



Delivering targeted news for the McKenzie Valley community since 1978

JP Doodles

Drivers going too fast? Prices too high? Where are the police? What's there to do? Who's burning their trash?

PAGE 2

The 101 year dispute

The amount of land in dispute was roughly 80,000 acres — close to 10 percent of the whole Warm Springs Indian Reservation/

PAGE 4

Briefs...



The Cascade Homeschool Club is hosting a 4-week science unit at the Vida McKenzie Community Center and a small science fair with a raffle for the VMCC community social at 3 pm. on November 3rd.

Prizes include family passes to the Eugene Science Center, the Raptor Center, and more. The raffle will be held just before 5 p.m., although you don't have to be [Fire Season - Page 2](#)



Forest management agencies declared the end of the 2024 fire season on Monday, October 21st. Officials said the end of fire season is due to recent rainfall and generally cooler temperatures reducing fire activity. Restrictions previously in place due to fire season, like limits on debris burning and certain industrial activities have been lifted. Residents should practice fire safety when burning yard debris or using fire in [Fire Season - Page 2](#)



Piano Master Class
with guest artist
YING LI
Tuesday, October 22
4:00 pm - 5:30 pm
The Studio, Hult Center

The Eugene Symphony Concert Week will include Alexander Prior on October 24th conducting Dvořák on October 21st. Inspired by Russian legends of nocturnal revels, Night on Bald Mountain depicts a fiery witches' sabbath that inspired Walt Disney's 1940 animated film Fantasia. Antonín Dvořák's Symphony No. 8 dwells in a sunny, pastoral world filled with Bohemian folk melodies, rustic peasant dances, and lamenting nostalgia. Ying Li brings her many strengths to Ludwig van Beethoven's youthfully brilliant Piano Concerto, before the orchestra performs Florence Price's Andante Moderato.

The performance promises to be more than just an evening of world-class music—it's the chance to help shape the future of Eugene Symphony. Each finalist will lead a different program throughout the season, [Concert Week - Page 2](#)

Conservative or liberal?

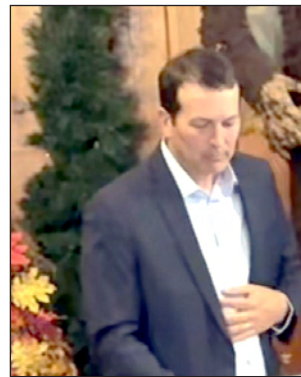
Voters will decide next voice for Oregon's House District 12

LEABURG: Two candidates - Michelle Emmons and Darin Harbick - are vying to represent the 68,000 residents of Oregon's House District 12. Each had an opportunity to outline their background and plans for governing during a McKenzie River Chamber of Commerce-sponsored event last Thursday at Ike's Pizza.

An Oakridge resident, Emmons said she's been involved in outdoor recreation and environmental stewardship for the last 40 years. Part of her resume includes working on a national level for the outdoor equipment com-



Michelle Emmons



Darin Harbick

pany REI and as a consultant for nonprofits, including the McKenzie River Trust. Currently, she's currently the deputy director for Willamette Riverkeeper.

Harbick, a native of the McKenzie area, graduated from McKenzie High School. He and his wife went on to own five local businesses, ranging from Harbick's Country Store to a residential treatment home. Over the years, he's employed over 80 people, including McKenzie graduates

who he said, "We were able to mentor and show how to work."

Crafted after the 1980 census, the area once known as the "helicopter district" now covers 1,180 square miles that includes rural areas, small towns, and parts of Springfield.

Both candidates stressed their small town connections. Emmons talked about some of her frustrations with insurance companies in getting coverage for her property that she says is already "firewise." Harbick said he'd seen firsthand how government could step in and "try to shut down my business" during COVID.

Despite their differences in political affiliation, they also appear to agree on some core issues, including public service. Harbick talked about his 14 years as a member of the McKenzie School Board. Emmons noted that she served as the president of the Oakridge/Westfir Chamber of Commerce and the [Continued On Page 11](#)

Teaming up for a "Drill Spill"

Dozens of watershed scientists, firefighters and hazardous materials specialists waded into the river

FINN ROCK: "The spill drill is helpful to keep our partnerships working well so that we'll be ready in the case of a real incident," according to Eugene Water & Electric Board Water Resources Supervisor Susan Fricke.

The annual exercise brought together close to 50 members of the McKenzie Watershed Emergency Response System (MWERS) last Wednesday. They came from more than a dozen local, state, and federal agencies participated, including McKenzie and Upper McKenzie fire departments, Eugene-Springfield Fire Hazmat, the Lane County Sheriff's Office, the Springfield Utility Board, the City of Springfield, Oregon Department of Environmental Quality, and the U.S. Forest Service. The response team uses an emergency notification system and detailed mapping to give crews information and instructions about containing spills at ["Drill Spill" - Page 16](#)



During simulations at the Finn Rock Landing, crews used floating booms that direct surface contaminants like oil into a skimmer to remove pollutants from the water.

Blue River Park gains funding

\$750,000 state grant will aid site's reconstruction work

BLUE RIVER: There was good news this week for revitalization efforts, thanks to a \$750,000 grant awarded by the Oregon State Parks Department. This funding was earmarked for the recreation site's much-anticipated recon-



struction, which has been a long-standing community goal. Josh Cloke and Tony Casad, who developed the grant proposal, said Lori Roach of Studio 6 Consulting and the National Park Service provided invaluable assistance.

In addition to the major grant from Oregon State Parks, Blue River received a \$70,000 grant to construct new restrooms within the park.

Lane County will manage the reconstruction of Blue River Park, ensuring expert oversight. Robert Woodard, a project manager with Lane County, will lead the project.

A Brief History of Blue River Park

The story of Blue River Park is deeply intertwined with the history of the Behm family. Fred and Dorothy Behm moved to Blue River in 1941, where Fred worked as a logger and tree farmer. The Behms were known for their deep community involvement and support of local causes.

Initially, the park property operated as a quarry used during construction, which was later converted into a park. [Park gains funding - Page 16](#)

Letters to the Editor

Real Leadership, Real Results – Elect Michelle Emmons

Our community deserves a representative who truly embodies the values of hard work, responsibility, and patriotism—someone who puts the needs of families and taxpayers first. That’s why Michelle Emmons is the clear choice for McKenzie voters.

Michelle doesn’t just talk about values; she lives them. As a proven leader with a record of

bringing people together, she knows how to get things done without compromising on what matters most—our families, our schools, and our future. On the other hand, Darin Harbick’s time on the McKenzie School Board was marked by division and inefficiency. When our school system needed responsible, steady leadership, Darin’s approach led to infighting and gridlock. He opposed pay raises for hardworking teachers but supported higher pay for

[Continued On Page 10](#)

Guest Opinions

Protecting voters’ right to choose their elected officials

By Stan Long

Almost everyone understands why friends and relatives of the parties facing a jury trial are not allowed to be jurors for that case. The full list of rules that prohibit tainting a jury verdict with conflicts of interests is comprehensive and designed to promote public confidence in the justice system. The rules are strict; an interest in

just one of the questions to be decided by a jury requires a Judge to disqualify the ‘interested’ person from serving on a jury.

By parity of purpose and parity of reasoning we should expect a local government committee created to decide how we conduct county elections to be free from conflicts of interest. That is not the case in Lane County. Today, the county sets the boundaries of election districts in a manner that is upside down and backwards from how Oregon government

A guide for voters

The League of Women Voters of Lane County (LWVLC) wants to help you prepare for the general election on November 5, 2024. We are a nonpartisan, grassroots organization working to protect and expand voting rights. The League empowers voters and defends democracy through advocacy, education, and litigation, at the local, state, and national levels.

The League of Women Voters produces a digital voting guide called VOTE411 found at <http://Vote411.org>. “Election information you need. Brought to you by The League of Women Voters Education Fund”.

By entering your address a customized set of information for

your location is created. All candidates have been asked to respond to questions from the League. VOTE411 explains ballot measures including arguments by both supporters and opponents.

All Lane County voters will be voting on four local measures. Three of these ballot measures are recommendations from the Lane County Charter Review Committee (CRC). This Committee is convened every ten years to review and recommend changes or updates to our Lane County Charter. The CRC recommended repealing three sections as being out of date and no longer relevant. There is no opposition to these measures.

Measure 20-359 would repeal Section 32 of the Lane County Charter. In 1984 specific limits on

annual County expenditures were imposed. Since then property tax limitations have been added to our Oregon Constitution and supersedes the need for computing annual complicated calculations based on budgets from 40 years ago.

Measure 20-360 would repeal Section 33 which placed restrictions on use and development of East Alton Baker Park. Lane County no longer owns this land.

Measure 20-361 would repeal Section 34 which limits the rate and directs use of any Lane County income tax. Lane County does not have an income tax.

A fourth, Measure 20-362, has been placed on the ballot by a three-to-two vote of Lane County. [Continued On Page 11](#)

Park at Roseburg on Wednesday, October 23, to compete in the Umpqua Invite. The Varsity Girls 5,000 meters race starts at 12:00 pm and the Varsity Boys 5,000 meters race begins at 12:30 pm.

The Eagle Varsity Football team travels to Elkton on Friday, October 25 and the opening kickoff is scheduled for 3:00 pm.

Meister 24th and Drake 43rd At Harrisburg Invitational

McKenzie junior Cross Country athlete Will Meister finished his 5,000 meter race at the Harrisburg Invitational 2024 in 19:05.1 minutes, which earned him 24th out of a field of 101 runners. Eagle freshman teammate Zyla Drake brought home a 43rd place finish in the Varsity Girls 5,000 meters race, running the distance in 24:33.6 minutes. Peter Davis of Valley Catholic took home top honors in the Varsity Boys race finishing with a winning time of

16:40.8 min.

East Linn Christian’s Daisy Lalonde finished first in the Varsity Girls 5,000 meters race, posting a time of 18:45.4 minutes. The Pleasant Hills Girls team won the team scores with 28 points, followed by Westside Christian in second with 46 points, East Linn Christian third with 77 points, and host Harrisburg fourth with 95 points.

Westside Christian won the Boys team race earning 41 points. Harrisburg finished second with 82 points, Pleasant Hill third with 93 points, Monroe fourth with 98 points, Douglas in at fifth at 115 points earned, sixth went to Santiam Christian with 149 points, seventh to Lebanon with 169 points, eighth earned by Scio with 200 points and Cascades Academy of Central Oregon finished ninth with 223 points.

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normally tries to avoid conflicts of interest.

It may be hard to believe but to set election district boundaries Lane County uses an “all comers” committee and provides no [Continued On Page 10](#)

Briefs...

Science Fair

[Continued From Page 1](#)

present to win. To purchase tickets (\$1/each) you can pay at the fair or email cascadehomeschoolclub@gmail.com. Entries from outside the club are welcome or just come enjoy the fair with the family.

Register your K-12 student entries at cascadehomeschoolclub@gmail.com

Proceeds from the raffle go directly to Cascade Homeschool Club and the Vida McKenzie Community Center.

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Fire Season

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the woods.

Officials, including Oregon Governor Tina Kotek, have said

the 2024 fire season is one of the worst in Oregon history. Wildfires burned nearly 2 million acres across the state, with the largest fires burning in Eastern Oregon. They added that the fire season had also limited funding and staffing for firefighting agencies.

Concert Week

[Continued From Page 1](#)

and the public response matters. Seats are going quickly, so don’t miss your chance to experience this unique and thrilling process! Secure your tickets now and be part of the next chapter in Eugene Symphony’s rich history. Tickets start at \$15, with \$10 tickets available for students/youth.

Send news briefs to rivref2@gmail.com

McKenzie Eagles Sports Report



By Cliff Richardson

McKenzie Varsity Sports Schedule This Week

The McKenzie Varsity Volleyball team hosts Triangle Lake on Tuesday, October 22, with match time set for 6:00 pm.

The Eagle team hosts Siletz Valley on Thursday, October 24, and the first set is scheduled for 5:30 pm. The McKenzie Athletic Department will be honoring senior volleyball players on Thursday.

The McKenzie Varsity Cross Country teams travel to Stewart

Friday 10/25

McKenzie Valley Partly Cloudy
15% chance precip
High: 66 Low: 50

Santiam Pass Partly Cloudy
5% chance precip
High: 53 Low: 37

Saturday 10/26

McKenzie Valley Showers
60% chance precip
High: 62 Low: 47

Santiam Pass Showers
60% chance precip
High: 50 Low: 33

Sunday 10/27

McKenzie Valley Rain/Snow Showers
60% chance precip
High: 56 Low: 44

Santiam Pass Rain/Snow Showers
60% chance precip
High: 42 Low: 28

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WEATHER REPORT

READINGS TAKEN AT THE US ARMY CORPS COUGAR DAM					READINGS TAKEN AT THE EWEB LEABURG POWERHOUSE				
Date	High	Low	Rain	Releases	Date	High	Low	Rain	Riverflow
10/15	47	68	0	514 cfs	10/15	75	49	0	2,140 cfs
10/16	52	58	0	794 cfs	10/16	68	52	0.02	2,440 cfs
10/17	42	52	0.45	786 cfs	10/17	65	44	0.32	2,460 cfs
10/18	37	53	0	771 cfs	10/18	58	38	0.02	2,490 cfs
10/19	46	72	0	NA	10/19	55	42	0	2,570 cfs
10/20	48	72	0.70	937 cfs	10/20	75	47	0	2,610 cfs
10/21	48	53	0.47	910 cfs	10/21	68	48	0.60	2,690 cfs

Sheriff's Report

Oct. 10: 9:49 a.m: Suspicious Vehicle - McGowan Creek Rd. Mp. 7. A deputy responded to a report of a suspicious vehicle in the area, and determined it was a contractor working for an area timber company.

8:40 p.m: Suspicious Conditions - 38000 blk, Camp Creek Rd. Deputies responded to a report of police vehicles and a shooting. No area police agencies had matching calls. Investigation found evidence of a deer being poached at the location where shots were heard.

9:59 p.m: Suspicious Conditions - Hwy. 242 & Mp. 59 to 60. Suspicious object on the side of the road. Call relayed to OSP.

Oct. 11: 2:28 p.m: Disturbance, Dispute - 38200 blk, Boscage Ln. Verbal dispute over civil issue.

3:26 p.m: Suspicious Conditions - 45000 blk, McK. Hwy. An unknown male knocked loudly on the resident's door, then took a long time to leave the area.

Oct. 12: 3:07 p.m: Disturbance, Dispute - 36100 blk, Camp Creek Rd. Verbal dispute.

Oct. 13: 1:58 p.m: Suspicious Vehicle - 36100 blk, McGowan Creek Rd. A suspicious vehicle

was reported abandoned in the area. Deputies had already patrolled and tagged the vehicle for removal.

3:46 p.m: Reckless Endangering - Lat: 44.2038224. Long: -122.981174. This call occurred in Linn County and was transferred.

10:02 p.m: Suspicious Vehicle - Marcola Rd. & Old Mohawk Rd. Deputies contacted a suspicious vehicle in the area.

Oct. 14: 7:50 a.m: Civil Service - 87300 blk, Cedar Flat Rd.

10:41 a.m: Alarm - 35800 blk, Ellington Dr.

11:51 a.m: Suspicious Vehicle - 95300 blk, Thetford Ln.

12:24 p.m: Assist Oregon State Police - 44500 blk, McK. Hwy.

2:01 p.m: Citizen Contact - 90200 blk, Huckleberry Ln.

Oct. 15: 9:58 a.m: Fraud - 38100 blk, Queens Rd. An elderly victim received a scam email, and lost several thousand dollars after the scammer met with the victim at his residence. The Sheriff's Office advises people to be wary of scams, call the Sheriff's Office at 541-682-4141 if they believe a call is suspicious, and make sure their elderly parents and friends learn about phone and Internet scams.

1:29 p.m: Harassment - 90400 blk, Sunderman Rd.

4:39 p.m: Hit & Run - Camp

Creek Rd. & Marcola Rd.

6:50 p.m: Shoplift - 35200 blk, Camp Creek Rd.

7:23 p.m: Blocked Driveway - 90400 blk, Marcola Rd.

8:10 p.m: Fraud - 92200 blk, Carson St.

Oct. 16: 12:22 a.m: Incomplete 911 Call - 90900 blk, Angels Flight Rd.

9:53 a.m: Welfare Check - 94800 Kelso Ln.

1:59 p.m: Assist Outside Agency - 39400 blk, Walterville Ln.

3:02 p.m: Livestock at Large - 90700 blk, Hill Rd.

5:21 p.m: Illegal Burn - 36700 blk, Oak Point Rd.

5:21 p.m: Assist, Information - 39200 blk, Howard Rd.

5:57 p.m: Disabled Vehicle - 91100 blk, McCauley St.

7:47 p.m: Dead Animal - Marcola Rd. Milepost 12 to 13.

8:10 p.m: Fraud - 92200 blk, Carson St. Civil issue regarding a vehicle sale.

Oct. 17: 2:49 a.m: Motor Vehicle Accident, No Injury - Terwilliger Hot Springs.

6:05 a.m: Abandoned Vehicle - 91500 Cougar Dam Rd.

8:53 a.m: Abandoned Vehicle - Marcola Rd. & Nadeau Rd.

9:43 a.m: Civil Service - 87300 blk, Cedar Flat Rd.

11:56 a.m: Hit & Run - Terwilliger Hot Springs. A driver

was involved in a crash and the possible at-fault driver fled the scene.

5:44 p.m: Traffic Hazard - Hill Rd. & Black Canyon Rd.

7:27 p.m: Lost Subject - Lat: 44.08678818. Long: -122.279113.

8:32 p.m: Suspicious Conditions - 93200 blk, Holland Ln.

8:57 p.m: Suspicious Conditions - Howard Rd. & Marcola Rd.

Oct. 18: 7:03 a.m: Hit & Run - Terwilliger Hot Springs.

12:36 p.m: Foot Patrol - Walterville Pond.

1:37 p.m: Found Property - [Continued On Page 9](#)

State Police Report

Oct. 17: 16:03: Crash, Non-Injury - Hwy. 242, Milepost 69. A Tesla was westbound when it lost traction due to slushy conditions. The vehicle left the paved portion of the roadway before striking an ODOT post. Damage to the vehicle exceeded \$2,500. Damage to the state property was limited to the singular post, which was only displaced slightly. There were no injuries. The Tesla was pulled out of the ditch and driven from the scene. Involved: 86-year-old male from Eugene.

McKenzie Fire & Rescue

Oct. 14: 7:59: 36000 block, Camp Creek Rd. Medical, General. Patient Assessed, 1 Transported.

12:20: 44600 blk, McK. Hwy. Motor Vehicle Accident. Patient Assessed, 2 Transported, Transferred Scene to OSP.

Oct. 15: 16:43: Marcola Rd./ Old Mohawk Rd. MVA. Cancelled En Route by MVRFD.

20:35: 43000 blk, Deerhorn Rd. Medical, Heart. Patient Assessed, 1 Transported.

22:09: 38000 blk, McK. Hwy. Medical, General. Patient Assessed, 1 Transported.

Oct. 16: 13:37: 37000 blk, Upper Camp Creek Rd. Medical, General. Patient Assessed, 1 Transported.

17:11: 36700 blk, Oakpoint Rd. Illegal Burning Illegal Burn Pile, Extinguished.

[Continued On Page 14](#)

Upper McKenzie Fire/Rescue

Oct. 17: Motor Vehicle Accident, Unknown Injury - Terwilliger Hot Springs. Single vehicle flipped with air bags deployed. 3 individuals outside of vehicle said they were okay.

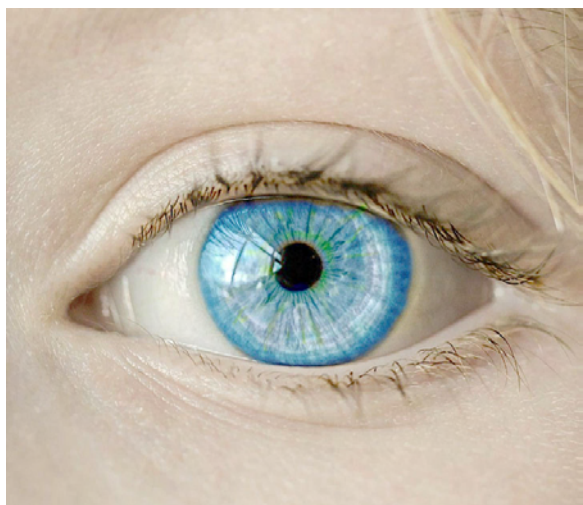
Oct. 18: 15:00: Fire Alarm - 51000 block, Blue River Dr. Smoke alarm.

Oct. 19: 05:58: Medical - 50000 blk, McK. Hwy. Female, Conscious, Breathing.

Oct. 20: 22:29: Medical - 55000 blk, McK. River Dr. iPhone crash detection, no answer on callback.

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Land dispute over Indian reservation lasted 101 years

By Finn J.D. John

If there is an entry in the Guinness Book of World Records for the longest active land dispute, it has to belong to the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs Indians in central Oregon.

It was no simple neighborhood kerfuffle, either. The amount of land in dispute was roughly 80,000 acres — close to 10 percent of the whole Warm Springs Indian Reservation. And the dispute burned hot for 101 years.

But maybe it wouldn't count for the record, as the land was only in dispute for the first 16 of those years. The whole rest of the time was taken up trying to get the government to follow the law and give the stolen land back.

Not until 1972 did Congress finally do the right thing and pass legislation giving it back. And even then, there were still people in the government (notably the Forest Service) who didn't want to do it.

Here's how it went down:

In the 1850s, Eastern Oregon was still in the middle of the Indian wars as tribes like the Cayuse and the Modocs battled to hang onto their lands by force.

The tribes in central Oregon, though, didn't want to go that way. They were trying to use the laws to fend off the settlers who were starting to pour into their lands; but it wasn't easy. The settlers didn't recognize the Indians' claims on the land as legitimate, so they'd just move in and start fencing things off.

Joel Palmer, the Indian agent at the time, could see things were going to get worse. Every year a new crop of settlers was pouring through Central Oregon on its way to the Willamette Valley; sooner or later, the valley would fill up and they'd start grabbing pieces of Paiute, Wasco, and Warm Springs land.

Palmer was afraid if that started happening, the mellow good-citizenship of the tribes would harden into bitterness and anger, and another Indian war would start.

So he presented a solution to them at a three-day council near The Dalles in 1855: A treaty with the federal government in which, in exchange for relinquishing their claim on about 10 million acres of their ancestral lands, the tribes would get clear and undisputed title to 900,000 acres of it.

The tribes were not at all happy with this deal. But they understood that it was likely all they could hope for, and they were grateful to Palmer for facilitating it. They signed, and thereby was the Warm Springs Indian Reservation created.

Well, sort of. When the tribes signed the treaty, the boundaries



Oregon Historical Society

A portrait of General Joel Palmer, negotiator and architect of the Warm Springs Indian Reservation.

they were signing for had not yet been surveyed. The boundaries were described precisely enough to know where they lay, give or take a few hundred feet. The next step would be to get a surveyor in to establish the lines, so that settlers could know where they were and were not allowed to stake their claims.

It took a while, but finally, in 1871, government surveyors Tom Handley and R.T. Campbell came out and mapped the exact boundaries of the new reservation.

The problem was, Handley and Campbell don't seem to have been very careful in their work. Indian agent Palmer had enclosed a hand-drawn map when he sent the treaty back east for ratification; but the surveyors didn't consult it. Nor did they ask any of the Indians which of the nearby mountain ridges they called "the Mutton Mountains" — they just picked a likely-looking set of promontories and started from there.

Which was a problem, because the mountains they picked were a good distance south of the actual Mutton Mountains. So, starting from that point, the reservation they ended up marking out was a good 80,000 acres short. Specifically, a hefty strip of the north end of the reservation and a narrower, but still large, spike-shaped slice of the western end.

As a glance at a Google Maps satellite image of the reservation shows, this disputed strip was

some of the best land on the entire reservation — well watered, flattish and forested.

The tribes immediately lodged a protest. But the federal government, even as it responded to the protest by ordering a new survey, promptly approved the Handley-Campbell survey and started opening up the disputed lands for settlers to claim. Which, of course, they promptly started doing.

The new survey didn't happen until 1886, when surveyor John McQuinn started it. His survey was complete the following year, and it confirmed that the tribes were right: the earlier survey had been wrong.

But by the time the new survey was done, a bunch of settlers had grabbed pieces of the reservation. They fought furiously against any suggestion that they give it up.

Congress dithered. It formed a commission to study the problem; the commission basically decided that yeah, the Indians had been cheated out of their rightful legal due, but who cared? They were Indians. So the commission recommended sticking with the faulty survey and telling the tribes "suck it up, life's not fair."

The tribes continued to protest and argue for their rights under the treaty. In 1917, Congress tried to solve the problem by throwing money at it, offering to buy the tribes out. The tribes were not interested in that; they wanted their land.

Then in 1930, Congress decided to toss this hot potato over to the Judicial Branch, giving the tribes clearance to sue over it.

They promptly did, and so was launched one of the more outrageous legal farces of Oregon history. The court, in 1941, ruled that yes, the Indians were entitled to the land of the McQuinn Strip. However, the judge ruled that they could not simply have their property back; instead, they would have to accept payment for it.

The proposal for payment was the best part, and by "best" I pretty much mean "worst." The judge started off by decreeing that the stolen land would have been worth \$1 an acre in 1871. (Land was actually selling for \$5 to \$15 an acre at that time, depending on how well-watered and productive it was. The McQuinn Strip would probably have landed somewhere in the middle of that range.)

Therefore, the judge announced, the Indians were entitled to \$80,925 plus interest, or \$241,084. But, he added, the government had spent \$252,089 "in behalf of the tribes" during that same period, so actually the Indians needed to hand over the land AND pay the government an extra \$11,005.

I haven't been able to learn for sure whether the tribes took this as an insult, but surely they must have. Wouldn't anyone? In any case, the tribes rejected the offer and continued to protest.

But this really obvious show of bad faith on the court's part seems to have raised the tribes' profile in some important places. In 1943, Oregon Senator Charles McNary and Rep. Lowell Stockman introduced a bill that would have cut straight to the heart of the matter, simply revising the reservation boundary on the McQuinn line and letting the chips fall where they might. The Roosevelt Administration's Department of Justice (J. Edgar Hoover and friends) and Department of Agriculture (home of the Forest Service, which controlled most of the land in the strip) lobbied against it, and it failed.

But after the war, in 1948, Oregon Sen. Guy Cordon tried again — introducing a bill that rather than changing the boundary, simply required the government to give the tribes the gross revenues in grazing fees and timber sales from the disputed lands.

This proposal passed relatively easily, probably because the government wasn't getting very much revenue from it. That changed, though, as the years went by, and by 1970 the tribes had banked almost \$6 million from the deal. This income stream helped

[Land dispute - Page 13](#)



By Slim Randles

Mrs. Doc watched the dancers swirl around the cleared hardwood floor of the Legion hall, and smiled to see her husband, Doc, waltzing with Ardis Fisher. But Mrs. Doc was never one to sit out a waltz, so she looked around at the menu.

Over in the corner, smiling and tapping his foot, was Pop Walker. Pop and several other residents of the Rest of Your Life retirement home were there to enjoy the dance and celebrate the end of summer. Pop has a hard time with his memory, these days, but always forgets things with a smile.

"Pop," said Mrs. Doc, "how about a dance?"

"Why sure ... uh?"

"Mrs. Doc."

"Right. Mrs. Doc."

There are some who say Mrs. Doc has an actual first name, but you know how rumors are spread.

Now Pop had learned to waltz back when more people did it, and the decades had smoothed his dance steps with the fine sanding of time. It was a pleasure for Mrs. Doc to go around the floor with him.

She smiled and winked at her husband as she and Pop danced by, and Doc grinned and swirled a fancy di-do with Ardis, just to show off. Then she and Pop got closer to the bandstand and there was Dud Campbell playing his accordion. He looked happy and surrealistic in the muted reddish lights on the stage. Next to him sat Carla Martinez, playing rhythm guitar and smiling out on her town and her life. Jim Albertson was up there, too, playing the waltz's melody on the harmonica, and trading the lead with Jasper Blankenship on his fiddle.

As she and Pop Walker danced away, the bandstand receded in a blur of light and sound. Passing like ships in the night were Dewey Decker with Mavis from the Mule Barn truck stop. Mavis's hair is growing back in since the treatments, giving everyone in the valley just one more reason to be thankful. Randy Jones and Katie Burchell sailed by on wings of love.

The waltz ended and Pop walked Mrs. Doc to her seat.

"Thanks for the dance, er ... Honey," he said.

"Thank you, Pop."

The people who dance through our lives give us the reason to get up and get dressed each day.

For a good look at the cover of the new family novel, *Whimsy Castle*, go to [Amazon.com](#) and look for books by Slim Randles. Thank you.

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Gardening Tips
By Kym Pokorny



Should I leave my fig leaves on the ground?



Logan Bennett

Yes, you are correct that the fig leaves will eventually rot and the nutrients from them will make their way into the soil.

You should monitor the health of your fig tree throughout the year and look for any disease and/or insect issues. If you see fungal

spotting on leaves then you should rake up the leaves and dispose of them such as in your yard waste container. Fungal spores from infected leaves can remain over winter, and when new leaves come out in the spring, infect the leaves once more. By leaving

diseased leaves on the ground under the tree over the winter, you allow disease pathogens to build up, readily infect your tree the following year, and increase the disease load over time.

A thick leaf mat under a tree can impact grass by preventing light from reaching those plants. This could lead to sparse grass the following spring and invite an invasion of weeds and moss.

Additionally, slugs are one of the decomposers that love dead plant materials. Slugs use dead plant residues to hide, and they also provide food for them. Some insects that attack plants, such as earwigs, could also benefit from having a place to hide and overwinter under or within a dead leaf pile.

If you have been not picking up the leaves and have not had any disease or insect issues, you can continue your current practice. However, if you have a disease or insect outbreak down the road, you may want to rethink your fall/winter clean-up routine.



Country Kitchen

By Mary Emma Allen



CINNAMON FOR AUTUMN COOKING

Many recipes we make this time of year call for cinnamon - pumpkin pies, apple pies, pumpkin cookies, applesauce, pumpkin bread and more.

For ages, spices have added interest to our cooking and once were considered treasures for trading. They were valuable commodities during the Middle Ages and arrived in Europe by caravan from the Orient.

Early use of spice added flavor to foods, as well as covered unpleasant odors in the days before refrigeration. Some spices helped preserve foods.

Cinnamon has been popular for centuries, more than 2,000 years before Christ. The Chinese, the early Egyptians, and the ancient Romans enjoyed cinnamon in foods, for preserving, for medical purposes, and sometimes as a love portion.

This spice also has been used as incense and a perfume throughout the ages. The scent of cinnamon nowadays is associated with holiday cooking. However, my mother often placed a cinnamon stick or two in a pan of water and simmered it on the stove as a room deodorant.

Various Uses for Cinnamon

* When we children were ill, Mother sometimes made Cinnamon Tea. She'd sprinkle a bit of cinnamon in a cup of boiling water, give it a stir, let it steep and serve as tea. Sometimes she would add milk and sugar. If we have cinnamon sticks on hand, she used them for stirring.

* Sprinkle cinnamon on hot cereal. Mother often did this with oatmeal, either stirring it into the pot of cereal or letting us sprinkle it on our bowl. Then add milk and

sugar as desired. (You can sprinkle a cinnamon/sugar mixture on the cereal, too.)

* Stir cinnamon into mashed winter squash, along with butter and perhaps a dash of nutmeg, too. You can prepare sweet potatoes and yams this way.

* Cinnamon also gives an interesting flavor when added to chocolate cake, hot chocolate, chocolate puddings, in fact, any chocolate dessert. Just don't add too much so the cinnamon flavor is overpowering.

* Mix cinnamon with sugar (to desired concentrations) and fill a shaker. We keep one available to sprinkle on buttered toast, toasted bagels, English muffins, French toast, pancakes, waffles, and over applesauce and other deserts.

* Apple slices dipped in a mixture of cinnamon and sugar make them appealing to children as a snack.

CINNAMON TOAST STICKS - Prepare French toast according to your usual recipe (dipping bread into beaten egg and milk and frying it on both sides until golden). Then cut it into strips and dip into a cinnamon/sugar mixture.

Or you can cut the bread into strips before dipping and frying. Then roll in cinnamon/sugar mixture. Shake until the strips are coated.

(c) Mary Emma Allen

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

Quote of the Week

"Live in such a way that you would not be ashamed to sell your parrot to the town gossip."

Will Rogers

Research on Willamette fires published

Results from field surveys and satellite images assess soil stability

An Emergency Response team of scientists and resource specialists who began field surveys of fire-burned areas on the Willamette National Forest last month has released its findings. The images and assessments included burned areas within the Boulder, Chalk, Coffeepot, Ore, and Pyramid fires.

The United States Department of Agriculture, Forest Service assembled a Burned Area Emergency Response (BAER) team on September 25th. The team of experts in soils, hydrology, engineering, botany, recreation, archeology, fisheries, wildlife, and GIS, began assessing the post-fire effects to critical values on Forest Service lands. Values at risk include public safety, roads, buildings, recreation sites, trails, historic and cultural sites, and more.

The BAER Team assesses watersheds for post-fire, rain-related impact, such as flooding, debris-flow potential, and increased soil erosion. The team then recommends time-critical treatments to complete before the first damaging storm event.

The BAER assessment only analyzed fires that had sufficient containment at the time of the surveys. Currently, the Boulder Creek Fire is 524 acres in size and 84% contained. The Chalk Fire covers 6,011 acres and is 100% contained. The Coffeepot Fire is 100% contained at 6,203 acres, while the Pyramid Fire totals 1,312 acres and is also 100% contained. Those four fires were the result of lightning strikes. The Ore Fire, which is 3,485 acres and was human caused, is also 100% contained.

The BAER team developed a Soil Burn Severity (SBS) map for each fire to document which soil properties had changed within the burned area. Fire damaged soils can have low strength, high root mortality, and increased rates of water runoff and erosion. Team members then ran models to estimate changes in stream flows and debris flow potential.

The BAER team identified imminent threats to values at risk based on the rapid scientific assessment. The findings provide the information necessary to prepare and protect against post-fire threats. Emergency treatments will be installed within one year from the date of full containment and may be monitored for up to three years.

Check with Facebook and X @ WillametteNF for more updates.

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Leaburg Library call for submissions

"To put your hands in a river is to feel the chords that bind the earth together."

Barry Lopez

The Leaburg Library is calling for submissions of poetry, essays, or non-fiction addressing the topic, "Rivers." Writing should address life on the river, or the river itself. There will be a special category for children 12 and under.

We come to the river for our own reasons and seek from it our own needs, whether they be joy, adventure, inspiration, comfort or nourishment. What does the river mean to you?

"Sit quietly next to a river for 30 seconds, focus on it and allow it to fill your mind. Then see what thoughts emerge," said Duane Noriyuki, who conducts a memoir writing workshop at the library. "It might bring back memories, or help you think about things in a different way. In one way or another, it affects you."

Noriyuki, a retired staff writer for the Los Angeles Times has been published in books and mag-

azines and is a McKenzie River resident. He has conducted writing workshops for 26 years, many of them at Central Juvenile Hall in downtown L.A. He conducts free memoir writing classes at 6 p.m. Thursdays at the library, located next to the Leaburg fire station.

Submissions should not exceed 1,000 words. A number of submissions will be posted on the library website. Writers should be available read their work at a free, public reading, 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 8, at the library. Submissions must be received by Nov. 30. They can be emailed to martymealey@gmail.com, or sent to the library, P.O. Box 267, Waltherville, OR, 97489.

The library is free and staffed by volunteers. It is open 1:30 to 4 p.m. Mondays through Thursdays, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturdays, closed Fridays and Sundays.

For information, contact library director Marty Mealey at (541) 896-3817 or Duane Noriyuki at (970) 412-2174 (leave message).

Emergency? Call 911

Community Notes

AA Meetings

AA meetings are held on Wednesdays at 6 p.m. and Sundays at 5 p.m. at the McKenzie Valley Presbyterian Church in WALTERVILLE. plus in McKenzie Bridge at 6 p.m. on Thursdays at the McKenzie Bridge Christian Church.

Library Volunteer Drive

With the upcoming Grand Opening of the new O'Brien Memorial Library in Blue River, more volunteers are needed to help offer extended hours and more services to the community. Go to o'brienlibrary.org for more information.

October 25

Yoga In Leaburg

Yoga in Leaburg meets from 8 to 9 a.m. at McKenzie Fire & Rescue's Training Center, 42870 McKenzie Hwy, every Friday.

October 25

Grand Opening & Treats

A Spooktacular Trunk or Treat Block Party Event is set for 6 to 8 p.m. at the Orchid Health McKenzie River Clinic at 51730 Dexter Street in Blue River - combined with the celebration of the opening of the new clinic.

Fun activities include the best trunk contest, Treats, music, and more. We also offer Guided tours of our brand-new clinic—get a peek inside!

Trunks will be on Blue River Drive, the town's Main Street starting at 4 p.m. Costumes are encouraged - everyone's welcome

Want to set up a trunk? Call 541-822-3341 to join in the fun.

October 26

A Dime At A Time

The Bottle Boys are busy from 10 a.m. to noon at the Leaburg

Store, 42840 McKenzie Hwy. for Saturday morning sorting sessions. Donations can be dropped off at the Leaburg Store and maybe help us bag up the containers! Funds from plastic, glass, and aluminum containers go toward the rebuilding of the O'Brien Memorial Library in Blue River, McKenzie River Clinic, and the Vida McKenzie Community Center - all destroyed in the Holiday Farm fire.

October 28

Spfd School Board

The Springfield School Board will meet at 7 p.m. in the Schools Administration Building, 640 A Street. The Board of Directors meet on the 2nd and 4th Mondays of each month (except July). Regular business meetings begin at 7 pm on the 2nd Monday and work sessions are generally held at 4 pm on the 4th Monday of the month.

October 29

Board of Commissioners

Lane County Board of Commissioners. Harris Hall, 125 E 8th Ave, Eugene. The Board of Commissioner meetings begin at 9 a.m. in Harris Hall, unless otherwise noted on the published agenda. Regular Board Meetings are scheduled for Tuesday. Wednesday Board meetings are on an as needed basis.

October 29

Safe Driving Class

A Safe Driving Classroom Course will be held from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at the Vida McKenzie Community Center, 90377 Thomson Lane in Vida/

Safer Driving will not only save you insurance money but it could save your life. Register to attend; AARP membership is not required. Contact Walter Wilson at 541-521-5900 to register.

October 30

Board of Commissioners

Lane County Board of Commissioners. Harris Hall, 125 E 8th Ave, Eugene. The Board of Commissioner meetings begin at 9 a.m. in Harris Hall, unless otherwise noted on the published agenda. Regular Board Meetings are scheduled for Tuesday. Wednesday Board meetings are on an as needed basis.

November 1

Music at VMCC

A night of music with Ukrainian born Natalie Alexandria, an incredibly talented independent music artist is set for 7 p.m. at the Vida McKenzie Community Center, 90377 Thomson Ln, Vida, Natalie offers an impressive and diverse range of the Greatest American hits across various genres. Her captivating program includes beloved styles such as Jazz, Pop, Latin, Soft Rock, Country, Folk, and Reggae. You can look forward to enjoying her original compositions, along with iconic hits from legendary artists like Fleetwood Mac, Sade, and the Mamas and the Papas. Join the festivities with friends and family—no ticket is required to enter. Donations are warmly welcomed to help raise funds for the VMCC. For any questions or more information, please call Gerry Aster at 626-437-0539.

November 2

Waste Collection Event

For community members in the McKenzie corridor, save a trip to Eugene and drop off your household hazardous waste materials closer to home during a collection event on Saturday, Nov. 2 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at McKenzie Fire & Rescue in Leaburg: 42870 McKenzie Highway.

Many common household products contain hazardous ingredients. Anything with a caution label such as Danger, Warning or Caustic can become a pollutant to groundwater and streams. Avoiding these products saves money and protects people, wildlife and our environment.

November 2

PUB Halloween Party

The McKenzie Station Pub in McKenzie Bridge will host a Halloween Party from 7:30 to 10 pm. at 56393 McKenzie Hwy. It will include Live Music * Costumes * \$5 cover.

McKenzie Fire Chief honored

Deputy Fire Chief Chris Heppel, with Eugene Springfield Fire, presented McKenzie Fire & Rescue Chief Bucich with the 2024 Oregon Fire Chiefs Association (OFCA) Presidents Award. This award is not given regularly but when presented, is to an individual with sustained involvement and significant impact within multi-layers of government: locally, regionally, State and Federal.

For Chief Bucich's continued service, representing Fire Chief's across the State and McKenzie Fire & Rescue, the OFCA awarded the 2024 Presidents award to him.

Chief Bucich thanked Deputy Fire Chief Chris Heppel, OFCA



Darren Bucich, left, and Chris Heppel.

Past President, for this honor and the Board for their continued support.

November 5

A Dime At A Time

The Bottle Boys are busy from 10 a.m. to noon at the Leaburg Store, 42840 McKenzie Hwy. for Saturday morning sorting sessions. Donations can be dropped off at the Leaburg Store and maybe help us bag up the containers! Funds from plastic, glass, and aluminum containers go toward the rebuilding of the O'Brien Memorial Library in Blue River, McKenzie River Clinic, and the Vida McKenzie Community Center - all destroyed in the Holiday Farm fire.

November 5

Board of Commissioners

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November 5

Family Story Time

From 10 to 11 a.m. at the Camp Creek Church Fellowship Hall, 37529 Upper Camp Creek Rd. Some special fun for children 5 and under (with their adults) to enjoy stories, singing, laughter, and friendship.

November 5

EWEB Board

The Eugene Water & Electric Board Commissioners will meet from 5:30 to 8 p.m. at EWEB's Roosevelt Operations Center, 4200 Roosevelt Blvd. in Eugene. Customers and the general public are welcome and encouraged to attend in person or watch a live stream of the meeting in real-time. An interpreter can be

provided with 48 hours' notice prior to the meeting. To arrange for this service, call 541-685-7000. Each person will have up to three minutes to speak, though the Board President may adjust speaking time as needed.

November 5

Walterville Grange

The Walterville Grange #416 will meet from 6:30 to 8 p.m. at 39259 Camp Creek Road. The first two monthly meetings are held on the first Tuesday

November 6

Board of Commissioners

Lane County Board of Commissioners. Harris Hall, 125 E 8th Ave, Eugene. The Board of Commissioner meetings begin at 9 a.m. in Harris Hall, unless otherwise noted on the published agenda. Regular Board Meetings are scheduled for Tuesday. Wednesday Board meetings are on an as needed basis.

November 15

Spaghetti Feed

The Walterville Grange will be holding its annual Spaghetti Feed on Friday, from 5 to 7 p.m. at the Walterville Grange Community Center, 39259 Camp Creek Road. Grangers will be serving spaghetti with red meat sauce, garlic bread, salad, dessert, and drinks. Bring your friends and family for a great meal and to enjoy some fellowship with your neighbors. Tickets will be sold for raffle prizes. We will also be collecting canned food items for the upriver food bank and accepting donations to further upkeep of the Grange Hall. Come see the new siding, windows, curtains, and front step handrails installed with your helpful donations. For more information call 541-521-4760.

<h2>An Invitation to Worship</h2>	<p>Living Water Family Fellowship Pastor - Doug Fairington 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)</p>
<p>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</p>	<p>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</p>
<p>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</p>	

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Direct Answers

By Wayne & Tamara Mitchell

Upper Hand



Mario Ame

Upper Hand

I interviewed for an executive assistant position with a new company. The job involves working for three of the company's vice-presidents. After I was chosen I was asked to come in and sign an offer letter. The human relations manager told me vacation time was negotiable. The offer gave me two weeks after 90 days. I asked for three.

The human relations manager then spoke to the senior vice-president, a man who is to be my direct supervisor. When he questioned her, he asked if she told me two weeks was more than the usual a person gets when hired. She told him yes, which was a lie. So, by covering her ass, it made me look bad.

My first thought is, if this comes up in conversation, I will

be straightforward and say, "I was told vacation time was negotiable, so I asked her for three weeks." Do you think I should leave the subject alone, bring it up on my own, or tell him if asked?

April

April, the zoologist Desmond Morris observed that we spend a great deal of time exploring our higher motives and an equal amount of time ignoring our lower ones. You want to view the personnel manager in terms of honesty, integrity, and ethics, but there is another way to see her actions.

For decades psychology has ignored the concept of dominance, but it is a daily fact of our existence and our awareness of it starts when we are very young children. In any group of people or animals, some individuals hold a higher rank than others.

You are about to work for three high-status individuals. As a new hire your rank is low. The personnel manager, faced with a choice of appeasing a dominant individual or protecting a low ranking one, yielded to power. People caught in the middle typically lie when cornered. Viewing this from the most base level, her behavior is not surprising.

The best thing to do is let this

go and hope it is forgotten. If you bring up the issue, you will be confirming you asked for three weeks, which will not be seen as a positive in your bosses' eyes. It will make you seem greedy and demanding. From their point of view, you are a tool to ensure their success. They do not want you missing in action.

You have also been shown you cannot trust the human relations manager. This means you should never trust her, and it also means you should never let her know that you don't trust her.

Wayne & Tamara

Inclined To Leave

I have been with my husband four years. Recently he confided that he had a homosexual encounter when he was 15. He insists it was experimental and awkward for him more than anything. He insists he is heterosexual and has no idea why he allowed it to happen. Evidently his friend came on to him, and he allowed this friend to perform oral sex.

Honestly, I feel like packing and leaving. I never doubted my husband's sexuality, but I can't grasp a man experimenting with another man. I know it happens with young women, but this seems totally different. I don't want to be intimate with him anymore.

You can't be straight and do something like this, right? I have no problem with gay men. Many of my friends are gay.

Meredith

Meredith, we'll give you a fact, a probability, and a possibility. First, adolescents often experiment with sex, and this is aggravated by their parents' failure to provide guidance in this area. One encounter at 15 doesn't carry much weight.

Second, without knowing more we would surmise that your husband's boyhood friend was himself sexually abused.

Third, if you're ready to leave

your husband over this, is it possible you were thinking about leaving even before he confided in you?

Wayne & Tamara

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

Play Audio

BY Haki R. Madhubuti

For David J. Steiner, artist and filmmaker, December 26, 2016

art has its own language, name, and questions,

has clear talk, justice, and motivation.

art does not create itself,

does not escape the daily windstorms,

fires, gun blasts, ignorant mumbblings,

or cruel misrepresentations of the

rulers and their gatekeepers.

artists and their art are liberated souls

forever sprinting and searching in the world.

they do not see borders, walls, or can't do possibilities,

and when confronted with such,

they quietly and questionably,

loudly and deliberately—with

pens, paper, computers, film, cameras, paint,

canvas, phones, creative ideas, and feet—

run toward fear

without hesitation or limiting doubts,

with good and loving intentions, struggle

to move all of us into the yes community of

life-centered people

as directed by their art, conscience, and culture

while intentionally

advancing quality definitions of a

kind-based civilization and world.

Source: Poetry (April 2023)

Dr. Haki R. Madhubuti, poet, author, publisher, and educator, is regarded as an architect of the Black Arts Movement and is founder and publisher of Chicago's Third World Press. Third World Press celebrated its 55th anniversary in September of 2022.

Madhubuti earned his MFA at the University of Iowa. He has taught at Columbia College of Chicago, Cornell University, the University of Illinois at Chicago, Howard University, Morgan State University, the University of Iowa, DePaul University, and Chicago State University, where he founded and directed the Gwendolyn Brooks Center for Black Literature and Creative Writing. For more than 20 years, the Center initiated Black writer's conferences that brought every major Black writer in the nation to Chicago State University. Madhubuti cofounded the first MFA in Creative Writing at a predominantly Black university and cofounded the International Literary Hall of Fame for Writers of African Descent.

Madhubuti received his fifth honorary doctorate from Knox College in May 2022 and was named University Distinguished Professor Emeritus at Chicago State University in May 2022.

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Help Wanted

The Vida McKenzie Community Center will begin its Tuesday Senior Center in November and seeks a Part-time Paid Program Director. Call Gerry Aster 541-896-3001.

Personal

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

Piano Lessons

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

Quilters/Needle Crafters

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

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47. Animal house
 48. When a 3rd party holds assets
 50. Prefers
 52. Desk well content
 53. Withdraw gradually
 55. Black and white sea bird
 57. *”_____ up the wrong tree”
 61. *”A date which will live in _____”
 64. Certain monochromatic cookie, pl.
 65. Weary traveler’s destination
 67. Robin Hood’s companion Tuck
 69. September stone
 70. Tolstoy of “War and Peace” fame
 71. Salon file
 72. Hurlly burly
 73. Immeasurable period
 74. Raja’s wife

- DOWN**
1. Oftentimes, poetic abbreviation
 2. *”Welcome to the _____”
 3. Cough syrup balsam
 4. Not slouching
 5. Assigned a chore
 6. Worry
 7. *”I’m walkin’ on _____”
 8. Old-time calculators
 9. Ringo Starr’s instrument
 10. Ambience
 11. Bridge, e.g.
 12. Kept together
 15. *F. Scott Fitzgerald’s “The Beautiful and the _____”
 20. Possible allergic reaction
 22. *”What’s _____ is new again”
 24. One thousand tons
 25. *”_____ like no one is watching”
 26. La Scala solos
 27. Fundamental
 29. *”_____ is like a box of chocolates”
 31. Madrid’s Club de Fv/tbol
 32. Kenyan warrior
 33. Dined at home
 34. *”Jump the _____,” what Fonzie did
 36. 100 cents in Ethiopia
 38. *”No _____ for you!”
 42. Previously an Oiler
 45. In no manner, archaic
 49. Skin cyst
 51. Bear pain
 54. Quick and light on one’s feet
 56. Deserved consequence
 57. *”You’re gonna need a bigger _____”
 58. Jason’s vessel
 59. Use a book
 60. Japanese zither
 61. Involved (2 words)
 62. Demeanor
 63. Ready and eager
 66. New, prefix
 68. *J.D. Salinger’s “Catcher in the _____”

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FILL-IN-THE-BLANKS

- ACROSS**
1. Eight performers
 6. Air traffic control control-ling org.
 9. 100-meter race
 13. *Fauna, Merryweather and _____, fairy godmothers
 14. Adam’s body part in Bible
 15. Stone fruit
 16. Type of bulrush, pl.
 17. *”Dawn of a new _____”
 18. Pertaining to ear
 19. *”_____ list”
 21. *”Your wish is my _____”
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23. Actor Danson
24. Pottery oven
25. *Migos: “Look at My _____”
28. Cold cuts counter
30. Inner skin layer, pl.
35. Riyadh native
37. One thousandth of a liter, pl.
39. *”Till _____ do us part”
40. Inconclusive
41. Where there’s trouble?
43. On a cruise, e.g.
44. Man-made stone pile
46. Purse for a formal affair

Solution on Page 9

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

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

[Click here or go to: tinyurl.com/yeye92hx](https://tinyurl.com/yeye92hx)

Events from Oct 22nd

Call for Volunteers

Volunteer Drive

Watershed Wednesday

Yoga in Leaburg

Coll for Volunteers

Lane County Board of Commissioners

Lane County Board of Commissioners

Lane County Board of Commissioners

McKenzie Valley Neighbors Radio Group

McKenzie Valley Neighbors Radio Group

Safe Driving We Save You Money

Lane County Board of Commissioners

Safe Driving Course

McKenzie Valley Neighbors Radio Group

Family Story Time

McKenzie River Food Pantry

Wacky Wednesdays Bingo

Watershed Wednesday

Wacky Wednesdays Bingo

McKenzie Valley Neighbors Radio Group

McKenzie Valley Neighbors Radio Group

Safe Driving We Save You Money

Lane County Board of Commissioners

Safe Driving Course

McKenzie Valley Neighbors Radio Group

McKenzie Valley Neighbors Radio Group

FOOD pantry

BINGO!

Wacky Wednesdays Bingo

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KIDS EAT FREE

SKELTONS FROM THE CLOSET

WACKY WEDNESDAYS BINGO!

Springfield School Board Meeting

Lane County Board of Commissioners

Lane County Board of Commissioners

Lane County Board of Commissioners



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Problem Solved



By Christopher Elliott

Why won't Citi remove these fraudulent charges from my card?

Kathleen Sullivan has \$4,000 in fraudulent charges on her Citi Costco Visa. Why won't Citibank help her?

I've had 20 fraudulent charges on my Citibank account, and I need your help removing them.

The charges happened six months ago, and they were all for an online travel agency called Agoda. I immediately notified Citi and Agoda. Citi issued me a new card, but the fraudulent charges continued. It took four new cards before the charges stopped.

The charges were all for hotels in and around Singapore, usually for one or two nights. I saw a name on an invoice that I reported. Citi, of course, told me they would investigate. Agoda said the charges were legit, so Citi wants me to pay.

Because I had used Agoda in the past, Citi said they consider it a "billing discrepancy" and not a fraud. An Agoda representative told me the company was not going to charge me and I should talk with Citi. But that was not true -- Agoda charged me and Citi allowed it.

I thought if you called and got a person's name and date of conversation, the information would be recorded in my account. I have learned that is not the case. Can you help me?

Kathleen Sullivan
Redwood City, Calif.

It would help if you weren't responsible for any of these fraudulent charges -- not a one.

This textbook case of bureaucracy and lack of accountability costs an innocent customer \$4,000.

But let's break this down. First, when you saw a fraudulent charge on your card, you did the right thing by reporting it. One of Citi's card benefits is that you will not be responsible for unauthorized charges. Citi defines those as charges neither you nor any authorized user made. According to your records, you met both criteria; an unknown person outside the country made these.

So why did the charges continue? That's a mystery. Citi may have updated all the merchants you were doing business with, including Agoda. When you signed up for your Agoda account, you might have authorized your credit card to share that information with the company. (I asked Citi about your case, but it didn't say what went wrong.)

The only thing that would have

stopped the charges is if you'd closed your account. But, of course, you couldn't have known that.

Someone may have hacked into your account -- again, it's difficult to say how someone obtained your account credentials and made fraudulent bookings. What is certain is that your bank should have stepped up to fix this problem ASAP.

I list the names, numbers, and email addresses of the key executives at Citigroup, Costco, and Agoda on my consumer advocacy site, Elliott.org. A brief, polite appeal to one of them should have helped them see that they were overlooking something.

And what was that "something"? Even though you had an Agoda account, it didn't mean you made those transactions. Citi's guarantee is unambiguous. It should have promptly reversed the charges and not held you responsible for future fraudulent charges.

I find it remarkable that these reservations were made under a different name for a hotel in a country you were not even in at the time. Plus, you reported the transaction as fraudulent. This should have been an open-and-shut case.

Could you have handled this differently? Well, you could have potentially gotten Costco involved. And I think you might have appealed your credit card dispute. I have more advice in my complete guide to credit card disputes.

I contacted Citibank on your behalf. It also didn't respond to my initial inquiry, but I asked again. Then you contacted me with some good news.

"I got a letter from Citi today saying they have credited my account on the fraudulent charges," you said. "After almost six months of trying to get Citi to acknowledge the fraud, I felt very hopeless. I am so grateful!"

Christopher Elliott is the founder of Elliott Advocacy (https://elliottadvocacy.org), a nonprofit organization that helps consumers solve their problems. Email him at chris@elliott.org or get help by contacting him at https://elliottadvocacy.org/help/ChristopherElliott

Sheriff's Report

Continued From Page 3

- Holden Creek Ln. & McK. Hwy.
- 7:34 p.m.:** Juvenile Problem - 39600 blk, Deerhorn Rd.
- 8:22 p.m.:** Vehicle Stop - McK. Hwy. & Holden Creek Ln.
- 10:41 p.m.:** Open Gate - McGowan overlook.
- Oct. 19: 3:13 a.m.:** Suspicious Conditions - 90700 blk, Hill Rd.
- 8:11 a.m.:** Water Patrol - 41900 blk, Deerhorn Rd.
- 8:31 a.m.:** Water Patrol - 44500 blk, McK. Hwy.
- 10:14 a.m.:** Burglary - 91100 blk, Sunderman Rd.
- 10:42 a.m.:** Juvenile Problem - 39600 blk, Deerhorn Rd.
- 12:42 p.m.:** Suspicious Vehicle - 3900 blk, Hayden Bridge Rd.
- 4:32 p.m.:** Rescue Operation - Lat: 44.1095. Long: -122.022.
- Oct. 20: 11:50 a.m.:** Alarm - 41900 blk, McK. Hwy.
- 4:51 p.m.:** Suspicious Conditions - 54700 blk, Caddis Ln.
- 5:02 p.m.:** Assist, Information - 34000 blk, Country View Dr.

- 6:31 p.m.:** Civil Problem - 95900 blk, Marcola Rd.
- 7:30 p.m.:** Assist, Information - McK. Hwy. near the blue bridge.
- 8:25 p.m.:** Civil Problem - Marcola area.
- 10:36 p.m.:** Motor Vehicle Accident, Unknown Injury - 55400 blk, McK. River Dr.
- Oct. 21: 3:08 p.m.:** Civil Service - 48100 blk, Conley Rd.
- 4:25 p.m.:** Traffic Hazard - Blue River Dr. & Elk Creek Rd.
- Oct. 17: 7:27 p.m.:** Lost Subject. Lat: 44.08678818. Long: 122.279113. At about 7:30 p.m., Lane County Sheriff's Search & Rescue responded to the area of Terwilliger Hot Springs after two people visiting the area in their car became lost on forest roads. Search & Rescue volunteers located their car and escorted them back to the highway. Lane County is a beautiful place to recreate but use caution. As we head into fall, daylight ends sooner, and temperatures drop faster. Always tell someone where you plan to go, and always be prepared to be out overnight wherever you go!
- 8:32 p.m.:** Suspicious Conditions - 93200 blk, Holland Ln. A horn was being blown in the area for about 30 minutes.
- 8:57 p.m.:** Suspicious Conditions - Howard Rd. & Marcola Rd. Signs have been posted in the area for a haunted maze on Howard Road, charging \$20. The resident reported there is no maze and there is only a transient camp on the property.
- Oct. 18: 7:03 a.m.:** Hit & Run - Terwilliger Hot Springs. A driver leaving the area reported a vehicle drove into their lane, causing them to crash. No suspect information on the other vehicle.
- Oct. 19: 10:14 a.m.:** Burglary - 91100 blk, Sunderman Rd. A building on the property had a broken window, however nothing

appeared to have been stolen.
4:32 p.m.: Rescue Operation - Lat: 44.1095. Long: 122.022. Lane County Sheriff's Search & Rescue rescued an injured hiker in the area.

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

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

October 19 - Sidney Moss was a surveyor, stonemason, hotelkeeper, storeowner and author. He came west with the Hastings expedition in 1842 and was called on to survey the new town of Oregon City. He performed this duty with nothing more than a pocket compass and a piece of rope that he claimed, "Is exactly a rod long, on a dry day." Moss purchased a lot in Oregon City and constructed and operated the first hotel west of the Rocky Mountains. By 1850 he had amassed a fortune and sent a partner east with \$63,000, a fortune in those days, to purchase merchandise for his store. But the money was lost along the way, and although Moss lived to be 91 years old, he never recovered financially from this setback.

CORRECTION

In last week's edition of River Reflections the article regarding petitions for changes in McKenzie School District operations was incorrect. The petitions have qualified to be circulated but have not yet qualified for a ballot.

CROSSWORD SOLUTION

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Letters to the Editor

Continued From Page 2

bureaucrats—hardly a position in line with the ideals of fairness and responsibility.

While Darin managed to keep some sports programs running, he failed to address the core issues facing our schools. His record shows that, while he might stand firm in a debate, he's less interested in finding solutions that work for everyone. Michelle Emmons is focused on results. She is committed to restoring fiscal responsibility, ensuring our tax dollars are spent wisely, and supporting policies that will strengthen our schools and local economy.

Michelle knows that the only way to protect our community's rural values in an Urban Democrat-controlled legislature is to work with others, not against

them. She doesn't see bipartisanship as surrender but as the only way to actually get our community values into law. That's what true leadership looks like—putting the needs of the community above personal pride.

This election is about more than slogans and political posturing. It's about choosing a leader who will fight for our community in a way that reflects the values we hold dear. Michelle Emmons is that leader. We should be voting for progress, not more division. Vote for real leadership and real results. Vote Michelle Emmons for State Representative

Devon Lawson
Vida

[Return To Page 2](#)

Guest Opinions

Continued From Page 2

disqualifications for conflicts of interest. It should surprise no one that political activists served on the committee and created toxic district maps that protect certain incumbents and afford certain candidates unfair advantages. Overall, The Committee's work reflected a partisan political perspective despite the fact the county offices are by law non-partisan positions.

Of course, the committee is called the Independent Redistricting Committee. In no respect is the committee independent of political interests. The committee simply provides political cover for gerrymandering. The committee design is so subject to corrupt practices that a paid political consultant for two county commissioners was a committee member and was credited with being the principal author of the polluted map adopted by the Commissioners in 2021. None of this distasteful conduct is illegal under county laws, even though most people would regard it as wrong.

A county charter provision to address such corrupt redistricting practices is essential to having competitive and fair elections. There is no clause in the Oregon Constitution that has been interpreted to prevent local government gerrymandering and the only state statute that does address gerrymandering has proved to be toothless in the courts. Do not confuse federal cases involving the right to vote with anti gerrymandering cases that involve

how we vote. The federal courts simply do not hear objections to incumbency protections and partisan advantages created by local governments. The only way to protect voters from the politically motivated redistricting is through charter provisions beyond the reach of county politicians.

I certainly understand the desire of politicians once in office, and their supporters, to have the opportunity to exert undue influence over the next election; "to the victor goes the spoils" is not a new idea but in the Oregon tradition of government it is immoral.

Voters should pick their elected officials, not the other way around. Schemes that allow politicians to choose who votes for them should not be tolerated for the same reasons we do not tolerate tainted juries. Saying yes to measure 20-362 protects the sacred right of voters to decide who they elect to county offices.

I am a retired attorney and live in Eugene. While in private practice there I had many local governments as clients. I also served in state government in several different positions by appointment of both Republicans and Democrats. I served as Deputy Attorney General, Chairman of LCDC, Director of the Dept. of Commerce and President of SAIF corp. After my last assignment in government I worked in the insurance industry as a claims executive.

[Return To Page 2](#)

Watch for wildlife: Vehicle collisions with deer, elk peak this time of year



Roblyn Brown

Vehicle collisions with deer and elk tend to peak in October and November, when migration and breeding puts them on the move, making them more likely to cross roads. Fewer daylight hours and rainy weather also reduce drivers' visibility.

Each year, Oregon Department of Transportation crews remove about 6,000 carcasses of deer struck and killed by vehicles on Oregon's public roadways, and many more die away from roads or on county, city or private roads. ODFW research tracking mule deer with GPS collars shows that deer faithfully follow their migratory routes, no matter how many roads are in the way. They often have no choice but to cross roads to get to food and shelter.

Drivers should follow these tips to avoid collisions with wildlife:

* Watch for animal crossing signs: These signs mark areas with frequent wildlife crossings so stay alert when you see one.

* Be cautious in areas with

dense vegetation and curves: Wildlife can be difficult to spot in these areas until they are near the road.

* Expect more animals when you see one: If you spot one animal, more are likely nearby. Focus on where the animal came from (not where it's going), as others may be following.

* Slow down and stay in your lane: Swerving to avoid animals often leads to more serious crashes. Maintain control of your vehicle.

* Always wear your seat belt: Even minor collisions can cause serious injuries and wearing your seat belt is one of the best ways to stay safe.

This is also the time of year when the most road-killed deer and elk are salvaged for meat. Drivers who hit a deer or elk (or see one that is struck) and salvage it must fill out a free online permit and turn the head in within five days so ODFW can test for Chronic Wasting Disease. This

highly infectious and always fatal disease affecting deer, elk and moose has never been detected in Oregon but was recently detected in Idaho, California, and Washington. One symptom of the disease is loss of balance/coordination, which makes road-killed deer and elk an important group to test. More info about ODFW's Roadkill Salvage Permits can be found at <https://myodfw.com/articles/roadkill-salvage-permits>

Wildlife crossings are also helping reduce the number of animals on highways in some areas of Oregon. These structures create safer passage for wildlife and help protect travelers from collisions. ODFW and ODOT are continuing efforts to build more wildlife crossings to reduce wildlife-vehicle collisions and maintain long-term habitat connectivity. Key partners, including the Oregon Wildlife Foundation and the Oregon Hunters Association, have played vital roles in supporting these efforts.

If you want to support wildlife passage, consider the Watch for Wildlife Oregon license plate. Proceeds from this plate fund wildlife passage and habitat connectivity projects statewide.

You can help the state identify roadkill hotspots by participating in the Roadkills of Oregon project. ODFW, in partnership with the Oregon Zoo, is asking people for assistance recording the locations of road-killed mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians, and invertebrates. If you see a road-killed animal of any species and it is safe to do so, pull over, take a picture of the carcass, and add it to the project on iNaturalist. These observations are invaluable in identifying priority areas for the state to take action to help save wildlife.

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More than 20 recreation areas have reopened on Willamette NF

The Willamette National Forest has been opening up some of the Chalk Fire and Young Grasshopper Fire closure areas due to favorable weather conditions and successful firefighting efforts. The updated closure orders went into effect on October 18th and will extend through April 30th.

The lightning-caused Chalk Fire, located in the Middle Fork Ranger District, covers 6,011 acres and 100% contained. The Young Grasshopper Fire, which sparked from a lightning storm on September 6th, is approximately 5,313 acres.

Officials say the reductions for the Chalk and Young Grasshopper closure areas will reopen access to more than 20 recreation sites and trails in the Middle Fork and McKenzie River Ranger Districts.

Newly reopened recreation sites include Huckleberry OHV Area (west side) and Box Canyon Horse Camp. Newly reopened roads include Forest Service Road (FSR) 19, also known as Aufderheide Drive, as well as FSR 1912, 1925, 1926, and 1980.

Newly reopened trails and trailheads include Box Canyon Trail

#3660 (north trailhead), Chuck-sney Mountain Trail #3306, Constitution Grove Trail #3675, Erma Bells Trail #3563, Hidden Lake SIA trailhead, Indian Ridge Trail #3315, North Fork Trail #3666, Shale Ridge Trail #3567, and Alpine Trail #3450 with all trailheads now accessible.

The reduced closures areas will greatly expand hunting opportunities, reopening miles of road and thousands of acres. As wildfires and repair crews are still active in the area, hunters are advised to review existing closure maps and stay out of closed areas for their own safety and the safety of firefighters and recovery crews.

Kiahanie Campground, Skookum Creek Campground, Box Canyon Guard Station, and Indian Ridge Lookout were removed from the closure areas but are closed for the season.

For the complete list of closed recreation sites and roads included in the closure orders, visit our website at tinyurl.com/bdf8xs25

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city's economic development committee.

Supporting local communities was another area of common interest, with the candidates agreeing on the need to boost economic opportunities in rural areas.

Emmons said she's experienced in "small business development and regional hubs for emergency services." Harbick said he's interested in resiliency after wildfires and "the core things that's causing these things to happen."

Voters are likely to consider reproductive rights, healthcare, and environmental policies when deciding how to vote.

Emmons said, "Personal freedom is a core value for me, and it's also a core value for our state, especially when it comes to reproductive rights. Harbick, she said, is "the only candidate in the legislature endorsed by Oregon Right to Life. He's made it clear in interviews that he would work to repeal our constitutional right to abortion."

Calling parental rights a "key priority," Harbick said he opposed

House Bill 2002 because it "says at the age of 15, your son or daughter can get puberty blockers, hormone replacement therapy, or transgender surgery without parents even being told about it."

Their opinions also clash over environmental policies.

Harbick noted he'd taken his log truck to Salem to protest the state forester's plans to set aside 50,000 state-owned acres. The program, he said, creates "no logging, no reducing fuels, no roads, but many dollars to collect samples and watch birds and environmental studies for the next 70 years."

Emmons voiced support for eco-friendly economic development and sustainability. "As an outdoor advocate I can help to address the climate crisis by upholding Oregon's state resilience plan, which lays out a strategy for improving infrastructure to withstand natural disasters like wildfire," she said.

Both had an opportunity to tell people why they had decided to pursue placing their names on the ballot.

Emmons said she was running for Oregon House District 12

"because I do believe in a future where everyone has the freedom to make their own choices. I believe in strong public schools and the separation between church and state." She added, "I don't want to see a voucher program come into our public schools."

Harbick has aligned himself with conservative values while calling for a shift in the balance of representation that today favors Democrats in Salem.

"There are 30 senators in Oregon, 17 Democrat, 13 Republican, and one governor. Those 91 people make all the rules and regulations that you and I have to live by," he said. "We need to get the balance back in the legislature, and I'll continue to work hard for you guys and listen to your needs and values," he added.

As of October 2024, Darin Harbick has raised over \$115,000 for his campaign for Oregon House District 12. Michelle Emmons, who entered the race through a write-in campaign, has raised less in comparison, but specific figures for her 2024 campaign were not readily available.

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Conservative or liberal?

Continued From Page 1

Guest Opinions

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tyCommissioners. Measure 20-362 would replace Lane Code Chapter 21.001 - Independent Redistricting Committee (Ordinance 21-04, 07.08.21) by placing in the Lane County Charter a newly created Citizens Redistricting Commission and one-time redistricting to redraw county commissioner district boundaries effective before the 2026 election. Current district boundaries were approved in December 2021 by a three-to-two vote selecting one of three maps provided by an Independent Redistricting Committee.

Arguments in support say that the new commission, not the Board of County Commissioners, should have the final say in adopting district maps. New selection criteria are needed to keep political interests out of the process

using a blind drawing of eligible applicants. The measure also introduces a one-time mid-cycle redistricting process noting that the redistricting effort in 2021 drew map boundaries with a portion of Eugene in every district suggesting that all five commissioners could have Eugene addresses.

Opponents say the requirement that redistricting be done by an independent committee already exists in Lane County code and was used in the creation of the current district map. To uphold the equality principle of one-person, one-vote each district must, to the degree possible, have an equal number of residents. The non-Eugene districts have relatively small percentages of voters with Eugene addresses, from 3% to 20%, making it implausible that

all five commissioners could all be Eugeneans.

Conducting redistricting before new census data comes available is a waste of taxpayers money and puts an undue burden on County elections staff. There was no indication that the current map is flawed, never having been appealed to the Secretary of State or in court. The measure was put on the ballot without a public hearing and against the recommendation of the Charter Review Committee. Opponents claim Measure 20-362 is an attempt by elected officials to gerrymander district boundaries and is misleading.

Find recordings of Commissioner and other meeting webcasts at <https://www.lanecounty>

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Land dispute

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Simmonspx/Wikipedia

A view of the Kah-Nee-Ta Hot Springs Resort and Campground in 2009.

the tribes build their legendary Ka-Nee-Ta Resort in the 1960s.

But around the end of the 1960s, lawmakers started working behind the scenes to get all parties on board with a plan to give the land back for real. Rep. Al Ullman took the point on it, and by the time he was introducing the bill to give the land back, in late 1971, there was widespread agreement that it was high time to make things right.

This seems to have been news to John McGuire, the chief of the Forest Service, though. In what seems to have been intended as a surprise move to kill the bill, late in the process McGuire suddenly announced that the Nixon Administration opposed the bill. He said the Forest Service wanted to spend two years on a study of all the borders of all the Indian reservations before considering signing off on adjusting this one.

Was he playing for time? Was he hoping the Forest Service would pick up a few acres in the process? Whatever the motive, it made little difference, because a few weeks later Senators Mark Hatfield and Bob Packwood got an identical bill out of the Senate Interior Committee and by early August it had passed the Senate with ease.

The following month, it passed in the House — literally unanimously.

When the bill landed on President Nixon's desk, he promptly signed it. Whether McGuire was right or not in saying his administration

opposed it, it had passed by more than enough votes to be veto-proof, so Nixon didn't waste any political capital opposing it.

And that's how, at long last, after 85 years of intransigent possession of stolen property, the U.S. government finally gave the Warm Springs Indians back their land.

The tribes took possession of all the public lands, and announced that the owners of private lands in the McQuinn Strip would have their property rights respected as they always were, but that if they should ever want to sell, the tribes would make an offer.

(Sources: "The McQuinn Strip Boundary Dispute," an un-by-lined article on the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs Website at warmsprings-nsn.gov; "McQuinn Strip Land Dispute," an article by Joshua Binus published on the Oregon Historical Society's Oregon History Project Website in 2002; "101-Year Land Dispute," an article by George W. Linn published in *Little Known Tales from Oregon History*, Vol. 1 (ed.: Geoff Hill) by Sun Publishing in 1988)

Finn J.D. John teaches at Oregon State University and writes about odd tidbits of Oregon history. His most recent book, *Bad Ideas and Horrible People of Old Oregon*, published by Ouragan House early this year. To contact him or suggest a topic: finn@offbeatoregon.com or 541-357-2222.

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Land dispute

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When the bill landed on President

Like lawmakers themselves, Oregonians may not be ready for ranked choice voting

By Tim Nesbitt

Oregon Capital Chronicle

Oregonians have become increasingly dissatisfied with our systems of representation at the state and local level and are interested in ways to restructure our elections to better reflect their interests, according to surveys by the Oregon Values and Beliefs Center.

These sentiments would appear to set the stage for their approval of Measure 117, which would establish systems of ranked choice voting for federal, state and local elections that promise more choices for voters and fewer obstacles for independent, centrist and minor party candidates.

But the center's findings highlighted a notable difference between voters' interest in electoral reforms (characterized as "reform curious") and their more likely support for such reforms ("reform ready"). The center's analysis put ranked choice voting in the "curious" category, and the design of Measure 117 makes me think that voters will not be ready to support it.

That's because there are devilish details in the measure. It would establish one version of ranked choice voting for statewide and federal elections and authorize — but not mandate — an entirely different version for local governments. And it doesn't help that state lawmakers, who drafted this measure for the ballot, exempted themselves from both versions and will continue to be elected through the current plurality system.

Ranked choice voting works differently: It encompasses various ways to give voters the ability to mark their ballots for their first, second or more choices of candidates in an election.

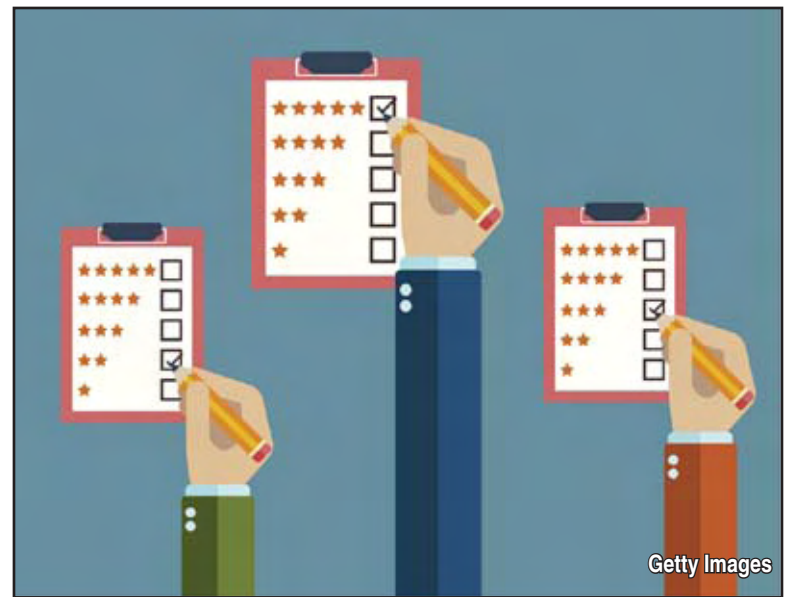
I have long been in favor of ranked choice voting in its more popular "instant runoff" version, now in use in Oregon's Benton county, in many U.S. cities and in the state of Alaska. This is the single-winner version. Voters rank their preferences in a field of candidates. If no candidate gets a majority of voters' first choices, less popular candidates are eliminated and their voters' next choices are counted until a single candidate secures a majority of the votes.

This change would have a centering effect in our elections,

Nixon's desk, he promptly signed it. Whether McGuire was right or not in saying his administration opposed it, it had passed by more than enough votes to be veto-proof, so Nixon didn't waste any political capital opposing it.

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Getty Images

In ranked choice voting, voters choose candidates in order of preference.

especially in primaries. Under our current system, major party candidates can advance to the general election with their party's full backing despite being favored by less than a majority of the party's voters. But with instant runoff ranked choice voting, primary winners would be more likely to represent the mainstream of their parties. In the general elections that follow, voters would face fewer forced choices between candidates who represent the extremes of the major parties, while third-party and independent candidates would be better able to compete without becoming spoilers.

If, like me, you'd like to see candidates in our elections win with the support of majorities, you'll be glad to see this method proposed for Oregon's primaries and general elections for president, members of Congress and statewide offices, including governor.

But you probably won't be reassured that state lawmakers exempted themselves from being elected in this manner. Asking why they did so has taken me down a rabbit hole. Lawmakers said they exempted themselves because local election officials were concerned about ballots being too long. But did they have other concerns? Maybe major party leaders wanted to stem demands for open primaries? Or out-of-state donors insisted on including federal races? Whatever the reasons, this will be for other candidates for other offices to live with, not for the legislators themselves.

The other version of ranked choice voting that Measure 117

would make an offer.

(Sources: "The McQuinn Strip Boundary Dispute," an un-by-lined article on the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs Website at warmsprings-nsn.gov; "McQuinn Strip Land Dispute," an article by Joshua Binus published on the Oregon Historical Society's Oregon History Project Website in 2002; "101-Year Land Dispute," an article by George W. Linn published in *Little Known Tales from Oregon History*, Vol. 1 (ed.: Geoff Hill) by Sun Publishing in 1988)

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would authorize for local governments is the opposite of the instant runoff version. It's called "single transferable vote" and is designed to elect multiple winners with less-than-majority votes. Confusing? Yes. But the greater problem is that this method would have a splintering effect among the electorate, making room for winners who secure as little as 25% of all votes.

This is the version that Portlanders adopted in the city's 2022 charter amendment and the one that they're using for the first time in the current election for their new City Council. Portlanders will also be using the instant-run-off version to elect a single new mayor. So, the city will become a test case for ranked choice voting in both of its designs — the centering version for mayor and the splintering version for council members.

Without waiting for the results of the Portland experiment — both in how the voters react to these new voting methods and how the city fares under those they elect, Measure 117 is asking the rest of the state to follow suit. That's not the strategy that led to voter approval of the last major change in how we vote in Oregon. Statewide vote-by-mail was approved by Oregon voters in 1998 after more than a decade of testing at the local level. Measure 117 is a less tested proposition and may look like a gamble to voters.

I favor the instant runoff ranked choice voting system proposed for congressional and statewide offices. But I'm worried that what voters will see in Measure 117 is a confusing combination of more complicated voting systems that its drafters were unwilling to apply to themselves.

If Measure 117 fails, the Oregon Values and Beliefs Center surveys tell us what voters will want to see instead. Oregonians are "reform ready" for campaign finance limits and open primaries. The threat of a potential ballot measure forced lawmakers to enact the former. So that will leave open primaries at the top of Oregonians' list of reforms to change the dynamics of our elections and force the major parties to be more attentive to the interests of voters in our general elections.

Tim Nesbitt, a former union leader in Oregon, served as an adviser to Governors Ted Kulongoski and John Kitzhaber and later helped to design Measure 98 in 2016, which provided extra, targeted funding for Oregon's high schools.

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In fight against climate change, financial markets see Oregon's green

More than 1 million acres have entered carbon credit markets in the last decade

By Alex Baumhardt

Oregon Capital Chronicle

No man-made machine on Earth can better capture planet-warming carbon dioxide from our atmosphere than a healthy forest.

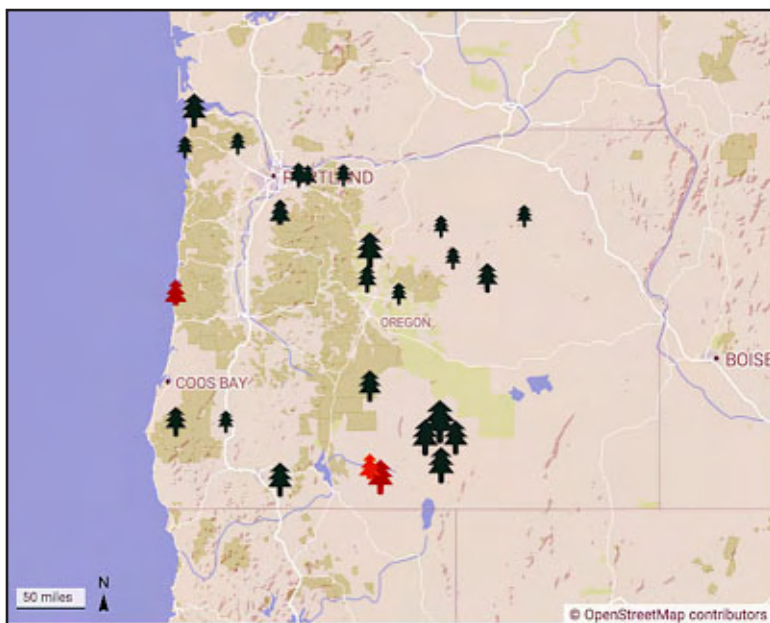
And the most effective carbon-storing forests in the world are the wet, dense, giant conifer forests of the Northwest. The forests in Oregon's Coast Range absorb and store more carbon per acre than almost any other forests in the world – including the Amazon Rainforest.

For more than a century, these forests have been heavily logged, supporting a vast timber industry worth billions of dollars. But, companies behind a new and growing market force are hoping to bank on the money-making potential of Oregon forests that are left intact, doing what they've always done: absorb and store carbon in their bark, tissue, leaves and needles and in the soil beneath them. In doing so, they help combat the growing threat of climate change.

New carbon crediting markets are betting on a future where they can make money on Oregon's forests without cutting them down, and instead, based on the carbon they store. Dozens of companies have sprouted up to broker agreements with public, private and tribal landowners to preserve forests by selling credits to polluting industries that have to, or want to, show they are offsetting their own carbon dioxide emissions driving climate change.

The Capital Chronicle spent months investigating the potential for Oregon forests to play a larger role not only in the growth of emerging, multi-billion-dollar carbon crediting markets, but also in a global and collaborative fight against climate change. The investigation included interviews with dozens of forest managers, carbon credit brokers, scientists, market experts and critics along with multiple visits to forests across Oregon and Washington to see the projects on the ground.

In Oregon, two dozen projects encompassing more than 1.3 million acres of forest are listed in the American Carbon Registry,



the first voluntary greenhouse gas registry in the world that monitors projects and issues carbon credits. These forests have all been added to the registry in just the last 10 years, and 20 of those projects were added in just the last four years.

They have, according to dense and often voluminous paperwork, generated more than 6.5 million carbon credits so far – equal to pulling at least 6.5 million additional metric tons of carbon dioxide from the atmosphere – by remaining intact and growing older, bigger and healthier. The credits linked to those benefits have been sold to polluting companies that have paid millions of dollars in exchange for permission to say they have – by supporting those projects – offset or reduced their own carbon dioxide pollution.

Reducing global carbon dioxide emissions, and making money along the way, is a priority not just for individual landowners and polluting industries, but also for state, federal and tribal governments. Oregon's Gov. Tina Kotek and her peers in 17 other Western states consider using forests as emission storage powerhouses as a key strategy for tackling climate change, laying out their ideas in a recent proposal to "decarbonize the West."

The report recognized the urgency of curtailing greenhouse gases to fight climate change. The overwhelming consensus among climate scientists is that to stop

the worst possible outcomes from climate change, we must keep the average global temperature from rising more than 2.7 degrees Fahrenheit from preindustrial times. The planet has already seen a 2 degree rise since the 1850s. To limit a further temperature rise, experts say humans will need to largely stop burning fossil fuels and reach "net-zero" emissions by 2050, meaning no more carbon dioxide would be released into the atmosphere than would be taken out.

We cannot lower our emissions and slow the worst effects of climate change without protecting what's left of our forests. Trillions of trees and their soils around the world each year absorb, on average, between one-quarter and one-third of all human caused carbon dioxide pollution, according to NASA.

But trees and forests alone will not solve the emission problems humans have created, scientists say. There are not enough forests on Earth to absorb and store all of the excess carbon dioxide humans are responsible for, and planting a bunch of new trees to counterbalance this would be akin to bailing out a flooded basement with rolls of paper towels.

Climate scientists and policy experts have said for decades that the only way to protect the health of the planet and our future is to reduce the amount of carbon dioxide we send up into the atmosphere.

Oregon's Green - Page 14

Openings at Lazy Days



Mike Godfrey

Modular homes delivered to the Lazy Days Park east of Blue River are now being hoisted by crane onto permanent foundations.

The Lazy Days Mobile Home and RV Park, rebuilt by Homes for Good after the Holiday Farm Fire, has twenty, two-bedroom modular homes available as replacement housing for fire survivors. Priority is given to people living at Lazy Days at the time of the fire, followed by other people who lost their homes.

Applicants should be at no more than 80% of the Area Median Income (or 120% for former Lazy Days residents). For example, 80% AMI means:

- Two people = \$57,050 annual income.
- Four people = \$71,300 annual income.

The rent for the modular home spaces is \$600 per month and includes utilities (water, sewer, garbage). Two ADA-accessible units are available.

Oregon Housing & Community Services is funding modular homes for fire survivors. Homes for Good owns the property and has overseen construction on the site. Lane County is assisting with the application process.

To learn more go to: tinyurl.com/42fnrtar
To apply: tinyurl.com/52x9axph

Outdoor burning has returned

The Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF) has officially ended the fire season, thanks to recent rain and cooler weather trends. The decision follows one of the most challenging fire seasons ever recorded in Oregon, which was prolonged by dry and warmer than average weather.

With the end of fire season, ODF transferred outdoor yard

debris burning authority to Lane Regional Air Protection Agency (LRAPA). LRAPA opened the fall outdoor burning season in Lane County on Tuesday, October 22nd at 10 a.m.

"Burning yard debris is a fall tradition," said Matt Sorensen, LRAPA Public Affairs Manager. "However, it's also important to prioritize safety and consider the effect on your neighbors when choosing to burn."

Even with the late start, the fall burning season for Eugene, Springfield, Oakridge and their urban growth boundaries ends on October 31st. Violations for burning during the closed season could result in fines ranging from \$50 to \$2,500 or more.

Before starting any burning activities, residents should verify their burning eligibility and advisory status. Check by visiting LRAPA's website or calling the LRAPA daily outdoor burning advisory at 541-726-3976. Coastal residents should call 541-997-1757.

While burning outdoor yard debris is an option, LRAPA encourages residents to consider alternative disposal methods. Lane Forest Products, Rexus, and Lane County transfer stations are available for disposing of woody yard material and turning it into mulch.

Oregonians have chance to evaluate, change their Medicare plans

Eric Tegethoff
Oregon News Service

It is the time of year when people eligible for Medicare can shop around and make sure they are signed up for the health coverage that makes the most sense for them.

Open enrollment for Medicare lasts through Dec. 7, an important date for more than 900,000 enrolled Oregonians.

Rodney Schroeder, community services and support manager for the Oregon Department of Human Services, which oversees the State Health Insurance Benefits Advisors program helping people with enrollment questions, said people should take their time with the process and read closely through the annual notice of change for their plan, if they received one.

If their plan is either not meet-

ing their needs or not meeting their budget or the plan is changing and they received notice in the mail the plan is going to change, there are different venues they can reach out and get some help

identifying a different plan to help them.

Schroeder noted the program has more than 150 counselors around the state who can help people with the enrollment proc-



STOATPHOTO/AdobeStock

Eligibility for Medicare typically starts at age 65.

ess. Oregonians can contact the program at 800-722-4134.

Dr. Rhonda Randall, chief medical officer and executive vice president of UnitedHealthcare Employer and Individual, said Medicare enrollees should also consider advantage plans.

"Things like dental, vision and hearing," Randall outlined. "Many Medicare beneficiaries might be surprised to know that original Medicare doesn't cover most of those things, but many Medicare advantage plans do. I also recommend people to check for mental health coverage."

More than half of Oregonians on Medicare have advantage plans. UnitedHealthcare also offers an online guide for navigating Medicare.

<https://www.newsservice.org/>

Oregon's green

Continued From Page 13



Illustration by Rachel Sender for Oregon Capital Chronicle

New carbon crediting markets are betting on a future where they can make money on Oregon's forests without cutting them down.

phere every day.

This is among the reasons that governments in more than 140 countries, including the U.S., as well as 23 state governments, have passed legislation setting greenhouse gas emission reduction targets. In Oregon, the state has set a goal of reducing emissions 90% from pre-1990s levels by 2050.

Forests can be a tool. And the effectiveness and integrity of this tool is being tested in carbon markets being built right now.

There are two market models for creating, selling and buying carbon credits. One is a compliance market, which is regulated by a government and created to help polluters comply with legally mandated carbon emissions caps. Companies can buy down some portion of their required emissions reduction each year by

purchasing carbon credits, with 1 metric ton of carbon dioxide equal to one credit.

The other market is voluntary, and is regulated by nonprofits and private companies. Voluntary markets exist for companies that want to buy carbon credits not because they must, but because they want to show that they are trying to reduce the impact of their pollution. What both markets do, in essence, is put a price on carbon dioxide pollution and ask polluters to pay for it.

The carbon credits used to offset that pollution are generated by landowners, companies, nonprofits and other entities that are undertaking work to reduce the amount of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere. This includes groups restoring wetlands, companies plugging orphaned oil wells and landowners improving the man-

agement and conservation of their forests. Polluters cannot buy the power of existing forests: They can only buy credits for those that are improved or grown to capture and store more carbon dioxide from the atmosphere.

In the compliance market, forest landowners have to agree that for at least 100 years they will manage their forest to collect additional carbon dioxide – more than the forest would store without intervention. In the voluntary market, owners have to agree to improved forest management plans of at least 40 years.

This management creates – by reducing logging, letting trees get older before they're logged or planting more trees – what is called "additional." To enter a carbon market, a forest owner has to prove that each additional metric ton of carbon dioxide projected to be removed and stored in the trees would not have happened without the financial incentive of the market.

The largest compliance market in the U.S. is run by the state of California. Most Oregon forest carbon projects are registered in this market, but a growing number are turning to the voluntary market. The average price paid to landowners per credit in California's market in 2023 was about \$33. The average credit price paid to landowners in voluntary markets worldwide in 2023 was about \$6.50.

Reporting for this project was supported by the MIT Environmental Solutions Journalism Fellowship.

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McKenzie Fire & Rescue

Continued From Page 3

Oct. 17: 8:19: 45000 blk, McK. Hwy. Medical, Heart. Patient Assessed, 1 Transported.

15:53: 49000 blk, McK. Hwy. Illegal Burning. Illegal Burn Pile, Extinguished.

Oct. 18: 11:03: 1100 blk, Street Medical, General. Cancelled On Scene.

15:02: 51000 blk, Blue River Dr. Fire Alarm. Cancelled En Route, False Alarm.

19:47: 51000 blk, Blue River Dr. Medical, Trauma. Assist Upper McKenzie.

Oct. 19: 5:59: 50000 blk, McK. Hwy. Medical, General. Patient Assessed, Refusal Obtained.

8:08: 42000 blk, McK. Hwy. Medical, General. Patient Assessed, 1 Transported.

9:23: 47000 blk, McK. Hwy. Public Assist. Lift Assist.

Oct. 20: 9:34: 47000 blk, McK. Hwy. Medical, General. Patient Evaluation, Transported.

10:27: 41000 blk, McK. Hwy. Medical, General. Patient Assessed, 1 Transported.

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.

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Birth, death and rebirth of Oregon's carbon market

By Alex Baumhardt
Oregon Capital Chronicle

Oregon was the first state in the U.S. to pass a law capping greenhouse gas emissions from power plants, and the first to create the prototype of a state-mandated carbon exchange. In 1997, the Oregon Legislature passed House Bill 3283, requiring all newly built energy facilities to keep their carbon dioxide emissions 17% below the cleanest power plant in the country. If unable to reach that target, the companies could pay to offset their emissions by investing in activities that would absorb and store carbon dioxide or cut emissions.

It led to the creation of the Oregon Climate Trust, today known as The Climate Trust, a nonprofit designed to acquire carbon offsets for companies. To do so, the group identified, evaluated, quantified and verified projects that could offset carbon dioxide emissions. The trust came up with some of the first methodologies for measuring carbon storage from forests and other ecosystems, and the first protocols for ensuring the accuracy and integrity of projects.

In the years following the passage of House Bill 3283, Oregon legislators tried and failed at least nine times to pass legislation that would have put a price on carbon dioxide pollution and would have required all polluting companies in the state to cap their emissions by either buying or trading carbon credits.

The last attempt to pass such a cap-and-trade law in 2020 made national news when Oregon's Senate Republicans walked out of the legislative session to avoid voting. Oregon has not passed such legislation since, and instead, the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality has had to piecemeal together its own programs to begin putting prices on greenhouse gas pollution. In 2016, it enacted the Clean Fuels Program, which requires fossil fuels suppliers, such as Chevron and Exxon Mobil, to gradually reduce the carbon dioxide emissions from the fuels they sell in Oregon, until they've cut emissions at least 37% by 2035. The companies selling fossil fuels in Oregon essentially owe a carbon debt to DEQ. To pay it, they can reduce the carbon intensity of their fuels by blending them with biofuels, such as those from vegetable oils and animal fats. They can also buy carbon credits from clean fuels producers to offset some of their emissions. Clean fuels producers, such as companies installing electric vehicle charging stations, earn carbon credits from the environmental quality department. For every ton of carbon emissions they save from entering the atmosphere, they receive one carbon credit. Buyers and sellers negotiate the sale price, but the average price for each Oregon credit in 2023 was about \$129. The department is also currently trying to reinstate a carbon investment program that's similar to House Bill 3283.

The Community Climate In-

vestments program would charge companies \$129 per offset they wish to buy to meet some portion of their required emissions reduction under Oregon's Climate Protection Program. Officials at the environmental quality department say this reflects the costs of running the program, the true cost of carbon dioxide emissions and the costs of investments that will help the state transition off of fossil fuels. The Climate Protection Program, which is being reworked by the environmental department and is expected to be reinstated by early 2025, calls for a 50% reduction in greenhouse gas pollution by 2035 and a 90% reduction by 2050.

The department would send the bulk of the money to a nonprofit that would help fund community-based projects such as weatherizing public buildings, installing heat pumps or solar panels at affordable housing sites, or buying electric vehicles or vehicle chargers for community groups and tribes.

Oregon's neighbors have also acted, with California and Washington already running government-regulated carbon markets. Washington's launched in early 2023, and generated more than \$1.8 billion in credits in its first year. But in November, Washingtonians will vote on whether to have it dismantled following a ballot initiative to repeal the state's landmark climate legislation, including its cap-and-invest program. That initiative is being led by a conservative political committee funded largely by a Washington hedge fund manager and part-time farmer, Brian Heywood. Critics say the program won't significantly move the needle on climate change but will drive up fuel, food and energy prices.

California's market has been around since 2012, and has, according to a 2020 report, generated more than \$12.5 billion in revenue from hundreds of projects over the years, which are expected to keep nearly 45 million metric tons of carbon dioxide out of the atmosphere. That's equal to taking more than 10 million gas-powered cars off of California roads for a year.

Nearly 40 countries have imposed a government-mandated tax on carbon dioxide emissions. These include much of the European Union, or EU, China, Argentina, New Zealand and Japan. And dozens of countries have propped up government mandated cap-and-trade programs. This also includes every country in the EU, Canada, Colombia, South Africa and Australia, according to the World Bank. Despite efforts over the last 20 years, Congress has failed to pass legislation that would put a price on carbon dioxide pollution in the U.S. and create a federally mandated and regulated cap-and-trade market for emissions.

Reporting for this project was supported by the MIT Environmental Solutions Journalism Fellowship.

MCKENZIE RIVER HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTION

It's easy. It's free.

Saturday, Nov. 2, 2024 | 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.
McKenzie Fire and Rescue, Leaburg Station, 42870 McKenzie Hwy.

Many common household products contain hazardous ingredients. Anything with a caution label such as **Danger, Warning** or **Caustic** can become a pollutant to groundwater and streams. Avoiding these products saves money and protects people, wildlife and our environment.

BRING:
Limit to 35 gallons from each household

- Arts and crafts products
- Car care products
- Cleaners
- Fluorescent tubes
- Lawn and garden chemicals
- Paints and solvents
- Other household hazardous waste

Keep products in original labeled container or label known items.

Year-round disposal options

- Batteries & sharps—Accepted at all transfer stations
- Electronics—Accepted at nine transfer stations or, visit oregonrecycles.org or call 1-888-5-ECYCLE (532-9253)
- Fluorescent lamps—Visit lanecounty.gov/hazwaste
- Paint—Visit paintcare.org

For more information on any of the above, visit lanecounty.gov/hazwaste or call (541) 682-4120.

DON'T BRING:

- Asbestos
- Drums
- Electronics
- Empty containers
- Explosives
- Infectious waste
- Pressurized cylinders
- Radioactive waste

For information about how to dispose of these materials, call (541) 682-4120.

Lane County reserves the right to decline acceptance of any hazardous waste that Lane County staff deems to be non-household in nature or that is generated by a business, school, farm, church, non-profit organization or government agency.

Provided by Lane County Waste Management Division in partnership with McKenzie Fire and Rescue. For more information, call (541) 682-4120

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Park gains funding

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tion of portions of the McKenzie Highway. However, growing concerns from Blue River residents about dynamite use, combined with the State Highway Commission's plans for a rock crusher, and potential impacts on water quality led to discussions about returning the land to the county.

In 1952, Fred and Dorothy Behm generously donated a portion of their property to establish Blue River Park.

Over the years, the park has been a gathering place for the community, hosting little league baseball games, community softball, Easter egg hunts, square dancing events,

and more. By 1984, the park became an official Oregon Special District, managed by volunteers and sustained by donations.

In 2014, the Ford Institute Leadership Program contributed to the park's development by creating a two-mile circular trail connecting the park to the Blue River Dam and Blue River Trail base.

Improvements under the grant include:

- * A permeable parking lot
- * Picnic and BBQ areas
- * Playground and nature-play area
- * The Blue River Historic Trail
- * Basketball and tennis courts

- * A new restroom
- * A covered stage and stage loading zone
- * A pollinator garden and memorial garden
- * Potential disc golf course
- * Off-leash dog park

The park will continue to serve as a vibrant community hub, offering recreation and relaxation opportunities. With these improvements, Blue River Park will remain a treasured gathering place for future generations.

For more information visit: tinyurl.com/2vu9ef7c

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Pumpkin Sip 2024



Erika Kappel, Raemie West, Josclynn West, and Amber Jackson were among those who joined in this year's Pumpkin Sip.

Honey Paddle Farm and McKenzie Crest Wines hosted their second harvest event, The Pumpkin Sip, on October 19th. Following last year's successful event, the Wine, Friends, & Flowers, event organizers focused on creating a fun autumn experience where guests could sip wine and create floral pumpkins.

Last Saturday, the VMCC was beautifully decorated with pumpkins and haystacks, enhancing the festive atmosphere. Attendees had the opportunity to select varieties from this year's Honey Paddle honey harvest and taste new wine releases from McKenzie Crest. In addition, delicious

baked treats from Heritage Cookies were in high demand, while local soap makers, Saru Bear Essentials, experienced a sell-out of their seasonal blends of luxurious goat milk soaps.

The VMCC hosted the concession stand which offered harvest soup, sourdough from Soft Peaks Cakery, and pumpkin pie slices.

Guests enjoyed the beautiful setting, taking photos with their decorated pumpkins against the vibrant fall leaves and the McKenzie River. Organizers were pleased with the turnout and are excited to plan next year's 3rd harvest-themed event.

Ribbon cutting for new clinic

BLUE RIVER: The public is invited to the ribbon-cutting of the new McKenzie River Clinic at noon on October 25th. The new building replaces the original one that was lost in the 2020 Holiday Farm Fire.

Established as Oregon's first rural health clinic around 1977, the McKenzie River Clinic is the only medical clinic in the McKenzie River Valley. It was spearheaded by local residents who wanted to address the lack of primary healthcare services in their isolated area.

Following the Holiday Farm Fire on September 7th, 2020, Orchid Health clinic staff used a van as a mobile clinic for emergency response, conducted wellness checks at patients' homes, and converted a former quilt shop in Rainbow into a fully functioning clinic.

McKenzie Valley Wellness, a local nonprofit, built a new \$2 million health clinic with a State



The new McKenzie River Clinic, next door to the Blue River Fire Station will open to the public on Friday.

of Oregon grant from the Fire Relief Act and insurance money. The new permanent facility was built on the original site and includes a space for McKenzie Valley Wellness and community meeting rooms as well as a state-of-the-art Orchid Health clinic with expanded services.

The event will feature a tour of the new facility, speeches from community leaders, and opportu-

nities to speak with staff and patients who have been instrumental in the clinic's recovery and growth. Refreshments will be provided, and attendees will have the chance to connect with the Orchid Health team and learn more about the services offered at the new clinic.

People are requested to confirm attendance with Jonny Cantrell at 971-317-6050 or jonnycantrell@orchidhealth.org

"Drill Spill"

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Steve Brown (City of Springfield) left, and Brady Shaw on the right (SUB) are operating the floating drum oil skimmer.

pre-designated deployment sites throughout the watershed.

Officials say the Finn Rock Landing is an ideal location to capture contaminants in the case of an actual spill in the upper watershed. The landing provides access to the McKenzie River, which is far upstream of EWEB's Hayden Bridge Water Treatment Facility and downstream of the town of Blue River. In addition, the McKenzie River Trust recently upgraded the landing, improving the boat ramp and parking lot, making the site a reliable deployment point.

Agency representatives agree it's important to regularly refresh the skills required to deploy the booms quickly and efficiently. While some are familiar with the process, boom deployment is complicated even during good weather. So, having time to practice together as a team improves the likelihood of success during a real spill event.

The drill was also a reminder of a

2017 incident when a tanker truck carrying about 11,000 gallons of gasoline crashed on the Hwy. 126, about a mile east of Leaburg. The crash occurred just 1,500 feet from the river. Fortunately, none of the roughly 1,700 gallons of spilled fuel entered the river's tributaries.

The MWERS emergency response system was created in 2002 by EWEB and McKenzie Fire & Rescue Fire to assist first responders in the event of a hazardous materials spill or other emergency threatening the water quality of the McKenzie River, Eugene's sole source of drinking water. The system uses detailed mapping and computer technology to give emergency crews information and instructions for containing spills in specific river segments. In addition, three fully equipped interagency response trailers are staged throughout the McKenzie Watershed for rapid response to a spill.

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McKenzie Eagles Sports Report



By Cliff Richardson

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Grizzlies Claw Back

To Upend Eagle Homecoming
The visiting Gilchrist Grizzlies were behind at the halftime break, 20-7, and all seemed well and good for the McKenzie Homecoming premier event. But as Mr. Yogi Berra once quipped, "It ain't over till it's over!"

As it turned out, the Eagles couldn't hold the first half lead to a ramped-up Grizzly crew. Gilchrist had a heart to heart talk in the halftime locker room evidently, and came back out with a hard hitting defense and an inspired

running game which earned the Central Oregon six-man football team an intensely fought 35-26 come from behind victory.

The Grizzlies improved to 3-3 (3-4 overall) in SD-2 Special District South League play. The Eagles dropped to 1-4 in League play and 2-5 overall. The banged up Eagle team will travel to Elkton this coming Friday, October 25, to compete in the last scheduled regular season contest for both teams.

The Elks are coming off a 68-0 drubbing at the hands of the North Lake Cowboys, over in Silver Lake. Elkton is still looking for its first win this season and the Eagles had better not take the Elk's record for granted. You can bet the home team will be fired up and ready to rumble along the Umpqua.

Wolverines Have Eagles For Lunch

It's never good to mess around with a wolverine in its lair and

that old trapper wisdom held true when the Eagles flew into Alsea last Tuesday, October 15, and proceeded to poke the bear, er wolverine.

McKenzie's Varsity Volleyball team was clawed, scratched and defeated in three straight sets, 25-3, 25-9, and 25-6. With the match loss, the Eagles fell to 0-14 in Mt. West League play and 1-16 overall. Alsea improved to 12-3, 14-8 on the season and reside currently in third place in MWL standings.

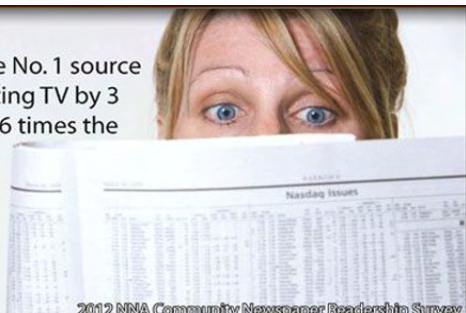
For the Eagles, the last two matches of the regular season this week have them hosting second place Triangle Lake (12-2, 12-3) and seventh place Siletz Valley (4-10, 4-11).

The McKenzie Athletic Department will recognize the Eagle senior athletes and their families prior to the Siletz Valley match at 5:30 pm.

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The local newspaper is the No. 1 source for community news, beating TV by 3 times and the Internet by 6 times the audience.



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