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Sheriff's Reports

Suspicious Conditions. A deputy responded to a report of a mound of dirt and smell of "death."

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5 crash-landings in 2 days

The Waco 9 stalls at just 35 miles an hour, but that's plenty fast enough to kill everyone on board when the plane starts cartwheeling

PAGE 4



Briefs...



Fire season started on July 1st for the Oregon Dept. of Forstry's South Cascade District (Sweet Home and Eastern Lane). That means it's time to pay attention to fire danger. The current fire danger is LOW but indices such as temperature, fuel moisture content, and relative humidity are certainly showing that fire season is here. While the number of fire calls has been relatively low lately, grass is starting to cure out and conditions are primed for fire to move across the landscape. [Fire Season- Page 2](#)



Is digital connectivity a threat to children? The Surgeon General recently called on Congress to mandate labeling on social media apps, akin to the warnings on cigarettes and alcohol, to address these concerns. This heightened awareness has spurred parents to take more active roles in monitoring their children's online activities.

A recent survey conducted by HostingAdvice involving 3,000 parents sheds light on the extent of parental controls on the websites and apps their children access. The findings reveal a spectrum of practices and concerns, reflecting the diverse ap- [Digital connections- Page 2](#)



Roughly 80 people lost their homes in September of 2020 when the wildfire destroyed 21 homes and 15 RV lots at the Lazy Days Mobile Home and RV Park in Blue River. Nearly four years later, the site in the 52000 block of McKenzie Hwy. is being readied to receive 20 new two-bedroom modular homes as early as this summer.

Site work started last summer with all infrastructure, a community building, common areas, and spaces expected to occur by October. Ten one-bedroom park model RV's should be on the property during 2025.

Most of the money for the \$12-million project has come from the state Disaster Recovery and Resilience Wildfire Recovery fund, HUD, Lane County/Business Oregon ARPA, Oregon DEQ

McKenzie River Chainsaw Festival canceled

After a four-year delay, four-day event was set for August 8th to 11th



Pros like Bob King of Edgewood, Washington will not be wowing crowds this year after a decision to cancel the Chainsaw Festival.

FINN ROCK: An annual festival derailed in 2020 due to the COVID-19 Pandemic and the Holiday Farm Fire.

The event, planned to return to the McKenzie Community Track and Field, this August 8th to 11th, has instead been canceled. "This decision comes after careful consideration" according to the track's board of directors.

They went on to say in a press release that, "despite our dedicated efforts, ensuring the readiness of the festival grounds and guaranteeing a safe environment for attendees, artists, and participants has proven to be a significant challenge."

Board member Sylvia Dion added, "As a board, we thought we had a handle on it but there was some ma-

ior documentation that was overlooked and we weren't going to have enough time to get that in place."

She went on to note that "we also realized that the festival takes way more planning and preparation than we were aware of so we decided to take what we learned this year and put it toward making an even better festival next year."

Looking ahead, organizers said they'll convene a full committee to "spearhead the planning process, ensuring that the next McKenzie River Chainsaw Arts Festival meets the high standards expected by our community."

Smiles from the sky At Tokatee's Celebration



Yes, Friday's Celebration was a blast at the Tokatee Golf Club.

RAINBOW: An animated aerial golfer joined some patriotic icons - ranging from the "1776" to the American and Oregon flags - was joined by Tokatee's own logo in

brightening the night sky last Friday night.

The performance in the sky utilized a fleet of LED- [Continued On Page 2](#)

Local store broken in Leaburg building damaged



A robber made a mess dragging an ATM out the front door.

LEABURG: Doors were pried open and smashed during a 3 a.m. break-in at the Leaburg Store on June 28th. In the process,

a burglar attached a tow strap to an ATM inside the building and yarded it out the front door. [Continued On Page 2](#)

Satellites aid EWEB's tree trimming program

Utility aims to reduce power outages and increase reliability

EUGENE: The Eugene Water & Electric Board's (EWEB's) tree-trimming efforts just got smarter and more efficient.

To help prevent tree-related outages, EW EB crews trim vegetation on more than 500 miles of overhead power lines each year. But it's important to determine which sections of power lines need attention the most.

EWEB is using smart technology to solve this problem. By integrating advanced analytics and up-to-date satellite imagery, EWEB can proactively address high-risk areas and reduce the risk of tree-related power outages to enhance

overall grid reliability.

EWEB's new forestry analytics software, Overstory, uses 3D satellite imagery of tree canopies to detect tree height, health, and species and combines that with local information - including

data about EWEB's poles and lines, terrain and slope maps - to quickly identify areas that could benefit from additional attention.

Last year, smart software analyzed vegetation across 180 miles of line in more

densely vegetated areas and found that EWEB's current vegetation management practices are highly effective at maintaining clearance.

Many of EWEB's power [Continued On Page 9](#)



Satellite views of electrical corridors offer new ways to assess vegetation issues.

Guest Opinion

Drug education and prevention programs help local communities

By Jody Boulay

It seems as if every community, big or small, has been impacted by the problems associated with substance use and drug overdose. Within these communities, these problems extend into the family unit, with people becoming addicted and dying because of drugs.

However, community drug education and prevention programs can be a first line of defense. There is hope for the younger generations as they have more access to online prevention and education resources to help them make informed decisions. In addition, more information is available for parents to equip them with the tools to help their kids understand the dangers and risks associated with drugs and alcohol.

Unfortunately, drug education and prevention programs are not as widespread in Oregon as in other states. According to data from a statewide inquiry, 60% of Oregon's school districts don't use prevention curricula or programs at any grade level that meet even the lowest evidence bar, according to the nation's top prevention and curricula clearinghouses. District responses showed that 20% of districts rely on little more than a chapter in a health textbook to get the job of addiction prevention done.

The Oregon Health Authority operates an alcohol-drug prevention education program. Yet, youth addiction prevention gets little help from the state.

Prevention and education information is valuable as it contributes

to preventing underage alcohol abuse and recreational drug use. This can be especially vital during Fourth of July celebrations. Binge drinking, for example, around Independence Day is typical, and it is known as one of the heaviest drinking holidays of the year. In social settings, it becomes easy to consume too much alcohol.

According to drug abuse statistics, teenagers in Oregon are 37.62% more likely to have used drugs in the last month. Roughly 11% of the 12 to 17-year-olds surveyed reported using drugs in the last month, and 94% of those kids reported using marijuana in the last month.

Parents play an essential role when providing drug education. They can take the initiative to create an inclusive and supportive environment with their children. This can equip them with the tools they need to make knowledgeable decisions surrounding alcohol and drug use.

Teens and adults all use drugs and alcohol for different reasons. Much of their use is linked to peer pressure, whether from peers, in a social setting, or in the case of someone they look up to who they see drinking or using drugs.

Stress is also a common factor, and alcohol or drugs seem like an easy escape from the problems of life.

Additionally, environment and family history are contributing factors. Children, for example, who grow up in households with heavy drinking and recreational drug use are more likely to experiment with drugs.

Any parents wondering what to do should consider starting the conversation about alcohol and drug use early. It is also essential



to be calm, loving, and supportive. Seek out specialized resources, such as those offered by county or non-profit organizations providing prevention and education.

Additionally, parents want to focus on making it safe for their children to tell them anything and never end the conversation, keeping it going regardless of age.

Local drug education resources are here to help assist people of all ages in making knowledgeable decisions about drugs and alcohol.

Jody Boulay is a mother of two with a passion for helping others. She currently works as a Community Outreach Coordinator for Drug Rehab Services (www.addicted.org) to help spread awareness of the dangers of drugs and alcohol.

Tokatee Celebration

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equipped drones controlled by a pre-programmed computer set up near the launch site.

During the show, 200-foot-tall

flying images delighted a crowd of spectators who also enjoyed the venue's live music, food truck, and beer garden - as well as

plenty of open ground for reveling youngsters.

Broken in

Continued From Page 1

Unknown to the robber, however, was the presence of motion cameras and an alarm system that recorded the activities and recorded identifiable images. After a quick response to the scene deputies from the Lane County

Sheriff's Office apprehended the suspect.

Booked at the Lane County Jail and charged with Burglary in the 2nd Degree, Theft and Criminal Mischief was 37-year-old Robert Anthony Moore.

On Tuesday, Moore was also charged with Unlawful Possession of Methamphetamine, Felony Possession of a Weapon, Child Neglect, Criminal Forfeiture, and several counts of Controlled Substance Violations.

Letters to the Editor



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

Briefs...

Fire Season

Continued From Page 1

ODF Districts to the south, as well as the two fire associations (Coos Forest Protective Association and Douglas Forest Protective Association), are already in fire season.

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visit (compared to a national average of 52%). Among these, 36% said they monitor their children's online habits daily, showcasing a high level of vigilance.

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Lazy Days

Continued From Page 1

Septic Grant, and a Homes for Good.

Phase 1 applications for Lazy Days Park are now being accepted For more information contact Jamie Savage at 458-239-1875, jamee.savidge@lanecountyor.gov, or via messenger.

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Digital connections

Continued From Page 1

proaches parents take to safeguard their children's online experiences.

According to the survey, almost 2-in-3 Oregon parents (60%) actively control the websites and social media sites their children

Send news briefs to rivref2@gmail.com



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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
6/25	53	87	0	490 cfs	6/25	82	49	0	2,880 cfs
6/26	58	68	0	496 cfs	6/26	87	54	0	2,920 cfs
6/27	52	69	0	496 cfs	6/27	69	54	0	2,820 cfs
6/28	48	80	0	490 cfs	6/28	74	47	0	2,780 cfs
6/29	54	77	0	490 cfs	6/29	81	52	0	2,690 cfs
6/30	57	78	0	490 cfs	6/30	80	55	0	2,670 cfs
7/1	80	54	0	484 cfs	7/1	83	53	0	3,660 cfs

Friday 7/5		Saturday 7/6		Sunday 7/7	
McKenzie Valley	Santiam Pass	McKenzie Valley	Santiam Pass	McKenzie Valley	Santiam Pass
Sunny	Sunny	Sunny	Sunny	Sunny	Sunny
0% chance precip	0% chance precip	0% chance precip	0% chance precip	0% chance precip	0% chance precip
High: 99 Low: 60	High: 90 Low: 54	High: 101 Low: 60	High: 93 Low: 56	High: 99 Low: 58	High: 91 Low: 55

Sheriff's Report

June 24: 12:46 p.m: Disturbance, Dispute - 7000 blk, Thurston Rd. Ongoing dispute between neighbors. A deputy made contact and determined no crime had occurred.

10:22 p.m: Disturbance, Dispute - 40100 blk, York Ln.

June 25: 12:52 a.m: Disturbance, Dispute - 44500 blk, McK. Hwy.

1:51 a.m: Suspicious Conditions - Hendricks Park Rd. & McK. Hwy. A motorhome was reported in the area as appearing to set up camp. Deputies responded, but the motorhome had left.

11:32 a.m: Reckless Driving - McK. Hwy. & Milepost 26.

3:43 p.m: Citizen Contact - 88600 blk, Whitsell Ln.

5:26 p.m: Motor Vehicle Accident, No Injury - Marcola Rd. & Old Mohawk Rd.

6:49 p.m: Disturbance, Dispute - 38100 blk, B St. Deputies responded to a dispute involving an intoxicated family member. No crime occurred.

7:31 p.m: Reckless Driving - Marcola Rd. & Sunderman Rd.

8:07 p.m: Vehicle Stop - Marcola Rd. & Old Mohawk Rd.

9:06 p.m: Illegal Burn - Ross Ln. & McK. Hwy.

June 26: 12:52 a.m: Disturbance, Dispute - 44500 blk, McK. Hwy. The caller believed a former partner was at the residence, but determined it was just a lost person looking for directions.

9:54 a.m: Suspicious Vehicle - Lat: 44.28925. Long: -122.91045. A burned out vehicle was reported at the location, which is in Linn County, so it was routed to their sheriff's office.

12:40 p.m: Motor Vehicle Accident, No Injury - Marcola Rd. Mp. 13.

2:13 p.m: Disabled Vehicle - Camp Creek Rd. & easy Ln.

2:20 p.m: Dog at Large - Camp Creek Rd. & Stephens Rd.

2:41 p.m: Burglary - 37800 blk, Worth Rd. A resident's home was burglarized and items stolen. A deputy responded to investigate.

2:58 p.m: Civil Enforcement - 88900 blk, Easy Ln.

6:03 p.m: Burglary - 8400 blk, Thurston Rd.

6:58 p.m: Illegal Burn - 37300 blk, Camp Creek Rd.

7:59 p.m: Suspicious Conditions - Lat: 44.179381. Long: -122.105457. A deputy responded to a report of a mound of dirt and smell of "death." The deputy determined it was a pile of discarded chanterelle mushrooms and feces.

11:41 p.m: Suspicious Conditions - Aufderheide Dr. & Cougar Dam Rd. A camper reported there was a "raccoon-sized" animal attempting to get into his tent. He decided to sleep in his car.

11:53 p.m: Assault - 90700 blk, Hill Rd. Deputies responded to an assault with injury at the location. The suspect fled before deputies arrived. Deputies searched several possible locations, and the investigation is ongoing.

June 27: 6:47 a.m: Civil Enforcement - 88900 blk, Easy Ln.

7:21 a.m: Traffic Hazard - Camp Creek Rd. & Skyhigh Dr.

9:07 a.m: Fraud - 49400 blk, Eagle Rock Dr.

2:15 p.m: Assist, Follow Up - 92200 blk, Savage St.

4:58 p.m: Foot Patrol - 39500 blk, McK. Hwy.

5:55 p.m: Down Line - 37100 blk, Parsons Creek Rd.

6:04 p.m: Found Property - McK. Hwy. & Milepost 19.

June 28: 1:03 a.m: Suspicious Vehicle - McK. View Dr. Mp. 3.

2:03 a.m: Disturbance, Dispute - 91800 blk, Taylor Rd.

3:23 a.m: Burglary - 42800 blk, McK. Hwy.

3:53 a.m: Disturbance, Dispute - McK. View Dr. Mp. 1.

6:48 a.m: Illegal Burn - 7500 blk, Thurston Rd.

9:48 a.m: Civil Problem - [Continued On Page 12](#)

McKenzie Fire & Rescue

June 24: 17:14: McK. Hwy./Thurston Rd. Motor Vehicle Accident. Scene Handled By Eugene/Springfield Fire.

June 25: 3:21: 42000 block, Leaburg Dr. Lift Assist Only.

17:25: Marcola Rd./Old Mohawk Rd. MVA. Disregarded.

21:01: Ross Ln/McK. Hwy. Illegal Burning. Legal Campfire Found.

21:41: 88000 blk, Bridge St. Illegal Burning. Unable To Locate.

June 26: 9:47: 39000 blk, Camp Creek Rd. Medical, General. Patient Assessed, Refusal Obtained.

14:16: Camp Creek Rd./McK. Acres Dr. Fire, Grass. Fire Extinguished Prior to Arrival; Confirmed Out, Wet Surrounding Area.

23:53: 88000 blk, Millican Rd. Medical, Heart. Disregarded By Dispatch.

15:41: 55000 blk, McKenzie River Dr. Mutual Aid. Patient Assessed, 1 Transported.

19:03: 37000 blk, Camp Creek Rd. Illegal Burning. Homeowner Extinguished Fire.

20:17: 51000 blk, River St. [Continued On Page 12](#)

Upper McKenzie Fire/Rescue

June 26: 15:09: Medical - 55000 block, McK. River Dr. Female, Conscious, Breathing.

16:24: Medical - 56000 blk, N. Bank Rd. Male, Conscious, Breathing.

20:12: Brush Fire - 51000 blk, River St. Small fire, less than 20x20 in the brush, boat ramp area.

June 28: 22:22: Medical - 54000 blk, McK. Hwy. Fall Injury.

June 29: 14:06: Appliance Fire - Paradise Campground. Propane tank attached to stove is on fire.

19:23: Medical - 56000 blk, McK. Hwy. Male, Conscious, Breathing.

20:38: Medical - 91000 blk, Blue River Reservoir Rd. Female, Conscious, Breathing.

June 30: 00:50: Medical - 51000 blk, Rose St. Female, Conscious, Breathing.

June 30: 12:58: Forest Fire - USFS Rd. 15/Blue River Reservoir Rd. Caller sees hot spots and some active burning - estimates 1.5 to 2 acres are involved.

14:25: Illegal Burn - 90000 blk, Aufderheide Dr. Complainant found smoldering campfire, some dry grass next to it. Caller does not have anything to put out fire.

The Upper McK. Fire District's board of directors will hold its monthly meeting at 7 p.m. on Monday, July 15th, at the McK. Fire Station, 56578 McK. Hwy. in McKenzie Bridge.

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Legendary aviator survived five crash-landings in two days

By Finn J.D. John

On a gusty late-summer evening in 1930, well after dark, a few feet off the ground near the Oregon-Nevada border, 22-year-old Ted Barber was hurtling through the blackness, preparing to die.

Barber was an aviation pioneer and an actual barnstormer — a pilot who paid the bills by making the circuit of county fairs and country dances, selling airplane rides and flying lessons and performing daring tricks like wing-walking and inverted low passes.

His "ship" was a Waco 9, a primitive but rugged biplane built in the mid-1920s by the Advance Aircraft Company, powered by an even more primitive Curtiss OX-5 engine. The engine's design dated all the way back to 1902, when Glenn Curtiss built a V-twin to power one of his motorcycle designs. Over the years it was enlarged and had cylinders added until, in 1915, it took its final form — the eight-cylinder, 503-cubic-inch, 90-horsepower, 400-pound hunk of cast iron and aluminum bolted to the firewall of Barber's Waco. Although it was already quite obsolete by 1917, it was available, so the government bought them by the thousands, and in the 20s they could be bought as war surplus for as little as \$20 (roughly \$300 in modern currency).

The OX-5 had a reputation for being unreliable, and Barber's had definitely lived up to that reputation that day. This was going to be his fourth crash-landing of the weekend. And it was looking like it was going to be a bad one.

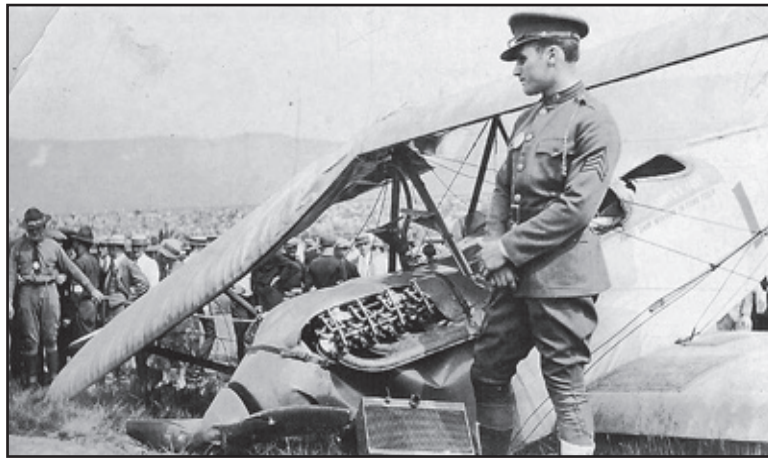
Ted Barber was based out of Bend, so he was a little ways from home. With his helper Bill, a fellow barnstormer who had wrecked his plane and was saving up to buy a new one, he'd flown the Waco down to the east end of the Catlow Valley, to the Henry ranch. The Henrys were hosting a dance in the nearby town of Andrews, on the southwest side of Steens Mountain.

Andrews today is a ghost town, and even in 1930 it wasn't far from that; it never had more than 150 residents. Its first postmaster named it Wildhorse, but when the locals started calling it "Wild Hog," the postmaster took it personally, and had the name changed to Andrews. Because Wild Hog is the best possible name for a ghost town, I'm going to be using it from now on.

Wild Hog might have been small, but it was the closest town to the Henry ranch, and it was in the middle of a bunch of other ranching and homesteading families. So, there was a pretty good crowd there for the Saturday night dance.

The distances were great, so everyone who came for the dance spent the night there in Wild Hog. So bright and early Sunday morning, Ted warmed up the Waco to start giving airplane rides.

This turned out to be more of a challenge than Ted and Bill had anticipated. First of all, the hamlet of Wild Hog was high on the flanks of the Steens, elevation 4,400 feet. With its heavy, inefficient engine, Barber's plane would be taking off and landing at close to half its maximum service ceiling.



nationalwacoclub.com

This relatively minor, probably non-fatal wreck is an example of probably the best-case scenario faced by Ted Barber as he contemplated his situation on that dark night over southern Oregon. Ted caught a tremendously lucky break; this pilot, not so much.

And there weren't any very good places to land in Wild Hog. Ted and Bill scouted a field that would probably do — it was about 800 feet long, with a barbed-wire fence at the end.

"Every takeoff was so close I talked to the Lord a little after making it," Ted recalls, in his memoir.

Well, as every craps player knows, you can't just sit there rolling boxcars all night. Sooner or later, your luck has to run out.

But, the Lord must have been listening to Ted, because even when his luck did run out, he caught a break.

It happened just after one of those white-knuckle takeoffs. The Waco was a little over 100 feet off the ground, climbing at maximum power, when the fuel line broke and the engine stopped dead.

Acting on instinct, Ted put the plane into a banking turn to try and get back to his airfield. Then he came to his senses. He had nowhere near enough elevation to make it through the turn. This was an extremely common way for early aviators to die, by the way — they lost power on takeoff, then stalled and spun into the ground while trying to turn back.

"One of the most important rules every flying student learns is to never try to turn close to the ground with a dead engine," Ted wrote, "but when the chips are down, we all do it."

In Ted's case, he came to his senses in the literal nick of time. He threw all his controls into the maximum left-turn position, struggling to bring the wings level again as the ground rushed up.

He barely made it. The wings came level just as he reached the ground in a surprisingly smooth three-point landing. The random piece of terrain that the plane came down on just happened to be one of the only rock-free spots around, and the few little sage bushes growing there barely even damaged the wings.

That was the landing that should have killed Ted Barber. Quite literally, the margin between life and death was about 10 seconds. If he'd caught his mistake a quarter of a minute later, he would have been too late, and his right wingtip would have touched the ground first. The Waco 9 stalls at just 35 miles an hour, but that's plenty fast enough to kill everyone on board when the plane starts cartwheeling through the sagebrush.

After the fuel line was repaired, the plane gave no further trouble

until the last flight of the day, when the same fuel line broke again. This time, it cut loose at 500 feet, so Ted was able to pick a field to land in. But, of course, he couldn't do much of an inspection on it; so, the one he picked had a bunch of medium-sized rocks hiding beneath its sagebrush cover.

The damage wasn't too terrible; a tire blew out, and the tail skid broke. The lashing sagebrush also tore up the fabric pretty badly on the lower wing.

By the time the tire was fixed, it was getting late, and Ted was supposed to fly the buckaroo boss of a big beef ranch home at the end of the night. Not wanting to push his luck too hard, Ted decided to fly the passenger out of the field he crash-landed in. It was about 350 feet long, but there was now a brisk headwind ahead of some ominous-looking storm clouds.

So, with the passenger strapped in, Ted punched the throttle and went for it.

He soon realized he wasn't going to make it. There was a barbed-wire fence at the end of the field, and he was going into it. At the last second he risked a stall to gain enough altitude to get most of his lower wings over the fenceposts ... and as a result, instead of shearing off both bottom wings, they just got long rips put in them by the fenceposts. The plane bounced to a stop among the rocks and sage on the other side of the fence.

After that, the buckaroo boss was very happy to spend the night safely stranded in Wild Hog.

But Ted lined the plane up to try again. He might have been talking to the Lord all day, but he obviously hadn't been doing a whole lot of listening, because what he was about to do was one of the dumbest mistakes Ted Barber ever made. It was a mistake that by rights should have been fatal, a mistake that would require something closely approximating a bona-fide water-walking miracle to get him out of:

Instead of spending the night in Wild Hog with his passenger, he climbed back into his badly damaged airplane, and took off in it.

Without his passenger, Ted

was able to get the Waco airborne without incident. Then he struggled, in the waning light, to get enough altitude to fly over Steens Mountain.

By the time he figured out he couldn't do it — his damaged wings just weren't giving enough lift in the thin and turbulent air — it was too dark to see his fuel gauge. By the light of the stars he managed to make out the time on his watch, and realized he had maybe five minutes' worth of fuel left.

If he'd realized this earlier, Ted could have flown leisurely along looking for a ranch house to set the Waco down next to. He could have overflowed a promising hayfield to make sure it was safe — no fences, no big rocks, no stone walls — and then made a hair-raising but basically safe power-on landing in the gloaming twilight, just in time for supper at the ranch.

Instead, he found himself flying just above stall speed, a few dozen feet above a vague line of lighter darkness below — the star-lit signature of a dusty country road, which he had by sheer dumb luck (or divine intervention) stumbled across. Crashing on a road would be far better than crashing on the open range someplace.

(Sources: *The Barnstorming Mustang*, a book by Ted Barber published in 1987 by Ted Barber Industries)

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.

Continued Next Week



By Slim Randles

Each of us, in our own way, smiles on the Fourth of July. We can't help it. We are the most fortunate citizens of any nation in the world and we know it.

A bunch of us in the valley will be down on the sidewalk watching the parade go by. The bands are nice. The horses are great fun to watch, and the military with their stunning stout vehicles of war are hard to beat. So are we. We're hard to beat, too.

My favorite part of the parade is when the kids walk by, with a small American flag in one hand and the end of a leash in the other. And that leash is attached to a dog. Not a world champion dog. Not even a dog who trees 'coons or points birds.

No, that is the great American kids' dog. Look at each one. The crowd kinda boogers them a little, but they know they're safe because they have that wonderful American kid safely on the other end of that leash. Those dogs can't speak to us in our language, but we know exactly what they're saying: if it weren't for me, how would this kid ever become a full-fledged caring American adult?

We all must do our share.

Brought to you by "Whimsy Castle," the latest novel by Slim Randles. Buy one for the lady down the street, too, okay?

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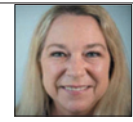
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Gardening Tips

By Kym Pokorny



Oregon State University

OSU Extension Service

Grow those tomatoes



Knowing the whys and hows of tomato diseases gives gardeners a leg up for successfully growing the most-treasured of vegetables. Brooke Edmunds, a horticulturist with Oregon State University Extension Service, troubleshoots the following common problems that might afflict your tomatoes as the season goes on.

Blossom drop – It’s usually caused by dry soil and dry winds,

but also may be caused by a sudden cold spell, heavy rain or too much nitrogen. Usually not all blossoms will fall off, and another set of flowers will appear.

Blossom-end rot– The end of the fruit farthest away from the stem turns brown or black – a condition caused by irregular watering practices and calcium deficiency. It is most common in western Oregon. Water deeply and

regularly. Add lime to the soil in the fall to increase the calcium level for next year’s crop.

Leaf roll – A physiological problem that is most often the result of heavy pruning or root injury. Some tomato cultivars display leaf rolling as a normal growth habit. Plants may lose leaves but will recover. Learn more in Extension’s guide on leaf roll.

Sunscald – Green tomatoes can get sunburned if exposed. There is no cure, only prevention by reducing foliage diseases that can cause leaf loss. Take care when pruning to protect the developing fruit.

Early and late blight– These are fungal diseases caused by warm, wet weather and characterized by irregular, greenish water-soaked spots on lower leaves and stems. The spots rapidly enlarge to form purplish black lesions, which girdle the stems and leaves, killing the foliage. Avoid overhead watering, give plants plenty of room, stake and prune to keep air circulating and plants dry. Remove diseased leaves.

Slow-ripening fruit – Temperatures above 85 degrees can slow the ripening of tomatoes, which ripen quickest at 70 degrees to 75 degrees. Wait for cooler weather to allow for vine-ripening to occur. Fruit just showing color changes can be picked and stored at room temperature to ripen.

For more information, photos and control methods for these and other tomato maladies, consult Pacific Northwest Plant Disease Management Handbook. Or call your local OSU Extension Master Gardeners. For general information about growing tomatoes, check out Extension’s publications *Grow Your Own Tomatoes* and *Tomatillos* in English and Spanish.



Country Kitchen

By Mary Emma Allen



THE JOY OF LIBRARIES

It’s great to see that our libraries... in large and small communities... are adapting to changing situations and cognizant of their patrons’ needs in this electronic world. I recently attended a program to introduce and update us on AI and other related electronics. I didn’t understand everything, but enough so I have an introduction and insight where to look for more.

The library in our small town still has a multitude of books and each month sends out a list of the new ones. Their patrons have access to e-books and online related programs. There is a great children’s section with, at this time of year, the summer reading program and activities. A teen’s advisory group has been formed to help with books and related programs for this age.

Avid Readers

My family has long been avid readers and collectors of books. This goes back to my grandparents and my parents.

My maternal grandmother would remark, when a package came in the mail, “Burton, not another book!” He was a great reader, researcher, writer and collector of books, and I still have some of his.

When my daughter and I browse the local thrift shops, we always go to the used book section first and never fail to come home with something to read and for our book art.

A Day at the Library

When my granddaughter was a preteen, her dad once asked her,

“If you could spend a whole day doing something you liked, what would you choose?”

Kara thought a moment, then said, “Daddy, could I spend a whole day at the library?”

I don’t think she ever spent a whole day, but every summer I took Kara and her brother to the weekly evening youth programs, which they thoroughly enjoyed. I usually stayed and read or wrote while I waited. Sometimes there were special programs in which parents (and grandparents) were invited. I do hope my great granddaughter enjoys books and libraries as much as we so..

Thank you for libraries, librarians and those who organize and sponsor the programs.

SPINACH SALAD for summer dining - Wash and tear 1 pkg. fresh spinach. Dice 3 hard-boiled eggs; tear into small pieces 8 slices crisply cooked bacon.

Make a dressing of: 1 cup salad oil, 1/4 cup catsup, 1 teaspoon minced onion, 1/4 cup sugar 1/4 cup vinegar, 1 tablespoon. Worcestershire sauce. Or use your favorite dressing.

Toss greens and other ingredients with one half the dressing. (Save the rest for another salad.)

Or you can serve the salad without dressing and let diners add their own...this dressing or some other of their choice. You also can add other greens along with the spinach.

(c) Mary Emma Allen

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

Quote of the Week

“True terror is to wake up one morning and discover that your high school class is running the country.”

Kurt Vonnegut

Think that's scary?

Sharks can be terrifying. But what's really scary, and even deadlier, is distracted driving.

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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.

July 5

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.

July 6

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 may 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.

July 6

Dime At A Time

The Blue River Bottle Boys Collection/Sorting sessions are held every Saturday from 9 - 11 a.m. at the Leaburg Store. Donations can be dropped off there as well.

July 6

Sullivan Golf Tourney

The Annual Mickey Sullivan Golf Tournament will tee off at 11 a.m. at the Tokatee Golf Club, 54947 Mc-

Kenzie Hwy. in Rainbow. Join the family for the 9th annual Mickey Sullivan Memorial Golf Tournament. Proceeds from the raffle will support the McKenzie School District Golf Programs, including Junior Golf. Must prepay - \$125 per person, Cart, range balls, two raffle tickets & dinner included. Cash, check, or Venmo @Cindy-Smith-520. Contact Sherry Smith for more info 541-517-2752. Shotgun starts at 1:30.

July 6

Wine Tasting

Stop by the Thurston Wine Garage, 6112 Main Street in Springfield from 1 to 5 p.m. with McKenzie Crest Wines! It's the First Saturday of the Month, which means we will be hosting our drop-in wine flights. Come sip some Merlot, Barbera, Pinot Noir, and much more. Flights are only \$10 with the fee waived if there's a bottle purchase. Food, Kiddos, and Pets are welcome!

July 8

Parks Committee

The Parks Advisory Committee will meet from 6 to 7:30 p.m. in the Goodpasture Room, 3050 N Delta Hwy. in Eugene. It advises the Board of County Commissioners on park needs, recommends priorities for projects - including financial and operational development and acquisition. The committee also provides recommendations regarding long-range planning for future park programs.

July 8

Spfd School Board

The Board of Directors meets at 7 p.m. Work sessions are generally held at 5:30 p.m. on the fourth Monday of the month. All

meetings, unless otherwise noted, are held in the Board Room of the Springfield Public Schools Administration Building, 640 A Street in Springfield.

July 9

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.

July 9

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.

July 9

Tourism Committee

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

July 9

Food Pantry

The McKenzie River Food Pan-

Aufderheide Drive - A new Scenic Bikeway?



People are invited to a public meeting on July 19th at 5:30 p.m. to learn about the possibility of designating Aufderheide Drive (US Forest Road 19) as an Oregon Scenic Bikeway. The meeting will be at the Upper McKenzie Community Center, 54745 McKenzie River Drive in Rainbow.

The Oregon Scenic Bikeway program, established in 2009 by Oregon Parks and Recreation, markets and promotes cycling routes that offer cyclists a unique and enjoyable experience. Proposed routes are nominated by local groups and are reviewed and approved by the Oregon Scenic Bikeway Committee. Travel Lane County is the lead proponent of the project and is joined by groups that include the McKenzie River Chamber of Commerce, cycling enthusiasts, area businesses, and other supporters. The Aufderheide Drive is recognized for its spectacular views of mountains, lakes, waterfalls, creeks, and rivers. The designation could further attract visitors, boost local businesses, and encourage everyone to explore the outdoors by bike.

Meeting attendees can expect to learn about the criteria for scenic bikeway designation, hear about plans to market the route, ask questions, and provide feedback. Please sign up to attend. For more information, please contact Connor Nolan, Travel Lane County Destination Development Manager, at connor@eugencascadescoast.org

try 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.

July 10

McK School Board

The McKenzie School District meets from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. in the administration building, 51187 Blue River Dr, Vida. The meeting will be livestreamed viewing available at www.youtube.com/channel/UC14_qR6FmaelclIzi4-UMCeQ/videos. Submit Public Comment to public.comment@mckenziesd.org

July 10

Watershed Council

The McKenzie Watershed

Council will meet from 5 to 6:30 p.m. Its mission is to foster better stewardship of the McKenzie River watershed resources, deal with issues in advance of resource degradation, and ensure sustainable watershed health, function, and use. Location varies, please contact Melanie Giangreco, McKenzie Watershed Council Operations Assistant (458-201-8150) melanie@mckenziewc.org

July 10

Summer Camp

The OSU Extension Service is hosting a 4-H Summer Camp at the McKenzie High School Gym in July for grades K through 8th. Activities will include Arts & Crafts, STEM focused hands-on activities, and Team collaborations.

2024 RAFFLE FUNDRAISER FOR THE DOUG DUNBAR MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Get your Raffle tickets for this beautiful Great Horned Owl carving by Randy Dunbar! The drawing for the winner will be held at the McKenzie River Community Celebration on September 2nd. To purchase tickets, contact Lorinda.Marcy@usda.gov Sam Swetland swetland.sam@gmail.com or Kathy Harbick kathyharbick@gmail.com. Ticket prices are \$5.00 each.



Doug Dunbar graduated from McKenzie High School. He went on to become a member of the Prineville Hotshot crew and perished along with 13 other firefighters in the 1994 South Canyon Fire in Colorado. For more details about Doug, see the video at this link:



This scholarship will be awarded to graduates (or the equivalent) of high school in Blue River, Oregon or residents of Vida, Nimrod, Finn Rock, Blue River, or McKenzie Bridge, Oregon. Candidates must be in pursuit of post-secondary education at public or private nonprofit colleges (including community colleges) or universities in the United States that are eligible to participate in the federal student financial aid program.

If you would like to donate directly to the Scholarship Fund you may do so through this link:





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<h2 style="text-align: center; margin: 0;">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 style="text-align: center;">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>	



Direct Answers

By Wayne & Tamara Mitchell

Katz And Dogs



Sarandy Westfall

I recently moved in with a man. We were friends for three years, then we fell in love. We now live together and have two cats. He is the love of my life: wonderful, kind, and caring. He is truly my best friend.

The cats are his babies. I love cats, too, but have one problem. The problem is in the bedroom. These cats run the house, climb on the countertops, and lay on the kitchen table. I can live with that, but he thinks they should always be allowed in the bedroom and the door should not be closed “because they like to lie on the bed.”

I have put up with cats staring at me, crawling on me, and going under the covers to play with my feet during intimacy. Finally, the

other day I got up, put them out, and closed the door. I said, “I can’t concentrate!”

He thought this was terrible, and that I was being mean. I know he was upset, and as soon as we finished lovemaking, he got up and let them back in. We don’t have children. Do you think this may cause problems for us in the future? I intend to keep putting them out and closing the door.

Amber Jon Katz wrote a book called “The New Work of Dogs.” His name is Katz and his field is dogs, but what he says applies to cats as well: companion animals tend to our emotional needs. We seek beings to love and to love us. Not surprisingly, when television usage exploded in America, the number of companion animals also exploded.

Jon Katz mentions a lonely woman who got a dog at Christmas, reasoning if she couldn’t find a good man, at least she could find a good dog. Perhaps your boyfriend was like that. At one time the cats were his only reliable companions, and he deferred to them.

Now he has you. It’s time to discuss the proper role of cats in his life. Jon’s book is the kind of

book you can read together in bed, with the door closed and the cats on the other side.

Wayne & Tamara

Weighty Issues

I married my husband four months ago. We lived together for two years before getting married. At first, he was wonderful. We had grown so close. But since we got married things have changed.

I put on maybe five or ten pounds after we married, but now I’m exercising and watching what I eat. He’s been calling me fat and other not-so-nice names. I confronted him, and he got mad saying he was just joking. I am hurt. When we argue he gets mad and tells me to go away. Or he gets quiet, won’t talk to me, and sleeps on the couch.

The communication we once had is becoming scarce. I don’t know what to do. He wants to start a family, but I’m afraid to bring a child into this world and have the child treated like he treats me. I’m desperate to save this marriage, but it’s getting harder and harder.

Melissa

Melissa, the Renaissance political writer Machiavelli was an astute observer of human behavior. He once observed that in the beginning, a disease might be easy to cure, but difficult to diagnose. Once the disease has developed, however, it may be easy to diagnose, but difficult to

cure.

You are right to be wary about starting a family. If your husband thinks you are fat now, what will he say when you are pregnant? After giving birth you will find it even more difficult to control weight.

Your husband can’t reconcile who you are with who he wants you to be. That raises questions about his genuine love for you. You have diagnosed the problem. Unless the problem is cured, it is unwise to start a family.

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

Duplex

By Jericho Brown

A poem is a gesture toward home.

It makes dark demands I call my own.

Memory makes demands darker than my own:

My last love drove a burgundy car.

My first love drove a burgundy car.

He was fast and awful, tall as my father.

Steadfast and awful, my tall father

Hit hard as a hailstorm. He’d leave marks.

Light rain hits easy but leaves its own mark

Like the sound of a mother weeping again.

Like the sound of my mother weeping again,

No sound beating ends where it began.

None of the beaten end up how we began.

A poem is a gesture toward home.

Jericho Brown, “Duplex (A poem is a gesture toward home.)” from *The Tradition*. Copyright © 2019 by Jericho Brown. Reprinted by permission of Copper Canyon Press, www.coppercanyonpress.org.

Jericho Brown’s first book, *Please (New Issues, 2008)*, won the American Book Award, and his second book, *The New Testament (Copper Canyon, 2014)*, was named one of the best poetry books of the year by *Library Journal* and received the Anisfield-Wolf Book Award. His third collection, *The Tradition (Copper Canyon, 2019)*, won the Pulitzer Prize for Poetry and was a finalist for many awards, including the National Book Critics Circle Award. His poems have appeared in the *Nation*, the *New Republic*, the *New Yorker*, the *Paris Review*, *Time*, and several volumes of the *The Best American Poetry* anthologies. He is an associate professor and the director of the Creative Writing program at Emory University in Atlanta.

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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

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- 40. Engage in a pursuit (2 words)
- 42. Bed-and-breakfast, e.g.
- 43. Tibetan Buddhism
- 45. Pinched
- 47. Sing like Public Enemy
- 48. Mother-of-pearl
- 50. Cripple
- 52. *Wheel in Vegas
- 55. Chocolate substitute
- 56. Egg on
- 57. Capri or Catalina
- 59. Olden days violin maker
- 60. Croaks
- 61. "Run Away to Mars" singer
- 62. Jump key
- 63. Corncob
- 64. Gaelic

DOWN

- 1. *London ____, tourist attraction
- 2. Hankerings
- 3. At the summit of
- 4. Glass ingredient
- 5. TV and radio
- 6. Not odds
- 7. Chinatown gang
- 8. Low-ranking worker
- 9. Pinnacle
- 10. Pig's digs
- 12. *Royal procession carriage
- 13. E in baseball box score
- 14. **"Wheel in the Sky" band
- 19. Star bursts
- 22. "____ Elise"
- 23. Suez or Panama
- 24. Carl Jung's inner self
- 25. *Type of locomotive
- 26. Surfer's stop
- 27. Like anchor weigh
- 28. Easternmost state
- 29. Serengeti grazer
- 32. *Perambulator, for short
- 33. Black and white sea bird
- 36. *Ancient Greek ride
- 38. Top of a steeple
- 40. Kitchen meas.
- 41. Reunion attendees
- 44. Poets' feat
- 46. Smaller size than small
- 48. *a.k.a. water wheel
- 49. Hole-borer
- 50. Baby's first word?
- 51. Speedy steed
- 52. Boorish
- 53. Russian autocrat
- 54. 90-degree pipes, e.g.
- 55. "Peace Train" singer-songwriter
- 58. Increase

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ACROSS

- 1. Unfledged hawk
- 5. The ____ Gala, haute couture fundraiser
- 8. Ballet step
- 11. Sasquatch's cousin
- 12. Prefix in levorotary
- 13. DVD player button
- 15. What Tylenol and xylene have in common
- 16. Seaport in Yemen
- 17. With ample space
- 18. *Rumpelstiltskin's ____ wheel

- 20. Viking writing symbol
- 21. Musical finales
- 22. In favor of
- 23. Source of tapioca
- 26. Smith, e.g.
- 30. "Stand and Deliver" singer
- 31. Live-in helper (2 words)
- 34. Et alii, abbr.
- 35. Nephew's sister
- 37. Tire depression
- 38. Turkey's southern neighbor
- 39. Same as ayah

Solution on Page 9

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By Rick Steber
(www.ricksteber.com)

July 3 - On July 3, 1923, the tiny town of Meacham, located at the summit of the Blue Mountains, was named the official capitol of the United States for a single day. President Warren G. Harding stood on the back of his private railroad car and watched a procession of pioneers walking beside their wagons, followed by Indians dressed in feather bonnets and scarlet blankets and finally a long convoy of automobiles. After the parade the President proclaimed Meacham as the capitol, announced the old Oregon Trail was officially closed and welcomed the modern era by opening the new transcontinental automobile highway.

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. Releases of 8" to 10" hatchery fish this week were: McKenzie River below Leaburg Dam - 2,500, McKenzie River above Leaburg Dam - 850, and Leaburg Lake - 1,000.

Fish Counts

June 25, Willamette Falls
Spring Chinook - 16,289
Summer Steelhead - 15,2232

CROSSWORD SOLUTION

USPS		ATM		HEW
FLOE	PLEA		GAUGE	
OILS	AGAR		ARGON	
SPEAKEASY		MISS		
	MELEE	VIZ		
SHTETL		GENOMES		
POI	CATGUT	NEAP		
LUNCH	APR	CARGO		
ARCH	SLOUGH	ILO		
TITANIC		RIOTER		
	PAR	JAILS		
TALA	WORLDWARI			
LENIN	EYES	ARUM		
AXONS	ACNE	LISP		
PTA	LEA	DAKS		

SUDOKU SOLUTION

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

Satellite aid

Continued From Page 1



EWEB crews on the ground are benefitting from a "space eye" view.

lines run through areas that are difficult to access using conventional means and equipment, making it hard to assess whether they need attention. With Overstory's remote sensing technology, EWEB can efficiently analyze terrain that's difficult to inspect visually and target high-risk tree-trimming areas.

Customers see EWEB's urban power lines every day, but many power lines also run across rough terrain in the McKenzie Valley. This technology gives EWEB a better view of those power lines in remote areas, allowing the customer-owned utility to better determine when to send vegetation management crews in for maintenance.

The data in the software are continually updated with new satellite imagery and other inputs,

providing a birds' eye view of the changing landscape. The tool recently incorporated satellite imagery from earlier this year that reflected the severe damage caused by the January ice storm. This new data will be used to inform the next round of planning for tree trimming.

"Better data allows us to make better decisions. Safety is always our top priority, and with this tool we're able to improve reliability and keep rates low at the same time, too," said Jeannine Parisi, EWEB's resiliency program manager. "Ultimately, investing in this tool today will make us more resilient tomorrow."

In 2024, EWEB plans to analyze about 425 miles of line of the electric system with smart software.

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

William Randolph Hearst



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McKenzie River Reflections



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

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Emergency? Call 911

Keeping a classic

Volunteers turn out for Fish Lake



Randy Dunbar

Dick Kreger working on a fence replacement.

Close to 75 people turned out for a meeting at Fish Lake last week, including many of McKenzie River Ranger District employees. Besides camaraderie, there was plenty of maintenance work as well as restoration or replacement of structures to attend to.

Part of the projects people took on included scraping and painting, fence replacement, and restoration of decayed log ends on the cabins. While that was underway, other work ranged from general clean-

ing of inside buildings, plumbing repair, Internet connection, and a power system upgrade.

Given the changes impacting the area in recent years, there was also a very active discussion on how to increase the likelihood of the historic structures surviving a wildfire. Whatever conclusion is reached, members of the Friends of Fish Lake agree any actions will result in a multi-pronged approach.

OR closer to receiving 'historic investment' in state's internet infrastructure

By Eric Tegethoff
Oregon News Service

The stage is set for a massive investment in Oregon's plans to bring high-speed internet to everyone in the state. The second volume of Oregon's Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment proposal has been approved by the National Telecommunications and Information Administration, laying out its plan for investing nearly \$700 million in federal funding.

Nick Batz, Oregon Broadband office director says the goal is internet for all.

"This is a historic investment. We've never seen this much money invested in broadband by the federal government before. I'm not sure that we're ever going to see it again, and if we're successful, we're not going to need it again," he explained.

Batz notes that high-speed internet connectivity is crucial, enabling everything from remote work to telemedicine appointments, and is especially important in rural parts of the state.

Batz added the state will now



NewAfrica/AdobeStock

Oregon is set to receive \$689 million from the federal government to connect all state residents to high speed internet.

begin the process of selecting the grantees that will build the infrastructure in locations that are unserved or underserved.

"The goal of this challenging process is to identify every location in Oregon that is eligible to receive BEAD funding. So, by the end of this challenge process, we will have a master list of all these locations. It's going to be somewhere in the neighborhood

of 120-,130-,140,000 locations," he explained.

Funding to increase broadband access has become available through the passage of Congress's Bipartisan Infrastructure Law. The Biden Administration is currently in the process of distributing more than \$42 billion to states to increase high-speed internet connectivity.

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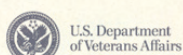


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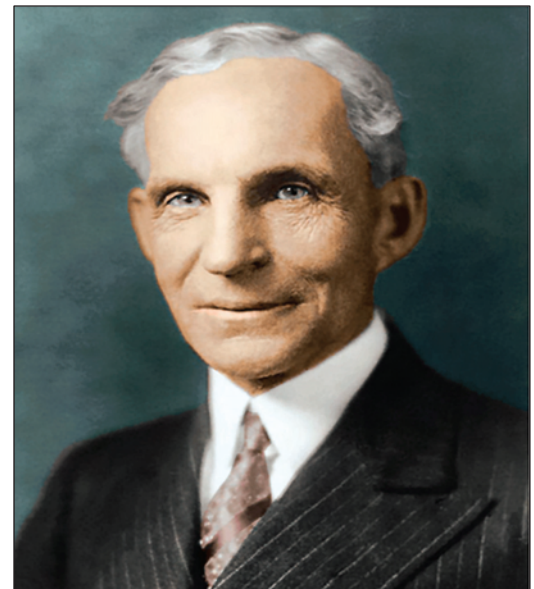


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Henry Ford



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Old McKenzie Pass to open on July 4th East side of scenic route is newly repaved

Construction crews have been hard at work on the east side of the Old McKenzie Pass and plan to have the highway above the gate paved and open by the morning of July 4th.

Only the east side of the pass had been under construction, but the west side will also remain closed at the gate just beyond Linton Lake until July 4th. According to the Oregon Dept. of Transportation, limited space for vehicles to turn around on the west side made it unsafe to open any further to-

wards the summit.

After the freshly paved pass opens above the gate, some work will continue, like striping, putting up signage, and cleanup activities that may cause minor delays.

Paving on the east side section of the highway below the gate will continue through July and could also cause some delays. Unlike the upper highway, this section is wide enough to accommodate traffic and construction equipment with single-lane closures and flaggers.



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Great American Outdoors Act = \$27.4 million for recreation and access improvements

Funds help restore historic Santiam Pass Ski Lodge on Willamette Forest



\$27.4 million in funding provided through the Great American Outdoors Act is greatly improved the U.S. Forest Service's ability to address deferred maintenance needs at recreation facilities across the Northwest, according to Jacque Buchanan, Pacific Northwest Regional Forester.

"We've made incredible progress in updating recreation sites, trails, and access with the help of these funds. Each investment reduces the amount of costly maintenance needed to protect public safety and natural resources, and improves the experience for visitors," she said.

In Oregon and Washington, previous investments have included important repairs to historic buildings, including repairs at the historic Santiam Pass Ski Lodge on the Willamette National Forest, Timberline Lodge on Mt. Hood National Forest, Lava River Cave entrance improvements for safety and accessibility, and parking area repairs at Lava Lands Visitor Center. Other projects have included a parking lot expansion project at the Denny Creek and Franklin Falls trailheads on the Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest. Numerous restroom facilities across the region have also been upgraded, and more than 40 bridges are being repaired or replaced.

New projects for fiscal year 2024 include critical safety improve-

ments at the Johnston Ridge Observatory on the Mount St. Helens National Volcanic Monument, Selkirk Loop Trail restoration and recreation amenity improvements in northeast Washington, and accessibility, utility, and security upgrades to historic Multnomah Falls Lodge at the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area.

Across the region, funding has also been approved to improve more than 1,500 miles of trails and update campgrounds, trailheads, and day-use areas.

"Our goal is to enable experiences for everyone, from the first-time visitor to the experienced outdoors person. Some of this work will modernize facilities to improve accessibility for all. Other projects will improve visitor safety, better protect natural resources, and help preserve and restore historic buildings," said Sally Butts, director for Recreation, Lands, and Minerals for the Pacific Northwest Region.

While investments in roads,

bridges, and culverts aren't always noticed, they're important to providing visitor experiences and critical to protecting the surrounding natural resources, said Christy Darden, Director of Engineering for the Pacific Northwest Region.

"Nature is hard on our infrastructure and when maintenance or repairs are delayed, the damage escalates. In the worst-case scenario, nearby water sources and habitats are damaged. These investments provide a much-needed boost that's helping us address deferred maintenance and keep sites and roads open, accessible, and safe," she said.

Government agencies, Tribes, and other individuals and community organizations are routinely involved in project development and planning, or the public participation process for large projects. Some of these organizations are also able to provide volunteers, and technical expertise, or coordinate work on projects under agreements with the Forest Service.

Much of the funding is used for agreements, or to fund contracts with industry partners with the skills and experience to perform the necessary work.

Officials say the Great American Outdoors Act addresses the growing \$8.6 billion backlog of deferred maintenance on national forests and grasslands. The Forest Service currently administers more than 370,000 miles of roads, 13,900 trail and road bridges, 160,000 miles of trails, 1,500 dams and reservoirs, 1,500 communications sites, and 30,000 recreation sites across the United States and Puerto Rico.



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Plan ahead if heading East

Highway 126 closures are coming



MCKENZIE BRIDGE: Work on Hwy. 126 planned between the Linn County line and the Old McKenzie Highway - also know as the Clear Lake Cutoff - will include both half day and two-day closures, according to the Oregon Department of Transportation. The current schedule calls for half day closures from August 1st through 8th, - Sunday through Thursday nights - from 8 p.m. to 6 a.m. (with Fridays and Saturdays excluded). There will also be

44-hour closures from August 20th to the 22nd. Officials say the section of highway is in a snow zone where the current pavement is cracking and needs to be replaced. It has required applying patches more frequently to hold this section together. In addition, three bridges in this section also need to be resurfaced. Design and construction costs for the project total \$7.3 million.

Sheriff's Report

Continued From Page 3

91700 blk, Blue River Reservoir Rd.
1:27 p.m: Menacing - 49800 blk, McK. Hwy.
2:30 p.m: Traffic Hazard - Greenwood Dr. & McK. Hwy.
2:44 p.m: Assist, Follow Up - 42800 blk, McK. Hwy.
3:35 p.m: Burglary - 91900 blk, Blue River Reservoir Rd.
3:41 p.m: Citizen Contact - Vida area.
8:34 p.m: Burglary - Taylor Rd. & McK. Hwy.
9:29 p.m: Reckless Endangering - 38100 blk, A St.
10:42 p.m: Lost Property - 88200 blk, Millican Rd.
June 29: 12:04 a.m: Vehicle Stop - 3900 blk, Hayden Bridge Rd.
2:03 a.m: Disturbance, Dispute - 91800 blk, Taylor Rd.
9:59 a.m: Information - 56200 blk, delta Dr.
11:28 a.m: Reckless Driving - Camp Creek Rd. & McK. Hwy.
11:31 a.m: Illegal Burn - Millican Rd. & Camp Creek Rd.
11:31 a.m: Attempt To Locate Drunk Driver - Upper Camp Creek Rd. & Missy Ln.
1:35 p.m: Illegal Burn - 88300 blk, Millican Rd.
2:55 p.m: Traffic Hazard - McK. Hwy. & Deerhorn Rd.
3:34 p.m: Disturbance, Dispute

- Sunderman Rd. & Keller Ln.
3:46 p.m: Shots Fired - 41900 blk, Deerhorn Rd.
3:57 p.m: ATL Drunk Driver - 35200 blk, Camp Creek Rd.
8:54 p.m: Assist Fire Department - 91700 blk, Blue River Reservoir Rd.
June 30: 12:04 a.m: Vehicle Stop - 3900 blk, Hayden Bridge Rd.
9:49 a.m: Strangulation - 48100 blk, McK. Hwy.
11:28 a.m: Reckless Driving - Camp Creek Rd. & McK. Hwy.
11:31 a.m: ATL Drunk Driver - Upper Camp Creek Rd. & Missy Ln.
12:37 p.m: Disturbance, Dispute - 87100 blk, Cedar Flat Rd.
2:21 p.m: Water Patrol - 91800 blk, Blue River Reservoir Rd.
2:31 p.m: Illegal Burn - McK. Hwy. Mp. 45.
3:34 p.m: Disturbance, Dispute - Sunderman Rd. & Keller Ln.
3:46 p.m: Shots Fired - 41900 blk, Deerhorn Rd.
3:57 p.m: ATL Drunk Driver - 35200 blk, Camp Creek Rd.
July 1: 3:30 a.m: Disabled Vehicle - Marcola Rd. & Skyhigh Dr.
12:39 p.m: Found Property - 88200 blk, Millican Rd.
1:02 p.m: Assist, Follow Up - 39400 blk, Sykes Ln.

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

McKenzie Fire & Rescue

Continued From Page 3

Mutual Aid. Disregarded En Route.
June 27: 9:33: 40000 blk, McK. Hwy. Illegal Burning. Homeowner Extinguished Fire.
16:03: 40000 blk, York Ln. Medical, General. Patient Assessed, 1 Transported.
22:08: 7000 blk, Thurston Rd. Medical, Heart. Disregarded.
June 28: 3:20: 88260 Millican Rd. Medical, Heart. Disregarded By Dispatch.
6:48: 7500 blk, Thurston Rd. Illegal Burning. Homeowner Extinguished Fire.
19:01: 1000 blk, Billings Rd. Medical, General. Patient Assessed, 1 Transported.
June 29: 11:29: Millican Rd./Camp Creek Rd. Illegal Burning. Homeowner Extinguished Fire.
11:53: McK. Hwy./Milepost 31. Assist Police. Patient Assessed, Refusal Obtained.
13:37: Millican Rd./Camp Creek Rd. Illegal Burning. Burn Pile Extinguished by Fire Personnel.
14:40: McK. Hwy./Deerhorn Rd. MVA. Non-Injury, Non-Blocking.
20:11: 45000 blk, N. Gate Creek Rd. Mistaken Alarm. Accidental Activation, No Medical Needs.
23:29: 45000 blk, N. Gate Creek Rd. Medical, General. Patient Assessed, 1 Transported.
June 30: 9:01: 42000 blk, Leaburg Dr. Medical, Trauma. Lift Assist Only.
11:36: 1200 blk, Weaver Rd. Smoke Scare. Prescribed Burn.
12:53: 87000 blk, Cedar Flat Rd. Medical, General. Cancelled.

McK. Fire & Rescue will hold its monthly Board of Directors meeting on Monday, Monday, July 15th, at noon, in the Leaburg Training Center, 42870 McK. Hwy. The district maintains Facebook, Twitter, and web pages. If you have a question or concern about any Fire District business, give Chief Bucich a call @ 541-896-3311. If he is unavailable, please leave a message and he will respond ASAP.



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