



Delivering targeted news for the McKenzie Valley community since 1978

Sheriff's Reports

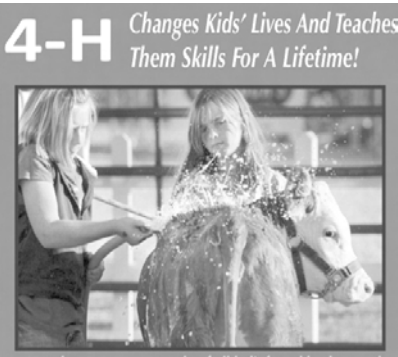
Area resident reported a drone was flying over their property and up to their window.

PAGE 3

Celebrating 4-H

Changing kids' lives and teaching them skills for a lifetime!

PAGE 12



Missing in Paradise

Out of the void: The many ghosts of the McKenzie Valley

By Brenton Gicker
The McKenzie River Valley — the collective name given to Lane County's nine unincorporated communities known as Cedar Flat, Camp Creek, Waltherville, Leaburg, Vida, Nimrod, Finn Rock, Blue River, and McKenzie Bridge — is known for its small-town charm, beautiful outdoors and, currently, scorching wildfires.

But the area also has a dark underbelly. Numerous people have gone missing in the area recently, and the bodies of two of those people have been recovered in just the past few months, leading some to speculate that something sinister may be going on.

However, according to the Lane County Sheriff's Office (LCSO), none of these cases appear to be connected.

In a July 18, KMTR News story on four people missing in the Blue River/Vida area, LCSO Public Information Officer Sgt. Tom Speldrich says, "The best I could do to put any minds at ease on that is to say we have not discovered any evidence that leads us to believe that they are linked or related or that there is a serial killer."



Daming Xu has been missing since 2007.

He adds, "Certainly if we're able to uncover any information that would lead us to believe that, we would be letting the public know for safety reasons, but we have nothing that tells us that that's the case right here. It's a wooded, wilderness, rural area. It's tough terrain. It can be hard to find people if they go missing in those areas, so while I can't say definitively that there's not a link, we have nothing that makes us think that there is at this point."

Even if the cases are not connected — and even if it turns out there is no foul play involved in them — it seems clear that there are many hidden skeletons in the vast wilderness of the

McKenzie River Valley that are waiting to be found.

Some of these skeletons undoubtedly belong to people who got lost and disappeared; others seem to belong to people who chose to disappear; in other cases — such as the case of Shane Sprenger — it seems possible something more nefarious happened. I do not personally believe any of these cases are linked and, in my opinion, only Sprenger's case has hints that foul play was involved.

The following is an overview of some of McKenzie River Valley's missing persons and mysteries.

Mekenna Christine Reiley



Mekenna Christine Reiley, 40, was reported missing by loved ones on April 5, 2023, after a bizarre encounter with con-

Missing in Paradise - P 10

Will McKenzie import bus drivers?

School board asked for recruitment and retention

FINN ROCK: Transportation issues and how they impact education were at the core of public testimony at last Wednesday's meeting of the McKenzie School Board. Six employees and community members all said they fear an end of an era may be in the offing if a decision is made to charter outside services.

In a May, 2022 posting the district was offering a \$1,200 sign-on hiring bonus for new bus drivers who could earn up to \$21



Charter buses from the metro area might be coming to McKenzie Schools routes.

per hour driving daily morning and after school routes. The ad went on to note they could generally expect to drive Monday through Friday, averaging about 16 hours per week.

Hiring and retaining bus drivers is a problem regionally and nationally, bus driver Mark Dean told the board, despite an average salary of \$32 to \$37 per hour in Springfield. He questioned why the board refused to place the hiring and retention of drivers on their agenda, after being told the matter should be limited to collective bargaining discussions.

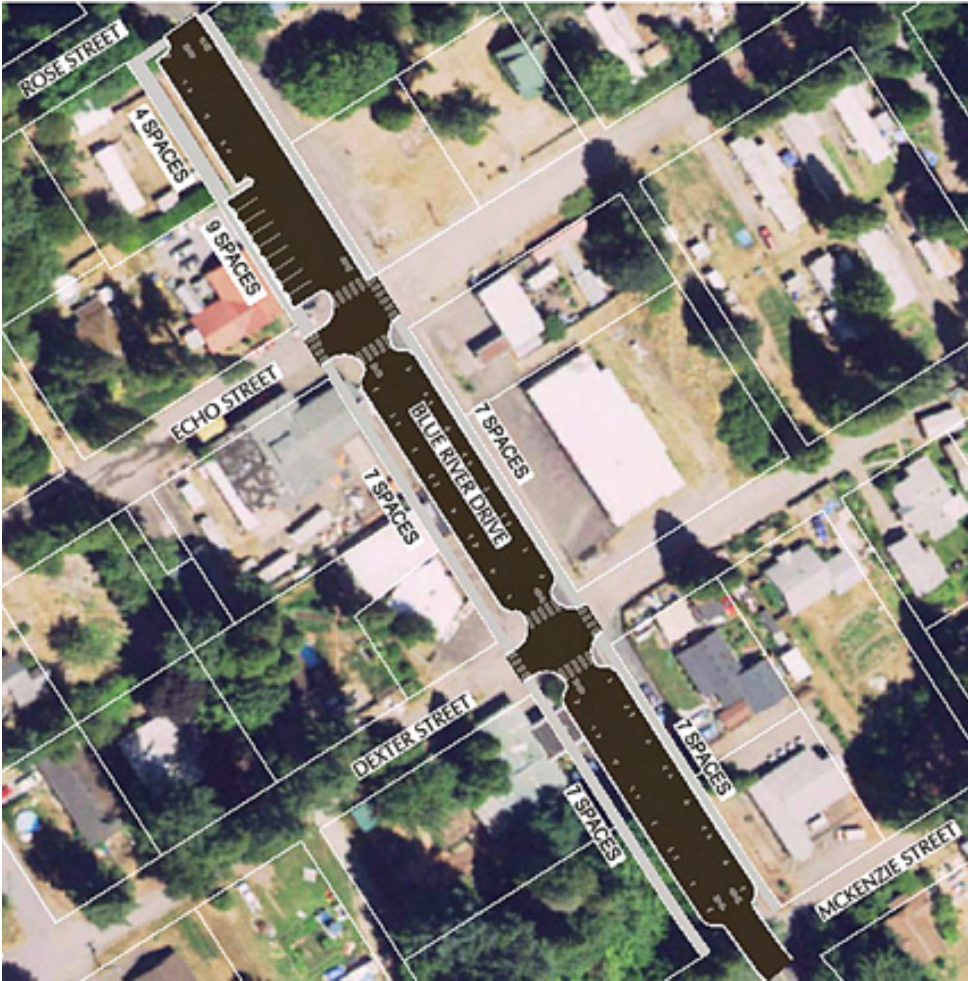
"This is not a wage issue," Dean said. "I'd love to stay and just wish you could bring us to parity. My son is making more at a food cart."

Others feared what could happen if the district decides to hire outside the local community. Dave Sanders, who has two children enrolled at McKenzie, said he "can't emphasize enough how important

Import bus drivers? - Page 11

New plans for Blue River Drive

Public input sought for town's "Main Street"



Parallel parking, along with a "parking pocket," could be in the works if people show support for a proposed design for upgrading the downtown portion of Blue River Drive.

BLUE RIVER: Lane County Public Works is asking people to weigh in on the latest designs for Blue River Drive. Details of the proposals include a multi-use path for walking and biking for the section of roadway west of downtown. In the business district, plans show sidewalks and parallel

parking on both sides of the street for two blocks, along with a "parking pocket" closer to the bridge that crosses Blue River. In previous proposals, the county asked people to comment on things they both favored and would oppose if changes were made. Gaining favor were things

like a 20 mph speed zone through downtown and pedestrian-activated flashing beacons. Others were opposed to head-in parking that could result in more damage from doors slamming into adjoining vehicles or bringing back benches which

New plans - Page 4

"Brighter Future" enters year 2

Construction skills translate into places to live

A project to create "transitional shelters" for people facing tough times is showing signs of success. That assessment was shared last week by students during a celebration at the Everyone Village in Eugene, where people are moving into some of the tiny homes that were constructed at 16 schools around Lane County.

"We got a chance to come out and see everything and what we were directly impacting," explained Jamie Leclair, a



A tiny house that was constructed at McKenzie last year.

junior at McKenzie High. "I think that made us a lot more motivated to make our next two houses."

Begun in 2022, the Constructing a Brighter Future program teaches teens to work with their hands while at the same time helping people transition to a more stable living environment. "It's a great opportunity for students to learn, get a trade, and help out in the community," Jeanette Brown feels. "I'm so grateful that they put their hands, heart and work into it."

Brown is looking forward to moving into one of the tiny homes herself, as well as having a space with a porch and room outside for a garden. "I'm excited," she said. "I've always wanted to live in a tiny home. This program is one of the best I've ever heard of."

Jesse Quinn of the Lane Workforce Partnership agrees. "To our knowledge, we have not seen a project in comparison across the country that even comes close."

Brighter Future - P 11

Letters to the Editor

This week, and every week, newspapers are for you

Americans have more media options than ever. We are inundated with stories, memes, videos, and promotions 24 hours a day. Most of us are on social media, which is built to provide an endless feed of content to keep us glued to our screens. Unfortunately, misinformation is prevalent, and much of that content isn't fact-checked, verified, or professionally produced. The result is that we're not always shown what we need to know, or the information that is most likely to impact our lives. That's where local newspapers come in. Your local newspaper takes a different approach.

National Newspaper Week is a good opportunity to recognize the commitment that local newspapers make to the communities they serve. Your local newspaper is just that – local. It hires reporters who are trained to provide reliable information about the issues that matter most. Whether it's the

latest happening from the local school board, changes in real estate zoning, high school football scores, or a review of that new restaurant you've been wanting to try, newspapers deliver what's important to you.

Your local newspaper is far more than just print. In the ever-changing media landscape, local newspapers have evolved to true multi-channel content providers. From websites to apps, emails, newsletters, videos, and podcasts, local newspapers are delivering news in innovative ways. As a reader, you get to choose when and where to get the news you need, and no matter the method, can always be assured what you're reading is credible and reliable.

Although the format or device readers use to connect with their local newspaper might vary, it's clear that newspapers are relied on as the source for local news. A recent national study conducted by the independent research firm Coda Ventures shows that 79% of Americans use local newspapers to stay informed about their

communities and depend on them to feel connected and to decide where they stand on local issues and to find places and things to do. Further, six out of 10 American adults use newspaper advertising to help them decide what brands, products, and local services to buy. It's clear that local newspapers are vital to healthy communities.

In spite of the new ways to connect with your local newspaper, it's true that the newspaper industry is facing significant challenges. Rising costs, national competitors and the impact of Big Tech companies using newspapers' content without compensation have all impacted your local newspaper. Now, more than ever, we need their commitment to journalism's core values. As we recognize National Newspaper Week, let's focus on the vital role that newspapers play, and consider how we can support them. Subscribing or advertising in your local newspaper not only supports the newspaper but is also an investment in your community.

On a national level, the Community News and Small Busi-



ness Support Act (HR 4756) has recently been introduced in Congress. This bill would provide local newspapers with financial support for their newsroom employees and would go a long way to providing your newspaper with support for the reporters and photographers that are sorely needed. Encourage your members of Congress to support this bill!

Whether you access the content from your local newspaper in print or online, remember that it is pro-

duced for you. And behind the articles, columns, and images your newspaper produces is a team of local residents who are committed to making your community stronger! Join me in thanking your local newspaper – during National Newspaper Week – for the good work it does to keep your community informed.

Dean Ridings
CEO of America's Newspapers
Lawrenceville, GA

McKenzie Eagles Sports Report



By Cliff Richardson

McKenzie Varsity Sports Schedule This Week

The McKenzie Varsity Volleyball team hosts a double-header match versus Crow/City First Christian Academy on Tuesday, September 26. The first match will start at 4:30 pm and the second will begin at 6:00 pm.

The following day, Wednesday, September 27, the Eagle team travels to Mapleton for a second double-header of the week. The first match at Mapleton begins at 4:30 pm and the second match will start at 6:00 pm.

The McKenzie Varsity Cross Country Teams travel to Adair Village on Wednesday, September 27, to participate in the Santiam Christian HS & MS Invitational. The Varsity Girls 5,000 meters race starts at 5:00 pm and the Varsity Boys 5,000 m. race will follow with a 5:40 pm start.

The Varsity Eagle Football team hosts Mohawk on Thursday, September 28, in a non-league contest kicking off at 7:00 pm. The Varsity Football game scheduled with Mapleton on Friday, September 29, has been canceled.

Eagles Host Alsea, Loses MWL Contest 3-0 McKenzie Also Drops Two To Eddyville Charter

The McKenzie Varsity Volleyball team opened its doors to

Mt. West League rival Alsea last Tuesday, September 19. The Wolverines strolled in relatively confident, having lost only one MWL contest to Eddyville Charter, the current MWL leader. And the Eagles weren't able to thwart any of that swagger as Alsea rolled to a 3-0 win over their young hosts. Set scores were 25-16, 25-10, and 25-11.

McKenzie took to the road on Thursday, September 21, to face off with the fore-mentioned MWL leaders in a MWL double-header. The Eagles of Eddyville left no doubt that the McKenzie youths still have some court time to pay before they match up with the leaders. Eddyville Charter won the first set, 25-11, 25-4, and 25-6 and backed up the sweep with another 3-0 match win, 25-8, 25-9, and 25-8. The losses put the McKenzie team at 1-6 in MWL play and 1-7 overall.

Meister Competes At Champs Invite

McKenzie Varsity Cross Country runner Will Meister competed at the Champs Invite Cross Country meet held at Cheadle Lake Park in Lebanon. The 5,000 meters race hosted by East Linn Christian School and featuring 27 Boys Varsity Cross Country teams, took place last Friday, September 22.

Eagle sophomore Meister ran the course and finished in a time of 21:21.87 minutes, which qualified him for 99th place out of 197 total athletes. Louigi Etta, a junior competing for Yamhill-Carlton, ran the winning time of 16:41.54 min.

The Valley Catholic team won the day with a low score of 37 points followed by second place Siuslaw with 54 pts.

Guest Opinion

A missed opportunity: How the school board overlooked an essential community concern

By Ken Rawles
Disclaimer: The views and opinions expressed in this op-ed are those of the author and do not reflect the official policy or position of the McKenzie Valley School District.

The recent McKenzie School District board meeting illuminated a pressing issue: the critical need for qualified school bus drivers. Amidst the voices of concerned parents and experienced drivers, the board's response highlighted a glaring gap in their approach. It's essential to recognize that school board meetings are the proper place to address urgent matters like this one, impacting both our children's education and the cohesion of our community.

Greg Garrelts set the tone, warning that a lack of adequate driver recruitment and retention could severely impact students' education and extracurricular activities. He was not alone; Mark Dean expanded on the financial angle, contrasting our district's low compensation with other, more proactive districts. He took the issue one step further, questioning the wisdom and community impact of resorting to hiring chartered buses from outside the area. These out-of-district drivers may be qualified, but they lack crucial local knowledge—of both the roads and the community they serve. They drive vehicles not equipped with our district radios, restricting vital communication lines with the school.

Current and former school bus drivers, like John Phelps and Justin Barker, pointed to the rela-

tional aspect of their job. These drivers connect with students in a unique way, creating a community-centric circle of trust. The Board's reluctance to address this issue adequately undermines not just these relationships but also our children's sense of belonging and safety.

The arguments went even deeper, covering exhausting schedules that contribute to driver burnout and adverse effects on the broader community. For instance, low compensation for school bus drivers can result in higher turnover rates, forcing families to adjust to new drivers frequently, and weakening the bonds of trust and familiarity. Additionally, reliance on chartered buses from outlying districts imposes an economic drain, as these services often come at a premium, pulling resources from other educational needs.

Yet, in response to these compelling voices, Board Chair Elaine

Bryson and members Alyssa Brownlee and Jason Wickizer effectively punted the issue down the road. While Bryson asked for a wage comparison among school districts, she missed an opportunity to ask for a cost analysis between using chartered buses from outlying districts and employing internal drivers—a key element in understanding the full scope of the issue.

The board must recognize that issues like this are not merely “union matters” to be deferred for later discussion. They are urgent community concerns that should be debated openly and directly during board meetings. As the guiding body tasked with steering the next generation toward understanding themselves, their community, and the world, the board needs to acknowledge the real stakes at play and provide actionable solutions that honor the community's needs and concerns.

Ken Rawles is the Technology Coordinator for the McKenzie School District and an active member of the Oregon School Employees Association (OSEA).









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Friday 9/29		Saturday 9/30		Sunday 10/1	
					
McKenzie Valley AM Showers 50% chance precip High: 60 Low: 40	Santiam Pass AM Showers 40% chance precip High: 45 Low: 30	McKenzie Valley Mostly Sunny 10% chance precip High: 64 Low: 42	Santiam Pass Partly Cloudy 10% chance precip High: 47 Low: 35	McKenzie Valley Partly Cloudy 10% chance precip High: 67 Low: 45	Santiam Pass Partly Cloudy 20% chance precip High: 53 Low: 36

WEATHER REPORT									
READINGS TAKEN AT THE US ARMY CORPS COUGAR DAM					READINGS TAKEN AT EWEB LEABURG POWERHOUSE				
Date	High	Low	Rain	Releases	Date	High	Low	Rain	Riverflow
9/19	72	51	0	304 cfs	9/19	78	46	0	1,860 cfs
9/20	61	46	0.11	309 cfs	9/20	75	43	0	1,860 cfs
9/21	65	40	0	337 cfs	9/21	68	39	0	1,860 cfs
9/22	76	43	0	323 cfs	9/22	72	41	0	1,860 cfs
9/23	66	49	0	313 cfs	9/23	78	45	0	1,860 cfs
9/24	57	52	0.27	323 cfs	9/24	68	48	0.13	1,860 cfs
9/25	60	53	0.05	313 cfs	9/25	57	51	0.41	1,950 cfs

Sheriff's Report

Sept. 15: 11:26 a.m: Disturbance, Dispute - 38400 blk, Cartwright Creek Rd. Verbal dispute between caller and caller's son.

2:05p.m: Suspicious Conditions - 91800 blk, Mill Creek Rd. Two males were observed going through the trash at an area business.

Sept. 16: 3:52 p.m: Harassment - 92700 blk, Marcola Rd. Ongoing dispute between the caller and the caller's adult son. Advised that the son came to the caller's work and threw an egg at her car.

9:10 p.m: Suspicious Conditions - 88900 blk, Easy Ln. Area resident reported a drone was flying over their property and up to their window.

Sept. 18: 7:48 a.m: Restraining Order Service - 39200 blk, Camp Creek Rd.

9:08 a.m: Hit & Run - 39500 blk, Luzkow Ln.

10:00 a.m: Custodial Interference - 54700 blk, Caddis Ln.

12:06 p.m: Assist, Follow Up - 51100 blk, blue river Dr.

12:27 p.m: Harassment - 92700 blk, Marcola Rd.

12:55 p.m: Harassment - 92200 blk, Whitmore St. Ongoing dispute involving a neighbor dumping trash on the caller's property.

12:59 p.m: Restraining Order Service - 43900 blk, McK. Hwy.

3:35 p.m: Disturbance, Dispute - 89700 blk, Hill Rd.

8:20 p.m: Motor Vehicle Accident, No Injury - Marcola Rd. Milepost 2-3.

Sept. 19: 5:41 a.m: Assault - 40000 blk, Deerhorn Rd. Physical Disturbance, Dispute between spouses. Female arrested for Assault.

6:22 a.m: Repossessed Vehicle - 39500 blk, McK. Hwy.

7:22 a.m: Welfare Check - 38300 blk, Wendling Rd.

12:59 p.m: Harassment - 39200 blk, Camp Creek Rd. Ongoing dispute between neighbors. Caller advised that the other neighbor put a bright light on their porch, which shines into the caller's bedroom.

2:26 p.m: Assist Outside Agency - 91500 blk, Cougar Dam Rd.

3:54 p.m: Violation of Restraining Order - 38500 blk, E. Cedar Flat Rd.

7:09 p.m: Medical Info Call - 45600 blk, McK. Hwy.

8:24 p.m: Assist Oregon State Police - McK. Hwy. & Thurston Rd.

Sept. 20: 7:55 a.m: Civil Service - 92100 blk, Marcola Rd.

9:44 a.m: Warrant Service - 43900 blk, McK. Hwy.

10:17 a.m: Assault - 94300 blk, Old Marcola Rd.

11:32 a.m: Foot Patrol - Marcola Rd. & Shotgun Creek Rd.

11:32 a.m: Vehicle Stop - Marcola Rd. & Shotgun Creek Rd.

5:57 p.m: Vehicle Stop - Taylor Rd. & McK. Hwy.

5:29 p.m: Suspicious Vehicle - 55600 blk, McK. River Dr. River Dr. A deputy checked on an unlicensed white Volkswagen Jetta.

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

Continued On Page 9

State Police Report

Sept. 24: 08:47: Crash, Non-Injury - Hwy. 126E, Milepost 23. OSP received a call regarding a single vehicle crash into the ditch. Upon arrival, the driver of Unit #1, a white Toyota 4Runner, was outside speaking with fire personnel. Trooper spoke with the driver who advised he was traveling eastbound and as he was rounding the corner, he observed a Jeep fully in his lane of travel. He said he veered into the oncoming lane to avoid a head on collision. When he did this, the Jeep began correcting back into the westbound lane and caused the Driver of Unit #1 to drive into the ditch. The driver of Unit #1 was mostly uninjured but advised he was going to get checked out at the hospital as a precaution. He was unable to catch the license plate of the other vehicle but described it as a "boxier" Jeep Cherokee with a light bar on top. Unit #1 was drivable and not towed from the scene. Involved; 38-year-old male.

McKenzie Fire & Rescue

Sept. 18: 6:08: 88\000 block, Marcola Rd. Mutual Aid. Disregarded.

14:08: 7000 blk, Thurston Rd. Medical, General. Disregarded On Scene.

17:23: 38000 blk, Camp Creek Rd. Medical, General. Disregarded En Route.

20:18: 88000 blk, Marcola Rd. Mutual Aid. Disregarded.

Sept. 19: 16:00: 45000 blk, South Gate Creek Rd. Welfare Check. Patient Refusal.

19:06: 45000 blk, McK. Hwy. Medical, Heart. Patient Assessed, 1 Transported.

Sept. 20: 19:26: 39000 blk, McK. Hwy. Medical, General. Patient Assessed, 1 Transported.

Sept. 21: 7:11: Marcola Rd./Sunderman Medical, General. Disregarded.

7:21: 88000 blk, Bridge St. Medical, General. Assessed, 1 Transported.

11:18: 39000 blk, Hendricks Park Rd. Medical, General. Patient Assessed, 1 Transported.

16:35: Thurston Rd./Billings Rd. Illegal Burn. Burn pile found, homeowner extinguished.

Sept. 23: 2:44: 8200 blk, Thurston Rd. Medical, General. Patient Refusal.

8:58: 50000 blk, McK. Hwy. Medical, Heart. Deceased Subject.

9:31: McK. Hwy. Milepost 32. Motor Vehicle Accident. Non-Injury, Blocking. Provided Traffic Control.

Sept. 24: 8:40: McK. Hwy. Mp. 23. MVA. Non-Injury, Non-Blocking

10:30: 41000 blk, Madrone St. Medical, General. Patient Assessed, 1 Transported.

11:05: McK. Hwy. Mp. 18.5. Disabled Vehicle. Contacted OSP Dispatch.

13:51: Sunderman Rd./Keller Ln. Electrical Emergency. Disregarded En Route.

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

2022 August 11 Vol. 44, Issue 52	2022 August 4 Vol. 44, Issue 51	2022 July 28 Vol. 44, Issue 50	2022 July 21 Vol. 44, Issue 49	2022 July 14 Vol. 44, Issue 48	2022 July 7 Vol. 44, Issue 47
\$1.00	\$1.00	\$1.00	\$1.00	\$1.00	\$1.00
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2022 May 12 Vol. 44, Issue 39	2022 May 5 Vol. 44, Issue 38	2022 April 28 Vol. 44, Issue 37	2022 April 21 Vol. 44, Issue 36	2022 April 14 Vol. 44, Issue 35	2022 April 7 Vol. 44, Issue 34
\$1.00	\$1.00	\$1.00	\$1.00	\$1.00	\$1.00
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2022 March 31 Vol. 44, Issue 33	2022 March 24 Vol. 44, Issue 32	2022 March 17 Vol. 44, Issue 31	2022 March 10 Vol. 44, Issue 30	2022 March 3 Vol. 44, Issue 29	2022 February 2 Vol. 44, Issue 28
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2022 February 17 Vol. 44, Issue 27	2022 February 10 Vol. 44, Issue 26	2022 February 3 Vol. 44, Issue 25	2022 January 27 Vol. 44, Issue 24	2022 January 20 Vol. 44, Issue 23	2022 January 13 Vol. 44, Issue 22
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January 6, 2021 Vol. 44, Issue 21	2021 December 16 Vol. 44, Issue 18	2021 December 9 Vol. 44, Issue 17	2021 December 2 Vol. 44, Issue 16	2021 November 25 Vol. 44, Issue 15	2021 November 18 Vol. 44, Issue 14
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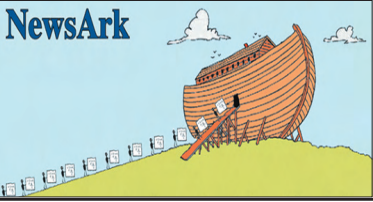
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Blue River's "Hotel Spacia" offered special accommodations and a saloon, warmly enjoyed by visitors from Gold Hill.



Crew with a Tommy Hawk lead block, pulling them through the block.



The student population at Leaburg School in 1923 with teacher Mildred Price.



Frank Moore leading freight of the hills by Shiloh Creek, around 1905.



An inspection crew emerges from the Smith tunnel during the construction of the Carson Smith project in 1962.



Crowds lined the banks and watched the horses during the McKenzie's annual White Water Parade.

Stories from the August 15, 2021 edition of Echoes from the Past

Stripes may come back, but not downtown

River Reflections

Volume 6, Issue 30 March 23, 1984

Yellow lines down the middle of the McKenzie Highway have been a point of conflict since the Oregon Highway Division

spent \$4,700 last August to sandblast off several no-passing zones. Area residents protested their removal during a 6-Year Plan hearing in Eugene as well as at a special meeting with highway officials at Leaburg in December. However, according to James Gix, Region 3 area Highway Engineer in Roseburg, the stripes had to be removed to bring parts of the McKenzie into compliance with statewide rules for highway markings.

Some no-passing zones in Cedar Flat, Walterville, Leaburg, and Vida were changed from a double line to a dotted line in the compliance change. Some 25,000 linear feet - or nearly 4 miles - of double lines were removed. Yet the striping controversy continues with the federal government getting into the act. Last week the U.S. Department of Transportation informed the Oregon Highway Division that the state must stripe horizontal curves or face the prospect of losing federal aid construction money. The threat is similar

to one the feds used to cajole states into enforcing the 55 mph speed limit, Gix notes. Gix says Oregon's non-compliance with the horizontal striping is part of a 30-year-old conflict between the federal government and the state. Oregon already outlaws passing on vertical curves where visibility is limited to less than 1,000 feet. Yet even allowing passing on flat curves, Gix says Oregon passing rates are still admirable, ranking 44th highest out of 50 states for safety in passing on curves. "Will the no-passing stripes be repainted in downtown Vida and Leaburg? "Not likely," is Gix's response since those areas are straight-aways. More likely is the prospect of more striping added to other areas of those communities - like no passing zones around the Leaburg Lake curve and the Goodpasture Bridge curve in Vida.

Weyerhaeuser sub-division faces Forest Plan

River Reflections

Volume 6, Issue 22 Jan. 27, 1984

The broad pen of land use designations has recently caused a flurry of CPR (Comprehensive Plan Revision) filings at the Lane County Planning Division. The CPRs allow property owners to take exception to land designa-

tions under the proposed Lane County Comprehensive Plan. Included among the requests filed by the Monday, January 23, deadline was one for the Weyerhaeuser Real Estate Company development at Leaburg. Weyerhaeuser last year was defeated in its plan to create an 800-unit housing project near Leaburg. Construction on a smaller scale, a 39-lot subdivision called Baxter Acres, was stopped last month when a state forester discovered the work activity. Lane County subsequently followed up with a stop work order of its own. Lane County counsel Bill Van Vector, however, says both bans have been lifted and Weyerhaeuser will be allowed to finish work on the septic systems, with 39 tanks and 36 drain fields already installed,

Van Vector says the environmental impact involved in finishing the job would be minor. The kicker, though, lies in the county's appraisal of residential use for the acreage. VanVector says "We told them they could go ahead and complete the septic systems but the installation itself does not irrevocably commit that property to residential use." According to Lane County's maps to determine zoning, the Baxter Acres plot is considered forest land. Mike Farthing of the law firm Husk, Gleaves, Swearingen, representing the company, says the new forest designation for the property came as a surprise. Farthing says the land was subdivided and plotted in 1948. In addition, he notes that Weyerhaeuser has been working on the project for six years now and has received county permits and go-ahead for septic systems and road access. Also backing up company claims, he says is a letter from the county in September of 1982 approving the 39 lots subject to zoning and building restrictions as they then existed. In its CPR request, Weyerhaeuser maintains that it already has 39 valid lots, which qualifies the property as committed lands rather than resource lands. Weyerhaeuser Real Estate spokesman Bob Shedd in Tacoma says his company is not seeking compensation from the county for the construction delays. He says Weyerhaeuser plans to sell the lots in 1984 and some are already gone. "We're going ahead with our plans," Shedd says, "everything so far has been a mix-up but should be straightened out.

Roadside flags part of a national study

River Reflections

Volume 6, Issue 43 June 22, 1984

With bright-colored flags sprouting like roadside flowers along the upper stretches of the McKenzie Highway, it almost looks like summer has arrived. But instead of foretelling biospheric conditions, the flags represent a Cornell University-backed study

probing eons-old forces still acting some 20 to 30 miles below the earth's surface. The McKenzie Valley this week became part of Cornell's nationwide study of plate tectonics, an investigation of how continental and oceanic plates interact when they meet below the surface. Crews from the Petty-Ray Division of Geo-Source Inc. have been placing flags every tenth of a mile along the highway from milepost 44 east and along the Old McKenzie Hwy., Rte 242, as well. Eventually, they plan to take their testing as far as the City of Sisters in eastern Oregon. Bill Cassidy, project manager for Petty-Ray, says that geophones are connected at each flag station to a seismic cable running along the roadside. During the testing, five vibrator-equipped trucks are used to send test waves into the earth's crust, traveling through the ground, the waves reflect from different rock layers, return to the geophones, and are transferred to another computer-equipped truck for recording, Cassidy says. The Cornell study, titled the Consortium For Continental Reflection Profiling, has seen crews working in several other states since the 1970's. Investigations so far have been conducted in California, Utah, Georgia, Wyoming, and Tennessee, Cassidy says the Oregon phase of the project has concentrated on developing a series of lines from the coast, through the Willamette Valley, and over to Eastern Oregon. Depending on the weather, local testing could be over by July, he says.

Police pull pot plantation

River Reflections

Volume 6, Issue 50 August 10, 1984

Harvesting came a little sooner than planned this year for an as-yet-unidentified marijuana grower in the Blue River area. Oregon State Police and U.S. Forest Service

officials report they pulled 37 plants on August 1st in the Blue River drainage. The plants, ranging from 3 to 8 feet in height were estimated to be valued at \$30,000. Police were tipped off to the site by an informer and arrived on the scene to find the operation included a number of gardening tools, as well as watering and fertilizing jugs. Those items were also seized in the raid which sent the plants to be burned at the Eugene Water and Electric Board's boilers in Eugene. Blue River Ranger District officials say the matter is still under investigation and warn people conducting such operations that they may be facing more than drug charges. Other offenses include the destruction of natural resources and trespass, which carry penalties up to a \$500 fine and 6 months in jail.



By Slim Randles

"You hear 'bout Andy's barn?" asked Dud. We nodded and had another sip of morning coffee.

"You s'pose it was all globally warmed up?"

"Beats me, Windy. Could be."

"Buncha that," Windy said.

"On the news and all over the place. Fires and rivers goin' over the bank and killin' cows. Some places, they say, got so hot it caused a earthquake and shook people's houses down."

And all of this, we knew, was going on faster than the paper could print the news. Hey, you turn on the teevee, somebody else just lost everything they had.

"Oughta be a list a guy could prescribe to, ya know?"

Doc looked up from his eggs and toast. "What kinda list, Windy?"

"Oh, you know, Doc. If we're gonna have these here destructions, oughta be able to add Miller's old milkin' barn to the victim's list. That thing ain't been safe for years, and the kids play in it all day."

"Request destruction?"

"Well, kinda."

"We understand your point, Windy," Doc said, "but I think maybe all we can do is be helpful until we can figure out all this craziness. Thought I'd go help Andy clean up the ashes at his old barn."

"Ya s'pose it's 'bout like a friend test? Ya know, see how much of a friend we can be when ever-thin's cavin' in?"

We nodded and sipped. One of those kinds of heavy thinking mornings.

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New plans

Continued From Page 1

they felt in the past had attracted smokers and drinkers "to sit there all day."

Becky Taylor, a senior Transportation Planner with Lane County Public Works says she's working on scheduling another community meeting to discuss the plans. In the meantime, she can be reached at Becky.taylor@lanecountyor.gov or 541-682-6932.

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Gardening Tips

By Kym Pokorny



Oregon State University

OSU Extension Service

Now's the time to spiff up ragged lawns



Lawns languish in the heat of summer unless showered with the water they require to thrive. But not to worry, the grass isn't dead.

Come fall when the rains start again, grass greens up quickly, said Alec Kowalewski, turf specialist for Oregon State University's Extension Service.

While letting your lawn go dormant in summer isn't a bad thing — especially with concern about water shortages — lack of irrigation does allow weeds to gain a foothold, he said. And regular wear and tear can cause compaction within a lawn, which leads to brown or bare spots.

Now is a good time to whip your lawn back into shape, but starting over usually isn't necessary.

"You should always try renovation before putting in a new lawn because it's difficult to get a stand of grass established," Kowalewski said. "So if you have something to begin with, go with renovating."

What you have, to begin with, can vary from addressing a few brown spots to a desert of weeds to hardpan soil. Assess your lawn's level of neediness and proceed with a regular renovation or a no-holds-barred one. Most often, a regular tune-up is all that's needed.

Once you've got your lawn established, follow Kowalewski's three steps to a healthy lawn that will outcompete those pesky weeds: water, fertilize and mow properly.

Water 1 inch a week, but don't do it all at once.

"If you look at the roots, the majority are in the top 1 inch of the soil," he said. "The deeper you go the fewer roots there are so watering more than a quarter inch at a time is a waste. So irrigate more frequently with less amounts when it's not raining."

Fertilize four times a year. An easy way to remember is to apply on Memorial Day, Fourth of July, Labor Day, and Thanksgiving.

When it comes to mowing, never remove more than one-third of the grass at one time. That means if the lawn is 3 inches long, cut only 1 inch. Cutting more than one-third weakens the lawn, leaving it vulnerable to weeds and diseases. For most grasses, 2 inches is about the top range a homeowner will tolerate, but higher is even better.

"Increase the height of the grass as tall as you can stand it and mow once a week," he said. "If you mow it to an inch, it's horrible to the health of the plant because you're decreasing rooting depth and stress tolerance. And you'll have to water more often."

Mow once a week in spring and fall, and less often during summer and winter months. Instead of bagging up clippings, consider leaving them where they fall. They break down quickly and resupply much-needed nitrogen. The more often you mow, the easier this is to do. Don't, however, leave clumps of clippings sitting on the lawn.

For more information, watch Kowalewski's video Integrated Pest Management for Turfgrass. Or check out the following publi-

cations: Practical Lawn Establishment and Renovation, Practical Lawn Care for Western Oregon, Retail Lawn Seed Mixtures for Western Oregon and Western Washington, and Fertilizing Lawns

Kowalewski's steps for renovating a lawn

For regular renovation:

- * Do a pH test. Either take a sample with help from Extension's Guide to Collecting Soil Samples for Farms and Gardens and send it to a soil lab, or buy a test kit at the nursery. Lawns grow well in a pH of 6 to 6.5.

- * Remove weeds by hand or with a broad-spectrum herbicide.

- * Aerate lawn with a machine available at rental shops. Pay particular attention to bare spots or compacted areas. Rake off plugs of soil removed by aerator.

- * If the pH is on the low side (below 6.0), add lime. It's common in western Oregon for lawns to need lime every two to three years.

- * Fertilize with a product that has plenty of nitrogen, low or no phosphorus, and a medium level of potassium. Check the fertilizer label and choose something with a high first number (N), a low second number (P), and a medium third number (K) such as 20-2-6. You'll get the best results using a rotary spreader.

- * Overseed at the recommended rate, going a little thicker on really bare spots. Use a drop seeder for even distribution.

- * Water daily unless it rains.

For major renovation, do the above steps and add the following:

- * Mow lawn as short as possible before getting started.

- * Before aerating, dethatch the lawn with a dethatching machine or power rake, which you can rent. The idea is to expose as much soil as possible. Run the machine across the lawn twice, in opposite directions. Remove the loosened thatch before changing direction.

- * After seeding, mulch with a thin layer of sawdust, bark dust or compost. A quarter inch is enough; don't overdo it or the seed will have a tough time germinating. To make the job easier, rent a wire drum roller.



Country Kitchen

By Mary Emma Allen



COUNTRY ROADS IN AUTUMN

Traveling over country roads in autumn, when colorful foliage is at its peak, provides us with an enchanting adventure. Although the superhighways offer vibrant vistas, the winding country roads present an interesting and relaxing way to travel.

It's a time to go at a slower pace and explore the sights and sounds, the byways you may not have wandered over before. The colorful foliage offers a rich tapestry to enjoy, too.

On country roads we get to see the small towns, the farms and colonial homes. Stonewalls line some of the roads and zigzag along the borders of fields and pastures. Sometimes we see them streaking across the woods beyond the road and know that the highway once followed that route.

Colorful USA Foliage

My husband's and my travels have taken us to many areas in autumn throughout the years.

Throughout New England the maples flame, oaks turn deep red, and other trees become orange, gold, and wine. When you discover stonewalls along the roads, leftover from decades ago, the sight will take you back

in history.

In the Colorado Rockies, the aspen sway in golden dress along the country roads. Sometimes a rancher taking his cattle from the high country to the ranch at a lower altitude even may delay you. This experience gave us even more time to view the golden countryside.

In Utah, there aren't so many colorful tall trees. However, the bushes covering lower levels of the mountains provided us with spectacular colorful views.

In Ohio, when we visited relatives, we found more muted hues on the trees, but they were enjoyable just the same.

GRAPE NUT PUDDING - (an old fashioned recipe)

Beat 4 eggs well and add 1 qt. milk and 1-cup sugar. Stir well and then add 1 cup grape nuts.

Pour into greased 1-1/2 qt. casserole dish. Bake at 350 degrees F. for 1 hour or until knife inserted into center comes out clean.

(A friend often makes this when we have a potluck dinner/lunch at church. It's very popular.)

(c) Mary Emma Allen

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

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Community Notes

September 28 Story Time

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

September 29 Blood Drive

McKenzie Fire & Rescue will be hosting a blood drive this Friday, at the McKenzie Fire & Rescue Training Center, 42870 McKenzie Highway, from 11 to 5.

September 30 Dime At A Time

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

October 3 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.

October 3 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.

October 3 Write Your Life

The Leaburg Library is delighted to announce that Duane Noriyuki is back with a second “Write Your Life” workshop! This six-week memoir workshop will begin at 6 pm on Tuesday, August 22nd, and will run through Tuesday, September 26th. The program is free and will meet in the library’s Annex Room.

To sign up, please contact the Library Director, Marty Mealey, at 541-896-3817, or stop in at the library. We’re right next to the McKenzie Fire and Rescue building in Leaburg.

October 4 EWEB board meeting

Customers and the general public are welcome and encouraged to attend in person or watch a live stream of the meeting in real-time at <https://tinyurl.com/EWEB-Board-Meeting-08-01-23>.

Commissioners hold regularly scheduled public meetings on the first Tuesday of each month , EWEB’s Roosevelt Operations Center, 4200 Roosevelt Blvd, Eugene, typically starting at

5:30 p.m. Customers and the general public are welcome and encouraged to attend.

An interpreter can be provided with 48 hours’ notice prior to the meeting. To arrange for this service, call 541-685-7000.

October 3 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.

October 21 Learn CPR & defibrillator use

A CPR and Defibrillator Use class will be held on October 21 at McKenzie Fire & Rescue in Leaburg. The class starts at 9:00a. m., will likely require 4-5 hours, and will cost \$30 (includes Heart Association certificate.) There are 9 spaces left. Interested? Call Clayton at McKenzie Fire & Rescue: 541-896-3311.

October 4 Blue River Water Board

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

October 4 Blue River Park Board

The board will meet at 6 p.m.

A link to the online meeting is at: blueriverwaterdistrict.com.

October 6 First Friday

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

October 7 Dime At A Time

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

October 8 Community Celebration

The McKenzie community is invited to gather from 1 to 6 p.m. at the Aaron and Marie Jines Community Track, 51326 Blue River Drive for a day filled with fun for the whole family. Activities will include live music, a kids zone, free BBQ, a beer and wine

garden art vendors and more.

October 9

McKenzie Watershed Council

The McKenzie Watershed council will meet 5:00pm - 6:30pm. It’s mission is to foster better stewardship of the McKenzie River watershed resources, deal with issues in advance of resource degradation, and ensure sustainable watershed health, function, and use. Location varies, please contact Melanie Giangreco, McKenzie Watershed Council Operations Assistant

Contact: Melanie Giangreco- (458-201-8150) melanie@mckenziewc.org

October 9

Spfld School Board

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



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Community Events Calendar

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

O'Brien Memorial Library receives grant from Oregon Community Foundation

The O'Brien Memorial Library has received grant awards from the Keane Family Fund of Oregon Community Foundation for \$10,000 and the John and Mary Jane Dellenback Community Benefit Fund of Oregon Community Foundation for \$5,000. The grants will support general operations at the community library that has been serving the McKenzie River Valley for over 90 years.

“We are so grateful for this generous support from the Oregon Community Foundation!” said Connie Richardson, board president. “As we continue fundraising to rebuild the O'Brien Memorial

Library, while operating at our temporary location in the Upper McKenzie Community Center, these grants couldn't have come at a better time.”

Oregon Community Foundation was established in 1973 to improve the lives of all Oregonians through the power of philanthropy. As a statewide community foundation they work alongside donors, stewarding their priorities into strategic giving to support diverse communities across Oregon, creating lasting, transformative change. For details, visit <https://oregoncf.org/>.

The O'Brien Memorial Li-

brary’s mission is to provide a welcoming space to the residents and visitors of Blue River and the McKenzie River Valley, including accessibility to books, inspiring the love of reading and promoting lifelong learning. The temporary Library is located in the Upper McKenzie Community Center at 54745 McKenzie River Drive in Rainbow. We are open 1 – 3 p.m. on Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday. For more information call 458-459-0027 or visit <https://www.obrien-library.org/>.





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Direct Answers

By Wayne & Tamara Mitchell

Parental Consent



Taisfia Stupak

I am concerned about a relationship, but it is not my own. My nephew aged 21 is planning to get married this November. While I think he is young, I think the bride to be is far too young at only 17.

My nephew was home-schooled through half of high school, and she was raised on a ranch and home-schooled as well. In other words, she has no real life experience. They have never dated anyone else. To top it off, he is financially irresponsible and currently holds a low paying job, while she has never worked.

Her mother is strongly in support of the marriage and is encouraging it, even though her daughter hasn't finished high school. His entire family is against it. None of us feel either of them know themselves well enough

to commit to another, or know enough of the big bad world.

How do I discourage them from getting married so soon, or should I? All of us prefer to see him wait until he has a more sturdy and stable position, or at least an idea where he wants to go in life, before they walk into a marriage they are unprepared for.

On one level I suspect the reason they are in a hurry is because they were both raised in a strict environment and don't believe in premarital sex. That's just conjecture, but I feel if they marry, they'll end up divorced in under four years.

So should I keep my mouth shut, or try to talk them out of getting married?

Bea

Bea, with all the relationship books and counseling available in the US, you might think the leveling off of the astronomical divorce rate is due to some new technique or discovery. It isn't.

The evidence seems to show it is linked to one main fact. Couples getting married now are on average about four years older than they were only a few decades ago, and they are about a dozen years older than this couple. You are right to be concerned.

You are writing from experience, and they are acting

from inexperience. It is wise to point out to them what married life requires and mention things they haven't thought about. But if they didn't absorb those lessons growing up, chances are they won't listen to you now.

If your nephew is marrying to finally have sex, he won't tell you. If she is marrying to get out of her parents' house, she won't tell you. If they are marrying because they don't know what to do next with their lives, they won't say that. After the wedding the question is, Will help really help them, or merely prolong a marriage destined to end?

Say what you think is appropriate now, then step aside. Only in hindsight are you likely to be appreciated.

Wayne & Tamara

On The Road

My significant other and soon to be permanent partner and I will be leaving in two weeks to drive cross-country, a trip of almost 3000 miles. My question is how do we spend hour after hour driving with one another?

The party not driving can read the newspaper, we can talk or listen to music. I'll pack snacks and we can take turns sleeping. These things I know. They are the common everyday things people do when they travel together. I suppose I was looking for something different; I don't know exactly. Any suggestions?

Kris

Kris, what are you asking?

Life is one long road trip. If the silence is too heavy, if you wonder what to say, perhaps that says it all. This trip may reveal the real nature of your connection. Tamara and I can drive in companionable silence, or we can talk for hours. We don't even turn the radio on. It's a distraction from us. Is that what you are looking for?

Wayne

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

American Life in Poetry

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

Danse Russe

By William Carlos Williams

If I when my wife is sleeping
and the baby and Kathleen
are sleeping
and the sun is a flame-white
disc
in silken mists
above shining trees,—
if I in my north room
dance naked, grotesquely
before my mirror
waving my shirt round my head
and singing softly to myself:
“I am lonely, lonely.
I was born to be lonely,

I am best so!”

If I admire my arms, my face,
my shoulders, flanks, buttocks
against the yellow drawn
shades,—

Who shall say I am not
the happy genius of my
household?

With Ezra Pound and H.D., Williams was a leading poet of the Imagist movement and often wrote of American subjects and themes. Though his career was initially overshadowed by other poets, he became an inspiration to the Beat generation in the 1950s and 60s. He was known as an experimenter, an innovator, a revolutionary figure in American poetry. Yet in comparison to artists of his own time who sought a new environment for creativity as expatriates in Europe, Williams lived a remarkably conventional life. A doctor for more than 40 years serving the citizens of Rutherford, he relied on his patients, the America around him, and his own ebullient imagination to create a distinctively American verse. Often domestic in focus and “remarkable for its empathy, sympathy, its muscular and emotional identification with its subjects,” Williams’s poetry is also characteristically honest: “There is no optimistic blindness in Williams,” wrote Randall Jarrell, “though there is a fresh gaiety, a stubborn or invincible joyousness.”

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Major Family Funeral Home. Family Owned Since 1961. Funerals ° Burials ° Cremations ° Monuments ° Keepsakes ° Video Tributes. 541-746-9667.

Gutters

Eliminate gutter cleaning forever!

LeafFilter, the most advanced debris-blocking gutter protection. Schedule a FREE LeafFilter estimate today. 15% off Entire Purchase. 10% Senior & Military Discounts. Call 1-866-387-0730

Personal

Missing people. Do you have a family member or friend that disappeared under strange circumstances? Is it possible an unknown animal was responsible? We may be able to provide a wider audience in helping determine what became of your loved one. Please contact us at wjevnjng@gmail.com serious responses only please. pwj-11/19

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

Piano Lessons

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

Portable Oxygen

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

Quilters/Needle Crafters

The Leaburg Sew & So's are meeting most Friday afternoons at the McKenzie Fire and Rescue Training Center. Please call Sara at (541) 896-3059 for more information.S=JS-2/25/10ruc

Satellite TV

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

DISH Network. \$59.99 for 190 Channels! Blazing Fast Internet, \$19.99/mo. (where available.) Switch & Get a FREE \$100 Visa Gift Card. FREE Voice Remote. FREE HD DVR. FREE Streaming on ALL Devices. Call today! 1-855-984-8961

Services

Natures Friend Beautifying Co. Property/rental cleanup, restoration, tree work, blackberry & ivy destruction, pressure washing, Int/ext. painting, furniture refurbishing. Free appliance removal. Call Scottish 541-913-8477. SB=JAB-2/27-3/20/14

Got a hole in your wall? Give me a call! The Wall Doctor - Serving the McKenzie River area. 541-735-2317. p-s15-n3

Standby Generator

Prepare for power outages today with a GENERAC home standby generator. \$0 Money Down + Low Monthly Payment Options. Request a FREE Quote. Call now before the next power outage: 1-833-306-2843

TV

DIRECTV NOW. No Satellite Needed. \$40/month. 65 Channels. Stream Breaking News, Live Events, Sports & On Demand Titles. No Annual Contract. No Commitment. CALL 1-855-690-3970

Directv Stream - The Best of Live & On-Demand On All Your Favorite Screens. CHOICE Package, \$84.99/mo for 12months. Stream on 20 devices at once in your home. HBO Max FREE for 1 yr (w/CHOICE Package or higher.) Call for more details today! (some restrictions apply) Call IVS 1-877-649-5547

ODFW Recreation Report

Keep dogs away from salmon carcasses

Whether it's spawned out salmon or dead fish placed for stream enrichment, letting your dog eat or lick salmon carcasses can have dire consequences. Salmon poisoning is caused when dogs eat a salmon carcass infected with an organism in the blood called *Nerickettsia helminthoeca*. Symptoms include severe vomiting and diarrhea. Fortunately, with treatment most dogs will survive this potentially fatal infection.

October 6 last day to buy bear tag

If you're hoping to bag a bear while hunting this fall, Friday, Oct. 6 is the last day to buy a fall bear tag. Sports Pac holders, don't forget to redeem your voucher.

Best bets for weekend fishing

This could be a beautiful weekend for fishing. Here are just some of your options:

Chinook and coho salmon are entering rivers from the coast to the Willamette Valley.

This could be the best time of the year to fish the high lakes for trout. Fish are feeding heavily in preparation for the winter, and

fishing should be good until snow limits access.

Brook and brown trout are starting to gather up in preparation for spawning.

Crabbing has been good to great out of Depoe Bay, Newport and Waldport.

E-tagging tips for hunters and anglers

It's important for both hunters and anglers to tag their harvest immediately, which means they'll need to know how to navigate the MyODFW app outside of cell phone range. Here are some tips for e-tagging in the field.

CWD check stations, other ways to get your animal tested

ODFW continues to monitor hunter harvested deer and elk for CWD – a fatal, highly infectious disease. What can hunters do to help combat CWD?

* If you pass a CWD check station, stop and have your animal tested. It takes only 10 minutes and is legally required.

* If you don't find a check station, learn the other ways you can have your animal tested.

Find out more about CWD, check station locations and the ways to have your animal tested.

PROTECT WHAT MATTERS MOST

Whether you are home or away, protect what matters most from unexpected power outages with a Generac Home Standby Generator.

FREE 7-Year Extended Warranty* A \$735 Value!

\$0 MONEY DOWN + LOW MONTHLY PAYMENT OPTIONS

REQUEST A FREE QUOTE
CALL NOW BEFORE THE NEXT POWER OUTAGE
(541) 799-2713

*To qualify, consumers must request a quote, purchase, install and activate the generator with a participating dealer. Call for a full list of terms and conditions.

GENERAC

CROSSWORD

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71						72				73			

SWITCH & GET \$25

Off First Month of New Service! USE PROMO CODE: QZ590

Consumer Cellular

CALL CONSUMER CELLULAR 888-804-0913

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THE 2000s

- ACROSS
1. Interest in a venture

6. Hundredweight, acr.

9. Med. sch. requirement

13. ____ the tail ____ the donkey

14. Duran Duran's 1982 hit

15. All plants and animals

16. Part of an eye, pl.

17. Go for the bull's eye

18. Reduction/oxidation portman-teau

19. *Best selling author of the 2000s

21. *Billboard's music artist of the
- 2000s

23. Chicken ____ king

24. From a thrift store

25. Class-conscious grp.

28. Formerly, once

30. Marine mammal in famous Beatles' song

35. Fabled fliers

37. Jealous biblical brother

39. Averse

40. **He's Just Not That ____ You" (2009)

41. Acrylic fiber

43. Arabian chieftain

Solution on Page 9

SUDOKU

Call today and receive a FREE SHOWER PACKAGE PLUS \$1600 OFF

SAFE STEP WALK-IN TUB 1-855-576-5653

With purchase of a new Safe Step Walk-In Tub. Not applicable with any previous walk-in tub purchase. Offer valid while supplies last. No cash value. Must present offer at time of purchase. SEE 1037165 MSCG 11/23/23 0303443

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

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

Solution on Page 9

44. Apartments, e.g.
46. *Friendster or Facebook, e.g.
47. 5,280 feet
48. Metal detector, e.g.
50. Goose egg
52. Cry of horror in comics
53. Made a basket
55. *Frodo Baggins and Samwise Gamgee or Nemo and Dory, e.g.
57. *Name for 2000s
60. *Popular social network of the 2000s
64. K-pop country
65. Woody creeper
67. Teletype machine, for short
68. Picture within a picture, e.g.
69. **____ Smart" (2008)
70. Make a canyon, e.g.
71. Furniture wood
72. Utmost degree
73. Financing values

DOWN

1. Horse prod
2. *Popular DVR device
3. All over again
4. Eucalyptus-eating marsupial
5. Store in a silo
6. Mountain goat terrain
7. *Xbox competitor
8. Libraryful
9. Dignified manner
10. **The Da Vinci ____," best selling book of the 2000s
11. A-bomb particle
12. Levy
15. Like "something new" boutique
20. Beginning of sleeping disorder
22. Feline sound
24. Put to work
25. *Toyota Hybrid introduced world-wide in 2000
26. 1,000 kilograms
27. Play a part (2 words)
29. *2002-2004 zoonotic epidemic cause, acr.
31. Rich soil
32. China grass
33. Handy
34. *First ever recipient of Oscar for Best Animated Feature
36. Chronic drinkers
38. Post-it slip
42. Like #59 Down
45. *Pink's 2008 hit (2 words)
49. Break down
51. Dismissal or ejection
54. "Peace" with fingers
56. "Madame Butterfly", e.g.
57. First rate (2 words)
58. Sky's Major one
59. *Like Best Buy's Squad
60. Urban legend
61. Tons (2 words)
62. Relinquish, as in property
63. *Jennifer Aniston and Brad Pitt, after 2005
64. *American Girl ____ Kittredge
66. Doctor Dolittle, e.g.

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

Click here or go to: tinyurl.com/yeye92hx

Capitol Dental

Tue Oct 3rd

LOCAL DENTAL CARE @ MRC!

Presenting Capitol Dental Care's Lane County Dental Van All Ages Welcome! (Children under 15 years old must be accompanied by a

dentist • local • dental • health

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

Sat Sep 30th 10:00am - 12:00pm

A Dime At A Time

Blue River Water District

Blue River Park Board

The board will meet at 7:15 p.m. A link to the online meeting is at: blueriverwaterdistrict.com

Wed Oct 4th 7:15pm - 8:00pm

Leaburg Library

Write something

The Leaburg Library is delighted to announce that Duane Noriyuki is back with a second "Write Your Life" workshop! This six-week

Tue Oct 3rd 6:00pm - Tue Nov 7th 7:00pm

WRITE YOUR LIFE

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Wed Oct 4th 6:00pm - 7:15pm

Blue River Water District

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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

September 21, Willamette Falls
Fall Chinook – 2,004
Summer Steelhead – 1,070

Sheriff's Report

Continued From Page 3

Sept. 21: 5:40 a.m: Assist, Follow Up - 37500 blk, Parsons Creek Rd.
3:10 p.m: Vehicle Stop - McK. Hwy. mp 17.
3:50 p.m: Welfare Check - 49700 blk, McK. Hwy.
4:33 p.m: Illegal Burn - Thurston Rd. & Billings Rd.
4:46 p.m: Vehicle Stop- McK. Hwy. Mp. 27.
Sept.22:12:29a.m: Incomplete 911 call - 91500 blk, Cougar Dam Rd.
12:17 p.m: Vehicle Stop - McK. Hwy. & Cedar Flat Rd.
12:25 p.m: Reckless Driving - 38300 blk, Wendling Rd.
1:05 p.m: Abandoned Property - Lat: 44.152416. Long: - 122.950594.
1:23 p.m: Civil Service - 87800 blk, Lupe Ln.
1:29 p.m: Disturbance, Dispute - 38500 blk, E. Cedar Flat Rd.
1:35 p.m: Vehicle Stop - McK. Hwy. & Goodpasture Rd.
2:20 p.m: Restraining Order Service - 41800 blk, Madrone St.
2:27 p.m: Vehicle Stop - McK. Hwy. & Goodpasture Rd.
2:38 p.m: Vehicle Stop - McK. Hwy. Mp. 27.
2:39 p.m: Vehicle Stop - McK. Hwy. Mp. 27.
2:49 p.m: Vehicle Stop - McK. Hwy. & Goodpasture Rd.
6:06 p.m: Vehicle Stop - McK. Hwy. Mp. 52.



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A Moment in Oregon History

By Rick Steber
(www.ricksteber.com)

September 28 - Grandma Tabitha Moffat Brown was a 66-years-old widow when she crossed the Plains to Oregon in 1846. But an early snowstorm in the Umpqua Mountains caused her to lose almost everything. She arrived in the Willamette Valley on a worn-out saddle horse and what little she could carry. After spending the first winter at the home of the Reverend and Mrs. Harvey Clark, Grandma Brown announced, “There are many orphan children residing near here; their parents having died on the way to Oregon. I want to help them.” She started an orphanage. Grandma Brown died May 4, 1858 and nearly 130 years after her death the Oregon Legislature awarded her the honorary title as “Mother of Oregon.”

7:01 p.m: Disoriented Subject - 35200 blk, Camp Creek Rd.
9:14 p.m: Vehicle Stop - 35200 blk, Camp Creek Rd.
Sept. 24: 8:35 a.m: Abandoned Vehicle - 33400 blk, McK. View Dr.
10:31 a.m: Fraud - 37100 blk, Tree Farm Rd.
2:31 p.m: Vicious Animal - 38100 blk, McK. Hwy.
3:22 p.m: Criminal Mischief - 39400 blk, Ann Ln.
5:01 p.m: Incomplete 911 Call - 91500 blk, Cougar Dam Rd.
7:30 p.m: Disturbance, Dispute - 40100 blk, York Ln.
9:39 p.m: Disturbance, Dispute - 90700 blk, Hill Rd.
Sept. 25: 3:06 a.m: Assist Oregon State Police – McK. Hwy. & Robby Ln.
2:01 p.m: Civil Service - 39800 blk, McK. Hwy.
3:27 p.m: Blocked Driveway - 39400 blk, Ann Ln.
4:13 p.m: Reckless Driving - 38300 blk, Wendling Rd.

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

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3	4	9	1	2	7	8	5	6
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8	7	5	4	3	6	9	2	1
7	2	3	6	8	1	5	9	4
9	1	8	5	4	3	6	7	2
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An invasive insect from Europe and the Middle East that attacks oak trees has recently been found in several Oregon white oaks in Wilsonville. The Mediterranean oak borer (Xyleborus monographus) transmits multiple fungal species to the trees it infests. Some fungal species may cause a disease called oak wilt, which may kill oak trees in as little as two to three years.

Mediterranean oak borer (MOB) is a tiny woodboring beetle called an “ambrosia beetle” because instead of feeding on wood, it eats fungus grown in galleries created in the wood of branches and trunks. The fungus grows, robbing tree canopies of water necessary for growth and survival. This insect was first found in North America when it turned up in 2017 in California, where it has been responsible for the decline and death of many native oak trees. In Europe, it has also been reported from elm, maple, and walnut trees, although damaging attacks have not been reported for these other tree types.

Oregon Dept. of Forestry (ODF) Invasive Species Specialist Wyatt Williams said, “MOB was found in a single trap set by ODF in Multnomah County Oregon in 2018. It was then found in traps in 2020 in Marion County, and in 2021-2022 in Clackamas and Washington counties. This spring it was found in a single Oregon white oak at Sandy River Delta..

Cody Holthouse, IPPM Program Manager for the Oregon Dept. of Agriculture, said his agency and ODF have been in touch with their California counterparts to assess the impact of MOB on native and introduced oaks, while also exploring what control measures they recommend. “Scientists at both agencies are actively planning survey and management strategies for this pest. We expect to have more answers in coming weeks and months,” he said.

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New pest raises concern for oak trees

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C. Ewing/CalFire

Galleries of native ambrosia beetles in oak. Note that the galleries do not branch, and have minimal crossings. Additionally Monarthrum ambrosia beetles do not attack healthy, live trees.

In the meantime, the departments of Forestry and Agriculture are asking people not to move firewood from oak trees beyond the local area where it is cut, to avoid spreading the insect pest.

Landowners are asked to review the signs and symptoms of MOB below and report oaks with both crown dieback and any of the symptoms below to the Oregon Invasives Hotline at <https://oregoninvasiveshotline.org/login/?next=/reports/detail/2018>

MOB fact sheet: <https://tinyurl.com/MOB-oregon>

Don't Move Firewood to prevent spreading this and other pests: <https://www.dontmovefirewood.org/map/oregon>

Signs and symptoms of MOB infestation

1) MOB is a tiny reddish-brown

beetle that can be confused with many other beetles that reside in oak.

2) Pale boring dust is kicked out by the beetle and found on the exterior trunk of the tree.

3) MOB galleries look like tiny black holes from the exterior of the wood and,

4) black, branched trellises on the cut face of wood.

5) MOB create tiny, perfectly round entrance holes.

Symptoms not from MOB: holes larger than the diameter of a pencil lead, brown boring dust, discolored leaves but absence of dieback, wood staining without associated galleries. For more info on other oak pests go to: https://www.oregon.gov/odf/Documents/forestbenefits/Oak_galls_2017.pdf



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Brighter Future

Continued From Page 1



Becca Short was part of the team that built a tiny home in the McKenzie Community School District's program last year.

In its first year of operation, 190 students participated in building the first starter homes while “gaining experience in construction trades, certification, advancement and opportunities to create apprenticeship programs,” Quinn said.

The program first trains instructors to build the one-room shelters so they lead construction classes. With what they learn in those classes teens can be part of a workforce initiative that introduces young people to the multiple career paths in high-wage/high-demand construction trades work. It also provides them with hands-on, work-based learning opportunities to demonstrate and refine the skills they'll need for possible future employment.

On the ground, Gabe Piechowicz, the lead at Everyone Village, said he was “real confident that what we have here is the makings of a tide-turner. For so many years the housing and homeless crisis has gotten steadily worse.”

Instead, he sees the Constructing a Brighter Future program as

a way of “sewing up a critical wound in the community and bringing generations together to work hand-in-hand on solutions.”

“This innovative project is an opportunity not only for students to learn high-wage, high-demand skills that our workforce needs,” according to Shareen Vogel with the Lane Education Service District. “It’s an opportunity for students to make a difference in their community where they live to really connect with a crisis that is happening right in our community.”

In the second year of operation, the program is expanding to expand into grow from 16 to 19 building sites, including middle schools, involving more students. Materials to build the tiny homes range from around \$5,700 for an 8 ft. x 12-foot structure to around \$7,000 for an 8 x 16-foot home. Those funds come from donations, which can be made via the Lane Workforce website.

Besides Everyone Village, homes are also being installed at the SquareOne Village.

Once per decade study asks people where, when and how they travel

This month, thousands of Oregon households will be invited to participate in the first wave of a statewide transportation study.

The Oregon Travel Study, led by a partnership between the Oregon Department of Transportation and the eight Oregon Metropolitan Planning organizations, seeks to understand where, when and how people in Oregon travel in their daily lives.

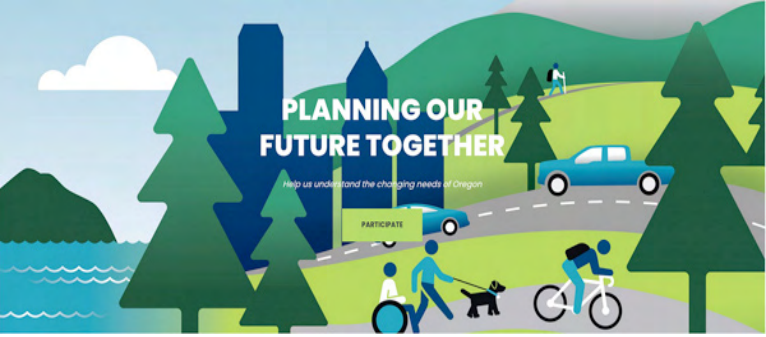
Between September 2023 and June 2024, about half of Oregon’s 1.6 million households will receive invitations by mail to participate in the study. It’s conducted every 10 years and provides critical data for transportation policy decisions and investments at local, state and federal levels.

“Many of the decisions we make rely on data from this study,” said Becky Knudson, ODOT senior transportation economist. “The more Oregon transportation agencies understand about how and why people use their local systems, the better we can make informed investment decisions to meet their needs.”

Households were randomly selected using U.S. Postal Service data. Selected households can participate in the survey via a smartphone app, online, or over the phone. The goal is to collect travel information from at least 21,000 households, which will allow analysts to draw accurate insights from the data across the entire state.

Households who participate in the study will be compensated for their time via prepaid debit cards.

Transportation planners and



policymakers will use the collected data over the next 10 years to create a safer, more sustainable and equitable transportation system for all users throughout the state. Results are expected to be published in early 2025.

Knudson says ensuring collected data represents all people in Oregon, and all the different ways they travel, is a top priority. Here’s some parts of the process:

- There are three ways to report travel: smartphone app, via a website, or over the phone.
- The survey is available in multiple languages across the smart-

phone app, website and phone line, including English, Spanish, Russian, Vietnamese, and simplified and traditional Chinese.

• Study researchers are partnering with community-based organizations to reach disadvantaged communities in ways that work best for those communities.

• Some communities and mode users will be “oversampled,” meaning more invitations will be sent to those folks to ensure we achieve the needed response rate.

Learn more about the study at oregontravelstudy.com, which includes a detailed FAQ about how it works.

Import bus drivers?

Continued From Page 1

it is. I appreciate the time they (bus drivers) spend with kids and communicate with me and my wife when they drop kids off. That kind of connection is priceless,” he said.

Bus driver John Phelps, who has worked for both the McKenzie and Springfield school districts, was concerned that in both areas, bus drivers aren’t valued. He told the board that “you and the teachers can’t do their jobs - nobody can do their jobs unless the students get to this facility.”

Phelps stressed the value of knowing an area’s residents if people live here. “If you get a guy outside of the community coming here he doesn’t know we have brittle on Tuesdays or the special things we learn to connect with the kids.”

Ernie Bates, shared the same feelings, saying since coming here in 2013 he’d enjoyed interacting with the bids who rode his bus and watched them grow up “all the way through graduation.” He felt it was critical that the district support

its transportation department and worried that things like the after school activity bus would be “very difficult for someone from Eugene to come up here for.”

Board chair Elaine Bryson thanked people for their input and asked superintendent Lane Tompkins to put together a countywide spreadsheet of bus driver and other classified positions prior to a collective bargaining session planned for next month.

News from the VMCC

ButterBraids & Cookies Order by October 25

Prepare for the Holidays by stocking up on ButterBraid and Wooden Spoon products. They keep in the freezer, raise overnight and are ready to bake the next morning! Bakery fresh and easy!! Order Until October 25 for November deliveries. ButterBraid and Wooden Spoon products are a great treat for family and guests, and a terrific fundraiser for our the Vida McKenzie Community Center. Contact Gerry aster at 541-896-3001 or Tammy Pelton 951-970-0176.

Senior or Vet living in the McKenzie Valley?

In 2024, the Vida McKenzie Community Center will be the site of a Social Model Senior Center designed to serve all seniors in the McKenzie River Valley. The scale of the program will be small at first, operating 3 hours per day, 2 days per week. Seniors will gather at the Center, share a hot meal together, watch a movie, take a class, play Bingo – whatever they decide to do.

VMCC is very excited about this program and would like to make sure it serves as many se-

niors as possible.

If you are a senior and/or veteran interested in participating in this Social Model Senior Center program, you can call Gerry Aster at 541-896-3001 to register your interest or you can respond using the arrow below if that is easier.

Thanks for helping VMCC build a more vibrant McKenzie River Valley!

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