

## McKenzie River Reflections



THURSDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2022

Volume 45, Issue 17



Serving the McKenzie River Valley ... And Subscriber Stacey Atkins of Springfield

#### **Sheriff's Reports**

A caller advised discovering a camera in a changing room at a wedding venue.

PAGE 3

#### Worthy trees for small gardens

Decide where you want a tree first and then find one that fits the site.

PAGE 5



## Dam removal recommended

#### Existing bridge would not be replaced

EUGENE: In a report sure to dominate the Eugene Water & Electric Board's December 6th meeting, the utility's general manager is calling for a move that would permanently discontinue electricity generation at the Leaburg Hydroelectric Project. While both the Leaburg and Walterville projects are included in the current Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) operating license, Frank Lawson limited his comments to Leaburg and noted that if economic conditions change in the future, EWEB might rexamine that decision.

By taking out Leaburg Dam, the McKenzie River would return to an unobstructed flow in that stretch. Along with that change, "management is not recommending EWEB construct a new bridge to replace the dam's cross-river transport," Lawson wrote, "but rather utilization of the Goodpasture Bridge and road improvements."

Building a new road between Leashore Drive and Leaburg Dam Road could pose considerable challenges based on a 1984 study by Lane County Public Works. At that time, the Board of Commissioners was looking at five options to reduce log truck traffic loads on the covered bridge. They rejected building a connector route after engineers reported the terrain in that area too challenging.

Eliminating power production at Leaburg wouldn't affect the utility's ongoing operations since the facility hasn't been operating since 2018. That's when levee seepage and seismic vulnerabilities caused a shutdown until they were addressed. In the interim, EWEB has bought replacement power from the Bonneville Power Administration and could petion the BPA for a llong term agreement.

"Eliminating the human-made Leaburg Lake behind the dam will have a positive impact on water quality, fish and wildlife," according to Lawson. "Lakeside recreation facilities will shift to riverside recreation facilities," he noted, and "lakeside residences will become riverside residences."

The report goes on to point out that EWEB's mission is "to enhance our community's vitality by delivering drinking water and electric services consistent with the values of our customer-owners." The utility says its "two primary services are 'vital' to the health and welfare of our community, and that our methods are important to our customer-owners. Examining how

Dam removal - Page 2



Eleven initial alternatives for the future of the Leaburg Hydroelectric Plant were winnowed down to four. Now Alternative 4 has been given the nod by EWEB's general manager.

## Treasures in the forest

### Christmas ornaments will reward the sharp-eyed

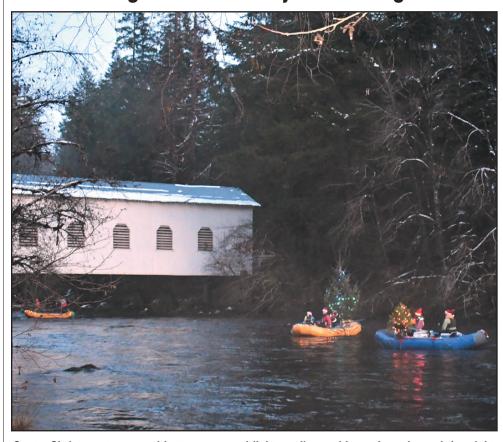
Some lucky hikers could come home with a new decoration for their Christmas trees this year. Ornaments have been placed on the Tamolitch Falls (Blue Pool) Trail #3507, Waterfalls Loop Trail #3503, and the King-Castle Trail #4326 in the McKenzie Ranger District. People should take only take one ornament per household so other families can enjoy the same thrill. Every ornament on a given trail features the same design. When people find one, they can register to win the grand prize - and put the ornament on a tree in their home. For more information, go to: tinyurl.com/39nc5nn9.



Ornaments have been placed on three nonwilderness trails in the McKenzie Ranger District

## Brightening the night

A night of community at the bridge



Santa, Christmas trees, and battery-powered lights - all on rubber rafts - cheered the night just before dusk last Saturday in Rainbow. The flotilla of river guides from Horse Creek Lodge passed under the Belknap Covered Bridge in coordination with the annual holiday lighting of the structure.

## Firehouse rebuild on track

#### \$1.1 million Blue River Fire Station

BLUE RIVER: If all goes well there will be a community celebration for a new Blue River fire station next year.

When recovery became the focus of the Upper McKenzie Rural Fire Protection District, it became clear the vacated alley on Echo Street where the old station stood wasn't buildable under current standards. A search began for a feasible location to replace a building that was destroyed when the Holiday Farm Fire swept through

the town

When long-time volunteers Vern and Renee Langan moved out of the area after the fire they sold their double lot parcel to the district. The site, located between Dexter and McKenzie Street, offers good emergency response access both to the town and the highway. Officials say it is also large enough for the station and parking.

Funding for the new facility includes a \$2.1 million dollar state grant, received in October of 2021.

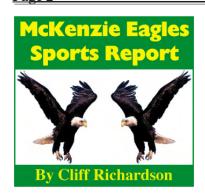
Other funds include an additional \$150,000 from Lane County and an insurance reimbursement of \$150,000. The funds cover replacing fire engines and a truck, equipment, and land as well as the design and \$1.1 million in construction costs.

A building committee was appointed consisting of Samantha Winningham, Melanie Brite, Norm Michaels, Chief Plews, and Mike Godfrey. This January, Pivot Architecture was Firehouse rebuild - Page 2



A rendering of what the UMRFPD's new Patricia "Pat" Stanley Memorial Fire Station will look like when it is rebuilt near where the Forest Glen Restaurant was located.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2022 Page 2 McKenzie River Reflections



#### **McKenzie Varsity Sports Schedule This Week**

The McKenzie Varsity Basketball teams travel to North Lake High School, Friday, December 9, to participate in the 2022 North Lake Holiday Tournament. The Eagle Varsity Girls tip-off versus North Lake on Friday at 5:00 pm and the Varsity Boys follow with North Lake at 6:30 pm. Both teams will conclude Tournament play Saturday versus either Gilchrist or Yoncalla.

McKenzie will host Mapleton on Monday, December 12, with either the Girls starting at 5:30 pm and the Boys starting at 7:00 pm.

#### **Eagle Boys Drop** 2022 Hoops Opener Yoncalla 60, McKenzie 32

The McKenzie Varsity Boys Basketball team dropped its first game of the 2022 season, at home last Saturday, December

6, to Yoncalla. The home Eagles, under First year Head Coach Neil Barrett, lost 60-32 to the visiting Yoncalla Eagles out of the Skyline

McKenzie junior Solomon Acevedo led his Eagle team with 9 points, 4 rebounds and 3 steals. Junior teammate Thomas Hayes added 7 points, 5 rebounds and had 3 steals of his own. Griffen Withalm, another Eagle junior, tossed in 5 points, stole the ball 4 times, had a rebound and 2 assists. Sophomore Jamie LeClair finished with 4 points, 2 boards and an assist and senior Trent Peek scored 3 points and grabbed a couple of rebounds. Freshman Allen Acevedo scored 2 points, added a rebound, 2 assists and 2 steals and fellow freshman Will Meister finished with 1 point, a rebound and 2 steals.

McKenzie as a team committed 23 turnovers, made 1-11 3 point shot attempts and finished the game with an 18% field goal

The McKenzie Varsity Girls, coached by Head Coach Jack Devereaux, also dropped their opener to Yoncalla, 42-7, and there were no stats available at press time.

## Forest Service necruiting new advisory committee

Nominations are being accepted through mid January for members to a Federal Advisory Committee for national forests in the Northwest Forest Plan area of Northern California, Oregon, and Washing-

The Northwest Forest Plan amended forest management for 19 national forests administered by the U.S. Forest Service, covering 19.4 million acres in Washington, Oregon, and Northern California, along with seven Bureau of Management (BLM) districts covering 2.7 million acres in Western Oregon and Northern California. Since 1994, the Northwest Forest Plan has remained essentially unchanged with respect to the 19 national forests.

The plan was adopted after several years of litigation over the effects of timber harvesting on native wildlife. It divides federal lands into several different management categories and provides management direction for each category through a set of Standards and Guidelines. In addition to Congressionally reserved areas and administratively withdrawn lands, the plan's main management categories are:

\* Late successional reserves managed late successional areas (7.5 million acres) - large blocks of forest land managed to protect and restore \* Riparian reserves (2.6 million acres located in matrix) - wide bands of forest along rivers, streams, and landslide prone areas managed to protect water quality, fish habitat, and

\* Adaptive management areas (1.5 million acres) - 10 areas around the region with specific local direction in which more management flexibility is provided to encourage testing of innovative approaches to forest manage-

\* Matrix (4 million acres) – all remaining federal forest lands, where commercial logging is generally permitted.

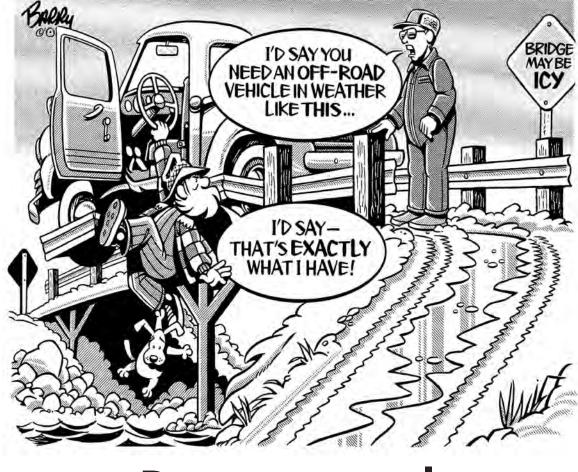
The plan also established a fourpart Aquatic Conservation Strategy, consisting of riparian reserves (see above), a large network of key watersheds, watershed analysis requirements, and watershed restoration. Restoration work was to focus on reducing erosion from old logging roads and restoring riparian vegetation and in-stream habitat complexity based on a scientific assessment of needs and

the world's first ecosystem management plan, and while many elements have withstood the test of time, a warming climate compels a science-based update so it can achieve its conservation objectives," said Susan Jane Brown, senior attorney for the Western Environmental Law Center. "WELC and our partners have relied on the Northwest Forest Plan

aquatic ecosystems.

risks to aquatic function.

"The Northwest Forest Plan was since its inception to deliver clean



## Dam removal

**Continued From Page 1** 

the Leaburg Hydroelectric Project supports delivering drinking water and electric services is a logical starting point."

Before developing its recommendations, the utility conducted a series of customer surveys and public outreach activities. Officials reported three decades of surveys, showed the top three customer priorities (ranking above environmental and social preferences) were water quality, reliability of delivery, and cost.

drinking water to communities, provide recreational opportunities for the region, and to ensure the viability of iconic wildlife. Today, we need a contemporary plan that is adapted to rapidly changing environmental conditions driven by climate change. An updated plan should reflect the Biden administration's priorities: protecting mature and old-growth forests, preserving biodiversity, and restoring forests for wildfire resilience. We

look forward to the opportunity to

ensure those outcomes." The Forest Service's announcement calls for nominations for a 20-member federal advisory committee that will provide formal recommendations to the agency regarding updating the Northwest Forest Plan. Nine members will represent the scientific community, seven members will represent nongovernmental organizations, and four members will represent governmental and public at-large interests. Applications must be received by the Forest Service by January 17th, 2023. Appointments to the advisory committee will be made by the Secretary of Agriculture. Information on the application process is available at the announcement link. tinyurl. com/t2vkfk4u.

In EWEB's 2022 residential customer survey, reliability, and affordability were evenly matched but controlling costs was the top priority for customers.

If EWEB decided to continue generating electricity at Leaburg, FERC would require at least a 54-year commitment, with a likely extension to 94 years upon relicensing in 2076, Lawson noted. "On the other hand, setting the direction towards decommissioning electricity generation likely requires dam removal, but provides for future choices and flexibility associated with canal restoration scope and timing (return to pre-project conditions or canal use as storm water conveyance).

If EWEB decided to partially restore the canal for storm water conveyance or electricity generation, portions of it could be returned to pre-project conditions, while the remainder of the canal would convey water.

### Firehouse rebuild

**Continued From Page 1** 

selected to design the new station.

"Design began with great visions of the station we would be building in the heart of the new Blue River," according to Godfrey. "The building committee spent time visiting other small rural fire stations and formed ideas of what they wanted: three engine bays, a large training room, laundry, storage, .... 3,200 square in total. Then the reality of building costs set in. Since we applied for the State grant, building costs had increased more than 40%!"

Over last May and June, the

committee worked with the architect to reduce costs. "By August, an agreement had been reached on a design that had been reduced to 2,200 square feet. It includes two engine bays, an office, a training room, a turn-out changing room, and bathrooms.

A nearly complete final design was reviewed by the team in November. Bids will be sought over the next several months using standard state procurement rules, "and we hope to hold a community celebration in our new station at the end of 2023," Godfrey said.





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Publisher - Ken Engelman To subscribe go to: tinyurl.com/2vf5caa6

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#### Friday 12/9 **Sunday 12/11** Saturday 12/10 McKenzie Valley Santiam Pass McKenzie Valley **Santiam Pass** McKenzie Valley **Santiam Pass** Showers **Snow Showers** Showers **Snow Showers** Showers **Snow Showers** 60% chance precip 60% chance precip 60% chance precip 60% chance precip 60% chance precin High: 29 Low: 23 High: 44 Low: 36 High: 43 Low: 35 High: 30 Low: 21 High: 43 Low: 34 High: 39 Low: 21

#### REPORT WEATHER READINGS TAKEN AT READINGS TAKEN AT THE **US ARMY CORPS COUGAR DAM EWEB LEABURG POWERHOUSE** <u>Date</u> Low <u>Rain Releases</u> <u>Date High Low</u> Rain Riverflow 11/29 35 32 0.44 417 cfs 11/29 35 3,000 cfs 45 0.12 11/30 46 34 1.79 427 cfs 11/30 50 36 0.67 2.920 cfs 36 28 12/1 0.25 NA 12/1 44 33 0.66 4,240 cfs 12/2 27 455 cfs 35 0 12/2 0.10 3,550 cfs 12/3 38 32 0.35 444 cfs 12/3 45 32 0.10 3.150 cfs 34 440 cfs 12/4 31 0.12 12/4 54 32 0.07 2,930 cfs 12/5 438 cfs 43 0.05 2,740 cfs

88000 blk, Ross

Ln Medical, General. Patient

Nov. 30: 11:12: 87000 blk,

16:44: 89000 blk. Greenwood

18:40: McK. Hwy./Thurston

Dec. 1: 17:53: Rippling Way/

20:17: McK. Hwy./Upland St.

22:28: 44000 blk, McK.

Dec. 2: 0:09: 88000 blk, Twin

Continued On Page 9

Upper McKenzie

Fire/Rescue

**Dec. 1: 11:49:** Motor Vehicle

**19:22:** Medical – 54000 block,

McK. Hwy. Female, Conscious,

**Dec. 4: 13:01:** Medical –

Dec. 5: 15:29: Medical -

58000 blk, McK. Hwy. Female,

55000 blk, McK. Hwy. Female,

Accident, Injury - 1 vehicle

rollover, not blocking.

Conscious, Breathing.

Breathing.

Hwy. Medical, General. Patient

Greenwood Dr. Legal Burn Pile.

Motor Vehicle Accident. Non-

Cedar Flat Rd. Medical, General.

Patient Assessed, 1 Transported.

Dr Medical, Cardiac. Patient

19:45:

Refusal.

Refusal.

Rd. Mistaken Alarm.

Injury/Non-Blocking.

Assessed, 1 Transported.

## Sheriff's Report

Nov. 29: 8:01 a.m: Reckless Driving - McK. Hwy. & Ross Ln. 9:00a.m: Suspicious Conditions - 35400 blk, Camp Creek Rd. A caller advised discovering a camera in a changing room at a wedding venue.

**12:08 p.m:** Burglary - 33400 blk, McK. View Dr. A caller reported that their barn was broken into. Unknown if property was stolen.

12:34 p.m: Stranded Vehicle - Scott Lake Rd. & Old McK. Hwy. A caller reported that their parents had not returned from searching for a Christmas tree. Sheriff's Search and Rescue personnel located the involved and learned that their vehicle had been become stuck.

**5:09 p.m:** Assist, Follow Up - 54700 blk, McK. Hwy.

**5:17 p.m:** Disturbance, Dispute - 88700 blk, Easy Ln. Dispute between neighbors. No crime articulated.

Nov. 30: 12:24 a.m: Suspicious

2022 June 23 Vol. 44, Issue 45

2022 May 12 Vol. 44, Issue 39

2022 March 3

McKenzie

River Reflections

**Explore a treasure trove of McKenzie River history -**

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

2022 June 2 Vol. 44, Issue 42

2022 June 9 Vol. 44, Issue 43 Conditions - 33600 blk, McK. View Dr. A caller heard a large crash and found an open door. Deputies responded and were able to determine that the wind had blown open an unlatched door.

**Dec. 1: 9:32 a.m:** Incomplete 911 Call - 88700 blk, Skyhigh Dr.

**1:15 p.m:** Fraud - 49900 blk, McK. Hwy. A caller reported having their signature forged by a real estate agent.

**2:09 p.m:** Assist, Follow Up - Marcola Rd. & Camp Creek Rd.

**2:38 p.m:** Burglary - 49800 blk, McK. Hwy. A caller reported a civil issue regarding the storage of property.

**3:28 p.m:** Traffic Hazard - Thurston Rd. & McK. Hwy.

**Dec. 2: 5:25 a.m:** Motor Vehicle Accident, No Injury - Camp Creek Rd. & Marcola Rd.

**12:11 p.m:** Illegal Dump - McGowan Creek.

**12:47 p.m:** Citizen Contact - 87000 blk, Cedar Flat Rd.

7:10 p.m: Civil Service - 37100 blk, Parsons Creek Rd.

**7:50 p.m:** Assist Oregon State Police - McK. Hwy. & Thurston

8:19 p.m: Injured Animal -

\$1.00

2022 July 7

\$1.00

2022 May 19 Vol. 44, Issue 40

7. 8

Add to cart

2022 February 2 Vol. 44, Issue 28

M 3

92100 blk, Marcola Rd.

10:03 p.m: Menacing - 39400 blk, Mohawk Loop Rd. Caller reported their landlord pulled a gun on them.

**Dec. 3: 9:54 a.m:** Alarm - 45100 blk, McK. Hwy.

**10:39 a.m:** Missing Person - 40300 blk, Tonga Ln.

**11:10 a.m:** Criminal Trespass - 35800 blk, Camp Creek Rd.

11:13 a.m: Harassment - 47800 blk, McK. Hwy. Caller reported harassment from former tenant.

**1:16 p.m:** Citizen Contact - 88000 blk, Running Spring Dr.

**1:37 p.m:** Foot Patrol - McGowan overlook.

**2:01 p.m:** Alarm - 39100 blk, Camp Creek Rd.

**4:14 p.m:** Vehicle Stop McGowan Creek mp 1.5.

**5:45 p.m:** Assist, Follow Up - 45600 blk, n gate Creek Rd. **7:22 p.m:** Civil Service - 48100

blk, McK. Hwy.

9:45 p.m: Vehicle Stop -

McGowan Creek Milepost 2. **Dec. 4: 12:54 p.m:** Illegal

Dump - Lat: 44.155162. Long: -

122.956914.

**1:03 p.m:** Illegal Dump - Lat: 44.155165. Long: -122.961900.

1:43 p.m: Criminal Mischief -

39400 blk, Mohawk Loop Rd. **2:06 p.m:** Civil Service - 44300 blk, McK. Hwy.

**2:32 p.m:** Civil Service - 48100 blk, McK. Hwy.

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**3:51 p.m:** Stranded Vehicle - lat: 44.2137 long: -122.2782.

Up - 9200 blk, Camp Creek Rd. **2:53 p.m:** Civil Service - 44300

Dec. 5: 1:50 p.m: Assist, Follow

blk, McK. Hwy. **3:47 p.m:** Assist Fire Dept. -

58500 blk, McK. Hwy.
4:06 p.m: Harassment - Scott

Creek Rd. 5:42 p.m: Assist Outside

Agency – McK. Bridge area. **6:59 p.m:** Attempt To Locate Drunk Driver - Millican Rd. &

**21:43 p.m:** Criminal Mischief - 39400 blk, Mohawk Loop Rd.

McK. Hwy.

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

## McKenzie Fire & Rescue

**Nov. 28: 4:42:** 38000 block, Camp Creek Rd. Medical, Trauma. Patient Assessed, 1 Transported.

**18:02:**37000 blk, Camp Creek Rd. Medical, General. Patient Assessed, 1 Transported.

**21:37:** 87000 blk, Cedar Flat Rd. Public Assist. Lift Assist Only.

**Nov. 29: 1:03:** 45000 blk, McK. Hwy. Medical, General. Patient Assessed, Refusal Signed.

**13:49:** 87000 blk, Cedar Flat Rd. Medical, General. Patient Assessed, 1 Transported.

**19:42:** 37000 blk, Camp Creek Rd. Medical, General. Patient Refusal.



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Conscious, Breathing.

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







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By Slim Randles

"No, Doc," Windy said, "don't hurt or nothin' like that, but you know, with all the plagues goin' on right now, figgered it's better to be safe than ... '

"Sorry?"

"I ain't never sorry I come to see ya, Doc. You know that. Fell to sleep t'other night when all them ad shows is on ... you know. Like how to cut yer boots with a knife and feel younger by wearin' a new shirt ... that stuff."

Doc nodded. Windy Wilson was one of his closest pals, as well as being a patient. The adventures of this old cowboy camp cook and mule packer were usually good for a laugh, anyway. But ol' Windy really seemed upset this morning.

"Windy," Doc said, kindly. "I'm thinking this is a sorta personal problem? I deal with personal problems all the time, so why not just tell me about it?"

"Thass what's so strange, Doc. I only catched a part of it when I was a-dozin' off, ya know? But I told myself ... Self, I better go talk to Doc, 'cuz that jest might be whass been holdin' me back on startin' some colts."

"Starting some colts? What's keeping you from starting some colts is you're old enough to know better! So what's this problem that the teevee said is keeping you out of the saddle?"

Windy looked up shamefaced. "They called it a deviated rectum."

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#### **Quote of the Week**

"The secret of life is honesty and fair dealing. If you can fake that, you've got it made."

Groucho Marx

## Emergency? Call 911

\$31/yr

tinyurl.com/

2vf5caa6

rivref2@gmail.com

59059 Old McK. Hwy McKenzie Bridge, OR 97413

### **McKenzie River Crossings**

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

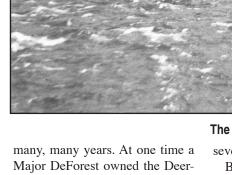
About 1925 a steel bridge was built about 100 yards below the old ferry crossing. When it was finished and the old covered bridge was to be removed, the school was dismissed at Walterville. The teacher and students all walked down to the river and stood on the new bridge and watched while the county road crews dynamited the covered bridge to smithereens. The covered bridge at "The Narrows" had to be removed the same

In 1963 the present concrete bridge was built just downstream from the steel bridge, which then was dismantled and removed. About two years later one span of it was rebuilt at Deerhorn Point to replace the flood-damaged wooden bridge there.

Mathias Emmerich operated a ferry at his south bank ranch from shortly after 1900 until somewhere around 1937. The settlers on the south bank in this area had established the Rocky Point School just west of the Emmerich place, where the road now turns up the hill to the homes on Tiki Lane in Shangri-la. It was not a part of the county school system so the county was not receiving any tax money from all the timber and land along the south side of the river in this area. They persuaded the settlers to abandon their Rocky Point School and send the children across the river to the Deerhorn School thereby bringing in more tax revenue to that district.

Part of the agreement was that the county would build a footbridge so the children could cross the river to reach Deerhorn School. Some had already been crossing in a rowboat to reach the school. The footbridge was built at the high rocky bluff just above the Emmerich ferry crossing about 1930 or 1931. It was in use up until about 1950. The Emmerich crossing was at the end of Partridge Lane, which is about a mile or so east of Walterville.

A ferry also operated across the river at Deerhorn Point for



David Stephens and his son, horses to back the wagon off the ferry, it went under, and sank in



several feet of water.

Barney Oldfield later owned the Deerhorn Ranch and operated the ferry there. I believe it was abandoned in the late 1930s also.

Many times at extremely low water time there would not be enough current to push or propel the ferries from one bank to the other. At such times the operator would have to resort to pushing the ferryboat across the river as you would a raft. This happened to Barney Oldfield and he had an embarrassing experience. The water was low and he was forced to pole the ferry across. His team became tired of waiting for him to reach the other bank. Since Barney had not bothered to raise the tailgates on the ferry - the horses decided to "take matters into their own hands," they just walked off the ferry, taking the wagon with them, and left a bewildered Barney and his "slow ferry to the ranch" sitting out in the river.

Doctor Edblom had a bridge built across the river about 100 vards upstream from the ferry landing at Deerhorn Point in 1963. The flood of 1964 undermined the concrete pier on the south end of the bridge and tilted

it so badly that the bridge had to be abandoned. This was tragedy number one but before it could be dismantled and removed, a young man from down near Alpine used it to commit suicide.

**Leroy Inman Collection** 

About 1965 or 1966 the county rebuilt one span of the steel bridge that had served at Hendricks crossing. About 400 yards or so on upriver from the short-lived wooden bridge at Deerhorn Point. This is the bridge that connects Holden Creek Lane with Bridge Street by the golf course and Deerhorn Park.

The old, but short-lived Deerhorn Post Office and the Sanitarium were located just off the north end of this bridge back in about 1910. Some of the buildings are still standing on the site. The Deerhorn ferry also is reported to have broken loose one time and landed on Coney Island off the mouth of the EWEB Walterville Canal.

"Donkeyville" was the name given to a logging settlement on the south bank across the river from "Jim Town," which was named for Uncle" Jim Kennerly, an early settler at what we now

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

Fill your

horn Ranch which is now the golf course and Deerhorn Park Hous-

Charles, were contracted to haul some lumber to the ranch. The ranch foreman brought the ferry across to the wagon roadside (north bank) to bring them across the river. He said the ferry was leaking a little so he had the best bail out some water before returning across the river with the load. After bailing water out for some time, he signaled the men to drive the wagonload of lumber on the ferry while he finished bailing the water out. After having done so, Charles called attention to the fact that the boat was settling deeper even though the ferryman was still bailing water out of the boat. The man did not believe it at first but after watching for a few minutes agreed and instructed everyone to help get a load of lumber off the ferry. The north bank was quite steep where the ferry landed so the men all heaved ho on the wagon wheels and helped the team of











### Gardening **Tips**

By Kym Pokorny



#### 5 worthy trees for small gardens



The fruit of flowering crabapples is ambrosia to wildlife.

As cities get bigger, gardens get smaller and large trees no longer make the cut.

No worries. The plant world teems with appropriately sized trees. The best place to start a search is in your own backyard. As the saying goes: "Right plant, right place." Decide where you want a tree first and then find one that fits the site, said Chris Rusch. president of the Douglas County chapter of the Oregon State University Extension Service Master Gardener program.

"You can't just go buy a tree and then find a spot for it," she said. "You have to get a tree that's suitable for the site."

Take into account the amount of sun the space gets, the type of soil, and whether it's under power lines or close to a fence, patio, foundation, or structure. Then do some research online, checkbooks or ask someone at a reputable garden center to narrow down a few options that fit the criteria. And don't forget to think about the characteristics you want. Perhaps fall color is No. 1 on your list. Or, a full-fledged display of spring flowers. Colorful, interesting bark or shapely form offers another season of enjoyment. Want it all? There are trees that fit the bill.

Rusch, who is a retired forester. considers trees in the 20- to 30foot range about the right size for a small garden - or a large one where shorter trees come in handy to provide a layer of texture and color in the space between shrubs and larger trees. No matter the size of the garden, small trees hit a height that can hide unsightly neighboring buildings, create a pretty perimeter around the yard, or give you the privacy you crave.

"However you approach it, you can find your perfect tree," Rusch said. "You can have shade in summer, bright foliage in fall, flowers in spring and summer.

Interesting forms and colorful, curious stems. You name it."

To get you started, Rusch unveils some of her favorite small trees:

Japanese maple (Acer palmatum): An impressive range of trees that, depending on the cultivar, grow 10 to 25 feet. Some have burgundy leaves, some have finely cut foliage, and most have exceptional autumn color. Winter reveals colorful red or red-orange branches on many. "Japanese maples are really pretty trees that are nice for Oregon," Rusch said. "Their characteristics are adapted to our climate." Cold hardy to Zone 5 or 6.

Dogwood (Cornus): Rusch is partial to any kind of dogwood, but mentioned especially in Oregon's native Pacific dogwood (Cornus nutalii) and the Japanese species Cornus kousa. Both stretch to about 25 feet or a little more. kousa dogwood to Zone 5.

are gorgeous," Rusch said. "They have beautiful flowers and the fall colors are bright red, really nice."

Whitebeam (Sorbus displays leaves that emerge silver in spring and turn green as the season advances and bright yellow to orange in fall. White flowers in May are followed by clusters of orange-red berries that ripen in in winter. Grows to about 30 feet and is cold hardy to Zone 5.

in full sun. Cold hardy to Zone 4.



Purpleleaf plum is one of the earliest bloomers in spring.

They have attractive white flowers (bracts) in spring that stand out like a beacon against evergreens, put out brilliant green foliage in summer, and exhibit excellent red shades in fall. Depending on the variety, they can be pruned interesting multi-trunk forms or trained into single-trunk trees. They prefer a little shade rather than the open sun. Pacific dogwood is cold hardy to Zone 6;

Flowering crabapple (Malus): An easy-care tree that's covered in bundles of purple or white flowers for up to a month in spring. They top out at 20 feet or shorter. Plant in full sun and be sure to research or ask at the nursery for diseaseresistant varieties. A couple includes yellow-fruiting 'Gold Raindrops.' 'Adirondack' 'Sugar Tyme' and 'Red Jewel.' Wildlife flock to the fall berries. Prune when young for good branch structure and then sparingly to keep them in shape. "Crabapples

'Lutescens'): A stunning tree that fall and provide food for wildlife

Purpleleaf plums (Prunus cerasifera): A very hardy and attractive tree known for its dark purple foliage and clusters of fragrant light pink flowers in early spring. 'Thundercloud' is a particularly popular variety. Grows 15 to 25 feet. Needs a site



#### **SAVE THOSE MEMORIES**

"Nanny, I'm going to fly!" 5year old grandson Alex called to me from the second story fire escape balcony of our home in the woods.

He was standing there with an open umbrella over his head.

"Isn't that a little high?' I asked, trying to stall him.

"Nope," he replied. "The umbrella will help me."

How could I forestall this before he decided to jump?

"Why don't you give it a trial run down on the next deck? I suggested.

Alex pondered this, studying the small deck below. It was about 5 feet off the ground versus the 12 feet or more of the higher one.

"OK," he said. "Maybe I will." Then he clamored down the steps connecting the two decks, opened his umbrella, considered the now reduced height and

The umbrella turned inside out. Alex was unscathed and turned to me with a grin and exclaimed, "I flew, Nanny! That was fun."

iumped.

We managed to get the umbrella back in the correct position and Alex skipped up and down the driveway, with the umbrella over his head...flying seemingly forgotten.

Save the Memories

I came across the notebook recently where I'd written down this incident. I'll have to show it to the now 26-year old Alex. And no, he has no further urge to become a bird ...or a pilot like his grandfather.

Do write down these memories. They are so charming to revisit.

> Memories of Cooking with Children

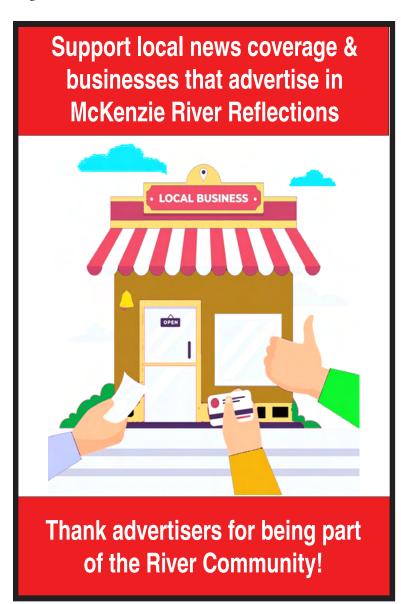
My grandchildren enjoyed cooking with their parents, as well as Nanny and Papa when they were young. One of their funny memories was the time Daddy mistakenly put chili pepper instead of cinnamon in the Snickerdoodles.

SNICKERDOODLES - Mix together 1-1/2 cups sugar, 2 eggs, and 1 cup shortening. Sift together 2-34 cups flour, 2 teaspoons cream of tartar, and ½ teaspoon salt, 1teaspoon baking soda. Add these to the egg mixture and stir well.

Form into walnut-sized balls and roll in mixture of 1-teaspoon cinnamon/2 tablespoons sugar. Place 2 inches apart on ungreased cookie sheet. Bake 8-10 minutes in 400 degree F. oven. Makes 4 to 5 dozen cookies.

(c) Mary Emma Allen

(Mary Emma Allen writes from her home in rural NH.)







541-936-1757 centurytreesinc.com centurytrées@yahoo.com



### **Community Notes**

#### Hoodoo Is Open December 8

The Hoodoo Ski Area opened its 2022-23 season last Saturday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>. Hours are subject to change depending on weather, road conditions, etc.

The December schedule is: Dec. 8-11, 15-18, 25: 9 am to 4

Dec. 21-24, 26-31: 9 am to 9

The regular schedule (starts Jan.

Sunday: 9 am to 4 pm Monday - Tuesday: Closed Wednesday - Saturday: 9 am to

The resort's daily operating schedule is posted at skihoodoo. com/events. The Autobahn Tubing Park is currently closed until further notice.

Hoodoo is still hiring for various positions. Those interested can apply at skihoodoo.com/employment.

#### Through Dec. 31 **Ornament Search**

Ornaments have been placed on three non-wilderness trails in the McKenzie Ranger District. People should take only take one ornament per household so other families can enjoy the same thrill. Every ornament on a given trail features the same design. Eagleeyed hikers and visitors can hit the trail to track down an ornament; once they've found one, they can register to win the grand prize and put the ornament on their tree in their home. Ornaments have been placed on the Tamolitch Falls (Blue Pool) #3507, Waterfalls Loop Trail #3503, and the King-Castle Trail #4326. More details at: tinyurl.com/39nc5nn9.

#### December 9 McKenzie Food Pantry

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

7<sup>th</sup> grader Avrey Thoms

Kenzie Bridge Christian Church from 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. Shop for yourself or have food delivered to car. Questions? - call Robin 541-844-8838.

#### Light up the Valley December 9

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

#### December 10 **Library Grand Opening**

McKenzie Fire Station Community Room and Leaburg Library

The Leaburg Library will celebrate the Grand Opening of the "Angler's Roost" from 2 to 4 p.m. on Saturday, December 10th. The new one-of-a-kind collection featuring over 500 rare, collectible fly-fishing books donated by Tom Ripp, and a smaller collection donated by the estate of Kevin Winter. This collection includes books about fly-fishing, fly-tying, lake fishing, river fishing, best places to fish here and abroad, history of fishing, books by legendary authors, diaries and memoirs, wonderfully written stories with beautiful illustrations, books that everyone would enjoy reading.

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

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

#### December 1 **Lighting Winners**

1st, 2nd & 3rf place Winners in the McKenzie River Chamber of Commerce's Light Up the Valley Contest will be announced at the Holiday Lights Depot on December 11th. Vote for your favorite business lights by emailing nadine@windermere.com by 5 pm on Friday, December 9th.

#### December 13 **Holiday Dinner**

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

#### December 13 Reforestration

Oregon State University Exten-

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

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

#### Season of giving trees

The Upper McKenzie River Fire District has one at the Upper McKenzie fire station, another at the Orchid Clinic in Rainbow, and one at the McKenzie Community School. Ornaments have been place on the trees with an age range on it. People can take one of the ornaments and leave the other one, purchase a gift suited for the age and have it preferably at the school or the fire station by the December 9th. For questions call Lacy Joy 541-554-0209 or Jess Boykin at 541-654-9292.

#### McKenzie Students of the Month



cares deeply about his peers. He is involved in school activities. He is kind, respectful, helpful to classmates, and has a positive attitude. Avrey works well with others and makes sure to include everyone! You can always count on him to set a positive example.

Senior Taylor Wickizer is consistent in her approach with academics and peers. She has stepped up her participation and has gone above and beyond this year so far, taking on more leadership roles here at McKenzie.





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### **An Invitation** to Worship

#### McKenzie Bible Fellowship 45061 McKenzie Hwy – Vida, Oregon Sunday Worship – 10:00 a.m.

**Youth Ministries KidsFest Family Activities** Small Group Fellowships Men's & Women's Bible Studies Call 896-3829 for information www.mckenziebible.com

Pastor - Doug Fairrington
52353 McKenzie Hwy - Milepost 42
541-822-3820
Gathering Sundays at 10:00 AM,
Children's ministry also.
Come early for a meet and greet continental breakfast and coffee at 9:30 AM.
Thursdays, 6:00 PM, Celebrate Recovery
(12 Step Program)

Living Water Family Fellowship

#### Catholic Church St. Benedict Lodge Chapel

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

McKenzie Valley Presbyterian Church Please join us for worship Sundays at 10:30 am, either in church on Hwy. 126 just east of Walterville, or on our Facebook livestream. You may also make prayer requests, or request an emailed or earth-mailed bulletin -- phone or send email to Nancy Ashley, nancy.w.ashley@ gmail.com, 541-914-1986. We would love to meet you! Milepost 13 McKenzie Hwy. (541) 747-2604

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#### WHATEVER YOUR MODE SHARE THE ROAD





### **Direct Answers**

By Wayne & Tamara Mirthell

#### A Spoonful Of Sugar



My husband and I have been married only 11 months. We always had problems, but our relationship was never this bad before. I am wondering if I should stay with him.

Since the beginning, we've had arguments almost every day. I admit I start most of them. I get mad at him so easily when he doesn't do what I want, or leaves me home to go with his friends to nightclubs.

Yesterday I found out he is posting saying he is not married. This is not the first time he has done this, and some of these women he's called. He says he does this because I hurt him, get mad so easily, and don't let him do what he wants.

Today he said, "I love you, but I'm not in love with you." I still love him and want to be with him. I want to repair our marriage, but I'm scared. Maybe we should separate since we've tried to make it work and failed so many times. Courtney

Courtney, learning the meaning of the word "but" can clarify your life. Everything which comes before the "but" is sugar to make the medicine go down, everything which comes after is the medicine. Too often we hear both parts of the statement and end up confused.

"I love you, but I'm not in love with you" means "I am not in love with you." That is the message your husband lacks the courage to say plainly. Whenever you hear "but", remember the second part is what the speaker means.

We tell people the word "but" should go off in their head like a gunshot. Pay close attention to what follows. It is the part which matters. You wanted to get married, but you had problems in your relationship from the beginning. You ignored the "buts" while you were dating, but it is not possible to ignore them now.

Wayne

#### **Simple Arithmetic**

I am single, never married, have a good career, and hold four academic qualifications through a university. I enjoy working with people at a professional level.

Five years ago, I met Mr. X while traveling to work, and we became friends. At first, he did not tell me he was married. A friend told me. When I questioned him, he admitted it, saying they were separated. I was also told the wife keeps coming and going in his

more calls from Mr. X. When I investigated, I found the wife was back again. I decided to move on, and when I was fine, received a call from Mr. X saying she moved out. He promised not to take her back, so again we got together.

However, he refused to go out in public. All he wanted to do was book a room and chat about his situation. After much complaining by me, we went to a movie. He would not walk alongside me, and even in the cinema, he sat as if being watched.

He forgets my birthday, and when I am writing exams he does not even inquire about the result. In May, he stopped calling. Now he wants to come back to me as his wife is moving out again. I am tired of this situation, but I do not know what to do.

Serena

Serena, some things in relationships are as clear as the multiplication tables. You say three things about Mr. X. He won't take you out in public, he won't introduce you to friends, another woman keeps appearing in his life.

Any number multiplied by zero is still zero. Three times zero is zero. If this was a question on an exam, you would have the answer. Wasting time trying to revise the multiplication tables prevents you from finding the correct answer and the correct man.

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

By Kwame Dawes Allison C. Rollins manages, in this striking poem, to contain the anxiety of those facing sightlessness, and the urgency they feel to try to preserve in memory, that which is fleeting. For her, the poem is a solace, for when spoken, it prolongs sight even for blind poets like Jorge Luis Borges. If we think of sight as more than just physical, we may get a glimpse of what Rollins may be saying in "The Library of Babel," about one of the peculiar purposes of art.

#### The Library of Babel

By Allison C. Rollins for Jorge Luis Borges While there is still some light on the page, I am writing now

a history of snow, of everything that has been and will be thought. When a blind poet says I need you to be my eyes, they are asking to

through your mouth.

We do not accept unsolicited manuscripts. American in Poetry is made possible by The Poetry Foundation (www. poetryfoundation.org), publisher of Poetry magazine. It is also supported by the Department of English at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. Poem copyright ©2019 by Alison C. Rollins, "The Library of Babel" from Library of Small Catastrophes (Copper Canyon Press, 2019.) Poem reprinted by permission of the author and the publisher. Introduction copyright ©2022

by The Poetry Foundation. The introduction's author, Kwame Dawes, is George W. Holmes Professor of English and Glenna Luschei Editor of Prairie Schooner at the University of Nebraska.



By Rick Steber (www.ricksteber.com)

December 8 - Henry H. Wheeler, namesake of Wheeler County, ran a stage line between The Dalles and the mines at Canyon City. The fall of 1866 he was driving the stagecoach down a canyon near where the town of Mitchell is now located. Indians attacked and Wheeler was shot in the face, the bullet shattering his jaw. The stagecoach was wrecked but somehow Wheeler managed to grab hold of one of his lead horses, mount it and escape. He returned with a posse and discovered the Indians had opened the mailbags, and placing no value on currency, had scattered \$10,000 in greenbacks to the wind. Wheeler walked through the sage and juniper and collected all the money. Finally, after two days of relentless pain, he drove the stage on through to The Dalles and had his jaw treated by a doctor.

### **Ski Report**

#### **December 6, 2022**

The Hoodoo Ski Area reported on Tuesday that and inch and 1/2 of new snow fell overnight, bringing the base to 35 inches. Temperatures were 26 degrees mid-mountain and 31 at the base with West winds averaging 10 mph. For more information call 541-822-3337.

Mt. Bachelor reported temperatures of 16 degrees at the base and 15 degrees at the summit on Tuesday. 1 inch of new snow fell overnight, bringing the snowpack to 34 inches at mid-mountain. The morning was expected to be the start of a beautiful, brisk day. Winds up top were averaging 37 mph. 4 out of 15 lifts were open, along with 43 of the 121 trails. For more information call 541-382-7888.

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

#### Piano Lessons

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

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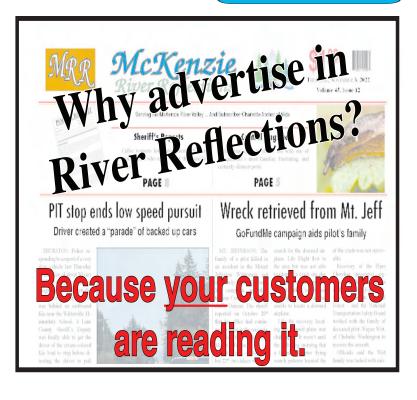
Got a hole in your wall? Give me a call! The Wall Doctor - Serving the McKenzie River area. 541-735-2317. p-s15-n3

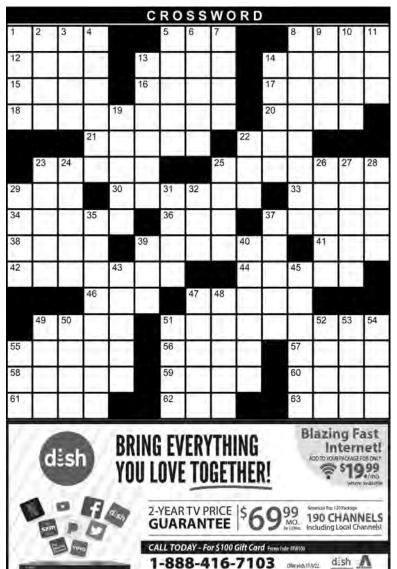
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#### YEAR-IN-REVIEW

#### **ACROSS**

- 1. Use a bayonet
- 5. \*Late Saget
- 8. Greek salad staple
- 12. Meal in a shell
- 13. Lowest brass
- 14. Like daytime energy
- 16. Van Gogh's famous flower
- 17. Poodle minus d
- 18. \*Late Queen
- 20. Volcano off Sicily coast 21. Leaves out
- 22. Elf's distinctive body part
- 23. \*Olympic host
- 25. \*Russia's target

- - 29. Black sheep sound 30. Treat badly
  - 33. Reason for Thanksgiving
  - 34. Carl Jung's inner self
  - 36. "But I heard him exclaim
  - he drove out of sight, "Merry
  - Christmas..."
  - 37. Pick on
  - 38. Pro
  - 39. Bank, usually
  - 41. Driver's aid
  - 42. Jalopy
  - 44. Back of the neck, pl.
  - 46. Finish line

  - 49. Paul Bunyan story, e.g.
  - 47. Fur of the marten

- 51. \*Economic woe
- 55. Faultfinder
- 56. Tropical edible root
- 57. Soreness
- 58. Irretrievable loss
- 59. Gator's cousin 60. \*Super Bowl winners
- 61. Undertaking
- 62. "For \_ a jolly good.." 63. Archaic form of do, second person singular

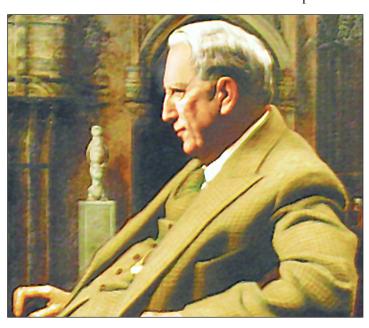
#### **DOWN**

- 1. Eyelid affliction
- 2. Asian weight unit
- 3. Smoothie bowl flavor
- 4. Russian hunting sighthound 5. Chemistry lab measuring device
- 6. Parting words
- 7. New Year's Eve get-together, e.g.
- 8. Running competition
- 9. \*Twitter's new proprietor
- 10. Western Samoan money 11."\_\_\_\_ you ready?"
- 13. Relating to shinbone
- 14. Asparagus unit
- 19. Amnion, pl.
- 22. Barely obtain
- 23. Erie or Suez
- 24. Port-au-Prince country
- 25. Like something vintage, usu-
- 26. About to explode
- 27. Olfactory organs
- 28. Athos' or Porthos' weapon
- 29. Throw up
- 31. Lecherous look
- 32. Funereal container
- 35. \*Tom Cruise's callsign
- 37. "\_\_\_--\_\_--la"
- 39. Type of Christmas lights
- 40. All together
- 43. T-shirt style
- 45. Small bomb
- 47. Rabbit trap
- 48. 1970s big dos
- 49. "Musical" constellation
- 50. Dollar bills
- 51. 7-year affliction
- 52. International Civil Aviation Org.
- 53. Electrical resistance units
- 54. Egg holder
- 55. 100 lbs.



"If you make a product good enough... the public will make a path to your door, says the philosopher. But if you want the public in sufficient numbers, you would better construct a highway. Advertising is that highway."

William Randolph Hearst



Advertising is an integral part of a successful business. It is not enough to have a good internal operation. Let people know you want their business by making the "McKenzie Connection."

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#### KOMBUCHA (541) 896-0500 MP 20 McKenzie River Hwy 5 8 6 FREE (non-business) CLASSIFIED ADS FOR SUBSCRIBERS 3 Phone, Email or Mail - Deadline: Every Monday @ 5pm 9 **CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING FORM** 9 3 ☐ SUBSCRIBER NAME **CLASSIFIED** 5 1 $\square$ Non-subscriber Rates: 35¢ a word, \$6.00 minimum per issue. All ads must be

2

6 8 6 7 1 **Solution on Page 6** 

paid in advance or ad will not be printed. Amt. enclosed \$

Mail to: McKenzie River Reflections, 59059 Old McKenzie Hwy., McKenzie Bridge, OR 97413

StatePoint Media

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

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## McKenzie River Crossings

**Continued From Page 4** 

know as Leaburg. A ferry crossed the river between these two settlements for many years. Lower Leaburg School was located west of Deerhorn Point and Upper Leaburg School was located where the Greenwood cemetery is now.

Many of the children from Donkeyville crossed on the ferry and walked to Upper Leaburg School. By 1914 Leaburg had its own school or I should say the settlement of Leaburg was established at the present site and the school was held there. The ferry to Donkeyville was down in front of the schoolhouse on the Dale Carlson property. In fact, the Carlson's are still using at least one of the few wood anchor posts for the ferry as a corner post in a fence on the place.

One ferry was dynamited into oblivion and destroyed in the 30s. Another was built to replace it and used for some time, possibly up into the early 40s. It is not certain what the demise of this ferry was. It may have washed away during a flood, or some seem to think it was hauled away on a truck. At any rate, it left its cables along the south bank, about all that's left of Donkeyville today.

One run-away ferry "landed" on the riverbank near Walterville. It is believed this one may have come from Leaburg. It was hauled away but to where?

After leaving the Deerhorn Ranch, Barney Oldfield settled on the south bank again, up near the EWEB Leaburg Dam. He also operated a ferry at this point for several years. The dates of this ferry so far remain unknown to me.

Another early ferry crossing was at the mouth of Indian Creek, giving access to the present Goodpasture property. A swinging bridge also crossed the river just upstream from the ferry landing in the 20s.

The Goodpasture covered bridge was built in 1937, just around the curve of the river below the ferry. It is 165 feet of the main span with approaches of 19 and 23 feet. NOTE: This is only 207 feet of the bridge against the 582 feet built at Hendricks. But still, only 30 years later the price had climbed to more than double Hendricks's cost.

Gate Creek at Vida was named because of a tollgate located there on the old McKenzie wagon road. A.N. Striker, a well-known bridge builder in Lane County, built a covered bridge over this stream in 1903. It was an 80.7-foot span built on the Howe style.

Another Howe-style span was the Blue River covered bridge. L.N. Roney, another popular name in bridge building and repairing, built it in 1909. It had 110 feet of span with 53 and 35 feet of approach. Repair notes in 1916 state that heavy truck traffic was break-



The Finn Rock Swinging Bridge.

ing the floor down.

I once heard of a group of young men who were going 'Out on the town one night. They were walking into Blue River dressed in their best bib 'n tucker. In so doing they had to cross through the covered bridge. It being after dark, they little knew what had happened to one of their comrades for an instant when he fell flat on his face. He came up cussing and some farmer's cow came up bawling. She surely didn't appreciate having intruders in her "barn."

The Belknap family, like so many other homesteaders all along the river on the south bank, used a rowboat for years to get out to the wagon road. For most of them, this was their only link with the outside world. A Mr. Thomson, possibly of the Vida area, constructed the original Belknap Bridge in 1880. It was a covered structure that served Delta and King Roads and south bank areas. It was replaced in 1911 by Lane County. The third was erected by Lane County in 1939 and was destroyed in 1964 by the Christmas flood. A large log came floating down the river in the floodwaters and rammed into the bridge, going between some of the timbers. When it stopped drifting, the roof settled toward the bottom of the river, thus twisting the bridge. The force of the water pushing against this log, which in turn acted as a ramrod, literally lifted the bridge from its foundations and away it went down the river. The county built the present covered bridge on the same site shortly after the flood. It was opened for traffic on October 31, 1966. This is probably the last covered bridge to be built in the county or maybe even in the state for that matter.

The first covered bridge at the settlement of McKenzie Bridge was built in 1888. This one was replaced in 1907 when L.N. Roney built another covered bridge with a 120-foot span, with 95 and 29 feet of approach. It was located a short distance downstream from the present bridge and out the back of the present McKenzie Bridge General Store. I believe that the present bridge was built in the early 1930s sometime.

I am sure that I have left out many river crossings in this account and probably some pretty important and interesting ones at that. I have not attempted to include the many, many bridges built for logging but wanted to dwell mainly on those used in traveling up the valley and by the settlers in reaching their homes.

### **Emergency?** Call 911

### **Letters to the Editor**



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

# Students build housing for the homeless

Constructing a Brighter Future, a collaborative project involving Lane Education Service District (ESD), Lane Community College, Lane Workforce Partnership and others, is bringing the community together to shelter the unhoused. Led by construction experts and educators, area students are building temporary shelters for individuals experiencing houselessness. The shelters are then connected with those in need through a partnership with community-based organizations that provide transitional housing.

Shareen Vogel from Lane County ESD said, "The work we are doing at Constructing a Brighter Future not only supports a prioritized community need, but is also a workforce initiative that introduces young people to high demand construction trades through handson, work-based learning opportunities. Together we are building a system of support to move forward into housing sustainability."

To create the project's single-room transitional shelters, Career and Technical Education (CTE) teachers from 15 Lane County School Districts and Lane Community College worked with builders and designers from community-based organizations that address houselessness, including Square One Village and EveryOne Village. The CTE instructors then brought the plans into their classrooms and are leading students in the construction process.

With a goal of building 30 shelters from August of 2022 through June of 2023, Constructing a Brighter Future is currently

seeking additional support. In addition to funding from Oregon Department of Education CTE Revitalization grant, Lane County Economic Development, Future Ready Oregon Prosperity 10K grant, The Roundhouse Foundation in Sisters, Oregon has provided the group with a \$25,000 matching grant to help boost the impact of future community donations

Erin Borla, executive director and trustee at The Roundhouse Foundation said, "Constructing a Brighter Future is a perfect example of bringing together multiple groups in one community to address a very acute need, including educators and students. It creates a foundation of learning for students in the region's rural communities to help those in need, while simultaneously gaining valuable, trade-based skills for multiple career pathways. Supporting and elevating projects like this is a core part of our mission at The Roundhouse Foundation."

Constructing a Brighter Future Project was developed by Lane Education Service District, Lane Community College, and Lane Workforce Partnership to address houselessness in the community and introduce young people to multiple career pathways. The project draws from a network of Lane County educators, local transitional housing organizations, community-based organizations, as well as industry and workforce personnel to develop shelters.

For more information, please visit https://lanecte.org/

## McKenzie Fire & Rescue

#### Continued From Page 3

Firs Rd. Mistaken Alarm.

**3:24:** McK. Hwy. Milepost 9. Hazardous Situation. Assessed power pole, no immediate hazard found.

**7:34:** 89000 blk, Greenwood Dr. Medical, General. Patient Assessed, 1 Transported.

**10:38:** 91000 blk, Leashore Dr Medical, General. Patient Refusal.

**10:53:** 38000 blk, Camp Creek Rd. Medical, Trauma. Patient Assessed, 1 Transported.

21:04: 88000 blk, Running

Spring Dr Police Assist. Patient Assessed, 1 Transported.

**Dec. 4: 10:38:** 88000 blk, Gemstone Rd. Medical, General. Patient Assessed, 1 Transported.

McK. Fire & Rescue will hold its monthly Board of Directors meeting on Monday, December 19th at noon, in the Leaburg Training Center, 42870 McK. Hwy. The district maintains Facebook, Twitter, and web pages. If you have a question or concern about any Fire District business, give Chief Bucich a call @ 541-896-3311. If he is unavailable, please leave a message and he will respond ASAP.



