



Serving the McKenzie River Valley ... And Subscribers Duke & Judy Buzza of Oroville, CA

### JP Doodles

Was the March snow white and pure? What about its replacement?

**PAGE 2**

### Tired of mowing?

More than 40 million acres are dedicated to lawns in the United States.

**PAGE 5**



## Time to design

### Locals get to comment on changing regulations

FINN ROCK: Ideas about resurrecting the town of Blue River kept people busy last Saturday during a two-hour community meeting at the old McKenzie High School gym. The discussions were focused on what might happen after people realized Lane County's right-of-way setbacks could have impacts on buildable areas along the town's main street - Blue River Drive.

Originally, the county had planned to focus on an area extending from the eastern junction with Hwy. 126 to where the street crosses Blue River. After hearing concerns from area residents about the rest of the roadway, the study area was expanded to the western junction as well, according to transportation planner Becky Taylor. Some issues in the new area, she said, involved little shoulder width for pedestrians and some areas with steep embankments where it might be hard to recover vehicles involved in accidents.

Expansive right-of-way concerns were brought before the Lane County

Planning Commission by people who said proposed amendments to the Lane Code could take so much of their road frontage that rebuilding didn't make sense.

At Saturday's meeting, Taylor said the county's overarching issue was "to do it right and not rush it. We want to make sure our investments will pay off in the long run."

Still to be addressed are issues like driveways, ADA ramps, stormwater issues,

and underground utilities.

Taylor said engineers will prepare an overall plan with three alternatives for people to comment on in the Spring before moving forward. After that, she said a "community preferred alternative," would be reviewed by the county's Transportation Advisory Committee before being forwarded to the Board of Commissioners by August.

View a video at: [tinyurl.com/35z8zna3](https://tinyurl.com/35z8zna3)



Aerial maps on tables around the gym were used to record comments on different sections of Blue River Drive between its east and west junctions with Hwy. 126.

## Library is recovering

### Plans call for a lot roomier building

BLUE RIVER: The board of directors of the O'Brien Memorial Library reports they are poised to start rebuilding this spring, as soon as they get a building permit. As part of the process, the board plans to continue to apply for grants, accept donations, and trim expenses.

"Our mission is to provide a welcoming space to residents and visitors of Blue River and the McKenzie River Valley, with books inspiring a love of reading and lifelong learning," according to Mary Sherman. "Our library will be welcoming, reflecting the beauty and spirit of the McKenzie River Valley, with a cathedral ceiling with wooden beams and windows along the peak and sides of the main room, providing natural lighting."

Books located in the main room, along with the children's area, will have large windows overlooking the backyard.

The plans call for a reading area to greet people as they step in the front door, which will be located on the corner of Blue River Drive and Dexter Street. Interior details will include comfortable seating, an electric fireplace, and

tall windows situated so they provide views of the backyard and surrounding mountains. Desks, laptops, printing, and WiFi will also be available.

Other amenities will include a community meeting room, also with large windows and views of the town and mountains. That area will provide room for AV equipment, tables and chairs, as well as a kitchen area. Sherman notes the meeting room will be available to rent for meetings, classes, groups, and social events, along with community gatherings. The room features a door connecting directly to the patio and backyard for outdoor events.

Outside, the backyard has been designed to feature a covered patio, seating, tables, and a grassy area for reading, connecting with friends and neighbors, and hosting small venues such as music, art, weddings, family and friend gatherings - plus outdoor education events. "It will also feature native plants and trees, with footpaths to invite connecting with nature," Sherman

**Library is recovering - P 9**



The interior of the library will be much roomier than the building it will replace, with vaulted ceilings and space for bookshelf access.

## Oregon House passes \$200 million for housing and homelessness

By Julia Shumway  
Oregon Capital Press

Oregon is on track to spend \$200 million to help homeless residents move into houses, give people who have fallen behind on rent more time to pay and create new goals for cities to build homes under a pair of measures approved Wednesday by the state House.

House Bill 2001 and

House Bill 5019 passed on 50-9 and 49-10 votes, respectively, with only Republicans opposed. The bills now head to the Senate, where a vote is expected early next week. If they pass, as predicted, Gov. Tina Kotek is expected to sign them.

The measures are an initial step toward addressing the state's homelessness crisis and housing short-

age, supporters said. At least 18,000 Oregonians are homeless, according to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, and many more live precariously, struggling to make rent or mortgage payments on unaffordable homes. The state needs to build roughly 550,000 new homes over the next two decades after years of building fewer homes than needed for the state's growing population, according to the Oregon Department of Land Conservation and Development.

"This is a decades-long deficit that won't be fixed in one year," said Rep. Maxine Dexter, D-Portland and chair of the House's housing committee. "We have much work to do."

The roughly \$200 million for housing - P 10



Jean Hendron has set up a makeshift tent across the street from the Oregon Capitol, trying to catch the attention of lawmakers to talk about the human toll of homelessness.

## The recipe for restoring damaged lands is missing one key ingredient: seeds

By Christine Peterson

High Country News  
When the fires die down, the mud stops sliding, drought lets up or the rain quits pouring, land managers must decide: Can damaged land grow back on its own, or will it need some help?

That help often comes in the form of seeds: millions and millions of seeds, delivered by plane, machine or even foot. But too often, there aren't enough to go around, according to an expansive new report.

That means that restoration is likely to be slow or not happen at all. And that can lead to soil erosion or encourage invasive species to take hold. Invasive grasses and shrubs are hard to control, offer little to no food value to wildlife or

livestock, and in some cases can fuel faster fire cycles, leading to yet more invasive species.

The 222-page study, commissioned by the Bureau of Land Management and published by the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering and Medicine

in January, shows that "millions of acres of public and private land in the United States are at risk of losing the native plant communities that are central to the integrity of ecosystems." The authors cite various problems, including fluctuating

**Key ingredient - Page 8**



A native plant restoration project in the Bureau of Land Management's Medford District Office in southwest Oregon, an area prone to frequent wildfires.

# Guest Opinion

## Time to shine the light on the taxes of big corporations

By Juan Carlos Ordóñez

In the current legislative session, as is the case every session, corporate lobbyists are hard at work trying to procure new tax breaks for their clients. These lobbyists representing many big corporations are going around waving a corporate-funded study claiming that business taxes in Oregon are too high.

If you are a lawmaker, you lack a key piece of information to decide whether the claims of the corporate lobby are true: how much big corporations like Amazon, Walmart, Nike and the like pay in income taxes to Oregon. Neither lawmakers nor the public know that information because it is secret.

This is a good time to celebrate transparency and open government. So it's a good moment to stress the need for Oregon to enact corporate tax transparency.

Though company-specific figures in Oregon are secret, publicly available data paints a picture of widespread tax avoidance. Take, for instance, the fact that corporate tax contributions have shrunk in relative terms. In the mid-1970s, the corporate income tax accounted for 18.5% of all income taxes collected in Oregon. That share is projected to drop to 8.7% in the coming budget period.

The reasons for relatively weak corporate income tax collections at a time when profits have been strong are no great mystery. We've seen a rise in the number of corporate tax breaks and subsidies over the past four decades. It is also clear that multinational corporations artificially shift profits to overseas tax havens to avoid paying taxes where those profits were earned.

Tax avoidance comes at a cost for Oregonians. When big corpo-

rations avoid taxes, it means either that there are fewer resources for schools and other essential services or that someone else — families and small businesses — foots the bill.

Corporate tax transparency would require large, publicly traded corporations to disclose information such as their Oregon sales, their Oregon property and income taxes paid, and the tax breaks they used. The benefits of transparency are many.

First, it would shine a light on how corporations avoid paying taxes. While the evidence indicates that corporate tax avoidance is common, the specifics of how they each avoid taxation is often unclear. Corporate tax transparency would reveal those specifics, helping the public and lawmakers determine whether reforms to the corporate income tax system are needed.

Second, disclosure could dissuade some corporations from engaging in aggressive tax avoidance schemes, knowing that key tax information would become public. At least, it would allow Oregon consumers to "vote with their dollars," choosing to do business with corporations they view as supporting the common good.

Third, transparency would show what Oregonians get in return for corporate tax breaks. Oregon has enacted many tax programs intended to create jobs or incentivize investment in the state. Corporate tax transparency would show which corporations are using which tax incentives, and how much each incentive is costing the state. This would enable policymakers to determine whether these tax incentive programs are worth their cost.

Finally, it would enable policymakers to evaluate corporate claims about the impact of proposed tax changes. When lawmakers consider changes in corporate tax policy, corporate lobbyists

usually claim that these will increase their companies' tax payments enormously. Corporate tax transparency would enable policymakers to evaluate the validity of such claims.

Today, some corporations have more economic weight than entire nations. These creatures of state law — entities that exist by virtue of an act of state government — wield tremendous political power, using it to obtain tax subsidies from the public and shape legislation of all kinds. Big corporations affect the daily lives of Oregonians in countless ways.

For the well-being of our state and nation, we need greater transparency from big corporations. We need corporate tax transparency.



Juan Carlos Ordóñez is the communications director of the Oregon Center for Public Policy, as well as the host of the podcast Policy for the People.

and Field event of the 2023 Spring season, it allowed the McKenzie Community Track and Field folks an opportunity to shake off the rust and embrace hosting a memorable event at the iconic Aaron and Marie Jones Community Track. Manned by an incredible and dedicated team of volunteers, the day at the Track was another success. That's not to say that there weren't a few wrinkles and anxiety to spice the production efforts, but overall the athletes were able to compete and the fans were there to yell loud and proud and all was good. The wrinkles will continue to smooth out moving forward and the anxiety will fade, this the MCTF crew has proven in the past.

Many thanks go out to those folks who willingly gave up a Thursday afternoon and evening to provide an incredible experience for all the young athletes. Specifically, thanks to the following folks. Molly Jackson, Joe and Sharon Zook, Vinni Fulton, Heidi Dyson, Bob Wilson, Elaine Bryson, Wade Scofield, Steve Schaefer, Melanie Brite, Neil Barrett, Monty Wilson, John Carlisle, Shelly Pruitt, Marilyn Cross, Spencer Wallace, Lane Tompkins, Fred Heins, Jamee Savidge, Gerry Aster, Kiger Plews, Pete Petty, Tim Hooten, Veronique Loggins, Brent and Megan Weiss, Laurel and Brent Meister, and others. Thanks too for the visiting coaches and fans that stepped in to help manage events.

### McKenzie's Lockart Wins Ice Breaker Shot Put

McKenzie junior Levi Lockart topped a field of 26 shot putters, winning the season opener McKenzie Ice Breaker with a toss of 37 ft. 6.5 in. Lockart's mark was nearly 2 ft. longer than the second place toss, 35 ft. 10 in, a personal record for Creswell's Tayson Honer. Lockart's personal record for the shot put is 38 ft. 10 in. recorded last season on May 4 at the SD4 meet held at Pleasant Hill. Lockart added a couple of 6th place finishes, throwing the discus 79 ft. 11 in. and the javelin 111 ft. 9 in.

Eagle teammate, senior Trent Peek Van Sickle, edged Lockart in the javelin, taking 5th place with a strong throw of 117 ft. 2 in.

McKenzie senior Cody Morals finished 20th in the javelin with a throw of 78 ft. 0.5 in. The javelin event was won by Triangle Lake's Dakota McConnell, who established a personal record 134 ft. 11.5 in. mark. Back to the shot put, Morals finished 13th with a toss of 28 ft. 7 in. and Eagle freshman Jacob Peek took home 24th in his first high school T & F meet, throwing a 22 ft. 1.5 in mark. Peek also finished 11th in the discus with a 64 ft. 10 in. throw and Morals followed right behind in 12th place with a 62 ft. 11 in throw.

La Pine junior Bowen Johnson, who tossed the plate 95 ft. 9 in, won the discus competition. The only other Eagle participating in the field events, freshman Allen Acevedo, placed 18th in the long jump with a 13 ft. 11.5 in leap. Jackson Weller of Pleasant Hill, who jumped 18 ft. 11 in, won the long jump. Weller also took home top honors in the triple jump while hitting a new personal record mark of 36 ft. 7.75 in. Devon Kerr of La Pine won the pole vault, clearing the bar at 11 ft. 6 in. and Mitch Dumford of Triangle Lake nailed a personal record 1st place mark of 6 ft. 0 in in the high jump.

In the Boys Ice Breaker track events, Eagle junior Solomon Acevedo finished 2nd in the 400 m. race with a personal record 58.7 sec time. Viggo Beck of Triangle Lake won the 400 m. event with a time of 57.0 sec. Acevedo also finished 4th in the 200 m. race with a 25.9 sec time. Teammate brother Allen Acevedo followed with a 10th place time of 27.2 sec. The 200 m. race was won by Rowan Files in 24.9 sec. Files was a double-winner as he also took home top honors in the 100 m. with a time of 11.44 sec. McKenzie's Peek Van Sickle finished 6th in the 100 m., timed at 12.3 sec and Allen Acevedo finished 16th with a time of 12.7 sec.

La Pine's Wyatt Montgomery was a dual winner, taking top honors in the 800 m. race, time of 2:13.1 min. and in the 1500 m. with a time of 4:33.7 min. Steven Gunn of Pleasant Hill won the 3000 m. race with a time of 10:31.6 min. In the boy's hurdle events, the 110 m. hurdles was won by Curtis Talmadge of Triangle Lake in 20.1 sec and the 300 m. hurdles top time came from Ryan Smith of Harrisburg in 46.5 sec. McKenzie placed 3rd in the 4x100 m. relay, running the event in 53.88 sec. The Eagle foursome in that event was Allen Acevedo, Solomon Acevedo, Devon Lawson, and Trent Peek Van Sickle. Harrisburg won the event in 47.26 sec with Jordan Baker, Shawn Hall, Jack Lidbeck, and Malachi Larson. Yosiah Baker, Porter Overvaugh, Viggo Beck, and Mitch Dumford won the 4x400 m. relay race in 4:08.34 min..

### Beckah Short and Hailey Prater Set Personal Records

Eagle sophomore Beckah Short and senior Hailey Prater established new personal records last Thursday at the season opening McKenzie HS Ice Breaker meet. Short's PR came in the triple jump event, where she leaped 22 ft. 7.25 in., a foot and a half improvement over her previous PR last season. Short mark placed her 4th in the triple jump, which was won by Vika Gabrio of Creswell, who jumped 31 ft. 2.25 in., also a PR. Short placed 10th in the long jump, marked at 10 ft. 4 in. and Kiele Riggs of Triangle Lake won with a PR mark of 14 ft. 10 in. Prater established two personal records in the meet, a 22 ft. 3 in. mark in the shot put, good for 8th place and a 57 ft. 9 in. mark in the discus, good for 12th place.

Prater also finished 6th in the javelin event, tossing the spear 63 ft. 9.5 in. Eagle senior teammate Taylor Wickizer, competing in her first Track and Field competition,

Continued On Page 6

## McKenzie Eagles Sports Report



By Cliff Richardson

### McKenzie Varsity Sports Schedule This Week

The McKenzie Varsity Track and Field teams travel to Oakridge on Thursday, March 23, to participate in the Oakridge 2A-D3 league meet. The event, held on Deharpport Field in Oakridge, will start with field events at 3:30 pm and track events beginning at 4:00 pm. The Eagle teams will join Class 2A Oakridge, Monroe, and Gold Beach and Class 1A Triangle Lake in the competition.

### Track Season Off To A Hot Start At Ice Breaker

Spring sprung early on the McKenzie last Thursday, March 16 and the warm, sunny weather was heartily welcomed by the nine Track and Field teams, fans and volunteer crew, that landed at the Aaron and Marie Jones Community Track. The event was billed as the McKenzie HS Ice Breaker and while it wasn't warm enough to warrant dropping ice in one's cold soda, the season's opening track meet was by all accounts very nice indeed. The lone east-side competitor, La Pine, liked the weather and green grass so well, the team abandoned all the snow it packed over the Hump on the parking lot, hoping to make room on the bus to pack back home some of the warm weather.

The Ice Breaker also lived up to its billing in that as the first Track

Friday 3/24		Saturday 3/25		Sunday 3/26	
McKenzie Valley Rain	Santiam Pass Snow	McKenzie Valley Rain/Snow	Santiam Pass Snow	McKenzie Valley PM Showers	Santiam Pass Snow Showers
90% chance precip High: 43 Low: 34	90% chance precip High: 27 Low: 20	70% chance precip High: 45 Low: 31	70% chance precip High: 28 Low: 19	30% chance precip High: 49 Low: 33	50% chance precip High: 34 Low: 21

**MRR McKenzie River Reflections** (541) 822-3358 FAX (541) 663-4550  
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### 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
3/14	42	31	0	894 cfs	3/14	48	32	0.72	5,070 cfs
3/15	47	34	0.08	885 cfs	3/15	43	33	0.17	4,360 cfs
3/16	59	32	0	834 cfs	3/16	52	30	0.01	3,950 cfs
3/17	62	35	0	809 cfs	3/17	65	34	0	3,860 cfs
3/18	65	33	0	785 cfs	3/18	65	33	0	3,830 cfs
3/19	52	37	0.45	790 cfs	3/19	68	40	0	3,860 cfs
3/20	44	39	0.53	793 cfs	3/20	52	41	0.46	4,570 cfs

# Sheriff's Report

**March 14: 9:44 a.m:** restraining order service - 91900 block, Marcola Rd.

**11:38 a.m:** Violation of Restraining Order - 42900 blk, McK. Hwy.

**4:26 p.m:** Burglary - 93100 blk, Marcola Rd.

**March 15: 10:08 a.m:** Assist, Follow Up - 91300 blk, Donna Rd.

**12:17 p.m:** Assist, follow up - Cedar Flat.

**12:58 p.m:** Assist Motorist - 5600 blk, McK. Hwy.

**2:05 p.m:** Welfare Check - 41700 blk, McK. Hwy.

**8:14 p.m:** Reckless Endangering - Upper Camp Creek Rd. & Worth Rd.

**9:40 p.m:** Motor Vehicle Accident, Driving Under the Influence of Intoxicants - 89100 blk, Old Mohawk Rd.

**March 16: 3:31 a.m:** Welfare Check - Upland St. & McK. Hwy.

**7:33 a.m:** Attempt To Locate Drunk Driver - WALTERVILLE area.

**12:00 p.m:** Welfare Check - 41700 blk, McK. Hwy.

**3:33 p.m:** Suspicious Conditions - 37900 blk, Maranatha Ln.

**4:09 p.m:** Civil Service - 45500 blk, McK. Hwy.

**4:37 p.m:** Foot Patrol - 9500 blk, McK. Hwy.

**5:24 p.m:** Subpoena Service - 38700 blk, Natures Garden St.

**6:17 p.m:** MVA, Injury - 35900 blk, Camp Creek Rd.

**9:34 p.m:** Restraining Order Service - 92600 blk, Marcola Rd.

**March 17: 12:45 p.m:** Vehicle Stop - 45600 blk, McK. Hwy.

**1:49 p.m:** Vehicle Stop - McK. Hwy. & Taylor Rd.

**3:09 p.m:** Citizen Contact - 91800 blk, Taylor Rd.

**3:39 p.m:** traffic hazard - McK. Hwy. & S. Gate Creek Rd.

**8:41 p.m:** Vehicle Stop - Camp Creek Rd. & Upper Camp Creek Rd.

**10:17 p.m:** Disturbance, Dispute - 88900 blk, Ross Ln.

**11:01 p.m:** Theft - Terwilliger Hot Springs.

**11:01 p.m:** Suspicious Subject

- 37500 blk, Upper Camp Creek Rd.

**March 18: 1:15 p.m:** Citizen Contact - McK. Hwy. & S. Gate Creek Rd.

**1:54 p.m:** Vehicle Stop - McK. Hwy. Milepost 18.

**2:58 p.m:** Foot Patrol - 39500 blk, McK. Hwy.

**5:31 p.m:** Vehicle Stop - McK. Hwy. Mp. 37.

**March 19: 5:53 a.m:** Illegal Burn - McK. Hwy. Mp. 18.

**March 20: 11:01 a.m:** Burglary - 94000 blk, Marcola Rd.

**7:29 p.m:** Civil Service - 94400 blk, Johnson Rd.

**2:10 p.m:** Incomplete 911 Call - 37300 blk, Parsons Creek Rd.

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

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## McKenzie Fire & Rescue

**March 14: 7:16:** McK. Hwy./ Partridge Ln. Motor Vehicle Accident. Non-Injury/Non-Blocking.

**7:32:** 44000 block, McK. Hwy. MVA. Non-Injury/Non-Blocking.

**7:56:** McK. Hwy./Milepost 14. MVA. Blocking, Patients Assessed, 1 Transported.

**20:02:** 45000 blk, Goodpasture Rd. Unknown Fire. Controlled Burn.

**March 15: 7:27:** 88000 blk, Gemstone Rd. Medical, Heart. Patient Refusal.

**21:37:** Old Mohawk Rd./Mp. 1. Mutual Aid. Canceled En Route.

**March 16: 6:05:** 1300 blk, 66th St. Medical, Trauma. Canceled On Scene.

**18:15:** 35000 blk, Block Camp Creek Rd. MVA. Patients Assessed, 2 Transported.

**March 17: 22:57:** 44000 blk, McK. Hwy. Medical, General. Patient Assessed, 1 Transported.

**March 18: 4:30:** 8500 blk, Thurston Rd. Medical, General.

Patient Assessed, 1 Transported.  
**7:03:** 8600 blk, Thurston Rd Medical, Heart. Patient Assessed, 1 Transported.

**17:18:** 87000 blk, Cedar Flat Rd Medical, General. Mistaken Alarm.

**March 19: 5:48:** McK. Hwy./ Mp. 18. Illegal Burn. Unable To Locate.

**March 20: 4:14:** 90000 blk, Angels Flight Rd. Medical, General. Patient Assessed, 1 Transported.

## Upper McKenzie Fire/Rescue

**March 15: 18:50:** Motor Vehicle Accident - Old McK. Hwy./McK. Hwy. Insurance signal app got a crash notification, no vehicle description on file, and unable to make contact with responding person.

**March 20: 19:30:** Medical - 54000 block, McK. River Dr. Female patient.

**MRR McKenzie River Reflections**

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

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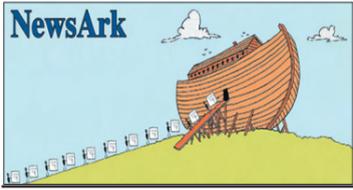


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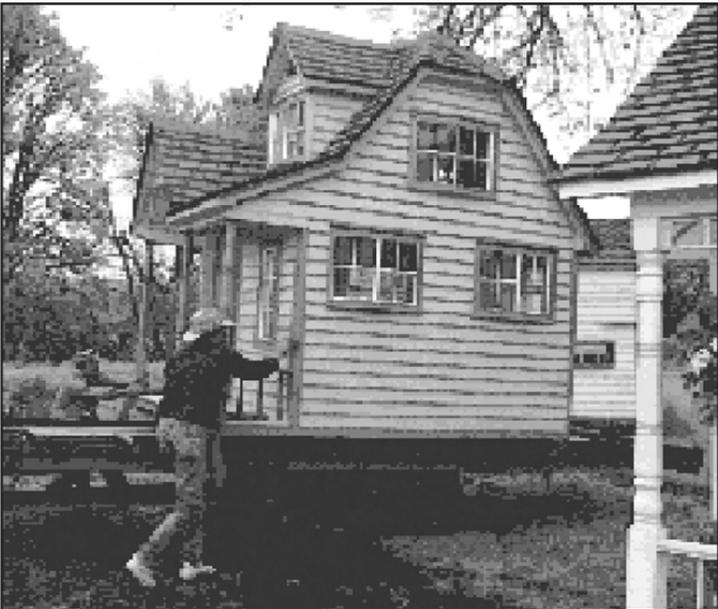


...saving stories from the rising tide of time.

News from 1999

# Start of a mini building boom?

From the May 19, 1999 edition of McKenzie River Reflections



Murl Ming and Dean Wachsmuth ease the Dutch Colonial into place in the lot next to Walterville's McKenzie Tea Trader.

## Victorian village grows by the roadside

WALTERVILLE: A world of fantasy is taking shape. In it is a gray Dutch Colonial. On either side stands a white farmhouse and a yellow Salt Box. They're all the handiwork of Murl Ming, a Grants Pass carpenter who's bringing grins to the faces of everyone who stops to look at these small scale versions of the real thing.

The closer you look, the more you see. All the windows use beveled glass. Some wear "teardrop" siding. From the side, the roof of the Salt Box is slightly concave, the result of applying Murl's "Skillsaw art" to its rafters.

The little houses are built on a scale of 4 inches to the foot, which allows adults to gain access to their interiors. Often there's a loft inside that owners like to use as a quiet getaway.

The cost of a house can range from \$2,500 to \$7,000 depending on how elaborate the project. Murl says he's built log houses, forts, granny house and a copy of "John Boy" Walton's home. His plans for the future include making a version of the "Old Woman Who Lived in a Shoe" and a complete western town.

"It's great, like being a kid again and getting paid for it," Murl says. "Everybody's happy. I can't say that with big houses I never had an unhappy customer."

Murl spent 30 years as a carpenter. Two years ago he got the idea building a miniature from the scraps of an old house he'd torn down. Putting a sign on it for \$1,200 generated over 50 phone inquiries. Immediately, he recalls, it snowballed. Since then he's sold 48.

These aren't just dollhouses.

Generally, it takes two men two weeks to build a house. They're priced around \$25 per square foot, about 1/4 the cost of a full size home. Some customers like to buy a finished interior, which can add another \$2,000 to the final price. Others prefer to do those projects on their own, adding sheetrocked walls, electricity and even plumbing.

There aren't any nail guns in Murl's M&K Construction shop. Nor are there any construction blueprints. Each house is different, coming together in the builder's mind. Murl says he often drives around the older parts of town, looking at house designs and searching for ones that appeal to him. Sometimes he'll take a photo to nail on the wall and reference when he builds his own version.

When they're done he puts them on display. Model houses next to I-5 at Rice Hill have generated most of his sales. He's also had them at Gray's Garden Center in Springfield, where Ann Robson found her lighthouse. He hopes putting them at the McKenzie Tea Trader will generate interest from visitors to the scenic McKenzie Valley.

Oftentimes, he notes, busy travelers will call him as they pass by the model homes. "They're busy,

driving to meetings or on trips, see a house and have to have one. They'll call and leave a message telling me to get back to them in a week, or a month - whenever they plan to be back."

Perhaps one of his best compliments came from a couple who'd stumbled across them one night. Homeless, they took shelter inside, leaving him a note. "Thank you for the wonderful buildings," they wrote. "We'd love to have one but we have no money and have puppies we have to take care of."



Ann Robson's lighthouse has become a beacon near Blue River for McKenzie River boaters.

# Boaters facing long wait for new landing

## Commissioners vote 3-1 for general funding

EUGENE: Boaters may be using Ike's Landing on Leaburg Lake for another year. Last Wednesday the Lane County Board of Commissioners voted to back away from a Park's Division recommendation for a replacement site. Instead they chose to ask the state Marine Board for grant dollars to build a new ramp "somewhere" in the mid-River area.

During a short public comment period the board heard from nearby residents who said they'd rather see a ramp constructed across from the Old McKenzie Fish Hatchery. River users were also on hand to tell the board they supported the parks plan to build a ramp west of the Goodpasture covered bridge.

Voting for ask the state for site non-specific funding were commissioners Peter Sorenson, Bill Dwyer and Bobby Green. Opposed was Anna Morrison. East Lane County Commissioner Cindy Weeldreyer was not at the session, but provided a memo detailing her support for the Parks proposal.

In her dissent, Morrison said the Marine Board will be receiving

more detailed requests from all around Oregon. The approach taken "would be a waste of time," she said. "We won't get any money."

Sorenson felt an opportunity was being presented to "keep the process moving" by continuing county staff's contacts with the community. In making the motion for generalized funding, he also stipulated that a recently created task force for site selection be kept in place.

Green said if nothing else, the action allowed the county to "get a shoe in the process." He wasn't, however, in favor of putting off a decision forever. "If we can't get community consensus I would ask the staff to walk away from it. We need to talk about the merits and get the emotions out of it." Green advised that as a choice for a new ramp is being discussed people need to "think about the needs of all of Lane County. I didn't hear anybody here say a boat landing wasn't needed."

On Friday, ODOT officials indicated they have been discussing how to keep the old landing at Ike's open a little longer. Issuance of a one-year only permit depends on whether an adjacent property owner will allow parking on their property.



By Slim Randles

"Makes a guy wonder sometimes," Windy Wilson said, "if gettin' all stabbed to death might not be a bad way to go."

The rest of us - the Supreme Court of Dang Near Everything at the Mule Barn coffee shop - politely choked on our java and put the cups down. Even for Windy, this was quite an observation.

"Yer prolly askin' yer-selves," Windy said, "how I gerrymanderated myself into this observation."

"Well ... yes ... actually."

"Doc, I know you and the boys need fresh idears ever year or two jest to keep you sharpened, so here's how I figger it. You know it's dang near March fifteen, right? Back in the olden days, before we even had our interdependence from England, they called it The Idears of March. So they knew they needed idears even back then. This whole stabbin' thing came from that old Roman guy, Julius Caesar.

This year woman, called herself the Oriole of Dolphins, 'cuz she thought she was smarter than most folks in Baltimore or even in Miama ... she told ol' Julius to beware them Idears of March, 'cuz they's nothin' but trouble."

Windy waited for Loretta to top off his cup. "But ol' Julius wasn't too purty good about listenin' cuz he'd already whupped England and Germany so he figgered he was too smart already. So he give a speech they didn't like and a bunch of Brute's stabbed him plumb to death. Well, it sure made him famous, didn't it? I'm sure you heard of a caesarian section house - somethin' on the railroad, I think - and an epileptic Caesar, and Caesar salad, and an Orange Julius. 'Course you have.

"So mebbe we need to ease up on them Brute's in history, light up a roman candle in their honor. They messed up them Congressional steps some, but Julius Caesar's story is still around and it's long after that mop bucket dried out."

-----  
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**A Moment in Oregon History**  
By Rick Steber  
(www.ricksteber.com)

March 23 - Judge Owen Denny, an Oregon pioneer, was appointed Consul General to China. While in China he wrote a friend about an exotic ring-necked pheasant, saying, "These birds are delicious eating and very game and will furnish fine sport." He shipped seventy pheasants from China but when they arrived, in March 1881, only 15 roosters and five hens had survived. These were released on Sauvie Island near Portland. Denny sent a second shipment, which were released on his brother's homestead in Linn County. The Chinese pheasants thrived in the wild and were protected until 1892 when hunters bagged 50,000 birds on the first day of hunting season.

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**Gardening Tips**  
By Kym Pokorny



**Oregon State University**  
OSU Extension Service

**The dawn of lawn alternatives**



By Kym Pokorny  
The expansive lawns in Europe and the invention of golf in the late 1900s launched America's obsession with a perfect plot of grass. The invention of the rotary mower and the development of climate-adapted grass varieties made a landscape of turfgrass more accessible for homeowners.

As time went by, homeowners relegated the vegetables and herbs typically grown in the front of the house to the backyard, and monocultures of grass were installed in the front. A healthy green lawn — the bigger the better — became a status symbol.

That sensibility lingers. More than 40 million acres are dedicated to lawns in the United States, according to a study published in the Journal of Environmental Management. Other sources put the amount even higher. But as climate change worsens and environmental concerns increase, people are beginning to look for drought-tolerant, lower-maintenance alternatives. A growing awareness of the plight of pollinators also pushes the trend.

"Yes, there's been a surge of interest in the desire to have something other than lawn," said Amy Whitworth, an eco-minded landscape designer and owner of Plan-it Earth Design in Portland.

Whitworth is well-versed in lawn replacements. "It's actually been coming up for the last 10 years or so," she said. "But the heat bomb was a game changer for everybody. It opened everyone's eyes and now drought tolerance is on the top of everyone's wish list."

In Whitworth's line of work, she finds that many clients don't want lawns at all; others want alternatives that look like lawns. There's something for everyone, and the nursery industry is on it.

Mighty mini clover Outsidepride in Independence, Oregon, is bullish on mini clover (*Trifolium repens*), owner Troy Hake said. He's a big fan of the

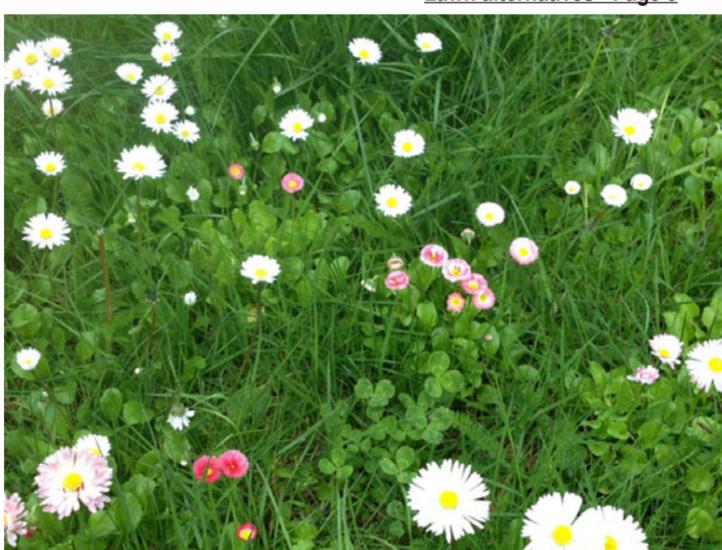
tiny-but-mighty plant. People like it, too. Sales were up 67% in 2022 compared to 2021.

"I was actually quite surprised, but mini clover really is amazing and people are picking up on that," he said. "I would say in the last five or so years we get more emails from customers wanting a lawn alternative primarily because water is expensive, and some municipalities are restricting it."

For those wanting a landscape that's green, low growing, and drought tolerant, mini clover accomplishes that. It looks like a lawn, but that's where the similarities end. It only needs to be mown about once a month, depending on the eventual height desired for this 6-inch-tall plant. Water needs are minimal to keep its lawnlike appearance.

"Personally, I prefer to kill the clover in my yard," said Hake, who sells bucketloads of grass seed but admits to growing mini clover at home. "I'm a grass seed guy but I've grown to like clover. It grows easily, sprouts easily, is easy to maintain and it uses less water. It's ideal for so many people."

Unlike regular lawns, micro clover reduces the need for fertilizer, which saves money and the planet. All clovers, including micro clover, fix nitrogen — or pull it from the atmosphere and transfer it to the soil so it can feed



the microbes that feed plants. "You can't ask for more than that, except we'd like it a little shorter," said Hake, who is working with Smith Seed Services to develop a new micro clover. "That's what we're trying for. Something you wouldn't have to mow at all. If we could breed min clover that remains 2-3 inches tall and stops, sales would increase exponentially."

**Eclectic ecolawn**

Along the same vein is the ecolawn mix developed in 1985 by Oregon State University's Tom Cook, a retired professor and turf specialist in the College of Agricultural Sciences. Since his mixture hit the market, it's been customized by companies around the country.

The first ecolawn was made up of dwarf perennial ryegrass and hard fescue, non-competitive grasses that go dormant in summer without regular watering. The addition of yarrow and clover, which stay green with very little water, helps keep the lawn looking green when the grasses go brown. Some mixes add flowering broadleaved plants such as mini clover, English daisy, Roman chamomile, and Alyssum.

Joni Shaffer-Elteto, co-owner of Native Plantscapes NW in Salem, Oregon, uses the ecolawn she sources at Pro Time Lawn Seed in Portland for her designs and installations.

"I started noticing an uptick last summer," Shaffer-Elteto said. "It went from people talking about lawn alternatives to having projects that actually use it. There's a big change in consumer consciousness of climate change with the onset of COVID. When people were home, many were gardening and thinking about it. And also the fires. It was a huge awakening for people. Things are not as they used to be."

For those homeowners looking for something that's more habitat-friendly, Shaffer-Elteto suggests ecolawn as an alternative because of its attractiveness to pollinators when in bloom. People are still looking for a patch of something lawnlike for children and pets. Ecolawn also fits that bill.

"What does that lawn really need to do," said Shaffer-Elteto, who

**Lawn alternatives - Page 9**



*Country Kitchen*  
By Mary Emma Allen

**CULINARY STORIES & MEMORIES**

Salt shakers, mixing bowls, egg beaters, refrigerator dishes, rolling pins, spice tins, and juicers may seem rather ordinary kitchen items.

However, it's usually not a monetary value that's important (although this could be there), but the memories they evoke.

Immediately they'll bring back memories of family occasions... dining, cooking, gift giving... which can be humorous, nostalgic, or bittersweet.

**Green Jadite**

When I came across a green Jadite salt shaker my mom had saved, I recalled this set we'd used throughout my childhood. These were round, about five inches high with an metal screw top. Raised ridges decorated the lower half of each shaker. The glass was an opaque milky green.

We used them every day and didn't value them as we did the gold colored glass ones my grandparents received as a 50th Wedding Anniversary gift. Those were kept for "company."

However, when I saw the Jadite shaker it brought back memories of meals around the farmhouse kitchen table. I wondered where to find a matching pepper shaker and discovered one in an antique shop. Then I became curious to learn more about these items and found they probably were made

by the Jeannette Glass Company. I also discovered there were many other Jadite items for kitchen use...other shapes of shakers, canisters, juicers, butter dishes, refrigerator dishes, mixing bowls, match holders, and pitchers. The same designs were made in other colors. While attractive, they don't evoke the memories the Jadite does.

**Memories Among the Recipes**

CHICKEN DIVAN is a dish my family enjoys. My daughter mentioned not long ago that someone had asked her for the recipe.

Cook 2 small or one large package broccoli spears until just tender.

Either cook 4 whole chicken breasts or use the equivalent of leftover cooked chicken cut into pieces. Lay broccoli in a 9 x 13-inch baking dish. Lay chicken over broccoli.

Mix together 1 can cream of mushroom soup, 1 can cream of chicken soup, 1/4 cup grated cheddar cheese, 1/2 cup sour cream, 1 small can mushroom pieces. Pour over chicken and broccoli. Bake at 350 degrees F. about 45 minutes, until heated through and bubbly. (For lower calorie meal, use low fat soups, cheese, and sour cream.)

(c) Mary Emma Allen

(Mary Emma Allen writes from her NH home.)



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# Community Notes

## March 23 Childcare Opening

The McKenzie School District will host an open house to celebrate the Eagles Childcare Center on Thursday, March 23<sup>rd</sup>, from 10 a.m. to noon. The facility will be the first licensed center to aid families affected by the Holiday Farm Fire. Visitors will be able to tour the new facility and meet the staff while learning about the schedule.

Over the last year, the district ran a fundraising campaign to make the center a reality. So far \$420,000 was raised to fund this center by local donors.

## March 24 McKenzie Food Pantry

Free groceries provided in accordance with Oregon Food Bank and Food For Lane County guidelines for food distribution to those in need. 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Friday, at the McKenzie Bridge Christian Church from 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. Shop for yourself or have food delivered to car. Questions call Robin 541-844-8838.

## March 25 One 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.

## March 25 Living River Day

Join the McKenzie River Trust from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. for Living River Exploration Day and take a walk near the place the Willamette and the McKenzie Rivers meet. Observe 15 years of tree-planting work on Green Island, a habitat for beaver, river otter, and over 150 species of birds. If you're looking for a special place to connect to nature this year, join in the fun on the second Saturdays, March through December.

## March 28 Board of Commissioners

The Lane County Board of Commissioners will meet in Harris Hall, 125 E 8<sup>th</sup> Ave. in Eugene. The Board of Commissioner meetings begin at 9 a.m. unless otherwise noted on the published agenda. Regular Board Meetings

are scheduled for Tuesday. Wednesday Board meetings are on an as needed basis.

## March 28 McKenzie Wellness

McKenzie Valley Wellness board will meet from 7 to 8 p.m. in the Living Water Fellowship building, 52353 McKenzie Hwy., Blue River.

## March 29 Watershed Wednesday

Join McKenzie River Trust every Wednesday morning from 9 to 11:30 a.m. at Green Island to help care for this special area where the McKenzie and Willamette Rivers meet. Projects vary based on the season but typically include invasive species removal, habitat care, or planting/tree establishment. At Green Island, 31799 Green Island Rd, Eugene.

## April 1 One 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.

## April 1 Saturday Market

The McKenzie River Open Market will host the Waltherville Saturday Market from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at 39841 McK. Hwy. featuring handcrafted items from local vendors. Call Tina Matula at 541-220-6137 for more information.

## April 1 Living River Day

Join the McKenzie River Trust from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. for Living River Exploration Day and take a walk near the place the Willamette and the McKenzie Rivers meet. Observe 15 years of tree-planting work on Green Island, a habitat for beaver, river otter, and over 150 species of birds. If you're looking for a special place to connect to nature this year, join in the fun on the second Saturdays, March through December.

## April 4 Public Safety Levy

Lane County Sheriff Cliff Harold will discuss Measure 20-340,

which would continue funding for a levy previously passed in 2013 - and renewed in 2017 for the Lane County Sheriff's Office. The levy will provide funding for 52 percent of jail operations and would continue the current tax rate of \$0.55 per \$1,000 of assessed value. For the median Lane County homeowner, that amounts to an average of \$9.80 per month for five years. There are currently 367 beds in the Lane County Jail, which also provides services for people with mental health and substance abuse issues. Levy funding provides 8 of 16 youth detention beds and 8 of 15 youth treatment beds. The meeting will be held at the Waltherville Community Center located at 39259 Camp Creek Road in Waltherville at 7:30 p.m., on Tuesday, April 4<sup>th</sup>. For more information, go to: PublicSafetyLevy.org.

## April 5 BR Water Board

The Blue River Water District Board will meet 6 p.m. Via Zoom. Go to blueriverpark.com for more information.

## April 5 BR Park Board

The Blue River Water District Board will meet 7:15 p.m. Via Zoom. Gotoblueriverwaterdistrict.com for more information.

## April 8 Easter Egg Hunt

The Waltherville Grange will host their 10<sup>th</sup> annual Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, April 8, at 10 a.m., at the Waltherville Community Center. There will be special sections for age groups 4 and under, 5 and 6, and 7 and up. There will be lots of eggs to find and some special eggs with special prizes in them. Be sure to bring your own baskets to put your eggs in. It will be held at 39259 Camp Creek Road, in Waltherville. Don't be late, the eggs will be found fast, and they always start on time. For more information call 541-563-0106.

## April 16 EWEB Updates

Representatives from EWEB will have a table from 2 to 4 p.m. at the Waltherville Grange Open House on April 16. Stop by with your questions about energy efficiency programs, billing assistance, septic grants, Leaburg Dam, and the Pure Water Partners at 39259 Camp Creek Rd.

## April 22 Wooden Boat Festival

From 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Eagle Rock Lodge. People are encouraged to bring their wooden boat for display. The McKenzie River Guides Association will serve lunch and beverages..

## CROSSWORD SOLUTION

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# Can you share a ride?



The Senior Connections Rural Medical Escort Program, a program offered by Senior & Disability Services, a division of the Lane Council of Governments (LCOG), needs volunteers to provide rides for local homebound seniors to their medical appointments. This program helps promote independent living for older members of our community.

\* Drivers needed in the McKenzie Valley, Cottage Grove, Junction City, Veneta, Oakridge, Florence, and surrounding areas.

\* Mileage reimbursement offered.

\* Flexible daytime schedule.

\* We prefer volunteers to be available five (5) or more hours a week.

\* There are no rides on weekends, holidays or evenings scheduled.

\* All rides are scheduled through the Senior Connections office.

\* Volunteer drivers must have a valid driver's license and vehicle insurance, and they must pass a criminal background check.

Interested community members can contact Melisa Andrión, Community Outreach & Volunteer Coordinator, mandrión@lcog.org or 541-682-1366.

### McKenzie Eagles Sports Report



By Cliff Richardson

Continued From Page 2

and finished 9th in the shot put with a toss of 19 ft. 10.5 in. and 16th in the javelin with a throw of 39 ft. 4 in.

Creswell's Gabrio, with a personal record 84 ft. 11.5 in throw, won the javelin. The shot put event top honors went to Harrisburg's Emmalee Smathers, with a personal record mark of 32 ft. 9.5 in. And the discus winning mark was 90 ft. 11 in. and was thrown by Kaitlyn Machado of Creswell. The high jump was won by Creswell freshman Kylie Leonard who cleared 4 ft. 7 in. In the girls track events, McKenzie's Short finished 17th in the 100 m. race, covering the sprint distance in 16.63 sec. Wickizer followed in 19th place with a first-ever time of 21.80 sec. The 100 m. race was won by freshman Samara Baker of Triangle Lake in a time of 13.21

## SUDOKU SOLUTION

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4	8	9	2	5	1	3	7	6

sec. The speedy Baker also won the 200 m. race in 27.9 sec and the 100 m. hurdles in 16.8 sec. The 400 m. relay split top honors went to Pleasant Hill's Dakota Hyland, timed in 1:04.3 min., a personal record. Ellie Epperson, also of Pleasant Hill, won the 800 m. race in 2:44.1 min. The 1500 m. race was won by Harrisburg's Cadence Smith in 5:49.0 min. and the 3000 m. race was won by Camille Hicks of Pleasant Hill with a time of 15:22.1 min. Isabel Hammond-Mendez from Pleasant Hill finished 1st in the 300 m. hurdles clearing the obstacles and distance in 58.77 sec.

The Triangle Lake foursome of Samara Baker, Kiele Riggs, Madeline Brewster, and Ella Mather won the girl's 4x100 m. relay in 54.14 sec.. La Pine won the 4x400 m. race in 5:10.7 min. with Lucy Fisher, Ashley Jentzsch, Savannah Johnston, and Maddisen Russell.

## McKenzie HS Ice Breaker Team Scores (Unofficial)

Harrisburg ran away with the top boys team score in the McKenzie HS Ice Breaker meet last Thursday, March 16. The Eagles of Harrisburg rolled up 159.5 points to easily out distance second place La Pine with 97.5 points. Pleasant Hill finished third with 87.5 pts and Triangle Lake scored 77 pts, good for fourth. Creswell finished fifth with 45 points, host McKenzie sixth at 39 pts, Oakridge seventh with 29.5 pts, Lowell eighth at 28 pts and Mapleton ninth at 16 pts.

The Pleasant Hill girl's team won the day with 148 pts and Triangle Lake followed in second with 136.5 pts. Creswell finished third at 102 pts and La Pine followed in fourth with 60.5 pts. Harrisburg took fifth at 36 pts, Lowell sixth with 22 pts., Mapleton seventh with 18 pts., Oakridge finished eighth with 16 pts., and host McKenzie was ninth with 9 pts.

## PUBLIC MEETING NOTICE

### NOTICE OF BUDGET COMMITTEE MEETING

A public meeting of the Budget Committee of the Upper McKenzie Rural Fire Protection District, Lane County, State of Oregon, to discuss the budget for the fiscal year July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024 will be held at the Upper McKenzie RFPD Fire Station, 56578 McKenzie Highway in McKenzie Bridge, at 7pm Wednesday, April 19, 2023. The purpose of the meeting is to receive the budget message and to receive comment from the public on the budget. A copy of the budget document may be inspected or obtained on or after April 12, 2023, at the Upper McKenzie RFPD Fire Station between the hours of 9am and 7pm. This is a public meeting where deliberation of the Budget Committee will take place. Any person may appear at the meeting and discuss the proposed programs with the Budget Committee. This notice will also be published on the fire department website at uppermckenziefire.com.

## An Invitation to Worship

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Sun. Morn. 9:30am;  
web page: sbldodge.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 Waltherville, 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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# Direct Answers

By Wayne & Tamara Mirthell

## Repeat Offender



Diana

I am a 26-year-old escort, in the business on and off since I was 14. I have a tendency to get involved in very bad relationships.

The men I go out with are usually abusive with substance abuse problems, and generally, I end up supporting them. I don't have many friends because it seems people only deal with me because they are trying to use me.

I've worked regular jobs, attended some college, and also got my real estate license. I wasn't happy being "square" and am not happy now, but I can't afford to stop escorting or I will lose everything. Happiness never lasts long for me. I am looking for something in life to keep me going, and the only thing that's doing it is my massive stack of bills.

Recently I got involved with a man who treats me better than anyone has in a long time. For the first time ever, the feeling is mutual. He makes me smile, and I don't believe he would ever abuse me. We want to settle down and even have kids.

The problem is he is on parole and is supposed to turn himself in soon to do about two years. That's a long time to wait, and I'm tired of my life being on hold. We have considered the option of him not turning himself in, but then I will be forced to keep escorting to support us.

Either he goes to prison and I'll be alone, or we're together and I support him. And what if I get sick of him being so dependent on me? Where will he go? I want the house with the white picket fence and kids, but how can I get them with me being an escort and him on the way to the big house?

Maureen

Maureen, Thoreau said, "What lies before us and what lies behind us are small matters compared to what lies within us. And when we bring what is within out into the world, miracles happen."

If you are escorting for money, you should have huge savings and

be living well. But you are in debt, using money to buy moments of happiness. You're treating yourself like devalued currency and acting as if you are not worth a good man.

Your boyfriend promises things he can never give you, and that is simply another form of abuse. Once you feel you are a person of value, you will feel equal to a man of value, a man who truly cares for you and is self-supporting.

Within you is a dream, and the way to achieve that dream is by breaking the cycle. You must take the initial steps to change, the steps when the reward seems so distant you fear you will never get there. Good things take effort. If they didn't, everyone would have them.

Pay off your bills so you aren't trapped by debt. Then think about the life you need to be living to attract the right man. Think about what you always wanted to be, and what it will take to get there. Your dream is worth working for. With patience and courage, it can happen.

Wayne & Tamara

### Perspective

A few weeks ago I was around some young women friends of mine, and they were talking about guys and the particular qualities they should have. One girl said a guy didn't have to be hot, but she had to think he was cute or adorable.

Another girl said she notices the little things most. She said her boyfriend calls her every night just to say goodnight. I was wondering what "little things" girls between 16 and 20 would notice.

Aaron

Aaron, for one girl, a phone call may be "sweet." To another, it might be taken as a check. Since you can't read minds, the safest route is to be yourself.

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

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

### The Author to Her Book

By Anne Bradstreet

Thou ill-form'd offspring of my feeble brain,  
Who after birth didst by my side remain,  
Till snatched from thence by friends, less wise than true,  
Who thee abroad, expos'd to publick view,  
Made thee in raggs, halting to th' press to trudge,  
Where errors were not lessened (all may judge).

At thy return my blushing was not small,  
My rambling brat (in print) should mother call,  
I cast thee by as one unfit for light,  
Thy Visage was so irksome in my sight;  
Yet being mine own, at length affection would  
Thy blemishes amend, if so I could:  
I wash'd thy face, but more defects I saw,  
And rubbing off a spot, still made a flaw.  
I stretched thy joynts to make thee even feet,  
Yet still thou run'st more hobling then is meet;  
In better dress to trim thee was my mind,  
But nought save home-spun Cloth, i' th' house I find.  
In this array 'mongst Vulgars mayst thou roam.  
In Criticks hands, beware thou dost not come;  
And take thy way where yet thou art not known,  
If for thy Father askt, say, thou hadst none:  
And for thy Mother, she alas is poor,  
Which caus'd her thus to send thee out of door.

Source: *The Complete Works of Anne Bradstreet (1981)*. Anne Bradstreet was the first woman to be recognized as an accomplished New World Poet. Her volume of poetry *The Tenth Muse Lately Sprung Up in America ...* received considerable favorable attention when it was first published in London in 1650. Eight years after it appeared it was listed by William London in his *Catalogue of the Most Vendible Books in England*, and George III is reported to have had the volume in his library. Bradstreet's work has endured, and she is still considered to be one of the most important early American poets.

## Quote of the Week

"Always keep your words soft and sweet, just in case you have to eat them."

Andy Rooney

## Ski Report

March 21, 2022

The Hoodoo Ski Area is 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 40 degrees at the base with ESE winds averaging 42 mph. One inch new snow fell overnight, bringing the snowpack to 85 inches. For more information call 541-822-3337.

Mt. Bachelor reported temperatures of 32 degrees at the base and 20 degrees at the summit on Tuesday. No new snow fell overnight, leaving the snowpack at 100 inches. The day was expected to be bright under blue skies along with moderate winds. All 122 trails were open, along with 11 of 15 lifts. For more information call 541-382-7888.

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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

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Center. Please call Sara at (541) 896-3059 for more information. S=JS-2/25/10ruc

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**CROSSWORD**

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- 37. Noble title
- 38. Sandler and Driver
- 39. Not "out of"
- 40. Advice on shampoo bottle
- 42. \*Pollinator of plants
- 43. \_\_\_\_ Cray, a.k.a. the father of supercomputing
- 45. \*Earth Day founder
- 47. Benatar or Boone
- 48. Lacking clarity
- 50. Singer-songwriter Tori
- 52. \*1969 Santa Barbara disaster
- 55. To some degree
- 56. Dig like a pig
- 57. Honoree's spot
- 59. Apartments, e.g.
- 60. Swine and avian diseases
- 61. Primary source for Nordic mythology
- 62. Cash machine
- 63. It's all the rage
- 64. Swallow's house

**DOWN**

- 1. PC "brain"
- 2. Christian fast
- 3. The Hippocratic one
- 4. Group of minstrels, e.g.
- 5. \*Environmentally-friendly
- 6. Draws close
- 7. Spasm of pain
- 8. See him run?
- 9. "The Sound of Music" backdrop
- 10. Yellow #5 in list of ingredients
- 12. Highly-ranked ecclesiasts
- 13. On the move
- 14. Arranged in advance
- 19. Usually the last inning
- 22. Wound fluid
- 23. Delhi dresses
- 24. Absurd
- 25. Like a dryer trap
- 26. \*Cuyahoga River disaster, Clean Water Act precursor
- 27. Omani and Yemeni
- 28. Tarantino in his own movie, e.g.
- 29. Ruhr's industrial center
- 32. \_\_\_\_-friendly
- 33. Mourner's wish
- 36. \*Refuse turned fertilizer
- 38. Consumed (2 words)
- 40. Monotonous routine
- 41. Teenagers' emotions
- 44. A mirage?
- 46. City in Netherlands
- 48. Between violin and cello
- 49. Not silently
- 50. Polly to Tom Sawyer
- 51. Disfigure
- 52. \_\_\_\_ Approach, music education
- 53. Serve soup
- 54. \*Plastic tops of coffee cups
- 55. Sine \_\_\_\_ non
- 58. College entrance exam, acr.

# Key ingredient

Continued From Page 1



Planting sagebrush seedlings from a Shoshone-Paiute Tribe and BLM greenhouse.

ating demand, lack of supply, storage capacity, gaps in coordination among agencies and plant experts, and money.

The Bureau of Land Management alone has purchased more than 54 million pounds of seed in the last 25 years — the equivalent of about 400 loaded train cars. But the agency estimates it needs another 1 billion pounds to restore issues on lands it oversees, Peggy Olwell, plant conservation and restoration program lead for the BLM, wrote in an email to HCN.

When native seeds are available, ecologists must choose from a relatively short list of varieties. Species from desert regions are particularly lacking, said Jill Randall, a wildlife biologist with the Wyoming Game and Fish Department.

And any old seed won't do, even if it belongs to the same species.

Plants develop strategies for local conditions, including water shortages — "even the frequency and length of droughts specific to their area," Olwell said. "Using the wrong seed could mean the plants don't survive."

In 1987, for example, researchers planted Wyoming big sagebrush seeds from 13 geographic locations in southern Idaho. More than 20 years later, about 95% of the plants from local seeds had survived and only about 35% of the plants from other populations

still lived.

Plenty of private companies sell native seeds and plants, but they can't keep large quantities of every variety of native seed on hand, said Alex Tonnesen, co-owner of Western Native Seed in Coaldale, Colorado. "Being in the seed business is not to keep seed forever," he said. He tried that years ago and found himself with an oversupply of seed and no demand for it. Now he and his wife sell mostly to homeowners and smaller projects.

So how could agencies address the problem? First, the federal government could plan restoration projects ahead of time, use what is needed, and stockpile the extra seed in properly air-conditioned warehouses, said Susan P. Harrison, an environmental science professor at the University of California Davis, who chaired the study. Right now, agencies generally wait to buy seeds until after an emergency. Every region has its most common plants. Agencies could guarantee they'll buy a certain amount of seed for a predetermined price, especially since they can count on emergencies happening with increasing frequency.

"Restoration too often is treated as the last step in some other process," she said. "We want it to be treated as more of an end in itself."

She'd also like to see BLM create even stronger policies supporting native seed use. Reseeding with nonnative seeds drives down demand for native species and contributes to the ongoing biodiversity crisis.

Second, the native seed industry needs more technical support, like the support the USDA's Agricultural Research Service provides to farmers.

"There's a lot of species out there, and every single one, you have to figure out how to grow it, how to make it germinate," Harrison said. "You have hundreds of growers out there, each having to solve that problem individually."

Finally, agencies could build more seed warehouses and boost staffing at existing ones. Hundreds and even thousands of miles in a hot truck can be lethal to seeds. The report also highlighted the role tribal nations could play by expanding current nursery systems and taking on a bigger role in restoration.

Ultimately, however, Harrison said, the solutions begin with treating the native seed shortage with the seriousness it deserves.

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**ACROSS**

- 1. Blood-related problem
- 5. Econ. measure
- 8. Blue
- 11. A perch for Christmas partridge?
- 12. Domain
- 13. Fill college entrance form
- 15. Archaic preposition
- 16. Chili seed
- 17. Ski run

- 18. \*Swedish environmental activist
- 20. Makes lace
- 21. Pi meson, pl.
- 22. Digital map marker
- 23. \*Rachel Carson's "\_\_\_\_ Spring"
- 26. Heater
- 30. "Wheel of Fortune" vowel request
- 31. Trouble, in Yiddish
- 34. Epochs
- 35. Type of single-story house

Solution on Page 6

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# Library is recovering

Continued From Page 1



The entry area of the O'Brien Memorial Library will be located on the corner of Blue River Drive and Dexter Street.

said. There will also be items and signage to invite visitors to explore the history, art, and natural world of the McKenzie River Valley. "People are invited to connect with the library board to share their thoughts and ideas for this

special place, to help the library be a place where the community comes to connect, share and create the vision for our future," Sherman says. "Please contact us with your ideas and support us at obrienlibrary.org or email us at obrienmemoriallibrary@gmail.com."

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# Lawn alternatives

Continued From Page 5



has five projects going featuring ecolawns. "People don't want to pay for an irrigation system. They want to stop their chemical inputs but still want their lawn to look nice. Ecolawn saves money, saves maintenance, and is a place for dogs to go the bathroom. It fixes nitrogen and takes much less water. It's pretty self-sustaining."

## Great groundcovers

At Little Prince of Oregon, a wholesale grower with a retail website ([www.littleprincetoplants.com](http://www.littleprincetoplants.com)), groundcovers that serve as lawns have been gaining in popularity for the last 20 years. Sales are in the 20-30% range of inventory, according to Mark Leichty, director of business development. Leichty said Little Prince sells thousands of blue star creeper (*Isotoma fluviatillis*), Scotch (*Sagina subulata* 'Aurea') and Irish moss (*S. subulata*), and Vinca minor.

Other popular spreaders include elfin thyme (*Thymus serpyllum*), which Leichty describes as a beautiful and somewhat drought-tolerant plant. However, unlike lawn, which has a root system that doesn't die when it goes dormant in summer, elfin thyme needs some water, or it will look bad and may die out.

Grace Dinsdale, owner of Blooming Junction retail nursery and wholesale grower Blooming Nursery in Cornelius, Oregon, hasn't noticed the uptick that Little Prince has, but said she saw a surge in demand after a newspaper article last summer. Even though demand has fallen off, she's on board. At home, Dinsdale planted a 500-by-14-foot checkerboard pattern in a variety of groundcovers. Conditions are all over the map — light shade, dark shade, hot morning sun, hot afternoon sun, and some areas that need to be driven on.

"It looks green," she said. "It looks fantastic, even though it doesn't look like I expected. I've moved stuff around. White creeping thyme was too slow. On the other hand, Pratia 'Celestial Spice' does better and better. It moves around and has delightful little blue flowers. It takes traffic, is drought tolerant, and will grow in shade."

As her planting fills in, it's more mottled than checkerboard, and she loves it. Some plants worked, others didn't. Dinsdale recommends that people try an assortment of spreaders on their site before planting the whole lawn to groundcovers. It can get expensive and discouraging.

Leptinella perpusilla, one ground-cover that's proven particularly successful, had been retired by Dinsdale until she saw how well it did in her installation. It takes more traffic than the more popular thymes. Exceptions include lemon (*T. x citriodorus*) and lime thyme (*T. x citriodorus* 'Lime') and 'Bressingham' thyme. Woolly thyme (*T. pseudolanuginosus*), on the other hand, was not as successful. It tends to get overgrown in moist

seasons, gets moldy underneath, collapses, and dies.

One of the toughest, Achillea 'Brass Buttons', can even be driven on, though not every day. Other resilient plants include Cotula 'Tiffendell Gold', an excellent, flat ground cover with showy yellow flowers that wave in the air. This Cotula even grows in fairly deep shade. Dinsdale said she knows someone who put it in their yard eight or nine years ago. They mow it once a year after it blooms and give it no water.

But no matter what groundcover they buy, customers need to realize new installations of lawn alternatives will need to be watered the first two years until established, Dinsdale pointed out. They also must be weeded until they fill in, which can take several years depending on the plant.

Inventory to meet demand Whitworth of Plan-It Earth Design gives high marks to native drooping sedge (*Carex pendula*), foothill sedge (*C. tumulicola*) and a floppy fescue she gets from Pro-Time that she describes as nice and soft and mounded. She adds *C. nigra* and dwarf mondo grass (*Ophiopogon japonicus*) to her list of go-to lawn alternatives. For smaller areas, she recommends dwarf Acorus, (*A. gramineus* 'Minimus Aureus'), a tiny plant that's not a big spreader but makes a nice, solid mat and needs only occasional irrigation.

Also on Whitworth's list of lawn alternatives is autumn moor grass (*Sesleria autumnalis*), an evergreen, shortish ground cover for the sun. You wouldn't say it looks like a lawn, she said, but it makes a nice, green swatch. For a truly no-mow choice in sun, red creeping thyme (*T. praecox* 'Coccineus') is a no-brainer. For the coolest low spreaders for shade, she recommends the alpine water fern (*Blechnum penna-marina*), a short, flat fern, and the evergreen maidenhair fern, a beautiful native. Both need water only very occasionally.

Even with all the attention on lawn alternatives, Dinsdale hopes for more. She keeps a deep inventory of groundcovers because she'd like to see the trend grow.

"There's not as much demand as I think there should be," Dinsdale said. "Most people need more information, and we need to make the right material. It will take more installations to get people on board. It takes some work to figure out what's best. It's like electric cars — slow to catch on at first but then they take off."

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# \$200 million for housing

Continued From Page 1



Julia Shumway/OCC

Neon posters across from the Oregon Capitol seek to remind legislators that homelessness kills.

lion total in the two bills would be split between the current budget, which ends June 30, and the new two-year budget that begins July 1. Lawmakers are likely to allocate more money toward housing and homelessness when they introduce a full budget for the next two years later this spring.

Lawmakers also may continue tweaking some policies, including changes to the state's land use system. Kotek has set a goal of building 36,000 new homes per year and last week convened a council that is expected to produce a plan for how to meet that goal by April 1.

Along with providing more money, the bills would extend eviction notice periods for missing rent from three days to 10 days, giving renters more time to catch up on late rent. They also would require Oregon Housing and Community Services to give each city with more than 10,000 residents an annual target for building new subsidized and market-rate homes. The state would help cities meet the state's goals and could punish recalcitrant cities by forcing them to forfeit grants or other state funding.

That aspect caused some Republicans, including Rep. Ed Diehl, R-Stayton, to vote against the measures. Diehl said cities should be able to make their own decisions about where and how to grow.

"It basically says to cities, you're going to grow and you're going to do it our way," Diehl said.

Republican Reps. Shelly Boshart Davis of Albany, Jami Cate of Lebanon, Christine Goodwin of Canyonville, Emily McIntire of Eagle Point, Lily Morgan of Grants Pass, Virgle Osborne of Roseburg, E. Werner Reschke of Klamath Falls and Brian Stout of Columbia City joined Diehl in voting against both bills. Rep. Rick Lewis, R-Silverton, voted against the funding in HB 5019 but for the policy changes in HB 2001.

Reschke said it wasn't prudent to spend hundreds of millions of dollars early in the legislative session in an uncertain economy. He also opposes the state's focus on getting people into housing before focusing on mental health or addiction issues that can contribute to homelessness.

"When a person is given a home with no responsibility or accountability, all we have done is move the problem indoors," Reschke said.

Rep. Emerson Levy, D-Bend, recounted that a former mayor of Bend, Craig Coyner, recently died homeless. He was a city leader and the great-grandson of another mayor, a prosecutor and defense attorney respected in the Deschutes County courthouse. But after his wife died and he lost his house to foreclosure, he ended up on the streets, battling alcoholism and the elements before he died on Valentine's Day, frostbitten and barely able to move after a stroke.

"It's a reminder that we are all human, subject to the difficulties that may find us," Levy said.

A death sentence  
Across the street from the Capitol, 73-year-old Jean Hendron waits to talk to anyone who will listen about the human toll of homelessness. Hendron, a retired Washington state employee, has spent the past three years working with homeless people in Salem, handing out food, taking them to hospitals and doing what she can to connect them with the meager resources available.

This week, Hendron bundled up for the crisp March air and set up a tent, camp chair and set of posters with the equation "people minus housing equals death" facing the Capitol steps. Anyone entering or leaving the building can see her, and anyone who stops to talk to her hears about her reason for being there: a 38-year-old paraplegic man sleeping in Salem's Wallace Marine Park.

Hendron brings him meals and has brought him to hospitals several times to treat a wound on his buttocks, but the wound keeps getting worse because he returns to a cot in a public park and can't prevent infection. He doesn't want to keep returning to the hospital only to be patched up and kicked back on the street, Hendron said, so now she's outside the Capitol trying to get someone with power to pay attention.

So far, a couple lawmakers or aides have stopped, and Hendron expects to have a longer conversation with Rep. Mark Gamba, D-Milwaukie, sometime soon, she said Wednesday. She has many stories to share with them of people who didn't find help because of physical or mental disabilities and died on the streets.

"I'm just standing at the edge of the river, grabbing people by the hand and throwing them out on shore and praying to God that they stay there and stay safe," she said. "I'm exhausted."

'A few bites'

Most lawmakers who voted for the bills acknowledged that they wouldn't be enough to solve the homeless crisis, but they were optimistic about the ways they could help people around the state.

Rep. Jeff Helfrich, R-Hood River and the vice chair of the housing committee, said a \$5 million appropriation to help farms improve housing conditions for farm workers is especially important for his district in the Columbia River Gorge. Fruit growers in his district employ nearly 10,000 people during peak seasons, and more than half live in farm housing.

Rep. Pam Marsh, D-Ashland, noted that many families in her district are still living in emergency trailers after they lost their homes to the Labor Day fires in 2020. She's most excited about a \$20 million appropriation to develop modular housing, which she described as the only strategy that would help the state do better in the next crisis.

Marsh, who owns several rental properties, said a provision of the bill extending eviction notices from 3 days to 10 days makes sense for both renters and landlords.

"Sometimes it takes a few extra days for a cash-strapped tenant to come up with the rent," she said. "And frankly, no landlord wants to evict a tenant who is doing their best."

Rep. Andrea Valderrama, D-Portland, described how her community in northeast Portland was ripped apart when everyone in her apartment complex received notices of 25% rent increases. Valderrama and others who could afford to move did – she ended up living 30 minutes away – and others struggled to continue paying the increased rent.

A 2019 law prohibits landlords from raising rent by more than 7% plus inflation, although buildings newer than 15 years aren't subject to the law. Families can still be evicted for falling behind on rent, and Valderrama said giving them more time to find rent assistance would help prevent people from being displaced.

"Children deserve to stay in schools," she said. "Families deserve to stay in communities."

Rep. Kevin Mannix, R-Salem, said the Legislature still has much more to do to address the affordable housing issue, but that the legislation was a start.

"Sometimes it takes a few bites at the sandwich to finish the sandwich," he said. "So we'll take a few bites today and move forward."

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# A busy morning



Keri Best

Last Tuesday morning kept first responders busy as calls came in reporting traffic mishaps on the lower sections of the McKenzie Highway. Crews from McKenzie Fire & Rescue were first called out to the Partridge Lane junction at 7:16 a.m. for a non-blocking traffic accident. About 15 minutes later, they were alerted to respond to another incident in the 44000 block of the highway. A more serious crash occurred at 7:32 when an accident at Milepost 14 sent one individual to the hospital.

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