



Delivering targeted news for the McKenzie Valley community since 1978

Sheriff's Reports

A neighbor's shooting range allowed bullets to ricochet out of the range.

PAGE 3

Prineville's railroad

Railroads chose to ignore the "mother city of Central Oregon" and go through Bend instead.

PAGE 4

Briefs...



The purpose of a Stand Down is to reach out to local veterans and their families. Stand Down is a military term used when combat troops are pulled out of action and sent to an area of relative safety to get medical attention, clothing, and other supplies.

It will be held on Friday, September 27th at the Lane County Events Center, Wheeler Pavilion and Auditorium, 796 West 13th Avenue, in Eugene. Gates will open at 6 a.m. followed by breakfast at 7. All veterans are welcome as well as reservists, active duty person-

[Stand Down - Page 2](#)

Ready to find your new best friend? A Pet adoption event for dogs or puppies will be hosted at the Crescent Park Apartments Tennyson Park. Cats and kittens will be hosted at Crescent Park. Food trucks will be on-site from noon to 7 p.m. Adoptios are open from 3 to 6 p.m. Other activities include a Dog Pool Party, an ice cream truck, a raffle with prizes, and various Vendors

Come by to meet some adorable pets looking for their forever homes while enjoying a fantastic community event at 2940 Crescent Ave. in Eugene. Donations for local rescues. Raffle tickets will be given

[Adoption Event - Page 2](#)

The Willamalane Park and Recreation District will host Halloween events for all ages. Registration opens Tuesday, October 1st, at 8 a.m. for the Haunted Hayride and Halloween Carnival. Registration is not required for Haunted Lagoon and Ghostly Golf.

Here's what's in store this spooky season: Haunted Hayride - Come along for a hayride through Dorris Ranch and watch performances under the moonlight. This year, the fun won't end when your ride does — enter the haunted house for more spooky fun! Haunted Hayride is a family favorite, and spots tend to fill up fast.

Haunted Lagoon - Take a walk through the haunted house, collect candy, and then take a boat ride and a swim through the Haunted Lagoon at Willamalane

[Halloween - Page 2](#)

Student withdraws from McKenzie School Board race Devon Lawson opts instead to enlist in the Army National Guard

VIDA: Devon Lawson, a McKenzie High School student who planned to run for the McKenzie School Board in 2025, has withdrawn from the race and opted instead to enlist in the Army National Guard. Following graduation, he will begin Basic Combat and Advanced Individual Training.

After completing his military training, Lawson plans to attend college in Vermont and pursue a commission as an officer in the Army National Guard, serve for eight years, and enroll in law school.

"This decision was not easy, but I believe it's the right step for me and the community," he said. "I'm committed to serving both my country and my community, and this path allows me to do both in a meaningful way. I'm grateful for all the support I've received during my campaign, and I look forward to continuing to contrib-

**Devon Lawson**

ute to McKenzie's future in new ways."

His campaign received \$746.30 in donations, and he's pledged to fully reimburse all donors. "I am deeply appreciative of everyone who believed in my vision for the school board," Lawson said. "It's important to me that all contributions are returned,

as I transition to this new chapter in my life."

Lawson continues to be interested in local politics and has filed paperwork to begin the process of collecting signatures for an initiative that would reform the way the McKenzie School Board is elected. A proposed initiative would seek support for a Ranked-Choice Voting system to replace the current method of electing board members

"Even though I won't be running for the board, I believe this initiative is vital for our community," he feels. "It's about giving every voter a stronger voice and ensuring that the school board truly reflects the diverse perspectives of our district. I may be serving elsewhere, but my heart is

still here, and I want to see McKenzie thrive."

Lawson is currently working on the process to qualify the proposal for next May's election. The initiative he believes would "modernize the school board election process, promoting greater voter engagement and accountability."

"Serving in the Army National Guard and pursuing my education will provide me with the skills and experience to make an even greater impact in the future," he said. "I hope to use what I learn to continue advocating for fairness, justice, and effective leadership."

For more information on the initiative, contact lawson4mckenzie@gmail.com

Autumn returns and so do salmon

Homing instinct brings them back to their natal streams

Salmon that began their life in gravel beds along the McKenzie River are now homing in on their native streams. Surveys have found up to 22 redds across the Finn Rock Reach, and others have been observed in the area's tributary streams.

Volunteers have also returned to take students upriver to witness the natural phenomenon. The Salmon Watch program returns every fall, as watershed councils across the state partner with schools for field trips centered on salmon ecology. It's a special lesson that some students remember for the rest of their lives.

"Salmon Watch is such a great way for students to learn about their ecology that they're a part of — and salmon are just so exciting to see!" said Carrie Patterson, an Agnes Stewart Middle School teacher and Salmon Watch Steering Committee member. "Too many of my students haven't been able to go up the McKenzie — a crown jewel of our area — and a place that people come from around

[Continued On Page 12](#)**Salmon Watch coordinator Daisy Smolianski points out spawning salmon to Agnes Stewart Middle School students.**

Fire crews are still busy

Highway 126 reopens but Old McKenzie Pass remains closed to traffic

**Grinding and mopping up operations on local fires continue to keep crews busy.**

Highway 242 remains closed to all traffic between the junction with Highway 126 and the Dee Wright Observatory (Milepost 55 to 75). Travel there has been impacted by the 1,309-acre Linton Creek and 62-acre 374 fires, both of which are 0 percent contained. Officials report that both showed scattered heat but were adjacent to natural barriers and previous fire scars.

This week, the 1,312-acre Pyramid Fire, east of Middle Santiam Wilderness, has been 100% contained. Seven miles northeast of Blue River, firefighters have also fully contained the 3,484-acre Ore Fire. Crews there are focusing on suppression repair within the fire area and backhauling firefighting equipment and hose.

The 523-acre Boulder Fire, about five miles east of McKenzie Bridge

[Still busy - Page 12](#)

Letters to the Editor

Rising costs and Diminishing Returns

The Oregon Legislature has mandated that large utilities deliver 100% emissions-free electricity by 2040. Since coal and natural gas account for more than 45% of Oregon's electricity generation, replacing those fuels with emission-free alternatives will be difficult.

Moreover, the closer Oregon gets to 100% reduction, the more expensive it will get. This challenge stems from the fact that the two preferred power sources – industrial-scale wind and solar – are weather dependent. This will require over-building, plus batteries and back-up power supplies. Estimates suggest that achieving the final 1% of decarbonization in the Northwest may require expenditure of between \$100 billion and \$170 billion.

As Oregon adds more wind and solar facilities, the effect of de-

creasing marginal returns becomes stronger. Each additional unit of reduction produces progressively smaller environmental benefits relative to cost. In simpler terms, it costs more to receive less. If we ever hit 99% reduction, the cost of the final 1% will escalate dramatically, offering minimal benefit at a towering expense.

Given the lack of a cost-effective solution and the uncertainty of its necessity, the commitment to achieving 100% reduction is questionable. Fully eliminating emissions may not justify the steep payment. Instead of blindly pursuing decarbonization policies, Oregon should promote an adaptable, feasible approach to electricity generation before committing to a costly 100% reduction path for carbon dioxide emissions.

Brittany Hjelte
Cascade Policy Institute
Portland



Guest Opinion

On drug availability, Congress is cutting the wrong red tape

By Ken Thorpe

On average, healthcare costs for patients with a chronic condition are five times higher than for those without one. Chronic disease patients are getting hit with high drug costs when cheaper generics are available.

Many chronic disease patients rely on biologics, medicines made from living organisms and often administered by injection or infusion. Just like medications that come in pill form, biologics have generic versions, called biosimilars. These, on average, cost half as much as their brand-name counterparts. If more widely adopted, biosimilars could save the U.S. healthcare system billions of

dollars. Wider uptake could save individual patients as much as \$5,500 a year.

Congress aims to expand the availability of biosimilars with a new bill, the Biosimilar Red Tape Elimination Act. It's supposed to create more choice, more competition, and lower prices. Unfortunately, the proposed bill won't have the effect its sponsors hope.

New biosimilars and generics aren't automatically granted interchangeable status. Under current law, the FDA decides whether additional data or studies are required. If they are, the biosimilar or generic must demonstrate that it produces the same clinical benefit as the original brand-name drug, which is known as the reference drug.

The Biosimilar Red Tape Elimination Act would get rid of inter-

changeability determinations altogether, taking the matter out of the FDA's hands. But this hardly seems like a necessary step, given that these determinations aren't currently required in every case. Moreover, it makes no sense to reduce standards for biosimilar approval while leaving standards for approving generics intact.

Worse, with the FDA no longer able to decide if a biosimilar meets the scientific and safety bar, the agency would have to be far more cautious about approving original biologics. This would keep innovative new drugs from reaching the people who need them. Plus, currently available biologics would face less competition from new ones, even as the science evolved and better options became available.

[Continued On Page 11](#)

Briefs...

Stand Down [Continued From Page 1](#)

nel, and their families. Lunch will be served at 11:30, followed by a ceremony in the Wheeler Pavilion at 12:30.

[Return To Page 1](#)

Adoption Event [Continued From Page 1](#)

to those that donate, so bring some goodies for a chance to win.

[Return To Page 1](#)

Halloween [Continued From Page 1](#)

Park Swim Center. Ghostly Golf - Camp Putt will transform into an elaborate, spooky, glow-in-the-dark mini-golf course complete with fog machines, 12-foot skeletons, and more fun decorations.

Learn more at willamalane.org/halloween

[Return To Page 1](#)

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 travels to Triangle Lake on Tuesday, September 24, for a match scheduled for a 6:00 pm start. The Eagle team also travels to Mapleton on Thursday, September 26, and that match will begin at 6:00 pm.

The McKenzie Varsity Cross Country teams travel to Cheadle Lake Park in Lebanon on Friday, September 27, to compete in the Champs Invite, sponsored by East Linn Christian Academy. The

5,000 meters Varsity Girls race starts at 4:30 pm and the 5,000 meters Varsity Boys race starts at 5:15 pm.

The Eagle Varsity Football team hosts Powers on Friday, September 27. Kickoff is slated for 7:00 pm.

Eagle Netters Served A Pair Of Losses

The McKenzie Varsity Volleyball team was dealt a couple of Mt. West League losses this past week. On Tuesday, September 17, the Eagles played host to Alsea. The Wolverines dispatched their hosts in three sets, 25-17, 25-19, and 25-9.

Eddyville Charter traveled up the Creek on Thursday, September 19, and following their Coastal friends lead, defeated the host Eagles in three sets. Set scores nor match stats were not available at press time.

At the end of the week, Mohawk and Triangle Lake were tied at the top of the Mt. West League

standings with 6-1 records. Alsea and Eddyville Charter were tied for third at 3-1, followed by Crow/City First Christian Academy, 3-3, Mapleton, 3-4, Siletz Valley, 1-3, Mannahouse Academy, Eugene, 1-5, and McKenzie at 0-7.

Cougars Clobber Eagles 28-12

McKenzie celebrated their first Varsity Six-man football victory versus Days Creek the week prior, a good 40-34 win indeed. The Cougars of Crow, however, provided a different perspective on the game last Friday night in Crow, defeating McKenzie 28-12. No game stats were available at press time.

The win kept the Cougs in a Special District 2 South League first-place tie with Powers, both teams posting a 1-0 SD 2 South mark. McKenzie dropped into a third-place tie with Days Creek at 1-1. Gilchrist follows 1-2, North Lake at 0-1 and Elkton in last

[Continued On Page 10](#)

Friday 9/27		Saturday 9/28		Sunday 9/29	
McKenzie Valley Partly Cloudy 20% chance precip High: 74 Low: 46	Santiam Pass Mostly Sunny 10% chance precip High: 64 Low: 38	McKenzie Valley Partly Cloudy 10% chance precip High: 74 Low: 45	Santiam Pass Mostly Sunny 5% chance precip High: 68 Low: 39	McKenzie Valley Sunny 5% chance precip High: 75 Low: 43	Santiam Pass Sunny 0% chance precip High: 64 Low: 39

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

To subscribe go to: tinyurl.com/2vf5caa6

© 2024 MCKENZIE RIVER REFLECTIONS

All rights reserved, including the right to reproduce this publication, advertising copy or any part thereof in any form, including digital and artistic duplication of photos, maps, graphics, advertisements, or text - except for the inclusion of quotations in a review - without written permission of the publisher. Under no circumstances is permission granted to use this content in any artificial-intelligence-related endeavor, including "training."

Member

Local Independent Online News
For Oregon Rural Journalism

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
9/17	63	54	0	557 cfs	9/17	65	48	0	2,530 cfs
9/18	74	49	0.10	558 cfs	9/18	64	55	0.21	2,530 cfs
9/19	77	46	0	564 cfs	9/19	74	49	0	2,540 cfs
9/20	72	46	0	558 cfs	9/20	77	43	0	2,490 cfs
9/21	72	42	0	NA	9/21	73	41	0	2,430 cfs
9/22	46	80	0	NA	9/22	75	43	0	2,460 cfs
9/23	52	83	0	558 cfs	9/23	80	45	0	2,500 cfs

Sheriff's Report

Sept. 7: 9:42 p.m: Prowler - 37000 blk, Camp Creek Rd. Deputies responded to a report of a prowler near the property owner's barn. A search of the area was conducted, and nothing was damaged or stolen.

10:59 p.m: Disturbance, Dispute - 51700 blk, Dexter St. Fire personnel responded to a small fire in the area. As they extinguished the blaze due to high fire danger in the area, a male associated with the fire was confrontational and threatened them, but did not take any action.

Sept. 8: 9:54 a.m: Menacing - 37900 blk, Camp Creek Rd. Deputies responded to a physical dispute at a residence in the area. After investigating, deputies arrested Charity Ann Aeidel for Assault 4 Abuse Prevention Act and Menacing APA and lodged her at the Lane County Jail.

Sept. 10: 11:04 p.m: Suspicious Vehicle - McK. View Dr. Milepost 2. A deputy contacted two vehicles parked at the location.

Sept. 11: 3:03 p.m: Harassment - 36700 blk, Parsons Creek Rd. Ongoing harassment and civil

issue.

3:32 p.m: Suspicious Conditions - Thurston Rd. & McK. Hwy. A deputy responded to a report of a wire theft, however after patrolling the deputy determined the report was unfounded.

Sept. 13: 6:03 p.m: Suspicious Conditions - 7600 blk, Thurston Rd. A neighbor called on behalf of another person with medical issues.

4:49 p.m: Reckless Endangering - 88900 blk, Marcola Rd. A neighbor's shooting range allowed bullets to ricochet out of the range. A deputy contacted the involved and advised.

Sept. 14: 12:03 p.m: Harassment - 39200 blk, Camp Creek Rd. Neighbors were contacted regarding alleged harassment. No crime occurred.

Sept. 15: 7:30 p.m: Disturbance, Dispute - 92200 blk, Carson St. A deputy contacted a caller regarding a verbal Disturbance, Dispute regarding a civil issue.

Sept. 16: 1:33 p.m: Fraud - 41900 blk, McK. Hwy. An online scammer attempted to steal money, however the caller did not sent any.

10:44 p.m: Assist, Follow Up - 7500 blk, Thurston Rd.

Sept. 17: 3:39 p.m: Foot Patrol - Horse Creek Rd. & E. King Rd.

11:30 p.m: Alarm - 90800 blk, La Lone Rd.

Sept. 18: 10:26 a.m: Illegal Dump - McGowan Creek Mp. 3.5.

1:48 p.m: Suspicious Conditions - 37400 blk, Parsons Creek Rd.

2:04 p.m: Warrant Service - Horse Creek Rd. & McK. Hwy.

2:12 p.m: Vehicle Stop - McK. Hwy. & N. Bank Rd.

3:23 p.m: Traffic Hazard - 38100 blk, Camp Creek Rd.

4:21 p.m: Foot Patrol - 39500 blk, McK. Hwy.

6:41 p.m: Theft - 39300 blk, McK. Hwy.

8:36 p.m: Intoxicated Subject - 88900 blk, Easy Ln.

Sept. 19: 6:10 a.m: Open Gate - 38400 blk, Shotgun Creek Rd.

1:39 p.m: Citizen Contact - 39500 blk, McK. Hwy.

3:47 a.m: Attempt To Locate Drunk Driver - McK. Hwy. Mp. 53.

Sept. 20: 1:12 p.m: Down Line - Marcola Rd. & HF Williams Rd.

1:55 p.m: Traffic Signal Malfunction - Marcola Rd. & Camp Creek Rd.

3:44 p.m: Theft - 88900 blk, Ross Ln. Caller advised someone was using power from his property that was not authorized on an adjacent property. Caller is going

to cut the power and this is now a civil incident.

4:56 p.m: Welfare Check - [Continued On Page 11](#)

State Police Report

Sept. 21: 07:17: Crash, Non-Injury - Hwy. 126E, Milepost 32. Troopers responded to a citizen complaint of a vehicle crashed into a ditch. The complainant stated a female adult, adolescent teenager, and several dogs were in the crashed vehicle. Upon arrival, the occupants had absconded and left the scene. The driver was later contacted and said she was scared and left because she was suspended. Towing responded to remove the crashed vehicle due to damage and community caretaking. Involved: white Chevy Tahoe, 45-year-old female.

Sept. 22: 12:43: Traffic Crimes, All Except Driving Under the Influence of Intoxicants - Hwy. 126 E, Mp. 34. Trooper was dispatched to a report of a motorcycle that was driving recklessly. The rider was stopped at Hwy. 1126 & Thurston Rd. and was later cited for Reckless Driving. Multiple witnesses were contacted and one stopped during the traffic stop to yell at the rider.

McKenzie Fire & Rescue

Sept. 17: 16:19: 41000 block, McK. Hwy. Medical, General. Patient Assessed, Patient Refusal.

19:39: Marcola Rd. Milepost 3. Motor Vehicle Accident. Disregarded.

Sept. 18: 18:32: 42000 blk, McK. Hwy. Medical, General. Patient Assessed, 1 Transported.

Sept. 19: 12:23: 39000 blk, Deerhorn Rd. Illegal Burning. Smoldering Stump Extinguished.

17:43: 41000 blk, Holden Creek Ln. Public Assist. Lift Assist & Band-Aid Applied to Small Scrape.

Sept. 20: 0:51: 40000 blk, Storment Ln. Medical, General. Lift Assist & Band-Aid Applied to Small Scrape.

8:48: 40000 blk, Booth Kelly Rd. Medical, General. Patient Assessed, 1 Transported.

10:46: 44000 blk, McK. Hwy. Medical, General. Patient Assessed, 1 Transported.

Sept. 21: 7:15: 48000 blk, McK. Hwy. MVA. Non-Injury/Non-Blocking.

13:35: 8500 blk, Thurston Rd. Medical, General. Assist.

Sept. 22: 8:48: 88000 blk, Charley Ln. Medical, General. Confirm Deceased.

12:42: 39000 blk, McK. Hwy. Medical, General. Provide Manpower.

16:43: McK. Hwy. Mp. 19 Police Assist. Disregarded on Scene.

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.

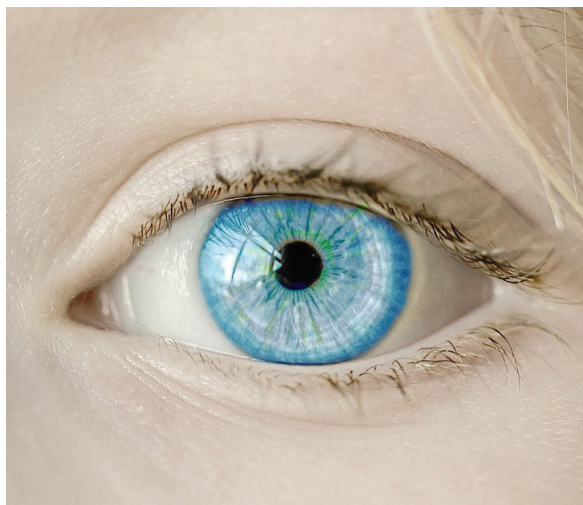
Upper McKenzie Fire/Rescue

Sept. 20: 20:35: Medical - 57000 block, N. Bank Rd. Male, Conscious, Breathing.

Sept. 23: 13:24: Medical - McK. Hwy./Milepost 41. Involved vehicle parked on the shoulder.

Look for the Blue

It will talk to you!



Click on articles that begin with blue highlighted text - it will take you to our Audio Reader

Click here: Listen to this article now
 Powered by **Trinity Audio**
 00:00

Great Opportunity!

PRICE REDUCED!

Plans have changed and the owners have decided not to move into this newly finished quality cabin.
51164 McKenzie Hwy, Blue River

1.38 Acres * 1 Bedroom cedar cabin with metal roof * Hickory cabinets * Pine walls * Distressed blue stain pine floors * Ductless heating * Barn * \$350,000

WILLHITE Real Estate

Call Us For Your Private Viewing!

Deborah Willhite (541) 912-1523
 Principal Broker
 WillhiteRE@gmail.com ~ www.McKenzieHomes.com

Austin Willhite (541) 954-8202
 Broker

MOVE TO A PLACE THAT MOVES YOU

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

Windermere REAL ESTATE
 * based on Windermere's annual Top Producers List

Need to talk? Call 988

NORTHWEST KNOWLEDGE

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

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

©2020 BHHS Affiliates, LLC. An independently operated subsidiary of HomeLife of America, Inc., a Berkshire Hathaway affiliate, and licensee of BHHS Affiliates, LLC. Berkshire Hathaway Home Services and the Berkshire Hathaway Home Services logo are registered service marks of HomeLife of America, Inc. * Equal Housing Opportunity

BERKSHIRE HATHAWAY HomeServices Real Estate Professionals

MCKENZIE RIVERFRONT LIVING
 SEAMLESS BUYING AND SELLING EXPERIENCE

JUDY CASAD
 541-968-2400
 JUDYCASAD.COM
 TOP PRODUCER
 PODCAST HOST

HOMEOWNERS BEST REAL ESTATE MOVES
 Listen & Follow • Podcast.judycasad.com

Windermere REAL ESTATE | ABR | SRES | RENE | REALTOR

Snubbed by railroad, Prineville built its own

By Finn J.D. John

Oregon, and the rest of the American West, is full of the ghosts of cities and towns killed by a railroad.

Central Oregon's third largest city, Prineville, almost became one of them.

Prineville was the first town in inland Central Oregon, founded in 1868. It was located in the Crooked River Valley at Ochoco Creek, at pretty much the most convenient place in Central Oregon for a wagon-road hub serving surrounding farmers and ranchers.

It grew fast, like a lot of frontier towns did. By 1900 it was the only really big town (one couldn't quite call it a city) in Central Oregon, lording over the few smaller hamlets that had sprung up nearby: Bend, Madras, Antelope, Shaniko, etc.

Prineville residents naturally assumed that when the Oregon Trunk and Des Chutes railroads started blasting and building their way into Central Oregon via Deschutes Canyon in 1911, they would of course want to come through Prineville.

They assumed wrong. For whatever reason — maybe some discreet money changed hands, or maybe it was just an engineering decision to avoid the Crooked River canyonlands — the railroads chose to ignore the “mother city of Central Oregon” and go through Bend instead.

After that, of course, Prineville withered away as farmers and ranchers started trading at Bend and other rail-connected towns instead, until all that was left was an empty shell of a ghost town.

Just kidding! That's actually what most likely would have happened, if the residents of Prineville hadn't taken matters into their own hands. Which, after a few years of dithering and false starts, they did, and as a result Prineville today is a thriving community of about 12,000, the 55th largest in Oregon.

So, what did Prineville do to save itself? Something that sounds pretty simple, but wasn't:

It went into the railroad business.

In the years after the bad news came down, Prineville's residents took some time to process what had happened. At first, they just kind of assumed the railroad would put in a spur line. Obviously, that wouldn't be as good as being on the main route to other places, but it would at least give local farmers and timber producers a way to get their goods out and would save enough trade to keep the town from fading away.

And indeed, there was some railroad-company interest in doing that. But talk was cheap,



Creative Commons/Orygun

Sporting its standard orange-and-black livery, one of the City of Prineville Railway's three locomotive engines parks on a siding.

and railroad building was (and is) expensive. By about 1915 it was clear to even the dullest Prineville resident that talk was all they could expect from the big railroad lines.

So the citizens of Prineville decided they were just going to have to build their own.

This wasn't a totally new idea. Other towns had tried the same thing. But, it was definitely an audacious one, and very much a hail-Mary shot. There weren't any municipal-railroad successes they could look to for inspiration; most other towns that had tried it hadn't been able to pull it off, and the few that did had gotten rid of their lines as quickly as they could, at a substantial loss.

Undaunted, the citizens of Prineville voted 355 to 1 to authorize \$100,000 in bonded indebtedness to get the program started.

The First World War got in the way, and of course the money ran out and they had to pass the hat again, and again. Prineville residents, game to the last, voted yes on several more transfusions, albeit by smaller majorities. It was still overwhelmingly popular, though; in 1916 the vote was 202 to 14.

Finally, on July 25, 1918, the Crook County Journal ran a banner headline in type an inch and a half high: “RAILROAD IS HERE!”

And so it was — an 18-mile spur line running from Prineville to a junction spot a few miles north of Redmond on the Oregon Trunk line.

But the very first train to use it carried an ominous load. It brought an entire car full of automobiles — something Randall Mills, writing in the middle of the golden age of car travel, compared to “a prisoner building his own gallows.”

Sure enough, within just a few years of the railroad's construction, motor vehicles had started taking over. Prineville was left with a

brand-new railroad that few were using and a half million dollars in bonded indebtedness — a lot of debt for a town whose population was still under 2,000.

So the City Council passed an ordinance: All Prineville businesses had to have licenses and report the means by which freight left town. If it were shipped by any means other than the city railroad or the business's own truck fleet, it was taxed at 10 cents a pound.

Naturally, this was not popular with trucking outfits, which had gotten used to the business and hated to see it go. But their outrage fell on deaf ears.

Most likely this has a good deal to do with the fact that, until a few years ago, it was very common to

see Les Schwab Tire Centers trucks on Oregon roads. Les Schwab, of course, was headquartered in Prineville until the death of its founder, after which the executives moved it to Bend. But while they were in Prineville, the company had to maintain its own fleet of trucks or pay that enormous tax when it sent tires to its stores.

In any case, the plan worked: In 1940, the city proudly proclaimed the railroad debt-free at last.

Over the subsequent decades, the railroad has had good times and bad times. Its traffic peaked in 1971, when more than 10,000 carloads (mostly of lumber from Prineville sawmills) used it.

Today the line is still in operation, and it's the oldest municipal short line in the U.S. and a source of considerable pride to Prineville residents.

(Sources: “Early History of the Prineville Railway,” an article by Frances Juris published Sept. 8, 2017, by the A.R. Bowman Museum; “City of Prineville Railway,” an article by Austin Jacox published Dec. 21, 2021, in *Railfan & Railroad Magazine*; *Railroads Down the Valley*, a book by Randall V. Mills published by Pacific Press in 1950.)

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.



By Slim Randles

Bob Milford popped in for a cup the other day at the philosophy counter of the Mule Barn truck stop. Bob isn't usually seen in town during the day, as he's manager of the big Diamond W spread, and there are lots of daylight things to do out that way.

As we worked our way through the usual topics: women, politics, laundry and welding, Bob said he's planning a spring turkey hunt.

We nodded, silently vowing to check our own camo clothes and slate turkey calls.

“I sure hope this season goes better than last one, though,” Bob said, sipping his coffee.

“Didn't you get a turkey, Bob?” asked Doc.

“Well, yes and no, I guess you could say, Doc. It's just the way it happened that didn't turn out so well. You see, I was driving the stock truck out the highway”

“What happened, Bob?” asked Dud, finally.

“Oh, this stupid turkey flew out of the woods and across the highway. That wasn't bad in itself, but there was this state trooper behind me, you know? I kept watching him to see if he thought I was doing something wrong. You know how it is. I checked my speed, made sure my seat belt was on real good. I kept looking in the rearview mirror at him, but even if I hadn't, I couldn't have stopped it....”

He took another sip and looked up at us.

“You know the headache rack on the stock truck? Well, that dumb turkey pulled up when he saw the truck, but he didn't clear that rack and smacked it hard. He went up and over and came right down through the windshield of that cop car. Smashed it all to pieces.”

“Bummer,” said Dud, who tried to be a hippie once.

“The worst part was, the trooper gave me a ticket for it!” Bob said.

“A ticket? For what?”

Bob smiled. “Flippin' him the bird.”

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



Postcard

A hand-tinted postcard image of a Prineville street as it appeared circa 1920, showcasing the town's unusually wide streets.

Subscribe
TODAY!
[tinyurl.com/
2vf5caa6](https://tinyurl.com/2vf5caa6)

THE GUEST HOUSE
AT
AQUA GARDENS VILLA
NOW BOOKING!
McKENZIE BRIDGE, OREGON
WWW.AQUAGARDENVILLA.COM
541-687-0036

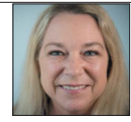
Need to talk?
Call 988

THE LEABURG STORE

“Mix 6”
Craft Beverages
Hot Food To-Go
Firewood
Over 30 Kombuchas
Fishermen's
Sack Lunches

MP 20, McKenzie Hwy
(541) 896-0500

This Could Be Your Ad
Contact
rivref2@gmail.com



Gardening Tips

By Kym Pokorny



Oregon State University

OSU Extension Service

Tips on keeping harvested potatoes fresh



Would you like your homegrown potatoes to stay fresh and last longer? Research has shown there are best practices to harvesting and storing potatoes to ensure freshness.

First, check for harvest maturity by digging up a potato. If the skin rubs off easily, wait another week before harvesting, said Heidi Noordijk, Oregon State University Extension Service Small Farms coordinator. To help prepare potatoes for storage, cut back on watering in mid-August. Let the vines die back before harvesting.

Clean potatoes before storing them. You need only brush off the soil on potatoes grown in coarse, sandy soil. But if the soil is fine, sticky clay, your potatoes may need washing. If so, be sure they are completely dry before placing them in storage. Minimize tuber exposure to light while cleaning. Cure newly dug and cleaned

potatoes for a week to 10 days in a dark, well-ventilated area with moderate temperatures and high humidity, and they will last longer, Noordijk said. After curing, slowly drop the storage temperature to about 40-46 degrees for table use. Potato tubers are about 80 percent water, depending on the variety, so high storage humidity is recommended to prevent shriveling.

Potatoes can be stored in perforated plastic bags to maintain proper humidity levels. Home storage options include a designated refrigerator between 40-46 degrees, an insulated garage, or a cool basement.

Storage temperatures below 38 degrees can cause sugar buildup or sweetening, according to Noordijk. Fried products from such tubers are darker and oilier than those from tubers stored at higher temperatures. While low

temperatures can "sweeten" tubers, high temperatures often lead to excessive decay, shriveling, and sprouting.

Proper storage

Sort out and cull injured and diseased spuds before storing them long-term. Store only healthy potatoes in well-ventilated containers. Eat the ones hit by your shovel and those with bad spots or disease in the first month or so after harvest, as injured potatoes don't last. They also may spread spoilage or disease microorganisms to other potatoes.

Make sure to keep the storage area dark as the light will turn tubers green and make them unfit for table use, Noordijk said. The green color is caused by chlorophyll, common to all green plants. Chlorophyll is harmless but is frequently accompanied by high levels of a toxic alkaloid called solanine. While small quantities of solanine are harmless, too many green potatoes can lead to illness. Therefore, discard all potatoes with excessive greening.

Grow potatoes that keep well. Red potatoes usually don't keep as long as yellow or white varieties. Thin-skinned potatoes don't last as long in storage as those with thick skins, such as russets. Late-maturing varieties almost always store better than early types.

With proper storage, well-matured, late-season potatoes will stay in good condition for seven to eight months. When storage temperatures exceed 46 degrees, potatoes should be kept for two to three months, but sprouting and shriveling may occur.

"Planting sprouted, shriveled tubers the following spring is not recommended because of excess disease levels, particularly viruses," Noordijk said. "Whenever possible, plant only certified, healthy seed potatoes."



Country Kitchen

By Mary Emma Allen



FASCINATING OLD LETTERS

I've been sorting through old letters my grandmothers and my mom kept. In days ago, letter writing was the main way to keep in touch with family and friends. In the days before telephones, and certainly electronic interaction, even friends and family in the same town wrote letters to one another. And amazingly, they often kept these letters. If they were from friends and relatives in other states, they certainly were cherished.

I'm also amazed at how readable the handwriting was, even from people who didn't have much schooling. However, I've also found legal letters with the signature in X's.

Grandma's Letters

I discovered a small trunk with letters my paternal grandmother had saved...from her Civil War uncles, her grandmother, mother and aunt, and her mother's brother William Mathewson (the "original" Buffalo Bill on the Santa Fe Trail). My mother's family saved letters from friends and relatives, too. Mother's great, great-aunt was the opera singer, Mme Anna Bishop. I don't have letters from her, but articles and pictures and stories about her shipwreck in the Pacific. One of these pictures of Mme Anna hung in the living room of the farmhouse where Mother grew up.

Grandma also saved letters sent to her husband from his niece Ida. They were written in the 1870s and 80s. From these I've learned about everyday events... some ordinary and others of special occasions. It does give me more insight into the girlhood of someone I remember as an elderly lady visiting my grandparents. By looking up census records and history of the areas where Grandpa and Ida grew up, I discover even more about their lives.

Mother's Letters

I've also been sorting through more of my mother's memorabilia,

finding additional hand written cards and letters from her family and friends. These are bits and pieces of her life and ours.

I've discovered letters my grandmother wrote to my siblings and me when we were children. Every Sunday and Wednesday evenings, Nanny wrote to friends and family. When I visited her, I learned the rudiments of writing letters as we sat at the kitchen table after supper and penned notes, relating the events of the day.

Electronic Communication

Will we lose this aspect of our lives, as more and more people turn to electronic communication? Perhaps our correspondence will be saved "in the clouds," but we'll miss out on hand written notes we can hold in our hands. These are personal reminders of the people who write them, something that brings them closely to mind. They reveal personality, individual quirks, often a sense of humor, and sometimes even sadness.

These notes, cards and letters are part of the fabric of our lives.

Midst the letters, you may even find food ideas and recipes mentioned.

HAMBURGER STROGAN-OFF is quick and easy, as well as being a family recipe. Brown 1 pound ground beef or turkey and 1/2 diced onion. Add 1 can cream of mushroom soup and simmer at least 10 minutes. Just before serving, add 3/4-cup sour cream. You also can add sautéed sliced mushrooms. Some cooks like to add green peas to the mixture.

Serve over mashed potatoes, noodles, biscuits or rice.

(c) Mary Emma Allen

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

Quote of the Week

"Outside of a dog, a book is a man's best friend. Inside of a dog it's too dark to read."

Groucho Marks

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

We believe in newspapers

2012 NRA Community Newspaper Readership Survey

This Space For Rent
rivref2@gmail.com

541-822-3358

Herrick Farms
Always "Farm Fresh"
Fruit s & Vegetables

Family owned since 1980
Follow us on Facebook & Instagram
herrickfarms.com

88088 Millican Road in Walthville 541-741-1046

DON'T LET YOUR FUTURE GO UP IN SMOKE.

One study showed that over 30% of drug users won't graduate. To counter, we have provided tens of thousands of education packages to schools and reached over 13 million students with the Truth About Drugs. These students now have the information to make the right decision, including staying in school.

DrugFreeWorld.org
Let's better the world.

© 2004 Foundation for a Drug Free World. All Rights Reserved. The Foundation for a Drug Free World is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. For more information, visit www.drugfree.org.

KICK IT UP A NOTCH

Rev up your cycle skills with the training you need to protect yourself. Take a course from TEAM OREGON and take your ride to the next level.

TEAM OREGON
team-oregon.org
1-800-545-9944

Ride Safely. The Way to Go.
Transportation Safety - ODOT

CLOG-FREE GUARANTEED!

GutterShutter **NO MORE...**

HERE'S HOW:

- Super strong interior brackets
- Heavy-gauge aluminum - No sagging & laser straight gutters
- Extra large 6" gutter carries 20% more water than standard gutters
- Roller hood keeps leaves & debris out
- 20-year paint warranty

LIFETIME WARRANTY

FREE ESTIMATES!
855-636-0192

\$250 OFF
A COMPLETE ROOFING SYSTEM
Minimum project size of \$5,000. Cannot be combined with any other offer. Not valid for prior work. Must be presented and redeemed at time of estimate. Expires 9/30/2024.

X CLOGS
X MAINTENANCE
X LADDERS
X SAGGING

SUPPORT LOCAL NEWS

SUBSCRIBE. DONATE. ADVERTISE.

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.

September 27

Yoga In Leaburg

Yoga in Leaburg meets from 8:30 to 9:30 a.m. at McKenzie Fire & Rescue's Training Center, 42870 McKenzie Hwy, every Friday.

September 28

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.

September 28

River Cleanup

The McKenzie Watershed Council invites people to be part of the annual McKenzie River Cleanup on Saturday, September 28th, from 9 a.m. to noon. Afterward, meet at Hendricks Bridge Park, 38870 Hendricks

Park Rd, for a free BBQ from noon to 2 p.m. View available routes and visit the event website at mckenziewc.org/cleanup and contact chase@mckenziewc.org to sign up.

September 28

Santiam Wagon Road

Bring a picnic lunch & blanket to the Santiam Wagon Road Exhibition, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Fish Lake Remount Depot, McKenzie Highway, Milepost 75.2 126. Activities will include exhibits, site tours, demonstrations, and living history. If you can attend, you must reserve your spot. The Fish Lake Remount area has limited space. cascadevolvs.org/events

September 29

Pumpkin Day

Ready to make a pumpkin stack to decorate your front porch? Choose one of the Honey Paddle's weird, beautiful floral pumpkins, or delight in picking out a colorful your own colorful one to carve for Halloween. Open from noon to 4 p.m. on Pumpkin Day on Sunday, September 29th at 39920 McKenzie Hwy.

October 1

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 1

Coffee With Locals

Come have a cup of coffee with the locals (paid for by Locals Helping Locals) from 10 to 11 a.m. at the McKenzie Bridge

General Store, 91837 Taylor Road in McKenzie Bridge. Catch up with your neighbors, discuss how you are doing in the fire recovery process, and share your successes and struggles. Contact Brenda Hamlow with questions: (541) 729-9802.

October 1

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 friends hip.

October 1

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.

October 1

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

October 2

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 2

Watershed Wednesday

Join McKenzie River Trust every Wednesday morning 31799-31601 Green Island Rd, Eugene,

from 9 - 11:30 a.m. to help care for this special area where the McKenzie and Willamette Rivers meet. Projects vary based on the season but typically include invasive species removal, habitat care, or planting/tree establishment.

October 2

Cornhole League

Join the Upper McKenzie Cornhole League for some free Cornhole fun at the Upper McKenzie Community Center. We're tossing bags on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of every month at 5 p.m. Bring some snacks to share.

October 2

BR Water Board

The Blue River Water Board will meet from 6 to 7:15 p.m. in the administration building on the McKenzie Schools campus. A link to the virtual meeting is available at: blueriverwaterdistrict.com

October 2

BR Park Board

The Blue River Park Board will meet from 7:15 to 8 p.m. in the administration building on the McKenzie Schools campus. A link to the virtual meeting is available at: blueriverpark.com

October 4

Yoga In Leaburg

Yoga in Leaburg meets from 8:30 to 9:30 a.m. at McKenzie Fire & Rescue's Training Center, 42870 McKenzie Hwy, every Friday.

October 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.

October 7

Sip & Create

Honey Paddle is Offering two classes at SweetMarket, 4425 Main Street in Springfield. Explore the delight of designing your succulent pumpkin alongside Amber from 5:30 to 7 p.m. Enjoy a hands-on demonstration showcasing how to create an elegant pumpkin to grace your home just in time for the fall season. Complimentary non-alcoholic refreshments and snacks will be provided. McKenzie Crest Wines will also join us and sell a selection of their wines by the glass so you can sip while you

create.

Link to tickets: tinyurl.com/mry9bzrd

October 8

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 8

Tiny Dental Van

The Tiny Dental Van, sponsored by the Rural Oregon Outreach Program, will be at the Orchid McKenzie River Clinic, 54771 McKenzie Hwy, from 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. A first visit will include a patient assessment, intraoral photos, teeth cleaning, charting, and X-Rays. Call 360-449-9500 or 800-525-6800 to schedule new patient appointments or teeth cleaning

October 8

McK Food Pantry

The McKenzie River Food Pantry will be at the McKenzie Bridge Christian Church, 56334 McKenzie Hwy, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Free groceries are provided in accordance with OR Food Bank and Food For Lane County guidelines for food distribution.

October 8

Chamber Tourism

The McKenzie River Chamber of Commerce Tourism Committee meets via Zoom every second Tuesday of every month from 9 to 10 a.m. Please join us even if you are not a Chamber member. The committee strives to strengthen the support of locals interested in improving tourism and the economic vitality of the entire McKenzie River Valley. Email the Tourism Chair to get on the meeting email list: Treasurer@McKenzieChamber.com

October 8

Save Leaburg Lake

Save Leaburg Lake members meet on the second Tuesday of each month at the Vida Windermere Office, 45632 McKenzie Hwy. in Vida. For more information, call Nadine Scott at 541-915-0807 or email nadine@windermere.com to join the email list.

October 8

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 friends hip.

<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: sbldodge.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>	



McKENZIE DISPOSAL L.L.C.
DARIN and CHERI FULLER
Owners
Phone 541-988-3016
PO Box 695, Walterville, OR 97489

MCVEY'S

POWER & SOFT WASHING

mcveyswash.com

Commercial, Residential and Industrial Power & Soft Washing
Property Management Services • Roof Care • Gutters • Concrete
Patios Pavers • Graffiti Removal • Moss Removal • Siding • Windows
Commercial Fleet Wash • Housekeeping & Janitorial

Licensed & Insured



Casey McVey
Project Manager
541.510.8255 ☎

Alisha McVey
Estimates/Billing
541.510.7562 ☎

mcveycasey@yahoo.com @
mcveyswash.com 🌐
Leaburg, Oregon 📍

CROSSWORD

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12		
13					14			15					
16					17			18					
19				20			21	22					
		23				24							
25	26	27		28			29		30	31	32	33	34
35			36			37			38		39		
40					41				42		43		
44				45		46					47		
48				49		50			51		52		
				53		54			55		56		
57	58	59	60					61			62	63	64
65						66	67			68			
69						70				71			
72						73				74			

- 46. Ski hill ride
 - 47. Contractor's work order
 - 48. *Basketball blocking move
 - 50. Swedish shag rugs
 - 52. Member of a "benevolent and protective order"
 - 53. Kind of cola
 - 55. Thrice-repeated dance step
 - 57. *Power ____ position
 - 61. *NBA team with most championships
 - 65. Deprive of armor
 - 66. Genetic acronym
 - 68. Plural of ostium
 - 69. Junk yard stuff
 - 70. Geisha's sash
 - 71. *Nickname for 61
- Across**
- 72. Ooze
 - 73. *NBA Sixth ____ of the Year Award
 - 74. Type of leaf cabbage, pl.

DOWN

- 1. Bun baker
- 2. "____ me a seat"
- 3. From square one
- 4. Tanzania's northern neighbor
- 5. Not absorb, nor repel
- 6. Refuse to comply
- 7. Wear and tear
- 8. Bake an egg
- 9. Sunglasses "glass"
- 10. Casino chip
- 11. Not knit
- 12. Church sound
- 15. Lord's subordinate
- 20. Good____, book lovers' app
- 22. Strike caller
- 24. High school math class
- 25. Declares to be true
- 26. Sweat-inducing attack
- 27. Come in!
- 29. *The Stilt's first name
- 31. David Schwimmer on "Friends"
- 32. Breadth
- 33. Art support
- 34. *Shot____, NBA countdown timer
- 36. Cobbler's concern
- 38. Fix a dog
- 42. Vanish without this?
- 45. Abscond
- 49. Conjunction that joins alternatives and negatives
- 51. Inferior goods
- 54. Read-only disc
- 56. Away from port
- 57. Much ado
- 58. One time
- 59. Like pink steak
- 60. Sandwich alternative
- 61. Abel's big brother
- 62. It will
- 63. Give a ticket
- 64. Fresh talk
- 67. *Commissioned by Adam Silver

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

Click here or go to:
tinyurl.com/yeye92hx

Events from Sep 26th



Call for Volunteers
The Aug 15th picnic - The Oct 1st picnic
Volunteer Drive
With our upcoming Grand Opening of the new library in Blue River, we need more volunteers so we can offer extended hours and more.



McKenzie Valley Neighbors Radio Group
GMS will tonight (Thursday) "test" you on the repeater. (Diamond on 452.675, Satcom 452.675, PL, Tone 100 on the uplink). Make it easy!




Leasburg GMFS Radio Preparedness
Every Thursday McKenzie Valley Neighbors GMFS Radio Preparedness Group Network. Check in Thursday @ 6:30 p.m. McKenzie Valley Wide Net.



Pumpkin Day
Sun Sep 22nd 8:30am - 9:30am
Yoga in Leasburg
Every Friday at McKenzie Fire & Rescue's Leasburg Training Center.



McKenzie River Cleanup
Sat Sep 28th 8:00am - 12:00pm
The McKenzie Watershed Council invites people to the annual McKenzie River Cleanup on Saturday September 28th, from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. Work...



A Dime At A Time
Sat Sep 28th 10:00am - 12:00pm
Blue River 8th & Boys Collection/Sorting - Saturday morning sorting sessions every Saturday from 10:00am. Donations can be dropped off.



Santiam Wagon Road Exhibition
Sat Sep 28th 10:00am - 4:00pm
We are excited about this upcoming event! If you can attend, you must reserve your spot. The High Lake Reservoir area has limited space...




Pumpkin Day
Sun Sep 22nd 12:00pm - 4:00pm
We give you beautiful pumpkins! Make a pumpkin patch to decorate your front porch, choose one of our beautiful floral pumpkins, or...



KIDS EAT FREE
Mon Sep 30th
Every Monday (with adult meal purchased) Tavern & Diner, Outdoor seating (341) 726-1058.



Lane County Board of Commissioners
Tue Oct 1st
The Board of Commissioners meetings begin at 9:00 a.m. in Harris Hall, unless otherwise noted on the published agenda. Regular Board...



COFFEE WITH THE LOCALS
Tue Oct 1st 10:00am - 11:00am
Come have a cup of coffee with the locals (and for by locals helping locals). Catch up with your neighbors. (Please have your ID ready.)




Family Story Time
Tue Oct 1st 10:00am - 11:00am
Some special PLN at Camp Creek Church for children 5 and under (with their adults) to enjoy stories, singing, laughter, and friendship!



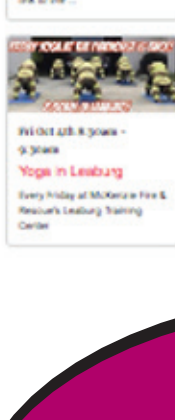
Eugene Water & Electric Board Commissioners meeting
Wed Oct 2nd
Customers and the general public are welcome and encouraged to attend in person or watch a live stream of the meeting in real time at...



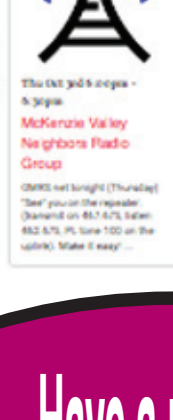
Watershed Wednesday
Wed Oct 2nd 5:00pm - 8:30pm
Join McKenzie River Trout every Wednesday morning from 5:00-7:30am at Deer Island to help care for this special area where the...



BINGO!
Wed Oct 2nd 8:00pm - 9:00pm
Cards go on sale at 6:00pm. Bingo starts at 7:00pm. Call 361 726-1058 for reservations. In the morning, cards \$1 up, quickly, target and done...




Blue River Water Board
Wed Oct 2nd 5:00pm - 7:30pm
The Blue River Water Board will meet from 5 to 7:30 p.m. in the administration building on the McKenzie Schools campus. A link to the...




Upper McKenzie Canyons League
Wed Oct 2nd 5:00pm - 8:30pm
Join us for some fun Canyons League at the Upper McKenzie Community Center. We're having League on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of every month.



Blue River Park Board
Wed Oct 2nd 7:15pm - 8:00pm
The Blue River Park Board will meet from 7:15 to 8 p.m. in the administration building on the McKenzie Schools campus. A link to the...



McKenzie Valley Neighbors Radio Group
Thu Oct 3rd 6:00pm - 8:30pm
GMS will tonight (Thursday) "test" you on the repeater. (Diamond on 452.675, Satcom 452.675, PL, Tone 100 on the uplink). Make it easy!



Leasburg GMFS Radio Preparedness
Thu Oct 3rd 6:30pm - 7:00pm
Every Thursday McKenzie Valley Neighbors GMFS Radio Preparedness Group Network. Check in Thursday @ 6:30 p.m. McKenzie Valley Wide Net.



A Dime At A Time
Thu Oct 3rd 10:00am - 12:00pm
Blue River 8th & Boys Collection/Sorting - Saturday morning sorting sessions every Saturday from 10:00am. Donations can be dropped off.

Off First Month of New Service!
USE PROMO CODE: GZ590

\$25

Consumer Cellular

CALL CONSUMER CELLULAR 888-804-0913

© 2023 Consumer Cellular Inc. For promo details please call 888-804-0913

© StatePoint Media

FNBA

ACROSS

- 1. Port city in Japan
- 6. *Team ride
- 9. Nordic native
- 13. Equipped with feathers
- 14. Cigarette deposit
- 15. *Arena, e.g.
- 16. Not odds
- 17. Hawaiian welcome wreath
- 18. Bone hollows
- 19. *NBA headquarters location
- 21. *Bill ____ NBA Finals

Most Valuable Player award

- 23. "Roses ____ red ..."
- 24. *NBA centers typically have long ones
- 25. Tarzan the ____ Man
- 28. Cry like a baby
- 30. 3.26 light-years
- 35. "Off The Wall" shoe
- 37. Living quarters
- 39. Shop ____ slogan
- 40. "I'm ____ you!"
- 41. Got some shuteye
- 43. Comme ci, comme Ça
- 44. Brandish

Solution on Page 9

SUDOKU

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

SAFE STEP WALK-IN TUB 1-855-576-5653

With purchase of a new Safe Step Walk-In Tub. Not applicable with any previous walk-in tub purchase. Offer available while supplies last. No cash value. Must present offer at time of purchase. CSLB 1082185 NSCB 0082999 0083445

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

© StatePoint Media

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

Need to talk?
Call 988

Have a news tip?
Contact rivref2@gmail.com

County unveils new, easier to use public records request website



A new, online public records request system is available for people seeking records from Lane County.

“The ability for people to submit records requests online and then track those requests throughout the review process is a wonderful upgrade from our previous system and will make the process more transparent for everyone,” said Morgan Day, legal support supervisor with Lane County Counsel.

The new system, powered by NextRequest, allows anyone to request public records and provides a simple way to receive updates and messages regarding their request. To start a new request, people are asked to describe what they’re looking for in as much detail as possible and provide their contact information. The request can then be easily assigned to the county employees who can help determine if Lane County has the requested records and where they are kept. Updates and clarifying questions

can be sent to the requestor and, ultimately, any responsive records can be made available for download.

Previously, Lane County’s system was almost entirely manual and required people to download and fill out a PDF form. Requestors also received fewer updates during the process and were not able to track their request online.

The new system will also provide better data about the number and type of requests made, how long it took to fulfill those requests, and where there are opportunities to continue making the process more efficient.

Lane County expects to further improve the system by allowing online payment in the future for records that take a significant amount of time to review and assemble.

To learn more about public records and make a request, visit LaneCountyOR.gov/PublicRecords

Problem Solved



By Christopher Elliott

Can you help me restore the 654 product reviews Amazon has deleted?

Amazon has removed all of Susan Deonier’s product reviews from the platform, but it won’t say why. Is there any way to get these comments restored?

I recently received an abrupt, robotic removal of hundreds of customer reviews I’ve posted on Amazon since 2018. I’ve also been blocked from posting new reviews.

Amazon did not give me a specific reason for this action, and I’ve received no response to my respectful inquiries from any human at Amazon, including two letters I sent to the Amazon executives you list on your consumer advocacy site.

My detailed, voluntary reviews consumed more than 1,300 hours of my time. If any of my customer reviews have somehow violated Amazon’s community guidelines, I want to know what I did wrong. I also want the opportunity to rectify the situation by rewriting the offending reviews, so my 654 deleted reviews can be restored, and I can resume posting helpful reviews of the items I purchase on Amazon. Any help you can provide will be greatly appreciated.

Susan Deonier, Ontario, Ore.

At a minimum, Amazon should have told you why it deleted your reviews. But the company should also have a process for proving that you’re a real person and getting your reviews reinstated, and based on this case, I’m not sure if it does.

Why would Amazon arbitrarily remove all 654 product reviews without giving you a reason? That’s easy. Amazon is fighting a losing war against spammers and scammers who are trying to manipulate a product rating with bogus reviews. Your reviews must have triggered Amazon’s fraud detection algorithm, which looks for the telltale sign of a manufactured review -- things like the use of superlatives or granting too many one-star or five-star reviews.

Once Amazon suspected your reviews of not being completely genuine, it cut off your account without debate.

“We have zero tolerance for fake reviews,” it told you in an email. “Our advanced technology

and expert investigators stop the vast majority of attempts to publish fake reviews. We also take legal action against people and companies that buy and provide fake reviews.”

All Amazon would say is that your reviews violated its community guidelines. It didn’t say how.

I’ve seen this kind of thing before. A few years ago, Airbnb developed a system that screened its users for criminal records. Airbnb naively believed that it could simply ban these users without any appeal mechanism. They were wrong. The system had issues with false positives and tagging people who were accused, but not convicted, of minor crimes. Airbnb had to create a system to vet requests to reinstate their accounts, and it’s still far from perfect.

It’s possible that Amazon is in a similar situation. Then again, with the use of artificial intelligence increasing every day, it’s possible that the current system for vetting consumer reviews is hopelessly confused. Maybe it can’t tell a fake review from a real one. It apparently couldn’t in your case.

But the problem isn’t that Amazon is screening its product reviews. It is and it should. The problem is that it didn’t respond to your repeated requests to review your account. You put a lot of time and effort into reviewing these products and you didn’t even get paid for your work. Having Amazon cut you off like this feels insulting.

I publish the names of the Amazon executives on my consumer advocacy, Elliott.org. You could have continued escalating your requests until someone responded. But honestly, it should have never come to that, and Amazon can do better.

I contacted Amazon on your behalf. A few days later, Amazon restored your reviews without explanation.

“You accomplished in five days what I was unable to achieve during five months of fruitless attempts to get a response from anyone at Amazon,” you told me. “I am impressed and very grateful to you!”

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/>

© 2024 Christopher Elliott

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

September 28 - Grandma Tabitha Moffat Brown was a 66-years-old widow when she crossed the Plains to Oregon in 1846. But an early snowstorm in the Umpqua Mountains caused her to lose almost everything. She arrived in the Willamette Valley on a worn-out saddle horse and what little she could carry. After spending the first winter at the home of the Reverend and Mrs. Harvey Clark, Grandma Brown announced, “There are many orphan children residing near here; their parents having died on the way to Oregon. I want to help them.” She started an orphanage. Grandma Brown died May 4, 1858 and nearly 130 years after her death the Oregon Legislature awarded her the honorary title as “Mother of Oregon.”

Fishing Report

McKenzie River: All hatchery rainbow trout released into the McKenzie River are marked with an adipose fin clip and anglers must release all non fin-clipped (wild) trout in the mainstem river. The lower 11 miles of the McKenzie River below the Hayden Bridge - and the McKenzie River upstream from Forest Glen Boat Ramp at Blue River - are restricted to angling with lures and flies only, and all trout must be released.

Trout Stocking Schedule: Trout stocking is underway on many lakes and reservoirs throughout the state. The last releases of 8” to 10” hatchery fish were: McKenzie River above Leaburg Dam – 2,000.

Fish Counts
September 16, Willamette Falls
Fall Chinook – 1,523
Summer Steelhead – 18,719

CROSSWORD SOLUTION

O	S	A	K	A	B	U	S	L	A	P	P		
V	A	N	E	S	A	S	H	V	E	N	U	E	
E	V	E	N	S	L	E	I	A	N	T	R	A	
N	E	W	Y	O	R	K	R	U	S	S	E	L	
					A	R	E	A	R	M	S		
A	P	E	B	A	W	L	P	A	R	S	E	C	
V	A	N	S	D	I	G	S	L	O	C	A	L	
O	N	T	O	S	L	E	E	P	T	S	O	S	
W	I	E	L	D	T	B	A	R	S	P	E	C	
S	C	R	E	E	N	R	Y	A	S	E	L	K	
					C	O	C	A	C	H	A		
F	O	R	W	A	R	D	C	E	L	T	I	C	S
U	N	A	R	M	R	N	A	O	S	T	I	A	
S	C	R	A	P	O	B	I	C	E	L	T	S	
S	E	E	P		M	A	N	K	A	L	E	S	

SUDOKU SOLUTION

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

**Need to talk?
Call 988**

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

2022 August 11 Vol. 44, Issue 52 \$1.00 Add to cart	2022 August 4 Vol. 44, Issue 51 \$1.00 Add to cart	2022 July 28 Vol. 44, Issue 50 \$1.00 Add to cart	2022 July 21 Vol. 44, Issue 49 \$1.00 Add to cart	2022 July 14 Vol. 44, Issue 48 \$1.00 Add to cart	2022 July 7 Vol. 44, Issue 47 \$1.00 Add to cart
2022 June 30 Vol. 44, Issue 46 \$1.00 Add to cart	2022 June 23 Vol. 44, Issue 45 \$1.00 Add to cart	2022 June 9 Vol. 44, Issue 43 \$1.00 Add to cart	2022 June 2 Vol. 44, Issue 42 \$1.00 Add to cart	2022 May 26 Vol. 44, Issue 41 \$1.00 Add to cart	2022 May 19 Vol. 44, Issue 40 \$1.00 Add to cart
2022 May 12 Vol. 44, Issue 39 \$1.00 Add to cart	2022 May 5 Vol. 44, Issue 38 \$1.00 Add to cart	2022 April 28 Vol. 44, Issue 37 \$1.00 Add to cart	2022 April 21 Vol. 44, Issue 36 \$1.00 Add to cart	2022 April 14 Vol. 44, Issue 35 \$1.00 Add to cart	2022 April 7 Vol. 44, Issue 34 \$1.00 Add to cart
2022 March 31 Vol. 44, Issue 33 \$1.00 Add to cart	2022 March 24 Vol. 44, Issue 32 \$1.00 Add to cart	2022 March 17 Vol. 44, Issue 31 \$1.00 Add to cart	2022 March 10 Vol. 44, Issue 30 \$1.00 Add to cart	2022 March 3 Vol. 44, Issue 29 \$1.00 Add to cart	2022 February 28 Vol. 44, Issue 28 \$1.00 Add to cart
2022 February 17 Vol. 44, Issue 27 \$1.00 Add to cart	2022 February 10 Vol. 44, Issue 26 \$1.00 Add to cart	2022 February 3 Vol. 44, Issue 25 \$1.00 Add to cart	2022 January 27 Vol. 44, Issue 24 \$1.00 Add to cart	2022 January 20 Vol. 44, Issue 23 \$1.00 Add to cart	2022 January 11 Vol. 44, Issue 22 \$1.00 Add to cart
January 6, 2021 Vol. 44, Issue 21 \$1.00 Add to cart	2021 December 16 Vol. 44, Issue 18 \$1.00 Add to cart	2021 December 9 Vol. 44, Issue 17 \$1.00 Add to cart	2021 December 2 Vol. 44, Issue 16 \$1.00 Add to cart	2021 November 25 Vol. 44, Issue 15 \$1.00 Add to cart	2021 November 1 Vol. 44, Issue 14 \$1.00 Add to cart

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

541-896-0453
Water Systems & Filtration

Commitment to Excellence
CCB #50234 www.mckenzievalleypump.com

Subscribe at: inyurl.com/2vf5caa6

McKenzie Eagles Sports Report



By Cliff Richardson

Continued From Page 3

place at 0-3.

Crow's next opponent is Gilchrist while the Eagles face the State's top-ranked Six-man football team, the Powers Cruisers.

Clearly, first-year Eagle Head Coach Willie Kumle will have his work cut out for him as he prepares for Powers on Friday at Wade Thomas Field. The Cruisers are strutting their stuff early in the season, scoring 191 points while holding opponents to 54 points against them.

Eagles Hit The Sand And Surf In Seaside

McKenzie Head Coach Corey Culp loaded his Girls and Boys Cross Country teams on the bus last Friday night and landed it in Sunny Seaside. The next day, the Eagles participated in the Seaside 3 Course Challenge held at Camp Rilea Armed Forces Training Center near Warrenton. The event featured a choice of a 4,300 meters easy course, a 5,000 meters

moderate course or a 5,000 meters difficult course for each male and female running teams.

Both the McKenzie Boys and Girls teams participated in the 5K moderate races. Eagle junior Will Meister finished 36th out of a field of 279 runners, representing 60 teams entered. Meister's time was 20:31.4 minutes. Brody Will, running for Hudson's Bay, out of Vancouver, WA, won the race in a time of 17:32.3 minutes, while just edging out Andrew Talius from Eastlake, a school from Sammamish, WA, who finished in 17:34.1 minutes.

In the Girls Moderate 5,000 meter race, Eagle freshman Zyla Drake led her teammates with a 36th place finish of her own. Drake's finish time was 25:35.1 minutes. Fellow freshman Claire Weiss followed in 42nd place with a time of 26:07.4 minutes and Eagle junior Myra Dion finished in 65th place with a time of 27:27.5 minutes.

Lola Estrada, a freshman competitor representing Inglemoor, a school team out of Kent, WA, won the race in a time clocked in at 21:08.0 minutes. Estrada easily outdistance the second place runner, Fiona Wolf of Eastlake, who finished in 21:21.6 minutes. A total of 161 runners participated in the moderate race.

[Return To Page 2](#)

Health officials urge care and vaccinations as respiratory illness season looms

Vaccinations, masks and avoiding crowded gatherings are advised

By Ben Botkin
Oregon Capital Chronicle
Oregon public health officials are asking Oregonians to take steps to protect themselves and others from the slew of respiratory illnesses likely to emerge again this winter.

COVID-19 is not the only culprit – other respiratory illnesses include influenza and respiratory syncytial virus, or RSV, along with measles and whooping cough. Public health officials on Thursday encouraged people to get vaccinated and use other strategies to avoid getting sick, like hand-washing, avoiding indoor crowded gatherings and testing when symptoms appear. Face masks, while not mandatory, also help ward off illnesses, officials said.

"Fortunately, we have some very effective tools to help people risk less and do more this respiratory season," Dr. Melissa Sutton, the health authority's medical director for respiratory viral pathogens, said Thursday in a call with reporters.

Dr. Richard Bruno, health officer for Multnomah County, said the state has outbreaks currently of measles and pertussis, or whooping cough. So far, Oregon has had 31 cases of measles reported, the highest since 1991. None of those who contracted the highly contagious disease were vaccinated and two needed to be hospitalized, Bruno said.

The last confirmed measles case was in mid-August, so Oregon may be near the end of the current outbreak, he said. However, now that children are back in school, more measles cases may emerge, Bruno said. Oregon schoolchildren are below the 95% vaccination rate that's needed for "herd immunity" or when enough people are immune to the disease so that it cannot easily spread.

Measles infects the respiratory tract and spreads throughout the body, often causing a high fever, cough, runny nose and rash. The measles vaccine is highly effective and required for school attendance though parents can opt out.

Oregon's 550,000 schoolchildren are also required to be vaccinated against whooping cough, which has surged in Lane, Multnomah, Clackamas and several other counties. So far, 560 people have been infected with whooping cough this year compared with 26 cases in 2023, state data shows.

Whooping cough usually starts with cold-like symptoms that progress to an uncontrollable cough. Pertussis is caused by a bacteria, not a virus, which means it's sus-



Scott Olson/Getty Images

Oregon health officials urge people to stay up to date on their COVID shots and other vaccinations as the flu season approaches.

ceptible to antibiotics. If someone has a cough that's not getting better, they should see their health care provider, officials said.

Both measles and whooping cough are among the most contagious diseases in the world, Bruno said, and both have effective vaccines.

If someone has had measles in the past, received two vaccine doses or was born before 1957, they are immune, he said. With whooping cough, most people usually get vaccinated by age 12 and updated every 10 years as part of a tetanus booster shot, he said.

"Fortunately, we have vaccines for all of these illnesses to help protect us, so please consider making sure you are up to date," Bruno said.

Groups of people who are particularly vulnerable to respiratory illnesses in general include young people, pregnant people, those with compromised immune systems and the elderly. Infants under 6 months old face the highest risk for RSV while adults older than 65 and people with compromised immune systems are more vulnerable to COVID-19.

Public health officials said people in rural areas, which have fewer providers, should get vaccinated.

"In Harney County, which is where I live, it can be three hours in a single direction to get to medical care," said Dr. Sarah Laiosa, public health officer for Malheur and Harney counties. "And I think it's really important to do the things that we could do to prevent the severe disease so that they don't need to access that medical care that can be so hard to get to."

Laiosa said people should talk to their health care providers about vaccinations rather than rely upon untrustworthy sources.

"Unfortunately, there is an incredible amount of disinformation on vaccines in the world today, and it's important that people seek

information from a health care provider they trust before deciding what is best for them," she said. "I want to encourage everyone out there to ask your health provider questions you might have. They want to hear from you, and they want to inform you and empower you."

Outlook is unclear

At this point, officials don't know how severe COVID will be this winter.

Unlike other respiratory diseases, cases surged this summer in Oregon. Health authority data, based on wastewater surveillance, indicates that COVID cases are still on the rise in Canby, Florence and Medford, while cases are leveling out at many other sites. The prevalence of COVID in Hood River, Siletz, Lincoln City, Klamath Falls and Grants Pass has decreased.

Officials at the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention have formulated short-term forecasts for COVID but those were placed on hold during the summer.

CDC officials recommend that everyone stay up to date on their COVID shots because their effectiveness wanes over time. The latest booster shots, which were recently approved, are now available and are recommended especially for those who are at least 65 years old or at high risk of infection.

With influenza, officials look to countries in the southern hemisphere, which go through winter before the north, to figure out what strains are circulating and how severe the flu season might be. But this year they've offered a mixed outlook.

"We have a handful of countries who had quite severe influenza seasons, and then we have some countries that had really mild seasons, so we really don't have a clear picture of what we're facing this year," Sutton said, adding that's why it's important to stay updated on vaccinations.

oregoncapitalchronicle.com

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

We believe in newspapers

2012 NNA Community Newspaper Readership Survey

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

NEWSPAPERS DELIVER NEWS YOUR WAY

8 out of 10 Americans read print or digitally accessed newspaper content every month.

Telling Our STORIES
CELEBRATING NATIONAL NEWSPAPER WEEK | OCTOBER 6-12, 2024

Source: America's Newspapers 2023 Local Newspaper Study conducted by Coda Ventures.

FOR YOUR JEANS **FOR YOUR TOOLS** **FOR YOUR FAMILY**

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

Need to talk?
Call 988

Guest Opinion

Continued From Page 2

Meanwhile, the bill before Congress does nothing about the true culprits barring patient access to approved biosimilars. The industry middlemen known as pharmacy benefit managers have enormous influence over which drugs insurers cover.

While PBMs are supposed to secure the best deal for patients, recent investigations reveal that they prioritize their own proceeds. The Federal Trade Commission is currently suing the three largest PBMs for favoring brand-name insulins that cost patients more. And studies show that PBMs frequently exclude biosimilars from their formularies, which means that many medicines used to treat chronic disease are less likely to be covered.

Our lawmakers had the right idea when they set out to improve patient access to biosimilars. But they're cutting the wrong red tape. Instead of undermining access to biologics, they should insist that PBM rebates negotiated on behalf of patients go directly to patients, and require greater transparency from the industry in general. Chronic disease patients would reap the rewards.

Kenneth E Thorpe, PhD is the Robert W Woodruff Professor of Health Policy Emory University. He is chairman of the Partnership to Fight Chronic Disease. This piece originally ran in Medical Economics.

[Return To Page 2](#)

Sheriff's Report

Continued From Page 3

38200 blk, McK. Hwy.

4:58 p.m: ATL Drunk Driver - Marcola Rd. & Sunderman Rd.

6:11 p.m: Citizen Contact - McK. Hwy. & Holden Creek Ln.

7:25 p.m: Disturbance, Dispute - Finn Rock Landing. Verbal dispute between two males about a female. Both males parted ways without further incident. Both males were contacted by law enforcement, no arrests made.

Sept. 21: 12:29 p.m: Disturbance, Dispute - 88700 blk, Ermi Bee Rd. Caller advised son has been verbal and refuses to leave property. No threat of violence at this time and caller advised on restraining order process.

2:27 p.m: Suspicious Vehicle - McK. Hwy. Mp.19. Deputy contacted the vehicle and determined there was a mechanical issue with the trailer and involved was moving items around to make safer for travel.

6:07 p.m: Welfare Check - 44200 blk, McK. Hwy.

7:59 p.m: Vehicle Stop - McK. Hwy. & Camp Creek Rd.

8:17 p.m: Vehicle Stop - McK. Hwy. & Thurston Rd.

10:47 p.m: Assist, Information - 91500 blk, Horse Creek Rd.

Sept. 22: 4:02 p.m: Unlawful Entry Motor Vehicle - 41300 blk, McK. Hwy.

4:10 p.m: Harassment - 37800 blk, Wallace Creek Rd. Caller advised a male was making false claims against them. The suspect is known by deputies and will attempt contact today.

6:14 p.m: Motor Vehicle Accident, Unknown Injury - Parsons Creek Rd. & Pentilla Ln.

Sept. 23: 7:07 a.m: Suspicious Conditions - 57100 blk, N. Bank Rd. Caller was advising they had been kidnapped. When the claim was investigated the caller was suffering from a mental health incident.

12:52 p.m: Disabled Vehicle - Marcola Rd. Mp. 4.

1:36 p.m: Assist Oregon State Police - McK. Hwy. Mp. 41.

3:02 p.m: Citizen Contact - 58500 blk, McK. Hwy.

7:40 p.m: Assist, Follow Up - 7200 blk, Thurston Rd.

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

[Return To Page 3](#)

Vida McKenzie Center needs you

Do you have extra time and want to do something for the community? The Vida McKenzie Community Center is looking for volunteers to help with various events for people of all ages.

Examples of opportunities include: Family Bingo Nights (6-9p.m. second Saturday monthly) - make homemade treats for the snack bar, work in the snack bar, take money at the door, or help with "calling" bingo.

* Concerts (next is 11/1/24 7-9p.m.) - greet guests at the door or make homemade treats for guests.

* Films With Friends (11/10/24 & 12/8/24, 2-4:30p.m.) - greet guests at the door, or work in snack bar.

* Christmas Bazaar (12/14/24 & 12/15/24) - help with set up on 12/13 or take-down on 12/15, make homemade treats for the snack bar, actually work in the snack bar, help with children's activities in Santa's Workshop, help collect raffle prizes prior to event, or sell raffle tickets during the event.

* Gardening (ongoing activity with help of Late Bloomers Garden Club, next workday) - help with watering plants, planting plants, or weeding.

If any of these volunteer opportunities appeal to you, email us at VMCC2024@yahoo.com or call Tammy Pelton (951-970-0176) or Gerry Aster (541-896-3001.)



Jacuzzi | BATH REMODEL

TRANSFORM YOUR BATHROOM AND YOUR LIFE IN **ONE DAY***

CALL NOW **855.809.2468**

SPECIAL OFFER
Waiving All Installation Costs!

* Some installs may take longer. Add'l terms apply. Offer subject to change and vary by dealer. Expires 12/29/24.

Emergency? Call 911

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

NEWSPAPERS CONNECT COMMUNITIES



74% of Americans believe it is important to have a local newspaper. Newspapers define the culture of a community.

Telling Our STORIES
CELEBRATING NATIONAL NEWSPAPER WEEK | OCTOBER 6-12, 2024

Source: America's Newspapers 2023 Local Newspaper Study conducted by Coda Ventures.



OREGON UTILITY NOTIFICATION CENTER

Be Aware New Dig Law! Avoid Fines & Penalties

Call Before You Dig
1-800-332-2344 (1-800-332-2DIG)
It's Free!

Valley residents need goods and services. Let them know you're available

Make the "McKENZIE CONNECTION"

Advertise in

MRR McKenzie River Reflections



rivref2@gmail.com 541-822-3358

Autumn returns

Continued From Page 1

the world to fish and visit, and this a great way to bring them out to experience it.”

The Middle Fork Willamette Watershed Council has been coordinating long-running programs to educate students throughout the Eugene-Springfield area. On Tuesday, they hosted a session at the Eugene Water & Electric Board’s Trail Bridge Hydroelectric Project Spawning Channel, east of McKenzie Bridge.

During their Salmon Watch field trip, students learned about salmon ecology while rotating through four stations.

At the water quality station, they took samples from the stream to test water temperature, turbidity, and pH. At the macroinvertebrate station, students identified insects salmon eat, and at the riparian ecology station, they learned.

“Being a part of the Salmon Watch is a magical experience,” said Dassy Smolianski, who coordinates Salmon Watch for the

Middle Fork Willamette Watershed Council. “The wonder nurtured within the Salmon Watch program has a long-lasting positive impact on students and their relationship to the natural world.”

EWEB often hosts the Salmon Watch experience at the Trail Bridge Hydroelectric Project Spawning Channel. The utility recently finished enhancing the spawning channel’s habitat as part of relicensing the project. Habitat improvements include adding spawning gravels for adult salmon and Bull Trout to lay their eggs, developing high-preference spawning beds for egg development, and calm pools for juvenile fish that emerge from the eggs.

EWEB added whole trees this summer and created large wood structures to provide a complex cover habitat throughout the spawning channel. This will protect young fish from predators by providing shelter and habitat for them to forage for their prey.

“We are all so excited to see the new habitat in the expanded spawning channel because we know it will provide both excellent spawning grounds and a place to inspire kids to care for the Chinook and Bull Trout that return every year to complete their lifecycles,” said EWEB’s Patty Boyle, who supervises efforts to deploy the license at the Carmen-Smith Hydroelectric Project. “We hope that experiencing special natural areas like this will encourage healthy, active, and outdoorsy lifestyles for our students.”

Although Salmon Watch is not quite as miraculous as the journey of spawning salmon, it relies upon a healthy community of volunteers to succeed. Volunteers come from EWEB, local watershed councils, the Oregon Department of Fisheries and Wildlife, the National Forest Service, and retired teachers about the importance of healthy streamside forests.

Many attendees have said that the fish biology station makes a lasting impression. Going through the station is often the first time many students have seen Chinook salmon in the wild.

[Return To Page 1](#)

Garbage controversy continues

EUGENE: Supporters have described it as “potentially the most technologically advanced waste processing facility in the country.”

Opponents, though, say the \$150,000,000 waste sorting facility is “a massive project that will increase costs of living for all Lane County residents.”

This month the Oregon Ethics Commission joined the fray with a unanimous decision to investigate Lane County for violating public meeting laws on the CleanLane Resource Recovery Facility (previously known as IMERF).

On September 13th, the commission found a substantial objective basis for believing that the Lane County Commission may have violated public meeting laws related to an executive session that occurred on March 20th. A determination could result in a warning to Lane County against further violations of public meeting laws.

In its preliminary report, the OGE’s cited three allegations:

* That county commissioners held serial communications to discuss the CleanLane contract.

* The county cited the wrong reason to hold the executive session.

* The executive sessions didn’t meet the legal requirements for providing notice.

The commission was responding to a complaint filed by the Lane County Garbage and Recycling Association (LCGRA) on May 22nd. Jake Pelroy, a spokesman for LCGRA, said in a statement:

The first two allegations weren’t upheld during an initial investigation. The third, alleging problems in notifying the public about executive sessions, is still being studied.

“This continues a long pattern of legal and deceptive issues related to the IMERF/CleanLane project,” according to Pelroy. “We will continue to advocate for transparency and accountability related to this boondoggle. Raising garbage prices is a regressive tax that hurts us all.”

Still busy

Continued From Page 1

along Hwy. 126, is now 34% contained. Work there includes gridding and mopping up to extinguish hot spots in the interior of the fire. Crews are continuing to masticate and chip vegetative materials along containment lines. Fire activity could be minimal, with creeping, smoldering, and the consumption of interior heavy fuels expected.

This week, a closure order for the Pyramid Fire was signed, reducing the closed area and allowing additional recreation and hunting opportunities within the Middle Santiam Wilderness. Forest officials are continually

evaluating closure orders and will adjust as conditions allow. Other fire-related closures remain in place in the McKenzie River Ranger District and the Middle Fork Ranger District in the immediate fire operations area for public and firefighter safety. Please respect and avoid all closed areas of the national forest.

More information is available at tinyurl.com/3ppya43k

For current road conditions, please check the Oregon Department of Transportation’s website: tripcheck.com

[Return To Page 1](#)

Credit recent rainfall and cooler temperatures for reduction of the fire danger to “moderate” on the Willamette National Forest and Industrial Fire Precaution Level (IFPL) is at Level 1.

Campfires will once again be allowed outside of developed campgrounds and restrictions on chainsaws, off-highway vehicles, and smoking will be lifted. However, even with the reduced fire risk, it is still important to never leave a campfire unattended and completely extinguish it so it is cold to the touch. The cancellation of public use restrictions, also known as fire restrictions, applies to all lands within the Siuslaw

Fire danger reduced

and Willamette National Forests, including wilderness and special recreation areas.

Despite the change in conditions, the Willamette National Forest still has closures in place for some areas due to active wildfires and ongoing emergency response work. To check the status of a location before entering the Forest, visit Willamette National Forest - Alerts & Notices ([usda.gov](https://www.usda.gov))

Firefighters and heavy equipment crews continue to do fire work and suppression repair in the Forest and along forest roads. This includes road work and hazard tree removal, as well the movement of

firefighting vehicles and equipment. Visitors are encouraged to exercise caution and check road reports before entering or driving in those areas. For the latest information on road conditions, please monitor TripCheck for updates: <https://tripcheck.com/>

Additional fire information is available on the Willamette National Forest website at fs.usda.gov/main/willamette/fire

More information is posted on Facebook and X @WillametteNF or @SiuslawNF.

To report a wildfire, please call 9-1-1.

Enjoy where you live



Summertime is here,

Wouldn’t you rather stay in the McKenzie Valley instead of driving to tow “looking for bargains?”

How about spending a couple of hours at the swimming hole instead of stressing out in summer traffic?

Wouldn’t it be better to spend the evening fishing instead of driving back and forth and getting nowhere?

You can invest your time and dollars locally by supporting your neighborhood businesses. The community you support will be a better one to live in and enjoy.



McKenzie River Reflections



mckenzievalleyreflections.com

Shop at Home, it makes \$ense



EMERGENCY ALERTS
Emergency Alert
Severe Thunderstorm Warning

Mom



What supplies are we missing? 🙋🏻

Aunty

I’m not sure...

Ready has a list of resources

www.ready.gov/plan



Message



BEING PREPARED CAN BE AS EASY AS SENDING A TEXT.

VISIT [READY.GOV/PLAN](https://www.ready.gov/plan)

MAKE

A family communications plan

SIGN UP

For local weather & emergency alerts

PREPARE

An emergency kit