



Delivering targeted news for Oregon's McKenzie River communities since 1978

JP Doodles

The first day of Spring may have arrived on March 19 this year but the following weeks of wet weather have proved to be a big boost - for weeds

PAGE 2

Klondike Kate

She was raking in the tips to the tune of up to \$750 a night (in 1901 dollars — that's the equivalent of more than \$27,500 today).

PAGE 4



Briefs...



Corey Culp, McKenzie River Community School's computer science teacher, has been named Technology Educator of the Year - along with two other outstanding K-12 Oregon and SW Washington. The award comes with a cash stipend of \$1,000 for their classrooms to spend on tech education materials including hardware, software, services, or curriculum.

For forty years, Oregon Technology Awards (OTAs) have celebrated excellence and achievement in the region's technology industry. This year's event will recognize eight companies, three teachers, and one Tech educator - Page 2



The unofficial start to summer will set records this year. AAA projects 43.8 million Americans (13% of the population) will travel 50 miles or more from home this Memorial Day weekend. This is an increase of 4% over 2023 and comes close to matching the record of 44 million travelers in 2005.

About 600,000 Oregonians will travel over the long weekend.

Find all the details, graphics, top destinations, best and worst times to drive, and advice for travelers in the news release.

Road trips will set a record. AAA projects 38.4 million people will travel by car over Memorial Day weekend, the high Holiday traffic - Page 2



A national nonprofit organization released a new program on Tuesday to help families navigate the hazards of fentanyl and prevent deaths of young people as Oregon continues to battle the lethal drug epidemic.

Song for Charlie, a nonprofit focused on raising awareness about fake fentanyl pills, launched The New Drug Talk Oregon, an educational web-based platform with free Fentanyl - Page 2

History in the making?

Positive vibes could lead to an annual Blue River celebration



A "Dark Skies" plan for Blue River was one of the proposals people were talking about on Saturday.

BLUE RIVER: There were plenty of smiles on the faces of people to go along with sunny skies last Saturday. Many of the grins were on faces that a week before had spent a rainy day spiffing up the town in anticipation of celebrating the rebuilding of fire-damaged public structures and homes.

As Cliff Richardson of Locals Helping Locals noted during his opening remarks, the soft opening of the Blue River Fire Station was an event that "Blue River can now brag about," as well as the progress of the nearby work underway to bring back the O'Brien Memorial Library and the McKenzie River Clinic.

Providing an update on the housing front was Brandi Crawford Ferguson of the McKenzie Community Land Trust, a nonprofit group that's working on a lot on Rose Street. Ferguson said they hope to break ground in September to begin building stick houses that will be sold to buyers, while the trust retains the land to keep costs low.

Melanie Stanley, owner of Meyer's General Store, said she's In the making? - Page 9

Getting P.R.E.P.'ed

Session focused on local protection



Brent Griffiths with the Oregon State Fire Marshal's Office.

FINN ROCK: Personnel from firefighting agencies outnumbered the public for last week's P.R.E.P. meeting. People who weren't there missed gaining insights into how plans to protect them are evolving to

meet new challenges associated with long-lasting wildfires.

During the Plan, Resilient, Educate, Prepare (P.R.E.P.) session Darren Bucich, McKenzie Fire and Rescue Chief, gave outlined how the area's fire districts interact to conduct evacuations. He also explained that although "we volunteer our equipment and staff to go to other fires to help them out," their primary mission is to protect the local area.

Brent Griffiths, mobilization coordinator with the Oregon State Fire Marshal's office said the Lane County Sheriff's Office response to the Holiday P.R.E.P. - Page 10

Another look at Main Street

Third session set for May 30th

LEABURG: The McKenzie River Discovery Center at Leaburg Lake hosted the second "Listening Session" on May 10th for a proposal to see if the McKenzie area could benefit from a "Main Street" approach. It's an idea that has helped communities around the state either boost or stabilize their economies, according to the National Main Street Center and Oregon Parks and Recreation.

In April, the McKenzie River Chamber of Commerce co-sponsored a meeting with RAIN and Rural Development Initiatives at the Vida McKenzie Community Center focused on small businesses.

Last Friday's session involv-



Assets and strengths, were all up for discussion last Friday.

ed exercises to help define areas where local arts and culture could help revitalize the area's regional economy. Some of the

Another look - Page 10

Ready to take on some rapids

Newly completed Colorado dory launched for a trial run on the McKenzie

LEABURG: A successful dory workshop concluded last Friday at the McKenzie River Discovery Center (MRDC). The ten-day class was led by Brad Dimick, Cricket, and Glade Zarn of Fretwater Boatworks in Flagstaff, Arizona. Ten men and two women went from lofting the boat, building the parts, assembling the hull, and sanding and painting - to launching the result in ten days.

According to Roger Fletcher, an MRDC board member and workshop coordinator, "the class re-created the first dory built for the Colorado River by the McKenzie Valley's own Keith Steele in 1962."

The project was focused on re-creating the boat Steele built for Martin Litton in 1962 and is the first dory that appeared on the Colorado River in that year. Keith's son, Steve, was present for most days during this year's project and was both pleased and excited to meet and work with the instructors.

"The McKenzie River is the spawning ground for this widely recognized boat type," Fletcher notes, "and it is exciting that this historic boat was re-created at the very site where it was originally built by Steele."

People participating in the boat-building workshop came from the surrounding Western and Intermountain states. "By luck of the Ready - Page 10



Roger Fletcher

The launch at Helfrich with new owner, Roahn McCallum adjusting the oars before heading down to the takeout at the EWEB boat ramp.

McKenzie Eagles Sports Report



By Cliff Richardson

McKenzie Varsity Sports Schedule This Week

The Class 1A State Track and Field Championships are this Thursday, May 16, and Friday, May 17 at Hayward Field on the campus of the University of Oregon. This meet will conclude the 2024 McKenzie Varsity Track and Field season.

Griffin Withalm Sprints To State McKenzie 4x100 m. Relay Qualifies

McKenzie Track and Field student/athlete Griffin Withalm qualified for the 2024 Class 1A State Track and Field meet at Hayward Field next Thursday and Friday, May 16, 17. Withalm qualified for both the 100-meter and the 200-meter races. The Eagle senior has been one of the State's fastest Class 1A sprinters this Spring and he held true to form at the recent 1A,SD2 District Championships. Withalm earned second in the 100 m. finals with a finish time of 11.37 seconds. Myrtle Point's Thomas Ferren ran a Personal Record 11.16 second race to stave off the Eagle speedster and win the District Championship. Withalm still owns the second fastest 1A 100 m. time in the State this season, 11.07 seconds, established back on April 11 at Mapleton. Siletz Valley's Zion Fantroy is currently the leader with a time of 11.05 seconds, earned on March 21, also at Mapleton. Withalm took home another second place finish, this one in the 200 m. race, posting a time of 23.09 seconds, which earned the Eagle senior a Personal Record. Ferren won his second District Championship, running the 200 m. in 22.56 sec., a Personal Record. Withalm's 200 m. time is third best in the State this season and Ferren has the fastest 2024 recorded time. The McKenzie 4x100 m. relay team also qualified for the State Championship meet at Hayward this next week. Team members Allen Acevedo, Atom Fetterhoff, Withalm, and Salomon Acevedo finished the District 4x100 in fourth place with a time of 45.56 sec. Camas Valley won the relay in 45.42 seconds. No other McKenzie athletes qualified at District for the OSAA State Championships.

Other Eagle

1A-SD2 District Finishes

Senior McKenzie student/athlete Salomon Acevedo finished his 400 m. race with a Personal Record time of 53.79 seconds, which earned him a third place finish, but just one place short of qualifying for the State meet. Jay

Brust of Cascades Academy of Central Oregon won in a PR time of 51.26 seconds and Emmett O'Brien of Lost River took second in a PR time of 53.79 sec. Both latter athletes advance to State. Allen Acevedo finished the 400 m. in seventh at 56.15 sec., a PR, and William Valtinson ran a PR time of 1:01.19 min., which placed the freshman at eleventh. Will Meister ran a seventh place PR time of 4:53.40 minutes in the 1500 meters and a eighth place time of 11:21.25 min. in the 3000 m., neither which qualified him for the State meet. Levi Cullett of Glendale won the 1500 m. in a PR time of 4:24.78 min. and also won the 3000 m. in a PR time of 9:35.88 min. Levi Lockard threw the shot 34 ft. 4.25 in for a sixteenth place finish. Mason Detzler of Myrtle Point won the District Shot Championship with a 52 ft. 1.5 in effort. Jacob Peek finished the shot in thirty-fourth place at 30 ft. 1.25 in and Noah Borden took forty-ninth at 26 ft. 5.75 in. Lockard finished seventeenth in the discus with a mark of 83 ft. 2 in, Peek finished twenty-fourth at 78 ft. 5 in., and Borden was thirty-fourth at 72 ft. 1 in., a new PR for the Eagle freshman. Detzler also won this event with a throw of 151 ft. 5 in. In the javelin event, Lockard took home twenty-sixth with a throw of 103 ft. 6 in. Jayce Shorb of Powers won with a new PR mark of 162 ft. 9 in. Peek finished forty-ninth at 74 ft. 0 in. and Borden was fifty-eighth at 67 ft. 1 in. Rhys Hamlow placed eighth in the pole vault with a mark of 2.86 meters and Logen Grassman of North Lake, who cleared the bar at 3.96 meters, won that event. Hamlow also finished fifteenth in the long jump with a leap of 17 ft. 4.5 in. Teammates Hayden Harbick followed in twenty-ninth at 15 ft. 5.5 in. and Auden Vailes set a PR with a leap of 14 ft. 8.5 in, good for thirty-third. In the Girls District Championships, no Eagle student/athlete qualified for the State Championships at Hayward. McKenzie sophomore Myra Dion finished ninth in the 1500 meters with a new Personal Record time of 6:28.73 min. That event was won by Louisa Lamarre of Cascades Academy of Central Oregon in a PR time of 5:12.55 min. Dion ran a time of



14:52.04 minutes in the 3000 m. race, which placed her eighth and that race was won by New Hope Christian's Jordan Zumhofs in 11:55.04 minutes. Dion finished in twenty-ninth in the javelin with a throw of 66 ft. 11 in. Teammate Riley Morales finished forty-seventh at 45 ft. 5 in., a new PR. Feirin McConnell of Triangle Lake, who threw a winning mark of 113 ft. 0 in, won the javelin. Freshman Liliana Jones was the top Eagle finisher in the long jump, finishing in seventeenth place with a jump of 12 ft. 10.25 in. Beckah Short jumped 11 ft. 3.5 in, for twenty-first. Ava Barnett of New Hope Christian won with a PR mark of 17 ft. 8 in.

Myrtle Point Wins 1A-SD2 Boys District, North Lake Takes Girls Championship

Myrtle Point topped all teams at the 1A-SD2 Boys District Track and Field Championships held at Sutherlin, last Friday and Saturday, May 10,11. Myrtle Point scored 89 points on the day to hold off second place Lost River, which earned 74 pts. McKenzie boys tied for eighth place with Chiloquin and Cascades Academy of Central Oregon, all three earning 33 pts. North Lake girls won the day with 100 pts. and Myrtle Point finished second with 80 pts. McKenzie earned 1 point for twenty-third place.

Briefs...

Tech educator Continued From Page 1

student of the year for their accomplishments, leadership, and commitment to the industry and community. This year's OTAs presented an in-person look at TAO's recent rebrand, which features a new forest green color scheme that draws inspiration from the natural beauty of the region and reflects TAO's maturity, expanded influence, and unwavering commitment to the Pacific Northwest's tech community.

Holiday traffic Continued From Page 1

est number for the holiday since AAA began tracking in 2000. This will be the most crowded Memorial Day weekend at airports since 2005. 3.51 air travelers are expected over the Memorial Day weekend, an increase of 4.8% over last year and 9% jump

compared to 2019.

The top U.S. destinations are Anaheim, Las Vegas and Honolulu. Top regional destinations are Bend, Portland and Eugene.

Fentanyl Continued From Page 1

information about the risks of fentanyl and the dangers of self-medication and experimentation.

The campaign was one of several in Oregon to start on Tuesday and coincides with National Fentanyl Awareness Day. The Oregon Health Authority launched a five-week campaign to educate Oregonians about fentanyl risks, harm reduction strategies like fentanyl test strips and how to respond to an overdose.

For more information about the educational program for families, visit thenewdrugtalk.org/oregon oregoncapitalchronicle.com

Send news briefs to rivref2@gmail.com



McKenzie River Reflections



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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.

Friday 5/17		Saturday 5/18		Sunday 5/19	
McKenzie Valley Mostly Sunny 5% chance precip High: 69 Low: 41	Santiam Pass Partly Cloudy 15% chance precip High: 55 Low: 30	McKenzie Valley Sunny 5% Chance precip High: 69 Low: 42	Santiam Pass Sunny 5% chance precip High: 59 Low: 34	McKenzie Valley Mostly Sunny 20% chance precip High: 73 Low: 45	Santiam Pass Mostly Sunny 5% chance precip High: 62 Low: 35

WEATHER REPORT

READINGS TAKEN AT THE US ARMY CORPS COUGAR DAM

READINGS TAKEN AT THE EWEB LEABURG POWERHOUSE

Date	High	Low	Rain	Releases	Date	High	Low	Rain	Riverflow
5/7	39	54	0.40	331 cfs	5/7	52	43	0.62	8,040 cfs
5/8	38	66	0	NA	5/8	59	36	0	7,230 cfs
5/9	44	78	0	NA	5/9	66	39	0	6,460 cfs
5/10	50	86	0	355 cfs	5/10	83	49	0	6,020 cfs
5/11	53	85	0	355 cfs	5/11	90	50	0	5,810 cfs
5/12	50	81	0	350 cfs	5/12	90	47	0	5,790 cfs
5/13	50	76	0	NA	5/13	81	47	0	5,380 cfs

Sheriff's Report

April 22: 2:21 p.m: Fraud - 88900 blk, Ross Ln. Ongoing civil dispute and theft.

3:44 p.m: Criminal Mischief - 94300 blk, Johnson Rd. Self report regarding a trespass and stolen vehicle registration stickers.

3:48 p.m: Fraud - 51600 block, Blue River Dr. The caller received a scam phone call pretending to be their bank. The caller confirmed it was a scam. No money was lost.

April 28: 9:19 a.m: Disturbance, Dispute - Terwilliger Hot Springs. A customer at the hot springs refused to pay and a verbal dispute ensued. The attendants and customer left the location.

4:26 p.m: Disturbance, Dispute - 88900 blk, Easy Ln. Verbal dispute regarding a vehicle.

7:30 p.m: Burglary - 89900 blk, Rippling Way. The complainant's residence was burglarized while they were away.

May 1: 9:39 a.m: Suspicious Conditions - 87700 blk, Collins Ln. A level 3 sex offender was reported to be living in the area. Deputies confirmed his registration address, which had not shown to be updated online yet.

10:28 a.m: Suspicious Conditions - 35800 blk, Camp Creek Rd. A male pushing his motorcycle back into town was contacted several times by deputies. He did not require assistance.

May 3: 5:20 p.m: Reckless Endangering - 92000 blk, Marcola Rd. A vehicle was damaged at the location overnight.

May 4: 12:24 a.m: Screaming - 44500 blk, McK. Hwy. Screaming was heard in the area before a vehicle drove off. Deputies patrolled.

9:16 a.m: Harassment - 36600 blk, Camp Creek Rd. Self report regarding threatening messages and civil issues.

10:55 a.m: Harassment - 90600 blk, Sunderman Rd. The caller wanted possible harassment documented due to ongoing civil issues.

4:37 p.m: Suspicious Conditions - 87700 blk, Collins Ln. Same as previous call at this location. No new crime committed.

May 5: 2:23 a.m: Theft - Terwilliger Hot Springs. Self report regarding items stolen from vehicle.

5:57 p.m: Suspicious Conditions - 42000 blk, Deerhorn Rd. A subject in mental health crisis contacted a homeowner claiming he owned his house. Deputies responded and were able to peacefully resolve the situation.

May 6: 7:20:35 p.m: Traffic Hazard - McK. Hwy. Milepost 29.

May 7: 11:25 a.m: Suspicious Conditions - 38300 blk, Wendling Rd.

12:29 p.m: Subpoena Service - 38400 blk, Emerald Way.

12:59 p.m: Criminal Mistreatment - 42900 blk, Leaburg Dr.

1:30 p.m: Screaming - 39200 blk, Camp Creek Rd. The caller wanted information documented about a subject with mental health issues.

2:23 p.m: Assist Fire Department - 40000 blk, Booth Kelly Rd.

8:08 p.m: Disorderly Subject - 90600 blk, Mountain View Ln. A subject on an electric bike was yelling and hitting mailboxes. A deputy patrolled, but he subject had left.

May 8: 9:04 a.m: Violation of Restraining Order - 48000 blk, Conley Rd.

9:19 am: Harassment - 92000 block, Carson St.

10:12 a.m: Illegal Camping - 40000 blk, McK. Hwy.

1:28 p.m: Unlawful Use of Vehicle - 41000 blk, McK. Hwy.

2:12 p.m: Towed Vehicle - 40000 blk, McK. Hwy.

4:58 p.m: Theft - 38000 blk, McK. Hwy.

May 9: 9:52 a.m: Motor

Continued On Page 9

McKenzie Fire & Rescue

May 6: 10:05: 49000 block, McK. Hwy. Down Line. Line Found, Utility Company Notified.

May 7: 3:31: 42000 blk, McK. Hwy. Medical, General. Patient Assessed, 1 Transported.

14:14: 40000 blk, Booth Kelly Rd. Lift Assist Only.

May 9: 7:28: 41000 blk, McK. Hwy. Medical, General. Patient Assessed, 1 Transported.

20:56: 38000 blk, McK. Hwy. Medical, General. Patient Assessed, Refusal Obtained.

May 11: 13:03: 87000 blk, Dowdy Ln Illegal Burning. Fire Extinguished.

20:28: 90000 blk, Angels Flight Rd Medical, Trauma. Patient Assessed, 1 Transported.

May 12: 2:51: McK. Hwy. Milepost 34. Motor Vehicle Accident/Landslide. Blocking, Non-Injury.

May 13: 1:50: 37000 blk, Camp Creek Rd Medical, Heart. Patient Assessed, Refusal Obtained.

McK. Fire & Rescue will hold its monthly Board of Directors meeting on Monday, May 20th at noon, in the Leaburg Training Center, 42870 McK. Hwy. The district maintains Facebook,

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

Upper McKenzie Fire/Rescue

May 8: 10:44: Medical - 55000 block, E. King Rd. Female, Conscious, Breathing.

May 9: 09:44: Motor Vehicle Accident - Mill Creek Rd./McK. Hwy. 2 vehicles, non-injury.


May 10: 19:51: Medical - 91000 blk, Horse Creek Rd. Male, Conscious, Breathing.

May 12: 02:51: MVA - McK. Hwy./Milepost 34. 2 vehicle crash, landslide.

May 13: 17:09: Medical - 49000 blk, McK. Hwy. Male patient.

The Upper McK. Fire District's board of directors will hold its monthly meeting at 7 p.m. on Monday, May 20th, at the McK. Fire Station, 56578 McK. Hwy. in McKenzie Bridge.

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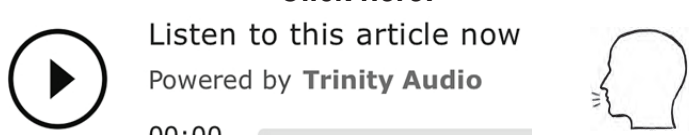
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The Case of the Klondike Kate Katfight

By Finn J.D. John
Part Two

Kathleen Eloise Rockwell was born in Kansas in 1876 and grew up in Spokane and Valparaiso, Chile. At age 18 she left home, moved to New York, and took a job as a chorus girl.

It was the start of a lifelong career as a dancer on the Vaudeville scene.

The turn of the century found Kate in Spokane again, working in variety theaters there. And that's where she was when she heard about the Klondike gold rush.

She was adventuresome, athletic, and young, and the Klondike offered her the adventure of a lifetime. She did not waste time. With a colleague, she set out for "where the river is winding, big nuggets they're finding": North to Alaska — and points east!

The girls arrived in Dawson City in 1900 and found work right away; after all, there was a gold rush on, and every theater and drinking establishment was happy to hire as many pretty girls as it could.

Kate quickly nailed down a high-paying gig at the Palace Grande Theatre, where she developed something called the "Flame Dance" which involved a bright red dress and long trailing flame-colored ribbons and which was meant to metaphorically burn down the house — and usually did.

In Dawson, Klondike Kate was also famous for her red-gold hair, charisma and happy-go-lucky style on stage. Plus, she was a spectacular conversationalist. Miners in town for an evening would chuck nuggets up on the stage and she'd scoop them up; she'd drink with them afterward, sharing bottles of wine that cost \$5 each and pouring her glass discreetly into a spittoon to avoid getting drunk, while they talked about their lives. She talked at least one miner out of committing suicide, talked several out of leaving their wives and even staked a few with some cash to keep them going after they'd been cleaned out by a professional gambler or robbed.

Very soon she was the most popular dancer in Dawson, and was raking in the tips to the tune



A circa-1900 souvenir portrait of "Klondike Kate" with a personal message from Kate herself, written late in life after her marriage to Bill Van Duren.

of up to \$750 a night (in 1901 dollars — that's the equivalent of more than \$27,500 today).

Unfortunately, as Peter Parker's Uncle Ben probably never said (but no doubt would have if he'd thought of it), with great wealth come the great attentions of mercenary men. For Kate, that involved a charming Greek-American chap named Alexander Pantages.

Kate fell hard for Pantages. Soon they were a certified item, and she was living with him — "living in sin," in the lingo of the day.

Personal-finance guru Dave Ramsey is a serious Christian, and so sometimes when young unmarried couples call in to his radio show and talk about setting up housekeeping together, they interpret his advice to get married first as moral posturing. He's usually quick to turn that aside, telling them that without the legal protection of an actual marriage contract, both sides are taking on enormous risks when they mix their finances together on big items like houses and cars and business ventures.

The story of Kate Rockwell and

Alexander Pantages might just be the best, most on-point, and most extreme example of what Ramsey is talking about.

Pantages' dream was to become a theater manager, with a string of Vaudeville theaters across the nation. He had saved up a war chest to do this with, but it wasn't big enough to do the job right. In Kate Rockwell, the young impresario found a "sugar mama" who could and would stake him to the additional startup capital he needed to get it done.

So in 1902, as the gold rush started petering out, Pantages headed back to Seattle with his pockets full of money, both his own and Kate's, to launch that dreamed-of string of theaters. Kate followed him a little later.

Unfortunately for Kate, by the time she got to Seattle, Pantages' roving eye had fallen upon a dishy violin player in one of his theaters.

This girl was a little wiser than Kate had been, and insisted that if Alexander liked it, he would need to put a ring on it.

Which he promptly and secretly did. And then he coldly informed Kate — who at this time considered herself his fiancée — of his altered marital status in a letter four days later.

Following this blow Kate Rockwell tried her best to shake it off. She plunged herself into her dancing, touring the West Coast with vaudeville troupes and doing

what she did best.

But as the years went by, it became harder and harder to do that, and it was increasingly clear that she was going to have to find something else to do. In Dawson she'd been in her early 20s, but by the late 'oughts she was in her 30s. She was still gorgeous, but like any athlete approaching middle age she was starting to be dogged with injuries — especially sprained ankles and knees.

Adding insult to injury was the fact that Pantages, the ex-fiancé who had jilted her in the ugliest way imaginable, had gone on to build a huge empire of Vaudeville theaters all over the West, with his name on them and her money in them. Every time she passed one of them it reminded her of how badly she had gotten taken advantage of.

The only thing that made it feel better was performing, and she toured and performed frenetically for a few years, trying to lose herself in her work.

Finally, after an especially bad ankle sprain brought on a sort of nervous breakdown, a doctor told her bluntly that she'd have to quit, or she'd die.

She needed a place to get away from the Vaudeville scene, a place far away from the nearest Pantages Vaudeville theatre, a place to renew her soul.

Central Oregon would be that place.

We'll talk about Kate Rockwell's Oregon story — the stage of her life in which she transformed herself from "Klondike Kate" into "Aunt Kate of Farewell Bend" — in the third and final part of this story. (Sources: *Klondike Kate: The Life and Legend of Kitty Rockwell*, a book by Ellis Lucia published in 1962 by Hastings; *Good Time Girls of the Alaska-Yukon Gold Rush*, a book by Morgan Lael published in 1998 by Epicenter; "Klondike Kate," an article by Nathan Pederson published in 2022 on the Oregon Encyclopedia; "History Hunter," an article by Michael Gates published Dec. 1, 2018, in Yukon News.)

Finn J.D. John teaches at Oregon State University and writes about odd tidbits of Oregon history. His most recent book, *Bad Ideas and Horrible People of Old Oregon*, published by Ouragan House early this year. To contact him or suggest a topic: finn@offbeatoregon.com or 541-357-2222.

Continued Next Week

Quote of the Week

"The greatest deception men suffer is from their own opinions."

Leonardo da Vinci



By Slim Randles

Here he came, Windy Wilson himself. Marched right up to the official round table of the World Dilemma Think Tank at the Mule Barn coffee shop. Windy whipped off his beat-up old Stetson, grinned and bowed to us there as is fitting to the membership of the Supreme Court of Dang Near Everything.

"May I kindly join you, compadres?" Windy said.

Steve pointed to several empty chairs and Windy homesteaded on one in particular. He seated himself as though he were surrounded by servants and looked ... regal. That ain't easy for an over-the-hill cowboy camp cook, either.

We looked at each other and grinned. We're in for it this morning. But ol' Windy wasn't ready to spill the beans. He was waiting for one of us. To do what?

Loretta came by with more coffee and topped off our tanks. "Hey Windy," she said, "Haven't seen you in a while. Hear you've got a new hobby."

She smiled and left. "New hobby?" said Dud. "Okay, spill it old timer."

"Aw, jest got tired of my own cookin' and thought I'd get better acquainted with Mame the Dame Dilworth. So I'm practicin'. Thass all."

"Practicing?" "Sure, Doc. I'm sure you know how it is with single women, they want a guy who's suffistimacated and knows lotsa stuff. So I been practicin.' You know, borryin' from dead smart guys who wrote stuff a long time ago and they don't mind if I use it, cuz they're dead. I did mention on that, right?"

"Yes you did," said Doc. "So give us some of that. Let 's see how you're doing."

Windy stood, grinned, and waved to the half-vast coffee-swilling audience in the room.

"Friends, roommates, countrymen ... lend me your ears! Never in the course of human events has so many owed so much to so few.

"I've come to bury Caesar, not to raise him. The good a man does lives on, while the bad is oft interrupted by the bones."

We were stunned. Finally, Doc broke the silence. "Windy, the only thing you need to improve that is a new hat."

"What if I jest brushed out this 'un?"

"Good start, Windy. Good start."

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Gardening Tips



Gardening can be an option for renters



By Debbie Teashon
 Embarking on the journey of planting a garden can be a significant milestone, a testament to the home you've created, even if it's a rented house or apartment. Your new space can transform into a canvas for container, vegetable, or ornamental gardening, a testament to your green thumb and creativity.

Many rental homes have witnessed the birth of passionate gardeners. Despite the temporary nature of their living arrangements, people strive to infuse their space with a personal touch, and for many, a garden is the perfect avenue for self-expression and home customization.

Growing a garden in a rental is challenging, yet doable. It all depends on the limits the landlord places on a renter. Even without limits, a renter should discuss garden plans with the landlord and negotiate a garden space before altering any part of the property. Some landlords appreciate tenants taking care of a garden, especially if renters invest in trees and shrubs. Other landlords want only an expanse of grass that the tenant waters and mows.

Even when there are severe restrictions on gardening, you may be able to have a garden in pots on a balcony or a deck. This might be the case if you live in an apartment or condominium. Small balconies can become havens for potted plants where you can start seed, grow food, or sustain a crop of flowers.

Investing in large, frost-proof containers is a wise decision, because like furniture, pots and plants move with you. Start with one or two and build your collection as you can afford.

As a renter, you can start to invest in a future garden when you buy a small tree and group plant it in pots with shrubs, perennials, and annuals. As the tree grows, you

can upsize it to larger containers. When you purchase your first home, a much larger tree is ready to go into the ground. The same goes for shrubs. If you want to save money, buy them small and grow them to larger ones that you eventually plant in the ground.

Nurseries are excellent places for fledgling gardeners to get advice when they first dip their hands in the dirt. Nursery personnel look for ways to match the needs of their customers with plants, no matter their skill level.

"Some people may prefer certain colors, fragrances, or types of plants. Understanding their preferences helps suggest suitable options," Clare Argast from Blooming Junction in Cornelius, Oregon, said. She believes it's essential to understand customers' goals and purposes before advising them. She tailors her advice to conditions, size, location, and gardener experience.

Bekki Jamison of Farmington Gardens in Beaverton, Oregon, said, "Even for the gardeners who can't put in a permanent garden, raised beds and freestanding containers are fantastic options."

"For a small outdoor space, there are a variety of patio-specific plants, such as blueberries, raspberries, and tomatoes that are meant to grow in containers. Strawberries, lettuce and radishes are very prolific crops that are easy to grow too; and delicious."

According to Jamison, you can also plant crops such as radishes, carrots, and beets from summer to fall, extending your harvest into winter.

"Of course, it's very important to check the requirements within the rental agreement. Check about what can be planted on a balcony. No one wants water from a balcony above them dripping on their head!"

Argast suggests renters grow easy-care herbs and vegetables

such as tomatoes, peppers, lettuce, basil, and mint in containers. "Consistent watering and fertilizing are essential," she said. She also recommends using high-quality potting mix to ensure proper drainage and plant health.

"Trellising vining crops such as cucumbers, peas, or beans saves valuable space," Argast said.

"For limited space, you want to grow food crops with minimum impact, focus on plants that are productive, space efficient, and relatively low-maintenance."

Argast recommends leafy greens like lettuce, spinach, kale, and Swiss chard. "They can be harvested continuously by picking outer leaves, allowing the plant to keep producing."

Herbs such as basil, parsley, cilantro, and mint thrive in containers. Add a trellis for space-saving vertical ornamental vines and hanging baskets.

If you want an in-ground garden, talk to a potential landlord and ask if they have restrictions about growing food, putting in shrubbery, or planting a tree before you move in.

If you are already renting a home, ask for permission before you point your shovel to the ground. Check your lease for restrictions on modifying the property.

Argast recommends that you get the landlord's approval for the garden in writing and address any concerns the owner might have. Once you are given the go-ahead, she said, "Take good care of the garden, keep it tidy, and adhere to any guidelines set by the landlord."

Debbie Teashon is co-author and photographer for Garden Communicators' award-winning Gardening for the Homebrewer and a regular contributor to regional magazines. Her gardening website is www.rainyside.com.



Country Kitchen

By Mary Emma Allen



FAMILY FOODS OF VARIOUS CULTURES

As we look upon our origins or family culture, we often find many foods in our heritage. My background consists of simple country foods, but as I delve into my ancestry, I discover these might be a combination of German, English, and melting pot American.

For this country has become the melting pot of foods from many cultures. Some families prepare mainly foods they're accustomed to from childhood; others are willing to try something different.

Even though my mom prepared country fare, from foods grown on our farm, she tried to introduce us to foods of other cultures. "You never know but what you'll marry someone who's used to completely different foods," she'd tell us children. "So it's best to get used to other types."

Although my dad sometimes objected to foods other than his meat, potatoes, and vegetables, she would try new recipes. Perhaps this is what stimulated my interest in foods from around the country.

I do remember making chili when I was a teenager. I put so much chili powder in it though that only my uncle (who'd lived in the Southwest for a time) and I would eat it.

I developed a love of spaghetti and other pasta dishes that my dad never really liked.

Beginnings of "Country Kitchen" When Jim and I lived in other parts of the country, during his

years as an Air Force pilot, I became fascinated by the recipes in Texas and California and began researching the stories associated with them.

I sent these recipes and tales home to my mom in New York State and began developing menu ideas for her country store. The editor of a local newspaper wanted someone to write a cooking column, so Mother suggested me. From there "Country Kitchen" evolved and my continued exploration of foods around this country and the world.

PIZZA SALAD might make a change for spring. In a large bowl combine: 1 pound cooked and drained spiral macaroni (or any type you prefer), 3 medium seeded and drained tomatoes, 1 pound cubed Cheddar cheese (less if you want), 2 bunches sliced green onions (or 1 small diced onion), 3 ounces sliced pepperoni, ¼ cup diced green pepper (if you like).

In a small bowl, combine 1/2 to ¾ cup olive oil, 2/3 cup grated Parmesan cheese, 1/4 to ½ cup red wine vinegar, 1-2 teaspoons dried oregano, ½ teaspoon salt, ¼ teaspoon pepper. Pour over macaroni mixture and toss.

Cover and refrigerate for several hours. Top with some croutons just before serving if you desire.

(c) Mary Emma Allen

(Mary Emma Allen, who grew up on a farm, often writes about nostalgic and Inspirational topics.)

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Community Notes

May 16

Leaburg Food Pantry

The Leaburg Food Pantry will be open from 3 to 6:30 p.m. at the McKenzie Bible Fellowship, 45061 McKenzie Hwy. All are welcome. Please send folks.

May 22

Leaburg GMRS

The McKenzie Valley Neighbors GMRS Radio Preparedness Group Network Check-Ins Thursday @ 6 p.m. McKenzie Valley Wide Net Check-In. Channel 32 441.2250 Thursday 6:30 Leaburg GMRS Channel 28 462.6750 tone 100Hz. For Further Information, Contact Facebook Groups: McKenzie River Neighbors Radio Group, or for the Leaburg area, contact Leaburg GMRS Email: WRPP922@gmail.com

May 22

McK Radio Group

The McKenzie Valley Neighbors Radio Group GMRS net meets on Thursday from 6 to 6:30 p.m. "See" you on the repeater. (transmit on 467.675, listen 462.675, PL tone 100 on the uplink). Make it easy! Radio memory channel 28 on MCC-supplied radios and anything Dave has programmed for you.

May 18

A Dime At A Time

The Blue River Bottle Boys Collection/Sorting - sessions every Saturday from 10-noon at the Leaburg Store, 42840 McKenzie Hwy. Donations can be dropped off to us at the 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.

May 18

"Sidewalk" Book Sale

Come one, come all! If it's books you're looking for, the Leaburg Library's got the perfect place to find them. We have literally tons of books just waiting for you to give

them a new home. There's a wide selection in nearly every category, for nearly every age group, and all for \$1 a book! Yep, you read that correctly - \$1 a book. How could you possibly miss this opportunity? Not only will you find some sweet deals, but you will be helping the library in the process. With a building at as old as ours, there is always something that needs fixing. Come join us at 42888 McKenzie Hwy on what we hope will be a sunny spring day, find a few treasures.

May 19

VMCC Concert Series

The Vida McKenzie Community Center will kick off its 2024 Community Concert Series on May 19th at 3 p.m. by featuring Kimberly Reeves Parker on piano and Rick Carter on bass. It is fitting that Kimberly is the first performer in VMCC's rebuilt space because she was the last person to perform prior to the Center's building's destruction in the Holiday Farm Fire.

The second performance of the season will be by The Old Time Fiddlers on June 9th, also at 3 p.m. This concert promises to be an energetic, toe tapping experience that will get you out of your seats and even dancing in the isles.

Both performances will be family friendly with a "pay what you wish" format. Music lovers of all ages are invited, and refreshments will be served.

For more information call Gerry Aster: 541-896-3001.

May 20

McK Fire & Rescue Board

The McKenzie Fire District Board meeting will be held from noon to 1 p.m. in the Leaburg Training Center, 42870 McKenzie Hwy. For information call 541-896-3311.

May 21

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.

May 21

Family Story Time

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

May 21

Walterville Grange

The Walterville Grange will meet from 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. at 39259 Camp Creek Road. The second monthly meeting is on the third Tuesday of each month. It starts at 7:30 PM that night and includes a nice dessert.

May 22

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.

May 22

LEC Board

Members of Lane Electric Cooperative can join monthly board meetings, which begin at 9 a.m. at 787 Bailey Hill Road in Eugene. Each meeting begins with a member comment period. Individual members have three minutes to address the board at that time. Topics presented will be discussed amongst the board and followed up on accordingly. If you wish to address the Lane Electric board please complete a meeting request form at least five days prior to the meeting you would like to attend. <https://laneelectric.com/attend-a-board-meeting>

May 22

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

Willamette welcomes public input on recreation

The Willamette National Forest is initiating a series of six public engagement workshops throughout the community in the coming weeks to gather information from visitors about their recreation interests and post-fire recovery projects. These community meetings are open to the public, and all are welcome.

The Willamette's sizable recreation program manages more than 425 recreation sites ranging from remote trailheads with a single sign board to developed campgrounds with flush toilets and showers, but it has limited resources to maintain or improve this infrastructure.

The purpose of these workshops, Planning for the Future: Investing in Willamette National Forest Recreation Sites, is to help inform where the Forest should invest resources to maintain developed recreation sites and restore access in post-fire landscapes. For anyone not able to attend a workshop in person, there will be an online link in the coming weeks to participate and provide feedback from home.

The workshops will allow community members to share feedback on how they like to recreate and offer ideas for managing or improving recreation sites through a series of Human Ecology Mapping (HEM) sessions that enable planners to understand public values and uses of forest landscapes. The participatory mapping workshops can include a variety of applications, such as surveys, workbooks, paper maps, electronic tablets, online applications, and survey tools.

The interactive sessions, which have also been used on the Deschutes and Ochoco National Forests, will begin on Wednesday, May 15th, at the Sweet Home Senior Center and run through Thursday, June 6th.

A local meeting is set for Thursday, June 6, from 6 to 7:30 p.m., at the Upper McKenzie Community Center, 54745 McKenzie River Drive in Rainbow.

Find more info on Facebook and Twitter @WillametteNF for more updates. <https://www.fs.usda.gov/willamette/>

May 25 -27 Chicken BBQ

Memorial Day Drive Thru Chicken BBQ - VFW POST 3965 Springfield at 5344 Main Street will start selling chicken at 9 am until they sell out. The menu includes: •1/2 Chicken \$9.00 •Sides (Macaroni Salad, Potato Salad, Coleslaw, Baked Beans) \$4.00 They take cash, debit, or credit cards! Come support your local veterans at the Springfield VFW.

May 29

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.

June 1

Garage Sale

The 41st Annual DRACO "That's Incredible!" garage sale will be held in one nice, easy-to-walk location in the DRACO Neighborhood from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday and from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Sunday.

The Vida McKenzie Community Center will be selling hot dogs and beverages at the caboose on Madrone Street. Location: 6 mi. east of Walterville on Hwy 126, near mp 17. Follow signs across the bridge to the sales.



McKenzie Students of the Month

For the month of April we focused on the RIVER expectation "Involved". These are students who "participate in school events, clubs, sports. They engage in all class lessons and activities, are prepared, and use time wisely."



High School student Myra Dion is constantly involved in all aspects of her education. In the classroom, she pays attention, frequently answers questions, and will often help other classmates. Myra participates in many extracurricular activities like cross country, track and field, garden club, and ASB. Myra is a leader in the technology ambassador program. She has helped prepare a majority of the curriculum and will often lead the presentations for elementary students.

Middle School student Jacob Norlund is involved in many extracurricular activities like football, basketball, and track. He shows up and supports high school sports and activities. He is a strong student and is actively involved in his learning. Jacob is a hard worker and always turns his work in on time and complete. He is a leader in the classroom and a good example for the other students.



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 - Of somber color
 - *Like bride's accessories (2 words)
 - 60 mins., pl.
 - Indiana ball player
 - One of Three Bears
 - *Day periods (2 words)
 - Vernacular
 - Part of church
 - Soap bubbles
 - Type of small salmon
 - Bound
 - Domingo, Pavarotti and Carreras, e.g.
 - Nicholas II of Russia, e.g.
 - Key next to spacebar
 - Where users review

DOWN

- Fa follower
- Between Ohio and Ontario
- *Opposite of on land
- Fluffy dessert
- Hillsides in Scotland
- Anti-seniors sentiment
- *Opposite of awkward and clumsy
- *Door instruction (2 words)
- Fairy tale opener
- Flat-bottomed boat
- Bambino
- Not like #26 Down
- Popular breakfast item
- MCAT and LSAT, e.g.
- *Hers
- *Switch positions (2 words)
- Louisiana swamp
- Glasses, for short
- Three biblical sages
- A logical connection (2 words)
- Extract a memory, e.g.
- Stitch again
- R&R spots
- Tolstoy's given name, in Russian
- *Irwin Shaw's title opposites (2 words)
- Checked out
- Pimple fluid
- Marked
- Speak like Pericles
- *Not airtight
- Teacher's pet, e.g.
- Balance sheet entry
- *Cons
- Muslim honorific
- Facts
- Donned
- Nervous biter's victim
- College assessment test, acr.
- Janitor's tool

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

Click here or go to: tinyurl.com/yeye92hx

Events from May 16th

Events from May 16th

- Springfield Museum closure** - We have big news to share here at the Museum! We will be closed to the public from January 7 through July 11, 2024, while our staff and...
- Lesburg Food Party** - At an outdoor Please send take!
- Lesburg GWPC Radio Preparedness** - Every Thursday, McKenzie Valley Neighbors (MKNV) Radio Preparedness Group Network. Check in Thursday @ 8 p.m. McKenzie Valley Radio Net...
- KIDS EAT FREE** - Every Monday (with adult meal purchase), Takedown, Dinner, Outdoor seating (DIT) 12N-10388.
- McKenzie Valley Neighbors Radio Group** - (MKNV) net tonight (Thursday) "See" you on the radio! (Demand on 81.7 FM, later 83.2 FM, PL Tone 100 on the radio). Make it easy...
- McKenzie Fire District Board** - The Board of Commissioner meetings begin at 9:00 a.m. in Harris Hall, unless otherwise noted on the published agenda. Regular Board...
- Waterside Grange #416 meeting** - Our second monthly meeting is on the third Tuesday of each month. It starts at 7:30 PM that night and includes a nice dinner!
- McKenzie River Chamber of Commerce Board meeting** - The McKenzie River Chamber of Commerce is a business organization of volunteers providing members by opportunities to establish...
- Wacky Wednesdays Bingo** - Cards go on sale at 8am. Bingo starts at 7pm. Call: 347-729-9088 for reservations in the morning spots fill up quickly. Burger and more...
- McKenzie River Chamber of Commerce Board meeting** - The Board of Commissioner meetings begin at 9:00 a.m. in Harris Hall, unless otherwise noted on the published agenda. Regular Board...

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ACROSS

- Clothing joint
- *Opposite of good
- *Pre-
- Guesstimate (2 words)
- Sudden impulse
- Group dice game
- Stead
- Naive person
- Fancy necktie
- *Compass point opposites (2 words)
- A pinch between the cheeks

- Earth tremor
- Before skip and a jump
- Constantly worry about something
- More infinitesimal
- Catch a wink
- One weber per square meter, pl.
- *Pre-recorded
- Deed hearings
- Cribbage piece
- Bread spreads
- Plural of focus
- Making the way, in a

Solution on Page 9

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Solution on Page 9

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A Moment in Oregon History

By Rick Steber
(www.ricksteber.com)

May 15 - When highway engineer Samuel Lancaster came to Oregon in 1908 there were no paved highways in the state. After designing the Linfield College campus, Lancaster turned his attention to engineering construction of the Columbia River Highway. This scenic highway, extending seventy-five miles from the Sandy River to The Dalles, hugs the south shore of the Columbia River and includes a number of spectacular vista points overlooking the river and the Columbia Gorge. The highway, built between 1913 and 1915, was hailed as an engineering marvel, a national treasure and was the first paved highway in the Northwest.

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.

Fish Counts

May 7, Willamette Falls
Spring Chinook - 2,653
Summer Steelhead - 3,360

CROSSWORD SOLUTION

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SUDOKU SOLUTION

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In the making?

Continued From Page 1

hoping to break ground on her project for the return of the first commercial structure to be rebuilt after the Holiday Farm Fire. She said she's looking forward to seeing "sticks in the air" as the walls go up and thanked "the entire community for sticking with us."

Other people also provided

information about other projects like a Dark Skies proposal for improving celestial viewing to the Homes For Good's progress on rebuilding the old Lazy Days RV Par,

For more info, videos are available at: tinyurl.com/3mscfmb6

Sheriff's Report

Continued From Page 3

Vehicle Accident, No Injury - Mill Creek Rd. & McK. Hwy.

1:00 p.m: Disturbance, Dispute - 37300 blk, Parsons Creek Rd.

1:28 p.m: Unlawful Use of Vehicle - 41000 blk, McK. Hwy.

2:19 p.m: Towed Vehicle - 40500 blk, McK. Hwy.

4:58 p.m: Theft - 38400 blk, McK. Hwy. Follow Up.

May 10: 5:12 p.m: Attempt To Locate Drunk Driver - Marcola Rd. & Old Mohawk Rd.

6:29 p.m: Disturbance, Dispute - Saddle Dam.

7:20 p.m: Traffic Hazard - McK. Hwy. Mp 29.

9:42 p.m: Stranded Vehicle - Lat. 43.99601. Long: - 122.29696.

11:05 p.m: Suspicious Conditions - 42100 blk, McK. Hwy.

11:56 p.m: Reckless Driving - Marcola Rd. Mp. 4.

May 11: 12:29 a.m: Disturbance, Dispute - 86900 blk, Cedar Flat Rd.

10:57 a.m: ATL Drunk Driver - McK. Hwy. Mp. 35.

11:59 a.m: Motor Vehicle

Accident, Unknown Injury - Marcola Rd. & Shotgun Creek Rd.

7:57 p.m: Traffic Hazard - Marcola Rd. & Johnson Rd.

9:13 p.m: Welfare Check - 91800 blk, Mill Creek Rd.

10:13 p.m: Illegal Fireworks - 38400 blk, Kickbusch Ln.

11:31 p.m: Subpoena Service - 57000 blk, N. Bank Rd.

May 12: 2:56 a.m: Assist Oregon State Police - 49100 blk, McK. Hwy.

2:55 p.m: Blocked Driveway - 54700 blk, Caddis Ln.

3:16 p.m: Theft of License Plate - Terwilliger Hot Springs.

6:25 p.m: Assist, Follow Up - 37100 blk, Camp Creek Rd.

11:41 p.m: Medical Info Call - 37300 blk, Parsons Creek Rd.

May 13: 12:41 a.m: Assault - 48100 blk, Conley Rd.

1:47 p.m: Abandoned Vehicle - 90800 blk, Hill Rd.

3:46 p.m: Stranded Vehicle - Mill Creek Rd. & McK. Hwy.

5:45 p.m: Criminal Trespass - 90800 blk, Angels Flight Rd.

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



The Upper McKenzie Fire District's new "yellow truck."



The Lazy Days rebuilding project was well received.



Hot dogs on a hot day? Many people said "Yes!"

You're Invited! >>>>

The McKenzie River Chamber is inviting you to a listening session to share your ideas about how to shape the future of the McKenzie River regional economy.

SESSION 3: NATURE & RECREATION ECONOMY

Thursday, May 30, 3:00-4:30pm
McKenzie High School, District Board Room

All are welcome. Share your thoughts, and learn about Main Street strategies that can help revitalize the regional economy. Listening Sessions facilitated by Rural Development Initiatives.

Questions? Contact Ken Engelman, president@McKenzieChamber.com

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MRR McKenzie River Reflections

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

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Need to talk?
Call 988

Ready

Continued From Page 1

draw, one student, Roahn McCallum from Salmon, Idaho went home with the dory for the price of the materials," Fletcher said.

The Discovery Center is exploring educational opportunities around drift boats that could include a two-day class for crafting a drift boat model from scratch to a workshop focusing on drift boat management, safety, and navigation skills for people new to river boating. For more information go to: mckenziediscoverycenter.org



Learning how to loft the boat from a set of offset numbers on Day One.



Instructors (l-r) Cricket and Glade Zarn, Brad Dimock.



Attendees and the completed boat at end of class.

P.R.E.P.

Continued From Page 1

Farm Fire had been amazing, considering there was only one fatality in a situation that was feared had resulted in many more. "It was really a testament to the work they did," he added.

Griffiths also gave a few insights into what considerations come into play before a decision is made to allow people to return to their property. "It can take quite a bit of time," he said, because when "the fire is no longer a danger, what it did is."

Some of those threats, he said include trees that could fall or hot ash pits that might still be hot around a property. Letting people back in is "ultimately the sheriff's decision," Griffiths said, "but he's not a fireman."

Other speakers included Darren Cross, McKenzie River Ranger District Ranger, who gave a big-picture overview from a district and agency administrator's perspective during long-duration wildfires.

Adam Veale, Deputy Fire Staff of Operations for Northwest Oregon Interagency Fire Management and Deputy Incident Commander talked about the transition from initial attack to extended attack. He also outlined the Incident Management Team's role during long-duration fires, as well as working together with multiple agencies.

To view videos about coming back to a fire-burned property or how private logging equipment can become "first responders," go to: tinyurl.com

Another look

Continued From Page 1

things people say the McKenzie River has going for it (besides the river itself) include a population of local artists, its historical significance, and scenery.

On the negative side of the scale, some felt, was that while the area's natural attractions were a draw, there weren't many places where people could shop - whether for works of art or consumer goods. Mentioned as well were vacant commercial spaces in both Leaburg and Vida that were well-located and available.

Another session - this time focused on recreation - will be held on Thursday, May 30th, at McKenzie Schools. The public is invited to attend that meeting, scheduled for 3 to 4:30 p.m.

In Memory

Sunnie Marr Burger



September 2, 1922 – November 11, 2023

Longtime Leaburg, Oregon resident, Sunnie Marr Burger, age 101, passed away peacefully in her sleep at Cascade Place in Enumclaw, WA on Veteran's Day, November 11, 2023, from age related causes.

Sunnie was born on September 2, 1922 in Brooklyn, NY, the daughter of Ethel and David Weitz. She had two older sisters, Millie and Alice. In 1942 her family moved from Brooklyn to Los Angeles, CA. The country was at war and the Army had a need for women, so Sunnie joined the Women's Army Corps (WAC) and trained as an aerial photographer. After 3 years of service and an honorable discharge, Sunnie married the "love of her life," Bob Marr, with whom she had two children, Kathleen and Ken.

In the mid-1960's the family moved to Saratoga, California. Sunnie and Bob Marr Divorced in 1966. Sunnie worked for many years as an administrative assistant in the aerospace industry and as a single parent did a wonderful job providing for her two children. In 1973 she married Bob Burger. In 1980, now retired, Sunnie and Bob, moved to Leaburg, OR to live on the majestic McKenzie River. She lived for 40 happy years in her beautiful home on the McKenzie where she developed many deep and lasting friendships. Sunnie attended McKenzie Bible Fellowship in Vida, OR. In 2019 she moved to Cascade Place in Enumclaw, WA to be closer to family. Sunnie transitioned well and felt at home right away, enjoying being pampered, participating in activities, being physically active and staying mentally fit by playing games.

Sunnie will always be remembered for her positive outlook on life, wonderful but not always PC sense of humor, her interest in others, her love for cooking

healthy meals, her strong personality, feistiness and determination to be in charge of her life and decision making. She had a passion for nature and loved living on the McKenzie River where she enjoyed hosting gatherings of family and friends, centered on food, laughter, and games. She was a dedicated homemaker and after a long day in the kitchen, would reward herself in the evening with a good movie or two. She lived independently and drove a car past the age of 96 and was often seen rollerskating down Greenwood Drive into her 80's.

Sunnie touched many lives and was a loving mother, sister, aunt, grandmother, great grandmother and a sincere friend and inspiration to many. She is sorely missed.

Sunnie was preceded in death by husbands Robert Burger in 1996 and Robert Marr in 2001 and daughter Kathleen Francis in 2015. Surviving Sunnie are her son Ken Marr and ex-daughter-in-law Brigitte Marr of Enumclaw, WA; 4 Grandchildren: Steve (Michelle) McKinney of Clermont, Florida, Elizabeth Turpin of Blue Ridge, GA, Eric (Darci) Francis of Kelso, WA, Aimee (Angus) Fend of Buckley, WA; 10 Great-grandchildren and many nieces and nephews.

Sunnie and her family give their heartfelt thanks for the loving care she received for more than 4 years from the amazing caregivers and staff at Cascade Place. They truly are the best. Thank you for treating Sunnie like family and going well beyond the call of duty! CHI Franciscan Hospice staff were crucial in providing care and comfort for Sunnie and were a very helpful support for the family. Sincere thanks to all!

Please share a memory of Sunnie on the Tribute Wall at <https://curnowfuneralhome.com/tribute/details/331692/Sunnie-Burger/obituary.html#tribute-start>. In lieu of flowers, consider a donation to the charity of your choice in Sunnie's memory. Sunnie is resting at Evergreen Memorial Park, Enumclaw, WA.

A celebration of Sunnie's life will take place 1 to 4 pm on Saturday June 22, 2024 at the McKenzie Fire and Rescue Training Center, 42870 McKenzie Hwy, Leaburg, OR.

Please RSVP to her son, Ken Marr, at smbmemorialrsvp@gmail.com

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