



Delivering targeted news for the McKenzie Valley community since 1978

OSP Report

Male was driving recklessly with speeds in excess of 100 mph, driving on three tires, and no lights illuminated.

PAGE 3

Ready for cool composting?

Cool, slow composting is an easy method for people who don't have the time or desire to tend to a hot compost pile.

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Briefs...



Do you like walking for fun, exercise, or errands? Do you wish you had more reasons to walk? Walktober 2024 is a month filled with more than 35 walks and tours, including art walks, nature walks, historical walks, coffee shop walks, walk challenges, and more in Lane County. Whether art, horticulture, exercise, or making friends is your thing, you'll find a range of guided tours, group walks, and self-guided options to suit your tastes.

The Coffee Shop Hop is returning for chances to walk, sip, and win. This year, the Coffee Shop Hop passport has expanded to 17 shops in and around downtown Eugene - and two in downtown Springfield. Present your passport, featuring artwork by [Walktober - Page 2](#)



The USGS national volcanic threat assessment ranked Mount Adams as a high-threat volcano. It is the second tallest and largest active volcano in Washington State. Six locatable earthquakes (magnitude 0.9-2.0) were detected in September on a seismic station located about 7 miles southwest of the summit of Mount Adams and at other stations much farther away from the volcano. This represents the most earthquakes located at Mount Adams in a month since monitoring began in 1982.

The Cascades Volcano Observatory is installing temporary seismic stations south and southwest of Mount Adams to improve seismic monitoring capabilities. Data from the new temporary stations [Mount Adams - Page 2](#)



Rising tensions in the Middle East have caused crude oil prices to rise, fueling small increases at the pumps in 19 states and slowing the declines in other states. For the week, the national average for regular edges down two cents to \$3.18 a gallon. The Oregon average ticks up three cents to \$3.68 a gallon.

Hurricane Milton is expected to land late Wednesday night or early Thursday morning. Gas supplies [Gas prices - Page 2](#)

Petitions targeted two for recall

Casad and Cloke ask state to investigate intimidation by the petitioners

BLUE RIVER: On October 2nd, the Lane County Clerk verified four recall petitions for members of the Blue River Water and Sanitation District and the Blue River Park and Recreation District. Tony Casad and Josh Cloke, who hold seats on both boards, were named in the petitions.

Shannon Goodpasture-Lehr of Vida filed the petitions. In her filing for the water district, Goodpasture-Lehr claimed Casad had "been observed by multiple residents going onto private property, taking pictures, harassing family members while acting as the acting superintendent for the water board." She added that he "actively works to restrict public access to meetings and does not share information with concerned citizens. He pushes his personal agenda and does not act in the best interest of voters."

Cloke, she claimed, "has made significant actions to restrict community participation in the Blue River Water Board. He has restricted access to information for voters. He pushes his personal agenda and does not act in the best interest of voters."

Reasons cited for the park board recall included complaints that both had "made a point to limit access to the park for residents," the park is routinely closed for unclear reasons, and that they "routinely come to the park and harass patrons" while also "acting only for personal gain."

In response, Casad and Cloke said they'd contacted the Oregon Secretary of State to complain ORS 260.715 had been violated. The statute notes that any "factual information provided in a recall petition must be truthful." It also prohibits "circulators from making false statements to anyone who signs the petition."

In addition, they've also cited ORS 260.575(2), which says it is "illegal to use any form of initiative, referendum, or recall petition to extort, blackmail, or intimidate individuals, including public officials, for personal or financial gain."

The men feel "these laws have been violated by the Chief [Petitions - Page 10](#)

EWEB updated on hydro projects safety

Both Leaburg and Walterville canals remain offline

EUGENE: Eugene Water & Electric Board commissioners received a dam safety update for their three hydroelectric plants this month. Part of their October 1st meeting detailed the utility's efforts to comply with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's (FERC) regulations for facilities they've classified as having a high or significant hazard potential.

On FERC's list are the Carme-Smith, Leaburg, and Walterville projects. The first is currently generating electricity, while the canal powering the Leaburg project has been out of service since 2018. The one leading to Walterville's generator was dewatered in February of this

year. Three active sinkholes discovered in the Trail Bridge Reservoir have been studied since they were detected in 2021. While it appears the sinkholes aren't likely to undermine the structural integrity of the Camen project's Trailbridge Dam, utility staff reported to the utility board that FERC requires a risk assessment before a proposed trap and haul facility for salmon can be constructed.

EWEB has awarded a ten-year, ten-million-dollar contract to Cornforth [EWEB updated - Page 12](#)



The Walterville Canal has been dewatered since February 27, 2024.

Rainbow resident in critical condition after cycle wreck



A Rainbow area man was seriously injured in a single-vehicle accident last Thursday night. According to a 911 caller, the motorcycle accident occurred shortly after 7 p.m. on October 3rd near milepost 50 of Hwy. 126. Now listed in critical but stable condition at Riverbend Hospital is Paul Vernon Lloyd. Reports from an Oregon State Police investigation weren't available at press time, but a witness reported seeing some firewood in the westbound lane.

School board term limits? Initiatives include recalls

Devon McCourt filed an initiative with the Lane County Clerk that would prohibit members of the McKenzie School Board from serving more than two consecutive four-year terms or more than eight straight years. Members who served two successive terms would be ineligible to return for two years if approved.

The initiative would also make board members subject to recall for failing to fulfill their responsibilities. Recalls could be initiated for reasons ranging from failure to attend meetings to engaging in unethical behavior or not "responding to community interests."

The recall process would require at least fifteen percent of the McKenzie School District registered voters to sign a recall petition. If certified, a recall election would be held within 90 days. Then, if most electors voted in favor of the recall, the school board member would be immediately removed from the board. A special election would follow to fill the vacant seat.

Other proposals that could affect school operations include lowering the voting age to 16. McCourt also filed a third petition calling for reform of the McKenzie School District, but details weren't specified.

None of the people circulating petitions will be paid. McCourt can be reached at lawsonmccourt@gmail.com

McKenzie Eagles Sports Report



By Cliff Richardson

McKenzie Varsity Sports Schedule This Week

The McKenzie Varsity Volleyball team travels to Eddyville Charter on Tuesday, October 8, for a Mt. West League contest set for a 6:00 pm start. The Eagle team hosts Glendale on Saturday, October 12, in a non-league contest starting at noon.

The McKenzie Varsity Six-man football team hosts Washington School for the Deaf (WA) in a non-league game on Thursday, October 10. Kickoff is slated for 4:00 pm.

The Eagle Cross Country teams travel to Seven Oak Middle School in Lebanon on Wednesday, October 9. The McKenzie teams will be participating in the Lebanon Open XC meet. The Girls 5,000 meters varsity race starts at 4:00 pm and the Boys 5,000 meter race will start at 4:45 pm.

Zyla Drake and Will Meister Lead Eagle CC Teams

McKenzie freshman Zyla Drake and junior Will Meister led their respective Cross Country teammates in two recent meets held recently in Stayton and Lebanon. At the Champs Invite meet held at Cheadle Lake Park in Lebanon on Friday, September 27, Drake finished 43rd in the Varsity Girls 5,000 meter, clocking a time of 23:09.90 minutes. Drake was competing in a field of 168

runners. Eagle teammates, junior Myra Dion finished 82nd in a time of 24:41.10 minutes and freshman Claire Weiss followed in 97th place with a finish time of 25:18.00 minutes.

East Linn Christian senior Daisy Lalonde took home first-place honors for the meet host school team, touring the course in 18:28.70 minutes. Freshman Ella Henthorn of Coquille finished second in 18:47.30 minutes. Si-uslaw won the Varsity Girls team competition with 104 points and Central Linn took second with 127 points. Nineteen teams competed. McKenzie does not field a full team, thus the Eagle athletes compete as individuals and do not figure into a team score.

At the Champs Invite, McKenzie junior Will Meister ran his 5,000 meter race in a time of 18:45.70 minutes and placed 52nd out of a field of 232 runners. Santiam Christian's Diego Zambrano finished first in the Boys 5K race with a time of 16:08.10 minutes and Gus Kirby of Neah-Kah-Nie took second in 16:23.50 min. Twenty-eight complete teams participated and Banks finished first, earning 65 points. Valley Catholic earned second place with 87 points.

McKenzie's next Cross Country meet, the Stayton/Regis Invitational, was held at the Stayton Middle School Nature Trail on Thursday, October 3. Meister's time of 18:44.6 minutes in the Varsity Boys 5,000 meter race, placed him 14th out of a field of 127 competitors. Santiam Christian's Diego Zambrano once again took home top honors with a first-place time of 16:04.8 minutes and David Villanueva of Woodburn finished second in 16:58.5 minutes. Stayton won the



Briefs...

Walktober

Continued From Page 1

Eugene illustrator and muralist Erick Wonderly Varela, to receive a passport sticker and a discount on your cup of coffee or tea. At the end of October, submit a photo of your passport to enter the coffee shop gift card raffle. Find information at wewalklane.org/2024-coffee-shop-hop.

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Mount Adams

Continued From Page 1

will be transmitted in real-time to improve the ability to locate smaller earthquakes more precisely and assist in understanding their cause. The results will determine if any additional actions are needed.

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Gas prices

Continued From Page 1

are expected to tighten in Florida. This should not impact pump prices here in the Pacific Northwest but could put upward pressure on the national average. The Oregon average began 2024 at \$3.79 a gallon compared to \$3.68 today. Its lowest price this year is \$3.58 on February 14th, and the highest is nearly \$4.51 on May 1st. The national average started the year at \$3.11 and is at \$3.18 today. Its lowest price so far this year is just under \$3.07 on January 15, and the highest is just under \$3.68 on April 19.

This week, only one Oregon county still has an average above \$4 a gallon: Wallowa (\$4.14).

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16 Boys team race with 49 points and Sisters finished second with 80 points.

McKenzie's Drake again led her Eagle teammates in the Varsity Girls 5K race, finishing 21st in a time of 24:08.6 minutes. Teammates Weiss finished 33rd in 24:42.5 minutes and Dion took 34th in 24:51.2 minutes. Clara Persons of Salem Academy won the Varsity Girls race in a time of 20:00.1 minutes and Haley Butenschoen of Stayton finished second in 20:06.7 minutes. The Girls 9 team race was won by the host team, Stayton, with 39 minutes. Santiam Christian finished second with 63 points.

McKenzie Volleyball Still Searching For Mt. West League Win

The McKenzie Varsity Volleyball team won its first contest of the 2024 season, a 3-1 victory over the Pleasant Hill Junior Varsity 2nd team on August 29. Since, the Eagles have dropped thirteen contests, forging a 0-12 Mt. West League record and a 1-14 overall record.

The Eagles have just eight athletes on this season's roster and are coached by Head Coach Rachele Mark, who returns for a second stint at the job following a one year hiatus. Coach Mark has her work cut out as she attempts to bring Eagle Volleyball back from the devastating impact of the Holiday Farm Fire and Covid epidemic that pulled the rug out from under the Eagle sports programs. Indeed, McKenzie has not posted a winning Volleyball season since 2018, when the Eagles finished 25-9 overall, won the Mt. West League with a perfect 16-0 record, and participated in

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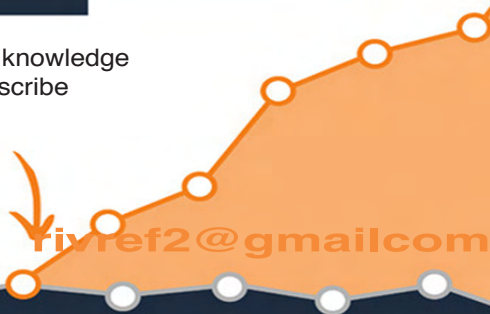
Letters to the Editor



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.

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WEATHER REPORT

READINGS TAKEN AT THE US ARMY CORPS COUGAR DAM

READINGS TAKEN AT THE EWEB LEABURG POWERHOUSE

Date	High	Low	Rain	Releases	Date	High	Low	Rain	Riverflow
10/1	82	44	0	514 cfs	10/1	75	41	0	2,120 cfs
10/2	73	46	0	514 cfs	10/2	80	46	0	2,120 cfs
10/3	79	42	0	545 cfs	10/3	72	37	0	2,120 cfs
10/4	59	42	0.07	545 cfs	10/4	72	37	0	2,150 cfs
10/5	51	42	0	539 cfs	10/5	68	41	0.10	2,130 cfs
10/6	71	44	0	539 cfs	10/6	65	43	0	2,120 cfs
10/7	77	45	0	532 cfs	10/7	79	46	0	2,190 cfs

Friday 10/11		Saturday 10/12		Sunday 10/13	
McKenzie Valley PM Showers 40% chance precip High: 70 Low: 50	Santiam Pass PM Showers 40% chance precip High: 61 Low: 39	McKenzie Valley Partly Cloudy 20% chance precip High: 73 Low: 48	Santiam Pass Mostly Sunny 20% chance precip High: 61 Low: 39	McKenzie Valley Sunny 10% chance precip High: 76 Low: 51	Santiam Pass Sunny 10% chance precip High: 65 Low: 42

Sheriff's Report

Sept. 18: 1:48 p.m: Suspicious Conditions - 37400 blk, Parsons Creek Rd. A deputy made contact with a person with likely mental health issues.

Sept. 27: 7:31 p.m: Burglary - 36900 blk, Boiler Creek Rd. Deputies responded to assist a caller suffering from an anxiety attack while home alone.

Sept. 28: 3:23 p.m: Suspicious Vehicle - McK. River Dr. & McK. Hwy. A person with possible mental health issues was vehicle camping in the area.

Sept. 29: 2:04 p.m: Criminal Mischief - 92200 blk, Carson St. Ongoing civil issue regarding shared property.

Sept. 30: 5:12 p.m: Assist, Follow Up - 51600 blk, McK. River Dr.

Oct. 1: 5:16 p.m: Assist, Follow Up - Deerhorn area.

5:44 p.m: Suspicious Conditions - Terwilliger Hot Springs. Subjects in a new Jeep Cherokee stole gas from a camp in the area, but returned the gas cans after explaining they had run out and just needed gas.

7:11 p.m: Alarm - 39600 blk, Deerhorn Rd.

9:09 p.m: Unlawful Entry Motor Vehicle - 39300 blk, McK. Hwy.

9:44 p.m: Suspicious Conditions - 44400 blk, McK. Hwy. Multiple mailboxes were opened from the area, all the way into Springfield. Unknown if any mail was stolen.

11:51 p.m: Harassment - 38800 blk, McK. Hwy.

11:56 p.m: Harassment - 92200 blk, Carson St.

Oct. 2: 10:36 a.m: Fraud - 51500 blk, McK. Hwy. Civil issue between neighbors.

12:45 p.m: Lockout - 9000 blk, Thurston Rd.

2:24 p.m: Assist, Follow Up - 91200 blk, Blue River Rd.

2:32 p.m: Theft of Mail - 44400 blk, McK. Hwy.

4:25 p.m: Open Gate - McGowan quarry.

9:19 p.m: Motor Vehicle Accident, Unknown Injury - Camp Creek Rd. Milepost 1.

10:36 p.m: Fraud - 51500 blk, McK. Hwy.

Oct. 3: 12:13 p.m: Traffic Hazard - Marcola Rd. & Nadeau Rd.

6:27 p.m: Dispute - Marcola Rd. & Mp. 4. A vehicle was driving erratically and a passenger opened the door while the vehicle was moving. The vehicle drove into Springfield and the information was relayed to Springfield PD.

7:55 p.m: Illegal Burn - 89700 blk, Hill Rd.

8:20 p.m: Warrant Service - 37700 blk, Parsons Creek Rd.

8:49 p.m: Assist, Follow Up - 90100 blk, Marcola Rd.

Oct. 4: 3:08 p.m: Vehicle Stop - McK. Hwy. & N. Bank Rd.

4:52 p.m: Foot Patrol - 39500 blk, McK. Hwy.

11:52 p.m: Civil Problem - 54500 blk, McK. Hwy.

Oct. 5: 3:03 a.m: Loud Noise - 8900 blk, Thurston Rd.

12:02 p.m: Attempt To Locate, Drunk Driver - Marcola Rd. & Sunderman Rd.

12:35 p.m: Subpoena Service - 39200 blk, Camp Creek Rd.

12:42 p.m: Assist, Follow Up - 38500 blk McK. Hwy.

3:53 p.m: Theft of License Plate - Tree Farm Rd. & La Lone Rd.

8:05 p.m: Civil Problem - 92200 blk, Carson St.

11:30 p.m: Disturbance, Dispute - 92200 blk, Treston Ln. Deputies responded to the area for a physical dispute in progress. Deputies had probable cause to arrest one of the subjects contacted, Lucas Daniel Joseph Coultrup, 33, for Strangulation and Assault 4 APA from a previous case. Coultrup was arrested and lodged at the Lane County Jail without incident.

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State Police Report

Oct. 1: 22:45: Traffic Crimes, All Except DUII - Hwy. 126E, Milepost 13. A trooper assisted Lane County deputies and Springfield Police Officers in locating a stolen Kia. The male driver of the Kia was driving recklessly with speeds in excess of 100 mph, driving on three tires and no lights illuminated. The Kia was later located and a trooper was in pursuit. The Kia crashed into a ditch and the male driver fled on foot into a heavily wooded area. The trooper later located the male hiding in blackberries. The male immediately fled on foot, where Lane County deputies were waiting and ultimately took the driver into custody. The male appeared to be heavily intoxicated. The Kia had multiple open alcoholic containers on the floorboard and cup holders. The male was cleared by medical personnel and lodged at the Lane County Jail for Driving Under the Influence of Intoxicants, Reckless Driving, and Fleeing or Attempting to Elude a Police Officer.

Oct. 6: 16:58: Person Assist - Clear Lake Cutoff, Mp. 8. Troopers responded to a broken down log truck, stuck on the shoulder. OSP arranged a tow. Involved: gray Kenworth T80, 77-year-old male driver.

McKenzie Fire & Rescue

Sept. 30: 15:50: 45556 S Gate Creek Rd. Medical, General. False Alarm.

Oct. 1: 6:57: 40282 Storment Ln. Medical, General. Provide Manpower.

7:45: 39399 Jameson Creek Rd. Medical General. Patient Assessed, Patient Refusal.

17:31: 88970 Ross Ln. Legal Fire pit. Confirmed Legal Campfire.

20:27: 59296 N Belknap Springs Rd. Mutual Aid. Disregarded En Route by UMR.

23:02: McK. Hwy./Cedar Flat Assist Police. Assist LCSO with Patient Evaluation.

23:34: 88498 Missy Ln. Medical, Heart. Patient Transported.

Oct. 2: 21:16: 35537 Camp Cr. Rd. Motor Vehicle Accident. Patient Assessed, Transported.

22:01: 49447 McK. Hwy. Public Assist. Investigated, Faulty Detector Found.

Oct. 3: 17:52: 38473 McK. Hwy. Medical, General. Patient Assessed, Refusal Obtained.

21:45: Bosage Ln./Cedar [Continued On Page 9](#)

Upper McKenzie Fire/Rescue

Oct. 1: 20:21: Medical - 59000 block, N. Belknap Springs Rd. Guest advises someone is unconscious.

Oct. 3: 19:06: Motor Vehicle Accident, Injury - McK. Hwy./Milepost 50. Single motorcycle accident.

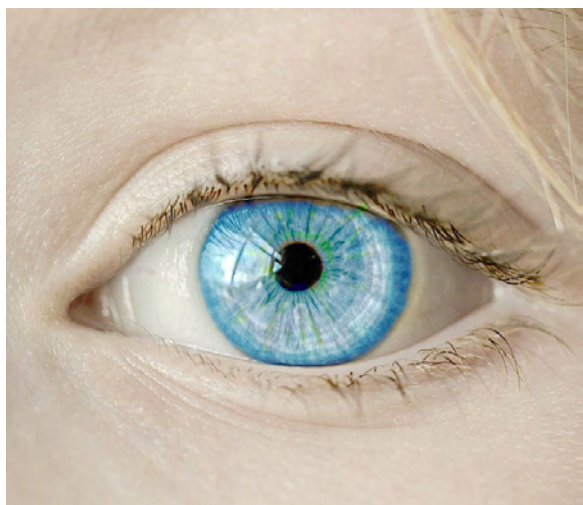
Oct. 6: 20:31: Vehicle Fire - McK. Hwy./Mp. 34. Vehicle on fire in the westbound lane, unknown if involved in accident. Caller is smelling burning plastic.

Oct. 8: 12:46: Medical - 92000 blk, Blue River Reservoir Rd. Female, Conscious, Breathing.

The Upper McK. Fire District's board of directors will hold its monthly meeting at 7 p.m. on Monday, October 21st, at the Blue River Fire Station 2, 51730 Echo St. in Blue River.

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All in, for you.

Buster Keaton made Cottage Grove a mini-Hollywood

Continued From Last Week

By Finn J.D. John

And then there was the climactic scene, which is the main thing people talk about in South Lane County when this movie comes up. It was literally a train wreck, although metaphorically it was anything but.

Buster wanted the climax of the movie to involve a locomotive falling through a burning bridge into a river. With this in mind, although he borrowed the two main lokies from local logging shows, the third he purchased outright. He had plans for that third locomotive that probably would not be approved of by its owner unless that owner was him.

Buster found a suitable bit of scenery — a spot in the Row River (pronounced to rhyme with “cow”; it’s a reference to fistfights, not skiffs) 15 miles east of town, near the hamlet of Culp Creek. At this spot the river ran through a ravine that looked, on film, bigger than it was. He had his crew literally build a short length of railroad track leading up to a 215-foot trestle bridge across it at that spot — which his crew also built from scratch. The bridge was surprisingly sturdy looking considering it was designed to fail; but, of course, it had to fail at just the right moment. To make sure it did, they fixed dynamite charges to it in a couple key spots.

The big day was scheduled for July 23, and the Cottage Grove City Council declared a holiday so that everyone could come watch. Row River Road and Brice Creek Road were lined with some 600 automobiles, and two special excursion trains brought more. It was the event of the season.

Rumor has it Buster was planning to ride the locomotive down into the river, but his wife nixed the plan. It’s probably not true, but it would have been perfectly in character for Buster! Instead, he had a paper-mache dummy made and dressed in an engineer’s uniform, and tied it into place.

Buster carefully set up six different cameras. He did several trial runs just to make sure everything was jake — a derailment at speed just short of



The “money shot” in Buster Keaton’s classic *The General*: A full-size, working steam locomotive collapsing through a burning bridge into the Row River.

the bridge on his hastily-built track would be disastrous. Luckily, everything was holding up great.

Then it was show time!

A crew member climbed aboard the Texas, adjusted the paper-mache “engineer,” and opened up the throttle. Then he hopped down and watched it chuffing away, building speed, heading for the bridge.

Smoke was billowing from the fires the crew had built on the bridge by this time; in the movie, Buster lights it on fire to delay the pursuing Union soldiers in their locomotive, but the Union officer orders it to hurry on: “The bridge is not burned enough to stop you,” he says (in a title card; remember, this is a silent film), “and my men will ford the river.”

The shot — well, you know how well it went; by now surely you’ve seen it. You can see the puffs of smoke from the dynamite, but only if you know what you’re looking for. The engine crashes down, the fire quenching in the river (which had been dammed up to make it look more fearsome; the upper Row is more or less a large creek, especially in mid-summer).

By the way, the wrecked locomotive and tender were left in the riverbed until the outbreak of the Second World War, at which point they were salvaged for scrap metal to be turned into

Cottage Grove Historical Society

Sherman tanks and such. It’s now gone, but Lloyd Williams of the Cottage Grove Historical Society told reporter Meghan Kalkstein in 2007 that bits of track and steel can still be seen in the river when the water level is low.

After the train-wreck scene, and for the next couple days, battle scenes were filmed by the ruined bridge. The dammed-up river turned out to be deeper than expected, and a few actors nearly drowned in it.

At the end of the summer, the town held a farewell picnic in the park for the film cast and crew. Everyone had a swell time, even those who had been injured in falls and explosions and such on the set.

The movie had its Oregon premier in Portland on New Year’s Eve, and it came to Cottage Grove a month later. The locals, of course, loved it; the rest of the world, not so much. Buster Keaton is a moviemaking legend for a reason, and he had noticed the public taste trending away from slapstick and toward more dramatic comedic fare.

What he had not noticed was that when the public went to a Buster Keaton film, they were not expecting dramatic fare; they were expecting slapstick, of which he was probably history’s best practitioner. So when audiences

left the theater after watching *The General*, it was as if they’d gone to a Three Stooges show and found Curly, Larry, and Moe unironically performing Hamlet. Their disappointment blinded them to the sheer excellence of the film, and reviews were middling or bad, and sales were underwhelming.

Actually, sales were worse than underwhelming. The film cost \$750,000 or so to make (\$13 million in modern currency) including \$42,000 for the train-wreck scene alone. Of course, that’s a tiny fraction of what it costs to make a box-office bomb today. For example, John Carter (of Mars), Disney’s legendary 2012 box-office disaster that also starred a Confederate military man, cost \$264 million to shoot.

But the industry was very different in the silent era, and *The General*’s budget, skimpy as it seems to modern eyes, was orders of magnitude bigger than the average silent-era feature film’s budget.

And like John Carter, sales came nowhere close to covering its costs. Records are incomplete, but the general consensus is that box office receipts came in just south of \$500,000, so the film grossed a loss of 34 percent, plus marketing expenses and such. It pretty much ended Buster Keaton’s career as an independent filmmaker, although of course he continued to be a sought-after actor.

(John Carter, by the way, did lots worse. It lost roughly 100 percent of its budget and is usually number one on Internet lists with titles like “biggest box-office bombs of all time.” Which is ironic because, like *The General*, it’s a really good movie.)

But a few years after *The General* was released, the movie industry had changed enough for critics and viewers to realize it was actually brilliant. Orson Welles said it was “the greatest comedy ever made, the greatest Civil War film ever made, and perhaps the greatest film ever made.” Twenty or 30 years later, cinema buffs were still raving about it.

And its star has risen steadily since; film writer Tim Dirks introduces it as “an imaginative masterpiece of dead-pan ‘Stone-Face’ Buster Keaton comedy, generally regarded as one of the [Buster Keaton - Page 11](#)



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](#) and look for books by Slim Randles. Thank you.

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Gardening Tips
By Kym Pokorny



Oregon State University
OSU Extension Service

Slow, cool composting is the easy way



Hope Stephens

With slow, cold composting, you just gather the materials together in a mound and let Mother Nature do the rest.

There are a few drawbacks to slow composting compared to hot composting. But for the most part, those problems can either be avoided or resolved through fairly easy solutions. For one, slow composting doesn't produce the heat needed to kill most weed seeds, so it is best to keep troublesome weeds out of the pile.

Likewise, soil-borne plant disease organisms that cause root rot are also not killed in slow composting. To limit the spread of soil-borne disease, it's a good idea to apply the finished product from slow composting to a small part of the garden, rather than spreading it over the entire garden area.

This limited-space application might help you determine if any such pathogens have indeed survived the composting process while helping to contain them if they have.

Critters — raccoons, possums, skunks, rodents — won't venture into the 140-degree temperatures of a hot compost pile, but they might find a cold heap inviting if you're including vegetable and fruit scraps in the mix. Therefore, you might want to rethink adding those fruits and vegetables to the pile. You can instead compost them separately in a critter-proof container, bury them in a well-drained part of the garden, or use them as a food source for a worm-composting bin you can build or purchase.

If none of those options are feasible and you still want to keep those fruit and vegetable scraps out of your municipal waste system, make sure you bury them deeply in the center of a big compost pile. That should keep the critters away.

Avoid the odor

If you're building a cold compost heap primarily of grass clippings, be aware that layering clumps of wet grass can limit air circulation, giving rise to production of anaerobic bacteria and perhaps a foul order of ammonia.

Composting is still happening, but if you want to dispel the odor — for your sake or your neighbors — you will need to lift and redistribute some of the material to get more oxygen into the pile.

Better yet, avoid this problem by not putting those grass clippings in the pile at all. Leave them in place on the lawn where you've cut them and they'll decompose (i.e., compost) right there, providing valuable nitrogen and other nutrients to the new growth that will follow.

Want to learn more about this topic? Explore more resources from OSU Extension: Garden soil and compost.

longer, but with a lot less effort on your part.

For example, if you're cold composting, keeping the pile moist — a must for hot composting — needn't be a worry because over time — at least for those of you west of the Cascades — you'll receive more than enough rain. Prolonged periods of dryness might slow the composting process down, but it will pick up again once with the first soaking downpour.

Nor do you need to concern yourself with the carbon-to-nitrogen (C:N) ratio — the mixture of "brown" and "green" materials that make up the pile. The C:N ratio only affects the speed of composting. If your pile is woody (i.e., has a high C:N) it will decompose, but slowly.

You also don't need to add a commercial inoculant or finished compost to kick-start the process. Sufficient decomposer bacteria and fungi are present naturally in yard trimmings and fruit and vegetable wastes to initiate cold composting and keep it going to its conclusion.

No turning required

And then there's the matter of turning the pile, another basic requirement for hot composting.

By Shannon Rauter
If your compost pile at home isn't getting hot, don't worry.

That heap of yard debris and kitchen waste may be far from steamy, but it will break down eventually. That eases the burden on your local landfill or recycling center and provides a nutrient-rich product with ample benefits for your garden.

Cool, slow composting is an easy method for people who don't have the time or desire to tend to a hot compost pile.

Hot composting requires a fairly precise recipe of ingredients and a considerable amount of attention and management to temperature, moisture level, aeration, particle size and more. Slow composting, on the other hand, is pretty much carefree. Simply mix your yard trimmings into a pile, add fruit and vegetable scraps if you wish, and wait.

Decomposition, which is the essence of composting, hot or cold, requires microorganisms, moisture, air, temperatures above freezing — or even a few degrees below — and time. Whereas hot composting may result in finished compost in a matter of weeks, slow cold composting can take three to six months, and sometimes even



Country Kitchen

By Mary Emma Allen



PUMPKIN PIE - FOOD OF HARVEST TIME

Pumpkin pie, usually associated with autumn menus, probably originated during the 17th century. It's believed early settlers made the first pumpkin pies by scooping out the seeds from the center of the pumpkin and then filling it with milk, seasonings, maple syrup or molasses. Then they baked the pumpkin until tender.

The poet John Greenleaf Whittier wrote about pumpkin pies. You'll find mention of pie, pudding, and other pumpkin based dishes found in other writings and diaries.

This dessert was associated with Halloween and Thanksgiving for me during childhood. Mother made pumpkin and apple pies throughout the fall. My aunt always had pumpkin pie for the Thanksgiving dinners we enjoyed at the farmhouse where she lived with my grandmother.

Many Varieties of Pumpkin Pie

Pumpkin pies come in many varieties today. Some cooks like to use the fresh pumpkins, cutting them up, cooking and mashing them for a pie filling. Others use canned pumpkin. When I was a child, we generally used the pumpkins we grew in garden and field.

You also can mix pumpkin with other ingredients for pie variations.

* This includes stirring a package of mincemeat into your pie recipe.

* Or you can create a chiffon pumpkin pie by making a gelatin custard mixture and stirring cooked pumpkin into it. Then turn into baked pie shell and top with whipped cream or whipped

topping.
* Add a scoop of vanilla ice cream to the top of the pumpkin pie before serving.

* Spread whipped topping or whipped cream over the top of the pie before serving. Then sprinkle with slivered almonds or chopped walnuts.

FROZEN PUMPKIN PIE is one variation.

Stir 1-pint vanilla ice cream to soften. Spread in a baked 9-inch pie shell. Freeze ice cream in shell until firm.

Mix together 1 cup canned or fresh cooked pumpkin, 3/4-cup sugar (1/2 cup if you don't want it so sweet), 1/2-teaspoon salt, 1 teaspoon ginger, 1/4 teaspoon cinnamon, 1/8 teaspoon nutmeg. (Spice amounts may vary depending on individual taste.) Fold in 1 1/2 cups miniature marshmallows and 1-cup heavy cream, whipped or use whipped topping. (If you don't like marshmallows, consider leaving them out. I prefer it without marshmallows.)

Spoon onto ice cream layer. Sprinkle with chopped nuts, if desired. Freeze until firm.

When serving, take from freezer and let stand in the refrigerator for 10 to 15 minutes. Top with more whipped topping, if desired.

(c) Mary Emma Allen

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

Quote of the Week

"Too often we enjoy the comfort of opinion without the discomfort of thought."

John F. Kennedy



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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.

Library Volunteer Drive

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

October 14 - 18

Forest Glen Closure

The Forest Glen Boat Landing will be getting a brand-new vault restroom next week. To make it happen, the landing will be closed, including vehicle parking and boat landing areas. In the meantime, the Hamlin Landing (upstream) will remain open during this time, and the Finn Rock Landing (downstream) will remain open except for Oct. 16th..

October 16

Finn Rock Closure

The Finn Rock Boat Landing will temporarily close on Wednesday, October 16th, for an inter-agency emergency response spill drill. These drills help prepare personnel to respond rapidly to potential threats to water quality in the case of a contamination spill. During the drill, partners will work to deploy a solid containment boom across the river. Boaters are advised to choose alternate put-in and take-off routes during the drill. To learn more about the McKenzie Watershed Emergency Response System: <https://www.eweb.org/environment-and-climate/mckenzie-watershed-protection/watershed-emergency-response>

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October 16

McKenzie School Board

The McKenzie School District board of directors will meet from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. at 51187 Blue River Dr. The meeting will be live-streamed viewing available at: <https://www.youtube.com/@mckenziechooldistrict6756/streams> Submit Public Comments to public.comment@mckenzie.org comments submitted before noon on the day prior to the meeting will be presented to the Board for review and submission to the meeting minutes.

October 17

Leaburg Food Pantry

At the Leaburg Food Pantry, from 3 to 6:30 p.m. at the McKenzie Bible Fellowship, 45061 McKenzie Hwy. All are welcome! Please send folks!

October 17

Meet The Candidates

The McKenzie River Chamber of Commerce will meet at the Lucky Logger in Walterville at 5:30 p.m. on Thursday, Oct. 17th. Guests Darin Harbick and Michelle Emmons, the Oregon House of Representatives District 12 candidates, have agreed to attend. Each will speak for 20 minutes - no debate - but they will be able to talk with individuals afterward. Please contact the Lucky Logger at (541) 726-9088 if you plan to attend. For more information contact: info@mckenziechamber.com

October 18

Burn to Heal

Spring Fed Media's short film

"Burning To Heal" will be shown at from 5 to 7 p.m. at the Eugene Environmental Film Festival! at the Art House, 492 E 13th Ave in Eugene. Watch several films along with a Q&A panel about wildfire resilience. Tickets are on sale soon at the Art House Eugene.

October 18

Yoga In Leaburg

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

October 19

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 21

Mck Fire Board

The McKenzie Fire District Board will meet from noon to 1 p.m. at the Leaburg Training Center, 42870 McKenzie Hwy. Call 541-896-3311 for more information.

October 21

Upper Mck Fire Board

The Upper McKenzie Fire District Board of Directors monthly meeting will be held from 7 to 9 p.m. at the fire station, 56578 McKenzie Hwy. in McKenzie Bridge. For more information, 541-822-3479.

October 22

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.

agenda. Regular Board Meetings are scheduled for Tuesday, Wednesday Board meetings are on an as needed basis.

October 22

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 22

Food Pantry

The McKenzie River Food Pantry is held from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the McKenzie Bridge Christian Church, 56334 McKenzie Hwy. Free groceries are provided in accordance with Oregon Food Bank and Food For Lane County guidelines for food distribution to those in need, every 2nd & 4th Friday.

October 23

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 23

Lane Coop Board

The Lane Electric Coop Board of Directors meets at 787 Bailey Hill Road in Eugene. Members of Lane Electric Cooperative can join monthly board meetings, which begin at 9 a.m. Each meeting begins with a member comment period. Individual members have three minutes to address the board at that time. Topics presented will be discussed amongst the board and followed up on accordingly. If you wish to address the Lane Electric board please complete a meeting request form at least five days prior to the meeting you would like to attend: <https://www.laneelectric.org>

laneelectric.com/attend-a-board-meeting

October 23

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 25

Yoga In Leaburg

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

October 29

Safe Driving Class

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

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

October 29

Closet Skeletons

Skeletons From The Closet (or simply Skeletons) is an Oregon-born ensemble that embodies the songs, spirit, and sound of the Grateful Dead. Each concert highlights a specific era from the Dead's 30-year career. They will perform from 8 to 11:30 p.m. at Whirled Pies, 199 W 8th Ave. in Eugene. Tickets are \$10 at tinyurl.com/4fab3d3z

November 15

Closet Skeletons

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

<h2>An Invitation to Worship</h2>	<p>Living Water Family Fellowship Pastor - Doug Fairington 52353 McKenzie Hwy - Milepost 42 541-822-3820 Gathering Sundays at 10:00 AM, Children's ministry also. Come early for a meet and greet continental breakfast and coffee at 9:30 AM. Thursdays, 6:00 PM, Celebrate Recovery (12 Step Program)</p>
<p>McKenzie Bible Fellowship 45061 McKenzie Hwy - Vida, Oregon Sunday Worship - 10:00 a.m. Youth Ministries KidsFast 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>	

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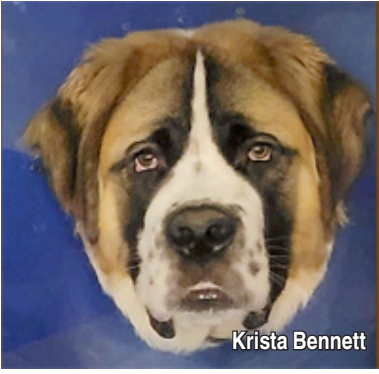
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Direct Answers

By Wayne & Tamara Mitchell

Man's Best Friend



Krista Bennett

My mother-in-law has lived with us for four years. She babysits our son, 4, and takes him back and forth to school three days a week. She also helps get our 8-year-old ready in the morning. We pay her for her services. She pays no rent or bills and buys no groceries.

My problem is she has no motivation or goals and doesn't want anything in life. She has nothing of her own, nor does she want anything. I suggested a part-time job so she could have extra money and do something with her life. She doesn't want to. She is happy having nothing and doing nothing.

It bothers me to come home from a long day at work and see her watching television day and night. If she weren't in my house, it wouldn't matter, but I

don't understand how she could be happy making \$100 a week. My wife acts like she can't live without her mother and doesn't mind that we take care of her.

All I want her to do is get out in the world, better herself, and maybe, after she gets on her feet, help us out a little. All she does is watch the kids, and by that, I mean they do anything they want except hurt themselves. When we get home from work, she has plenty of time to go to bingo or visit her friends. If she has time to do all that, why doesn't she have time to help herself?

Stan

Stan, your arguments contradict one another. In the opening of your letter, you are concerned your mother-in-law is a recluse and possibly depressed. Then you are angry at supporting her. Finally, you hope she can escape the world and help you. You go on to mention she has no life, but complain she has time for bingo and friends.

What's the essence of what's going on? Having your mother-in-law live with you is like owning a dog. She plays with the kids, she's a drain on your income, and your wife is attached to her. But you don't especially like dogs. If she were a working breed, it would be

another matter.

Do you think you can teach this old dog new tricks? Not likely. You can't change a lapdog into a working breed, and you can't turn your mother-in-law, at her age, into what you wish her to be. She could get a job and help you out. But she won't. Stop thinking that way. She's not her son-in-law's best friend.

This issue could wedge between you and your wife, but is it worth it? The only real power you have is the power to frame what you see.

You won't get positive attention from your wife by focusing on her mother. But if you focus on your wife and children, can you see the benefits you will reap? Your mother-in-law is taking your focus from where it should be. You will be in the doghouse if you can't stop focusing on her.

Wayne & Tamara

From The Heart

In the name of love, please do one thing for me, and I promise never to bother you again. I would be most grateful if you published the following letter in the newspaper.

Dear Karen, This day, now and forever, I will tell you how I feel. I love you beyond all limits. I love you more than I can express. Never will I leave you. Never will there be anyone besides you. Always,

Joseph

Joseph, only one thing endures: love. In a famous poem, Leigh Hunt wrote, "Jenny kissed me when we met, Jumping from the chair she sat in.... Say I'm weary, say I'm sad, Say that health and wealth have missed me, Say I'm growing old, but add, Jenny kissed me."

Tamara

Ode to Herb Kent

By Jamila Woods

Your voice crawls across the dashboard of Grandma's Dodge Dynasty on the way home from Lilydale First Baptist. You sing a cocktail of static and bass. Sound like you dressed to the nines: cowboy hat, fur coat & alligator boots. Sound like you lotion every tooth. You a walking discography, South Side griot, keeper of crackle & dust in the grooves. You fell in love with a handmade box of wires at 16 and been behind the booth ever since. From wbez to V103, you be the Coolest Gent, King of the Dusties. Your voice wafts down from the ceiling at the Hair Lab. You supply the beat for Kym to tap her comb to. Her brown fingers paint my scalp with white grease to the tunes of Al & Barry & Luther. Your voice: an inside-out yawn, the sizzle of hot iron on fresh perm, the song inside the blackest seashell washed up on a sidewalk in Bronzeville. You soundtrack the church picnic, trunk party, Cynthia's 50th birthday bash, the car ride to school, choir, Checkers. Your voice stretch across our eardrums like Daddy asleep on the couch. Sound like Grandma's sweet potato pie, sound like the cigarettes she hide in her purse for rough days. You showed us what our mommas' mommas must've moved to. When the

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.

West Side rioted the day MLK died, you were audio salve to the burning city, people. Your voice a soft sermon soothing the masses, speaking coolly to flames, spinning black records across the airwaves, spreading the gospel of soul in a time of fire. Joycetta says she bruised her thumbs snappin' to Marvin's "Got to Give It Up" and I believe her.

Source: Poetry (December 2015)

Called "a modern-day Renaissance woman" by the *Chicago Sun-Times*, Jamila Woods is a poet, singer, and teaching artist. She is a Pushcart Prize nominee, and her poetry has been published by MUZZLE, Third World Press, and Poetry magazine. She is the associate artistic director of Young Chicago Authors and a founding member of its Teaching Artist Corps.

Woods is a member of Dark Noise, a collective of poets & educators of color. She is also the frontwoman of the Chicago-based soul duo M&O, whose music has been featured in SPIN, OkayPlayer, JET, and Ebony. In 2015, she was awarded a Ruth Lilly and Dorothy Sargent Rosenberg Poetry Fellowship from the Poetry Foundation. Woods lives in Chicago.

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Help Wanted

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

Personal

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

Piano Lessons

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

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CROSSWORD

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- 44. Graduates
- 46. Symphony member
- 47. *Number in a baseball lineup
- 48. Say again
- 50. Brezhnev's country
- 52. PST plus three
- 53. Mouth off
- 55. Brewed beverage
- 57. *Fall _____
- 61. *Two-time World Series MVP winner in 1970s
- 65. Two under on one hole in golf
- 66. Brewed alcoholic beverage
- 68. Grind down
- 69. #72 Across, in the olden days
- 70. *2003 World Series winner or Marvel leader, Stan
- 71. Plural of #62 Down
- 72. Eject
- 73. _____ excellence
- 74. Noise of contempt

- DOWN**
- 1. 1984, e.g.
 - 2. Pond plant
 - 3. Right to a property
 - 4. Polynesian kingdom
 - 5. Affirm to be true
 - 6. TV's "Storage _____"
 - 7. Comedian Schumer
 - 8. Iron setting
 - 9. Bora _____
 - 10. Any day now, formerly
 - 11. Superlative of better
 - 12. Not in port
 - 15. Loud singer
 - 20. Actress _____ Perlman, pl.
 - 22. _____ the season!
 - 24. Double-decker
 - 25. Wilde of "The Picture of Dorian Gray" fame
 - 26. Blue or gray swimmer
 - 27. Drink like a cat (2 words)
 - 29. Reply from a tunnel
 - 31. Eon, alt. sp.
 - 32. Robin Williams in "Aladdin"
 - 33. 0 and 2, e.g.
 - 34. Set to zero
 - 36. *Touch to score
 - 38. Son of Aphrodite
 - 42. T in Ferrari TR
 - 45. Uses #53 Across
 - 49. _____ Chi
 - 51. Break for Congress
 - 54. Dandruff manufacturer
 - 56. Ohio city
 - 57. _____ pit
 - 58. Nordic native
 - 59. Malaria symptom
 - 60. A whole bunch
 - 61. Crowd's derision
 - 62. Performer's time to shine
 - 63. Aroma
 - 64. Egg holder
 - 67. Grazing field

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WORLD SERIES

ACROSS

- 1. End of WW2 conference location
- 6. No longer is
- 9. Cake with rum
- 13. *_____ Asinoff, author of "Eight Men Out"
- 14. Invoice qty.
- 15. Fox crime drama, 2005-2017
- 16. *Baseball player's representative
- 17. Pastrami's partner
- 18. With irregular edge
- 19. *Last year's World Se-

- ries winners
- 21. *Brave contender
- 23. Certain tray content
- 24. Fail to mention
- 25. Nocturnal flyer
- 28. Team homophone
- 30. *Last year's MVP Corey
- 35. Iranian monarch
- 37. Proactiv target
- 39. "Superman" star
- 40. Head of family
- 41. Button-up or button-down
- 43. Singles

Solution on Page 9

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		6	9					1	
5	2								
8			3		2	6			

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

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

Click here or go to:
tinyurl.com/yeye92hx

Events from Oct 17th

Call for Volunteers

Help for...

Forest Glen Landfill Closed

The Forest Glen Landfill will get a brand new wall...

Leasburg Food Party

All are welcome! Please send...

McKenzie River Chamber of Commerce

The Oct 17th 5:30pm - 6:30pm

Volunteer Drive

With our upcoming Grand Opening of the new library in Blue River, we need more volunteers...

McKenzie Valley Neighbors Radio Group

OMG! not tonight (Thursday) "See" you on the radio!

Leasburg OMV's Radio Preparedness

Every Thursday, McKenzie Valley Neighbors OMV's Radio Preparedness Group Network...

McKenzie Fire District Board Meeting

McKenzie Fire District Board Meeting, 5:00 PM, 1000 S. 10th St.

Upper McKenzie Fire District Board Meeting

Upper McKenzie Fire District Board of Directors monthly meeting, 6:00 PM, 1000 S. 10th St.

McKenzie River Food Pantry

Free groceries are provided in cooperation with Oregon Food Bank and food for Lane County guidelines for food distribution to those in need...

Family Story Time

Some special FUN at Camp Creek Church for children 5 and under (with their adults) to enjoy stories, singing, laughter, and friendship!

Waterbed Wednesday

Join McKenzie River Trail every Wednesday morning from 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM to help care for the special area where the...

Wacey Wednesdays Bingo

Cards go on sale at 6:00 pm. Bingo starts at 7:00 pm. Call 541-224-8038 for reservations in the morning spots fill up quickly. Buy and come...

Leasburg OMV's Radio Preparedness

Every Thursday, McKenzie Valley Neighbors OMV's Radio Preparedness Group Network...

A Drive At A Time

Blue River Bulk Boys Collection/Sorting - Saturday morning sorting sessions every Saturday from 10:00 am. Donations can be dropped off...

McKenzie Valley Neighbors Radio Group

OMG! not tonight (Thursday) "See" you on the radio! (Scheduled on 8:17 AM, 8:17 AM, 8:17 AM, 8:17 AM, 8:17 AM on the radio) Make it easy...

McKenzie Valley Neighbors Radio Group

OMG! not tonight (Thursday) "See" you on the radio! (Scheduled on 8:17 AM, 8:17 AM, 8:17 AM, 8:17 AM, 8:17 AM on the radio) Make it easy...



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A Moment in Oregon History

By Rick Steber (www.ricksteber.com)

October 12 - The last great train robbery in the United States took place October 11, 1923. The DeAutremont brothers, twins Ray and Roy and their younger brother Hugh, stopped the southbound train in tunnel number 13, located in the Siskiyou Mountains above the town of Ashland. They tried to blow the door off the mail car but used too much dynamite and the car was blown apart. Four men were killed in the botched robbery and the brothers fled into the woods. For a time they were able to elude capture, but after one of the most extensive manhunts in history, they were captured, stood trial, were found guilty and sentenced to life terms in the Oregon State Penitentiary.

CROSSWORD SOLUTION

Crossword grid with letters filled in for the solution.

SUDOKU SOLUTION

9x9 Sudoku grid with numbers filled in for the solution.

They're not ready for adult safety belts, either.

Keep your child safe with a booster seat until they're 4'9".

In a crash, adult-size safety belts can cause serious internal and spinal injuries to children eight and under. Remember, kids who have outgrown their child safety seat should be secured in a booster until they're 4'9". So keep them safe in the car with a booster seat - because they're not grown-ups yet.

Child Safety Seat RESOURCE CENTER 1-877-793-2608 childssafetyseat.org

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

Emergency?

Call 911

County's new garbage processing site challenged

Local Haulers & neighbors file land use appeals

EUGENE: On September 30th, Jake Pelroy, volunteer president of the Lane County Garbage and Recycling Association (LCGRA) filed three reconsideration/appeal challenges to the County Hearings Official's decision. The appeals, from two neighbors and LCGRA, allege the county failed to give proper notice to affected property owners and stakeholders. and didn't disclose plans for siting the garbage facility.

Pelroy said state and county laws required the county to notify affected property owners and to describe the uses that could be authorized by the decision. The appeals also specify that the county ignored several important state and county land use laws, including the protection of natural resources, laws prohibiting new sewer systems outside of urban growth boundaries, laws about

not overwhelming transportation systems and several key county Comprehensive Plan provisions, among others.

In a statement Pelroy said "Once again, Lane County is not following the law on disclosure and transparency; this is following the Oregon Government Ethics Committee finding Lane County in violation of public meetings laws."

The county, he said, "is well aware that there is tremendous public interest in their plan to site a new garbage site on land composed almost entirely of wetlands. The County is not above the law and illegal shortcuts cannot be used to avoid public scrutiny. The County must hold a proper hearing, on proper notice and apply the rules that apply to everyone."

Lane County declined to comment at this time when asked about the appeals.

McKenzie Fire & Rescue

Continued From Page 3

Flat Rd. Area Check For Smoke. Investigate, Nothing Found.

Oct. 4: 3:47: 88206 Millican Rd. Medical, Heart. Assist With Patient Care, Obtained Refusal.

5:25: 42805 Leaburg Dr. Lift Assist. Lift Patient Using Lift Bags.

8:23: McK. Hwy./Mp.16. MVA, Non-Injury, Non-Blocking.

Oct. 5: 5:33: Thurston Rd./Weaver Rd. Mutual Aid for MVA.

10:08: 41680 Madrone St. Medical, General. Patient Assessed, 1 Transported.

14:41: 35486 Camp Creek Rd. Medical, Trauma 14:41 Patient Assessed, 1 Transported.

18:22: 40668 McK. Hwy. Medical, General. Patient Assessed, 1 Transported.

23:08: 90986 Leashore Dr Medical, General. Patient Assessed, 1 Transported.

Oct. 6: 1:36: 38473 Kickbush

Sheriff's Report

Continued From Page 3

Oct. 6: 12:20 a.m.: Disorderly Party - 38400 blk, Shotgun Creek Rd.

1:07 a.m.: Suspicious Conditions - 45100 blk, McK. Hwy.

2:47 a.m.: Motor Vehicle Accident, No Injury - 36400 blk, Camp Creek Rd.

Ln. Medical, Heart. Deceased.

2:43: Camp Creek Rd./Mp. 2. MVA. Non-Injury/Non-Blocking

5:27: 42926 Leaburg Dr Medical, General. Patient Assessed, Refusal Obtained

12:53: 36159 Camp Creek Rd. Public Assist. Help Cat Get Down From Tree.

14:43: 9033 Thurston Rd. Medical, General. Assist Eugene Springfield Fire Crews.

20:33: McK. Hwy./Mp. 34 MVA. Unable To Locate.

McK. Fire & Rescue will hold its monthly Board of Directors meeting on Monday, September 21st, 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.

Return To Page 3

10:11 a.m.: Alarm - 91100 blk, Sunderman Rd.

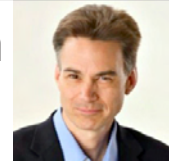
1:28 p.m.: Disorderly Subject - 44800 blk, McK. Hwy.

Oct. 7: 2:24 p.m.: Assist, Follow Up - 91200 blk, Blue River Rd.

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

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Problem Solved



By Christopher Elliott

What can I do about the missing mobility scooter I ordered from Amazon?

The mobility scooter Tom Kay orders from Amazon never arrived -- yet the tracking number says it's been delivered. Is his \$2,650 lost, too?

I purchased a mobility scooter last month from Amazon. The vendor contacted me through Amazon and said that the color I ordered was not available and asked if I would take another one. I told them no and to cancel the order.

The vendor said they could not cancel the order. Then I received another response through Amazon that my scooter had shipped. I have no idea what color it was because I never received it. A few days later, I received an update from the seller that said, "We are currently coordinating the shipment and delivery of your goods. Thank you for your patience and kindness."

Obviously, they had not shipped the scooter yet. But the tracking information shows that it has been delivered. Can you help me get the \$2,650 for the scooter I never received?

Tom Kay, Lawrence, Kan.

You should have received the mobility scooter you ordered and in the color you ordered. Full stop. Why? Amazon has some sophisticated systems that track the inventory of its vendors, so you should have been able to order an item that was in stock.

More surprises were in store for you. The vendor said they were out of the green scooters and wanted you to accept another color. And when you wouldn't and tried to cancel the order, the vendor said it couldn't. I think it meant to say it wouldn't.

I've reviewed the paper trail between you and the vendor, and it gets worse. The vendor claimed to have sent you the scooter and told you to file a police report.

First of all, who steals a mobility scooter? What kind of depraved human takes an assistive device from someone's front door? If you said, "no one," then you are probably right. The vendor might claim to have sent you a scooter, but I think it's wrong again. I'm betting it never sent the device.

So do you have to pay \$2,650 for nothing? Absolutely not.

It looks as if Amazon had taken a hands-off approach by simply handing you off to a vendor. How very un-Amazon-like of them. Usually, the company is there to help you quickly resolve problems.

A brief, polite email to one of the Amazon executives I list on my consumer advocacy site, Elliott.org, might have helped.

As I reviewed the back-and-forth between you, the seller and Amazon, it seems the problem was that Amazon needed a police report. But you couldn't file a police report because you were not sure if anything was delivered -- or stolen. And Amazon wouldn't do anything until you filed a police report.

This type of bureaucracy is just maddening. Someone should have been able to look at your case and see that there was a pretty good chance the scooter wasn't even sent to you. Instead, Amazon was just spamming you with form emails.

I contacted Amazon on your behalf. The company reviewed your case and promptly apologized and sent you a refund for \$2,650.

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

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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/2rpkpsen

Grid of back issues for sale, including dates like 2022 August 11, 2022 August 4, 2022 July 28, etc., with 'Add to cart' buttons.

Advertisement for gutter services with 'HERE'S HOW:' section, 'FREE ESTIMATES!', and '\$250 OFF A COMPLETE ROOFING SYSTEM' offer.

Petitions

Continued From Page 1

Petitioner, Shanon Goodpasture-Lehr, and her co-conspirator, Michael Kruse.” Both feel they should be pursued as Class C felonies under Oregon law.

Josh Cloke resigned from his positions on the Blue River Water & Sanitation and Blue River Park & Recreation board of directors on Monday. The county clerk reports that Tony Casad’s recall election is tentatively scheduled for November 5th. Until the Secretary of State’s formal investigation is complete, Casad and Cloke say they cannot make any further comments.

In response to the recall request Casad has criticized the “selective targeting of two members of the special water district and park board—myself and Josh Cloke—suggests this is a personal vendetta filled with false accusations.”

He says the petition “fails to cite any law that I am alleged to have violated. It also does not specify whether I supposedly

violated a civil or criminal statute. Without clear information, it is impossible for me to properly defend myself.”

Cloke also says he “asked Mr. Kruse what law I allegedly broke, and he did not know. The petitioner is not a legal expert—neither a lawyer, prosecutor, nor judge—and is not qualified to make determinations about legal violations. Oregon law demands that petitions be based on facts, not opinions or assumptions.”

Casad says the “absence of concrete allegations alone should be grounds to dismiss this petition.”

Lane County Clerk Dena Dawson has determined that “a formal investigation does not have any bearing on the recall timeline or process.” She added that a recall election for Tony Casad is tentatively scheduled for November 5, 2024.

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State paid more than \$24 million for two decades of wildfires Oregon Department of Forestry has collected only \$86,000 from people responsible

By: Alex Baumhardt

Oregon Capital Chronicle

Each year, the Oregon Department of Forestry responds to about 1,000 wildfires across the 16 million acres of land it protects. It investigates the cause of every fire, and if a person or group is found to have been negligent or malicious in starting or spreading a significant fire, the agency pursues reimbursement for its fire-fighting costs.

The agency has not been very successful in recouping those costs, according to a report discussed at a March meeting of the four-member Emergency Fire Cost Committee.

The account offered a rare glimpse into the scale of the costs and the efforts to recover them. But it only represented a snapshot of the problem, excluding a full list of all the fires the state is investigating or pursuing for reimbursement, Jessica Neujahr, a forestry spokesperson, said in an email.

“That larger list is not one we can share,” she said, due to ongoing litigation and privacy concerns.

The report showed the forestry department spent at least \$24 million to respond to 36 significant fires caused or spread negligently or maliciously by people or groups since 2004, and that in pursuing reimbursement, it has collected just \$86,000 from “responsible parties.”

Few people who have started significant wildfires have millions of dollars to reimburse the department and sometimes investigating who is responsible, or trying to collect the money, can become too costly, according to Tim Holschbach, chief of policy and planning



USFS

The Holiday Fire in 2020 burned more than 173,000 acres and was one of the largest wildfires in Oregon history. The Oregon Department of Forestry is still waiting on the U.S. Forest Service to finish its part of investigating any responsible parties in the wildfire so both agencies can pursue any rightful reimbursement for the costs of putting it out.

with the department’s fire protection division.

In those cases, the department moves on.

“We don’t want the effort to exceed the payback,” Holschbach said. “It wouldn’t make sense for us to spend taxpayer money to pursue recovery from someone who can’t pay.”

With climate change, wildfire seasons are becoming longer and often more destructive, affecting communities, infrastructure and land needed for grazing and farming. This year’s season, which is expected to end this month, scorched nearly 2 million acres across the state, setting a new record. Some of the fires were

quickly put out, but others burned for weeks. The primary cause of wildfires this year was lightning strikes.

The agency considers a “significant” fire to be one that costs over \$5,000 to fight, with the agency pursuing those it considers to have started or contributed to the blaze either willfully or through negligence, Neujahr said.

The agency listed 36 fires since 2004 that were willfully or negligently set in its report to the committee. It has accepted \$86,000 in settlements and restitution for 17 of the oldest fires and is actively trying to recoup at least \$15 million for 19 that started since 2011.

[Continued On Page 11](#)

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Decades of wildfires

Continued From Page 10

It is also investigating 21 significant fires that occurred between 2020 and 2023 in an attempt to recover at least some of the \$88.5 million spent to snuff them out. Agency officials don't yet know whether they'll identify a culprit to pursue for reimbursement in each case, Neujahr said.

The Legislature recently voted to send the forestry department \$47.5 million in emergency funding to help pay bills from fighting the current fire season, which has already cost the state \$250 million.

Deciphering the cause

In investigating fires, state forestry officials first identify the point of origin, according to Holschbach. If they discover a tree slashed with a big black scar, they know the cause was probably lightning, or if a burn barrel used to burn trash is nearby, they know humans were likely involved. But other investigations are more difficult.

If they determine that someone is responsible and identify the party, officials send them a letter

outlining the costs and demanding payment. That person has 90 days to respond to the letter before interest on the bill starts to accrue. If the culprit refuses to pay, the forestry department notifies the Oregon Department of Justice to determine other methods of collecting, Neujahr said.

Investigations can take years depending on how many people and federal agencies are involved, or how complex the case is, Holschbach said. The agency's investigation also has to be able to stand up in court.

"We treat every investigation as if we're preparing for litigation," Holschbach said, adding that people have become increasingly litigious.

"We have to be more careful in our documentation, and more complete than we ever have been, and doing that really slows things down. Not that we were reckless before, or didn't have complete reports, but it's just more complex," he said.

Working with federal agencies can slow things down, too.

The agency is still waiting for the U.S. Forest Service to complete its investigation of the Two Four Two Fire in 2020 near the Williamson River Campground in Klamath Falls, which burned more than 2,000 acres. The state agency is also still waiting on the forest service to finish its part of the investigation on the 2020 Holiday Farm Fire near Eugene that burned more than 173,000 acres and was one of the largest wildfires in Oregon history.

Firefighting costs

Every two years, the state sets the forestry department's firefighting budget. The agency also collects fees from owners of the private land it protects, about three-quarters of the total 16 million acres. Those fees go into the Oregon Forest Land Protection Fund to help defer wildfire costs. It also helps to fight fires on federal land, and pays those costs upfront, but is reimbursed by the federal government.

Emergency fire costs that go beyond the biennial firefighting budget are paid by revenue

from two sources, depending on the amount. Up to \$20 million of emergency fire costs are split between the protection fund and Oregon's general fund, which is used for a wide range of expenses and mostly comes from Oregon income taxes. Costs beyond \$20 million are paid entirely by the general fund, Holschbach said.

When the department collects reimbursements, most of the money goes back to the general fund.

"The point of cost recovery is to take the burden off the taxpayer — off of Oregonians," said Neujahr, the forestry department spokesperson. "If we can get that money back to the state, that's the goal."

But very little has been reimbursed. Agency officials said they drop investigations that become too complex and costly to pursue or when there's little hope of recovering the money.

One example is the Sweet Creek Milepost 2 fire that started in Lane County in 2020 and cost more than \$4 million to fight. In the end, the arsonist who was charged was only able to pay \$154 to the forestry department.

In another fire — that was not included in the March report — the department recovered \$200,000 after spending \$37 million putting it out. The 2015 Stouts Creek Fire

in Douglas County, which spread across 26,000 acres, was started by a guy mowing his lawn during a restricted period of hot and dry conditions. The department only recovered \$200,000 because that was the limit on his homeowners insurance policy.

Many fires, like this one, could have been avoided with better judgment, Holschbach said.

"About 70% to 80% of fires are human caused, but most of those are not willful, malicious or negligent," Holschbach said.

But they're often expensive to put out — for the department and those found responsible.

Holschbach said those high costs are part of the reason the agency has launched campaigns to make the public more aware of mowing and debris burning restrictions.

"Don't cause a fire. Don't go there. Because you may end up paying for it," he said.

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Emergency? Call 911

Extra \$834 million needed for roads, bridges

Report comes as lawmakers try to craft a transportation funding plan



Oregon counties need more than \$800 million annually for roads and bridges, according to a new study from the Association of Oregon Counties.

By Julia Shumway
Oregon Capital Chronicle
[Oregon's 36 counties will need more than an additional \\$800 million per year to maintain roads and bridges, according to a new study from the Association of Oregon Counties.](#)

The study, presented to the Legislature's Joint Transportation Committee, comes as lawmakers start to craft a multibillion-dollar transportation package over the coming months. The Oregon Department of Transportation this summer said it needed an extra \$1.8 billion annually just to keep up with maintenance — let alone pay for high-ticket projects like a replacement bridge on Interstate 5 connecting Oregon and Washington.

Sen. Chris Gorsek, D-Troutdale and a co-chair of the joint committee, summed the main problem up simply in a meeting last week.

"Our transportation system is old," he said.

The interstate highway system built in the 1950s and 1960s has essentially lived out its useful life, Gorsek added, and Oregon hasn't kept up with maintaining

and replacing roads, bridges and machinery, like snow plows and graders.

Lawmakers have seen the struggling road system firsthand on a 12-stop transportation tour this summer. Sen. Lynn Findley, R-Vale, said the tour made clear that local governments were struggling to keep up.

"The cities and the counties have made significant adjustments, and they figure they're just about adjusted out," he said.

Counties are responsible for the largest share of the state's road system — nearly 27,000 miles of roads and more than 3,400 bridges in the state. The federal government is next, with more than 25,000 miles, followed by cities with more than 11,000 miles of roads and the state at nearly 8,000.

Most of the county bridges were built in the 1950s and 1960s, and more than 1,000 of them are so degraded that heavy trucks can't drive on them. That's a particularly acute problem in agricultural areas, where farmers have to take different routes to transport

crops, and in forests, where trucks are used to respond to wildfires.

Deferred maintenance on roads and bridges results in more expensive replacement projects down the line. ODOT officials estimate that each \$1 spent on preventive maintenance and minor repairs, like chip seal surface treatments, is equivalent to between \$8 and \$12 spent reconstructing a dilapidated road.

"Many county roads that were built over a half-century ago have failed down to poor condition and weren't originally built to modern standards," said Brian Worley, the Association of Oregon Counties' county road program director.

Oregon counties are left with about \$834 million in annual needs for roads and bridges, and the association's report warned that anticipated revenue won't meet even the most basic maintenance needs.

The state highway fund, the main source of money for state and local roads, isn't keeping up with increased costs. Revenue from the state's 40-cents-per-gallon gas tax is faltering as more Oregonians drive fuel-efficient cars or electric vehicles: The average driver now uses almost a quarter less fuel than they did a decade ago, paying about \$40 less per year in gas taxes.

Fees paid to the Driver and Motor Vehicle Services division don't always cover the cost to administer services, let alone bring in additional revenue. And weight-mile taxes charged to commercial truckers are uncertain — truckers are now suing the state alleging they're being overcharged.

Under current law, the state keeps 50% of the highway fund, 30% goes to counties and 20% goes to cities.

Counties also receive road funding from the federal govern-

ment. For more than a century, the U.S. Forest Service has paid local governments a share of logging proceeds from national forests in the counties to maintain roads and schools, but those payments plummeted as logging slowed in the 1990s.

Congress responded by passing the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000, which was meant to compensate counties for lost timber revenue. But without congress-

sional action, that share of road funding is expected to continue to decrease.

Large counties have other funding sources. Multnomah and Washington counties both have countywide gas taxes — 3 cents in Multnomah and 1 cent in Washington — and Clackamas, Multnomah and Washington counties charge county vehicle registration fees.

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Buster Keaton

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greatest of all silent comedies (and Keaton's own favorite) — and undoubtedly the best train film ever made." It's ranked in 18th place on the American Film Institute's list of the 100 greatest American films of all time. (Me and the other eight or nine die-hard John Carter fans can only dream of such a turnaround; but hey, anything can happen, right?)

Buster himself never lost faith. "I was more proud of that picture than any picture I ever made," he said in a 1963 interview.

And, despite stiff competition from other movies made in the town over the years — including Stand By Me and Animal House — so is Cottage Grove.

(Sources: "The General

(film)," an article by Jim Schepke published Aug. 22, 2022, on *The Oregon Encyclopedia*; "Buster Keaton's Last Stand," an article by Julian Smith published Aug. 5, 2020, in *Alta Journal*; "Remains of the General," a TV package reported by Meghan Kalkstein and aired on KVAL-TV on May 23, 2007.)

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

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Oregon Historical Society
The logging locomotive Buster Keaton purchased to play the role of the Texas is shown

McKenzie Eagles Sports Report



By Cliff Richardson

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the OSAA State playoffs with a State top-ten ranking (8th).

McKenzie finished the 2019 Mt. West League season, even at 8-8, forged a 11-17 overall record and succeeded in earning another appearance in the OSAA State First Round playoffs. But the next season (2020) disaster struck hard in the McKenzie Community with simultaneous Covid and Holiday Farm Fire disasters and the Eagles were unable to field a team, let alone hold other normal school activities. McKenzie did not return to the hardwood until the 2022 Fall season and finished winless at 0-14, Coach Mark's initial season. Brad III filled the Eagle Head Coaching position last year (2023) and his team finished the Mt. West League at 2-14 and 2-15 overall, with both victories coming over Mannahouse Academy, Eugene, which finished the Mt. West League in last place, 0-15.

This season, McKenzie has five remaining games on its schedule

and the Eagles would like to notch a win or two. It won't come easy for the inexperienced Eagle squad. Eddyville Charter (7-7), Glendale (6-3), Alsea (9-5), and Triangle Lake (10-2) are the next four opponents. Siletz Valley (3-9), the last regular season opponent scheduled, might be the best hope for the Eagles to grab that elusive victory.

Eagles Drop Five Mt. West League Matches

McKenzie's hardwood woes continued as the Eagles lost five subsequent Mt. West League contests in the past two weeks. At Triangle Lake on Thursday, September 24, McKenzie lost in three sets, 25-4, 25-8, and 25-15. Returning to the Coast Range on Thursday, September 26, the Eagles dropped three sets and the match to Mapleton, 25-9, 25-17, and 25-6.

Crow/City First Christian Academy rolled into Finn Rock on Tuesday, October 1, and rolled back out with a three set victory over their Eagle hosts. This past Thursday, October 3, McKenzie hosted a MWL three-way contest with Mohawk and Mannahouse Academy, Eugene. The Mustangs of Mohawk easily won three straight sets and Mannahouse Academy finished the day with a 3-1 set victory over the Eagles. No set scores or stats were posted for the last three matches by the

McKenzie athletic staff at press time.

Top-ranked Powers Cruises Over McKenzie, 68-7 Cowboys Rope And Dally Eagles, 68-20

The State's top-ranked Six-man football team, the Powers Cruisers, steam-rolled McKenzie at Wade Thomas Field in Finn Rock, last Friday September 27. Powers, with their subsequent 62-0 win over Gilchrist this week, has forged a 5-0 overall record.

Four six-man football teams remain undefeated this season in the State, Eddyville Charter and Harper Charter, both at 5-0, Prairie City/Burnt River 6-0, and the Cruisers.

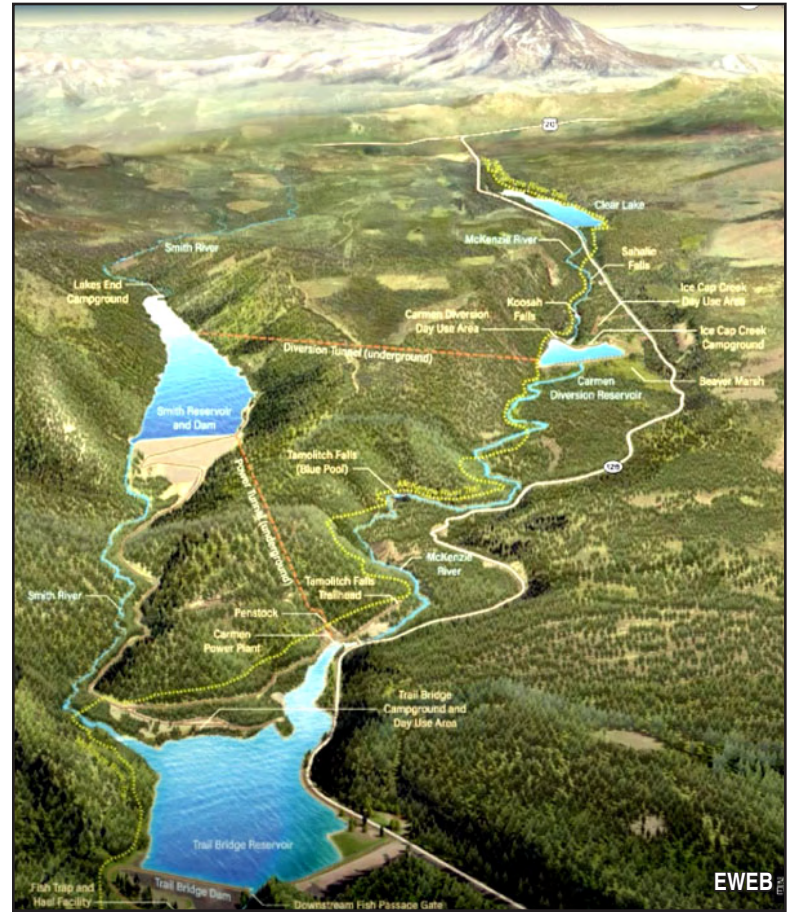
The Eagles jumped a bus on Saturday, October 5, and traveled over the Hump to Silver Lake where they locked horns with the North Lake Cowboys (1-1,3-1). The Cowboys corralled their first Special District 2 League win of the 2024 season with a 68-20 stampede win over the visiting Eagles.

Powers is at the top of the SD-2 League followed by Days Creek and Crow/City First Christian tied at 2-1. Gilchrist is currently residing in fourth place at 2-2 and the Cowboys are in fifth at 1-1, followed by the Eagles, 1-3. Elkton is last in the League with a 0-3 record.

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EWEB updated

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The Carmen-Smith Hydroelectric Project consists of the Carmen Diversion Dam and Reservoir, the Smith Dam and Reservoir, and the Trail Bridge Dam and Reservoir.

Consultants to provide a dam safety report in response to feedback from FERC and fisheries agencies regarding improvement projects at Carmen Smith. Some things up for review include modifying the spillway and gates for downstream fish passage, building the trap and haul facility next to the powerhouse, surface regrading upstream of the emergency spillway, and installing fish habitat structures in the reservoirs.

Following EWEB's January 2023 recommendation to decommission the Leaburg project, several ongoing safety issues have been investigated, including sinkholes in the levee's embankment, soil instability, and excessive seepage. Since water is no longer diverted from the McKenzie River through the canal, it has been used for stormwater runoff primarily from Cogswell and Johnson creeks. To help drainage, a turbine was removed from the Leaburg powerplant to increase outflow rates during storm events.

After EWEB drained the canal at Walterville, it has been working on a repair plan around the powerplant's forebay. In

addition, several other dam safety investigations are underway regarding the stability of the canal's embankments and concrete structures during seismic events.

In addition, erosion in the vicinity of the siphon spillway has been repaired. Alternatives for longer-term changes in spillway operations are being developed based on a subsurface drilling plan in the forebay area and upstream areas with high-hazard canal embankments.

This fall, a public outreach information brochure will be sent to property owners adjacent to EWEB's hydroelectric projects and to areas within the inundation zones resulting from a canal or dam breach.

No action was taken at the board's October 1st meeting. Ward 4 and 5 commissioner John Brown said he hoped a favorable result from the sinkhole investigation at Trailbridge would allow EWEB's trap and haul project to continue. Board vice president John Barofsky echoed that, commenting that "it sounds like half of FREC is talking to the other half."

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McKenzie River Reflections

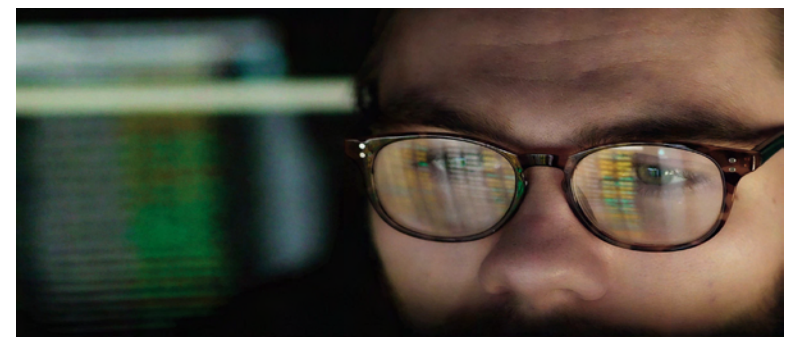


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