



Delivering targeted news for the McKenzie Valley community since 1978

JP Doodles

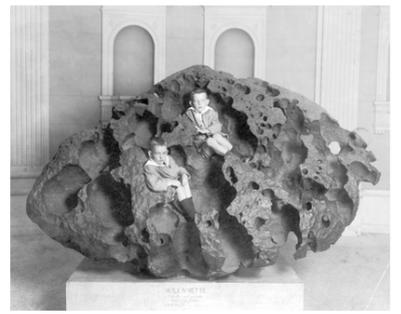
There's lots of reasons for living in the country.....

PAGE 2

They came from space

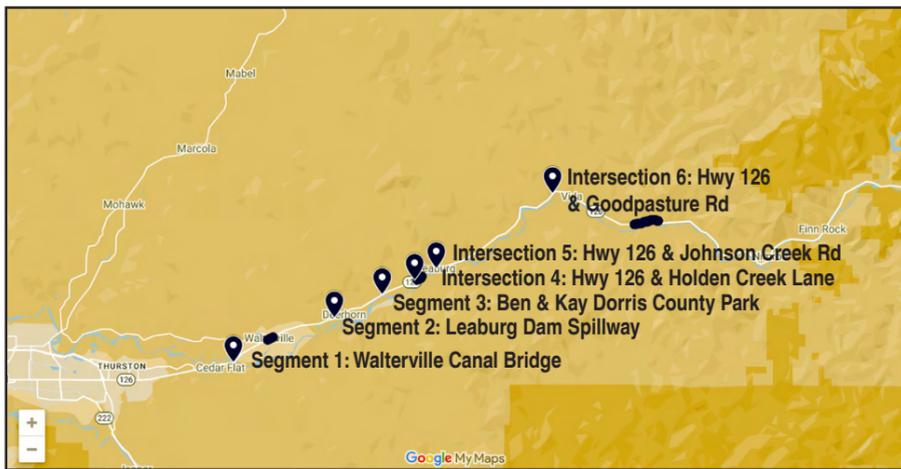
The Willamette Meteorite is the most famous heavenly body to end up in Oregon, but it's far from the only one.

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Safety study ID's 6 sites

ODOT outlines potential Hwy. 126 projects



The public is being asked to continue to submit recommendations for improving traveler safety along Highway 126.

In a report distributed last week, the Oregon Department of Transportation has come up with proposals to address a half dozen problem areas along the McKenzie Hwy. Those sites - from Walterville to Leaburg - were developed as a result of input from a public meeting, as well as online and other submissions.

The first stretches from Milepoint 12.9 to 13.15. It includes the Walterville Canal Bridge and the Page

Lane intersection. Between 2016 and 2020, there were seven reported crashes in that area. Three resulted in a fatality or serious injury.

ODT says the narrow Walterville Canal Bridge and its raised sidewalk, creates a higher risk of fixed object and head-on crashes.

Potential solutions could include widening shoulders and installing shoulder or centerline rumble strips. Another upgrade might involve installing high-visibility striping.

Widening would be very expensive and likely couldn't be implemented within the next five years, according to the report.

Segment 2, at the Leaburg Dam Spillway, covers the roadway from Milepoint 19.15 to 19.40. The Safety issue there is related to seven reported crashes that occurred between 2016 and 2020. Two involved a fatality or serious injury. Curves in the highway make it difficult for drivers to see on-

Safety study - Page 12

Prepped for fire season

Public Safety Power Shutoffs remain in effect

EUGENE: "Focusing on operational readiness and honing in on our research and development" was how Jeannine Parisi characterized the Eugene Water & Electric Board's plans for counteracting weather-related fire dangers. The utility's strategic planning manager's presentation to the utility commissioners last week also noted that "communication is the most important part of PSPS (Public Safety Power Shutoffs)."

Last year EWEB had planned to increase the sensitivity of powerline shutoffs when a "Red Flag" fire weather watch was declared. "What we learned pretty quickly is that red flag warnings can be quick, and short-lived, and pretty burdensome to respond to quickly" added Tyler Nice. Instead, he said, the settings went into effect in July and continued until the fire danger level dropped in the fall.

As EWEB's electric operations manager, Nice said his department's research and development efforts will focus

investments on specific service area circuits and rely more on actual "boots on the ground experience." Part of that process will involve more ride-along analysis of outage areas to include members of

crews that responded to a particular outage because they're likely to suggest specific improvements. Under new technology considerations, Nice said evaluations are underway

Prepped for fire season - P 2



During an interruption of service, existing expulsion fuses on powerlines vent exhaust gases.



Newer non-expulsion powerline fuses that don't utilize boric acid are now being studied by EWEB.

Water might get muddy

Turbidity could come from Finn Rock Reach

FINN ROCK: Phase II of the Floodplain Enhancement Project in the Finn Rock Reach is now underway. It is designed to enhance habitat conditions across more than 80 acres adjacent to the McKenzie River by restoring historic floodplain connections between the main stem stream and Elk Creek. The new project adds to Phase I work completed in 2021 that reconnected more than 50 acres of floodplain.

Beginning around Thursday, contractors will temporarily reroute a section of Elk Creek into a diversion channel. That bypass moves water away from the new work zone and returns it to the Phase I project area. According to the McKenzie River Trust, Phase II project activities, including the diversion, are planned to continue until no later than August 30th.

Project managers expect that the initial diversion may cause some short-term turbidity in the McKenzie River immediately downstream from the project area - located near river mile 56. Minimal turbidity impacts were seen during Phase I implementation in 2021 and project managers say people can expect to see similar impacts this year.



Crews will take several steps to minimize downstream turbidity impacts. The diversion is planned to take place over several days, beginning around July 20th. According to a McKenzie Trust spokesman, the slow drawdown of the water levels in the project prior to the full diversion will allow for natural fish escapement prior to fish salvage operations within the project area.

For more information, contact the McKenzie River Trust office at (541) 345-2799 or email info@mckenzievalley.org.

Nearly \$1 million in grants available

For septic system projects in Holiday Farm Fire area

Under a grant program administered by the Eugene Water & Electric Board, eligible landowners may qualify for up to \$35,000 for septic system upgrades or repairs. People do not need to be an EWEB customer to receive a grant because the utility is administering the program for the entire fire-affected area.

Applicants must be the current owner of a property located within the Holiday Farm Fire perimeter and that sustained structural damage or destruction.

If the property owner can't do the work, septic system repairs or installation must be completed by a Licensed Onsite System Installer, certified by the DEQ.

In addition, completed

septic projects must be inspected by Lane County, with permit status listed as final.

The grant amounts could be as much as \$35,000 but actual funding will be based on multiple factors including the type of septic system, a landowner's income and the number of people in a household, and the documented cost of septic system replacement or repair, a receipt of funding from other sources such as state, federal, or utility programs is also required.

In addition, any changes in ownership that may have occurred after the Holiday Farm Fire may impact landowner eligibility.

For homeowners who have entered into loan agreements with EWEB's

0% Septic Infrastructure Loan Program, grant funding will first apply to any outstanding balance. If the approved grant funding exceeds the loan payoff amount, EWEB will issue a check for the remainder.

For more information, contact EWEB at 541-685-7318 or misty.merriam@eweb.org.

The grants are made possible by federal funding issued through the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA). To leverage this funding, EWEB has partnered with the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality, Lane County, and other agencies to replace or repair septic systems for homeowners affected by the Holiday Farm Fire.

Letters to the Editor

Oregon's utilities rely on future technology – or buying from other states

Two years ago, the Oregon Legislature passed House Bill 2021, which requires Oregon's investor-owned electric utilities to phase out fossil fuels by 2040, producing all electricity from renewables—mostly wind and solar.

But renewables have a problem: Wind and solar are notoriously unreliable. They must always depend on on-demand “dispatchable” resources, which in Oregon means natural gas and hydro. New hydro is nearly impossible to build, and with other dispatchables outlawed, Oregon could find itself without electricity when it's really needed.

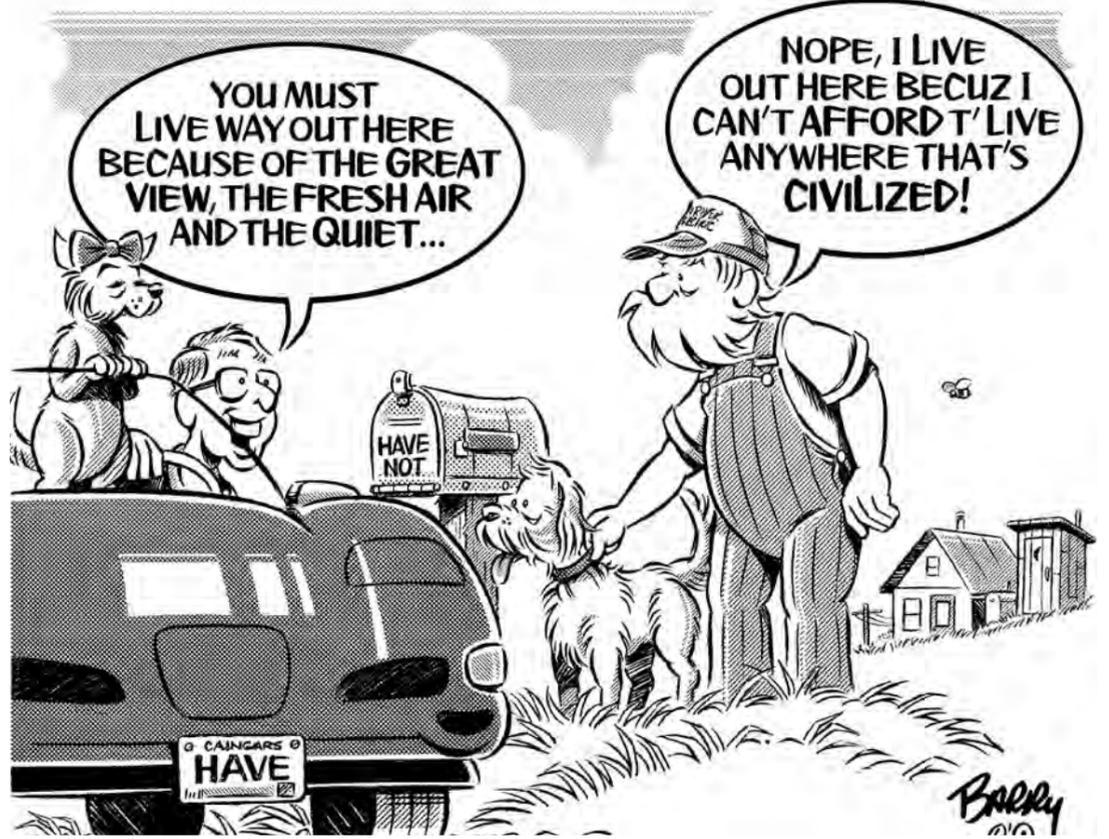
PacifiCorp, one of Oregon's two investor-owned electric utilities, admits that it likely will be unable to meet customer needs without the invention of new technologies

by 2030. Without such technologies, Oregon utilities will have two options: apply for exemptions to HB 2021's requirements, or buy electricity from other states.

If other states don't pursue similar policies, Oregon essentially would be paying a premium to shift the blame for its emissions onto its neighbors. It still would be reliant on other states' on-demand fossil-powered generation, but would get to claim a “100% renewable” grid. If other states do adopt similar requirements, they will face the same reliability issues as Oregon and be unable to offer help.

Oregon shouldn't be betting its energy future on technology that doesn't exist, and it shouldn't be forcing premiums on ratepayers to shift around blame.

Micah DeSilva
Cascade Policy Institute
Portland, OR



Guest Opinion

Free inquiry, open debate are under siege — just like in 1798

by Larry Burriss

As we move closer and closer to the next election, and continue to debate the role of the media in American politics, we might want to stop for a moment and reflect on just how fragile our free-expression rights can be.

In mid-July 1798, Congress passed the Sedition Act, which made it a crime to publish false, malicious, or scandalous writing about the government.

Despite the First Amendment, which guaranteed a free press and free speech, despite all of the talk about freedom from tyranny, despite all of the newspapers springing up, with the passage of this act it became illegal to say anything bad about the government or about government officials.

Freedom of the press and speech exists only to the extent people are willing to exercise those freedoms. And that exercise can often mean challenging the very institutions that want to limit that freedom.

Many national constitutions, even those in totalitarian countries, contain very clear language about freedom of speech, press and assembly. In fact, some of these documents have guarantees that are a lot more explicit and detailed than our own.

And despite all of our own glowing statements about free speech, it seems strange we are going through a time when many people are challenging the notion of free inquiry and open debate.

Numerous reports and polls over the last few years seem to show that people want freedom of



speech for themselves, but not for others. The feeling seems to be a lot of people are saying, “I know what is right, so everyone else ought to be quiet.”

We are also seeing a manifestation of this line of thought in the current wave of “politically correct” legislation being passed. Here legislatures and other governing bodies are determining what things are OK to think and say, and which ones are not.

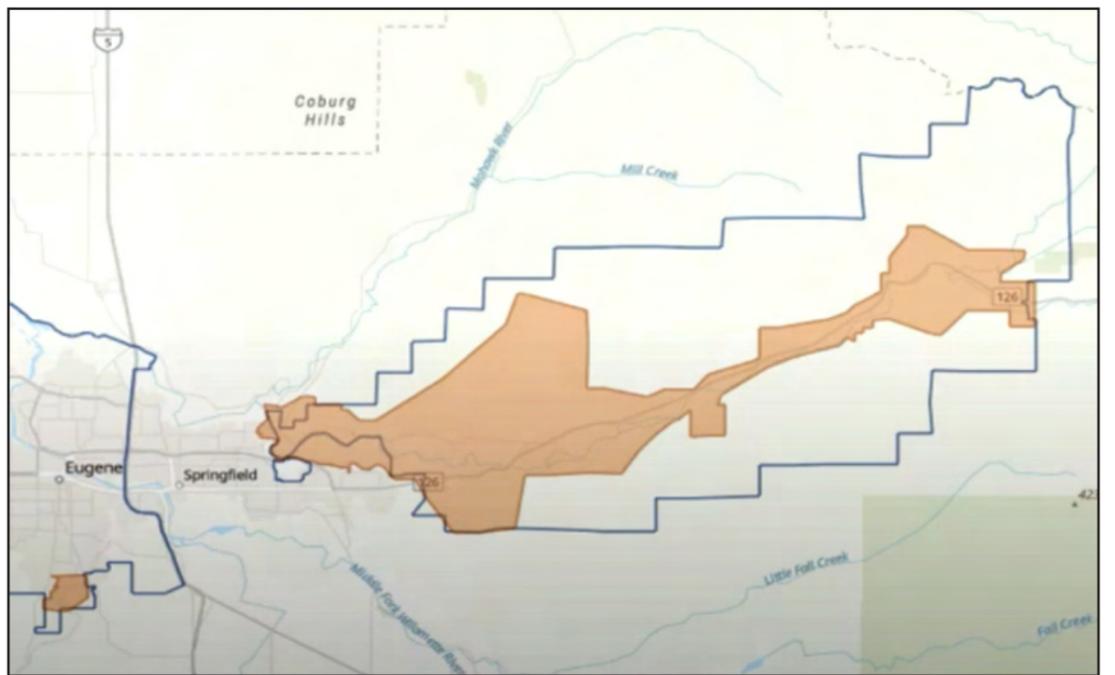
The U.S. Supreme Court one time said there is no such thing as a false idea. We may be mistaken about some facts, but ideas are neither true nor false. And problems arise when we begin to confuse facts and ideas and begin to brand ideas as correct or incorrect, true or false, valid or invalid.

So let's remember the lessons of the Sedition Act, and also remember individual rights will be preserved only to the extent people are willing to exercise, and defend them.

The Free Speech Center, at the Middle Tennessee State University in Murfreesboro, Tennessee is a nonpartisan, nonprofit public policy center dedicated to building understanding of the five freedoms of the First Amendment through education, information and engagement. It does not participate in litigation or lobbying.

Prepped for fire season

Continued From Page 1



The tan areas on this preliminary map mark sections of the Eugene Water & Electric Board's service territory where electric lines and equipment are in terrain with a higher potential for wildfire.

that could see upgrades to non-expulsion powerline fuses that could decrease the chance of igniting nearby vegetation.

Parisi also reported that EWEB is looking into customers' needs who could be especially vulnerable during outages. Some considerations could include people who need electrical power for medical devices ranging from

CPAP machines or heart monitors to ventilators or motorized wheelchairs.

“We're trying to create an opt-in program so folks can let us know they have special needs,” she said.

Other services might include arranging transportation, help in evacuating or developing safety plans, as well as setting up welfare

checks for people who opt out of leaving their homes.

While those needs are beyond the scope of the utility's traditional role, she said arrangements could be made with the utility's interagency partners “to make sure folks are safe.”

Letters to the Editor

rivref2@gmail.com
FAX 541-663-4550
59059 Old McK. Hwy.
McKenzie Bridge, OR
97413



McKenzie River Reflections



Phone (541) 822-3358 FAX (541) 663-4550
MAILING ADDRESS: 59059 Old McKenzie Hwy.
McKenzie Bridge, Oregon 97413
rivref2@gmail.com
Publisher - Ken Engelman

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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
7/11	84	51	0	377 cfs	7/11	78	49	0	2,240 cfs
7/12	84	53	0	377 cfs	7/12	85	50	0	2,220 cfs
7/13	87	55	0	367 cfs	7/13	85	50	0	2,222 cfs
7/14	94	59	0	372 cfs	7/14	90	54	0	2,207 cfs
7/15	96	59	0	372 cfs	7/15	96	54	0	2,170 cfs
7/16	91	58	0	372 cfs	7/16	99	55	0	2,150 cfs
7/17	81	57	0	372 cfs	7/17	95	53	0	2,150 cfs

Friday 7/21		Saturday 7/22		Sunday 7/23	
McKenzie Valley Sunny 5% chance precip High: 91 Low: 54	Santiam Pass Sunny 5% chance precip High: 80 Low: 49	McKenzie Valley Sunny 5% chance precip High: 88 Low: 54	Santiam Pass Sunny 0% chance precip High: 84 Low: 50	McKenzie Valley Sunny 5% chance precip High: 97 Low: 52	Santiam Pass Sunny 0% chance precip High: 83 Low: 46

Sheriff's Report

July 8: 1:13 p.m: Harassment - 92200 block, Carson St. A caller reports that tenants yell at the caller whenever the caller is outside.

11:52 p.m: Disturbance, Dispute - 36600 blk, Camp Creek Rd. Verbal dispute between husband and wife.

July 9: 12:38 a.m: Strangulation - 37200 blk, Parsons Creek Rd. Physical domestic dispute. Male arrested for putting hands around victim's throat and strangling her.

11:30 a.m: Vicious Dog - 38100 blk, McK. Hwy. Caller reports ongoing issue with neighbor's black Lab attacking the caller's dog. Reported that the black Lab's owner was laughing.

4:08 p.m: Suspicious Conditions - Bridge St. & Holden Creek Ln. Caller found a bone, believing it to be a leg bone. It was determined to

be non-human.

July 10: 8:32 a.m: Suspicious Conditions - Lat: 44.131. Long: -122.49805, A caller saw some skeletal remains in a log jam on the River. It was determined to be non-human

4:26 p.m: Speeding Motorcycle - Horse Creek Rd. & McK. Hwy.

8:27 p.m: Abandoned Vehicle - 8200 blk, Thurston Rd.

9:24 p.m: Assist, Information - McK. Hwy. & Canal Ln.

July 11: 10:00 a.m: Disturbance, Dispute - 41800 blk, McK. Hwy. - Verbal Disturbance, Dispute between landlord and tenant.

1:50 p.m: Harassment - 91800 blk, Blue River Reservoir Rd. Verbal dispute between parties unknown to each other. Occurred near the rope swing on Blue River Reservoir.

2:05 p.m: Stalking Order Service - 8000 blk, McK. Hwy.

2:50 p.m: Motor Vehicle Accident, Injury - Camp Creek Rd. & Marcola Rd.

8:16 p.m: Recover Stolen

Vehicle - Lat: 44.264608. Long: -122.790514.

8:48 p.m: Switched License Plates - Marcola Rd.

July 12: 6:14 a.m: Disturbance, Dispute - 37300 blk, Parsons Creek Rd.

7:31 a.m: Assist, Follow Up - 40100 blk, Mohawk River Rd.

10:04 a.m: Civil Enforcement - 91100 blk, Hill Rd.

11:06 a.m: Disturbance, Dispute - 91100 blk, Hill Rd. Verbal dispute related to civil court paperwork service.

11:49 a.m: Violation of Restraining Order - 90200 blk, Hill Rd.

1:06 p.m: Suspicious Conditions - 91100 blk, Hill Rd.

1:30 p.m: Suspicious Vehicle - Deerhorn Rd. & bridge St. Deputies checked on an unoccupied vehicle at the location.

3:19 p.m: Stalking Order Service - 8000 blk, McK. Hwy.

3:35 p.m: Restraining Order Service - 89700 blk, Johnson Creek Rd.

3:49 p.m: Assist, Follow Up - 38200 blk, Camp Creek Rd.

4:23 p.m: mental subject - 37300 blk, Parsons Creek Rd.

4:43 p.m: Theft - 37300 blk, Parsons Creek Rd. A caller reported losing a large sum of money in an online scam.

5:18 p.m: Unlawful Entry
Continued On Page 9

Motor Vehicle - Marcola Rd. & Sunderman Rd.

8:26 p.m: Restraining Order Service - 89700 blk, Johnson Creek Rd.

9:23 p.m: Explosion - 40500 blk, McK. Hwy. An area resident reported hearing a loud 'boom' and seeing smoke near the Waltherville School.

7:29 p.m: Disturbance, Dispute - 91300 blk, Marcola Rd.

10:47 p.m: Suspicious Conditions - 91100 blk, Hill Rd.

July 13: 11:41 a.m: Disturbance, Dispute - 90900 blk, Angels Flight Rd.

2:21 p.m: Lockout - 92000 blk, Marcola Rd.

2:40 p.m: Civil Service - 90300 blk, Sunderman Rd.

3:03 p.m: Subpoena Service - 35200 blk, Camp Creek Rd.

3:06 p.m: Theft - Terwilliger Hot Springs.

3:20 p.m: Civil Service - 39200 blk, Camp Creek Rd.

4:37 p.m: Reckless Driving - McK. Hwy. & Holden Creek Ln.

4:53 p.m: Motor Vehicle Accident, No Injury - Marcola Rd.

Continued On Page 10

McKenzie Fire & Rescue

July 7: 11:17: McK. Hwy./Quartz Cr. Rd.. Motor Vehicle Accident. Non-Injury/Non-Blocking.

July 8: 14:24: Camp Creek Rd./Millican Rd. Smoke Scare. Unable To Locate.

July 10: 10:26: 90000 block, Greenwood Dr. Medical, General. Patient Assessed, 1 Transported.

21:32: 44000 blk, McK. Hwy. Medical, General. Patient Assessed, 1 Transported.

July 11: 14:48: Camp Creek Rd./Marcola Rd. MVA. Patient Assessed, 1 Transported.

16:02: 39000 blk, McK. Hwy. Medical, General. Patient Assessed, 1 Transported.

21:42: McK. Hwy./Milepost

3.8 MVA. Patients Assessed, 2 Transported.

July 12: 10:31: 8400 blk, Thurston Rd. Medical, General. Patient Assessed, 1 Transported.

21:20: 40000 blk, McK. Hwy. Smoke Scare. Investigate, UTL.

July 13: 12:09: 41000 blk, McK. Hwy. Medical, Trauma. Patient Assessed, Provided Lifting Assistance.

21:28: 41000 blk, McK. Hwy. Smoke Scare. Wet Down Branch That Caused Power Line Arc.

July 14: 21:43: 87000 blk, Cedar Flat Rd. MVA. Vehicle Flagged, Patient Evaluation, No Transport.

July 15: 9:15: Mp. 33, McK. Hwy. MVA. Vehicle Flagged, No Patient Found.

14:35: 39000 blk, McK. Hwy. Medical, General. Patient Assessed, 1 Transported.

21:40: 38000 blk, Camp Creek Rd. Medical, General. Patient Assessed, Refusal Obtained.

July 16: 20:59: 35000 blk, Ellington Dr. Lift Assist. Assessed, 1 Transported.

The district maintains Facebook, Twitter, and web pages. If you have a question or concern about any Fire District business, give Chief Bucich a call @ 541-896-3311. If he is unavailable, please leave a message and he will respond ASAP.

Upper McKenzie Fire/Rescue

July 15: 14:15: Medical - Tamolitch Falls. Linn County is contacting Sisters medic.

July 16: 17:44: Medical - Old McK. Hwy./Milepost 69. Single vehicle over the side of a cliff.

July 17: 11:33: Medical - Tamolitch Falls. Male, Conscious, Breathing.

July 17: 14:22: Medical - Tamolitch Falls. Female, Conscious, Breathing.



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

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By Slim Randles

Doc smiled and felt really good inside when he heard the familiar bird song.

"Hey there, Wheezer," he said, "happy nesting!"

For some reason, this mourning dove with the speech impediment comes around to Doc's back yard every spring, and Doc thinks that's just all right. If ol' Wheezer didn't have that distinctive voice, Doc would never know if this bird favored his yard or was just another bird looking for a home. Let's face it, Wheezer looks just like every other dove in town.

But he was back and flirting with a good-looking lady dove up on the branches of the locust tree. Doc always wondered whether doves mate for life, and this was the same Mrs. Wheez he sees every year, or if Wheezer had to court a new lassie each spring.

"I'll have to look it up," Doc said, knowing that he wouldn't.

But he did go over to the concrete block wall and clean out the crud from the hollow in the top block by the gate. Doc had put dirt in it years ago, and each spring, the Wheezer family hauled in twigs and grass and made a place to raise their family.

And each spring, as Mrs. W. sat on her eggs, it would take Doc a few days before she would tolerate him coming and going through the gate. This was the dove family he was close to. They let him get right up to maybe a foot from the ugly little baby birds each spring, and he was careful never to move quickly or make a noise. That was his contribution, you see, to the putting together of the "Doves in the Concrete Block" family.

Wonder how long doves live? Doc thought. Wonder how long old Wheezer will last? I'll have to look it up.

No he won't.

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More U.S. meteorites

CONTINUED FROM LAST WEEK

By Finn JD John

The Willamette Meteorite is the most famous heavenly body to end up in Oregon, but it's far from the only one. Here are some of the others:

Sams Valley Meteorite, Jackson County: 1880s and 1890s

The area of Sams Valley, about 10 miles north of Medford, apparently was the target of a meteorite that broke up on entry into the atmosphere. There have been roughly half a dozen pieces of it found over the years, including three found in the 1880s by a gold panner, a 15-pound metallic lunger found in 1894, and a 2.6-pound piece acquired by the American Museum of Natural History in 1938.

The big Sams Valley chunk, the 15-pounder, got sold to a commercial dealer, which cut it into pieces to sell to museums and private collectors. And the 1938 piece got forwarded to University of Oregon astronomer J.H. Pruett, who agreed to slice the thing up in exchange for a one-pound piece. He did this (or, rather, his friend C.A. Coulter and Coulter's teenage son Donald did — by hand! It took them 11 hours and 18 hacksaw blades) and his one-pound piece is now on display at the Oregon Museum of Natural History in Eugene.

Klamath Falls Meteorite, Klamath County: 1952

This meteorite was found somewhere in Klamath County, and it was a very large one — 38 pounds. The person who found it brought it to a meteorite expert and dropped it off for testing, but never returned to pick it up — so its origins are shrouded in mystery. It was acquired by the University of New Mexico, and subsequently cut up so that pieces could be sold to private collectors and other museums.

Salem Meteorite, Marion County: 1981

A little after 1 a.m. on May 13, 1981, Marion County Deputy Sheriff James Price was sitting on the curb in front of his residence talking with another deputy when both men heard what sounded like a shower of gravel hitting the roof. They investigated, using their flashlights, and eventually



AMNH

Two small boys clown around in the holes of the 16-ton Willamette Meteorite, where it sits on display in the American Museum of Natural History in New York in 1911.

found a still-warm piece of stony meteorite that had hit the ground within 10 feet of them.

The meteorite fragments were tested to confirm that they were of extraterrestrial origin and not just rocks from some neighbor kid's slingshot. They turned out to be the real deal, and Deputy Price was no doubt happy to add them to his rock collection.

Morrow County Meteorite, 1999

Washington residents Donald and Debbie Wesson were driving home from a visit in north central Oregon when they saw a particularly interesting rock lying in the ditch. It was about 40 pounds, uniquely shaped, as if it had been partly melted. On one side a piece had been torn away, probably by a farmer's plow.

Donald picked it up and took it home to add to his rock garden, where it remained for the next eight years. Then one day Donald watched a TV program about meteorites and it started him wondering if that weird rock he'd picked up in Oregon might be one. Asking around, he was directed to Dr. Dick Pugh at Portland State University, who, with the help of his colleagues at PSU's Cascadia Meteorite Laboratory, was able to confirm it was a meteorite.

As meteorites go, the rock is a pretty common type; but there are a few things about it that are unusual, according to Dr. Melida Hutson, curator of the Meteorite

Lab. "It has beautiful shock veins and glass, caused by a major collision in space," she said, in a 2010 press release. "And the cone shape of the meteorite is very nice for such a large specimen."

Fitzwater Pass, Lake County: 1976

In the summer of 1976, Lakeview rock hound Paul Albertson was out hunting for agate and jasper with his high-school teacher, James Bleaker, when he found a strangely heavy teardrop-shaped piece of metal the size of his thumb.

Albertson took the 2.3-ounce chunk to his local rock shop, where the staff members were stumped, but told him it was probably a piece of nickel ore. Albertson took it home and stashed it in a coffee can with some other interesting rocks, and there it remained until one day Dr. Pugh of the Cascadia Meteorite Lab came to the Lakeview Public Library to give a lecture about meteorites. Albertson, remembering the weird bit of nickel ore he'd found when he was in high school, dug it out of the can and brought it with him.

Dr. Pugh sent it in for analysis, which revealed that it was a very rare IIIIF Iron meteorite.

South Slough Meteorite story, Coos County: 1890

This meteorite, if it existed, has been lost. This would be very difficult to do, because the description that has come down to us is of a piece of space rock roughly 40 times bigger than Namibia's Hoba Meteorite, the world's largest authenticated meteorite.

The story comes to us from Pioneer History of Coos and Curry Counties, a book by O. Dodge published in 1898 by the Capital Press in Salem. It's probably best, as one of Raymond Chandler's hard-boiled detective protagonists

once put it, to take it straight from the neck:

"One of the largest meteors on record fell on the head of South Slough, Coos County, Jan. 17, 1890, at 11 o'clock at night, knocking a hole in the hill 30 feet across," Dodge writes. "It came from the northwest and lighted up the heavens in fine style. A report, as of thunder, awoke people for many miles around. It was plainly heard at Coquille City. Excavations reveal a chunk of lava 22 feet across that resembles slag from an iron furnace."

In the absence of any other information about this enormous meteorite, and in consideration of the fact that a meteorite that big would be very unlikely to survive the thermal shock of entering Earth's atmosphere without shattering into a shower of smaller fragments, scientists generally consider the South Slough Meteorite to be either wildly exaggerated or simply fictional.

Mulino Meteorite, Clackamas County: 1927

In the story of the South Slough meteorite there is a story, but no meteorite. The Mulino Meteorite has the opposite problem. It's an existing very small chondrite (that is, stony, not metallic) meteorite in the U.S. National Museum, which the label says fell on May 24, 1927, near Mulino, a tiny community about halfway between Oregon City and Molalla on Highway 213. The problem is, according to geologist George Mustoe, there's just no evidence in contemporary newspaper reports or other correspondence of any meteorite falling there.

So, what's the story? Did the meteorite actually fall in Mulino, and did someone box it up and ship it to the museum with a note saying they might like to have it in their collection, without a word to the local media or neighbors? This does seem the most likely explanation; but we'll probably never really know.

Port Orford Meteorite story; 1856

As the kids say nowadays on their YouTube channels, this is the one that's going to really set off the flame wars "in the comments below." But the scientific consensus is pretty clear: The Port Orford Meteorite was a hoax, a desperate play by a desperate explorer facing financial ruin and a total loss of reputation.

The story, or rather the most likely story, is this: It's 1858 and explorer John Evans is on a sailing ship or steamer, on his way home from an expedition to Oregon for

More U.S. meteorites - Page 10

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Gardening Tips

By Kym Pokorny



Oregon State University

OSU Extension Service

**Myth vs. reality
The truth in common gardening practices**



By Kym Pokorny
Reality can get skewed when there are so many sources of information - books, magazines, newspapers, nurseries, and, most of all, the internet and social media open up lots of room for contradiction. So, how do you find the right answer to gardening questions?

Experts from Oregon State University Extension Service stepped up to bust some common gardening myths. Read on to get some research-based answers to 10 common misconceptions.

For additional questions, call the OSU Extension master gardeners in your area or submit a question to Ask Extension, an online question-and-answer service. Providing a photo is important.

MYTH: Lime will remove moss from your lawn.

REALITY: Lime will not fix the problem. Moss prefers to grow in wet, shady conditions. Lawns with moss need more sunlight, i.e. trimming, pruning, and thinning trees. If you like the trees the way they are, you will continue to have moss and you should think about shade-tolerant alternatives to grass. Moss also grows well in infertile soils, which includes acidic (low pH) soils, but more importantly, it also includes nitrogen-deficient soils. Lawns, like a lot of cultivated plants, prefer nitrogen-rich soils. Regular fertilizer applications (four applications per year, two in the fall and two in the spring) with products containing nitrogen, combined with improved sunlight will result in a green, dense lawn that can out-compete moss. - Alec Kowalewski, OSU Extension turf specialist

MYTH: Ponderosa pine needles make the soil more acidic (low pH).

REALITY: The notion that pine needles change the soil pH so that nothing will grow or that it will damage plants has been out there for years. The truth is pine needles

do not make the soil more acidic. It is true that pine needles have a pH of 3.2 to 3.8 (neutral is 7.0) when they drop from a tree. If you were to take the freshly fallen needles (before the needles decompose) and turn them into the soil right away, you may see a slight drop in the soil pH, but the change would not be damaging to the plants.

For those that leave the needles on the ground, they will begin to break down naturally and the microbes (decomposers) in the soil will neutralize them. So, you can leave them there (if you're not in a wildfire-prone area). They are a good mulching material that will keep the moisture in, suppress weeds, and eventually add nutrients back to the soil. You can also add them to a compost pile; they will slowly break down over time. If you run them through a shredder, they will break down faster. A general rule of thumb is not to add more than 10% of pine needles to your compost pile.

If you are having difficulty growing other plants under your pine trees it is likely due to the fact that evergreen roots are numerous and shallow and compete for water and nutrients. The shady conditions under a tree can also make growing other plants a challenge. - Amy Jo Detweiler, OSU Extension horticulturist

MYTH: You should top a tree to control its height.

REALITY: Trees are programmed to attain a certain height. Topping only temporarily delays the inevitable. The resulting sucker growth, which grows rapidly in an attempt to provide food for the compromised root system, is weakly attached. This creates an even greater hazard. Additionally, the trunk is not a limb and cannot use the tree's architectural physiology to seal the wound caused by topping. This often leads to a slow death for the tree. - Al Shay, horticulturist and site manager for OSU's Oak Creek Center for Urban Horticulture

MYTH: Just add more compost to the soil.

REALITY: Adding organic matter to the soil in the form of compost helps to improve soil structure and promote long-term plant health, but adding too much compost at once or over time can lead to problems. If the soil organic matter is much higher than ideal (5% to 8%), the soil can have too much available phosphorus, which can stunt plant growth and potentially leach into the water table. Also, some composts can be high in salts, which can also impact plant growth. - Brooke Edmunds, OSU Extension horticulturist

MYTH: Bee houses help promote and conserve bee diversity.

REALITY: Although some bee species nest in the cavities provided by bee houses, most bee species nest in the ground. Research out of Canada shows that most cavities in bee houses are colonized by native wasps (that help control pests), and not native bees. So, bee houses still do good, but not necessarily the good that you might think. - Gail Langelotto, entomologist and professor in the College of Agricultural Sciences

MYTH: Tree roots go only as far as the drip line.

REALITY: Many trees extend many times beyond the branch crown diameter. For instance, magnolia extends 3.7 times the diameter; red maple 3 times; poplar 3; locust 2.9 and ash 1.7. - Steve Renquist, OSU Extension horticulturist, retired

MYTH: Epsom salts are a must for great tomatoes. Use them in every garden.

REALITY: If you have done a soil test and your soil lacks magnesium and your plants are not growing well, give it a try. In most soils and gardens, they can do more damage than good. - Steve Renquist, OSU Extension horticulturist, retired

MYTH: When you plant a new tree or shrub, dig the hole and add an amendment to the soil before you backfill the hole.

REALITY: Although amending soil with organic matter is often a good idea, it should be done on an area-wide basis, not just in a planting hole for an individual plant. Adding an organic amendment to the soil only in the planting hole will tend to reduce the growth of the plant. This happens because roots may stay within the amended soil and not grow into the native soil, creating a root-bound plant within the amended soil. If the organic amendment is not completely decomposed it may require nitrogen for further decomposition, which will compete with plant roots for minerals, thereby resulting in reduced growth. And in the case of large shrubs or trees, decomposition of the amendment will cause the plant to settle and

Gardening Tips - Page 11



Country Kitchen

By Mary Emma Allen



FIREFLY MAGIC

As I watch the fireflies flitting around outside our living room windows, turning their lights on and off, I'm reminded of childhood on the farm when my brothers, sister and I scampered around the yard in the evening, trying to catch fireflies, or lightning bugs, as we called them.

It was a relaxing twilight time after the milking was done and the family had finished eating supper (and there was no last minute load of hay to haul to the barn before a shower) Mother and Father, Grandmother if she was visiting, relaxed on the porch after a busy summer day.

This lull was an enjoyable time, almost a magical one with the soft darkness broken by the adults' muted voices, the children's giggles, and the tiny lighted insects flitting around. We might capture them for a few moments in canning jars with holes poked in the tin lids. We enjoyed watching their lights flashing on and off. However, Mother always insisted we release them before bedtime.

"They're too pretty, too important in nature, to let die in a canning jar," she informed us.

Mother also reminisced about how she, her sister, and brothers watched and caught the fireflies at their Trails End Farm home.

Fireflies Still Fascinating
My daughter, when she was small, discovered the fascination of fireflies as her children did. Even in this age of computers, Internet, and electronic games, the lure of nature's magic unites children, and the child within us, throughout the years.

Evening Snack
MOLASSES SQUARES provide an old-fashioned treat. Cream 6 tablespoons shortening; then add 1/4 teaspoon salt and 1 teaspoon vanilla. Stir in 1/2 cup sugar and 1/2 cup molasses, 1 unbeaten egg. Mix well until light and creamy.

Sift together 2 cups flour, 1 1/2 teaspoon baking powder, 1/2 teaspoon baking soda. Add to creamed mixture alternately with 1/2 cup milk. Stir in 1/2 cup raisins and 1/4 to 1/2 cup chopped nuts.

Pour into greased and floured jelly roll pan or cookie sheet. Spread batter to the sides and corners. Bake at 375 degrees F. for 20-25 minutes.

Serve plain or with the icing of your choice. You also can simply sprinkle confectioner's sugar it when cooled. Cut into bars.

(c) Mary Emma Allen

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

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Community Notes

July 20

McKenzie Chamber

The McKenzie River Chamber of Commerce meets every third Thursday of the month via Zoom from 10 to 11 a.m. To sign up for a link to the meeting, contact: info@mckenziechamber.com

July 20

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.

July 22

Craft & Vendor Fair

A Craft and Vendor Fair will be held this Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the McKenzie River Clinic, 54771 McK Hwy. in Rainbow. It will feature a diverse selection of crafts, local vendors, and unique treasures to brighten up your summer.

July 22

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.

July 22

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.

July 24

Spfld School Board

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

July 25

Board of Commissioners

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.

July 25

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.

July 26

Board of Commissioners

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.

July 27

Watershed Wednesday

Green Island, 31799-31601 Green Island Rd, Eugene, from 9 - 11:30 a.m. Join McKenzie River Trust every Wednesday morning to help care for this special area where the McKenzie and Willamette Rivers meet. Projects vary based on the season but typically include invasive species removal, habitat care, or planting/tree establishment.

July 28

McK River Food Pantry

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

July 29

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.

July 29

Benefit Concert

The Joey McGee Benefit Concert for the Vida McKenzie Community Center's rebuild will be held at the McKenzie Valley Presbyterian Church, 88393 Walterville Loop, starting at 7 p.m. Performing will be Joey McGee, visiting singer/songwriter/guitarist from Texas. This is a family-friendly event. Refreshments will be served.

July 31

Summer Camp

The McKenzie River Community School Summer Camp will be held from Monday, July 31st through Thursday, Aug 3rd for incoming 1st-4th grade. The camp will be on the school campus.

August 1

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.

August 1

Coffee With Locals

Meet at the McKenzie Bridge General Store, 91837 Taylor Rd, Come have a cup of coffee with the locals at 10 a.m. (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.

August 2

Blue River Water Board

The board will meet at 6 p.m. A link to the meeting is available at: blueriverpark.com

August 2

Blue River Park Board

The board will meet at 6 p.m. A link to the online meeting is at: blueriverwaterdistrict.com.

August 2

Watershed Wednesday

Green Island, 31799-31601 Green Island Rd, Eugene, from 9 - 11:30 a.m. Join McKenzie River Trust every Wednesday morning to help care for this special area where the McKenzie and Willamette Rivers meet. Projects vary based on the season but typically include invasive species removal, habitat care, or planting/tree establishment.

August 2

Board of Commissioners

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.

August 3

Story Time

Story Time is back, from 11 a.m. to noon at the Leaburg Library's Children's Room, 42888 McKenzie Hwy, Children of all ages and their parents are invited for stories, crafts, and who knows what other fun things might happen. The library has a wonderful selection of picture books, books for early readers, intermediates and young adults, DVD's and audio-books, as well as fun puzzles and games.

August 4

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.

August 5

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.

August 5

Dime At A Time

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

August 5

Ice Cream Social

The Upper McKenzie Community Center will hold its Annual Ice Cream Social from 1 to 5 p.m. at the Upper McKenzie Community Center, 54745 McKenzie River Dr. This year a cobbler contest will be held - make your favorite cobbler to share, with the best winning a prize. Special guest judge Steve Severin will be tasting cobblers and choosing a winner. Prices: \$2 Ice cream, \$4 Cobbler a la Mode, and \$5 Sundaes The usual BBQ is switching to a cobbler contest.

August 7

Summer Camp

The McKenzie River Community School Summer Camp will be held for incoming 5th-8th grade. The camp will be on the school campus.

August 8

Board of Commissioners

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.

August 8

Tiny Dental Van

The Tiny Dental Van, sponsored by the Rural Oregon Outreach Program, will be at the Orchid McKenzie River Clinic every second Tuesday of the month in Rainbow from 8:30am - 2:00pm for assessment, intraoral photos, teeth cleaning, charting, and X-Rays. Call 360-449-9500 or 800-525-6800 to schedule new patient appointments or teeth cleaning.

August 8

McK. Tourism Committee

The McKenzie River Chamber of Commerce Tourism Committee meets via Zoom every Second Tuesday of every month from 9:00am - 10:00am. Please join us even if you are not a Chamber member. The committee strives to strengthen the support of locals interested in improving tourism and the economic vitality of the entire McKenzie River Valley. Email the Tourism Chair to get on the meeting email list: Treasurer@McKenzieChamber.com

August 8

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.

August 9

Board of Commissioners

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.

August 9

Watershed Wednesday

Green Island, 31799-31601 Green Island Rd, Eugene, from 9 - 11:30 a.m. Join McKenzie River Trust every Wednesday morning to help care for this special area where the McKenzie and Willamette Rivers meet. Projects vary based on the season but typically include invasive species removal, habitat care, or planting/tree establishment.

August 10

Vida McKenzie Board

The board of directors of the Vida McKenzie Community Center will meet at 4:30 p.m. at the McKenzie Valley Presbyterian Church, 88393 Walterville Loop.

August 11

Introductory Camp

Camp White Branch is holding an Introductory Camp that is structured for children who haven't been to camp before and provides the security of having one of their parents along for the experience. It will be held from Fri, Aug 11th, 10 a.m. to Sun 13th 3 p.m. This weekend provides the opportunity to acquaint children with the facility so they will be prepared for future years of fun at Camp White Branch. Ages: Entering 2nd or 3rd grade accompanied by a parent. Register at: campwhitebranch.org/camps

August 11

McK Food Pantry

The McKenzie Food Pantry will be open from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the McKenzie Bridge Christian Church, 56334 McKenzie Hwy, in McKenzie Bridge. Free groceries are provided in accordance with Oregon Food Bank and Food For Lane County guidelines for food distribution to those in need. It's open every 2nd & 4th Friday.

August 11

Friday Art Walk

The 2nd Friday Art Walk will be held from 4 to 7:30 p.m., starting at 500 Main St (Emerald Art Center in Springfield).

August 12

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.

Click here and stay in touch with events online [McKenzie Community Events Calendar.](#)

<p>An Invitation to Worship</p>	<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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Direct Answers

By Wayne & Tamara Mitchell

Long Odds



Candice Pileard

I don't drive and have health problems. I have a friend who runs an under-the-table errand service. She is one of my closest friends, so I rely on her. I always give her sufficient money for her time, and she has helped me out in many situations.

There have been two times in a row where she has blown me off. Both times she was to take me to a doctor appointment. The first time she did not call me in advance as she always did, so I called her. She said, "I can't talk. I'm running out the door." She hung up before I got to say a word. She called me back at midnight and said she was really sorry, she forgot.

I thought she probably did and went on with my business, though she ruined my plans and I ended up in a jam because of it. Last week, I had a very important doctor's appointment. I called her well in advance, and she confirmed it

twice during the week. But the time came when she was supposed to call and pick me up, and she never called.

So I called her. There was no answer. Today she basically blamed the whole thing on me, saying, "I was home sitting around waiting for your call. I don't understand why you didn't get through."

The long and the short of it is I don't know if I am being naïve, or is this just two strange coincidences? I don't want to accuse her of anything, but assessing the situation, I wonder if she doesn't want to do it and won't tell me directly. That would not offend me. I would make other arrangements. What do you think?

Zeta

Zeta, some years ago, two basketball teams from the state of Ohio were contending for the national championship. The fans from Ohio State thought their team was better than the University of Cincinnati, and they were shocked when the other school won the national basketball title.

For a year, the Ohio State fans claimed it was a fluke that Cincinnati won. But guess what? The next year, the University of Cincinnati won again. That inspired some Cincinnati fans

to rent a billboard near the Ohio State campus. The message on the billboard read, "Well, what do you know? Two flukes in a row!"

Why would you expect up-front behavior from someone working under the table? It's time to make other arrangements. Two flukes in a row are a message.

Wayne

Conviction

If a woman has not found her soul mate by age 30, she might as well give up! It is all very nice to talk about "not giving up early" as you do, when you are in a strong, loving, and respectful marriage.

Men have it easier. Men's idea of marriage is to have someone to abuse. They find a sweet, nice, gentle girl like I once was and expect her to just take it. Women are supposed to be so grateful some man, any man, would have them.

God does not, in reality, care about those of us who are heartsick.

Yvette

Yvette, Tennyson wrote, "How dull it is to pause, to make an end, to rust unburnished, not to shine in use!" The aim of life, he said, is "to strive, to seek, to find, and not to yield."

For many people, the good things in life don't happen until later. Our local newspaper publishes the age of people applying for marriage licenses. In today's paper, over 60 percent of both the men and the women are over 30.

Most of our problems come

from the six inches between our ears. Once you believe something is true, it is true. For you. Paradoxically, we cannot change until we believe we can, and once we've changed, we no longer need the belief.

Tamara

Wayne & Tamara are the authors of *The Young Woman's Guide to Older Men*, *The Friendship Solution*, and *Cheating in a Nutshell*—available from Amazon, Apple, and booksellers everywhere.

American Life in Poetry

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

The Usual Entertainment

By Jaswinder Bolina

Little lost and gentle soul, companion and guest of the body, get ready now to go down into colourless, arduous and bare places where you will no longer have the usual entertainment.

—Hadrian, as transcribed on a sign displayed at the Castel Sant'Angelo, Rome, translator unknown

How the sweat-drenched vendors hawk Old Styles to the drunken disorderlies—who are us!—in the pilsner light of August buzzing with gnats and lingo,

the umpire barking his commandments like a clergy, the manager barking back like a heretic. I douse my dog in ketchup, and buy me some peanuts and Cracker Jack just for the toy and a small blue helmet of soft serve for Jorge and a Polish for Mike, and three cold-slicked beers numbing our thumbs in the upper mezzanines of the food chain in the city of my heart, Illinois, where we lose so much more than we win, but whatever the score, I ask them, What use is the soul without its tongue and its teeth, without its nose for the cut of the grass, its ear for the hum on the air, without its wants and its words and no throat to holler them out of to anyone glittering here in the sticky of the cheap seats?

Source: Poetry (July/August 2023)

Born in Chicago, poet Jaswinder Bolina earned a BA in philosophy from Loyola University in Chicago, an MFA in creative writing from the University of Michigan, and a PhD in English with a creative writing concentration from Ohio University. He is the author of the chapbook *The Tallest Building in America* (2014) and the poetry collections *English as a Second Language and Other Poems* (2023), *The 44th of July* (2019), *Carrier Wave* (2007), winner of the 2006 Colorado Prize for Poetry, and *Phantom Camera* (2013), winner of the Green Rose Prize in Poetry from New Issues Press and published in an international edition by Hachette India.

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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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65						66	67			68				
69						70				71				
72						73				74				

50. Speaking platform
 52. Campfire residue
 53. What sailors are to captain
 55. Lawyers' org.
 57. *Jack of "On the Road" fame
 61. *Refreshment break
 65. Live sign for radio, 2 words
 66. Shakespearean "fuss"
 68. Bar order, with "the"
 69. Ownership document
 70. Mitt Romney's title, abbr.
 71. Christmas Eve visitor
 72. Keats' works, e.g.
 73. *Major road, abbr.
 74. *Certain number of cylinders

- DOWN**
1. Cold War's Warsaw Pact, e.g.
 2. Turkish money
 3. One on drugs
 4. Run off to Vegas?
 5. Sold on eBay, usually
 6. Short for "and elsewhere"
 7. Hammurabi's code, e.g.
 8. Plural of fundus
 9. Porto____, Italy
 10. Got this!
 11. Sodium hydroxide
 12. Like Tim of "A Christmas Carol"
 15. Foray
 20. Giraffe's striped-legged cousin
 22. Like one of the Testaments
 24. Fine-toothed metal cutter
 25. *Famous road from Beatles crossing
 26. Actress Watts
 27. Minute parasite
 29. *Spare one
 31. "If all ____ fails"
 32. Sarpa____, coral reef fish
 33. Tiny purses
 34. Olden day phlebotomy instrument
 36. Waterproof canvas
 38. Clothing line
 42. UAE's most populous city
 45. Close the fastener, e.g.
 49. Epoch
 51. Between 90 and 180 degrees
 54. E-wallet's content
 56. Very, in music
 57. Japanese zither
 58. Author Bagnold
 59. Goes with interest
 60. Great masters' medium, pl.
 61. *Hoofed "express" traveler
 62. "The Summer I Turned Pretty" actress Lola ____
 63. Solemn promise
 64. Surveyor's map
 67. Morning drops

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ON THE ROAD

- ACROSS**
1. More down in the dumps
 6. Will Ferrell's 2003 Christmas character
 9. Century Gothic, e.g.
 13. Twisted cotton thread
 14. Greek "t"
 15. Biblical mount
 16. Dessert sandwiches
 17. Barley bristle
 18. Pungent edible bulb
 19. *Shared ride
 21. *Yellow Brick Road traveller
 23. Member of the Benevolent Order
24. Sword handle
 25. The little one "stops to tie his shoe"
 28. AI "fodder"
 30. *Gas station option
 35. Thailand money
 37. Phone cam images
 39. Fill with happy spirit
 40. Bora ____
 41. Vexed
 43. Uncontrolled swerve
 44. Middle Eastern V.I.P.s
 46. Genesis twin
 47. "The Odyssey," e.g.
 48. Hooray!

Solution on Page 9

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2		7		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

A Moment in Oregon History

By Rick Steber
 (www.ricksteber.com)

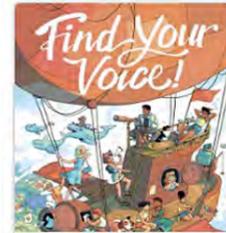
July 20 - When Highway 101 was built along the Oregon coast there were several places where the roadbed was cut through mounds of shells that were 30 feet deep and ranged in size up to 20 acres. It is believed that Native People built the mounds of, what to them, was nothing but garbage. In addition to sea shells, excavations have revealed the bones of game animals and dogs, tools, mortars, pestles, arrows, spear points, smoking pipes and bits and pieces of pottery. It is estimated, based upon the size of the villages located nearby, that it took up to three thousand years to build the mounds.

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

Click here or go to: tinyurl.com/yeye92hx

Events from Jul 20th

Submit Event



Mon Jun 19th 1:00pm - Wed Aug 30th 3:00pm
Summer Reading Program
 It's time to get your kiddos signed up for SUMMER READING 2023. Stop by during our open hours and



Wed Jul 5th 8:00am - Mon 31st 9:00am
FREE Breakfast and Lunch for kids
 For McKenzie School District families! This summer, get FREE Breakfast and Lunch for all kids 18 and



Thu Jul 13th 11:00am - Sat Dec 16th 12:00pm
STORY TIME
 Story Time is back at Leaburg Library! We invite children of all ages and their parents to join us in the



Fri Jul 14th 4:00pm - Thu Aug 3rd 7:30pm
2nd Friday Art Walk
 Emerald Art Center in downtown Springfield



Wed Jul 19th 7:00pm - Mon Aug 7th 8:00pm
Upper McKenzie Fire District Board
 Upper McKenzie Fire District Board of Directors monthly meeting. At the fire station, 541-822-3479



Thu Jul 20th 10:00am - 11:00am
McKenzie River Chamber of Commerce Board meeting
 The McKenzie River Chamber of Commerce is a business organization of volunteers providing



Thu Jul 20th 11:00am - Sat Dec 23rd 12:00pm
STORY TIME
 Story Time is back at Leaburg Library! We invite children of all ages and their parents to join us in the



Thu Jul 20th 3:00pm - 6:30pm
Leaburg Food Pantry
 All are welcome! Please send folks!



Fri Jul 21st 8:30pm - 10:00pm
Dive-in Movies at Splash!
 Dive-in Movies at Splash! Join a special evening swim and movie event. Watch a movie on Splash!'s



Sat Jul 22nd 8:00am - 4:00pm
Living River Exploration Day
 Join the McKenzie River Trust and take a walk near the place the Willamette and the McKenzie Rivers meet.



Sat Jul 22nd 10:00am - 12:00pm
A Dime At A Time
 Blue River Bottle Boys Collection/Sorting - Saturday morning sorting sessions every Saturday from 10-



Sat Jul 22nd 10:00am - 4:00pm
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New Emergency Alert system for Lane County residents – sign up now!



Public safety partners in Lane County are updating their emergency alerting service to the state-wide alerting system OR-Alert, which will be called Lane Alerts locally, to send emergency alerts – including evacuation notifications – to residents and visitors.

Residents should go to www.LaneAlerts.org to create a free Lane Alerts account and select where and how they would like to receive emergency alerts. Residents can also text their ZIP code to 888777.

Lane Alerts allows people to opt-in to receive notifications via phone call, text message and email based on locations they care about. At minimum, people signing up must provide their name and one method of contact. Residents can choose to receive notifications about emergency events that may affect their home, workplace, child's school, etc. The types of emergencies that people may receive alerts about include evacuations, severe weather, flooding, police activity, and more.

"Lane Alerts will give emergency responders more tools to reach people with critical emergency information," said Lane County Emergency Manager Patience Winningham. "But it's only as good as the information people provide – so sign up, include all your relevant contact information, and keep your profile up to date if you move."

More about Lane Alerts:
When will Lane Alerts be used?

Lane Alerts will be used to notify people about imminent threats to their safety, as well as informational notifications that affect locations they choose to include in their profile.

Who should sign up for Lane Alerts?

Everyone living or working in Lane County should sign up for Lane Alerts.

Should everyone in my household have their own Lane Alerts profile?

Yes. If multiple household members need to be notified, each person should have their own profile.

Will I still get emergency notifications if I don't sign up?

There are multiple types of emergency alerts. Some do not require residents to sign up, including landline phone calls or alerts that appear on television screens and radio broadcasts. Signing up for Lane Alerts will provide emergency responders with more and better ways to reach people with emergency information, including text messages.

Learn more about the different types of emergency alerts by watching a short video.

Lane Alerts partner agencies include Lane County Emergency Management, Lane County Sheriff's Office, and Central Lane Communications Center.

The system is powered by the State of Oregon's OR-Alert program and Everbridge. Learn more about OR-Alert at www.oralert.gov.

More U.S. meteorites

Continued From Page 1

a government-funded geological survey. He's coming home to face some serious music, as he's overspent his budget and will be expected to make up the shortfall from his personal resources. And he doesn't have enough personal resources to cover the bill.

The trip home for Evans isn't "around the horn"; his ship stops at the Isthmus of Panama, and the passengers disembark and take a short overland journey to the other side for the second leg of their voyage. Along the route, Evans comes across a vendor selling pieces of a pallasite meteorite, the Imilac Meteorite, discovered about 30 years earlier in the Atacama Desert in Chile.

Pallasite is the most valuable kind of meteorite. Pallasite is the substance that forms right at the borderline between the nickel-iron core and the rocky mantle of a small planet or large asteroid. When a meteor strike or whatever, the chunks that result can be rock, metals or pallasite — and pallasite is by far the rarest of the three, blows that heavenly body apart. A very large pallasite meteorite would be worth huge money, Evans knows.

So he buys this little three-quarter-ounce chunk of Imilac Meteorite and spends the rest of his journey concocting a story about it: how he found a huge 11-ton meteorite half buried in the side of a hill he calls "Bald Mountain" about 40 miles inland from Port Orford; how he cut the specimen off because it looked interesting, and only later learned it was a million-dollar visitor from space; and how he would really like the government to finance a return trip so that he could go and find it and retrieve it for posterity.

All of which is well on its way to working when the Civil War breaks out, and suddenly the government is no longer very interested in rock collecting.

So, is that what happened? Yeah, probably. But we'll never know,



Dante Alighieri/Wikimedia

The Willamette Meteorite as it appears today, on display at the American Museum of Natural History in New York City.

because Evans died of pneumonia the day after the war started.

Also, there are some weird stories out there that hint at the possibility that the Port Orford Meteorite may have been a real item. Most notably, a nickel miner named Bob Harrison in 1937 claimed the meteorite was on his claim, and that the nickel he'd been mining was from the strike — chunks that had broken off the pallasite in an airburst. Harrison, though, disappeared from view after making this claim, and nobody knows what happened to him.

So, yeah. The Port Orford Meteorite is a magnificent antebellum hoax ... or maybe that's just what whoever found it wants you to think! Either way,

it's a deliciously fun South Coast legend.

(Sources: "Meteorites from the Pacific Northwest," an article by George E. Mustoe published in the March 1999 issue of *Oregon Geology: Images of America: West Linn*, a book by Cordelia Backer Seigneur published in 2009 by Arcadia Publishing; "Oregon Meteorites," an information hub page maintained by Portland State University's Cascadia Meteorite Laboratory, meteorites.pdx.edu)

Finn J.D. John teaches at Oregon State University and writes about odd tidbits of Oregon history. To contact him or suggest a topic: finn@offbeatoregon.com or 541-357-2222.

Sheriff's Report

Continued From Page 3

- Milepost 11.
- 5:33 p.m:** Motor Vehicle Accident, No Injury - Marcola Rd. Mp. 11.
- 7:22 p.m:** Child Neglect - 89000 blk, bridge St.
- 7:27 p.m:** Speeding Vehicle - 38300 blk, Wendling Rd.
- July 14: 6:45 a.m:** Lockout - 92000 blk, Marcola Rd.
- 8:03 a.m:** unlawful use of Vehicle - 37300 blk, Tree Farm Rd.
- 8:22 a.m:** Incomplete 911 Call - Lat: 44.131363. Long: -123.013145.
- 1:32 p.m:** Civil Enforcement - 41800 blk, McK. Hwy.

- 1:48 p.m:** Emergency Message - 41400 blk, Deerhorn Rd.
- 2:43 p.m:** Restraining Order Service - 36600 blk, Camp Creek Rd.
- 2:46 p.m:** Mental Subject - 92200 blk, Carson St.
- 3:03 p.m:** Restraining Order Service - 92200 blk, Murdoch St.
- 4:05 p.m:** Disturbance, Dispute - 35200 blk, Camp Creek Rd.
- 5:44 p.m:** Vehicle Stop - Leaburg Dr. & McK. Hwy.
- 6:07 p.m:** Vehicle Stop - McK. Hwy. & Leaburg Dr.
- 7:14 p.m:** Foot Patrol - 39500 blk, McK. Hwy.
- 9:45 p.m:** Motor Vehicle Accident, DUII - 87600 blk, Cedar Flat Rd.
- July 15: 2:56 p.m:** Dead Animal - 92000 blk, Marcola Rd.
- 3:27 p.m:** Assist Outside Agency - Tamolitch Falls.
- 10:02 p.m:** Unknown Problem

- 37300 blk, Parsons Creek Rd.
- July 16: 12:05 a.m:** Welfare Check - 53300 blk, McK. Hwy.
- 10:54 a.m:** Traffic Hazard - 46200 blk, Goodpasture Rd.
- 11:59 a.m:** Shots Fired - Aufderheide Dr. & McK. Hwy.
- 4:31 p.m:** Motor Vehicle Accident, No Injury - Marcola Rd. & Hill Rd.
- 5:53 p.m:** Reckless Driving - Marcola Rd. & Old Mohawk Rd.
- 6:14 p.m:** Disturbance, Dispute - 38800 blk, McK. Hwy.
- 10:52 p.m:** Disturbance, Dispute - 38400 blk, Camp Creek Rd.
- July 17: 11:28 a.m:** Suspicious Conditions - Shotgun Creek Rd. & Crooked Creek Rd.
- 2:11 p.m:** Theft From Vehicle - 90300 blk, Shadows Dr.
- 2:23 p.m:** Assist, Follow Up - McGowan quarry.
- 5:04 p.m:** Lost Property - 92600 blk, Marcola Rd.
- 5:40 p.m:** Tree Down - 41500 blk, Madrone St.

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

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ODOT expands road use charge program

For electric or fuel-efficient vehicles with a 40 mpg rating

The Oregon Department of Transportation continues to expand its road usage charge program, OReGO, by offering customers a new commercial account manager option, Ferrovial's NextMove by Cintra. Nearly 900 drivers participate in OReGO, the nation's first road usage charge program, where participants pay a per-mile fee based on the miles they drive and can receive credit for the fuel taxes they pay.

ODOT's new partner, NextMove by Cintra will collect and report the mileage driven by participants and remit payments to the state. Drivers of passenger vehicles with a rating greater than 20 mpg are eligible to join OReGO at any time. Drivers of electric or fuel-efficient vehicles with a rating of 40 mpg or greater can save on their registration fees when they enroll in OReGO.

ODOT is also working with NextMove on a second program to create a Connected Vehicle Ecosystem to support Oregon's Intelligent Transportation System and further develop the OReGO program. NextMove will perform the planning, development, implementation, operation, and maintenance of the Connected Vehicle Ecosystem.

The Connected Vehicle Ecosystem will enable communication between vehicles and transportation infrastructure, such as traffic signals and roadside units. For OReGO, the Connected Vehicle Ecosystem will allow some participants to report their miles without using an onboard device. This will make for a more streamlined transition from the fuel tax to a road



Joenomias/Pixabay

usage charge in the future. For Oregon's Intelligent Transportation System, the Connected Vehicle Ecosystem can improve safety and mobility by providing information to drivers through their vehicles, such as warnings about slowing traffic or poor weather conditions

up ahead.

For the awarded ODOT projects, NextMove is partnering with ClearRoad on OReGO; and Rekor, Gannett Fleming and ClearRoad on the Connected Vehicle Ecosystem project.



Buckle Up. The Way to Go. Transportation Safety - ODOT

Gardening Tips

Continued From Page 5

the root collar will sink below the soil. - Neil Bell, OSU Extension horticulturist, retired

MYTH: Brown recluse and hobo spiders are common in Oregon.

REALITY: It is commonly thought that hobo and brown recluse spiders cause necrotic bites in this state, when in fact the brown recluse is not found in Oregon and the hobo spider does not cause necrotic bites. The hobo spider was in fact removed by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's list of venomous spiders in 2015. The black widow is the most harmful spider to humans in the state. - Heather Stoven, OSU Extension entomologist and community horticulturist

MYTH: Watering on hot sunny days will burn the plants because the water droplets magnify the sun's rays.

REALITY: It rains during the summer all around the world and plants are just fine. More of an issue is that the irrigation water will evaporate and not be as effective. Note though that sensitive houseplants like African violet can show leaf damage from very cold water applied to the leaves. - Brooke Edmunds, OSU Extension horticulturist

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Safety study

Continued From Page 1

coming traffic. Feedback from the community noted that drivers often speed along this segment where there is a higher risk of roadway departure crashes.

Potential solutions are similar to some suggested for the canal bridge area as well as installing warning signs to guide drivers through the curve located just west of Leaburg proper.

A curve in the stretch from Milepoint 29.15 to 30.05 is listed as a 2020 Safety Priority Index System (SPIS) site. This means that the curve's location in this segment had one of the highest and most severe crash rates in the state for the previous three years.

Between 2016 and 2020, there were 11 total crashes, with two resulting in serious injury. The main safety issues on this segment result from the narrow roadside and steep drop-off on the eastbound shoulder, which officials say makes high-severity roadway departure crashes more likely.

Widening roadway shoulders in this section may have environmental constraints and would be very expensive. Again, ODOT notes work there likely couldn't be implemented within the next five years.

There was a total of four reported crashes from 2016 to 2020 at the east entrance of Holden Creek Lane, with one resulting in a fatality. Two of the four crashes happened when it was dark outside.

The main safety issues at this intersection, officials say, are the lack of signs and poor visibility.

Potential solutions there could include upgraded striping and signs to make the intersection more visible, nstalling intersec-



Installing more guardrails is among the recommendations for improving highway safety along the McKenzie River corridor.

tion lighting, and increased use of high-visibility striping.

The intersection of Hwy. 126 and Johnson Creek Road is located near several Leaburg businesses. Between 2016 and 2020, there were a total of six crashes, with one resulting in serious injury.

Upgraded striping and signs to make the intersection more visible could reduce problems there. So could installing intersection lighting.

The one-lane covered bridge on Goodpasture Road makes that intersection with the highway difficult for drivers on both roads to see vehicles entering the intersection. but it also makes it even harder for drivers on Hwy. 126 to see other vehicles, ODOT notes.

Between 2016 and 2020, there were a total of three crashes, with one resulting in a fatality.

Besides upgrading striping and installing signs to make the intersection more visible, the agency recommends installing flashing beacons that turn on as vehicles

approach to warn other drivers.

ODOT says they're now considering short-term and low-cost potential solutions for each location that can be implemented in the next five years by at some corridor-wide solutions, including rumble strips and curve warning signs.

The study includes a number of recommendations that aren't limited to specific areas. Among there are calls for consistent signage to alert drivers of entrances to areas like recreation sites installing driveway delineator posts. Other aletrs might include pedestrian crossing signs, congestion ahead markers, or posting street names on both sides of the road, as well as installing more frequent milepost markers.

Comments can be directed to Transportation Planner Bill Johnston by phone at 541-747-13546, or via bill.w.johnston@odot.oregon.gov.

WE DON'T DO DIVISION.

At a time when our nation seems deeply divided along political lines, we opt to take a different path. We add. Our goal daily is to add to the collective understanding of this community through a news report that fully and fairly reflects what's happening. The more we know about our hometown and neighbors, the more likely we are to build common ground. That's important. Local news coverage is at its best when it captures a community's successes and challenges, and generates conversations that lead to better solutions and a brighter future. The more informed we are, the more we care. That's good for our hometown and good for America. Just do the math.

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