



Delivering targeted news for the McKenzie Valley community since 1978

Home Country

The sign in front of the gas station says “Unleaded, 3.39, special on Colt .357 Magnum, six-inch barrel.”

PAGE 4

Educate yourself

Reaching for a pesticide – even an organic one – should be a thoughtful act. Nothing used to kill pests is risk-free.

PAGE 5



Need help with surveys?

Up to \$5,000 in financial support is available



The McKenzie Valley Long-Term Recovery Group has received funding from Lane County to help pay for - or reimburse eligible property owners - whose primary residence was damaged or destroyed by the 2020 Holiday Farm Fire. The program can cover up to \$5,000.00 for the survey of the lot linked with the primary dwelling.

In addition, the program also includes costs for the discovery and/or replacement of the property pins and marking the ordinary high water mark. Property owners are responsible for paying for any other survey services requested or required for rebuilding, as well as any amount in excess of \$5,000.

There are two steps to the application process. First, people need to provide information including their name, address, and contact information, along with a current driver’s license, state-issued identification card, passport, military identification card, or birth certificate.

Proof of income that
Help with surveys - Page 10

Man arrested for multiple crimes

Suspect faces 19 Lane County charges

OAKRIDGE: A male suspect believed to be connected to multiple violations in the McKenzie Valley was arrested last week by Oakridge police. Investigators believe Schylar Dominicq Flick, 29, was involved in car break-ins last Wednesday at the Ben and Kay Dorris Boat Landing as well as the theft of one of the vehicles.

Flick was booked into the Lane County Jail without bail on 19 charges on September 28th. Among them were four counts of Unlawful Entry of a Motor Vehicle, 1st and 2nd Degree Theft, 3 counts of Criminal Mischief, Felon in Possession of a Weapon, Burglary 2, Fraudulent Use of a Credit Card, 3 counts of Identity Theft, and Unauthorized Use of a Motor Vehicle.

After the incidents at Ben and Kay, police connected Flick to the use of a victim’s credit cards in Rainbow and leaving the



Schylar Flick

McKenzie area via Aufderheide Drive. The Oakridge Police Dept. advised they were not able to release further information.

Wreck sent car into canal

Driver uninjured in single-vehicle crash



An accident near the Walterville Presbyterian Church drew a quick response from area residents and emergency personnel when a car left Hwy. 126 and landed in the Walterville Canal.

WALTERVILLE; Shortly after 7 p.m. last Tuesday residents of Page Lane and Walterville Loop ran frantically to the bridge over the EWEB power canal after a car ran off the road and took out a power line. Neighbors quickly gathered to pull a young woman from her vehicle that had plummeted into the canal. Emergency personnel also responded within 5 minutes.

Upon arrival, crews from McKenzie Fire & Rescue reported they found that the driver was able to exit the vehicle safely, however, it was fully submerged in the Walterville Canal. Damage to a power pole

was also noted.

Initial patient care was provided by a medical team from the Lookout Fire crew, who were camped nearby.

13 members of McKenzie Fire & Rescue responded to the incident in eight apparatus, while three others arrived in privately owned vehicles. McKenzie Fire & Rescue personnel remained on the scene for over an hour, assisting with patient care, traffic control, and coordinating with the Eugene Water & Electric Board personnel for the replacement of the power pole and removal of the car from the canal.

Oregon receives \$157 million to expand broadband access

White House announced the funding on Wednesday

By Julia Shumway
Oregon Capital Chronicle
Oregon will receive \$157 million from the federal government to help connect about 17,000 homes and businesses to the internet, the White House announced Wednesday.

The money, which comes from the \$1.9 trillion pandemic relief package passed by Congress in 2021, follows an earlier al-

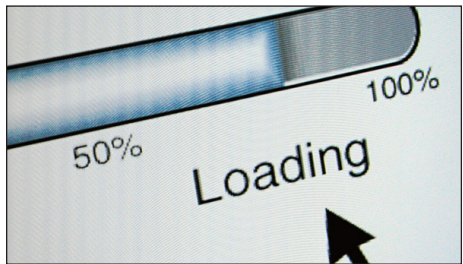
location of \$688 million for broadband in Oregon through the \$1.2 trillion infrastructure law, also passed in 2021.

“Between those two programs, I would expect that we’re going to get all Oregonians that are currently unserved access to service,” Oregon broadband director Nick Batz said during a news conference with the White House announcing the new funding. Several Oregon congressional members and Gov. Tina Kotek also took part.

An early 2020 study found that an estimated 1.7 million Oregonians lived in areas without broadband access or with outdated basic services that don’t meet current demands. The pandemic brought a shift to remote work and school and more telehealth services, highlighting the need for reliable internet access.

“During the pandemic, it just became game-set-match clear that if a family did not have strong, affordable broadband so that a parent could work from home, that

Broadband access - Page 9



An audit found that work needs to be done for Oregon to be ready to receive federal broadband funding. (Steven Pu-
etzer/Getty Images)

Guest Opinion

A rebuttal to dam breaching, we can have fish and dams

By Rusty Bentz
Columbia Basin Bulletin

This is what we believe is wrong with the dam breaching concept. There were far more fish that returned in the first 15 years of the 21st century than ever did in the 20th century, fully 25 years after construction of the last dam on the lower Snake River. That is the case for both steelhead and spring and summer chinook. The total steelhead run over Bonneville Dam for the first 10 years following dam construction when Bonneville Dam was the only dam blocking access to the Snake River for salmonoids, was 1,274,530 steelhead. For the first 10 years of the 21st century the total was 4,014,400 steelhead. A 315% increase. For spring chinook, the numbers are 618,952 vs 1,634,639, a 264% increase.

This proves we can have fish and dams. Sockeye salmon were poisoned out and blocked from returning to their spawning grounds in the mid- 20th century. Fall chinook have rebounded from a low of less than 200 returning over Lower Granite Dam to a high of over 50,000. Coho salmon which did not return to the Snake River until the 21st century and are now returning in high enough numbers to have a general fishing season.

We have lost 80% of our fall chinook spawning grounds, 70+% of spring and summer chinook spawning grounds, 65% of our steelhead spawning grounds, to dams with no fish ladders (think Grand Coulee Dam and the Hells Canyon Dam). Fish hatcheries were constructed to make up for this loss of spawning habitat. These hatcheries have done a good job of producing juvenile salmonoids as evidenced by the high number of adults returning in the 21st century.



NW credit unions push back on text message scammers



Phishing scams, in which message senders or callers pretend to be from a legitimate entity, have been the most prevalent crime in recent years.

By Eric Tegethoff
Oregon News Service

Oregon and Washington credit unions are working together to tackle text message scammers.

Credit unions in the region have seen a sharp increase in complaints about fraudulent texts pretending to be from the financial institutions. At the peak of the scam, one credit union fielded between 200 and 400 calls per day reporting it.

Matthew Wilson, senior vice president of risk and administration for the Springfield-based Oregon Community Credit Union, said members and non-members alike reported the scam texts.

“What that does is it winds up flooding our call centers,” said Wilson, “so that it makes it more difficult to help our members with their daily transactional activity.”

Losses from internet scams have been on the rise over the past five years.

loss of more than \$10 billion, according to the FBI’s Internet Crime Complaint Center.

Wilson said people should delete these messages and double check if they think they’re actually legitimate.

“Don’t interact with that text message,” said Wilson. “Go ahead, pick up your phone, call your credit union. If you have their internet banking services online or the mobile app, log in to those known sites.”

Wilson said there are regulatory protections for people who are scammed, and while falling victim can feel embarrassing and violating, he encourages people to report the incident.

“Don’t just sit back, change your password and think that that’s going to be enough,” said Wilson. “We want to help you. We want to gather up as much information as we can. So, let us help you. Pick up the phone, call us and work with us on it.”

The other essential element to high adult returns is barging and smolt collection facilities. In 2000, 5,039,620 steelhead smolts were collected and 95.1% barged, the next year, 633,073 adult steelhead returned, the highest number ever recorded. 2/3 of those fish were 1-ocean fish. 2005 was the last year that 5 million+ fish were collected in the 21st century, then it drops to 2 million+ to just 275,073 collected in 2021 and only 37.5% were barged. We are having a disastrous return this year in spite of having the best ocean conditions in 2021 in 24 years.

In the final analysis, how we should measure our success is by adult returns. However, how many fish we get back is related to the number that starts the journey downstream. It is obvious by the number collected at Lower Granite Dam is declining rapidly. As noted in previous Columbia Basin Bulletins articles smolt detection is a problem when we spill. This inaccurate count combined with no method to account for the difference in adult harvest in good years versus bad years makes SARs a poor measure.

Steelhead counts started declining in 2016 which corresponds with low barging numbers in 2015. Very low runoff insured that travel times for smolts left in the river were long. Low hot water behind the 4 lower Columbia River dams kept the sockeye salmon from going over the fish ladders and they died by the thousands.

After a lawsuit against NOAA Judge Simon ordered spill for 2016. The steelhead return for 2017 dropped to 117,878 adults. The lowest number since 1979. Judge Simon ordered even more spill for 2017 and adult returns dropped even lower to 102,920 adults. High spill cause two problems, the major one is gas bubble disease and the second is the inability to trap smolts at Lower Granite Dam. Gas bubble disease is a well-known phenomenon dat-

ing back to the 1960’s and a flip lid was put on John Day Dam to try to solve the problem. We know what the problem is and we know how to solve it. Run the water thru the turbines which produces power as well as solving the dissolved gas problem. With spill becoming the preferred alternative to get smolts downstream that has guaranteed that we are going to have poor returns as evidenced by the 2021 low return of 71,980 adult steelhead. This low return is in spite of having 3 years of La Nina which produced the best ocean conditions in 2021 in the past 24 years.

For us to return to 600,000+ adult returns enjoyed in the first decade of the 21st century we need to up hatchery production so we can capture the 5 million+ smolts at Lower Granite Dam instead of the 3-year average of 1,188,442 smolts collected 2019-2021 and we need to barge a high number of those smolts. Barging solves 2 major problems, the problem associated with gas trauma disease and predation problems caused

by other fish and birds. There has been a number of improvements in barging since the start of barging in 1977. Modern barging gets the smolts below all 8 dams with a 98.5% survival.

There are 2 articles published recently in the CBB that detail the advantage of letting straying hatchery steelhead and salmon spawn in the wild with wild fish. The 10- year average for wild steelhead in the first decade on the 21st century is 117,000 fish which is over 92% of the 127,000 over Bonneville Dam 1938-1947. Wild steelhead are doing great despite losing 65% of their spawning grounds.

In conclusion without barging and smolt collection facilities provided by the dams we are guaranteed to have fewer returning salmonoid adults.

Rusty Bentz is an Idaho outfitter and guide for steelhead and salmon, based in Lewiston.

cbulletin.com

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WEATHER REPORT

Friday 10/6		Saturday 10/7		Sunday 10/8	
McKenzie Valley Sunny	Santiam Pass Sunny	McKenzie Valley Sunny	Santiam Pass Sunny	McKenzie Valley Partly Cloudy	Santiam Pass Partly Cloudy
5% chance precip High: 81 Low: 49	0% chance precip High: 69 Low: 42	5% chance precip High: 82 Low: 50	0% chance precip High: 73 Low: 46	5% chance precip High: 77 Low: 51	0% chance precip High: 70 Low: 46

READINGS TAKEN AT THE US ARMY CORPS COUGAR DAM					READINGS TAKEN AT EWING LEABURG POWERHOUSE				
Date	High	Low	Rain	Releases	Date	High	Low	Rain	Riverflow
9/26	63	52	0.49	309 cfs	9/26	61	53	0.45	1,980 cfs
9/27	61	50	0.46	323 cfs	9/27	67	51	0.38	2,030 cfs
9/28	53	49	0	323 cfs	9/28	66	46	0	1,960 cfs
9/28	61	52	0.32	313 cfs	9/29	66	50	0.33	1,990 cfs
9/29	54	49	0	414 cfs	9/30	60	52	0.04	2,030 cfs
9/30	62	49	0	552 cfs	10/1	66	39	0	2,040 cfs
10/1	58	42	0.39	585 cfs	10/2	68	42	0	2,180 cfs

Sheriff's Report

Sept. 20: 10:17:37 a.m: Assault - 94300 block, old Marcola Rd. A female reported being assaulted by a male barely known to her. The female had injuries consistent with a recent assault. This case is under active investigation.

Sept. 22: 1:29 p.m: Disturbance, Dispute - 38500 blk, E. Cedar Flat Rd. Verbal dispute between neighbors over the sale of a tractor.

Sept. 23: 10:23 a.m: Suspicious Conditions - 44900 blk, Leaburg Dam Rd. An area resident reported that a neighbor had a fire overnight.

2:40 p.m: Suspicious Conditions - 37000 blk, Goats Rd. Two matching white trucks being driven by males wearing masks were believed to be casing houses in the area.

Sept. 24: 10:31 a.m: Fraud - 37100 blk, Tree farm Rd. An area resident reported losing an undisclosed amount of money to a telephone scam.

3:22 p.m: Criminal Mischief - 39400 blk, Ann Ln. A person logging in the area cut down a tree that fell on a powerline. A fire started but was quickly extinguished.

7:30 p.m: Disturbance, Dispute - 40100 blk, York Ln. Verbal dispute between family members at a residence.

9:39 p.m: Disturbance, Dispute - 90700 blk, Hill Rd. Verbal dispute between family members.

Sept. 25: 7:00 a.m: Motor Vehicle Accident, Unknown Injury - 39500 block, McK. Hwy.

8:50 a.m: Incomplete 911 Call - 91500 blk, Cougar Dam Rd.

3:49 p.m: Menacing - 88700 blk, Heritage Ln. A caller reported that a family member threatened to kill another family member with a firearm. Deputies established probable cause for the crime of

menacing and took the suspect into custody without incident.

4:13 p.m: Reckless Driving - 38300 blk, Wendling Rd. Area resident reported vehicles were speeding in the vicinity of children walking home from school.

Sept. 26: 11:26 a.m: Unlawful Entry Motor Vehicle - 38400 blk, Shotgun Creek Rd.

11:57 a.m: Unlawful Entry Motor Vehicle - Paschelke Rd. & Marcola Rd.

12:03 p.m: Suspicious Conditions - Bellinger Landing. A passerby reported seeing a suspicious large bag on the side of the road. Deputies determined the bag to be a barbecue cover.

2:14 p.m: Assist, Follow Up - Blue River area.

4:53 p.m: Unlawful Entry Motor Vehicle - 46800 blk, McK. Hwy.

6:16 p.m: Illegal Burn - 90700 blk, Hill Rd.

7:01 p.m: Harassment - 41400 blk, McK. Hwy. An employee at an area business reported that a supervisor made threats to physically harm another employee.

Sept. 27: 6:03 a.m: Location of Stolen Vehicle - Old Mohawk Rd. & Marcola Rd.

11:41 a.m: Suspicious Vehicle - Collins Ln. & McK. Hwy. A caller reported that a gray and brown

Continued On Page 9

State Police Report

Sept. 29: 10:13: Recovered Vehicle - East side of Mt. Hagen. Received information from a Giustina Land & Timber Company manager of a trailer on their property. Located trailer that appeared abandoned and stripped. The VIN number associated with the Carson trailer came back stolen NCC (Northern Command Center). Confirmed the vehicle stolen through the Lane County Sheriff's Office and a locate was sent. Contacted the victim and landowner who agreed to work with one another for removal/recovery.

McKenzie Fire & Rescue

Sept. 25: 2:02: McK. Hwy./Milepost 17. Motor Vehicle Accident. Non-Injury, Non-Blocking.

2:26: McK. Hwy./Mp. 18.5. Non-Injury, Non-Blocking.

7:06: 39000 block, McK. Hwy. MVA. Non-Injury, Non-Blocking.

Sept. 26: 10:27: McK. Hwy./Mp. 17. Down Line. Removed Line From Highway.

12:35: 87000 blk, Upland St. Medical, General. Patient

Assessed , Refusal Obtained.

19:09: McK. Hwy./Mp. 13. Vehicle In Water. Provided Patient Care, Traffic Control, Isolated Scene.

Sept. 27: 8:34: 43000 blk, Deerhorn Rd. Medical, General. Patient Assessed, 1 Transported.

8:37: 42000 blk, McK. Hwy. MVA. Investigate, Unable To Locate.

Sept. 29: 10:31: 38000 blk, Cress Creek Rd. Medical, General. Patient Assessed, 1 Transported

17:17: 45000 blk, McK. Hwy. Illegal Burn. Advised Burning Restrictions.

Sept. 30: 6:11: 7000 blk, Thurston Rd.. Medical, Heart. Disregarded En-Route.

Oct 1: 13:08: 89000 blk, Block Greenwood Dr. Illegal Burn. UTL.

19:06: 38000 blk, Flowerdale Dr Medical, General. Patient Assessed, 1 transported

19:09: 88000 blk, Chita Lp. Illegal Burn. Homeowner extinguished fire and educated.

McK. Fire & Rescue will hold its monthly Board of Directors meeting on Monday, October 16th at noon, in the Leaburg Training Center, 42870 McK. Hwy. The district maintains Facebook, Twitter, and web pages. If you have a question or concern about any Fire District business, give Chief Bucich a call @ 541-896-3311. If he is unavailable, please leave a message and he will respond ASAP.

MRR

McKenzie River Reflections

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

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Oregon’s own fugitive ‘Tiger King’ became a big problem for Idaho

By Finn J.D. John

On the evening of Sept. 28, 1995, Woney and Laurie Peters, of Lava Hot Springs, Idaho, were driving back to their home behind the local elementary school when they noticed something wasn’t right.

The first thing Woney noticed was the horses. They were confined in a corral in front of the house, next to the trampoline, which his teenage kids were playing on. The kids seemed fine — but the horses seemed terrified. They kept staring up at the hillside that ran along behind the house and the school.

Inside the house, Woney got up on the balcony for a better view of what was bothering the horses. In the distance, on the hillside, he saw something — “a two-tone animal going through the trees,” he recounted, in an interview with Idaho Public Broadcasting. “And I told Laurie, I said, ‘That’s — there’s an African lion in our back yard.’”

Laurie got on the phone and called 911. Woney got his hunting rifle out and started glassing the slope with his scope, looking for the 400-pound monster cat.

“And then it stepped out from behind a dead cedar tree,” Woney said. “And he was looking straight at me and I was looking straight at him. And we were just eye to eye and probably seemed like forever, but it was probably five minutes we eyeballed each other, and it was getting so dark — I told Laurie to tell 911 that I have to take the shot.”

Woney took the shot. The lion raced away up the hillside out of view, then tumbled back down into view again — dead.

And thus ended the final episode in a drama that had started near Newport, Oregon, nearly 30 years earlier, and that today evokes memories of Tiger King, the Netflix series about rogue zookeeper Joe Exotic. You could think of it as the “season finale” of what was basically a three-season show. And what a finale it was: The lion Woney Peters shot was the last of 18 African lions killed after es-



Idaho Public Broadcasting
This screen grab from Idaho Public Broadcasting’s Idaho Experience episode on the Ligertown story shows two lions perched atop the shantytown-like roof structure of Ligertown watching over authorities as they work to secure the compound after 17 lions escaped into the community.

caping from a ramshackle private zoo called “Ligertown” owned by a pair of relative newcomers to the Lava Hot Springs community: Bob Fieber and Dottie Martin.

By the time Peters shot the last one, it had been over a week since the giant predators had slipped through the fence and fanned out across the landscape, terrifying everyone for miles around and causing the local schools to be closed for the protection of the children.

Those children were back in school on the day Peters shot the last lion. It was a Thursday. Presumably, they had been playing in the schoolyard at recess just a few hours before. Presumably, also the lion, which had by that time been at large for four or five days, was pretty hungry.

All in all, it could have turned out worse.

Season one of the Oregon Tiger King drama started decades earlier, hundreds of miles away, when Robert Fieber bought a piece of country property near Siletz, just inland from Newport on the Oregon Coast. That was in 1968.

Three years later, Robert acquired an American bison, which apparently whetted his appetite for large and exotic fauna. By the mid-1970s he had added several African lions, a tiger, and a jaguar to his menagerie. At some point he opened the place for tourists to

visit, calling it “Oregon Coast Safari.” By 1978 he had nine lions, as well as numerous other exotic animals.

But in May of that year, Robert was working with a very young lion named Mohammed outside the family home. When he opened the front door, Mohammed darted in, raced upstairs, and jumped on the bed in which Robert’s 11-year-old son Micha was sleeping.

Before Robert could get to the scene, Mohammed had bitten off Micha’s left ear and otherwise slashed him up severely. Micha was raced to the nearest hospital, in Toledo, and after two hours of surgery, he was listed in serious but stable condition.

It is tempting to wonder, with a tip of the hat to the Tiger King show, if Fieber might have said something like Joe Exotic’s famous line, “I am never gonna financially recover from this” (if you missed the episode, Joe spoke that line after a near-fatal incident in which one of his big cats ripped an employee’s arm off).

But if he didn’t, maybe he should have. The next time Fieber was arrested, part of his legal trouble was being behind on child-support payments, so obviously by that time he was divorced and his wife had custody of Micha. Sources don’t specify what caused the breakup of Fieber’s marriage, but given how mothers usually react when their husbands let something like this happen to their babies, it’s tempting to speculate.

Later that same year, Fieber’s bison spooked and bolted, breaking open one of the lion cages as it did, and five of Fieber’s lions fanned out across the landscape to do some exploring. With the help of some neighbors and several sheriff’s deputies, Fieber managed to corral the runaways. Two of them actually ended up roaming the streets of Siletz before they were recovered.

After that, over the following few years, there was a steady drumbeat of rumored sightings of lions and tigers wandering around loose in the area. It’s not clear whether these were real incidents or just rumors; all the excitement of 1978 had made Fieber locally notorious.

Season two opens in 1984. By that year, Fieber had more than 75 animals, including several dozen lions, tigers, jaguars, and wolves. He also had changed the name of his operation to Siletz Game Ranch.

But then, in September of that year, law enforcement agencies and members of the Humane Society raided his compound. Police seized several of Fieber’s animals and charged him with several counts of animal neglect, saying the facilities were inadequate and the beasts were not being properly fed.

Fieber hotly denied that he was abusing, neglecting, or starving his animals; but he accepted a deal that included pleading no contest to some of the charges, and he was put on probation for five years.

That would be important a year later, in 1985, when Fieber reopened Siletz Game Ranch as a drive-through zoo. The problem was, he didn’t bother to secure a license for his operation, so he was operating it illegally ... which was a probation violation.

At the resulting hearing, Fieber admitted he didn’t have the money to care for all the animals properly, which was obviously a big problem from the state’s perspective (and, of course, from the animals’ perspective too). Also, a state inspector who had looked over the facility testified that the pens and fencing were inadequate. The inspector told the court that the fencing was bad enough to pose a “security threat.”

(Sources: “Oregon Coast Had its Own Tiger King in the 80s,” an un-by-lined article published April 24, 2020, in Oregon Coast Beach Connection; “Liger King: Looking Back at Idaho’s Version of the Hit Series,” an article by Sally Krutzig published in the May 3, 2020, issue of the Idaho Falls Post Register; “Ligertown,” an episode of Idaho Experience aired Feb. 16, 2023, by Idaho Public Broadcasting)

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.

Continued Next Week



By Slim Randles

The sign in front of the gas station says “Unleaded, 3.39, special on Colt .357 Magnum, six-inch barrel.”

Visitors here in the valley do a double take when they see Vince’s sign there at what we all know as “the gas station gun shop.” That’s because Vince doesn’t believe in being deprived of his passion while earning a living. His passion: guns. His living: pumping gas.

We had all known of his passion for many years. He is the perennial president of the local rod and gun club, plans nearly all their annual spaghetti feeds to raise money for targets. If you want to go hunting, all you need to do is pull up in front of Vince’s house on the edge of town with some hounds in the back of the truck in the evening and honk the horn. You don’t even need to call ahead.

The combination business began about three years ago when an out-of-town customer pulled up to the gas pumps, walked inside to pay Vince, and saw the owner sitting there polishing a 1911 Government Model .45 auto.

CPR wasn’t necessary, but it did give Vince some thinking to do.

“I looked around in here,” he said, “and saw all this wall space. What did I have on it? Fan belts, stacks of motor oil containers, those little air fresheners shaped like pine trees. What a waste! So I put that stuff out in the repair side of the station and nailed up this knotty pine. Looks pretty good, doesn’t it?”

“Then I got my federal firearms license, bought a bunch of ammunition and some guns, and set it up.”

He says he’s always sure to put a gun ad up on the big white sign, along with the gas prices, so people won’t be surprised when they walk in and find him cleaning a Model 70 behind the counter.

“I actually do okay in the gun business here,” he said. “It isn’t enough to be a gun shop on its own, really. We aren’t a big enough town.”

And then he grinned and said, “And I’ve never been held up.”

For great hunting season advice and products, check out <https://www.sportsmansguide.com>.

Quote of the Week

“To steal ideas from one person is plagiarism; to steal from many is research.”

Steven Wright



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Gardening Tips

By Kym Pokorny



Oregon State University

OSU Extension Service

Educate yourself before using organic pesticides



Reaching for a pesticide – even an organic one – should be a thoughtful act. Nothing used to kill pests is risk-free.

First, decide if you need pesticides at all by practicing Integrated Pest Management or IPM, said Kaci Buhl, Statewide Pesticide Safety Education Program coordinator for Oregon State University Extension Service.

Buhl defines IPM as a way of thinking about pest management that values:

- * Using knowledge about the pest’s habits, life cycle, needs and dislikes;
- * Using the least toxic methods first, up to and including pesticides;
- * Monitoring the pest’s activity and adjusting methods over time;
- * Tolerating harmless pests;
- * Setting a threshold to decide when it’s time to act.

Before using pesticides, identify your pest or disease. If you don’t know or can’t figure it out, capture the pest or take a large sample of the diseased plant to your local OSU Extension Master Gardeners. Prevention is key so monitor your garden closely for the first signs of a problem when it will be easier to control. Before you move up the IPM ladder, decide your threshold for damage in the garden. Leaving some of the bad bugs will attract the good ones that will kill them.

If you decide the infestation is getting out of hand, don’t immediately get out the pesticides, Buhl said. Try biological controls like nematodes, lacewings, or Bt (*Bacillus thuringiensis*) or physical methods like sticky traps, trap plants or a blast from a hose. Still not happy? Try a short-lived pesticide like neem oil or horticultural soap before moving up the IPM ladder. Just be aware, organic pesticides are often as toxic as synthetic ones.

“People think natural is good and synthetic is bad,” said Buhl. “It’s not that simple. Certain things that are natural are more toxic than synthetic.”

Nicotine, strychnine, and lead are all-natural, but their impacts can be deadly. Sulfur can cause all sorts of problems from explosions when combined with products like nitrates and heavy metals to potential death if inhaled. Goggles and gloves are required for the application of copper sulfate, which can be harmful to the skin and eyes. Even mint oil can be highly toxic to the eyes.

“Vinegar, even household vinegar, if you look at the safety data sheet it requires goggles to apply,” Buhl said. “Acetic acid (vinegar) can cause lasting eye damage. I just cringe to think about it.”

Some organic pesticides low on the toxicity list include neem oil, pheromones, pyrethrins, and most essential oils. Choose a product with instructions and precautions for pesticide use.

Toxicity is not the only thing to consider, she said. Natural pesticides tend to break down faster than synthetic products, which persist longer in the environment. Biopesticides are more pest-specific so they’re less likely to kill non-target garden-dwellers, which will hang around to feed

on the bad bugs.

To determine a product’s toxicity, do some research, make use of the Master Gardeners or post clear photos of the entire plant and the damaged portion to Ask an Expert, an online service from OSU Extension. The label will also have the pertinent information, and it’s the law to follow it. When you decide you need an organic pesticide, look for the OMRI (Organic Materials Review Institute) stamp on the label. Based on the label requirements, you may still need to wear goggles, gloves and a face mask. Wearing safety equipment when you’re gardening may seem intrusive, but the alternative can be toxic.

The label will also indicate for which pests and plants it’s appropriate.

“Look at the label and see if it is labeled for the plant you want to use it on and the insect that you’re targeting,” Buhl said. “It might say ‘home gardens, squash, powdery mildew.’ It needs to be specific. See if it works on the plant and insect or disease you have.”

Buying a pesticide can seem daunting, but finding those that target your needs makes it simpler to choose. Be sure to mix it up sometimes because pests can build up resistance.

“If you’re in a situation where you have to apply an organic pesticide over and over again, it’s time to switch,” Buhl said. “Try a different pesticide that’s labeled for your problem. Something just a little different could be just the ticket.”

But the bottom line, she reiterates is the use of IPM, which gives a complete toolbox of solutions.

“If you realize you’ve put out the “welcome mat” for pests, figure out what it is and remove it,” she said. “Change the spacing, the watering plan, or introduce barriers to pests. If you choose to use a pesticide, treat it with care and follow the label, whether it’s organic or not.”



Country Kitchen

By Mary Emma Allen



LENTILS - A POPULAR LEGUME

Lentils, often used as a meat supplement, date back into history as a common food. These seeds are very nutritious and tasty in soups, stews, salads, and casseroles.

During Biblical times and earlier, the lentil was a staple food in the Near East and Southeast Asia. Lentils are considered as nutritious as dried beans, yet are easier to cook and digest.

Various Types of Lentils

You’ll find at least three colors of lentils - brown, green, and red. The brown lentils will get mushy when cooked too long. The green ones often are used for salads because they hold their shape better.

The red lentils generally cook more quickly than the others do, usually within 10 - 15 minutes. Although there are other variations of lentils, these three generally are the most commonly used throughout the world.

Very Nutritious Food

High in protein, lentils contain no cholesterol and very little fat. However, the protein is an “incomplete” protein so must be supplemented.

When cooking lentils, generally you don’t need to pre-soak then as you do dried beans. However, some cooking directions may advise pre-soaking or letting lentils stand in water for a short time before boiling.

For the most part, you simply

rinse lentils, check for small bits of stone that may have accumulated when they were harvested, then boil, according to package directions, until tender.

Some people like to mix cooked lentils into their meat dishes, thus reducing the amount of meat used. Incorporating lentils into dishes such as hamburgers, meatloaf, meatballs, and other ground meat dishes helps reduce fat and cholesterol.

Lentils also are used instead of potatoes in some recipes. You can add them to dishes, such as stew and soups, or you can puree them to serve like mashed potatoes.

LENTIL SALAD - Cook two cups lentils according to package directions, adding 1/4 teaspoon salt and 1 bay leaf. Don’t overcook. When tender, remove from heat, take out bay leaf, drain and cool.

Then combine with 1 diced small onion or 6 chopped scallions and 1/2 cup chopped parsley. Stir in French dressing, about 1/3 cup, or less, as desired. (You can use another type of dressing, if you prefer.) Season with salt and pepper, if needed. Chill before serving.

Spoon onto a bed of salad greens and garnish with sprigs of parsley or strips of red, green, or yellow pepper.

(c) Mary Emma Allen

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

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Community Notes

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 fromm 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.

October 10
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 15
Outdoor Burning
Despite recent rainfall, which

was insufficient to declare the end of fire season, the Lane County Fire Defense Board and the Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF) have announced a delay in the opening of the fall outdoor burning season. Originally scheduled to commence on October 1, 2023, the season will now begin on Sunday, October 15, 2023. The decision to delay the outdoor burning season is made out of an abundance of caution due to conditions across Lane County and statewide.

Always check this page or call the advisory line before burning. The advisory is updated daily at 7 pm for the following day. Outdoor burning is always prohibited on lots smaller than 2 acres inside the Eugene Urban Growth Boundary (UGB) and on lots smaller than 0.5 acre inside the City of Springfield and the Springfield UGB.

Outdoor Burning Advisory Line: (541) 726-3976
November 10
Spaghetti Feed

The Walterville Grange is holding its annual Spaghetti Feed on November 10 from 5 to 7 PM. Spaghetti with meat sauce is on the menu with salad, garlic bread, dessert, and beverages. The Grange wishes to honor all Veterans and hope that you will join us in doing so. Their service is what makes our freedom so valuable. There will also be a raffle where you can pick the prize you want to try to win. This will be held at the Walterville Community Center/Grange Hall located at 39259 Camp Creek Road in Walterville. The Grange is fundraising to replace the windows and siding on the west side of the building, and you are encouraged to add to the fundraising (check out our thermometer to see how much we have already raised). Please come and meet with your family, friends and neighbors to have some great spaghetti and a good time. Donations are gratefully accepted. We are also collecting canned food items for the upriver food bank. Please contact 541-521-4760 for more information. Leave a message and calls will be returned.



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Community Events Calendar

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[McKenzie Community Events Calendar.](#)

O'Brien Memorial Library eceives grant from Oregon Community Foundation

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

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 Library'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.obrienlibrary.org>.

Vida Center updates

Next batch of legacy pavers to be installed soon at vmcc

Construction progress continues at Vida McKenzie Community Center and the second batch of legacy pavers is ready to be installed on the east patio soon. This entire area is created from pavers, purchased by community members, and engraved with messages or names of people to be remembered. Over 170 pavers have been reserved thus far. Have you and your family reserved yours?

It is easy to leave your personal imprint on the Vida McKenzie Community Center. Each engraved 8"X 8" paver costs \$100 and allows for 2 lines of engraving, 18 characters per line (including spaces.) 8"X12" pavers cost \$200 and allow for 3 lines of similar engraving plus a simple logo or design.

Contact Gerry Aster at 541-896-3001. Give her your phone number, tell her the size and number of pavers you wish, and mail a check made out to VMCC to Gerry Aster, 46151 Goodpasture Rd., Vida 97488.

Because of a generous donor, all new money given to VMCC through October 15th will be doubled! This includes paver purchases, so order your paver today!

Funds raised forVMCC

To help Vida McKenzie Community Center complete its rebuilding project, an anonymous donor is matching up to \$30,000 of all "new money" donated to VMCC from August 15, 2023 to October 15, 2023. This means every dollar given to the Center for its construction campaign, for the purchase of a paver, for the purchase of a Butter Braid...for anything...is doubled! The Center has received \$21,000 thus far, so there is only \$9,000 left to qualify

for this generous gift. If you are considering a donation for the 2023 tax year, this is the perfect time to give to VMCC. Your money will go twice as far toward making VMCC's Grand Opening a reality and Vida McKenzie Community Center is a 501c3, so donations are eligible for tax deductible status.

Not sure how to give? Go to vidacommunitycenter.com or contact Gerry Aster at 541-896-3001. A delicious way to support Vida


Mckenzie Community Center
The holidays are fast approaching and what could be more helpful when hosting friends, relatives, or the book club, than to reach into the freezer, pull out high quality ready- to-bake puff pastries or cookies, and transform your home into a sweet-smelling impromptu bakery. That is possible with almost all Butter Braids' products, sold only as fundraisers. Vida McKenzie Community Center is once again selling Butter Braid pastries, puffins, and cookies to raise money to complete the rebuilding of the Center's building. Orders will be accepted from now to October 28th and delivery will take place November 8th.

The next Butter Braid event will not take place until October 2024 so don't be left out! Order enough of these incredible treats to last all year. And, if you order by October 15th, the value of your donation to VMCC will be doubled due to a Matching Campaign underway.

Once you try a Butter Braid product, you will become a repeat customer! Call Gerry today at 541-896-3001.

Thank you for supporting VMCC!

Gerry Aster
VP & Fundraising Chair
Vida McKenzie Community Center



In Memory

Susan O'Brien

Susan D. O'Brien of McKenzie Bridge area passed away Aug. 13, 2023. She was 61. Susan was born Dec. 26, 1961, in Seattle, Washington to Robert M. and Mary E., (Mcolgin) O'Brien.

Susan enjoyed volunteering her time, some of her favorites were the McKenzie Bridge Food Pantry, Sisters of the Jesus, Mary and Joseph Order, and the Blue River Library.

She is survived by her father, Robert M. O'Brien; sister, Helen O'Brien; brothers, Merle P. O'Brien and Charles J. O'Brien.

A memorial service will be held at Cross & Crown Lutheran Church 10940 SE 168th St in Renton, WA from 5:00 to 6:30 pm.

Services are in the care of Major Family Funeral Home in Springfield. Visit www.majorfamilyfuneralhome.com to share a memory of Susan.

An Invitation to Worship

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Call 896-3829 for information
www.mckenziebible.com

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

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Catholic Church
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Direct Answers

By Wayne & Tamara Mitchell

Harsh Reality



Matthew Osborn

My wife and I married eight years ago. One month into our marriage, she was diagnosed with a non-life-threatening form of muscular dystrophy. Over the years, she has grown more and more dependent on me.

She no longer has the strength to carry a child, and it has become apparent we will never have children of our own. She still works full-time. I must take care of all the household functions like cooking, cleaning, and grocery shopping. Over time, I've come to look at her less as my wife and more as my responsibility.

I don't love her anymore the way a husband loves a wife. Last January I asked her for a divorce, but I continue to live in the same house because she has no one else to help her in and out of bed, and no one else to take care of her.

I agreed to see a counselor and

discuss my feelings. After meeting with us individually, the counselor said we had two different objectives. I want a divorce, and she wants to find ways to "fix" our marriage. We stopped seeing the counselor after that because I felt pushed toward her objective.

I don't know where to go from here. She tells my family and friends I am going through a mid-life crisis, but I'm only 31. The simple truth is, that I want children. She claims she can still do this, though her disease makes it next to impossible. I also want a partner, not a dependent.

How can I help her understand this? I try talking to her, but it always degenerates into an argument with her crying and telling me how much she loves me. I've avoided moving out because I feel guilty for leaving her with no one to help her. I need to know how to end this so I can get on with my life.

Reed

Reed, one of Shakespeare's most famous lines is "Love is not love which alters when it alteration finds."

There are people who love one another so much that no matter what life throws at them, leaving the other would never cross their mind. Another man in your position might count himself

lucky his wife did not have a form of the disease that would soon end her life.

That is not what you are saying. You are saying you want a new life and a new wife. You want out because she has muscular dystrophy, and that is all there is to it. She is the same person she always was, but now you feel she is a serious inconvenience.

We can hear readers wanting us to shame you and ask how you would like it if the tables were turned. Then, they would say, you would understand how she feels and what you are doing to her.

But that is not enough to make you stay. Guilt will not keep two people together. It's not strong enough. For someone to withstand what is difficult, there has to be something there that allows them to withstand it.

Your wife faces a harsh reality. There will be people in her life who accept her for who she is and what she can do, and those who see a disability and what she can't do. But she must face that reality.

On a daily basis, you show your wife you don't love her and want a different woman. How healthy can that be for her?

The main question to answer before you divorce is who will be there to give her the care and support she needs after you have gone?

Before you marry again, you need to ask yourself another question. If the worst thing happened to this woman, would I remain by her side? That is the

love Shakespeare wrote about, the love which does not alter when it alteration finds.

Wayne & Tamara

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.

Real Estate

By Richard Siken

My mother married a man who divorced her for money. Phyllis, he would say, If you don't stop buying jewelry, I will have to divorce you to keep us out of the poorhouse. When he said this, she would stub out a cigarette, mutter something under her breath. Eventually, he was forced to divorce her. Then, he died. Then she did. The man was not my father. My father was buried down the road, in a box his other son selected, the ashes of his third wife in a brass urn that he will hold in the crook of his arm forever. At the reception, after his

funeral, I got mean on four cups of Lime Sherbet Punch. When the man who was not my father divorced my mother, I stopped being related to him. These things are complicated, says the Talmud. When he died, I couldn't prove it. I couldn't get a death certificate. These things are complicated, says the Health Department. Their names remain on the deed to the house. It isn't haunted, it's owned by ghosts. When I die, I will come in fast and low. I will stick the landing. There will be no confusion. The dead will make room for me.

Richard Siken is a poet, painter, filmmaker, and an editor at Spoken Press. In her profile of Siken, Nell Casey wrote, "he effectively juxtaposes holy wishes with mundane images—making them both seem beautiful by some strange lyrical alchemy." His poems unwind on the page effortlessly, barely pausing for breath; the speaker's voice wracked with sexual obsession. His book *Crush* won the 2004 Yale Series of Younger Poets prize, selected by Louise Glück. It was also a finalist for the National Book Critics Circle Award, the Lambda Literary Award, and the Thom Gunn Award. His most recent book is *War of the Foxes* (Copper Canyon Press, 2015).

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

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Holiday Farm Fire Recovery Funding Committee Meeting

On Oct 11 Community members and the general public are welcome to attend and provide public comment at the outset and/or conclusion of the October 11 meeting of the PIER Funding Selection Committee: Meeting Timeframe: 1 PM to 4 PM Location: In-person at McKenzie River Community School District Office, 51187 Blue River Drive, Finn Rock, Oregon 97488 AND ONLINE: email megan.m.heurion@lanecountyor.gov or call 541-852-8259 to receive a zoom registration link. The Oregon Housing and Community Services (OHCS) Planning, Infrastructure, and Economic Revitalization (PIER) program funds will support: • Planning for housing recovery, economic analysis, hazard mitigation, disasters, or education and outreach. • Rebuilding or replacing impacted infrastructure and/or building new infrastructure. • Retaining or returning businesses, microenterprises,

or jobs. The Committee will formally vote on priorities during upcoming public meetings. To submit a public comment, sign up to receive meeting invitations via email, and for more information, please contact Megan.m.heurion@lanecountyor.gov or 541-852-8259. Note: People needing special accommodation (e.g. in-person accommodation, hearing impaired, language translation, chemical sensitivity needs, and large print copies of the agenda or other application materials) are instructed to submit their request at least 48 business hours prior to the meeting by calling Megan Heurion at 541-852-8259 or emailing megan.m.heurion@lanecountyor.gov. To submit a public comment...and for more information, visit https://www.lanecounty.org/government/county_departments/lane_county_emergency_management/disaster_recovery/holiday_farm_fire/PIER or please contact...megan.m.heurion@lanecountyor.gov.



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CROSSWORD

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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

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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




Fri Oct 6th 9:30am - 12:00pm

Volunteer: First Fridays at Finn Rock Reach

Join the Friends of Finn Rock Reach the first Friday of every month from March through November to help care for the Finn Rock Landing ...


volunteer • river • mckenzie



Sun Oct 8th 1:00pm - 6:00pm

McKenzie Community Celebration


The McKenzie community is invited to gather at the Aaron and Marie Jines Community Track for a day filled with fun for the whole family ...



Sat Oct 7th 10:00am - 12:00pm

A Dime At A Time


Blue River Bottle Boys Collection/Sorting - Saturday morning sorting sessions every Saturday from 10:00am. Donations can be dropped



Mon Oct 9th 5:00pm - 6:30pm

McKenzie Watershed Council


The McKenzie Watershed Council's mission is to foster better stewardship of the McKenzie River watershed resources, deal with issues in



Mon Oct 9th 7:00pm - 10:00pm

Springfield School Board Business Meeting


Springfield Public Schools is led by a five-member elected school board. The Board of Directors meets twice during most months during the ...



Mon Oct 9th 6:00pm - 7:30pm

Lane County Parks Advisory Committee


The Parks Advisory Committee meets 2nd Monday of each month (except during July & August). It advises the Board



Tue Oct 10th

Lane County Board of Commissioners


The Board of Commissioner meetings begin at 9:00 a.m. in Harris Hall, unless otherwise noted on the published agenda. Regular



Tue Oct 10th 9:00am - 10:00am

McKenzie River Tourism Committee


The McKenzie River Chamber of Commerce Tourism Committee meets via Zoom every Second Tuesday of every month. Please join us



Tue Oct 10th 8:30am - 2:00pm

Tiny Dental Van


The Tiny Dental Van, sponsored by the Rural Oregon Outreach Program, will be at the Orchard McKenzie River Clinic every



Tue Oct 10th 10:00am - 11:00am

Family Story Time


Some special FUN at Camp Creek Church for children 5 and under (with their adults) to enjoy stories, singing, laughter, and friendship!



Tue Oct 10th 6:00pm - 7:00pm

Save Leaburg Lake

"Save Leaburg Lake" members meet on the second Tuesday of each month at the Vida Windermere Office in Vida.



Tue Oct 10th 11:00am - 1:00pm

McKenzie River Food Pantry

Free groceries are provided in accordance with Oregon Food Bank and Food For Lane County guidelines for food distribution to those in



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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 26, Willamette Falls
Fall Chinook – 2,103
Summer Steelhead – 1,091

Sheriff's Report

Continued From Page 3

Chevy Uplander was left at the location.

1:45 p.m: Disturbance, Dispute - 38400 blk, McK. Hwy. A caller reported a physical dispute between family members. Deputies investigated and determined no crime had actually occurred.

2:35 p.m: Disabled Vehicle - McK. Hwy. Milepost 23.

2:52 p.m: Assist, Follow Up - 55600 blk, McK. River Dr.

3:46 p.m: Assist, Follow Up - 51400 blk, McK. Hwy.

9:23 p.m: Unlawful Entry Motor Vehicle - 39500 blk, McK. Hwy.

Sept. 28: 12:02 p.m: Animal Abuse - 90900 blk, Angels Flight Rd.

4:49 p.m: Citizen Contact - 91800 blk, Mill Creek Rd.

5:14 p.m: Dog at Large - 90300 blk, Thomson Ln.

5:27 p.m: Dead Animal - Marcola Rd. & Conley Rd.

6:32 p.m: Citizen Contact - 39500 blk, McK. Hwy.

7:20 p.m: Attempt To Locate Drunk Driver - 51100 blk, Blue River Dr.

7:51 p.m: Citizen Contact - 51100 blk, Blue River Dr.

9:32 p.m: Drug Overdose - 38400 blk, Cartwright Creek Rd.

10:02 p.m: Suspicious Subject - 34000 blk, Country View Dr.

Sept. 29: 9:42 a.m: Suspicious Conditions - 88700 blk, Heritage Ln.

1:45 p.m: Vehicle Stop - McK. Hwy. & S. Gate Creek Rd.

1:55 p.m: Assist Police Department - Marcola area.



A Moment
in Oregon
History

By Rick Steber
(www.ricksteber.com)

October 5 - Portland and Astoria were infamous ports for shanghaiing sailors. Men known as “crimps” used knockout drops, alcohol and other means to obtain crews for sailing ship captains. Once the bodies were delivered on board ship and the crimp was paid the ship set sail. At the height of the shanghaiing days crimps charged as much as \$135 per man and stories were told of dead men, and even a cigar store wooden Indian, having been taken aboard by gullible captains. As steamships became more popular, the sailing era began to fade and large crews were no longer necessary. In time the Portland and Astoria waterfront became relatively safe places, where a man no longer needed to worry about waking up with a hangover and being a hundred miles out to sea.

5:19 p.m: Illegal Burn - 45500 blk, McK. Hwy.

7:18 p.m: Recover Stolen Vehicle - Bridge St. & Holden Creek Ln.

10:41 p.m: Assist Outside Agency - Terwilliger Hot Springs.

11:33 p.m: Suspicious Vehicle - Hileman Rd. & Marcola Rd.

Sept. 30: 12:06 p.m: Welfare Check - 54400 blk, McK. Hwy.

2:11 p.m: Open Gate - Lat: 44.152158. Long: -122.970795.

5:35 p.m: Assist, Information - 90600 blk, Sunderman Rd.

7:30 p.m: Violation of Restraining Order - 38400 blk, Wendling Rd.

Oct. 1: 9:40 a.m: Abandoned Vehicle - Marcola Rd. & Hileman Rd.

10:04 a.m: Vehicle in Ditch - Marcola Rd. & Donna Rd.

2:03 p.m: Unlawful Entry Motor Vehicle - Koosah Falls.

7:07 p.m: Illegal Burn - 88000 blk, Chita Lp.

8:06 p.m: Assist Outside Agency - 37300 blk, Camp Creek Rd.

Oct. 2: 10:31 a.m: Criminal Mischief - 45200 blk, Goodpasture Rd.

11:09 a.m: Burglary - 44800 blk, Leaburg Dam Rd.

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

Emergency Response team begins post-fire surveys of Lookout, Horse Creek and Pothole burned areas

An Emergency Response Team of resource specialists began field surveys and assessments for the burned areas of the Lookout, Pothole and Horse Creek fires today. The Lookout Fire, which started Aug. 5, 2023, covers 25,751 acres. The Horse Creek Fire is contained at 763 acres, and the Pothole Fire is contained at 109 acres. The fires have been burning on the Willamette National Forest and some adjacent private lands, and continue to smolder within established containment lines.

The Burned Area Emergency Response (BAER) Team is an Emergency Response program aimed at managing imminent and unacceptable risks to human life, safety and property, as well as threats to critical natural and cultural resources from post-wildfire conditions.

The BAER Team, comprised of U.S. Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management employees who specialize in multiple resource areas, is conducting field studies using science-based models to rapidly assess watersheds on National Forest lands. The team will then inventory critical values, assess risk and determine the need for emergency measures and treatments on the Forest. The director of the H.J. Andrews Experimental Forest is working with the team to provide technical expertise and scientific knowledge.

Team members will closely assess watersheds for post-fire, rain-related impacts, such as increased flooding, debris-flow potential, and increased soil erosion. The team then recommends time-critical treatments to be completed before the first damaging storm

event. Those recommendations are submitted as a proposed stabilization plan for approval. Once approved, the Forest will receive funding to complete stabilization efforts within the fire area.

Treatments will be installed within one year from the date of full containment and may be monitored for up to three years. The team will share any areas of concern outside of National Forest lands with the appropriate federal, state and county agencies so they may work with individual landowners under their respective authorities. Fire assessments should be completed within a few weeks, with a stabilization plan implemented by the Willamette National Forest shortly thereafter.

Broadband access

Continued From Page 1

several children could learn from home, we could just not say there was equal economic and educational and health opportunity in our country,” said Gene Sperling, a senior adviser to President Joe Biden and coordinator of the COVID relief funding package.

Close to \$8 million of the new funding will go toward administrative costs, with the remaining \$149 million paying to connect Oregonians who don’t have access to internet with download speeds of at least 100 megabits per second and upload speeds of at least 20 mbps. Those are enough to run multiple smart devices, stream video in 4K, download large files quickly and play online games, according to internet service providers.

Sen. Jeff Merkley, D-Oregon, compared expanding internet access to the stories his mother told about how life changed when her

home got electricity.

“Broadband today is as important as electrification was a century ago,” he said. “Running a small business, seeing a doctor, paying bills, attending class, chatting with friends, shopping for merchandise, even hosting meetings like this press call, all are so much part of modern life. You need high-speed broadband to do it.”

Sen. Ron Wyden, D-Oregon, said the new funding will mean Oregon kids and parents won’t have to drive around in bad weather to find a school or business with wifi so they can do homework or other basic tasks.

While rural Oregonians are less likely to have access to the internet at home than their urban counterparts, U.S. Rep. Earl Blumenauer, D-Oregon, noted that some Oregonians in larger cities also lack reliable, affordable high-speed internet.

CROSSWORD SOLUTION

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SUDOKU SOLUTION

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Is Instagram making the great outdoors more crowded? Not as much as you might suspect



By Steve Lundeberg, OSU

Except for modest visitor increases at a small percentage of iconic places, Instagram content is not resulting in more tourist traffic on public lands, according to a study by researchers at Oregon State University.

The findings, published in Land Economics, counter a common news media refrain that geotagged posts on social media are “ruining the great outdoors,” said Steve Dundas and Ashley Lowe Mackenzie of OSU’s College of Agricultural Sciences.

The research also adds to the ongoing quest to understand the role social media plays in society, as well as to policy discussions around social media regulation, the scientists note.

“This has a number of interesting policy implications for public land managers,” said Dundas, associate professor of applied economics. “Access to information on the online activity for publicly managed areas could help administrators better understand visitor trends and behaviors to help steward these locations for current and future generations.”

Dundas and Lowe Mackenzie paired 18 years of visitation data to Oregon state parks with data on park-specific geotagged Instagram posts and their engagement, or the volume of likes and comments that those posts generated.

Geotagging means attaching geographic information to images, video or other content captured by smartphones or other GPS-enabled electronic devices. The information includes latitude and longitude coordinates, altitude and other data, making a potentially hard to find spot much easier for new visitors to locate.

The researchers found that the cumulative effect of “viral” content was associated with monthly visitor increases of about 4% at four of Oregon’s 50 state parks: Silver Falls in the Cascade foothills, Smith Rock in central Oregon, and Oswald West and Ecola on the coast.

Beyond that quartet of locations, the researchers saw no evidence that Instagram was having an effect on visitor traffic.

“During the 2010s, public lands across the United States experienced large visitation increases, which led to overcrowding of some parks,” said lead author Lowe Mackenzie, who completed her doctorate in applied economics this spring. “Some journalists accused social media, and in particular Instagram, of causing this increased visitation. The reason Instagram received the blame was that content was often geotagged. Journalists created headlines about the public loving our parks to death with Instagram clearly labeled as the responsible party.”

But that rather simplistic storyline is largely inaccurate, Dundas said.

“Our paper finds that content on Instagram is not associated with increased visitation in most parks,” he said. “To the extent Instagram content and engagement do impact visitation to public lands, they don’t do so uniformly. Our results suggest locations with picturesque or iconic landscapes may be susceptible to impacts from social media because the content generated at those sites may become popular online and has the opportunity to spread to many new people.”

That is to say, it’s not just sharing photos with specific geographic info that makes a difference in how many visitors a spot receives – the photos have to receive high engagement.

“We found viral content uploaded and geotagged to Smith Rock, Silver Falls, Oswald West and Ecola state parks had a prolonged effect on increasing visitation at these parks – not just an effect right after the contest was posted,” Lowe Mackenzie said. “Our research concentrated on the impacts of Instagram; however, other online sites that use engagement as a way to promote content could have had impacts as well – Twitter, Tiktok, AllTrails, YouTube, etc.”

Public land managers have a responsibility to protect habitats and ecosystem health while also facilitating the visitation and enjoyment of the lands they’re responsible for, Dundas notes. But management agencies are often underfunded and understaffed, meaning that big increases in visitation can lead to the degradation of both sensitive ecosystems and the visitor experience.

“Our results provide some insight into how land managers may be able to use social media to understand visitation trends and to be better prepared,” he said. “Social media represents a relatively new way for people to gather information and learn about new places. This research represents a first step in trying to understand how this online information translates to offline behavior changes.”

Vida couple sell renowned Oregon Flute Store



Jeff and Jo Ann Calavan of Vida, founders of the Oregon Flute Store, sold their over 27-year-old Vida business. They are retiring after nearly three decades of building a vibrant flute community and serving Native American flute enthusiasts. Their store was known for offering popular flutes, protective flute cases that they designed and made, songbooks that they published, and other merchandise.

Jonny and Maria Lipford of Cedar Rapids, esteemed figures in the flute community, have an-

nounced their acquisition of the Oregon Flute Store. “We’re deeply honored to continue the legacy that Jeff and Jo Ann have cultivated,” Mr. Lipford said in a statement. “Their commitment to the community has been unwavering, and we carry this responsibility with profound respect.” The Oregon Flute Store is set to embark on a new chapter under the Lipfords’ stewardship, rebranded as the Horizons Flute Store. The Lipfords’ vision for the Horizons Flute Store involves honoring the legacy of the Oregon Flute Store while broadening its offerings and services. www.horizonsflutestore.com.

Jeff and Jo Ann have retained the Custom Flute Shop and Jeff will continue to make one-of-a-kind dream flutes by hand for customers. Their new website- www.customfluteshop.com is in the process of being built but you can contact Jeff directly at jeff@customfluteshop.com or 541-525-3724 if you’re interested in learning more about his flutes. Please no solicitation calls.

Help with surveys

Continued From Page 1

includes the first two pages of an individual’s 2021 or 2022 US Tax Return or their Social Security Award Letter. (Reimbursements might lead to tax implications. It’s advisable to consult with a tax expert before accepting funds).

Other required documentation includes the tax lot number linked to the primary dwelling and a copy of the property deed.

In step two, if approved, people will receive an email containing an approval code and a link to the “Request for Payment Form.” The form must be completed within 120 days from the date of

approval notification.

The McKenzie Long-Term Recovery group recommends that applicants collect documentation prior to starting an application. For information about collecting documentation prior to starting an application, contact info@mckenzievalleyltrg.org or Shelly Pruitt, shelly@mckenzievalleyltrg.org, 541-852-9462 or Mary Ellen Wheeler, maryellen@mckenzievalleyltrg.org, 541-852-9605.

When people are ready, they can apply to the program at tinyurl.com/zwsbjr94.

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