

McKenzie River Reflections



THURSDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2022
Volume 45, Issue 16



Serving the McKenzie River Valley ... And Subscriber Gerry Aster of Walterville

Want fresh eggs?

Care for chickens correctly and they'll reward you with cartons full of fresh eggs.

PAGE 5

Christmas Foods

Raccoon is nice eating if cooked right. (Generally this meant parboiling the raccoon, then roasting it with stuffing.)

PAGE 5



Should River Street be closed?

Opponents support keeping Blue River route open



River Street was dedicated as a public road on a subdivision named Cascade Parks in 1911.

BLUE RIVER: A plan to block one of Blue River's few paved roads will be decided following a public hearing by the Lane County Board of Commissioers. If approved, a section of the road would lose public status and revert to private ownership.

The request to vacate part of the street was filed with the Lane County surveyor's office on November 18th by Earth Quest Partners, LLC, Christopher LaVoie, and the Willamette National Forest. Notices of the filing were sent to 43 area landowners as well as 15 public agencies and utilities. "With the feedback received thus far, this item would need to be heard by the BCC with a public hearing," according to Mikeal Blommé, the county surveyor. Additional public comments must be submitted by Friday.

Currently, River Street is

classified as a Local Access Road (LAR). LAR's are public roads that people are allowed to use but aren't maintained by the county. If vacated, the county would also not be responsible for removing any asphalt, installing guardrails, or creating berms to block vehicles.

Chris LaVoie says safety issues were behind the idea to explore the closing the road

River Street - Page 2

Two accidents end in deaths

Wrecks were on McKenzie Hwy. & McKenzie View

A man was killed after a high speed chase on Highway 126 last Saturday night. According to Springfield Police Department Sergeant Pete Kirkpatrick, a patrol officer at a red light on 42nd Street and Main, observed a dark-colored Range Rover pass him eastbound on Main Street at 80 to 90 miles per hour just before 10:30 p.m. The officer tried to keep the the Range Rover in sight and initiate a stop, but wasn't able to due to extremely high speeds,

While officers were searching the area of Highway 126 and Thurston Road, a 911 caller reported a car had crashed in the 38000 block of the McKenzie Highway.

Officers arrived on the scene within seconds to find the same vehicle they had previously seen. They reported the driver of the vehicle had died.

Kirkpatrick said an investigation is currently underway. Alcohol and speed are believed to be contributing factors.

The following night, Oregon State Troop-

ers responded to a two-vehicle collision to assist the Lane County Sheriff's Office. According to LCSO reports, one vehicle was fully engulfed and the other was on its top when officers arrived on the scene around 9:30 p.m., near the intersection of Coburg Road and McKenzie View Drive.

The driver of the overturned vehicle was trapped inside and later pronounced deceased. Police said the passenger was able to exit with visible injuries. The driver of the other, fully engulfed vehicle fled the scene on foot but was later located several hours after the crash.

OSP completed a collision reconstruction. Videos of the suspect were obtained via incar and a body camera prior to his leaving on foot. Police said a black Ford F150 involved in the crash was used to commit a crime. Anyone with information on the incident is asked to call the Lane County Sheriff's Office at 541-682-4150.

Canal report coming

EWEB to hear general manager's recommendations

EUGENE: At next Tuesday's Eugene Water & Electric Board meeting, utility commissioners will hear from General Manager Frank Lawson and his recommendations on what to do with the aging Leaburg hydroelectric project.

The facility includes a dam, canal, forebay, penstocks, powerhouse, tailrace, and substation. Constructed in the 1920s with reinforced concrete and steel, the dam structure impounds run-of-the-river flows on the McKenzie River and diverts water into the Leaburg Canal which travels approximately 4.5 miles downstream to the powerhouse.

The four proposed alternatives for the future configuration of the project include:

Alternative 1, which would involve the full removal of all facilities to pre-project conditions – as if the Leaburg Project was never built.

Under Alternative 2, EWEB would fully renovate all facilities back to peak performance configuration. Work would address structural issues by removing and rebuilding certain parts of the canal, and address the seepage problem by lining the entire canal with a High-Density Polyethylene (heavy plastic) barrier.

Alternative 3 would include a mix of a "return-to-service" and "stormwater conveyance" strategies. This proposal would include adding a new powerhouse higher up the canal at the Luffman Spillway (about 1 mile from the dam). Additional work would include repairs and alterations to the canal downstream of the new powerhouse to transition it into a stormwater channel. Alternative 3 also compares the costs of repairs and alterations to the potential power and revenue generation EWEB would be able to recoup. It would also preserve the

utility's water rights for power generation.

Under Alternative 4, EWEB would decommission the canal, combining "stormwater conveyance" alterations to sections of the canal with the restoration of other parts of the Leaburg Project to pre-project conditions - including a new spillway at Johnson Creek and modifying the Luffman spillway. The utility notes Alternative 4 would be "flexible" by converting short-term risk reduction measures into a long-term solution.

Full removal (Alternative 1) or Full restoration) (Alternative 2) would be the most expensive due to the extensive construction and repairs required throughout the entire project and facilities.



Ongoing maintenance to the Leaburg Dam included work to the structure's roller gates in 2014.

Bridge rebuilt to last

Fish Lake Creek crossing reconnects Clear Lake loop

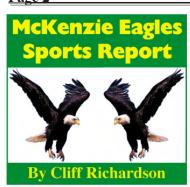
CLEAR LAKE: A bridge at the north end of Clear Lake was reconstructed this year with an eye to the future. One ton I-beams were used in the process, replacing log stringers and sills that were still intact and useable - but showing their

The rebuild, over the Fish Lake Creek, on the McKenzie River Ranger District, was a training opportunity, enlisting more people than normally necessary for similar work. About 25 people helped on the bridge. Those collaborative efforts included the Santiam River Zone Trail Crew, the U.S. Forest Service - Umpqua National Forest Tiller Ranger District Recreation Crew, and

Bridge rebuild - Page 2



From September 6th to October 19th, workers combined steel and wood to more than double the projected lifespan of the Fish Lake Creek Bridge.



McKenzie Varsity Sports
Schedule This Week
The McKenzie Varsity Girls

and Boys Basketball teams host Yoncalla on Saturday, December 3. The Girls game will tip off at 5:30 pm and the Boys game will follow at 7:00 pm.

The Eagle Boys travel to Alsea on Monday, December 5, for a game starting at 7:00 pm. The Eagle Girls and Boys host Siletz Valley on Tuesday, December 6, with the Girls starting at 5:30 pm and the Boys game beginning at 7:00 pm.

Willamette dam operations up for review



The spillway at Cougar Dam.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) has published a draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) that reviews operations and maintenance of USACE projects within Oregon's Willamette River Basin. The Corps manages a complex operation that includes storing and releasing water from 13 Willamette River Basin system reservoirs to meet various needs and demands throughout the year such as flood control, fish and wildlife, hydropower, recreation, irrigation, water supply, water quality, and navigation.

The last EIS that evaluated the Willamette Valley System operations was completed in 1980. Over the ensuing four decades following completion of the 1980 EIS (1980 - 2022), operations have been modified and structural measures for fish passage and temperature control have been implemented to improve conditions for ESA-listed fish species. Information relevant to the environmental effects of operating the system has also been acquired since the 1980 EIS was finalized, including information related to ESA-listed fish species.

The DEIS describes and evaluates impacts related to a No Action Alternative and seven action alternatives that address the Proposed Action. A Preferred Alternative is also identified in the DEIS. The alternatives are each a unique suite of measures for Willamette Valley System management options.

Measures are characterized into general categories, including flow, water quality, downstream fish passage, upstream fish passage, and measures common to all action alternatives such as gravel augmentation and operation and maintenance of adult fish facilities among others. Anticipated impacts were analyzed for all environmental and social resources potentially affected under each alternative.

The Corps will consider all comments received during the comment period and will respond to comments in the Final EIS. If applicable, the Final EIS will reflect changes to the DEIS based on public comments and/or information made available since publication of the DEIS. All public comments will be included in the USACE EIS record. Public comments must be submitted in writing or via email correspondence by email or postal service mail. To Submit Comments through Email To Submit Comments through the Postal Service Send email correspondence to: willamette.eis@usace.army.mil Please add "Willamette Valley System Draft EIS" in the subject line of the email. Send postal service comments to: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Attn: CENWP-PME-E / Willamette EIS P.O. Box 2946 Portland, OR 97208-2946 Please add "Willamette Valley System Draft EIS" in the subject line of submitted letters.

Virtual public meetings are scheduled for Tuesday, December 6th, from 5 to 6:30 p.m. and on Thursday, December 8th, from noon to 2 p.m. The weblink will be posted on the project website.

In-person meetings will be held in early January 2023 and their time and location is currently to be determined. Once meeting venues are available, details will be posted on the project website: tinyurl. com/79mv99wk.



River Street

Continued From Page 1

to through traffic. Those issues included "local drivers speeding through town at crazy speeds," as well as campers/partiers from nearby Blue River Reservoir "flying down the road," including a drunk driver who "flew over Blue River Dr and landed like this next to the Historic Ranger H ome and took out a power line."

People who support keeping the road open have referred to emergency exit concerns related to the Holiday Farm Fire

"This roadway should remain an accessible throughway and not closed off.," according to Betsy Gabriel. "The road is an alternative access and egress road in emergency situations, as well as one of convenience and maneuverability. The Blue River water District also has lines in the area."

Joshua Cloke says many locals have utilized the road as way to access Blue River for swimming and fishing, as well as a path to enter and exit the highway. "There has only been one wreck on that road in the five years I have lived in Blue River. In fact this wreck was not due to the road. It was due to a drunk driver driving way to fast down Blue River Road and hit a telephone pole."

Cloke also points to a main water line that runs down that road, including two gate valves and a fire hydrant that "would be useless to our community without through access."

He says River Street is "one of the better roads in the community. It is far better than most roads on the other side of the river in downtown Blue River."

Under the proposed closure, there would still be limited access from Hwy. 126 to the River Path Park and parking area on the banks of Blue River. LaVoie said he's committed to keeping the river path open and accessible but there have been problems withhomeless

campsites in the area, "filled with garbage and drug paraphernalia – the entire time worried I might get jabbed with a used needle."

Access to the trail will still be available at either end, he says. "They just will not be able to drive through River Street. That said – We would like to see the community come together and find an option for maintaining the River Path."

Written comments on the

proposal must be submitted by 5 p.m. on December 2nd to the Lane County Surveyor's Office, 3050 N. Delta Hwy, Eugene, OR

Blommé said "if the petitioner's wish to move forward with this request, the date of the public hearing would be determined at a later date. Notifications will be provided by mailing or posting as to the time and date of the public hearing."

Bridge rebuilt

Continued From Page 1

volunteers from the Scorpions Trail Crew. The reconstruction was partially funded by the Great American Outdoors Act.

The log stringer and sills of the old bridge were intact and useable but reaching the end of their life. In addition, the log railing was also starting to rot and fail.

Since there was no road access to the bridge, workers hauled the I-beams 8/10's of a mile to the bridge site using a motorized wheelbarrow and a customized trailer. Additionally, connecting and setting the beams in place required skyline cables and innovative solutions.

"Combining wood and steel and

switching from log to concrete abutments and steel I-beam stringers more than doubled the projected lifespan of the bridge," according to Dylan McCoy, Lead Wilderness Ranger for the McKenzie River Ranger District. "Much of the wood used was for aesthetic reasons, not structural, and it will require replacement before the lifespan of the bridge is reached."

During the summer months lots of work is accomplished on the Willamette National Forest in addition to firefighting efforts. More details on some of the work completed this summer will be highlighted in future issues.



McKenzie River Reflections

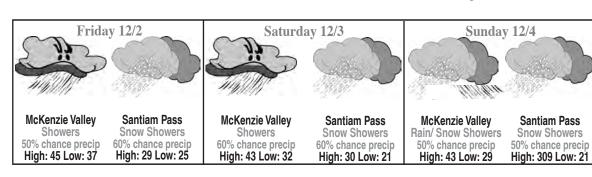


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REPORT WEATHER READINGS TAKEN AT THE **READINGS TAKEN AT US ARMY CORPS COUGAR DAM EWEB LEABURG POWERHOUSE** <u>Date</u> <u>High</u> Low <u>Rain Releases</u> Date High Low Rain Riverflow 11/22 50 32 0.42 346 cfs 11/22 32 2,060 cfs 11/23 47 40 0 NA 11/23 40 52 0.36 2.320 cfs 34 11/24 53 346 cfs 0 11/24 57 35 0 2,280 cfs 11/25 52 33 0.18 346 cfs 33 11/25 55 2,280 cfs 11/26 45 35 0 346 cfs 11/26 56 35 0.24 2.220 cfs 43 34 11/27 0 346 cfs 11/27 47 35 0.09 2,190 cfs 11/28 32 0.85 422 cfs 11/28 0.90 2,820 cfs

Sheriff's Report

Nov. 20: 6:47 a.m: Dispute -92200 block, Treston Ln. Verbal dispute between caller and caller's niece and niece's boyfriend.

11:30 a.m: Suspicious Conditions - Gemstone Rd. & Camp Creek Rd. While out for a walk, a caller located property to include a cell phone. Deputies were able to make contact with the

5:42 p.m: Disturbance, Dispute - 90700 blk, Hill Rd. Dispute between caller and caller's juvenile son. No injuries reported.

Nov. 21: 9:57 a.m: Theft -38300 blk, Wendling Rd. Bicycle stolen from Mohawk high school.

10:50 a.m: Burglary - 87000 blk, Cedar Flat Rd. A known suspect was reported to have stolen undisclosed property from a residence.

3:22 p.m: Menacing - 39400 blk, Mohawk Loop Rd. A caller reported that his landlord menaced him with a shotgun. Deputies

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responded and investigated but were unable to establish evidence consistent with this statement.

Nov. 22: 7:45 a.m: Assault -90600 blk, Lure Ln.

9:03 Suspicious a.m: Conditions - 39400 blk, Mohawk Loop Rd. A black Mustang with no license plates was reported to

12:27 p.m: Attempt To Locate Drunk Driver - Camp Creek Rd. & Upper Camp Creek Rd.

2:31 p.m: Civil Service - 44300 blk, McK. Hwy.

5:00 p.m: Dead Animal - 34800 blk, McK. View Dr.

Nov. 23: 1:42 p.m: Water Rescue - 90300 blk, Thomson

2:00 p.m: Welfare Check -36600 blk, Parsons Creek Rd.

5:19p.m: Reckless Endangering - 39400 blk, Mohawk Loop Rd. Ongoing dispute between landlord and tenant. No crime articulated.

5:57 p.m: Assist Fire Dept. – N. Gate Creek, Milepost 1.

6:38 p.m: Dead Animal -Wendling Rd. & Cartwright Creek

6:48 p.m: Motor Vehicle Accident, No Injury - Marcola

\$1.00

TEAL NEW YORK

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River Reflections

Explore a treasure trove of McKenzie River history -

in the back issues of this newspaper. Go to: tinyurl.com/2rkpksen

2022 June 9 Vol. 44, Issue 43

Rd. & Conley Rd.

Nov. 24: 3:14 a.m: Alarm -7000 blk, Thurston Rd.

8:34 a.m: Alarm - 90700 blk, Hill Rd.

12:12 p.m: Suspicious Vehicle - Leaburg area.

4:46 p.m: Vehicle Stop - McK. Hwy. & N. Gate Creek Rd.

4:53 p.m: Vehicle Stop - McK.

Hwy. & N. Gate Creek Rd. 6:14 p.m: Vehicle Stop - McK.

Hwy. & Horse Creek Rd. 7:04 p.m: Vehicle Stop - McK. Hwy. & Horse Creek Rd.

9:27 p.m: Traffic Hazard -36100 blk, Camp Creek Rd.

11:34: p.m: Disturbance, Dispute - 89800 blk, Greenwood Dr. Verbal dispute between caller and another party. No crime articulated.

Nov. 25: 11:08 a.m: Disturbance, Dispute - 42800 blk, McK. Hwy. A person unsuccessfully attempted to steal gas from an area business, then tried to vandalize the business.

11:57 a.m: Citizen Contact - Mt. Hagen Rd. & McK. Hwy.

5:43 p.m: Disturbance, Dispute - 44800 blk, McK. Hwy. A male has been camping near an area bus stop. The caller reported the male built a fire and threatened to beat the caller up when the caller put his fire out.

6:18 p.m: Assist Fire Department - McK. Hwy. mp 22.

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6:32 p.m: Harassment - 87500 blk, Cedar Flat Rd.

7:40 p.m: Vehicle in Ditch -Marcola Rd. Mp. 3.

7:46 a.m: Illegal Camping -44800 blk, McK. Hwy.

8:15 p.m: Vehicle Stop McGowan Creek Rd. Mp. 2. 10:45 p.m: Vehicle Stop

McGowan Creek & Quarry, Nov. 26: 8:35 a.m: Suspicious Vehicle – McK. Hwy. & Thurston

8:50 a.m: Animal At Large -37900 blk, Camp Creek Rd.

10:48 a.m: Harassment - 90900 blk, Marcola Rd.

11:16 a.m: Incomplete 911 Call - 54800 blk, E. King Rd.

4:22 p.m: Foot Patrol - Walterville Pond.

2:43 p.m: Vehicle Stop - Marcola Rd. & Shadows Dr.

2:55 p.m: Vehicle Stop - Marcola Rd. & Shadows Dr.

5:05 p.m: Found Animal -38000 blk, Camp Creek Rd.

Nov. 27: 12:47:38 p.m: Welfare Check - Aufderheide Dr. & Gamby

Nov. 28: 9:36 a.m: Criminal Mischief - 39200 blk, Camp Creek

2:51 p.m: Traffic Hazard -Marcola Rd. & Donna Rd.

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

McKenzie Fire & Rescue

Nov. 21: 16:27: 41000 block, McK. Hwy. False Alarm-Accidental Medical Alarm.

Nov. 22: 4:50: McK. Hwy./ Milepost 29. Motor Vehicle Accident. Non-Injury/Non-Blocking Patient Refusal.

9:45: 40000 blk, McK. Hwy. Public Assist.

9:47: 88000 blk, Ross Ln. Medical, General. Patient Assessed, Patient Refusal.

11:45: 87000 blk, Cedar Flat Rd. Public Assist. Public Assist.

Continued On Page 8

Upper McKenzie Fire/Rescue

Nov. 21: 19:19: Motor Vehicle Accident - McK. Hwy./FS 2654 Rd. Caller crashed off McK. Hwy. Down embankment, not injured.

Nov. 25: 07:01: Medical -59000 block, N. Belknap Springs Rd. Female patient.

Nov. 26: 10:15: Medical - 55000 blk, McK. River Dr. Female patient.

Nov. 29: 11:07: MVA -Milepost 6, Clear Lake Cutoff. Single vehicle into ditch.

The Upper McK. Fire District board of directors will hold its monthly meeting at 7 p.m on Wednesday, December 21st, at the McK. Fire Station, 56578 McK. Hwy. in McKenzie Bridge.





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Country

By Slim Randles

Every now and then, thought Doc, that opportunity comes back to haunt me. Like it is right now on this crisp morning walk. It came early in his medical life, an invitation to join with a famous big hospital Back East. He'd make more money, he knew, and there was the seductive challenge of being on the cutting edge of what the world of medicine had to offer to the world of people.

He stopped for a minute and looked up through the stark tangle of bare limbs on a cottonwood tree. The filigree patterns of early winter never grew old to Doc. Sometimes they reminded him of capillaries or the branching out of small spring creeks heading for a trout river. And sometimes, they were just pretty to look at and deserved a pause in Doc's morning walk.

He and his wife, known to everyone as Mrs. Doc, had come here to the valley many years ago. Each had become a local institution the way these things go in a small, rural area. They both regretted not having any children of their own, but the devotion each felt for the other tended to at least partially fill that emotional cavity.

Jeffrey Martin came trotting along the sidewalk on his way to school. Had his book backpack and lunch too.

"Mornin' Doc!" he said.
"Hey Jeff. How's school?"

"Just fine. Gotta run. I'm late."

Doc smiled after him. Third grade this year? Close to that anyway. Jeffrey had been a difficult birth. So had Jeffrey's mother. And

anyway. Jeffrey had been a difficult birth. So had Jeffrey's mother. And Doc had been there for both of them. There's more than one way to have a family, Doc thought, smiling.

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Quote of the Week

"To achieve great things, two things are needed; a plan, and not quite enough time."

Leonard Bernstein

McKenzie River Crossings

By Carl Stephens
Reprinted from
McKenzie River Reflections
August 27, 1982, edition

So much of the time we go busily about our everyday life with no thought of how our area got to be the way it is now. I find that most people really take interest in and enjoy the area much more once they learn something about the history behind it. As we go gliding up the McKenzie Highway, how many of us ever give any thought to what this route was like or what traveling it was like, say 100 years ago!

I'll not dwell on the roadhighway at this time but would like to rap some about the various river crossings encountered some seventy to ninety years ago along this great McKenzie River that we call homeland.

It seems that Jacob C. Spores settled along the McKenzie River near what is now Coburg, arriving there on September 5, 1847. He may have started the first public crossing when he used a canoe to transport foot traffic across the river in the vicinity of Armitage Bridge in 1848. In 1850 he built a ferry to transport travelers and their vehicles and livestock across the river. A couple of his neighbors proceeded to do likewise and attempted to run Mr. Spores out of business. A legal battle arose and all three were instructed to appear before the authorities. On the appointed day the river was running extremely high. Spores appeared but the other two men failed to show up. Mr. Spores was given full right to continue in the ferry business, which he did until a covered bridge was built at the site by now known as Spores Crossing, in 1878. The bridge was 239 feet long. and cost \$9,080 to build. In 1881 another 102 feet of approach was added. This bridge served until it was replaced in 1928 by a steel bridge 343 feet long, at a cost of \$56,276.93.

About three or four miles up stream we find Deadman Ferry that operated for a good many years. A couple of miles further up river were the two Seavey ranches on the north bank where large



The Blue River Covered Bridge.

fields of hops were grown. Their only access for many years were their ferries. Even the hop picking crews were brought in on the ferry it was in use until sometime in the late 40's. Their departure came out onto Hayden Bridge Road in the vicinity of the present Page School.

On up river, Madison (Matt) Spores, son of Jacob C. Spores, operated a ferry at "the Narrows," now known as Hayden Bridge. It was replace by a covered bridge also. This bridge was built in 1874, the same year that the first bridge was built across the Willamette River at Springfield.

The same man was given the contract for building both bridges and had both of them under construction at the same time. I am told that a large barge like structure was brought in and suspended in the middle of "the Narrows" to put the temporary false work up on to hold the bridge span until the truss work was completed and could stand alone. The river runs very deep through "the Narrows," measured at 69 feet of water. Therefore it would be near impossible to stand the false-work on the river bottom as was the usual method.

The Hayden Bridge was a 217-foot span with short approaches on either end. A steel bridge was built on the upstream side of the covered bridge in 1926. It was

replaced by the present concrete bridge about 1968 or 1979. An interesting note here: This last bridge was built along side its permanent location, the other bridge removed and then the new bridge was slid over into place.

It was reported that the first ferry crossing between Cedar Flats and Walterville was near the curve at the east end of Cedar Flats Main Street. Due to the widening and growing shallowness of the channel through the years, the ferry crossing had to be moved to where the water was deep enough to allow the ferry to operate.

Caswell Hendricks built and operated a ferry at what is now Hendricks Wayside Park. I have not learned when this ferry was put into operation but am told it was there as of 1877. Mr. Hendricks had a homestead on the south bank of the McKenzie River and had built his house in the vicinity of McKenzie Hwy. and Deerhorn Road. He operated the ferry for many, many years, possibly up until 1897. Fee was 50 cents for years then went up to \$1.00.

Mr. Herbert C. Thompson wrote for the "Old Oregon" in the October 1923 issue about his first trip into the mountains in 1891. He recalled the following as they left "The struggling cross road village of Springfield, or Slab Town as it is nick-named due to its sawmill. But as we

proceeded the mountains steadily narrowed down on us until we entered groves of maples and other native woods, anticipating the timberline. My journal records that we lunched near Hendricks Ferry. I recall distinctly the scene: A little green Jummock for our table with a spread of alders. Mr. Brown, a sturdy old Englishman with gray chin beard streaked with tobacco juice and a gruff manner that belied his kindly heart, slung off his saddle and lay the streaming horse blanket for our tablecloth. Mr. Young, bearded, hearty farmer with the gentlest voice and manner in the world, noticed my twitching nose and came to my rescue. 'Don't you think Mr. Brown that the blanket is just a leetle strong?' he asked in a conciliatory and tactful tone. Mr. Brown grunted and slung the blanket aside, whereupon we placed our cold snack on clean, fresh newspapers.

There was a certain show of formality observed by these old pioneers in their relations to each other. They did not slap each other on the back like the primitive Westerners of the movies and they always "Mistered" each other." (End quote)

The ferry crossed from the gravel bar on the Deerhorn side (south bank) to the sandy beach on the north side. Just off the present parking lot of Hendricks Wayside.

Oregon's friends in..... Page 8



It's time to vote for the Reader's Choice

for the McKenzie River's

Man, Woman & Business of the Year

Cast your vote by December 23rd

Fax, write, or email their name and an explanation of why you think they're the best in the McKenzie Valley

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Gardening Tips

By Kym Pokorny



Tips to keep chickens in a laying mood



Care for chickens correctly and they'll reward you with cartons full of fresh eggs. Get it wrong and the eggs stop coming.

The good news is that getting it right isn't difficult, said Jim Hermes, a poultry specialist for Oregon State University Extension Service. Give them appropriate feed, water and shelter from the worst weather of winter and you've covered the bases.

Make bagged feed from feed stores the food of choice. It's formulated for each stage of life – baby, adolescent, and adult – with the correct nutrient requirements. Starter feeds are for chicks from hatching to about six weeks old; grower and developer mixes go to chickens from 6 to 17 weeks, and layer or breeder feed is made for those producing eggs.

If you can't keep your variously aged chickens separated, there are feed mixes labeled "general purpose" that is appropriate for all ages. For laying hens, though, you'll need to add calcium in the form of oyster shells or egg production drops.

The biggest mistake chicken owners make is to supplement too much, Hermes said. Don't consider leftovers from the kitchen or vegetable garden an important part of their diet. They'll eat those treats first and not as much as the chicken feed, which dilutes the number of nutrients in their diet. When that happens, chickens are more susceptible to disease and will produce fewer eggs.

"If it's a high-fiber, leafy green vegetable, it sounds good, but it just has water, sugar, and fiber," said Hermes, author of Extension's newly revised publication How to Feed Your Laying Hens. "The fiber goes through them, they already have water and they don't need sugar."

"If you're going to supplement, a little bit is OK," he added. "It's just like with kids, give them a little snack. What they can finish in 10 to 15 minutes."

Scratch – a mixture of grains, usually wheat and corn – is an acceptable supplement as long as it's not overused. A little tossed on the ground encourages chickens to scratch, which gives them exercise. In the process, they'll find nutrient-filled insects.

Chickens will eat little pebbles called grit if they need them to grind up wheat, corn, or insects. It's available at feed stores, but often they'll find what they need on the ground. Unlike people, layer chickens don't overeat, so feed should be left out continuously.

"You'll rarely see a fat layer chicken," Hermes said. "They eat to satisfy their energy requirements.

If they go without feed for a day, they'll go out of production. So keep feed in front of them all the time."

As winter approaches, be sure to have a place for your chickens to get out of bad weather. Though they have excellent down jackets, chickens suffer if their combs or feet get too cold. The tips of combs can freeze if temperatures dip to 10 degrees or lower. If they do, there's the chance of gangrene, which causes damage, pain, and fewer eggs.

Hermes noted that hens need to nest in places that are a foot or more above the ground as protection against dogs, raccoons, and other predators.

Be sure to keep water available. If it freezes, put out fresh water or break the ice. There are water pan heaters available or you can even put a light bulb in a coffee can and place the dish on top.

There's no need for heat lamps to warm adult chickens, but to keep hens laying you'll need to supply artificial light from about 6 a.m. to 10 p.m. The light needs to be just bright enough to read a newspaper; the type of bulb doesn't matter. Once started, the light program must be continued, Hermes said. Even a one-day lapse can cut down or eliminate egg production. He suggests using a timer to keep things on schedule.

Find more information about raising chickens in these publications:

- ° Living on the Land: Backyard Chicken Coop Design
- ° Raising Chickens in Urban Environments
- ° Why Did My Chicken Stop Laying?



CHRISTMAS TRADITIONS, OLD AND NEW

Now is the time our thoughts and plans turn toward the Christmas holiday season. The traditions for our family often consist of a combination of old and new. Many come to us from our parents and grandparents. Then we often combine them with customs of our own.

My parents grew up celebrating Christmas at different times. So we had a medley of customs, resulting in an expanded holiday for us children.

Mother's family opened their gifts on Christmas Eve, then had their big dinner Christmas Day with relatives often visiting. Father's family had their gifts on Christmas morning.

So they compromised. Mother let us open one gift the night before Christmas, and we enjoyed the remainder the next morning after Father and the hired man milked the cows and ate breakfast. (That was such a long wait.)

We always let our daughter open one gift on Christmas Eve, and she carried out that tradition with her children. What traditions have you carried on or combined?

Christmas Foods

My family generally had roast chicken for Christmas dinner because we raised chickens on our dairy farm and sold eggs commercially. Turkey was a special treat.

In reading through the autobiographical notes Father wrote for me one winter when he was ill, I've learned about one of his Christmas meals.

During his youth, in the early 1900s, my father trapped in the woods and meadows around their farm, catching beaver, mink, and raccoon and sold their pelts.

Once just before Christmas, I caught a very large raccoon, about

25 pounds. We had it cooked and also a 20-pound turkey I'd raised for Christmas and New Year's. We asked some neighbors in. Raccoon is nice eating if cooked right. (Generally this meant parboiling the raccoon, then roasting it with stuffing.)

More Holiday Traditions

Another holiday tradition Father mentions: We [Father and his older brother Charles] went to Sunday school and usually walked the two miles. A big event was Christmas. The children usually got something like candy and oranges.

Oranges were a treat in my parents' day as well as when I was a child. These weren't readily available, so given as gifts at the Sunday School Christmas program and in our stockings on Christmas morn. Tangerines in our stocking we considered a very special delicacy when I was a child.

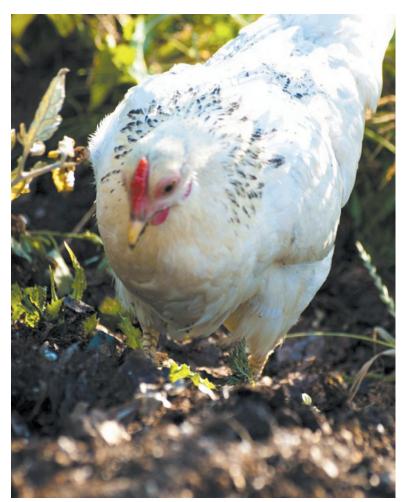
APPLESAUCE CAKE was a recipe my Aunt Freda made. (She lived in Dover, NH and married my uncle who came there from New York State to establish a veterinary practice.)

Cream thoroughly 1/2 cup shortening and 1 cup sugar; add 2 beaten eggs and mix well. Add 1-cup thick, unsweetened applesauce, then the sifted dry ingredients (2 cups flour, 1/2 teaspoon salt, 1 teaspoon baking powder, 1/2 teaspoon baking soda, 1/2 teaspoon cinnamon).

Beat smooth and fold in 1-cup raisins. (You can add 1/2 cup chopped walnuts, if desired.) Bake in greased 8-inch square pan at 350 degrees F. for 45-50 minutes, until tests done. Serve plain or with frosting or whipped topping.

(c) Mary Emma Allen

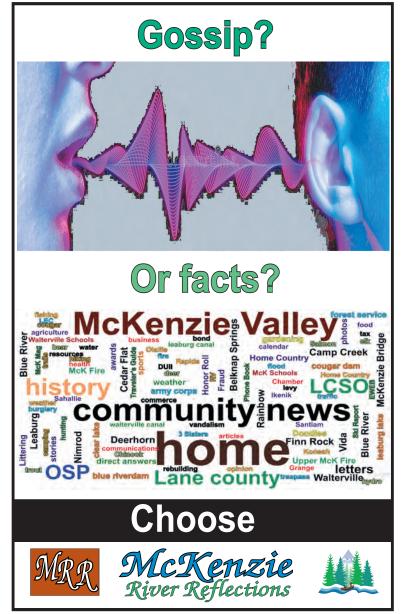
Mary Emma Allen writes from her NH home.



Insects provide good nutrition but aren't a replacement for well-balanced feed mixtures.







Page 6 McKenzie River Reflections Thursday, December 1, 2022

Community Notes

Nov. 25 - Dec. 31 Ornament Contest

Ornaments have been placed on three non-wilderness trails in the McKenzie Ranger District. People should take only take one ornament per household so other families can enjoy the same thrill. Every ornament on a given trail features the same design. Beginning on November 25th, eagle-eyed hikers and visitors can hit the trail to track down an ornament; once they've found one, they can register to win the grand prize - and put the ornament on their tree in their home. Ornaments will be placed on family-friendly trails and more arduous paths alike, giving hikers of all abilities the chance to win. Details will be released on November 25th at: tinyurl.com/ 39nc5nn9.

December 3 Christmas Bazaar

Even though Christmas lights and décor have been evident along McKenzie Highway for several weeks, the area's seasonal festivities actually "kick off" with Vida McKenzie Community Center's Annual Christmas Bazaar. The Bazaar will be held at Walterville Community Center and Grange on Saturday, December 3rd, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Guests will be greeted by the wonderful smells of breakfast and lunch items offered at the snack bar and by the glitter and charm of gift items offered by over 20 artisans. A Children's Choir from Mc-Kenzie School will be performing at 10, followed by the arrival of Santa Claus at 10:30.

Santa's Workshop will provide an opportunity for children (young and old) to snap a photo with Santa or for youngsters to decorate Christmas cookies, create hand-made Christmas cards or shop for their family (all items \$10 or less.) A bevy of raffle items will be waiting for the lucky winners and guests will also learn

about the wonderful progress in the rebuilding of Vida McKenzie Community Center, destroyed in the 2020 Holiday Farm Fire.

Since VMCC is partnering with the "Bottle Boys" to raise money for non-profits in the McKenzie Valley, guests are encouraged to bring bags of cans and bottles to the Bazaar to aid in this valleywide recycling effort.

VMCC's Christmas Bazaar is a not-to-be-missed event. Come one! Come all!

December 9 McKenzie Food Pantry

Free groceries provided in accordance with Oregon Food Bank and Food For Lane County guidelines for food distribution to those in need. 2nd & 4th Friday, at the Mc-Kenzie 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.

Light up the Valley December 9

The McKenzie River Chamber of Commerce is sponsoring a Light up the Valley contest for area businesses. Vote for your favorite business lights by 5 p.m. on Friday, December 9th at: Nadine@ windermere.comm. Winners will be announced at a Holiday Lights Depot event on December 11th, with prizes awarded for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place finishers. It will be held from 2 to 5 p.m. at the Leaburg Fire Station.

December 10 Library Grand Opening

McKenzie Fire Station Community Room and Leaburg Library

The Leaburg Library will celebrate the Grand Opening of the "Angler's Roost" from 2 to 4 p.m. on Saturday, December 10th. The new one-of-a-kind collection featuring over 500 rare, collectible fly-fishing books donated by Tom

Ripp, and a smaller collection donated by the estate of Kevin Winter. This collection includes books about fly-fishing, fly-tying, lake fishing, river fishing, best places to fish here and abroad, history of fishing, books by legendary authors, diaries and memoirs, wonderfully written stories with beautiful illustrations, books that everyone would enjoy reading.

The celebration will begin in the Community Room at 2 p.m. with opening remarks, an overview of the collection by Tom Ripp, and the dedication, followed by an open house at the library where people can peruse the collection.

Refreshments will be served in the Community Room and in the Library during what's sure to be a fun afternoon.

December 13 Holiday Dinner

The Walterville Grange will host an Open House and Holiday Dinner at 6 p.m. on December 13th. On the menu will be turkey, ham, dressing, mashed potatoes and gravy, rolls, coffee and juice as well as side dishes and desserts people are encouraged to bring. Visiting and viewing displays will start at 6 p.m, followed bt dinner at 6:30 and a program at 7:30. The Grange is located at 39259 Camp Creek Road in Walterville.

December 13 Reforestration

Oregon State University Extension Services will host a discussion on Reforestation after the Fire to discuss considerations for planting trees after a property has experienced a fire. Topics will include reforestation practices, vegetation management, dealing with overhead dead wood, and creating planting plans. The Oregon Department of Forestry will be available to answer questions about forest practice laws and regulations, as well as other, partner organizations that provide resources for after fire recovery.

The event, from 2:30 to 4:30 p.m, is free, but registration is required. It will be held at Mc-Kenzie Fire and Rescue, 42870 McKenzie Highway in Leaburg. Please register for the event to receive meeting information. This is a hybrid event and you can attend in-person or online. Register here: https://extension.oregonstate.edu/lane/events/reforestation-after-fire-lane-county.

Season of giving trees

The Upper McKenzie River Fire District has one at the Upper McKenzie fire station, another at the Orchid Clinic in Rainbow, and

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one at the McKenzie Community School. Ornaments have been place on the trees with an age range on it. People can take one of the ornaments and leave the other one, purchase a gift suited for the

age and have it preferably at the school or the fire station by the December 9th. For questions call Lacy Joy 541-554-0209 or Jess Boykin at 541-654-9292.

Burnt out, OR nurses call on lawmakers for support



A legislative proposal from Oregon nurses would require certain staff numbers depending on the hospital unit

By Eric Tegethoff Oregon News Service

Oregon nurses are urging state lawmakers to make hospitals better and safer places to work.

With the 2023 legislative session just around the corner, the Oregon Nurses Association is calling for changes to ensure minimum staffing standards based on patient numbers and accountability for hospitals so there are enough nurses on the floor.

Matt Calzia, director of nursing practice and professional development for the Oregon Nurses Association, said the lack of staffing has real implications for patients. For instance, if a nurse goes on break for lunch, another nurse assumes care of their patients, doubling the other nurse's workload during that time.

"So when you've just had knee surgery and if that period of time falls when you need your next pain medication dose, it may be delayed because right now your nurse actually has eight patients instead of four," Calzia explained.

Calzia pointed out turnover is higher now than during the Delta wave of the pandemic because nurses are burned out. According to the union, turnover was 2% in 2021.

Sean Kolmer, senior vice president of policy and strategy for the Oregon Association of Hospitals and Health Systems, countered under the union's proposal, "community hospitals will have no choice but to reduce access to services if they are unable to hire

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enough staff" and argued there is a staffing shortage in the state.

Paige Spence, director of government relations for the Oregon Nurses Association, said along with minimum safe staffing requirements, the union proposal would ensure Oregon's current staffing law is enforceable and provide accountability when nurses make complaints. In addition, Spence emphasized an annual review of the staffing plan would include the number of missed meal and rest breaks over the past year.

"To ensure that the staffing levels going forward are robust enough to accommodate nurses' abilities to take the rest break which they need for sanity and physical well-being, and also are entitled to by law," Spence stated.

Calzia refuted claims the state has a shortage of nurses.

"It's not a pipeline issue; it's a turnover issue," Calzia stressed. "You have more nurses leaving the bedside than you can get in, and then you're just burning through them."

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An Invitation to Worship

McKenzie Bible Fellowship

45061 McKenzie Ilwy – Vida, Oregon Sunday Worship – 10:00 a.m. Youth Ministries KidsFest Family Activities Small Group Fellowships Men's & Women's Bible Studies Call 896-3829 for information www.mckenziebible.com

Living Water Family Fellowship Pastor - Doug Fairrington 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)

Catholic Church

St. Benedict Lodge Chapel
1/2 mile off Hwy. 126 on
North Bank Rd., McKenzie Bridge
Sat. Eve. 5:00pm
Sun. Morn. 9:30am;
web page: sblodge.opwest.org

McKenzie Valley Presbyterian Church

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

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Direct Answers

By Wayne & Tamara Mirthell

The Queen's Court



Five years ago, my father left my mother for another woman. I wish my father could have remarried a nice, decent person, but unfortunately he didn't. His wife is a manipulative, moneyoriented woman who shows no love for my father.

Of course, this is his problem, but unfortunately his wife went on a hate campaign against me. I tried to smile back and be pleasant, but she uses every opportunity to insult me. She won't let my father do me any favors. At Christmas he gave me a present but said not to tell her.

My brother and I went on a weekend trip with them and walked on eggshells the whole time. My father said not to make any noise because "she needs her beauty sleep" and "she noticed you always lie in the best deck chair." I'm the sort of person who looks for the best in everyone, but this is terribly upsetting.

I am lucky my father lived abroad, and I didn't see much of them. Now he's moved back, and she came back with a big bang! My baby was sick so I couldn't pick them up at the airport. They took a taxi. She told me I was a horrible person and scolded me like a small child.

Enough is enough. For the first time in five years, I exploded. My father apologized on her behalf, and asked me to do the same for not picking her up. He said she's never apologized to anyone in her life and "if you don't apologize, we won't be able to have a normal relationship."

I didn't cede. I thought if I don't stand up for myself, she will keep acting like this. She told my father, "It's her or me." Although my father drops by to see me and his granddaughter, he's never invited me to his house, and true enough, she never apologized.

This is the first time in my life I have experienced such behavior. Sometimes I wonder if there is something wrong with me. Do I have to accept that this woman has damaged my relationship with my father forever?

Allison

Allison, your father isn't this woman's husband. He is her chief of protocol and her emissary to the rest of the world. He thinks his duties include telling others how low to bow or curtsey in the presence of this regal personage.

Like any good protocol officer, he smoothes ruffled feathers, deflects blame, and maintains the

famous protocol smile no matter what happens. But just because your father has elected to serve in this woman's court is no reason you must.

Understand the nature of the beast you are dealing with. Your father's new wife views the world solely in terms of what is helpful or unhelpful for herself. You can't apply your way of thinking to one who thinks only of herself. She is so determined in her egocentric behavior she can make good people doubt themselves.

Your father has dropped out of his fatherly role. In trying to make you accommodate yourself to her, he robs you of your free will. He is trying to ensnare you in a life of lies and deceit. That will work only if you consent to it, but if you consent to it, you've lost yourself.

You can't successfully serve your father and this woman, but you can successfully serve yourself. Live your life from your own sense of right and wrong, fair and unfair, just and unjust. Then act and react to others from that sense of who you are, not who someone else would like you to be.

Giving into your stepmother is the strongest signal you can give her that you are another person she can use. You don't give respect to anyone incapable of respecting others. You stand up to them.

Wayne & Tamara

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Wayne & Tamara are also the authors of Cheating in a Nutshell, What Infidelity Does to the Victim, available from Amazon, Apple and most booksellers.

American Life in Poetry

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Granddaughters

nature.

skins

By Joy Harjo I was a thought, a dream, a fish, a

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fever I carried a sack of dreams from a starlit dwelling

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moccasins The taste of berries made of

promises While the memories shift in their

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A Moment in Oregon **History**

By Rick Steber (www.ricksteber.com)

December 1 – During the final stages of World War Two, a squadron of American B-17s made a bombing run over the oil fields in Rumania. The plane in which Second Lieutenant David Kingsley was a bombardier, was struck by enemy fire and began losing altitude. The pilot commanded the crew to bail out. Lt. Kingsley immediately went to work assisting two wounded gunman, helping them put on their parachute harnesses. The tail gunner's harness had been damaged and was unusable. Disregarding his personal safety, Kingsley placed his harness on the wounded man and helped the man bail out. The body of Lt. Kingsley was recovered later from the wreckage of the B-17. He was awarded the Medal of Honor, hailed as a war hero, and Kingsley Field in Klamath Falls was named in his honor.

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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

Piano Lessons

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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 November 17, Willamette Falls Fall Chinook – 2,714

Winter Steelhead – 6,620

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Wars" toys from Kenner

in the '70s 5. *Certain toy G.I.

8. Miss America's accessory 12. Pot inhale

13. Morsel of Little Miss Muffet's meal

14. Private

15. Larger-than-life

16. Children's author Blyton

17. Post-Its

18. *Sticks and spools toy set

20. One of the Olsens

21. Gibson garnish

22. Middle-earth creature

23. Bias

26. Neat in appearance

190 CHANNELS

30. Chasing game

31. Chancellor, in Europe

34. Not happening

35. Anomie, alt. sp.

37. Local area network

38. Re-attempt

39. Wyatt Earp's card game

40. Common parakeet, colloquially speaking

42. Snakelike fish

43. Not yet a wife

45. *Like certain toy Cathy

47. Mine deposit

48. Water nymph

50. Cassette contents

52. *Illuminated picture maker

56. Wainscots

57. Play parts

58. The Fonz: "Sit

59. Face-to-face exams

60. Not this

61. Brainchild

62. Homey, alt. sp. 63. "Fight for You" singer

64. High rocky hills

DOWN

1. Editor's mark

2. African antelope

3. Related

4. Suppose 5. Political club, in the olden days

6. Celestial hunter

7. Whirlpool

8. *Sno-Cone, actually (2 words)

9. Opposed to

on TV" 10. "As _

11. Retail posting acronym

13. Blood-red

14. Beginning of essay

19. "Dear Diary" bit 22. Hockey legend

23. "The Office" people, e.g.

24. Veranda on Oahu

25. Ancient Greece marketplace

26. "The ____ Show" (1976-1980)

27. Sacred song

28. White heron

29. *Raggedy Ann or Strawberry

Shortcake, tenderly

32. *Professor Plum and Colonel Mustard game

33. Little bit

36. *Avenues and rail roads game

38. Betty Ford Center, e.g.

40. Spelling contest 41. Superlative of icy

44. Edible herb

46. Quick and skillful

48. Specialty

49. Rose oil 50. Tropical edible root

51. Dwayne Johnson's 2022 role

Black

52. Wooden slat

53. _-China

54. Part of a traditional wedding

cake

55. Greek Hs

56. *Play-_

McKenzie Fire & Rescue

Continued From Page 3

15:12: 8500 blk, Thurston Rd. Medical, General. Cancelled Prior to Arrival.

Nov. 23: 2:07: 40000 blk, McK. Hwy. Mistaken Alarm. Cancelled by Dispatch.

11:28: 39000 blk, McK. Hwy. Public Assist. Lift Assistance Provided. **13:39:** 90000 blk, Thomson Ln.

Refusal. **17:50:** 46000 blk, N. Gate Creek Rd. MVA. Non-Injury/Non-

Water Rescue. Investigate, Patient

Blocking. Patient Refusal. **Nov. 24:** 40000 blk, McK. Hwy. Public Assist. Lift Assist Only.

15:37: 39000 blk, McK. Hwy. Medical, General. Patient Assessed, 1 Transported.

Rd. Medical, General. Patient Assessed, 1 Transported. Nov. 25: 17:21: McK. Hwy./ Mp. 27 Illegal Burn. Unable o

18:55: 41000 blk, Deerhorn

Locate.

18:07: McK. Hwy./Greenwood MVA/Car Fire., Fire Extinguished, Patients Assessed, Non-Injury/Non-Blocking. Patient Refusal.

Nov. 26: 13:04: 45000 blk, McK. Hwy. Medical, General. Patient Refusal.

19:16: 37000 blk, MJ Chase Rd. Medical, Heart. Patient Assessed, 1 Transported.

22:25: 38000 blk, McK. Hwy. MVA. Non-Blocking, Fatality.

Nov. 27: 13:21: 38000 blk, McK. Hwy. Medical, General. Patient Assessed, 1 Transported.

McK. Fire & Rescue will hold its monthly Board of Directors meeting on Monday, December 19th 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.







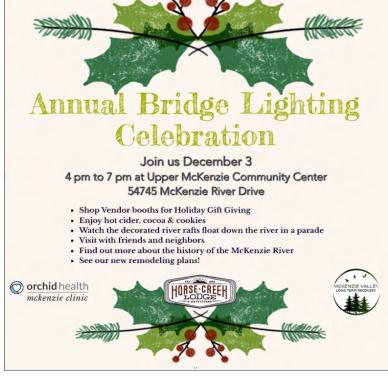
Solution on Page 6

C StatePoint Media

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 6



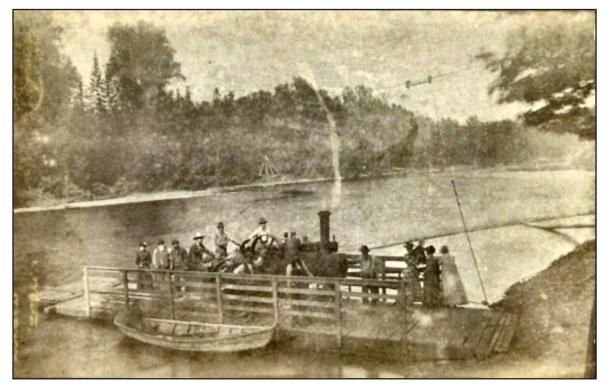




This Space For Rent rivref2@ gmail.com McKenzie River Reflections Page 9

McKenzie River Crossings

Continued From Page 4



In the spring of 1895, the county commissioners purchased the ferry boat and fixtures for \$80. It continued as a free service until it was replaced by the bridge.

The big cottonwood trees on the north bank now were non-existent then. In fact there was some gravel bar on the north bank too and the little stream that comes out of the picnic area now was a good-sized slough emptying into the river in those by gone days.

Sol Dotson lived on the north bank. His house sat about where the driveway comes into the Hendricks Wayside now. Mr. Dotson is reported to have run the Hendricks ferry from about 1897 until about 1904. At that time Grant Hendricks, son of Caswell Hendricks, returned from eastern Oregon and took over operating the ferry until it was replaced by a covered bridge, which was completed in 1908.

Somewhere during the years of the Hendricks ferry the following mishap took place. A Mr. Elwood Bowerman had a homestead on the hill almost due north-northwest of the present bridge. He was returning from Eugene/Springfield one evening and requested to be put across the river at the Hendricks ferry. The river was up and running very high with lots of drift logs and debris. After much persuasion and against his better judgment, the ferryman finally set out to put Mr. Bowerman across on the ferry. Having reached about mid-stream, a log floating by struck the ferry, breaking the cable and setting all drifting down stream. The men decided that the horses would have a better chance of survival if they were set free. They unhitched and unharnessed the horses and backed them off the ferry into the water so they might swim out to shore. One horse managed to do this but the other was caught in the current and swept below the ferry. The ferry then drifted into a

logjam, crushing the horse by the impact. The horse was not killed and men from the area gathered and helped get it out onto high ground. The horse's injuries were bad enough that it would never be able to work again. The county bought Mr. Bowerman a new team to replace the injured horse. This happened about three miles down river from the crossing or about in back of the present Greens Gravel Plant off of Camp Creek Road.

At one time the water was very low in the river and a steam engine tractor attempted to "ford" the river at the Hendricks ferry crossing. However, the water was deep enough to get into the firebox and drown out the fire. Due to mis-calculation on this and not having enough head of steam in the boiler the engine lost power and stopped near mid-stream. A crowd gathered to watch the proceedings. A team of horses was summoned, a line ran to the disabled steam engine and it was pulled to shallower water where the firebox was above water line. Dry wood was kindled and soon a head of steam was built up and the engine was under way again on its own power.

The covered bridge was built a hundred yards or so up stream from the ferry crossing. The south end rested on the huge boulder that L.L. and Pat Ray have built their round house on a few years ago. The bridge was of two spans: 240 feet and 180 feet with 142 feet of approach on the north end and 20 feet of approach on the south end Thus it reached from Deerhorn Road to over half way across the picnic grounds of the Hendricks Wayside. It had the distinction, I'm told, of being the longest wooden bridge in the nation at the time it was built. Just think of all the timbers, planks and other lumber it would take to build that 582 plus feet of bridge and it was all done for a total cost of \$13,100.00.

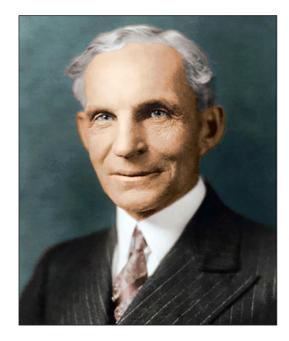
Stubs of piling from the center piers can still be seen near the north shore. Sticking up out of a pile of big rocks. Not many years after the bridge was built, the river started washing around the base of this pier and threatened to undermine the pilings that the middle of the bridge sat on. John Vaughn and several other men from the Walterville area, along with David Stephens and some of his sons, and Andy Stephens and sons came to the rescue. With teams and wagons they hauled big rocks from the cliff on the hill west of the Walterville Power House, over to the bridge, the flooring planks were removed and rocks rolled off the wagons and down and also around the pilings that were being undermined.

At another time shortly after the bridge was built, the hill on the south bank had been logged off and the slash was being burnt. A burning log rolled down the hill and came to rest in the end of the bridge. Someone was quickly summoned with a team and the log was drug away before it could set the bridge afire, which it was very much in danger of doing.

The covered bridge was also marred by a tragedy in later years. Charlie Deadmond, a honorable young man who had grown up in the Walterville area and was very well liked, picked this spot to commit suicide. The entire community was shocked and very saddened when the news of this tragedy was received.

Continued Next Week

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