



Serving the McKenzie River Valley ... And Subscriber Jackie & Stephen Birskovich of Vida

2023 Best of the River

The results are in - Reader's Picks for the Man, Woman & Business of the Year

PAGE 10

Land-fraud swindlers

The wealthy and well-connected had been stealing land from the state and federal governments for four decades.

PAGE 4



Pedestrian killed on Hwy. 126

50-year-old man was hit near Milepost 14

WALTERVILLE: A vehicle versus pedestrian accident took the life of a Springfield man early last Thursday night.

The Oregon State Police responded to a vehicle versus pedestrian crash on Hwy. 126E, near milepost 14.2, at approximately 6:09 p.m. on January 5th.

Police said their preliminary investigation indicated a pedestrian, 50-year-old Brandon Philes of Springfield, was walking on the eastbound fog line of the McKenzie Hwy., near the intersection with Latta Lane, when

he was struck by an eastbound Subaru Outback, operated by Frank King III (66) of Springfield. The pedestrian, Philes, was declared deceased, at the scene by medical personnel.

The highway remained partially open during the 3-hour crash scene investigation.

OSP was assisted by the Lane County Sheriff's Office, McKenzie Fire, the Lane County Medical Examiner, the Lane County District Attorney's Office, and ODOT.

Climate news - not all is bad

Oregon faces both novel risks and opportunities



At its maximum size about 100 years ago Collier Glacier, once filled this valley - as shown by the marks on the South Sister to the left.

By Michelle Klampe

Oregon continues to face new and enduring hazards related to climate change, but opportunities for adaptation and mitigation are also expanding, the latest assessment released today by the Oregon Climate Change Research Institute indicates.

"In general, the qualitative climate projections haven't changed appreciably," said Erica Fleishman, director of the institute, which is housed at Oregon State University and is charged with producing the biennial assessment. "It is becoming hotter and an increasing proportion of precipitation is falling as rain rather than snow, which affects the availability of water."

The assessment, the first since the June 2021 heat dome event that smashed temperature records and led to dozens of heat-related deaths in the Pacific Northwest, notes that the number and intensity of heat waves are likely to increase.

Oregon saw more days per year topping 90 degrees and more nights per year warmer than 65 degrees between 2011 and 2020 than between 1951 and 2010. Over the past 20 years, the incidence, extent, and severity of droughts also have grown. Increasing aridity is leading to increases in the average total annual area burned in wildfires. Glacier retreat has also accelerated, with 20 of Oregon's glaciers disappearing since the mid-late 1900s and no glaciers remaining in the

Wallowa Mountains.

But the assessment also indicates there are opportunities. For example: In the wake of the 2020 wildfires that killed at least nine people and burned hundreds of homes, a survey of Oregonians showed that 90 percent of participants had taken at least one personal action to prepare for future disasters, such as putting together an evacuation kit or signing up for emergency alerts. Survey responses also indicated strong support for policies to advance climate change adaptation and mitigation.

Adaptation efforts are underway in coastal Oregon communities where sea level rise, flooding, and erosion threaten infrastructure and buildings. Community scientists' observations of rain and snow are improving precipitation models. Visual artists are using their work to inform and engage audiences in discussions about climate change.

"Regardless of their political views or personal identity, Oregonians care about each other and their environment," Fleishman noted. "Our state's residents are taking diverse actions to preserve livelihoods and well-being as climate changes."

The legislatively mandated assessment provides lawmakers and the public with a biennial assessment of the state of Oregon-related climate change science

Not all bad - Page 9

EWEB unanimous for dam removal

Utility ends all plans to generate power at Leaburg

EUGENE: Green could be the color to describe some of the reasoning behind the Eugene Water & Electric Board commissioner's decision to decommission the Leaburg Hydroelectric Project. The pigment, often used in reference to clean energy production, was pitted against ongoing impacts to the environment.

But it was the amount of greenbacks involved - \$117 to \$230 per megawatt hour (to bring the generators back into full service) versus \$33 MWh to buy power from the BPA - that helped assure a unanimous vote by the board on January 3rd.

In pointing out producing power at Leaburg has become economically unviable, the utility's Chief Operations Officer, Karen Kelley, reminded the board that it could be 2033 before any construction activity actually occurs.

Details of the decom-

missioning plan included permanently ending electricity generation at Leaburg, removing the dam, and restoring the McKenzie to a free-flowing river through the project area. EWEB also plans to repair the Leaburg Canal to function as a stormwater conveyance, while keeping open an option to completely restore the area to what existed before the project was built in 1928.

In addition, EWEB says it will work with water rights holders and the Leaburg and McKenzie fish hatcheries that have been affected by dewatering the

Leaburg Canal.

General manager Frank Lawson said an in-depth assessment of the Wal-terville Hydroelectric Project is planned for the early 2030's.

Commissioner John Barofsky, who represents Eugene's Ward 2 and 3, noted that the decision to shut down Leaburg might not be "a done deal." He was concerned that at some point in the future new information might come forward that says, "Don't do this."

Lawson said the staff would be keeping the board updated at "various milestones along the way." He added that the decision to decommission the project was "based upon what we know today. If new information is discovered," he cautioned, "we need to have the humility to take a step back and look at that in a new light."



John Barofsky

Flocking to fire?

More move from hurricane zones to wildfire areas

Where did Americans move over the last decade? The top migration destinations include the Pacific Northwest, parts of the Southwest Texas, Florida, and a large swath of the Southeast. In contrast, people tended to move away from places in the Midwest, the Great Plains, and along the Mississippi River. Those sort of moves are expected to continue as extreme weather events, including heat waves, hurricanes, and wildfires continue.

The predictions are part of a 10-year examination of trends in human migration across the US in relation to features of the natural landscape and climate, as well as frequencies of various natural hazards.

"These findings are concerning, because people are moving into harm's way - into regions with wildfires and rising temperatures, which are expected to become more extreme due to climate change," said the University of Vermont study

lead author Mahalia Clark. She noted that the study was inspired by the increasing number of headlines of record-breaking natural disasters.

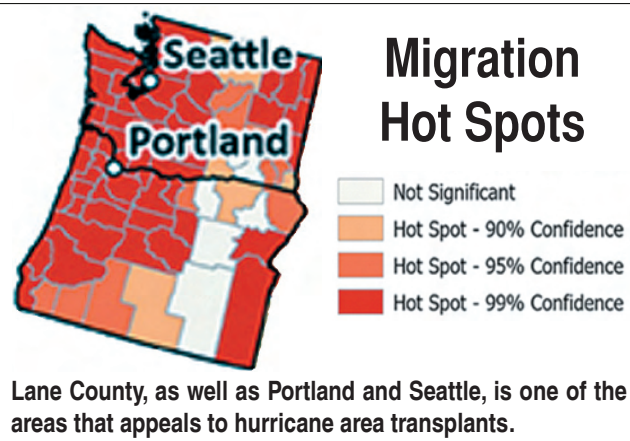
Each year in the US, natural hazards and disasters in the form of extreme weather events cause numerous deaths and billions of dollars in damages. From 2010 to 2020, hurricanes killed an average of 332 people per year and did an average of \$47 billion in damage per year, while wildfires killed an average of 23 people per year and did an average of

\$7 billion worth of damage per year.

"The decision to move is a complicated and personal decision that involves weighing dozens of factors," said Clark. "Weighing all these factors, we see a general aversion to hurricane risk, but ultimately—as we see in Florida—it's one factor in a person's list of pros and cons, which can be outweighed by other preferences."

Published by the journal Frontiers in Human Dynamics, the study, "Flocking to Fire: How Climate and

Flocking to fire - Page 7



Letters to the Editor

We have to save Ukraine

The United States convinced Ukraine in 1991 to give up its nuclear weapons and send them to Russia. We then guaranteed Ukraine's security, and now we are fulfilling those guarantees.

We have provided about \$70 billion in aid and plan on giving another \$50 billion in economic and military aid. This aid is well spent since Ukraine is fighting to counter and deter Russian expansionist goals in Eastern Europe. If Ukraine goes down Eastern Europe could be next. This would require a response from NATO countries, including the U.S., which would precipitate WWII.

Kevin McCarthy, the next Speaker of the House of Repre-

sentatives, and the far-right Republicans in the House Freedom Caucus, including the extremist Marjorie Greene, want to cut back our commitment to Ukraine. This highly partisan, short-sighted, and naive position loses sight of the world's geopolitical situation. It would endanger Ukraine and Europe and encourage other bad actors in the world like China, North Korea, and Iran to commit aggression with impunity to further their expansionist objectives.

Ukrainian President Zelensky is committed to defending his country. Congress and the American people should realize the strategic importance of saving Ukraine from the clutches of a Russian tyrant.

Donald Moskowitz
Londonderry NH



McKenzie Eagles Sports Report

By Cliff Richardson

McKenzie Varsity Sports Schedule This Week

The McKenzie Varsity Basketball teams travel to Gilchrist on Tuesday, January 10. The Eagle Varsity Boys game starts at 5:30 pm and the Girls Varsity game tips off at 7:00 pm. The McKenzie teams host Alsea on Thursday, January 12. The Eagle Varsity Girls game is scheduled for a 5:30 start and the Boys game will follow at 7:00 pm. The Eagles travel to Mohawk on Friday, January 13. The Boys game starts at 5:30 and the Girls game will begin at 7:00 pm.

Irish Shenanigans Stymie Eagles

There was no gold at the end of a rainbow for the Eagle Varsity Basketball teams when the Riddle Irish skipped into Finn Rock last Wednesday, January 4. The Irish were full of tricks and waltzed home with a couple of non-league victories over both McKenzie teams. The Eagle Boys fell first, losing 63-30 to their Skyline League foe. Riddle won its third victory of the season and currently sits at 3-10 on the season. McKenzie junior Griffin Withalm finished as the high point Eagle, dropping in 11 points and

adding 1 steal to his stat line. Freshman Will Meister finished his game with 8 points scored, 1 rebound and a steal. Fellow junior Thomas Hayes dropped in 7 points and grabbed 7 rebounds. Junior Salomon Acevedo finished team high 9 rebounds, 2 points and a steal and senior Trent Peek added 2 points, 3 rebounds and 1 swipe. Sophomore Jovial Jordan hauled in 5 rebounds and had 2 steals and freshman Allen Acevedo finished with 2 boards and a steal. The Eagle girls wrapped up the night with the Irish and lost 37-18. No game stats were available for the Girls game.

MWL Leading Eddyville Girls Fly Past McKenzie

The Mt. West League Girls Basketball leaders currently roost in Eddyville and in a battle of Eagles over in the Coast Range; the McKenzie raptors learned why their counterpart Eddyville Eagles is flying high. Eddyville Charter easily dispatched visiting McKenzie 60-11, last Thursday, January 5, while notching their fourth win against no defeats thus far in MWL play. Eddyville Charter already owns a 53-33 victory over second place Triangle Lake (4-1). With the defeat, McKenzie dropped to 1-3 in the MWL and 1-8 overall. The McKenzie Varsity Boys team fared no better in their nightcap game. Eddyville Charter swept the night on the court by defeating their upland visitors 43-18. This was the first win of the season for Eddyville (1-4, 1-8). McKenzie dropped to 0-5 and 0-10. No game stats were available for either Eagle team.

Fake apps - designed to steal your money

The Oregon Division of Financial Regulation (DFR) warns cryptocurrency investors to do their homework before giving any money to a crypto trading platform.

Many crypto trading apps or websites are really just fake platforms set up by scammers to take investor money and give nothing in return. Investors are promised huge returns in a short amount of time and will see account balances increase rapidly, but will not be able to withdraw funds without having to deposit more money in "withdrawal fees" or "taxes." The scammer will continue extorting these fees until an investor becomes suspicious. After that, the account is drained and the scammers are gone, along with the investor's funds. Before transferring money to a crypto trading website or app, research the company and web address to make sure it is legitimate.

Scammers will also look for opportunities to re-victimize those who have already been harmed and are trying to find ways to recover their losses. For example, a recent scam involved a website claiming to be managed by the U.S. Department of State, stating it was working to get FTX customer assets returned to them, following the collapse of FTX (read more about the FTX collapse). The website asked

for the investor's FTX username and password, along with other account information. The U.S. Department of State did not create this website. Please be advised that if anyone contacts you asking for usernames and passwords for your accounts, it is more than likely a scam.

"The crypto trading market is fluid and full of people trying to take advantage of you," said TK Keen, DFR administrator. "We have said this before, but if it sounds too good to be true, it probably is. We encourage everyone to do their homework and invest wisely, and be diligent in protecting their usernames, passwords, and other sensitive data."

According to the North American Securities Administrators Association, there are many common schemes fraudsters exploit as new investment products or opportunities. Some of them are:

- * Fake digital wallets: A digital wallet is used to store, send, and receive cryptocurrencies. Scammers design a fake digital wallet to lure users into providing their private key or code that enables the wallet to open. Once scam-

mers receive the private key, they can steal all the cryptocurrency from the owner's digital wallet.

- * Pump-and-dumps: Groups of individuals coordinate to buy a thinly-traded cryptocurrency, promote the cryptocurrency on social media to push up demand and the price, and then sell it in a coordinated sale. The price plummets and those unaware of the scheme are left with the devalued cryptocurrency.
- * Multi-level marketing platforms: Companies lure investors through the promise of high interest with low risk. These investors are then incentivized to recruit more members.

"Many of these seem obvious after the fact, but there is so much in this industry that looks and sounds legitimate," Keen said. "Unfortunately, there are a lot of people out there in the crypto space who are just looking to take advantage of you. If you think you are a victim of a crypto-related scam, we encourage you to file a complaint with our office."

For more information on filing a complaint, go to the DFR website.

Letters to the Editor



Letters To The Editor should contain no more than 250 words. All letters must be signed and include an address and phone number. Addresses and phone numbers will not be published upon request. Deadline for submission is Monday at 5 pm.

Friday 1/13		Saturday 1/14		Sunday 1/15	
McKenzie Valley Showers	Santiam Pass PM Showers	McKenzie Valley Showers	Santiam Pass Rain/Snow	McKenzie Valley Light Rain	Santiam Pass Snow
50% chance precip High: 53 Low: 43	30% chance precip High: 42 Low: 31	60% chance precip High: 50 Low: 41	60% chance precip High: 39 Low: 29	70% chance precip High: 47 Low: 39	60% chance precip High: 35 Low: 27

MRR

McKenzie River Reflections

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

To subscribe go to: tinyurl.com/2vf5caa6

© 2022 McKENZIE RIVER REFLECTIONS
All rights to reproduce the contents of this newspaper, including advertising copy, is reserved by McKenzie River Reflections.

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
1/3	42	34	0.37	2,041 cfs	1/3	47	33	0.10	7,430 cfs
1/4	54	36	0.28	1,989 cfs	1/4	49	35	0.19	6,890 cfs
1/5	56	42	0.23	NA	1/5	58	36	0.31	6,600 cfs
1/6	47	36	0.78	1,904 cfs	1/6	60	38	0.13	5,360 cfs
1/7	48	43	0.11	1,863 cfs	1/7	48	41	0.05	5,500 cfs
1/8	50	39	0.01	1,809 cfs	1/8	51	43	0.45	5,670 cfs
1/9	46	37	0.10	1,201 cfs	1/9	51	37	0.20	5,260 cfs

Sheriff's Report

Jan. 2: 10:52 a.m: Abandoned Vehicle - Wendling Rd. & Marcola Rd.

1:53 p.m: Burglary - 33600 blk, McK. View Dr. Undisclosed property was stolen from within a residence.

2:36 p.m: Information - Wendling Rd. & Marcola Rd.

5:36 p.m: Disturbance, Dispute - 92100 blk, Marcola Rd. verbal dispute between boyfriend and girlfriend.

Jan. 3: 5:11 a.m: Suspicious Conditions - Thurston Rd. & McK. Hwy. A boat was dumped at a gravel pullout. Later, a dark colored pickup was seen backed up to the boat as if someone was possibly attempting to steal something off it.

9:15 a.m: Traffic Hazard - Marcola Rd. & Pico St.

Jan. 4: 6:27 a.m: - Suspicious vehicle - Booth Kelly Rd. & Deerhorn Rd.

12:58 p.m: Citizen Contact - 40100 blk, McK. Hwy.

3:08 p.m: Traffic Hazard - Whitmore St. & Marcola Rd.

4:J7 p.m: Unlawful Use of Vehicle - Camp Creek Rd. area.

4:53 p.m: Tree Down - Marcola Rd. Milepost 19.

Jan. 5: 11:10 a.m: Fraud - 93000 blk, Marcola Rd. A caller received a telephone bill for someone with a different name.

2:53 p.m: Citizen Contact - Auferheide Dr. & McK. Hwy.

5:02 p.m: Foot Patrol - 40500 blk, McK. Hwy.

6:08 p.m: Assist Oregon State Police - McK. Hwy. & Latta Rd.

10:09 p.m: Suspicious Subject - 47800 blk, McK. Hwy. A caller advised that a former tenant was harassing him by shining lights on the caller's property. The caller later advised that it was not his former tenant after all.

Jan. 6: 8:24 a.m: Citizen Contact - 42900 blk, Leaburg Dr.

11:53 a.m: Restraining Order Service - 8400 blk, Thurston Rd.

9:59 p.m: Lost Subject - Lat: 044.179920. Long: -121.963112.

Jan. 7: 10:19 a.m: Alarm -

40800 blk, McK. Hwy.

12:10 p.m: Citizen Contact - 35200 blk, Camp Creek Rd.

12:28 p.m: Suspicious Conditions - Wendling Rd. & Paschelke Rd. The occupants of a mid 2000's 4-door Acura TRX were seen going through mailboxes. The car was described as being dark in color and having no hood.

2:04 p.m: Information - 38400 blk, Shotgun Creek Rd.

2:25 p.m: Citizen Contact - 91800 blk, Mill Creek Rd.

2:43 p.m: Vehicle Stop - McK. Hwy. & Mill Creek Rd.

Jan. 8: 1:18 p.m: Civil Service - 87300 blk, Cedar Flat Rd.

2:02 p.m: Restraining Order Service - 8400 blk, Thurston Rd.

3:13 p.m: Warrant Service - 42000 blk, Holden Creek Ln.

Jan. 8: 38:19 a.m: Dispute - 91800 blk, Mill Creek Rd.

Jan. 9: 11:43 a.m: Illegal Dump - Mohawk River Rd. & 1900 Rd.

3:40 p.m: Loud Noise - Dexter St. & Blue River Dr.

6:29 p.m: Civil Service - 37100 blk, Parsons Creek Rd.

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

McKenzie Fire & Rescue

Jan. 1: 4:33: 37000 block, Upper Camp Creek Rd. Fire, Structural. Fire Extinguished.

23:28: 40000 blk, Deerhorn Rd. Medical, Heart. Patient Assessed, 1 Transported.

Jan. 2: 9:01: 51000 blk, McK. Hwy Medical, General Patient Assessed, Refusal Signed.

17:49: 37000 blk, Camp Creek Rd. Medical, General Patient Assessed, 1 Transported.

Jan. 3: 9:14: McKenzie Hwy/ Milepost 19, Mistaken Alarm.

Jan. 4: 8:10: 41000 blk, Booth Kelly Rd. Motor Vehicle Accident. No Patient Found, Vehicle Flagged.

9:14: McKenzie Hwy MP 12, Police Assist. Cancelled By Dispatch.

Jan. 5: 18:04: McKenzie Hwy and Latta Ln. MVA/Pedestrian. Patient Assessed/Treated/Deceased.

19:16: 41000 blk, Madrone St. Medical/General Patient Assessed, 1 Transported.

Jan. 6: 12:40: 45000 blk, Goodpasture Rd. Medical, Heart. Patient Assessed, 1 Transported.

13:27: 90000 blk, Greenwood Dr. Medical, General. Patient Assessed, 1 Transported.

15:28: 45000 blk, McK. Hwy. Fire, Structural. Fire Extinguished.

Jan. 7: 8:40: 91000 blk, Blue River Reservoir Rd. Mutual Aid Cancelled By Upper McK. Fire

Prior To Arrival.

Jan. 8: 00:32: 42000 blk, McK. Hwy. Medical, Heart. Patient Assessed, 1 Transported.

5:56: 45000 blk, Goodpasture Rd. Medical, Heart. Patient Refusal.

20:56: 49000 blk, McK. Hwy. Public Assist. Cancelled on Scene.

McK. Fire & Rescue will hold its monthly Board of Directors meeting on Monday, January 16th at noon, in the Leaburg Training Center.

Upper McKenzie Fire/Rescue

Jan. 4: 09:12: Assist Police Dept. - Milepost 12, Clear Lake Cutoff. OSP requests medics for a crash, male patient.

Jan. 7: 08:38: Medical - 91000 block, Blue River Reservoir Rd. Male, Conscious, Breathing.

Jan. 8: 03:25: Lift Assist - 91000 blk, Horse Creek Rd. Male patient.

Jan. 9: 07:09: Motor Vehicle Accident - 51000 blk, Blue River Dr. Bus went into the ditch, no children on board. Driver is uninjured.

10:00: Medical - 51000 blk, McK. Hwy. Female, Conscious, Breathing.

The Upper McK. Fire District board of directors will hold its monthly meeting at 7 p.m on Wednesday, January 18th, at the McK. Fire Station, 56578 McK. Hwy. in McKenzie Bridge.

McKenzie River Reflections

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 \$1.00 Add to cart	2022 August 4 Vol. 44, Issue 51 \$1.00 Add to cart	2022 July 28 Vol. 44, Issue 50 \$1.00 Add to cart	2022 July 21 Vol. 44, Issue 49 \$1.00 Add to cart	2022 July 14 Vol. 44, Issue 48 \$1.00 Add to cart	2022 July 7 Vol. 44, Issue 47 \$1.00 Add to cart
2022 June 30 Vol. 44, Issue 46 \$1.00 Add to cart	2022 June 23 Vol. 44, Issue 45 \$1.00 Add to cart	2022 June 9 Vol. 44, Issue 43 \$1.00 Add to cart	2022 June 2 Vol. 44, Issue 42 \$1.00 Add to cart	2022 May 26 Vol. 44, Issue 41 \$1.00 Add to cart	2022 May 19 Vol. 44, Issue 40 \$1.00 Add to cart
2022 May 12 Vol. 44, Issue 39 \$1.00 Add to cart	2022 May 5 Vol. 44, Issue 38 \$1.00 Add to cart	2022 April 28 Vol. 44, Issue 37 \$1.00 Add to cart	2022 April 21 Vol. 44, Issue 36 \$1.00 Add to cart	2022 April 14 Vol. 44, Issue 35 \$1.00 Add to cart	2022 April 7 Vol. 44, Issue 34 \$1.00 Add to cart
2022 March 31 Vol. 44, Issue 33 \$1.00 Add to cart	2022 March 24 Vol. 44, Issue 32 \$1.00 Add to cart	2022 March 17 Vol. 44, Issue 31 \$1.00 Add to cart	2022 March 10 Vol. 44, Issue 30 \$1.00 Add to cart	2022 March 3 Vol. 44, Issue 29 \$1.00 Add to cart	2022 February 2 Vol. 44, Issue 28 \$1.00 Add to cart
2022 February 17 Vol. 44, Issue 27 \$1.00 Add to cart	2022 February 10 Vol. 44, Issue 26 \$1.00 Add to cart	2022 February 3 Vol. 44, Issue 25 \$1.00 Add to cart	2022 January 27 Vol. 44, Issue 24 \$1.00 Add to cart	2022 January 20 Vol. 44, Issue 23 \$1.00 Add to cart	2022 January 13 Vol. 44, Issue 22 \$1.00 Add to cart
2021 December 6 Vol. 44, Issue 21 \$1.00 Add to cart	2021 December 16 Vol. 44, Issue 18 \$1.00 Add to cart	2021 December 9 Vol. 44, Issue 17 \$1.00 Add to cart	2021 December 2 Vol. 44, Issue 16 \$1.00 Add to cart	2021 November 25 Vol. 44, Issue 15 \$1.00 Add to cart	2021 November 18 Vol. 44, Issue 14 \$1.00 Add to cart

MOVE TO A PLACE THAT MOVES YOU

McKenzie River Specialist
Exceeding Expectations
Nadine Scott, broker
Top Producer at
Windermere Real Estate since 2010*
541-915-0807
nadine@windermere.com
nadinescott.com

* based on Windermere's annual Top Producers List

THE LEABURG STORE

- FRESH BREAKFAST BURRITOS
- FISHING TACKLE
- FISHING LICENSES
- CAMPFIRE WOOD
- ADULT BEVERAGES
- KOMBUCHA

BISCUITS & GRAVY TIL NOON!

(541) 896-0500
MP 20 McKenzie River Hwy

NEW: Long Sleeve T.

McKenzieRiverGiftShop.com
541 726-1817

JUDY CASAD
REAL ESTATE

541-968-2400
Windermere Real Estate | Lane County

Willhite Real Estate

Thinking of buying or selling? We can help!

We have over 30 years experience specializing in McKenzie Real Estate. Contact us for a professional no-obligation market analysis, or for assistance with all your real estate needs.

Deborah Willhite
Principal Broker / Licensed in State of Oregon
541-912-1523

Austin Willhite
Broker / Licensed in State of Oregon
541-954-8202

NORTHWEST KNOWLEDGE

Want to sell your home for top dollar? Ask me how!

Kelly Gustafson, BROKER
541.799.4398 Direct | KellyG@bhhsnwrep.com

Major Family FUNERAL HOME

Family owned since 1961

Devoted Caring Professional Staff
Funerals • Burials • Cremations
Monuments • Keepsakes • Video Tributes
Personalized Memorial Packages

Newly updated facilities with a warm and comfortable environment, on-site reception room, conveniently located with a reputation of excellence. Pre-planning available — Medicaid approved plans

A family's Love is forever

Handicap Accessible
Reliable 24/7 Service • Se Habla Español
541-746-9667
www.MajorFamilyFuneralHome.com



By Slim Randles

I don’t mind Boots. He just curls up quietly against my belly and stays put. But sleeping with Desdemona can be a bit unnerving. She snores. Sometimes she gets little bad dreams and scratches me, too. But hey, I get to come in out of the cold and sleep with Aunt Ada’s cats on her sofa, and a guy can tolerate a certain amount of cat snoring for that.

I was glad when I heard Aunt Ada puttering in the kitchen because I knew it was time to get up. After she let me out, she fed me, and let me tell you ... that kibble was just as good this morning as it was yesterday. And then she petted me, called me her dear Billy, and let me out to do my rounds.

Don’t let anyone tell you being the official town dog is easy. Nossirree. First, there are the kids. Me and Martin, the crossing guard, have to see them safely across the street and to school each morning. Must be band day, because I see a lot of instrument cases. Martin gets smiles from the children. I get smiles AND ear rumples, so what do you think of that!

Once those kids are safely across, the time is pretty much my own until the final bell rings in the afternoon. That would be after I get snacks at the back door of the Mule Barn and after my nap curled up against the brick wall of the drugstore downtown. You ever notice how those bricks hold the sunshine in them? Better than that white wall on the newspaper office.

This is a good day to stop by the Rest of Your Life retirement home and check on Pop Walker and Mabel Adams. Oh, I make the rounds and check on everybody, of course, but I have to admit those two are my favorites.

If today is band day at school, tomorrow will be sale day at the sale barn at the edge of town. That’s when the men bring their dogs in from the ranches to look at cows. They yell and talk funny. Not the dogs, of course. Getting your sniffing up to date is always a good thing.

Love, Billy

Give a great nose a helpful lift. Send a gift to the East Tennessee Bloodhound Rescue. etbloodhoundrescue.org.

They’re not ready for adult safety belts, either.

Keep your child safe with a booster seat until they’re 4’9”.

In a crash, adult-size safety belts can cause serious internal and spinal injuries to children eight and under. Remember, kids who have outgrown their child safety seat should be secured in a booster until they’re 4’9”. So keep them safe in the car with a booster seat – because they’re not grown-ups yet.

Child Safety Seat 1-877-793-2608 childsafetysseat.org

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

Frontier land-fraud swindlers plundered Oregon

By Finn J.D. John

On the morning of Dec. 7, 1904, Stephen A.D. Puter had just arrived at the office of U.S. Marshal Jack Matthews. He was expecting some friends to come by ... and bail him out of jail.

Puter had just been convicted of masterminding a plan to swindle the U.S. government out of thousands of acres of prime timberlands. He had not yet been sentenced. Like all convicts, he had the option of either staying in jail until sentencing, or posting bail. In his case, bail was set at \$4,000. He figured his friends — or, rather, unindicted co-conspirators — would be by shortly to help him raise the funds.

No one came.

It was starting to dawn on Puter that no one was going to come.

To be sure, he called his brother and asked him to pay a few social calls on his friends and business associates. The brother, as Puter may have expected, soon reported back: None of the old cronies wanted to have anything to do with him any more.

Over the next few days, after he’d come up with his bail by borrowing it from family members, Puter learned more details about why they were all so reticent. There was, as he’d well known, a new investigator in town from Washington, D.C., sent by the new Theodore Roosevelt administration and tasked with putting a stop to the rampant land frauds that had been going on for decades all across Oregon and the West.

This “new sheriff,” Francis Heney, had had started his campaign by going after Puter, who was the most successful, prominent, and notorious of the crooked land agents. Now Puter, the “land fraud king,” had been convicted along with several of his associates and lower-level financial backers; and the land fraudsters who had not yet been caught in Heney’s dragnet were very much hoping that the government’s thirst would be slaked by this high-profile win, and that Heney would move on and let them continue pillaging the public domain as before.

In other words, he was to be sacrificed to appease the gods in Washington D.C. He was to be thrown under the bus, branded a “bad apple” and socially disowned in order to protect the bigger fish involved and enable them to keep the good times rolling.

And how much bigger were those bigger fish? Well, several of them were out-of-state millionaires; two of them were members of the U.S. House of Representatives; and one was United States Senator John H.



S.A.D. Puter

Convicted land-fraud scammer Stephen A.D. Puter in his prison cell, working on the manuscript for his tell-all book following his conviction.

Mitchell.

Puter was good and angry about this situation by the time he made it out of jail, and determined to give his old “friends” a good scare for their pains at the very least. But although he doesn’t say specifically, it looks as if Puter didn’t actually decide to go into full-on vengeance mode until Mitchell started regularly using him as a whipping boy in press conferences about the land frauds.

This was stupendously galling to Puter, because at one point a few years earlier, he had actually paid Mitchell a \$2,000 bribe to lean on the lands department to approve some fraudulent applications.

“Had Sen. Mitchell held his peace, his name should never have been mentioned by me,” Puter raged to a former business partner afterward. “But since he has seen fit to denounce me publicly, through the columns of the daily press, discountenancing me in most scathing terms, I see no reason why I should protect him further.”

The business that Puter had made his career in was one that had been going on in Oregon since the very dawn of Oregon statehood. By the time Roosevelt’s administration decided to put a stop to it, the wealthy and well-connected had been stealing land from the state

and federal governments for four decades.

Around the time the state was admitted to the union, legally almost all of it belonged to the federal government. This it was busily handing out to homesteaders, who could file claims on big chunks of it, “prove it up” by building cabins and raising crops, and claim title to it for just a nominal filing fee.

This system worked pretty well for the parts of the state that were suitable for small farms — the Willamette Valley, mostly — but it left big portions of the state out. Timberlands, especially, as well as most of the dryer portions of eastern Oregon, would not support a homesteader.

So, with an eye toward getting marginally farmable land and timberlands into productive use, the government created several new programs that were less rigorous. It also empowered the new state to claim the state’s “swamp lands” to be reclaimed for agriculture.

It was the “swamp lands” grant that gave Oregon its first real experience of wholesale land fraud. Maybe that was inevitable, since the whole idea of the grant was based on fantasy. The river bottomlands in the Mississippi Valley had included vast acres of malarial swamps which could be

fairly easily reclaimed by building dikes and levees and draining them; but doing that was very expensive. The feds had found it convenient to have the states take that on; they would take the swamp, reclaim it, and sell the resulting farmland to help the state pay its bills and put the land into productive use.

Oregon had very little of that kind of swampland. But in 1870, the state legislature suddenly realized that if they redefined “swamp” to include bits of land that flooded once or twice in the spring, they could gin up a claim on vast amounts of the land in the state, which they could then hand over to their friends for super cheap.

Here’s how the swindle worked:

A wealthy landowner — a sheep rancher, say — cultivated a state land agent and bribed or otherwise induced him to proclaim the banks and streambeds of every river, lake, or pond in the area he coveted as “swamp land.”

The landowner could then pay 20 cents per acre to reserve the property. After successfully “reclaiming” it, he would then be allowed to buy it outright for an additional 80 cents an acre.

So the landowner would take charge of the “swamp land,” wait six months for the dry season, proclaim it “reclaimed,” and purchase it.

In the case of our sheep rancher, this worked doubly well, because by snapping up all the land with water running on it, he left nothing behind but dry pasture. He could be pretty confident that no sobbusters would be able to successfully claim any of it under the Homestead Act, so he’d get to graze all his sheep on it for free.

But, you might object: With the state claiming huge swaths of “swamp land” that wasn’t really swampland, almost sight-unseen, wasn’t there a risk that the state would “claim” land that someone had already claimed?

Yes, and that happened a lot. In fact, it was one of the preferred outcomes of the scammers, because after the state had “sold” you someone else’s land, it would have to give you another piece of state property in lieu of the one you’d contracted for. And you got to pick which piece of “lieu land” you got.

There were several other ways the state and federal governments could be hustled out of prime lands, too. The state wasn’t fully surveyed yet. The policy of the state and federal governments was to honor the claims of legitimate homesteaders even if their claims turned out to be in places that

Land-fraud swindlers- Page 8

Prepare for Power Outages & Save Money

REQUEST A FREE QUOTE!

ACT NOW TO RECEIVE A \$300 SPECIAL OFFER!*

(866) 752-0539

GENERAC PWRCELL SOLAR + BATTERY STORAGE SYSTEM

SO DOWN FINANCING OPTIONS!*

*Offer value when purchased at retail.

**Financing available through authorized Generac partners. Solar panels sold separately.

LeafFilter GUTTER PROTECTION

20% OFF YOUR ENTIRE PURCHASE*

CALL US TODAY FOR A FREE ESTIMATE

Promo Number: 285

A COMPANY OF LEAFHOME

BACKED BY A YEAR-ROUND CLOG-FREE GUARANTEE

10% OFF SENIORS & MILITARY!

FREE GUTTER ALIGNMENT + FREE GUTTER CLEANING*

1-866-387-0730

Mon-Thurs: 8am-11pm, Fri-Sat: 8am-5pm, Sun: 2pm-8pm EST

*For those who qualify. One coupon per household. No obligation estimate valid for 1 year. **Offer valid at time of estimate only. 2The leading consumer reporting agency conducted a 16 month outdoor test of gutter guards in 2010 and recognized LeafFilter as the #1 rated professionally installed gutter guard system in America. Manufactured in Plainwell, Michigan and processed at LMT Mercer Group in Ohio. See Representative for full warranty details. Registration# 0366920922 CSLB# 1035795 Registration# HIC0649905 License# CBC056678 License# RCE-51604 Registration# C127230 License# 559544 Suffolk HIC License# 52229-H License# 2102212986 License# 262000022 License# 262000403 License# 2106212946 License# MHIC117225 Registration# 176447 License# 423330 Registration# 16731804 License# 50145 License# 408693 Registration# 13H09953900 Registration# H-19114 License# 218294 Registration# PA069383 License# 41354 License# 7656 DOP# 10783658-5501 License# 42330 License# 2705169445 License# LEAFFNW822JZ License# WV056912



Gardening Tips

By Kym Pokorny



Oregon State University

OSU Extension Service

Gear up for the new year on a budget



Any time of year is a good time to start a budget, but the new year when resolutions are in the air seems especially suitable. Since the gardening season is still a few months away, there's a good stretch to set priorities.

"Gardening is like any other hobby," said Brooke Edmunds, a horticulturist with Oregon State University Extension Service. "It takes some level of investment. But it doesn't have to be that expensive. There are shortcuts."

Some of them are easy. Buying smaller plants is a no-brainer if you're looking to save money. Some techniques – think saving seeds or making compost – takes more effort. But all of Edmunds' tips bring the same result – keeping your wallet fatter. Adopt some of her advice to start saving money on your gardening budget.

Use seeds instead of starts. Although there's an initial investment of lights, trays, and planting mix, it doesn't take long to make up the money and start saving dramatically. "You'll get a lot more plants – some packets have 100 seeds," Edmunds said. "You'll have enough to trade with friends and get a wider variety."

To save even more, reuse trays. If plants grown in a tray didn't show signs of disease, just clean them with soap and water. If there was damping off or any other kind of disease, wash them and then disinfect with a solution of 1 part bleach to 10 parts water. To save even more, sprout seeds in egg cartons, newspaper rolled into cylinders, or plastic cartons with holes punched in the bottom for water drainage.

Buy smaller plants. If you're not the impatient type, buying smaller plants – a 4-inch pot instead of 1 gallon or a 1-gallon instead of a 5 – will save you a pretty penny.

Make your own compost. "It takes more time, but it saves a lot of money," Edmunds said. "Use your kitchen scraps and garden waste and start building your own." An Extension story gets you started. If you've got your own chicken or livestock or know someone who does, mix that into the compost pile for an even richer end result. Make sure you let it decompose well. A good rule of thumb is to until there are no pieces of recognizable bedding left.

Shop sales: Search out plant sales, usually abundant in spring.

Check newspaper calendars, ask friends, and contact Extension master gardeners in your area to see if they are holding a sale or know of any. At nurseries, shop during the dog days of summer or in late fall. Also, some garden centers have a corner set aside for plant "seconds."

Save seeds. Collecting seeds at the end of the season makes sense when you're looking to save money or even if you're not. Learn more from Extension's Ross Penalleagon.

Hold a plant and seed swap. Dig up plant "babies" or divide larger plants. Set aside some of those tomato plants you started from seed. Brew some coffee, invite some friends who have something to share, and throw a party.

Make use of recycled materials. Garage sales, thrift shops, and the classified sections of newspapers and online shopping sites often have gardening paraphernalia, everything from used brick and rock to pots and old tools, at greatly reduced prices or free. It's also fun to forage natural materials such as interesting stems or stones to make edging or bamboo poles for fences.

Build your plant collection with cuttings. Propagating by cuttings can be as difficult or easy as you want to make it. Neil Bell, an Extension horticulturist, advocates for the easy way, which has enriched him with thousands of plants over the years. He explained how in an Extension story.

Attract beneficial insects. Instead of reaching for chemicals or even organic products, plant things that attract beneficial insects that will eat the bad bugs and balance out your garden's ecosystem. Refer to Extension's publication on Encouraging Beneficial Insects in Your Garden for more information.

Split a load of mulch. Save on delivery costs by buying a load of mulch or compost with a neighbor. Save even more by keeping your eyes peeled for arborists taking down trees. They'll often share wood chips that you can turn into mulch.

Quote of the Week

"The surest sign that intelligent life exists elsewhere in the universe is that it has never tried to contact us."

Bill Watterson



Country Kitchen

By Mary Emma Allen



HEALTHY SNACKS FOR EVERYONE

Snack foods too often result in the downfall of good nutrition and ideal weight for youngsters and adults.

So snacks need to be considered from the viewpoint of nutritional value, calorie count, and the activity of the person eating them..

Factors to Consider

* Generally an active person burns more calories in a day so can eat more snacks in addition to meals without gaining weight. A less active person has to eat lower calorie snacks or fewer snacks.

* Foods high in sugar content have quick energy, but their nutritional value is not as high as many other snacks.

* Too often candy, cake, cookies, potato chips, and soda top the list of after school or recess snacks. Teach children to eat these in moderation for they're generally high in calories and lower in nutrition.

Desirable Snacks

* Fruits rate high on the list of desirable snack foods - apples, oranges, bananas, peaches, pears, plums, etc. Use canned or dried fruits when fresh ones aren't in season. Some are higher in sugar than others, so become knowledgeable about which are best for your children and yourself. With canned fruit, go for those in natural juice or low sugar.

* Fruit juices generally are better than soda for a refreshing drink. Milk is good, too, unless you have allergies. However, remember when you add syrups, such as chocolate and strawberry, you add calories to the drink.

* Water is a very good beverage

and necessary to maintain life and good health. When I was a child on the dairy farm, milk and water were our beverages. Sometimes Mother could afford orange juice for breakfast.

* Although carrot and celery sticks aren't always a favorite on the snack list, you can enhance them with cheese, cream cheese and peanut butter. (There are lower fat types of these foods.)

* Raisins and various nuts are good snack foods filled with nutrition. Of course, the dry roasted nuts are lower in calories than those roasted in oil.

Snacks Before Dinner/Supper

* If it will be awhile before dinner, after a youngster gets home from school starved, try a sandwich instead of sweets. Fillings such as tuna, cheese, peanut butter (without much jelly and marshmallow), egg or chicken salad will supply protein.

* If cookies have big appeal as a snack, try making types with the most food value and nourishment. Those with cereal ingredients, such as oatmeal and crispy rice, generally have more nutritional value than rich chocolate brownies and chocolate chip cookies. Adding wheat germ to the cereal cookie recipe also gives additional nutrition.

ICY BANANA SHAKES have nutritional value. Blend until smooth: 3 cubes ice, 1/2 to 2/3 cup milk, 1 teaspoon sugar if desired, 1/2 teaspoon vanilla, 1 ripe banana. Enjoy!

(c) Mary Emma Allen

(Mary Emma writes from her NH home. Here she researches the recipes in her family's history. E-mail: me.allen@juno.com)

IMAGINE your community without a local NEWSPAPER

A scary thought. No more timely articles about local politics or high school sports. No more trusted coverage about local businesses and community events. No more local entertainment news. Plus, all the other relevant information that your local newspaper delivers.

Your local newspaper needs your support. In print... subscribe to it, read it, pass it along. In digital formats... download it, comment on it, forward it. Own a local business? Advertise. It's the best investment you can make – for your business and your community.

Complete Well Pump Systems

Submersible & Jet Pumps • Pressure & Holding Tanks
New Installations • Service & Repair
Water Filtration Systems

541-896-0453
Water Systems & Filtration

CCB #50234 *Commitment to Excellence*
www.mckenzievalleypump.com

Century Trees, Inc.

Scott Woods
Owner

Dangerous Tree Removal
Cabling & Bracing
Stump Removal

Tree Trimming/Hedge Pruning
Roof Cleaning/Storm Damage
Yard Restoration/Curb Appeal

CCB#183064
541-936-1757
centurytreesinc.com
centurytrees@yahoo.com

This Space For Rent

rivref2@gmail.com
FAX 541-663-4550

Did you know...
75 percent of community newspaper readers read all or most of their paper?

We believe in newspapers

2012 NNA Community Newspaper Readership Survey

Prepare for power outages today

WITH A HOME STANDBY GENERATOR

\$0 MONEY DOWN + LOW MONTHLY PAYMENT OPTIONS

Contact a Generac dealer for full terms and conditions

REQUEST A FREE QUOTE
CALL NOW BEFORE THE NEXT POWER OUTAGE
(833) 306-2843

FREE 7-Year Extended Warranty*
A \$695 Value!

*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.

Community Notes

- January 14**
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.
- January 14**
Road To Recovery

McKenzie Locals Helping Locals will host a meeting to discuss progress on several rebuilding and recovery projects on Saturday, January 14th, from 1 and 4 p.m. at the McKenzie Community School. Organizations and agencies will include Lane County Land Management, Lane County Recovery Manager Matt McRae, V Transportation Planning, V wastewater project staff, Lane Electric Coop, O'Brien Memorial Library, McKenzie Valley Wellness, McKenzie Rebuilds/Oregon Solutions, McKenzie Schools, Vida McKenzie Community Center, Upper McKenzie Fire District, McKenzie Valley Long Term Recovery Group, Homes For Good, Pure Water Partners, and the Blue River Water District. Free chili and cornbread will be provided.
- January 16**
McKenzie Fire & Rescue

McK. Fire & Rescue will hold its monthly Board of Directors meeting at noon, at the Leaburg Training Center from noon to 1 p.m.
- January 15**
McKenzie School Board

The McKenzie School Board will meet at 5:30 p.m. at the district office, 51187 Blue River Drive in Finn Rock.
- January 18**
Upper McK Fire Board

The board of directors will meet at 7p.m. 56578 McK. Hwy. in McKenzie Bridge.
- January 19**
Leaburg Food Pantry

Leaburg Food Pantry. Free groceries provided in accordance with Oregon Food Bank and Food For Lane County guidelines for food distribution to those in need. 3 - 6:30 p.m. Behind the McKenzie Bible Fellowship Church, 45061 McKenzie Hwy.
- January 23**
Springfield School Board

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



In
Memory

Donald Lavell Persinger



February 26, 1921 – December 26, 2022

After an amazing full life, Donald Lavell Persinger passed away peacefully on December 26, 2022 just shy of his 102nd birthday.

Don leaves to cherish their memories , wife Denta and family, in-laws Lynne and Doug and family, daughter-in-law Kathy Persinger, son-in-law Mike Kennedy and 4 grand children , Heather, Adam, Ryan and Hailey and great grandchildren Ulysses, River and Henry.

Don was predeceased by his two older brothers, Les and Frances, his first wife Helen and their two children, Ken and Kathy.

Before he finished high school Don joined the Navy Reserve in Portland OR in 1938. He was sent to war in 1941 after the attack on Pearl Harbor, at the age of 20. He had many adventures in the South Pacific, Panama Canal, Hawaii, Iceland, Solomon Islands and Aleutian Islands.

While on the ship Don was a barber, helped in the medical field and towards the end of the war in the Pacific, filmed many 16mm reels of action footage that was seen by many and used in war movies. Don received an honorable discharge in August 1945.

Don attended the University of Oregon on the GI Bill and received his Bachelor Degree in Journalism but that was not to be. He then embarked on a career in business machines and had a very successful business with wonderful and loyal employees who still kept in touch with him. Don had an airplane that some of them flew with him to make deliveries in Washington and Idaho and Oregon. Many of them enjoyed time together outside work camping, fishing, skiing and cookouts. He retired in 1986 and bought the acreage in Leaburg that year. He made several improvements and planted trees, berries and grapes.

Denta and Don met in 1991 and were married in 1993. They lived a life full of adventures traveling in the airplane or the GMC motorhome. They hunted several years in Eastern Oregon for pheasants and Idaho for elk. They spent time in Mexico, made many friends there and went beach camping on Vargas Island in BC. Lynne and Doug joined in numerous times with their kids and ours, where they caught fish, crabs, mussels, oysters and more wonderful seafood.

Eventually they bought in Venture Out in Mesa Arizona and enjoyed winters in the desert. They lived in Leaburg Oregon where their door was always open. They enjoyed entertaining and would have many come and enjoy their hospitality including lots of wiener roasts in the woods. Don was always very proud of the wine he

made from all the fruit and grapes that they grew. Many stories were told over a bottle shared.

Don had several interests over the years and he enjoyed scuba diving all over the world and skiing in Europe and on Mt Bachelor and sharing his home there with friends. He loved river fishing in his river boat and took it up many of the rivers in Idaho, hunting too. He took that river boat on the ocean as well, and was skilled at getting over the bar on the Oregon rivers. Don enjoyed bee keeping and had all the gear to gather the honey. He also had a sawmill and wood chipper which both came in handy for many projects over the years. He also loved gardening and working on the farm in Leaburg where the 4 acres were a joy.

In 2018, they sold the Leaburg farm leaving good friends on the river and moved permanently to Venture Out. Don enjoyed being a member of the Silversmiths and Rock Shop and made numerous friends along the way. You could see him riding his bike around the park well into his 90's and the ladies who worked in the Activity office, fondly remember him coming in to find new movies.

Don was a storyteller like no other...having lived such an interesting life produced a great deal of stories which he always loved to share with everyone. He will be missed by all that knew him but he has left everyone with memories that will last forever.

A happy celebration of his life will happen at the Oasis in Venture Out (5001 E Main St. Mesa, AZ) on Feb 25th.... 3-5 pm Please come and share a few of your stories too!!

Fond memories and expressions of sympathy may be shared at www.mariposagardens.com for the Persinger family.

This Space
For Rent

rivref@gmail.com

FAX
541-
663-4550



Serving
The Entire
McKenzie
Valley

**McKENZIE
DISPOSAL L.L.C.**

DARIN and CHERI FULLER
Owners

Phone 541-988-3016
PO Box 695, Walterville, OR 97489



THE GUEST HOUSE
AT
AQUA GARDENS VILLA
Now Booking!

McKENZIE BRIDGE, OREGON
WWW.AQUAGARDENVILLA.COM
541-687-0036

SWITCH & GET

\$25

Off First Month
of New Service!


USE PROMO CODE: **GZ590**

**Consumer
Cellular**

CALL CONSUMER CELLULAR **888-459-3958**

© 2023 Consumer Cellular Inc. For promo details please call 888-459-3958

McKenzie Students of the Month



**MCKENZIE RIVER
COMMUNITY SCHOOL**

10th grader Dawa Baugh is respectful, mature, and has a strong work ethic. She is very helpful and supportive to other students - in basketball, she has gone out of her way to encourage other players. She is not afraid to ask for help, works hard, and uses her time wisely in her classes.

8th grader Liliana Jones is focused, has a strong work ethic, and is respectful to others. Her rigor in her school work is contagious in the classroom. Liliana consistently goes above and beyond what is expected of her.

LANE ELECTRIC

Your Touchstone Energy A/C cooperative

(541) 484-1151 • www.laneelectric.com

**An Invitation
to Worship**

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

Living Water Family Fellowship
Pastor - Doug Farrington
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!
Milepost 13 McKenzie Hwy. (541) 747-2604

**CROSSWORD
SOLUTION**

D	A	T	U	M	P	A	S	S	T	A	B
U	V	U	L	A	A	L	P	U	K	A	S
D	I	N	T	S	S	E	E	N	I	X	I
E	V	E	R	E	S	T	C	A	S	P	I
	A	R	T	I	S	L	E				
L	I	T	S	I	A	N	L	A	V	I	S
I	D	E	S	E	T	C	H	T	E	C	H
T	I	R	O	S	M	E	A	R	S	H	A
H	O	C	U	S	O	N	T	O	T	O	R
O	M	E	L	E	T	S	E	M	I	R	I
B	A	R	R	I	E	R	S	O	C	I	E
O	N	I	O	N	A	B	A	O	M	A	H
A	N	D	E	S	N	I	L	M	O	T	O
T	E	E	S		C	O	T	E	N	S	U

SUDOKU SOLUTION

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

This Space For Rent rivref2@gmail.com



Direct Answers

By Wayne & Tamara Mirthell

Playing With Matches

I just found an old boyfriend I dated when I was 14. Tom has been married now for 10 years. Happily, I might add. He told me so. My problem is his wife hates me.

When my husband and I are at this couple’s house, she acts fine in front of him, but when he leaves the room, she makes remarks about us leaving. When he returns, she says, “You don’t have to leave. We’re not pushing you out.”

My thinking was to get to know him all over again, and her also. I have to admit Tom has asked inappropriate questions, like when he asked me if I would pop up somewhere with just a long coat on. Or the time he mentioned my breasts and said, “Where did you get those?” His wife laughed and said we are the same size.

One thing, though, she has implants and I don’t. We were at a bar and because it’s such a long drive home, Tom thoughtfully invited us to spend the night at their house. She said she just put clean sheets in the spare bedroom, but when we got there, she made it known we were not welcome.

All my life I grew up with other girls not liking me, and the married ones don’t want me around their husbands. I’m very religious and would never commit adultery. I don’t even look at Tom that way.

Years ago when we dated, I was shy, and he intimidated me. Now I speak right up, and it’s nice for a change. All three of us get along, it’s her I don’t know what to do about. I am having nightmares because it is bothering me so much.

Gale

Gale, in the “The Shawshank Redemption,” a convict named Andy Dufresne is serving life for two murders he didn’t commit. When Andy comes across evidence which will clear him, he tells the warden.

The warden is a corrupt man who is using the prison to line his own pockets. He pretends not to understand. He will never free

Andy because Andy knows about his dirty dealings. Exasperated, Andy blurts out, “Are you being deliberately obtuse?”

You, too, are being deliberately obtuse. Are you that bored with your own marriage? The truth is, you want this flirtation and the thrill of pursuit, and you don’t care what that does to this woman’s marriage.

Gale, you are standing in your living room pouring gasoline on the carpet and chairs. What we say may not make a difference, but if you are asking for our permission to strike a match, the answer is no.

Wayne & Tamara

Self-Deception

I’ve been married twice before, once at 17 and again at 23. I got married for the wrong reasons. I’m now 33 and have been in a relationship for two years with a woman, 29. My girlfriend has said from the beginning that she wants to get married.

I told her from the beginning I was never getting married again. Recently she’s been bringing it up, and I’m too scared to say I don’t want to marry her. It breaks my heart to see her cry. Do I tell her the truth, even though I know it will hurt her?

Stefan

Stefan, two years ago she said she wanted marriage, and you warned her you didn’t. You each

made your position perfectly clear, and you each ignored the other person’s position. Instead of breaking up, you continued forward and got intimately involved.

You each deceived the other, trying to get what you wanted. You each deceived yourself by pretending you didn’t hear what the other person desired. These two years haven’t made much difference in what you want, but they make a great deal of difference in what she wants. It’s not enough to speak honestly. You must act honestly.

Wayne & Tamara

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

Editor’s Note: The contract with the Poetry Foundation for American Life in Poetry ended on 12/31/2022. There are no further plans for ALIP, which was launched in 2005 by then U.S. Poet Laureate Ted Kooser. This was Column 001.

We all know that the manner in which people behave toward one another can tell us a lot about their private lives. In this amusing

poem by David Allan Evans, Poet Laureate of South Dakota, we learn something about a marriage by being shown a couple as they take on an ordinary household task.

Neighbors

They live alone together, she with her wide hind and bird face, he with his hung belly and crewcut. They never talk but keep busy. Today they are washing windows (each window together) she on the inside, he on the outside. He squirts Windex at her face, she squirts Windex at his face. Now they are waving to each other with rags, not smiling.

Reprinted from “Train Windows,” Ohio University Press, 1976, by permission of the author, whose most recent book is “The Bull Rider’s Advice: New and Selected Poems.” A weekly column was supported by The Poetry Foundation, The Library of Congress, and the Department of English at the University of Nebraska, Lincoln. This column does not accept unsolicited poetry.

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING

Assisted Living
Looking for assisted living, memory care, or independent living? A Place for Mom simplifies the process of finding senior living at no cost to your family. Call 1-844-923-5005 today!

Coins & Jewelry
Buying US and foreign coins, currency, tokens, gold, silver, & jewelry. North Star Coin & Jewelry, 650 Main St., Springfield. 541-746-5964. S=nsocj-1/14

Dental Insurance
DENTAL INSURANCE from Physicians Mutual Insurance Company. Coverage for 350 plus procedures. Real dental insurance - NOT just a discount plan. Do not wait! Call now! Get your FREE Dental Information Kit with all the details! 1-855-683-0634 www.dental50plus.com/river #6258

Free
Rocks - landscape boulders & tree fill material. All sizes, shapes & colors - from fist to refrigerator size. All you can load yourself free - loaded & delivered for a small fee. 541-896-3000 (best time a.m.) FL-j15.nc

Funeral Home
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

Clear the Clutter
Overwhelmed with things the kids don’t want? Pare down unused items for improved well-being & safety. Call Patty Starr - Licensed, Bonded & Insured. 541-896-1569, ez2downsize@gmail.com

Life Screening
Stroke and Cardiovascular disease are leading causes of death, according to the American Heart Association. Screenings can provide peace of mind or early detection! Contact

Life Line Screening to schedule your screening. Special offer - 5 screenings for just \$149. Call 1-855-993-5276

Medical Alert
MobileHelp, America’s Premier Mobile Medical Alert System. Whether You’re Home or Away. For Safety and Peace of Mind. No Long Term Contracts! Free Brochure! Call Today! 1-866-996-0952

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 wjevnin@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

PUBLIC NOTICE

UPPER MCKENZIE RURAL FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
JOB ANNOUNCEMENT
IMMEDIATE OPENING
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Upper McKenzie Rural Fire Protection District has an immediate opening for a part-time Administrative Assistant position. Applications due January 13, 2023. Starting wage \$21/hour for a .5 FTE position. This job offers no benefits as part time.

Applications and Job Description available on our web page at <https://www.uppermckenziefire.com/> Applications accepted in person at the Fire Station, via USPS mail at 56578 McKenzie Highway, McKenzie Bridge, OR 97413 or email at uppermckenzie2800@gmail.com until 5pm January 13, 2023. We anticipate interviews will be conducted in mid-January and the start date to be February 1, 2023.

A Moment in History

Info provided by History.com

January 12, 1904 - Henry Ford sets a land-speed record of 91.37 mph on the frozen surface of Michigan’s Lake St. Clair. He was driving a four-wheel vehicle, dubbed the “999,” with a wooden chassis but no body or hood. Ford’s record was broken within a month at Ormond Beach, Florida, by a driver named William K. Vanderbilt; even so, the publicity surrounding Ford’s achievement was valuable to the auto pioneer, who in June of the previous year had incorporated the Ford Motor Company, which would eventually go on to become one of America’s Big Three automakers.

Flocking to fire

Continued From Page 1

Natural Hazards Shape Human Migration Across the United States,” is the largest investigation yet of how natural disasters, climate change and other factors impacted U.S. migration over the last decade (2010-2020).

The researchers also found the idea that people prefer mild climates and varied landscapes—with hills or mountains, lakes or ocean, and a mixture of forest and open space—is supported by the literature on landscape preferences and housing values. “Studies exploring these natural amenities have found significant relationships with migration around the US: in general, people move toward warmer winters, more temperate summers, more varied topography, water bodies, and intermediate levels of forest cover, particularly in rural (nonmetropolitan) areas,” according to their report.

The strongest out-migration has been from rural counties far from metropolitan areas, with few economic opportunities. These areas are concentrated in the Great Plains and along the Mississippi River, regions which are low in natural amenities. In contrast, rural population growth has been strongest in counties near metropolitan areas or high in natural amenities, particularly across the West and along the coasts and mountains of the Southeast.

CROSSWORD

1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8		9	10	11	12
13						14				15			
16						17				18			
19						20			21	22			
			23					24					
25	26	27		28		29			30		31	32	33
35			36		37			38		39			
40					41				42		43		
44				45		46					47		
48					49		50			51		52	
				53		54			55		56		
57	58	59	60					61				62	63
65						66	67			68			
69						70				71			
72						73				74			



BRING EVERYTHING
YOU LOVE TOGETHER!

Blazing Fast
Internet!

ADD TO YOUR PACKAGE FOR ONLY
\$19.99
/mo. where available

2-YEAR TV PRICE
GUARANTEE

\$69.99
/mo. inc. taxes

America's Top 130 Package
190 CHANNELS
Including Local Channels!

CALL TODAY - For \$100 Gift Card From Dish 10/1/22

1-888-416-7103

Offer ends 11/30/22. 

© StatePoint Media

- VACATION DESTINATIONS
- ACROSS

1. Walt Whitman’s dooryard plant

6. Bag, ‡ Paris

9. Sound of astonishment

13. Smell of baking bread, e.g.

14. Self-importance

15. Ma Bell, e.g.

16. List of Catholic saints

17. Bobbsey twin

18. Donor’s bequest

19. *Country to see Stonehenge

21. *Country to see Neuschwanstein Castle

23. Tokyo, in the olden days

24. Way off freeway

25. Gremlin or pixie

28. Assistant
30. Crunches alternative (2 words)

35. Mountain lake

37. Thailand, pre-1939

39. Parlor piece

40. *Maldives continent

41. Plaudit and pomp

43. Unadulterated

44. Child-eating daemon, Greek mythology

46. Red carpet purse

47. Pelvic bones

48. Gives way under force

50. Like acne-prone skin

52. Pose a question

53. Letter opener

55. Morse code dash

57. *Grand Canyon state

Solution on Page 6

SUDOKU



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

1-855-576-5653

SPECIAL OFFER

With purchase of a new Safe Step Walk-in Tub. Not applicable with any previous walk-in tub purchase. Offer available while supplies last. No cash value. Must present offer at time of purchase. CSLB 1062165 NSCB 0092998 0093446

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

© 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

61. *Broadway state

65. Loaded

66. Marbled bread

68. Bad car

69. South Pacific sailboats

70. “___ Milk?”

71. Related on mother’s side

72. Unload on eBay

73. Gilligan’s home

74. Tap, e.g.

DOWN

1. Spike, as in punch

2. Iraq’s neighbor

3. Like a maxi skirt

4. Soap plant

5. *One of two countries to see Niagara Falls

6. Mail a package

7. Agha, alt. sp.

8. Gloria Estefan’s hit

9. Disease-causing organism

10. One of algae

11. Diagnostic test

12. One-trick ungulate?

15. Sluggish

20. ___-canceling earbuds

22. Ambulance squad, acr.

24. RE/MAX agent, e.g.

25. *Amalfi Coast country

26. Kenyan tribesman

27. Amazon “club”

29. Vegas cube

31. Cone-shaped quarters

32. Throat dangler

33. *Mona Lisa city

34. Go stealthily

36. Nervous biting victim

38. *Haleakal,, island

42. Accent mark

45. Software plug-ins

49. Barack Obama, pre-pres.

51. Wailed

54. Frustration, in a comic book

56. Laughing African predator

57. *Swiss or Italian skiing destination

58. Steak option

59. “White Wedding” Billy

60. Eagerness

61. Post-deductions amount

62. Yemen’s neighbor

63. College cadet program

64. ACL location

67. Uncle Sam wanted this

Ski Report

January 10, 2022

The Hoodoo Ski Area is back to its regular schedule – closed on Mon. & Tues; open 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. Wed. to Sat; and Sun. from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. The temperature Tuesday morning was 26 degrees with ESE winds averaging 24 mph. A half of snow fell overnight, bringing the snowpack to 46 inches. For more information call 541-822-3337.

Mt. Bachelor reported temperatures of 29 degrees at the base and 19 degrees at the summit on Tuesday. An inch of new snow fell overnight, bringing the snowpack to 71 inches at mid-mountain. Temperatures were expected to stay below freezing through the day and the summit lift is now open again for the season (weather permitting). Winds up top were averaging 36 mph. 108 of 121 trails were open, along with 9 of 15 lifts. For more information call 541-382-7888.



Are you at risk?

Get Screened for Risks of Stroke
and Cardiovascular Disease

5 Screening Package for \$149 **Call 855-993-5276**



Phone and Internet Discounts
Available to CenturyLink Customers

The Oregon Public Utility Commission designated CenturyLink as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier within its service area for universal service purposes. CenturyLink’s basic local service rates for residential voice lines are \$25.48 – 27.00 per month and business services are \$37.00-\$39.00 per month. Specific rates will be provided upon request.

CenturyLink participates in the Lifeline program, which makes residential telephone or qualifying broadband service more affordable to eligible low-income individuals and families. Eligible customers may qualify for Lifeline discounts of \$5.25/month for voice or bundled voice service or \$9.25/month for qualifying broadband or broadband bundles. Residents who live on federally recognized Tribal Lands may qualify for additional Tribal benefits if they participate in certain additional federal eligibility programs. The Lifeline discount is available for only one telephone or qualifying broadband service per household, which can be either a wireline or wireless service. Broadband speeds must be at least 25 Mbps download and 3 Mbps upload to qualify.

CenturyLink also participates in the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP), which provides eligible households with a discount on broadband service. The ACP provides a discount of up to \$30 per month toward broadband service for eligible households and up to \$75 per month for households on qualifying Tribal lands.

For both programs, a household is defined as any individual or group of individuals who live together at the same address and share income and expenses. Services are not transferable, and only eligible consumers may enroll in these programs. Consumers who willfully make false statements to obtain these discounts can be punished by fine or imprisonment and can be barred from these programs.

If you live in a CenturyLink service area, visit <https://www.centurylink.com/aboutus/community/community-development/lifeline.html> for additional information about applying for these programs or call 1-800-201-4099 with questions.

This Space
For Rent
rivref2@gmail.com



In Memory

Sandra Tippetts Dodds



EUGENE - Sandra Tippetts Dodds was born June 7, 1935 in Lovell, Wyoming. She died peacefully on January 3, 2023, surrounded by daughters, sons-in-law, grandchildren, and great grandchildren. She grew up on a farm in Lovell with her twin brothers, Gerry and Jerry. She was active in 4H, and became a skilled seamstress and an accomplished quilter. She especially loved creating quilt tops and quilting them by hand. She has gifted children and grandchildren many beautiful quilts to be cherished for years to come. With her husband Robert Hinkel, she moved to Idaho Falls, where she raised five daughters. After their divorce, she moved to Boise, took classes at Boise State University, and managed a gas station.

After marrying Bob Dodds in 1981, she moved to Walnut Creek, CA, where Bob worked as a nuclear inspector. In the 1980s, they purchased property on the McKenzie River outside of Eu-

gene, and after they retired, Bob loved fishing for salmon. Bob and Sandra both enjoyed “re-modeling” their house. Sandra never met a house she couldn’t remodel. Sandra’s favorite thing was to host friends and family in their relaxing retreat on the river. They also enjoyed square dancing and traveling within the U.S. to visit friends and family and traveled internationally, to the Bahamas, Scotland, and Austria. Sandra loved returning to Lovell for the annual Mustang Days Celebration where she met with former classmates and laughed about their escapades.

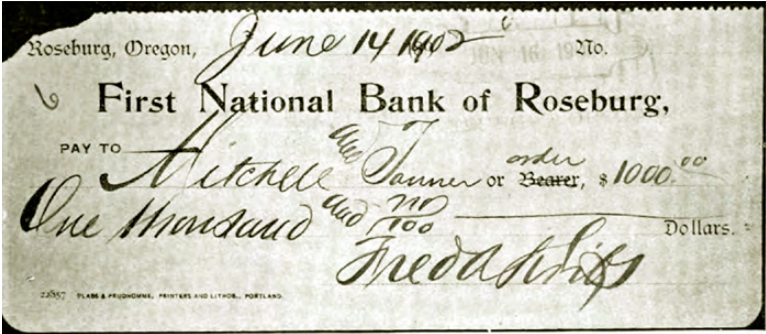
Sandra was preceded in death by her parents; her brothers, Gerry and Jerry; her much loved husband, Bob Dodds; and numerous four-legged furry companions. She is survived by her ex-husband, Robert Hinkel; by her daughters Cynthia (Ted) Taylor, Dana (Pete) Van Haverbeke, Kristine (John) Wehmann, Linda (Don) Spicer, Michelle Hinkel (Bob Nielsen), Becky Dodds Lovett, and David Dodds; and by 15 grandchildren and 7 great-grandchildren.

A memorial is planned for this summer, date to be determined. In lieu of flowers, please consider donating to Greenhill Humane Society in Sandra’s name.

Services are in care of Major Family Funeral Home in Springfield. Visit majorfamilyfuneralhome.com to sign the online guest book.

Land-fraud swindlers

Continued From Page 4



S.A.D. Puter
A canceled check made out to Sen. John H. Mitchell from land fraudster Frederick Krebs, as a bribe. This document was the main basis for Mitchell’s conviction.

were set aside for other things — like local schools, land-grant universities, or government buildings. The government would give those homesteaders their pick of government-owned lands — “lieu lands” — in exchange. So people like Stephen Puter would hurry out to remote mountainous sections that were about to be surveyed, stake virtually worthless claims, and exchange them for valuable timberlands after the survey.

But probably the most common scam, and the one that Puter was especially adept at, was the “dummy entryman” swindle. In this, after a new timber-country township was surveyed, Puter would hire random sailors and North End layabouts to go down to the land office and file land claims in it, with Puter paying their filing fees. These “dummies” would go to the land office, perjure themselves by swearing that they

had inspected their claims and intended to “prove them up,” and then basically sign them over to Puter. Puter would bribe a land-office clerk to allow the transaction. He would then lump enough of the claims together to make a decent sized timber patch, and sell them to an out-of-state timber baron.

This kind of thing went on for decades.

So, how did it all end? Well, first of all, the state’s prime real estate started getting more and more scarce. At the same time, railroads and other organizations that had been given federal land grants were having trouble redeeming them because people like Puter were snapping them up fraudulently.

For the most part, the people participating in this swindle didn’t really think of it as a big deal. Everybody was making money, and everyone in the fraudulent



Wildfires in September 2020 burned a large swath of the Oregon Cascades.

and the likely effects of climate change on the state’s natural and human systems.

The sixth assessment includes a series of evaluations of three key areas: the state of climate science, climate-related natural hazards, and adaptation sectors. Each section of the report is based on peer-reviewed research.

“Oregon is a leader in climate response strategies and worker protections,” Fleishman said. “We hope this assessment will support the state’s ongoing efforts to advance climate equity and evidence-based investments in adaptation and mitigation.”

Among the assessment’s highlights:

- * Disproportionately rapid warming in the Arctic, a phenomenon known as Arctic amplification, may be contributing to summer heat waves and hot, dry autumn weather in Oregon.
- * Extreme winter wind speeds may increase, while annual mean

wind speeds and the frequency of strong easterly winds in summer and autumn are expected to decrease slightly. Wind patterns impact electricity delivery, transportation safety, and the spread of wildfires and pollutants.

- * As the number of hot days increases, so will the extreme heat index values in Oregon. Heat index values are a driver of the Oregon Occupational Safety and Health Administration’s new regulations on workplace heat exposure.
- * Community observation of precipitation through programs such as the Community Collaborative Rain, Hail, and Snow network; Community Snow Observations; and Mountain Rain and Snow is a powerful means of increasing understanding of climate and water availability.
- * Climate change may significantly affect key economic drivers in Oregon by changing the availability and use of water by the agricultural sector and the

Not all bad

Continued From Page 1

composition of the state’s timberlands. Evaluating the social and ecological trade-offs of mitigation and adaptation policies will inform economic adaptation.

- * State and local land use laws, which control how and where development occurs, play a key role in climate change response, including the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions and increasing the capacity of natural and working lands to sequester carbon. Full integration of climate science and equity considerations into land use plans and actions could better align Oregon’s land use system with the current and foreseeable effects of climate change.
- * Exposure to the complex components of wildfire smoke can lead to negative respiratory and cardiovascular health outcomes and adverse birth outcomes and strain the capacity of the health care system. Risks to farmworkers, firefighters, and other outdoor workers who are disproportionately exposed are substantial.
- * Marginalized populations such as Oregon’s tribes are more likely to be exposed to climate extremes and associated negative health effects. But the ongoing experience of tribal adaptation to environmental and social change can also lead to high resilience to future impacts of climate change. Tribal communities are responding to climate change through political action, workforce development, environmental stewardship, and youth education and fellowship.

OSU College of Earth, Ocean, and Atmospheric Sciences

marketplace was happy playing their part. The timber barons were getting prime timberlands for cheap, the land-office clerks were getting a nice sideline income, the timber brokers like Puter were greasing the wheels of commerce and getting well paid for it, and the land they were stealing was unsuitable for homesteaders anyway. So what if there were some weird, unreasonable requirements about residency and improvements and big operators not being allowed to buy land in bulk? Those requirements were for farmland, not timber. Who, they would have asked, were they hurting?

And in the early years at least, most Oregonians agreed with that. But by the turn of the century that had changed.

Happily ensconced in their little bubble of like-minded businessmen and politicians, the land thieves had gotten to be a bit out of touch with how their activities were playing with the public. As the new century dawned, the old “greed is good” ethos of the Gilded Age was wearing very thin. Members of the public, watching fat cats from out of state (or even out of country) take advantage of the situation to build vast absentee empires, were starting to notice.

That was the biggest change that led to the end of the land fraud era — a change in the attitude of regular Americans. The beginning of the end for the land fraudsters came in about 1902, when a random citizen

— a Catholic priest, actually — wrote a letter to Interior Secretary Ethan Hitchcock, alerting him of a series of land frauds in the Tillamook area.

Things like this may have happened before; if they were, they were promptly shoved under a rug. But the Roosevelt administration was far more serious about things like land fraud than previous ones had been. Hitchcock took the report very seriously, and sent Secret Service investigators — including the legendary William J. Burns — to investigate.

The result was, some very highly placed heads started rolling at the General Land Office. Puter and his associates soon found familiar faces at the land office had disappeared, and their replacements were turning out to be a lot harder to bribe.

After investigator Haney flipped Puter, things moved fairly quickly. Puter’s \$2,000 bribe to Sen. Mitchell had been in cash, so it was untraceable; but another land agent, Frederick Kribs, paid his bribes with checks, which Mitchell had been imprudent enough to accept and deposit.

Haney then went after Congressman John Williamson, who had apparently worked the system from within to acquire several thousands of acres of grazing land for his sheep ranch near Prineville, and Congressman Binger Hermann, the former commissioner of the General Land Office.

Dozens of other operators

— land agents like Puter as well as several of their wealthy out-of-state customers — were also tried, and many were convicted. Mitchell and Williamson were among them, but both appealed immediately.

Williamson’s conviction was overturned on appeal and Mitchell’s was dropped after he died from a dental abscess before his case could be heard. Hermann’s trial ended with a hung jury.

So, no real high-profile characters spent significant jail time for the land-fraud scandals. But the government had made its point, and after those trials the age of easy land grabbing was over in Oregon.

Unfortunately, by that point most of the good land had been scooped up anyway.

(Sources: “Oregon Land Fraud Trials,” an article by Oliver Tatom published May 25, 2022, in *The Oregon Encyclopedia*; “Oregon’s Public Domain: The Sale of Oregon’s Lands,” an article by F.G. Young published in the March and June 1910 issues of *Oregon Historical Quarterly*; *Looters of the Public Domain*, a book by S.A.D. Puter published in 1908 by Portland Printing House)

Finn J.D. John teaches at Oregon State University and writes about odd tidbits of Oregon history. His book, *Heroes and Rascals of Old Oregon*, was recently published by Ouragan House Publishers. To contact him or suggest a topic: finn@offbeatoregon.com or 541-357-2222.



Readers' picks for the "Best of the River"

Woman of the Year



Lacey Joy

"It would be a disservice for Lacey Joy not to win this award," said the first person to vote for her. Many, many more followed up on that

sentiment, citing things like: "Working tirelessly to build a sustainable infrastructure of support for families," "Finding funding for a child center that will open in March," "Her work with the food pantry and the McKenzie school is wonderful," "Prepping not only food boxes but Christmas gifts, for community youth in need," "Chair of the McKenzie Valley Long Term Recovery Group and Secretary of Locals Helping Locals." People felt that much of what she does, "People do not know. Without Lacey,

asking questions and looking forward, a lot of happenings would not be so seamless," according to a fan. "She is our guardian Angel here on the river," wrote another, adding, "Her selfless acts of kindness are always at work behind the scenes." Coming close in Second Place was Mary Ellen Wheeler. More women getting recommendations were: Gerry Aster, Robin Roberts, Jamee Savidge, Taya Brock, Charleen Richardson, Melanie Brite, Elizabeth Cramer, and Alyssa Brownlee.

Man of the Year



Cliff Richardson

Unmatched dedication to the community, kids, and rebuilding were among the qualities cited by people who picked Cliff Richardson as the Man of the Year. "Cliff has been a key player in the Locals Helping Locals group," was the way one voter explained his choice, adding that, "Cliff helped put together the plan for Sulutaaq to make the big donations to community organ-izations." His involvement with the McKenzie Track's board was cited as being instrumental in helping

in our McKenzie River Community School by writing his "Sports Report" in Reflections." Another put it simply - "Cliff's an all-around good guy!" Darin Harbick placed a close second in the vote tabulations. Other men who were nominated: Pete Petty, Robert Marion Chase, Seth O'Hare, Rick Wilson. Lane Tompkins, Mattie Battershell, Corey Culp, Chuck Johnston, Anthony Abel, Mickey Sullivan, John Carlile, Matthewvan Dyke, Bart Thompson, Joel Zenni, and Nick Keeps.

McKenzie Valley Business of the Year

Jon and Jerri Jo Payne of theLeaburg Store received the most votes in this year's balloting. One gave them praise for "having been very successful at converting the sleepy little stop in Leaburg into a thriving store." Others said they appreciated things like an ever expanding selection of food including fresh breads, fruits and vegetables, while also featuring "quick to go meals." There were plenty of mentions about things to eat - including fresh sourdough and whole wheat breads, locally sources salsas hummus, and chips, besides featuring the baked goods from the Soft Peaks Cakery. "They have also embraced the spirit of community involvement by allotting space in the store for the collection and sorting of the bottles and cans for the Bottle Boys Project," said another supporter.



Inside and out, readers say they have seen owners Jon and Jerri Jo Payne make the Leaburg Store more appealing.

Also on the plus side was the Leaburg store's offerings of Paxific Northwest brews displayed on 4 shelves that allow people to try one or more without buying a whole six pack. Others poited to "all the improvements, very clean restrooms, low gas prices, and being open of holidays." Another summation was Best store in the area! Love the window decals (or are they painted?) Totalling up the next highest number of votes rto win Second Place was the Horse Creek Lodge and Outfitters in McKenzie Bridge. Also nominated were: Valor Family Farm, Everyone's Market, Vida Cafe, McKenzie Feed, Tokatee Golf Club, Blue Sky Market, McKenzie PUB, Harbick Logging, Indigo Cafe, Sulutaaq Inc., McKenzie Long Term Recovery Group, Dale Turner Construction, McKenzie Fire & Rescue, and the Vida Post Office.



Drop off spots for
the blue river
bottle boys

THURSTON

PACK N' SHIP

541-515-6668

5729 Main St, Springfield

FedEx • UPS • United States Postal Service



McKenzie River Nursery

Greenhouses full of hanging baskets,
vegetable starts and perennials

"From grower to gardener -
we grow our own."

38698 Camp Creek Road

541-747-2767 mckenzierivernursery.com



CHAMBERS
CONSTRUCTION

ChambersConstruction.com • 541-687-9445

Eugene/Springfield • CCB# 114258

orchidhealth

exceptional local care



Hours: Monday - Thursday 9-5
After Hours: Call the Clinic
541-822-3341 ° 54771 McK Highway

ACCURATE LEAK DETECTION LLC



Finding a leak today Saves water for tomorrow

Detecting leaks since 1994

887-845-8327 The man in the hat is back

541-654-0553 CCB# 193788

Member Owned, Member Controlled

LANE ELECTRIC

A Touchstone Energy Cooperative

Serving Lane County Since 1939

541-484-1151

McKenzie River Publishing

MRP

541-914-9089

JUDY CASAD

REAL ESTATE BROKER



Windermere
REAL ESTATE

541-968-2400





rivref2@gmail.com

541-822-3358