly meeting. At the fire station, 541-822-3479

Transit Development Plan meeting

Thu May 18th 12:00pm - 1:30pm

Link Lane, a service of the Lane Council of Governments (LCOG), is hosting the second Transit Development Plan meeting at noon on May 18,

COMMUNITY FOOD PANTRY

Thu May 18th 3:00pm - 6:30pm

Leaburg Food Pantry

All are welcome! Please send folks!

McKENZIE RIVER OREGON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Thu May 18th 10:00am - 11:00am

McKenzie River Chamber of Commerce Board meeting

The McKenzie River Chamber of Commerce is a business organization of volunteers providing members key opportunities for visibility, ...

PLANT Sale

LATE BLOOMERS GARDEN CLUB

MAY 20TH, 10 AM-2 PM

LEABURG FIRE STATION

ANNUAL-RENEWALS-MEMBERS HOUSE PLANTS-40% OFF

Late Bloomers Garden Club Plant Sale

Sat May 20th 10:00am - 2:00pm

Spring is in the air! Need plants? The Late Bloomers Garden Club plant sale will be on May 20th from 10 am-2 pm at the Leaburg fire...

Garden

Hwy. 242 reopening

Fri May 19th

Maintenance activities in the spring are carried out in preparation for the opening on the third Monday in June. That date may be delayed, ...

Blue River Bottle Boys Collection/Sorting - Saturday

Sat May 20th 10:00am - 12:00pm

A Dime At A Time

Blue River Bottle Boys Collection/Sorting - Saturday morning sorting sessions every Saturday from 10-noon. Donations can be dropped

Living River Exploration Day

Sat May 20th 8:00am - 4:00pm

Join the McKenzie River Trust and take a walk near the place the Willamette and the McKenzie Rivers meet. Observe 15 years of tree-

Exploring Art with Ellen

Sat May 20th 12:30pm - 2:00pm

Children will love drawing with Ellen! She is patient and calm and works students through the drawing process step by step. The lessons ...

Drought persists

Continued From Page 1

egonians should follow local rules around fireworks or burning debris, avoiding both on windy days and in dry areas.

Kotek said she hopes to include additional money for combating wildfires in the next two-year budget, assuming an economic fore-

cast released next week shows the state in good shape to spend that extra money.

"We have to protect our communities, which means really looking at the resources that we would normally put into reserve, holding on to some of those things, so

we can fund adequate and stable fire prevention and response," she said. "That's my pledge to the folks here and that's what we're working on."

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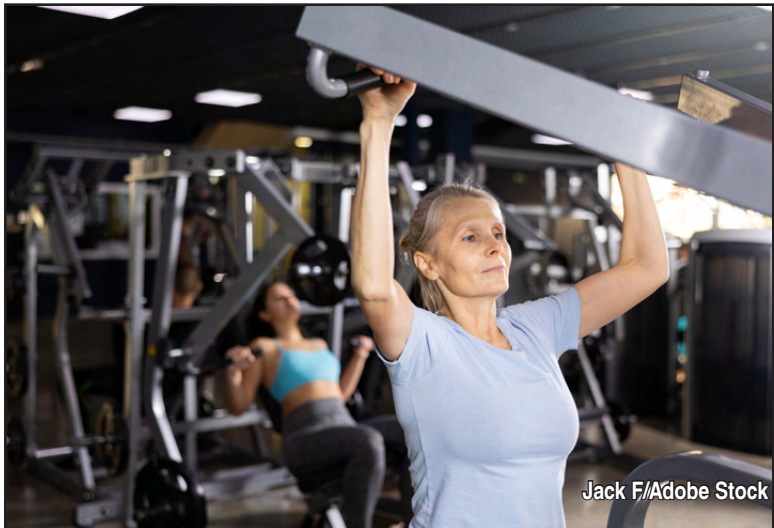
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Financial strains top of mind for older Oregonians



A new survey found 92% of respondents age 45 and older say staying physically healthy is important.

By Eric Tegethoffs
Oregon News Service

A new survey found older Oregonians are concerned about the cost of living in many aspects of their lives.

The Vital Voices research program from AARP dove into issues affecting Oregonians age 45 and older.

Bandana Shrestha, state director for AARP Oregon, said the cost of health care and housing top the list of topics on people’s mind.

“One big takeaway from the survey is that Oregonians are really feeling affordability and the economic pressures in all aspects of their lives,” Shrestha reported.

Concern over affording health care expenses increased from 78% in 2020 to 91% in 2023. May is Older Americans Month.

Aging in place is a priority for Oregonians, with 84% of respondents saying it is important to stay

in their own home as they get older.

Shrestha pointed out the economy presents a challenge to this.

“Especially for people who rent, three quarters experience financial pressure,” Shrestha noted. “If there’s any rent increases, that would impact their ability to continue to remain at home.”

Shrestha added political leaders are an important part of the conversation.

“Whether we are talking about our public policymakers at the state or local level, they have an important role to play in ensuring that we have the service and supports necessary to be able to thrive throughout our lifetime,” Shrestha contended.

The survey showed Oregonians are concerned about having access to the caregiving resources they need, and many feel stressed and isolated.

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O	R	I	E	L		K	I	R		O	R	A	L
C	E	S	S			A	N	Y		R	E	L	E

SUDOKU SOLUTION

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

Thank you to the subscribers and advertisers that support River Reflections’ mission to connect McKenzie area residents with local news, activities, accomplishments, and history

Don’t kidnap young wildlife and take away their best chance of survival

Finding a young wild animal alone does not mean that it’s been abandoned or orphaned, so leave them where you find them. The advice you are likely to hear if you pick up or bring young wildlife home is “put it back,” and you might get a warning or citation from Oregon State Police, too.

Removing an animal from the wild is illegal under Oregon wildlife laws. (ORS 497.308 – No person shall remove from its natural habitat or acquire and hold in captivity any live wildlife in violation of the wildlife laws.)

Many wildlife species will leave their young while they forage for food. When people remove them from the wild, young animals miss the chance to learn where to seek cover, what to eat and how to escape from predators and other dangers.

Unfortunately, every year around this time, ODFW offices, licensed wildlife rehabilitators, and even Oregon State Police are flooded with calls from well-intentioned people who picked up a deer fawn, elk calf, fledgling bird learning to fly, or other young animal they assumed was orphaned because it was alone.

Even if they receive care from a wildlife rehabilitator, successfully returning a young animal to the wild is not always possible. Options for long-term placement in wildlife sanctuaries or zoos are limited and animals often must be euthanized since they lack the survival skills to be released back into the wild. Some animals can also become dangerous as they grow into adults and pose a serious threat to human safety.

- Here’s how to help instead:
- * Keep pets and other domestic animals away from wildlife. Pets will stress wildlife, especially if there are young wildlife or fledgling birds in your yard. Keep dogs on a leash when recreating outside. Keep cats indoors to protect them and our native wildlife.
 - * If you are certain an animal is orphaned because you observed the parent animal deceased, or you see an animal that is injured, please call ODFW, a licensed wildlife rehabilitator or OSP for advice.
 - * Don’t feed wildlife. All species of wildlife have a specialized



diet that coincides with seasonal changes. Access to human-provided food can negatively impact their health, lead to conflict with humans and in many cases have fatal consequences.

Deer and elk
Oregon’s deer and elk give birth from May through July. It’s natural for mother animals to leave their young alone and hidden for extended periods of time while they go off to feed, so never assume a young animal is orphaned when you see it alone. The mother will return when it’s safe to do so—when people, pets or predators aren’t around. Deer and elk see dogs as a threat to their young and may act aggressively in response to disturbance from a dog.

Marine mammals
Harbor seal pups are born in late March through April. Females often leave their pups at haul-outs or along sandy beaches while searching for food. Never pick up or handle a seal pup or any other marine mammal you find at the beach. Beachgoers should stay away from resting seals and sea lions and keep dogs away from these animals as well. Marine mammal strandings should be reported to OSP’s hotline at 1-800-452-7888.

Birds
Birds nest in the spring and young birds may be found from

late February through early summer. Some baby birds, called fledglings, may become separated from their parents as they learn to fly. These are sometimes thought to be abandoned and brought to wildlife rehabilitators. Unless obviously injured, birds should be left where they are or lifted carefully back onto a branch to help them avoid predators (like outdoor cats), so they have the best chance at survival.

Ducklings and goslings frequently become separated from their mothers due to disturbance from humans or predators. If you spot young waterfowl without a mother, please leave them alone and leave the area so the mother can return.

Detections of highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) in Oregon continue this year and it is important to avoid close contact with waterfowl (ducks and geese). Do not feed ducks and geese. Feeding congregates susceptible birds and enables the disease to spread between birds more easily. Also, note that Oregon’s wildlife rehabilitators are not currently accepting sick ducks and geese to protect other avian patients and education birds in their care.

Removing an animal from the wild often does more harm than good. Please respect wildlife and if you care – leave them there.

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How Rep. Charlie Conrad changed his mind to vote for abortion, gender-affirming care

Talking with doctors and parents of trans kids persuaded him

By Jukia Shumway
Oregon Capital Chronicle

Everyone at the Oregon Capitol knew how an April committee vote on legislative Democrats’ sweeping measure to expand access to abortion and gender-affirming care would go.

Democrats who hold the majority in the Legislature believe voters gave them a mandate to pass House Bill 2002, which would protect medical providers from prosecution for providing reproductive health care or gender-affirming care. Republicans adamantly opposed it, focusing most of their ire on provisions in the bill allowing minors of any age to obtain abortions, contraception and other reproductive care without their parents’ knowledge and teens 15 or older to access gender-affirming care without their parents knowing.

But what followed that vote was a surprise: One Republican, who has voted with the party on many bills, changed his mind on HB 2002 after doing more research.

Charlie Conrad, a freshman representative and former police officer from the small unincorporated community of Dexter in rural Lane County, joined fellow Republicans in voting against it in the House Behavioral Health and Health Care Committee. He worried that young people would succumb to social pressure or poor decision-making skills and go down a path of medical transition that they’d come to regret.

“We need to do better for them, and we need to protect them,” he said before voting against the bill.

But then, as Conrad later explained in an interview with the Capital Chronicle, he realized that he wasn’t comfortable with what he knew about gender-affirming care.

“I haven’t had personal experience with that,” he said. “I don’t have any friends or family that have gone through that, or friends that have had kids that have gone through that. That’s a realm that I don’t have a lot of personal and relevant experience with.”

So he decided to learn what he could. He reached out to health care providers, who helped him connect with parents of trans kids and learn more about what kind of care is provided for minors. And nearly a month later, when Conrad got his next chance to vote on House Bill 2002 on the House floor, he joined every Democrat in voting for it while every other Republican voted no.

Conrad didn’t speak about the bill on the floor while fellow Republicans spent hours trying to derail it by sending it back to committees or postponing the vote indefinitely or for months. He voted for those attempts – explaining later that he supported efforts to have more public input and discussion about the bill.

Other Republicans knew ahead of time that he would vote for the measure, but that vote came as a surprise to Capitol observers.



Rep. Charlie Conrad, R-Dexter, voted for a bill intended to guarantee access to abortion and gender-affirming care after doing more research.

Conrad explained it in a three-page letter the next day.

He described what he learned after the committee hearing – that doctors follow established standards of care, and that gender-affirming treatment for minors generally doesn’t include surgeries or other irreversible changes. He concluded that doctors and other health care providers should be free to provide services without government interference or harassment.

“My concerns are lessened knowing medical providers have adopted and are adhering to these standards,” Conrad wrote. “I trust that highly trained medical professionals and the respective licensing boards will address any lax practitioners that prove too eager to provide irreversible medical treatment to minors.”

Doing research
Conrad said he thinks about the difference between possibilities and probabilities when considering policies. Some opponents of HB 2002 have focused on the most extreme possibilities – things like 10-year-old girls receiving abortions or troubled teens obtaining genital surgeries behind their parents’ backs – but Conrad wanted to know what’s likely to happen.

“How often, really, is a doctor going to start certain surgical procedures that are irreversible on a 13-year-old? The possibility of that happening – technically, it’s there, but the probability is so small,” he said.

He read standards of care established by the World Professional Association for Transgender Health, which sets guidelines for gender-affirming care. It doesn’t recommend any medical intervention for children pre-puberty, but instead that parents and other adults provide social support, such as allowing a child to use a different name or change their hair or clothing to feel more comfortable.

Those standards also call for avoiding gender-affirming surgery until adulthood, while allowing some adolescents to take medication delaying or halting hormonal changes that come with puberty. Blocking testosterone or estrogen slows development of secondary sex characteristics, such as deep voices and facial hair in male people and breast growth and menstruation in female people.

Conrad also learned that doctors strive to involve parents whenever they can, both when children ex-

plore their gender identity and when a young person is seeking reproductive health care, including abortions. But in some cases, parents don’t support their kids.

He met one mother of a transgender teenager who described how her child’s friend, also transgender, was kicked out of their house by unaccepting parents. That tracked with Conrad’s 14 years working as a Springfield police officer, where he encountered many children with irresponsible parents.

“There are parents that have no business being a parent,” he said. “They abandon their children, they leave their children to fend for themselves. And now you have children, juveniles that need assistance, are looking for something and this will allow other adults to be able to come in and help that child out and help guide them through that process.”

Conrad said he tries to take the same approach of learning as much as possible about the issues covered in every bill. He serves on House committees that handle criminal justice, health care, behavioral health, veterans and emergency management, and he spends a lot of time talking to law enforcement, health care providers, attorneys and others in Lane County.

Rep. Dacia Grayber, D-Tigard and the chair of the House Committee on Emergency Management, General Government, and Veterans, said Conrad should win an award for asking the best questions if such an award existed.

Conrad didn’t speak directly with representatives from Basic Rights Oregon, the LGBTQ advocacy group that’s championing HB 2002. But Blair Stenvick, the organization’s communications director, said Conrad’s experience learning more about gender-affirming care and concluding that it’s a decision best left to doctors and patients tracks with polling they’ve seen.

“Once folks learn more about what gender-affirming care is, how it works, the steps that a person and their doctor goes through to start that care, it seems like people often come around,” Stenvick said.

The rare Republican
Conrad describes himself as a “pro-choice Republican,” an increasingly endangered group in Oregon politics although recent surveys demonstrate that 72% of all Oregon voters and 42% of Republican voters believe abortion should be legal in most or all cases.

Oregon voters most recently weighed in on abortion in 2018, soundly defeating a ballot measure that would have barred public funding for abortion. That attempt to limit abortion failed in several rural and exurban counties won by Donald Trump in 2020 and Republican gubernatorial candidates Knute Buehler and Christine Dragan in 2018 and 2022.

Buehler and 2016 Republican gubernatorial nominee Bud Pierce

supported abortion rights, as did Buehler’s Republican successor in the state House, Cheri Helt. After Buehler lost his 2020 primary for the 2nd Congressional District – now represented by anti-abortion U.S. Rep. Cliff Bentz – and Helt lost her 2020 general election, Oregon Right to Life trumpeted “the era of pro-choice Republicans in Oregon is over.”

Conrad said he didn’t lead with supporting abortion rights when he ran, but he didn’t hide from it either. His campaign website describes how people are inherently different, and the state should enable them to follow their own beliefs. His district, which extends west into rural Lane County from the south hills of Eugene, is almost an even three-way split of Republicans, Democrats and non-affiliated voters.

He said he heard from constituents who agreed and disagreed with him after the vote. Inside the Capitol, Conrad said he only en-

countered respect from fellow Republicans who disagreed with his vote but respected that he voted his conscience.

That includes Rep. Ed Diehl, R-Stayton, who has been the most outspoken opponent of HB 2002. Diehl, also a freshman legislator, said Republican leaders have never told him or any other caucus members how to vote on bills, and they’re free to disagree and debate bills publicly without fear of repercussions.

“I have a ton of respect for Charlie, and he’s got his reasons,” Diehl said. “I’ll just leave it at that. But I do have a ton of respect for him.”

Conrad said he thinks about how he’s representing the 70,000 people in his district, and how he represents the other Oregon Republicans who support abortion rights. If that means he faces a primary challenge in 2024, so be it.

“Once session is over, and I’m going around and I’m talking to folks, undoubtedly, it’s going to come up,” he said. “This is who I am. I’m working hard to represent you, and if I’m not the right person for you, then please go to the ballot and choose somebody that does represent you. But this is who I am.”

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