

## JP Doodles

Someone getting the  
"September Blues?"

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## Home Country

Threw a big monkey  
wrench into Billy's gearbox

PAGE 4



## Home Country

I shall miss my sister's weekly  
letters

PAGE 5

## \$4.7 million granted to communities impacted by fires

### McKenzie Valley projects receive \$1/2 million

The 2020 Community Rebuilding Fund, a collaborative effort led by the Oregon Community Foundation (OCF) in partnership with Meyer Memorial Trust, The Ford Family Foundation and American Red Cross, announced today \$4,439,256 in grants to support 40 organizations throughout the eight Oregon counties ravaged by fires.

Locally organizations receiving money include \$105,000 to the non-profit McKenzie Community Communications group to build a GMRS repeater

network and distribute radios that will provide emergency connectivity before another disaster strikes.

The McKenzie School District was granted \$95,000 to build an affordable childcare program.

Receiving two grants was the newly formed McKenzie Valley LTRG of Lane County (Cascade Pacific Resource Conservation & Development, Inc.). \$107,250 was earmarked to fund construction materials and fire-wise landscaping to improve resiliency and

mitigate future events. Another \$149,600 was designated to support the McKenzie Valley LTRG's operations.

The remaining \$85,850 in grant money allocated to the area was awarded to the McKenzie River Trust to secure land and water resources made vulnerable by the Holiday Farm Fire. In addition, the Trust plans to secure financial, land, and water resources they say will be critical for community recovery.

"Fire is inevitable, catastrophes are not," said Sonia Worcel, Chief Community Impact Officer, Oregon Community Foundation. "Working together, we can reduce the risks of devastating fires now and in the future while ensuring that communities and philanthropic organizations are able to respond effectively. We will continue to be collaborative, nimble, and forward-thinking, as we support community-led solutions to address crisis in our state."



Volunteers have played essential roles as the McKenzie Valley recovers from the 2020 Holiday Farm Fire.

## Trillion dollar bill includes \$2.8 billion for Salmon recovery

### Another billion for culvert removal, replacement

The \$1.2 trillion infrastructure package recently approved by the U.S. Senate includes a \$2.855 billion investment in salmon recovery and ecosystem restoration programs, as well as tens of billions of dollars allocated for water infrastructure.

The bill, which has moved on to the U.S. House of Representatives, awaits decisions on final passage this fall.

Language in the Senate version includes \$1 billion for the U.S. Department of Transportation to create a new program aimed at removing, replacing or restoring culverts. Those expenditures are targeted on recovery of salmon passage and habitats. It would be the first federal program devoted entirely to culverts.

The money would pro-

vide grants to states for the removal, replacement, and restoration of culverts to address flow of water through roads, bridges, railroad tracks, and trails. It would include a competitive grant program to be administered by the Department of Transportation in consultation with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and the US Fish and Wildlife Service.

\$172 million would go for NOAA's Pacific Coastal Salmon Recovery Fund, a

**Trillion dollar bill - Page 2**



A lot of culverts running under roads and bridges could be upgraded under the federal infrastructure bill.

## Upriver driver hospitalized



Steve Severin

**RAINBOW:** First responders from the Upper McKenzie Rural Fire Protection District quickly responded last Thursday to the report of a single vehicle accident, with entrapment, at 54947 McKenzie Hwy. According to Lane County Sheriff's Office reports, the driver, 72-year-old Akiva Vonmendissohn of Blue River, reportedly fell asleep and struck a guardrail at 3:18 p.m. A witness told investigators that the vehicle had been traveling eastbound at approximately 50 mph prior to the crash. Vonmendissohn was transported to an area hospital where deputies responded to take a report.

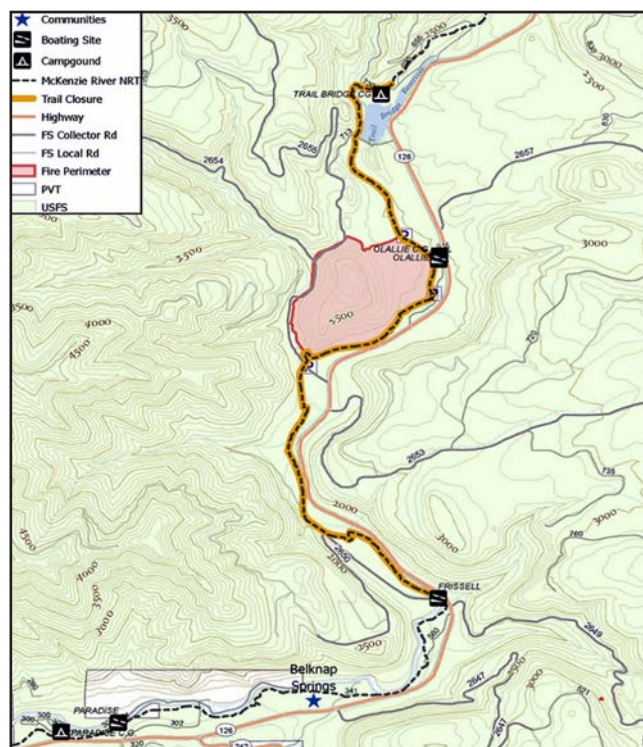
## Firefighters keep Knoll Fire under control

### Command taken over by McKenzie District

"The fire isn't completely out until it's black and it's cold," explained Randy Johnson during Monday night's online briefing on fires burning on federal lands near McKenzie Bridge and Oakridge. Johnson, Incident Commander for the Knoll Fire and Middle Fork Fire Complex, told onlookers that the recent clearer weather and winds associated with it were some things firefighters welcomed.

The clearer skies provided opportunities to observe fire activities from the air. "It showed us where the fire is situated, where the weak spots are and where it has the ability to burn," he added. Besides getting a look from above, air crews were also able to resume water drops that had been grounded.

Johnson had good news for McKenzie Valley residents. "The Knoll Fire is looking really good and was turned back to the Ranger District on Monday," he reported. That meant local crews would be



The good news, according to firefighters, is that the Knoll Fire, which encompassed 544 acres on August 17<sup>th</sup>, has been stopped from spreading.

tasked with patrol and mop up operations as well as making sure it stayed within confinement lines.

He also offered encouragement to people over in the Oakridge-Westfir area when he noted that Fire

Evacuation notices there had been reduced from a Level 2 to a Level 1.

In the weeks to come crews will continue operations to keep the fires within their containment lines, Johnson said.



# Letters to the Editor

## Thanks to Sen. Prozanski and Rep. Hayden

Vida McKenzie Community Center is absolutely thrilled to announce being awarded \$240K from Sen. Floyd Prozanski and another \$240K from Rep. Cedric Hayden from a legislator’s discretionary fund. VMCC receive these funds specifically for the re-building of its 70+ year old facility, destroyed in the Holiday Farm Fire. Adding \$480K to the monies already raised through other grants and community fundraising efforts, VMCC is hopefully on track to open its doors in September, 2022, just two years after the fire.

In response to this generous grant, Project Manager Craig Gustafson has launched the search for the general contractor who will execute the build. Architect Jesse Elliot is putting the final touches on the detailed drawings and, in just a few days, the building site on Thompson Lane should become a “clean slate” for all involved to move forward with creating the Center’s new home.

This does not mean VMCC’s Board will cease fundraising activities, however. The new building still needs to be furnished and equipped to meet the community’s current and future needs. For the next year, 2nd Saturday Bingo Nights will take place at

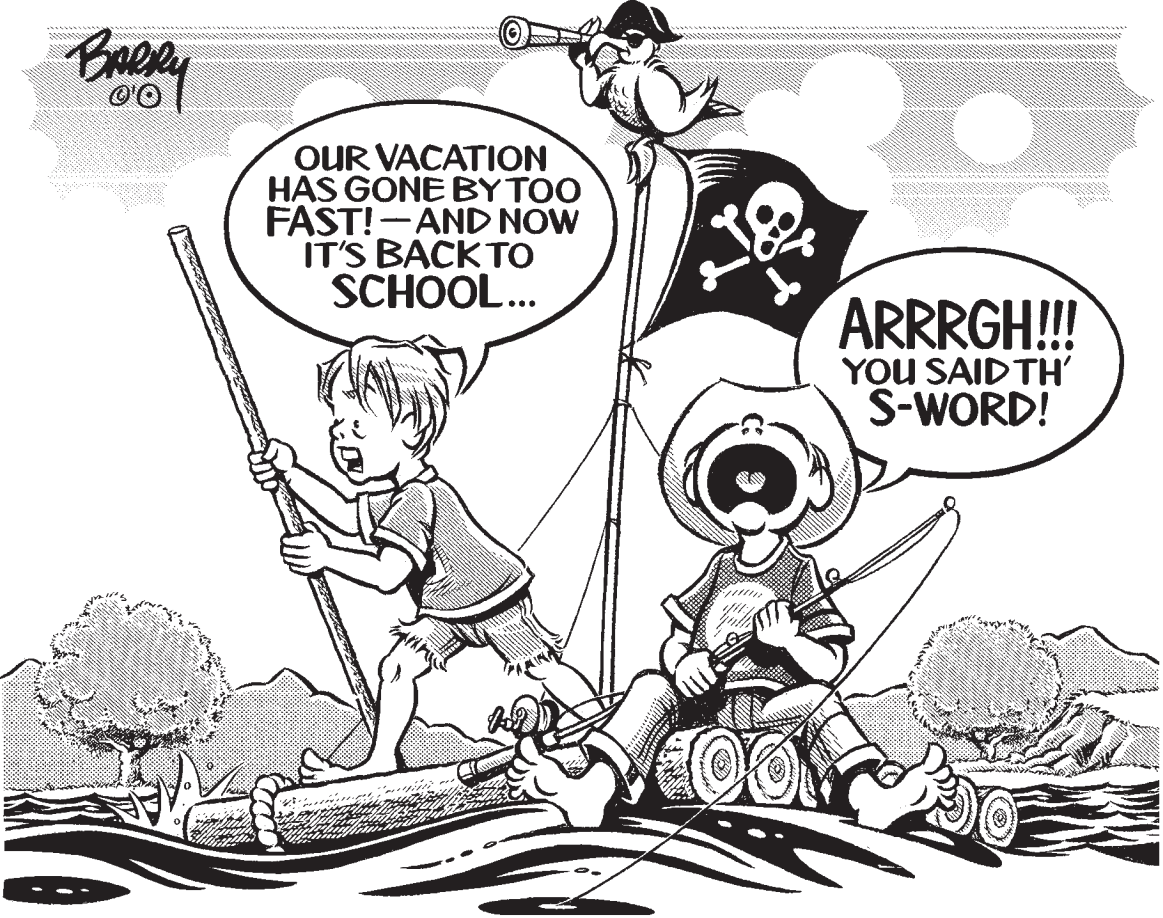
McKenzie Valley Presbyterian Church. There will be a Fire (Pun Intended) Sale at the Big Red Barn in downtown Vida on 8/21/21 and those wonderful Butter Braid pastries will go on sale in October.

Vida McKenzie Community Center is a non-profit 501c3. Every penny raised goes directly to providing the McKenzie Valley with a welcoming and accessible space where the community experiences art and culture, celebrates, mourns, learns and prospers.

Gerry Aster, Vice-President and Secretary  
Vida McKenzie Community Center

## 70th Annual Fair

The Walterville Grange would like you to join us at the 70th annual Walterville Community Fair on September 11 from 7 AM to 4 PM. The Walterville Waddle will begin at 8 AM (signup is online only this year). Fair entries (your canning, baking, garden produce, arts/crafts, photography, antiques, flowers, sewing and handcrafts) should be brought to the hall from 7:30 to 9:30 AM and judging will start at 9:30 AM. Flag raising will be at 10 AM by the Boy Scouts. The parade will begin at 11 AM (contact Dani Wright to enter in the parade). The famous Walterville chicken barbeque dinner will begin at 11:30 for \$10 including 1/2 chicken, corn on the cob, coleslaw, baked beans, and dessert; there will also be hotdogs



for \$2 for those who prefer them. Raffle tickets will be sold and the raffle drawing will be held at 3 PM. There will also be car show. There will be lots of vendors to shop from during this event. The festivities will be taking place at the Walterville Community Center located at 39259 Camp Creek Road in Walterville. Events subject to change according to COVID-19 rules/precautions. For more information call 541-521-4760 (please leave a message - call will be returned).”

# Trillion dollar bill

Continued From Page 1

grants program that provides funding to states and Tribes to protect, conserve, and restore West Coast salmon.

Projects have included fixing or removing obstacles to fish migration, opening up streams for salmon habitat, planting trees and shrubs along streams to provide ideal habitat conditions, decreasing the amount of soil flowing into streams, changing river flows and opening miles of transition areas for salmon headed to and from the sea. According to NOAA, several studies indicate that a \$1 million investment in watershed restoration creates between 13 and 32 jobs and \$2.2 and \$3.4 million in economic activity.

Another \$400 million for the creation of a new community-based restoration program would focus on removing fish passage barriers – with 15% of the money set aside for Tribes and Tribal partnerships. Another \$200 million is for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service’s National Fish Passage Program.

Other parts of the bill include \$500 million for Forest Service Community Defense Grants to support community-led efforts to improve community wildfire readiness, planning actions, and removing vegetation.

That would be matched by

\$500 million for prescribed fires to reduce fuel loads and large fire risk and the same amount to do mechanical thinning and timber harvests to promote fire-resilient stands

Also with fire in mind would be \$500 million to develop fire control points, including the creation of fuelbreaks. \$200 million is planned for removing flammable vegetation to create biochar or innovative woodproducts, with a note for agencies to consider working with youth and conservation corps, and engage with Tribes and veterans.

Overall, the Biden White House says the sweeping “Bipartisan Infrastructure Framework” would:

Improve healthy, sustainable transportation options for millions of Americans by modernizing and expanding transit and rail networks across the country, while reducing greenhouse gas emissions. The Plan is the largest federal investment in public transit in history and is the largest federal investment in passenger rail since the creation of Amtrak.

Repair and rebuild our roads and bridges with a focus on climate change mitigation, resilience, equity, and safety for all users, including cyclists and pedestrians. The Bipartisan Infrastructure Framework is the single largest

dedicated bridge investment since the construction of the interstate highway system.

Build a national network of electric vehicle (EV) chargers along highways and in rural and disadvantaged communities. The largest investment in EV infrastructure in history, the Bipartisan Infrastructure Framework will accomplish the President’s goal of building 500,000 EV chargers.

Electrify thousands of school and transit buses across the country to reduce harmful emissions and drive domestic manufacturing of zero emission vehicles and components.

Eliminate the nation’s lead service lines and pipes, delivering clean drinking water to up to ten million American families and more than 400,000 schools and child care facilities that currently don’t have it, including in Tribal nations and disadvantaged communities. The Plan is the largest investment in clean drinking water and waste water infrastructure in American history.

Connect every American to reliable high-speed internet, just as the federal government made a historic effort to provide electricity to every American nearly one hundred years ago.

## 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.

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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
8/10	94	57	0	480 cfs	8/10	90	52	0	1,790 cfs
8/11	102	67	0	550 cfs	8/11	98	59	0	1,970 cfs
8/12	100	71	0	560 cfs	8/12	98	61	0	1,950 cfs
8/13	95	69	0	550 cfs	8/13	99	63	0	1,910 cfs
8/14	98	66	0	550 cfs	8/14	90	61	0	1,960 cfs
8/15	94	69	0	550 cfs	8/15	94	62	0	1,920 cfs
8/16	89	60	0	550 cfs	8/16	92	56	0	1,900 cfs

Friday 8/20		Saturday 8/21		Sunday 8/22	
McKenzie Valley Partly Cloudy 10% chance precip High: 78 Low: 54	Santiam Pass Mostly Sunny 10% chance precip High: 66 Low: 42	McKenzie Valley Mostly Sunny 10% chance precip High: 81 Low: 53	Santiam Pass Mostly Sunny 10% chance precip High: 68 Low: 42	McKenzie Valley Sunny 10% chance precip High: 81 Low: 51	Santiam Pass Sunny 0% chance precip High: 68 Low: 40



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# Sordid slasher murder still baffling 100 years later

By Finn J.D. John  
CONTINUED FROM LAST WEEK

The trial started on July 27 with the state presenting its evidence. It looked pretty damning, at least at first. The physician who was called to help the dying Harry Agee testified that as far as he could tell, Louise’s side of the bed had not been slept in; the pillow was still fluffy.

Klecker, the music teacher, took the stand and told his stag-magazine story about Louise’s unrequited passion for him. He went on to “confess” that they had been “inappropriately intimate” several times during trombone lessons. The crowd murmured disapprovingly. Louise looked through him as if he weren’t there.

Then it was attorney Collier’s turn for cross-examination. He immediately put Klecker on the defensive with a series of questions about the timing and relevance of the “infidelity” testimony, which culminated when he suddenly stooped and pulled a dark, blood-stained overcoat out of a traveling bag at his feet.

“Did you ever see that coat before?” he demanded.

It was a complete surprise to everyone in the courtroom: a dark overcoat corresponding to what Louise Agee had said the intruder wore, liberally stained in human blood, with a sharp (and also bloody) hunting knife in one pocket and a sheet of trombone music in the other.

As everyone subsequently learned, the coat had been found rolled up under a fern by J.D.



This set of mugshots ran in the Portland Morning Oregonian on July 29, 1921. From left to right, John A. Collier, attorney for Louise Agee; Joseph Klecker, the state’s star witness in the case, who claimed Ms. Agee had vamped him a la “Mrs. Robinson” during trombone lessons; and Assistant District Attorney Joseph Hammersly.

Swing, Louise Agee’s father. Swing said that after it became clear that the police had quit looking for further clues, having become convinced that they’d already solved the case and need not bother further with it, he’d spent most of his time in Portland hunting through the neighborhood looking for more evidence. He doesn’t specifically say, but he probably had some idea of finding the murder weapon. Medical examiners had already testified that the wound in Harry Agee’s throat was of an odd shape for a razor cut. It was deep in the middle and shallow at both ends, with impact damage on the lip of the cut as if the fixed hilt of a knife had struck the flesh as the blade sliced through. The wound could

have been inflicted by a razor, probably, they said; but a short, very sharp knife was a more likely weapon.

During Swing’s search for that weapon, he had come across a tightly rolled bundle under a clump of ferns. He saw it tucked in there when he parted the ferns with his walking stick; then, before touching it, he ran down the block and got a couple of passers-by to witness his find. They came and, as they watched, he unrolled the coat and found the knife and music sheet in the pockets.

Swing had then contacted attorney Collier to ask him what he should do with the find, and Collier told him to hand it over and keep his mouth shut. Then, at the exact moment in the trial

when it would have the greatest psychological impact, he produced it in court with a flourish. (This is the sort of legal tactic that would never fly on “Perry Mason,” but apparently in 1921 the rules of discovery were different.)

Was it real, this coat, or was it a plant? Subsequent testing gave conflicting answers. The blood on the coat and knife was human, and there was a lot of it. It was hard to imagine how the thing could be faked up; somebody would have had to “donate” several pints of blood to do so. But a late summer storm had dumped over an inch of water on Portland in the four weeks the coat had supposedly been rolled up under the fern, and the blood wasn’t washed away and the sheet music wasn’t water



By Slim Randles

Almost all of us know how to pronounce pandemic now, and we have a pretty good idea of what it means since everyone we know spent more than a year under virtual house arrest.

But that didn’t help Billy much. Billy’s our town dog, of course. He’s been our town dog since Sally passed away on Doc’s porch, and Billy’s owner died two weeks later. Sometimes an honored position doesn’t require an election.

Billy took right to it. He made his daily rounds to the back door of the Chinese restaurant and the Mule Barn coffee shop. He drifted over to the Rest of Your Life retirement home often to give the old folks another reason to enjoy life.

And there was his job, too. Every weekday morning Billy was on duty at the street crossing where the kids went to school. Martin, the crossing guard, was always there with his vest and his sign, and Billy was the official cross-the-street escort.

But when the pandemic hit, the kids were suddenly home schooled and Martin stayed home as well. This threw a big monkey wrench into Billy’s gearbox.

So about once a week, a bunch of us masked coffee drinkers would go to the school intersection and stand there until Billy showed up. He’d look both ways and take us across the street, and then continue on his daily rounds.

Just because we’re in a pandemic doesn’t mean we can’t do our job.

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### Gardening Tips

By Kym Pokorny



**Oregon State University**  
OSU Extension Service

### Start planning for cover crops

No one wants to think of harvest's end as the vegetable garden reaches peak, but now's the time to plan for cover crops to be planted in fall.

Cover crops, also called green manure, include grains like winter oats and cereal rye. Legumes, such as commonly used crimson clover, Austrian field pea and common vetch, are nitrogen "fixers." Beneficial bacteria in legume root nodules take nitrogen from the air and supply it to the plant. When the cover crop decomposes, some of the nitrogen becomes available to other plants.

If you're not acquainted with cover crops, here's the rundown: These hardworking plants can add organic matter and aerate the soil, protect it from compaction caused by rain, suppress weeds and reduce erosion, according to Nick Andrews, organic vegetable advisor for Oregon State University Extension Service. As a bonus, their blooms provide nectar and pollen for pollinators and other beneficial insects.

Not a bad deal for an almost no-maintenance plant. All that's needed is to seed it in, water a couple of times until the rains start, leave it through winter and dig or till it in spring. However, timing is key. Plant seeds of overwintering cover crops by September or early October so they get established before the weather turns cold and wet.

Make sure when you plant that the seed has good contact with the soil. Larger seeds like peas, vetch and cereals should be raked in lightly. Mix small seeds with sand to make them easier to broadcast and then use a sprinkler to water in. If the weather is still dry, keep the area irrigated.

It's also important that plants are cut or mown down in spring before they set seed. In our climate, most gardeners incorporate cover crop residue to promote decomposition. Do this about four weeks before planting vegetables so the crop decomposes well, otherwise it can promote some soil-borne diseases and attract some insect pests. If you don't have four weeks for the cover crop to decompose, you can remove the stems and leaves and apply them somewhere else as a mulch or compost them. For vegetables you're harvesting after early October, consider inter-seeding during the summer.

"It all depends on when you need to get your vegetables in," Andrews said. "It's best to let cover crops decompose before you plant, especially for vegetables that you start from seed."

When it comes time to incorporate the cover crop, till shorter plants right into the soil. If the plant is too tall to turn under easily, mow first or use a weed





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trimmer. Tough-stemmed plants can be cut and left to decompose above ground. Or you can put the tops in the compost pile and dig in the roots. No matter the method, let the turned-under material sit until it's time to plant.

For beginners, Andrews advises:

Start with a cover crop that is easy to grow and manage. For example, crimson clover and phacelia are relatively easy to incorporate into the soil.

Be sure to prepare your field well and have sprinklers available if the weather is dry. It's a good idea to water the soil a bit before preparing the seedbed if the soil is very dry.

The first time you try cover crops, plant them in an area of your garden that you can leave for vegetables typically planted in late spring or early summer. This will buy you time to learn how to manage the cover crop residues in spring.

After you have successfully used one cover crop, try another in a different area of your garden. Then when you gain experience, experiment with mixtures, reduced tillage and other innovative practices.

Consider inter-seeding cover crops during the summer into late-harvested crops like sweet corn, winter squash and tomatoes.

For more information, refer to these publications Cover Crops for Home Gardeners East of the Cascades and West of the Cascades; and Methods for Successful Cover Crop Management for Gardeners, publications by Washington State University that Andrews collaborated on.



### Country Kitchen

By Mary Emma Allen



### THE WONDER OF A SISTER'S ART & POETRY

I shall miss my sister's weekly letters (sometimes more frequently) with accounts of her daily activities in the assisted living home. She also enclosed poetry she's written, as well as art. Much of this consisted of memories of life on our farm when we were growing up.

She was a cancer survivor and had lost her left eye to the disease. Yet she still inspired others with her art and poetry and uplifting letters. Pauline passed away this month, but left a legacy of cheer for friends and family and those who just now are reading and viewing her work.

Family of Poets

She and I come from a family of poets. Our maternal grandfather, Burton B. Coon, was a published writer and had many poems in print, as well. My mother read these to us when we were children. I've also come across some of his unpublished ones midst family papers.

Mother wasn't a published poet. However, she inherited her father's talent for rhyme and rhythm. She jotted down poems, along with sketches of her subjects, in letters to my daughter and me. I've also found notebooks and scraps of paper with some of her poetic thoughts.

I don't know why I started writing poetry when I was in college. Some of mine have been published and others simply exist in my notebooks. At one point I described these as "poems instead of photographs." Pauline encouraged me to contribute my poems for the periodic poetry readings at one of the nursing homes where she resided for several years.

My granddaughter wrote poetry in school and some of it has been published as well. My daughter has written stories and poetry, as has my grandson.

Pauline's daughter has collected some of her mom's art and poetry into an online collection.

Sour Cream Coffee Cake - a way to start the day.

Mix together with a beater: 1 package yellow cake mix, 1/2 cup oil, 1 package instant vanilla pudding, 1/2 pint sour cream, 4 eggs. Pour half the batter into a large greased tube pan. Sprinkle with a mixture of cinnamon and sugar. Then sprinkle with chopped nuts and chocolate bits.

Pour in remaining batter and sprinkle with cinnamon/sugar and nuts/chocolate bits. (You can leave out nuts and/or chocolate bits, as desired.)

Bake at 350 degrees F. for 60 minutes, or until tests done when pick is inserted.

(c) Mary Emma Allen

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

# McKenzie Phone Book



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### Searchable cellphone and landline database

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# Sheriff's Report

**Continued From Page 3**

Mischief - 90000 blk, Marcola Rd. A vehicle with broken windows was reported to have broken down and been left in the area.

**9:28 p.m:** Suspicious Vehicle - 90000 blk, Marcola Rd.

**9:50 p.m:** Driving Under Influence of Intoxicants - Saunders Rd. & Marcola Rd.

**9:50 p.m:** Vehicle Stop - Aufderheide Mp. 1.

**Aug. 13: 12:30 a.m:** Motor Vehicle Accident, No Injury - 33500 blk, McK. View Dr.

**11:05 a.m:** Suspicious Conditions - Marcola Rd. Mp. 6 - 7.

**1:18 p.m:** Vehicle Stop - McK. Hwy. & N. Bank Rd.

**1:26 p.m:** Vandalism, Criminal Mischief - McK. Hwy. & N. Bank Rd.

**4:23 a.m:** Illegal Burn - Greenwood Dr. & McK. Hwy.

**4:44 p.m:** Motor Vehicle Accident, No Injury - McK. Hwy. Mp. 52.

**7:48 p.m:** Restraining Order Service - 87000 blk, Cedar Flat Rd.

**8:07 p.m:** Unlawful Entry Motor Vehicle - Paradise Campground.

**8:10 p.m:** Animal Abuse - 92100 blk, Marcola Rd.

**10:19 p.m:** Assist, Information - 87000 blk, Cedar Flat Rd.

**Aug. 14: 12:23 a.m:** Loud Noise - 88000 blk, East of Eden Rd.

**2:04 a.m:** Suspicious Vehicle - Aufderheide Rd.

**4:23 a.m:** Illegal Burn - Greenwood Dr. & McK. Hwy.

**8:56 a.m:** Animal Complaint - 39 000 blk, Ann Ln.

**3:11 p.m:** Vehicle Stop - McK. Hwy. & Mp. 51.

**4:19 p.m:** Vehicle Stop - McK. Hwy. & Mp. 43.

**4:32 p.m:** Vehicle Stop - McK. Hwy. & Mp. 41.

**4:34 p.m:** Vehicle Stop - McK. Hwy. & Mp. 52.

**7:35 p.m:** Vehicle In Water -

Bridge St. & Holden Creek Ln. A black Suburban was reported to have been in shallow water under the Bridge St. bridge. The vehicle left the area moments later.

**9:28 p.m:** Down Line - 37000 blk, Upper Camp Creek Rd.

**9:40 p.m:** Alarm - 90000 blk, La Lone Rd.

**11:11 p.m:** Medical Info Call - 91000 blk, Marcola Rd.

**Aug. 15: 12:23 a.m:** Loud Noise - 88500 blk, East of Eden Rd.

**7:04 a.m:** Assist Fire Dept. - McK. Hwy Mp. 29.

**10:56 a.m:** Civil Service - 95000 blk, Spring Valley Ln.

**11:09 a.m:** Threat, Harassment - Lat: 44.175725 Long: -122.143893. Caller advised that a male camping in the area threatened to harm people that touch his stuff.

**1:55 p.m:** Assist Fire Dept. - Deer Creek Hot Springs.

**2:18 p.m:** Assist Motorist - McK. Hwy Mp. 34.

**4:57 p.m:** Subpoena Service - 51700 blk, Dexter St.

**5:36 p.m:** Family, Unattended Children - 56900 blk, N. Bank Rd.

**6:10 p.m:** Abandoned Vehicle - Quartz Creek Rd. Mp. 1.

**6:35 p.m:** Suspicious Conditions - 90300 blk, Sunderman Rd.

**6:38 p.m:** Reckless Endangering - 8000 blk, Thurston Rd. Caller reported that neighbors were target practicing on hay bales.

**7:25 p.m:** Abandoned Vehicle - Old Mohawk Rd. & Marcola Rd.

**9:31 p.m:** Assist Outside Agency - 87900 blk, Keola Ct.

**Aug. 16: 10:34 a.m:** Assist, Follow Up - Bridge St. & Holden Creek Ln.

**10:44 a.m:** Suspicious Subject - 88900 blk, Skyhigh Dr. Caller reported that male driving a red and white motorcycle with bigger tires was seen driving through the neighborhood, possibly casing houses.

**11:28 a.m:** Disorderly Subject - 90300 blk, Sunderman Rd.

**11:40 a.m:** Assist Fire Dept. - 90300 blk, Sunderman Rd.

**12:00 p.m:** Assist Outside

Agency - 87900 blk, Keola Ct.

**12:02 p.m:** Fraud - 90100 blk, Hill Rd.

**1:04 p.m:** Disturbance, Dispute - 92800 blk, Saddle View Dr. Caller was involved in a verbal dispute with a former family member. Deputies made contact and determined a crime had not occurred.

**1:29 p.m:** Traffic Hazard - Marcola Rd. & Carson St.

**3:46 p.m:** Citizen Contact - 45800 blk, McK. Hwy.

**3:59 p.m:** Restraining Order Service - 88100 blk, Tiki Ln.

**4:22 p.m:** Suspicious Conditions - 49500 blk, McK. Hwy. An area resident advised that a neighbor's windows were broken out.

## State Police Report

**Continued From Page 3**

onto the eastbound shoulder. The vehicle's left front struck a down tree. The driver was uninjured and did not require a tow.

**Aug. 14: 10:45:** Crash, Non-Injury - Hwy. 126E, Mp 27. Dispatched to a report of a hit & run accident. Unit #1 was eastbound. Female operator was attempting to make a left hand turn into a driveway to turn around when Unit #2 attempted to pass. Unit #2 struck Unit #1 on the driver's side and pushed #1 off the roadway. Involved: silver/aluminum Honda Accord, 82-year-old female.

## Upper McKenzie Fire/Rescue

**Continued From Page 3**

is a "small fire right up the road."

**Aug. 14: 20:29:** Medical - 50000 blk, McK Hwy. Female, Conscious, Breathing.

**20:29:** Medical - 50000 blk, McK Hwy. Female, Conscious, Breathing.

**Aug. 15: 04:41:** Medical - 50000 blk, McK Hwy.

**04:41:** Medical - 50000 blk, McK Hwy. Female, Conscious, Breathing.

**Aug. 16: 23:48:** Brush Fire - MP14 Clear Lake Cutoff, by Deer Creek Rd. Tree is on fire.

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# Community Notes

**August 21 Fire Sale**

Fire (Pun Intended) Sale on the Community Calendar. It takes place on 8/21/21 from 8-3 at the Big Red Barn in Downtown Vida.

**August 21 A Dime At A Time**



10:00am - 12:00pm. Leaburg Store, 42840 McKenzie Hwy. Blue River Bottle Boys Collection/Sorting - Saturday morning sorting sessions every Saturday. Donations can be dropped off at the Leaburg Store and maybe help us bag up the containers! Funds from plastic, glass, and aluminum containers go toward the rebuilding of the O'Brien Memorial Library in Blue River, McKenzie River Clinic, and the Vida McKenzie Community Center - all destroyed in the Holiday Farm fire.

**August 28 - Leaburg Food Pantry**



11am - 5pm. McKenzie Bible Fellowship, 45061 McKen-zie Hwy. The Food Pantry is now on Saturdays. All are welcome! Please send folks!

**June 26 - A Dime At A Time**



10:00am-12:00pm. Leaburg Store, 42840 McKenzie Hwy. Blue River Bottle Boys Collection/Sorting - Saturday morning sorting sessions every Saturday. Donations can be dropped off at the Leaburg Store and maybe help us bag up the containers! Funds from plastic, glass, and aluminum containers go toward the rebuilding of the O'Brien Memorial Library in

Blue River, McKenzie River Clinic, and the Vida McKenzie Community Center - all destroyed in the Holiday Farm fire.

**September 11 Waltherville Fair**



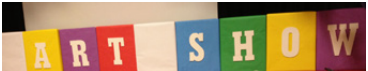
The Waltherville Grange has plans to hold the annual Waltherville Community Fair this year on September 11, including the 5K Waddle, parade, barbeque chicken dinner, and all the usual fair festivities. People can participate by planning to enter baked goods, canning, flowers, arts, crafts, and handmade creations in the fair to make up for missing last year due to COVID. Vendors tables will also be available at \$10. Contact Paula at 541-561-3407 to reserve a table space.

**September 15 Upper McK Fire Board**



7 - 8:00pm. 5 Upper McKenzie Fire District Board of Directors monthly meeting. At the fire station, 6578 McKenzie Hwy, 541-822-3479

**September 4-6 Art Show Cancelled**



The September 4, 5 & 6 McKenzie Artist Guild Art show is canceled at the Leaburg fire station due to Covid spread.

**Be a board member**

The McKenzie Community Track and Field has vacancies on the board of directors. If you have an interest in contributing your talents to our great community, our board of directors would welcome you. The executive committee will be conducting interviews for the positions during the week of August 22nd through August 28th. If you are interested, please send a brief letter why you would be a good fit for our board to one of the following: Email—indianpaintbrush@wyoming.com Or snail mail — MCTF, P.O. Box 316, Blue River, OR 97413

**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  
52353 McKenzie Hwy - Milepost 42  
Just east of Blue River 541-822-3820  
Sunday: 9:30 am - Sunday School for all ages  
10:30 am - Worship Service & Children's Church  
6:00 pm - Bible Studies and Youth  
Thurs. 6 pm - Celebrate Recovery (12-Step Program)

**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**  
Worship is live-streamed, every Sunday at 10:30 am, on the Facebook page for McKenzie Valley Presbyterian Church. Comments on Facebook are appreciated! You may also contact the church for prayer requests, to request an emailed or earth-mailed bulletin, and other information. Phone or send email to Nancy Ashley, nancy.w.ashley@gmail.com, 541-914-1986. We look forward to hearing from our neighbors, either from a distance, or someday, in person!  
**Milepost 13 McKenzie Hwy. (541) 747-2604**

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# Direct Answers

By Wayne & Tamara Mirchell

### Hostage Situation

My husband applied for a job behind my back and accepted the job without my consent. He convinced me, if I came with him, it would only be for a year. He moved my son and me from sunny Southern California to freezing North Dakota.

The year came and went. We renegotiated a three-year stay for economic reasons, then had a second son. Well, that temporary stay came and went, and now it's been seven long, cold years! I've tried to be patient, but I can't stand these nine-month winters anymore!

He says he wants to continue to live here until the economy gets better back home, which will not likely happen for at least three or four more years. Ugh!

In order to stay home with my children, I have not been working. But now that my youngest is ready for kindergarten, I've asked my husband if I could seek a job to help us relocate. He says no, because I can't make as much money as he can. He has an IT degree, and in my field I can only make half what he does.

It gets worse.

He suffers from anxiety, so he has more fear than the average person. He has opened a separate bank account in his name in order to keep me from accessing our money. He puts \$900 a month in our joint account for me to buy food and other needs.

He then doles out food money to buy more groceries the second half of the month. I've told him I dislike how he has set up our

money and that the control is unfair.

For a year he's claimed he will add my name to the second account, but he has not done so. He is a conflict avoider, who tells me what I want to hear or tells me "this is not a good time" to discuss matters.

We have absolutely no family close by. I'm neglected emotionally, financially, and spiritually. I take my boys to church and attend weekly Bible study in order to have some friends and support.

But my patience has run out. I told him the boys and I are going home to my parents to spend time with my family. What he doesn't know is I'm going to pursue employment, and, if I succeed, get an apartment and live there with my children. I will offer to let him join us and sell our North Dakota home so we can restart in California. Or he can visit us all he can.

As it is, he is already in an uproar over me wanting to visit.

If it weren't for our boys, I would never have come here. I was trying to keep the family together.

Harper

Harper, doling out money and making major decisions without your consent makes you less a wife and more an indentured servant. Your position in the family is the same as your children. Powerless.

Your husband has clipped your wings to keep you from flying away, and the more you telegraph your feelings, the more he will tighten his grasp.

He's decided you aren't leaving, but he isn't saying that. Instead, he "tells me what I want to hear," which is an interesting euphemism for lying.

Whether he has anxiety issues or not doesn't matter. He doesn't have the right to take your life away from you. Whether you admit it to yourself or not, this marriage may be over.

You devised a plan. You thought it was fair. He did these things to me, I get to do this one thing to him. But you must consider the legal implications.

Before you do anything, privately and without your husband's knowledge, see a lawyer to sort out custody issues. You may need to have your parents pay for the attorney or even go to another town to ensure your visit is confidential.

In addition, your husband is in IT. Nearly everything you do on your home computer or phone is recoverable by someone with sophisticated knowledge. Take steps to make sure all your communications remain private.

If you are worried about his reaction (and you should be), you need to be very cautious about your safety and the safety of your children. Believing you can only leave him surreptitiously means you know he could be dangerous. A lawyer can advise you here as well.

You are not the proverbial bird in a gilded cage. You are a bird in a cage of ice—emotionally, financially, and spiritually. You need two plans, one legal and one for safety. Once you have them, the next step will emerge.

Wayne & Tamara

write: [Directanswers@WayneAndTamara.com](mailto:Directanswers@WayneAndTamara.com)

## American Life in Poetry

By Kwame Dawes

Carolyn Forché's ability to transport us to unusual places is a gift. Here in her poem, "Clouds", we learn of tart Russian Antinovka apples that become for her, personal symbols of the immigrant experience in America. In this tender poem about memory and movement, she skillfully manages to collapse time as she reflects on the lives of her parents.

### Clouds

By Carolyn Forché

A whip-poor-will brushed her wing along the ground a moment ago, fifty years in the orchard where my father kept pear and plum, a decade of peach trees and Antinovka's apples whose seeds come from Russia by ship under clouds islanding a window very past where also went the soul of my mother in a boat with blossoming sails like apple petals in wind fifty years at once.

We do not accept unsolicited submissions. American Life in Poetry is made possible by The Poetry Foundation ([www.poetryfoundation.org](http://www.poetryfoundation.org)), publisher of Poetry magazine. It is also supported by the Department of English at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. Poem copyright ©2020 by Carolyn Forché, "Clouds" from In the Lateness of the World (Penguin Publishing Group, 2020.) Poem reprinted by permission of the author and the publisher. Introduction copyright ©2021 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.

## 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 this week were: McKenzie River above Leaburg Dam - 833, McKenzie River below Leaburg Dam - 2,000, and Clear Lake - 5,400 (plus 250 trophy fish).

### Fish Counts

**August 12, Willamette Falls**  
Spring Chinook - 28,599  
Summer Steelhead - 1,453



**A Moment in Oregon History**

By Rick Steber ([www.rick-steber.com](http://www.rick-steber.com))

**August 19** - Russell Farnham left home at a young age, joined the Pacific Fur Company and arrived at the mouth of the Columbia River in 1811 aboard the Tonquin. He was instrumental in establishing Fort Astoria, the first American settlement west of the Rocky Mountains, and when the fort was sold to the North West Company Farnham was given the responsibility of carrying the proceeds of the sale and company records to John Jacob Astor in New York City. Farnham chose to take a ship to Siberia, and from there he traveled overland across Asia and Europe before taking passage to New York and presenting Astor with the important documents from the sale of Fort Astoria. Farnham never returned to Oregon.



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### Help Wanted

Seeking experienced all around handyperson for light maintenance, yardwork, irrigation, etc. Services needed in McKenzie Bridge, hours flexible, on call preferred. Please contact 541-822-6170.

### High Speed Internet

High-Speed Internet. We instantly compare speed, pricing, availability to find the best service for your needs. Starting at \$39.99/month! Quickly compare offers from top providers

### Personal

The Leaburg Sew & So's will meet again on Monday afternoons when

the McKenzie Fire & Rescue Center re-opens for community activities. Call Sara at 541-896-3059 for more information.

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

### Piano Lessons

Now accepting piano students - Beginners, Intermediate and Advanced - all ages. Professional jazz pianist, classically trained with years of teaching experience. Located in Leaburg. Please call or text 408.391.3477 or email; kimberly@liquidsister.com. <http://www.liquidsister.com> SKP-8/16ruc

### Portable Oxygen

Portable Oxygen Concentrator May Be Covered by Medicare! Reclaim independence and mobility with the compact design and long-lasting battery of Inogen One. Free information kit! Call 833-980-0385. Call 1-877-244-0346

### Quilters/Needle Crafters

The Sew and So's meet every Monday (except holidays) at the McKenzie Fire & Rescue Training Center from noon to 4pm. Come join us. Call Sara at 541-896-3059 for

more information. S=JS-2/25/10ruc

### Rental Wanted Satellite TV

DIRECTV for \$69.99/mo for 12 months with CHOICE Package. Watch your favorite live sports, news & entertainment anywhere. One year of HBO Max FREE. Directv is #1 in Customer Satisfaction (JD Power & Assoc.) Call for more details! (some restrictions apply) Call 1-844-808-7532

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### Services

MOWING - Retired gentleman looking to subsidize income. Have zero turn mower with trailer. Also push mower with edger. Can mow up to an acre depending on terrain. From Leaburg Dam to Cedar Flat, Deerhorn Road as well. ALSO WELDING - Need something welded? weekends, emergencies? Call Ron 541-915-9131 BRSM23-30

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### THE WALL DOCTOR

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## Quote of the Week

"War does not determine who is right, only who is left."

Anonymous

This Space For Rent  
rivref@wildblue.net



# Slasher murder

Continued From Page 4

damaged. Maybe that could have happened, if it was rolled up very tightly?

Also, the presence of the trombone music seemed suspiciously on-the-nose. It wasn't the kind of thing a burglar would take from the house, and if Klecker was the killer, why would he pack sheet music around in his overcoat pocket? It only really made sense as planted evidence.

In any case, there was enough ambiguity that the state's case probably could have survived this blow, if not for several other things that the court learned about Klecker: First, that he hadn't had a steady job for more than a few months at a time since the First World War ended; at the time of the murder his day-job was as a janitor. (Teaching trombone lessons and playing in various brass bands was a side hustle for Klecker.) This, of course, gave everyone the strong impression that he was very flaky; and it has to have crossed the jury's minds that no woman with two young children would be stupid enough to murder a strong, well-employed husband in an attempt to "catch" a man like that, no matter how attractive she found him personally.

Secondly, Klecker admitted that he had told between 12 and 25 people his "panting vixen" story since the murder had happened. This, of course, made him look like a locker-room booster.

Finally, it was revealed that Klecker had, two weeks after the murder and while out on bail, traveled to San Diego and hastily married his sweetheart there. Had he done that on the spur of the moment? Or was there some reason he wanted her to be kept from testifying against him?

After this day of revelation, the state continued to stand by its star witness, but the smart money shifted from "conviction" to "acquittal." The tone of the newspaper coverage shifted as well, as the papers mostly stopped calling Louise Agee "The Grim Widow."

Basically, at the conclusion of the trial, everyone was utterly baffled by what might have happened, but it was clear that there just wasn't enough evidence for a conviction. Weird inconsistencies remained -- Louise Agee's testimony that she heard her husband cry out when his windpipe was severed, witnesses testifying that she'd told them she only married Harry to please her folks, the apparently un-slept-in bed, and a few other things -- but by the end of the trial, most people were convinced she

hadn't done it.

It took the jury just half an hour of deliberation to return the "Not Guilty" verdict.

Louise Agee took the good news with the same sang-froid with which she'd greeted most of the rest of the events of the trial, and shortly afterward she left with her father and in-laws on an auto tour of the Oregon Coast. Later she returned to Portland and offered her services in any way she could to help the police find the "real killer"; but nothing seems to have come of this.

Early the next year, The Oregonian reported that police were suspicious that a notorious burglar known as "The 5 O'clock Burglar" might have been the killer. This burglar had been very active in Portland up until the time of the killing, then laid low for eight months before starting up again. Similarities in his methods -- he liked to break in in the middle of the night and steal while his victims slept, and took mostly low-value items like silverware and trinkets -- led the cops to think it was the same person.

The theory would be something like this: The burglar gets into the house, grabs a bunch of loot, takes it outside and stashes it in the bushes by the window from which he expects to leave the house. When he goes back in, Harry Agee wakes up. Burglar slashes at him with the knife, cutting his throat just after he yells for help, and runs for the door.

Or maybe the burglar was already in the house when the Agees came home, and was trying to sneak out without being heard.

In any case, that seems to have been the final word on the killer of Harry Agee. The Five O'clock Burglar was caught a couple months later, and turned out to be just an old jailbird well known to police.

As far as I've been able to learn, nobody ever figured out for sure what happened that night.

(Sources: Archives of the Portland Oregonian, Portland Journal, and Oregon Statesman, June 1921-April 1922. Special thanks to the Albany Regional Museum staff for the story tip via their Facebook page @albanymuseum)

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.

## McKenzie Fire & Rescue

Continued From Page 3

**14:26:** 41000 blk, McK. Hwy. MVA - Confirmed Non-Injury.

**22:00:** McK. Hwy./Buck Point Way. Non-injury. Awaited OSP.

**Aug. 10: 7:48:** 38000 blk, East Cedar Flat Rd. Medical, General. Patient Refusal.

**9:43:** 38000 blk, Camp Creek Rd. Medical, General. Patient Assessed, 1 Transported.

**9:47:** 44000 blk, McK. Hwy. Hazardous Situation. Report of mowing dried grass, Unable To Locate.

**10:24:** 39000 blk, Hendricks Park Rd. Area check for smoke. Smoke from other incident.

**12:52:** McK. Hwy./Camp Creek Rd. Area check for smoke. Smoke from other incident.

**14:15:** McK. Hwy./Nature's Garden Down Line. Line not blocking, scene to EWEB.

**16:03:** 39000 blk, McK. Hwy. MVA. Non-injury, non-blocking.

**Aug. 11: 10:55:** 40000 blk, Deerhorn Rd. Medical, General. Patient Assessed, 1 Transported.

**13:01:** 45000 blk, N Gate Creek Rd. Public Assist. Walk in Patient, No Transport.

**Aug. 12: 11:32:** 87000 blk, Lupe Ln. Medical, General. Patient Assessed, 1 Transported.

**Aug. 13: 9:42:** 39000 blk, Deerhorn Rd. Medical, Trauma. Patient Assessed, 1 Transported.



**9:50:** 38000 blk, E. Cedar Flat Rd. Medical, General. Patient Assessed, 1 Transported.

**13:30:** 45000 blk, Goodpasture Rd. Hazardous Situation. Machinery Operating During Restricted Time.

**13:58:** McK. Hwy./Milepost 11. MVA. Vehicle Into Power Pole, 1 Patient.

**18:52:** 44000 blk, McK. Hwy. Medical, General. Patient Assessed, 1 Transported.

**Aug. 14: 4:22:** McK. Hwy./Greenwood Dr. Illegal Burning. Unable To Locate.

**10:40:** McK. Hwy./Mp. 27 MVA. Vehicle Off the Rd. Confirmed Non-Injury.

**20:32:** 50000 blk, McK. Hwy. Medical, General. Patient

Refusal.

**21:27:** 37000 blk, Upper Camp Creek Rd. Down Line. Sparking from a Powerline.

**Aug. 15: 0:59:** 39000 blk, McK. Hwy. MVA. Vehicle Off the Rd. 1 Occupant Injured.

**4:43:** 50000 blk, McK. Hwy. Medical, General. Patient Assessed, 1 Transported.

**6:53:** McK. Hwy./Mp. 29 MVA. Patient Assessed, 1 Transported.

McKenzie Fire & Rescue will hold its monthly Board of Directors meeting the Monday; August 23<sup>rd</sup>, at noon, at the Leaburg Training Center, 42870 McK. Hwy.

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