



Delivering targeted news for the McKenzie Valley community since 1978

Sheriff's Reports

A subject known to the homeowner came into their house, took some property, and left. A deputy located the suspect, who apologized.

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Secret shopping

Pendleton, though, ran wide-open at all times. It was like a cowboy Vegas.

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Briefs...



Winners in the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife's 2025 Waterfowl, Upland Game Bird, and Habitat Conservation stamp art contests have been announced. This year's winning artwork will be featured on collector stamps and other promotional items supporting the state's wildlife and habitat conservation efforts.

First place in the Waterfowl Stamp category depicting a ring-necked duck went to Jeffrey Klinefelter of Etna Green, Ind.

Buck Spencer of Junction City claimed first place for the Upland Game Bird with a painting of California quail.

An American pika drawn by Terri Neal

[Wildlife stamps - Page 2](#)



The annual Turkey Trot races will be held on November 28th at Alton Baker Park in Eugene. 5K or 10K (new). The proceeds from the event will benefit Food for Lane County. No dogs are allowed, but baby strollers are permitted if people start towards the back or side.

This Thanksgiving Day event travels around the Ruth Bascom Trail network in the greater Alton Baker Park area, with a new course that crosses the river twice. Many sections are situated next to the Willamette River, which has excellent views. Runners will finish at the exact location they started from.

[Turkey Trot - Page 2](#)

MCKENZIE RIVER ARTISANS

Harvest Faire

Please join us for local art, crafts, and refreshments.

November 23rd & 24th

The Vida McKenzie Community Center is kicking off the Holiday Season Shopping with original creations by McKenzie River local artisans. The Harvest Faire will be held from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Sunday, November 4th. Works will include watercolor art, stained and fused glass, wooden utensils, bullet jewelry, wooden signs, vintage jewelry, bath and beauty products, candles, gemstone jewelry, and more - all at 90377 Thomson Lane in Vida.

County approves zoning changes

Blue River Park is now recognized as part of the community

EUGENE: Last Tuesday, the Lane County Board of Commissioners voted unanimously to approve the Blue River Complete Community Plan and zoning amendments that expand the community's boundaries to include the Blue River Park. The amendments were developed to allow higher density development near bus stops and schools and flex use designations within the community's boundaries.

Details of their approval mean that owners of one-acre residential properties can build two homes—as well as an Accessory Dwelling Unit (sometimes called a “granny flat”)—on their lots. New buildings would be limited to no more than 40 feet tall unless signed off for approval by the fire department. Other language limits free-standing signs to no more than 15 feet tall and allows light industrial buildings as large as 40,000 square feet.

Overall, the Blue River Community Plan outlined four main goals:

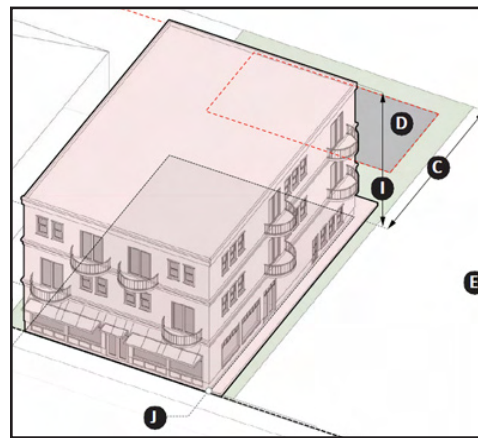
A livable and resilient community with affordable housing and living wage jobs.

An identifiable and inviting downtown that reflects community pride.

A transportation network that meets the needs of all users.

Promoting Blue River as a recreational destination within a pristine natural environment.

Zach Galloway, a senior planner with TGB Architects of Eugene, addressed the commissioners on how the new zoning might impact the 17-acre Three Sisters Meadow property. Possible uses for the property, Galloway said, range from open space and recreation to additional housing and possible light industrial business uses. He asked the county to consider modifying the zoning



Multi-use structures would allow commercial activities on the ground floor with residential quarters on the second floor of the structure.

process to approve light industrial structures under 16,000 square feet without the lengthy process required for larger buildings.

Meyer's General Store owner Melanie Stanley also spoke at the commissioner's meeting and asked the board to pay attention to the onsite parking requirements. Historically, she noted, lots fronting the town's main street had been commercial in the front and residential in the rear. That meant most septic systems had been in the middle of those properties.

She felt that parking away from the front of the Blue River Drive area “may end up being a barrier to building.”

Stanley said that most of the Blue River design overlays had called for parking along Blue River Drive, “but if every lot had the nine spaces being allowed in front of mine, that would be 99 spots in front. Right now that's 42 if we go with parallel.”

She also pointed out that no funding had been identified for any of the Blue River

design concepts and questioned, “Without that, where are people going to park?”

“Blue River was the heartbeat of the upriver economic community and can be again if we make some changes for people to invest and build,” Chris LaVoi told the board. Under the current code, he said, “A lot of us couldn't afford to rebuild. It just didn't make financial sense.”

“Without these changes, we're kinda screwed,” he said and asked commissioners to “find some money for rural towns.”

Commenting on a building as large as 40,000 square feet going into a rural area, Springfield District Commissioner David Loveall noted construction wouldn't happen “unless we figure out the septic problem.” Even if part of the Blue River Park is used for a community septic system, he questioned what its capacity would be.

Overall, though, Loveall said he felt the zoning updates could be viewed “as a great plan for making rural Lane County more investable. Why don't we do this countywide?” he asked.

East Lane Commissioner Heather Buch felt planners should continue to look at the size of structures allowed under light industrial zoning and whether more people should be made aware of building plans before issuing permits. “Up there, we have to be extra careful in making sure people are involved in the decisions that are being made,” she said.

Aside from the downtown area, other construction might occur across from the McKenzie Community Track. Several large parcels up on a bench along McBride Road now qualify for up to three housing units per acre.

Blue River Work Day A Success!!

Once again, volunteers pitched in for a Community Cleanup



Ferguson, Betsy and Steve Gabriel, Shannon Goodpasture, Brenda Baird-Hamlow, Terry Herndon, Sarah Hunter, Mandy Jones, Suzanne McCallister and Michael Palmer, Cliff and Connie Richardson, Sha Spady, and Shawna Stobie.

This amazing crew of local folks cut invasive blackberries, weed eated grass and brush, sacked disposable items left over from the HHF, helped local homeowner's Dale Hyland and Carol Bonine remove an old fire burned fence, and remove weeds and prune the trees at the Blue River Post Office. Many, many thanks to all for a Great Community Effort and especially to Don Dowe, who provided the Skid-steer to move materials to his property and burn with Terry Herndon. Dale Turnley also provided a dump trailer. Also a shout out to the McKenzie Community Track and Field, which provided the chairs and tables for lunch, Don Dowe for his BBQ, Melanie Brite for her canopy, Antony Able for a warming fire, and Locals Helping Locals for the hamburgers, hot dogs and water.

By Cliff Richardson

The Blue River Work and Cleanup Day held last Sunday, November 3, was a rousing success. What started out as a your standard rainy and chilly November morning evolved into a warmer and appreciated sun-teasing day highlighted with much good work accomplished by the cheerful volunteers who answered the call from sponsor McKenzie Locals Helping Locals. The volunteer work crew represented the entire length of the McKenzie River Valley and included Antony Able, Melanie Brite, Mark Bruce, Don Dowe, Brandi

Letters to the Editor

Dear Friend of the Library

We are delighted to announce the Grand Opening of the O'Brien Memorial Library in Blue River.

With the sustained support of our community, we've achieved our goal together. So, we want to extend this warm invitation to you, one of the people who made it happen.

Please join us on Saturday, November 16th, from 2:00 to 4:00.

Brief presentations will begin at 2:30. Tour the building, enjoy cake, and celebrate this exciting event! at 51771 Blue River Drive in Blue River.

We look forward to seeing you at the opening!

Sincerely,
The O'Brien Memorial Library Board:

Connie, Larissa, Sherry, Aidan, Beverly, Sandy, and John

Guest Opinion

Why we love Halloween

By Ruth S. Taylor

Samhain, my Wiccan friends told me years ago, was the time of year when the veil that sits between the worlds is thinnest. During this time, we can reach out to the other side, speak to the dead and divine the future. It is also the time when the old gods, or other spirits, might walk in our world.

An old European holiday that fell at the deepest moment of the fall, it may originally have been simply a marker of the season. But there are hints at something more interesting and obscure; a focus on forces and entities that we no longer recognize. A history of syncretism with the Catholic Church, and immigration into the United States, has morphed this holiday into Halloween.

A century ago (and a bit longer), Halloween in America was, as it is now, a holiday for children and families. There was mischievous behavior, costumes, and spooky decorations. Going door to door with your neighbors was part of the celebration, as were parties, and bonfires. Many of these elements seem to descend from the ancient traditions, but there was a public encouragement, only slightly effective, to avoid the

ghosts and witches and devils that have been central to the event. Still, when I was young, devout Christians of several denominations would not participate in Halloween, as it seemed to celebrate things that were at a minimum, pagan, and at worst demonic.

What have we created for Halloween traditions now?

Well, for starters, we have done the most American of things. We have made it a consumer extravaganza, and a time for adults to behave like children. We now spend about \$12 billion on Halloween, a 300% increase since 2005. And over 70% of us celebrate, although most have removed any ritual, or spiritual component to the day.

Our attention to Halloween costumes and parties rivals any other holiday in America, with workplaces and schools decorated and staging events. My grandchildren, a pumpkin and a witch, are attending at least four Halloween parties, including at school, in their town square, and at the offices of each of their parents. My grandnephew has multiple distinct, elaborate, Halloween costumes, including a Jack Skellington assemblage that could appear on stage.

At the same time, adult-size costumes, pet costumes, and yard

decorations are on sale in stores that pop up in our communities for this purpose only. Eight-foot skeletons with lighted eyes, witches on brooms, and gravestones draped in spider webs are on display throughout my neighborhood.

The explanation is sometimes offered that this holiday can appeal to everyone equally and without offense, as it is not associated, at least any longer, with any particular religious beliefs. Nor is it attached to the history of colonization like the traditionally Puritan-centered Thanksgiving (which frankly is my favorite holiday if you leave the false history and the Puritans out entirely).

I am going to suggest another reason why we have come to love Halloween, and to celebrate with abandon. It goes back to our beginnings.

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Briefs...

Wildlife stamps

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tinyurl.com/yc8376cp

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of Portland was the first-place pick in the Habitat Conservation category.

Each winner will receive a \$2,000 prize. The winning artwork will appear on the 2025 collector stamps and various promotional items. Proceeds from the sales will be dedicated to habitat improvement, research, surveys, and conservation projects.

Stamps and prints of the winning artwork can be purchased at

Turkey Trot

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Entry Fees: 5K - Adults (18-59) are \$30. Youth/Senior (17 & under and Adults 60+ are \$25. 10K - Adults (18-59) are \$35. Youth/Senior (17 & under and Adults 60+ are \$30.

More info at tinyurl.com/mvp7r2vb

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Send news briefs to rivref2@gmail.com

McKenzie Eagles Sports Report



By Cliff Richardson

McKenzie Varsity Sports Schedule This Week

The OSAA 3A/2A/1A State Cross Country Championships Meet will be held on Saturday, November 9, at Lane Community College. The 2A/1A Boys 5,000 meters race starts at 10:00 am, the 3A/2A/1A Girls 5,000 meters race at 10:35 am, and the 3A Boys 5,000 meters race will begin at 11:10 am.

Will Meister Qualifies For State Championships Eagle Runs PR 7th Place District Time

McKenzie's Will Meister is running the fastest cross-country

times of his life. The Eagle junior set a new Personal Record time, just eight days past his last PR, in the 5,000 meters race. Meister's latest time, 18:18.50 minutes, was set at the 3A/2A/1A, SD4 District 4 Championships held at Lane Community College last Thursday, October 31, and placed him seventh out of 74 participants. Meister was the fastest Mt. West League runner in the District race and the second fastest Class 1A finisher.

Just the week prior, at the Umpqua Invite, the Eagle runner set his second PR of the 2024 season with a finish time of 18:33.6 minutes. McKenzie has not qualified an Eagle cross country athlete to the State Championship meet since 2011, when Sarah Sherman finished eleventh and Taya Harbick twentieth at LCC. And it's been even longer since a McKenzie Boy has qualified. Michael Sherman finished sixteenth in 2009, fifteen years ago.

Mt. West League Shut Out Of State Championships

The Mt. West League's three representatives to the 2024 OSAA State Volleyball Championships went 0-9 that is 0-3 each, in their respective First Round matches. All Class 1A First Round match play took place around the State on Saturday, October 30. Mt. West League Champion Triangle Lake lost on the Lakers' home court to South Wasco County in three sets, 27-25, 25-11, and 25-12. MWL second seed Mohawk traveled to Union, the State's third ranked team, and the Mustangs also lost in three, 25-10, 25-10, and 25-5.

Down at second ranked Umpqua Valley Christian, the Wolverines of Alsea, were defeated 25-14, 25-9, and 25-20. Indeed, it has been since the 2021 season, since a Mt. West team has earned a berth in the Second Round of the State Championships. Mohawk, the 2021 MWL Champion earned an automatic berth in the Second

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McKenzie

River Reflections

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Friday 11/8

McKenzie Valley
Mostly Cloudy
20% chance precip
High: 61 Low: 48

Santiam Pass
Partly Cloudy
20% chance precip
High: 49 Low: 36

Saturday 11/9

McKenzie Valley
Rain
80% chance precip
High: 56 Low: 47

Santiam Pass
Rain
80% chance precip
High: 41 Low: 33

Sunday 11/10

McKenzie Valley
Showers
60% chance precip
High: 57 Low: 45

Santiam Pass
Showers
60% chance precip
High: 43 Low: 29

WEATHER REPORT					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
10/29	50	44	0.11	876 cfs	10/29	53	46	0.20	2,920 cfs
10/30	36	44	0.55	850 cfs	10/30	59	38	0	2,630 cfs
10/31	38	46	1.09	893 cfs	10/31	46	40	0.75	3,070 cfs
11/1	44	47	1.47	876 cfs	11/1	49	41	0.79	3,220 cfs
11/2	44	46	1.37	868 cfs	11/2	53	41	0.67	4,770 cfs
11/3	42	49	0.33	876 cfs	11/3	50	45	1.10	5,550 cfs
11/4	42	47	0.24	876 cfs	11/4	52	41	0.06	4,480 cfs

Sheriff's Report

Oct. 26: 11:01 a.m: Suspicious Vehicle - 93100 blk, Marcola Rd. A vehicle was parked near a private gate. The vehicle left the area before a responding deputy arrived.

12:19 p.m: Suspicious Conditions - 92100 blk, Marcola Rd. Deputies responded to a report of a suspicious vehicle and juvenile that had walked away from the area. The vehicle was determined to be a contractor working in the area, and the juvenile was located.

Oct. 27: 4:22 a.m: Burglary - 7500 blk, Thurston Rd. Ongoing civil issue.

10:08 p.m: Screaming - 92000 blk, Marcola Rd. A passerby heard a female screaming, then a male voice. Several deputies responded to the area, but no one was located.

Oct. 28: 11:01 a.m: Assist, Follow Up - Leaburg area.

3:32 p.m: Subpoena Service- 91800 blk, Mill Creek Rd.

Oct. 29: 1:06 p.m: Welfare Check - Blue River area.

1:51 p.m: Harassment - 7400 blk, Thurston Rd. Ongoing harassment issue.

2:28 p.m: Harassment - 92200

blk, Whitmore St.

4:10 p.m: Assist, Follow Up - 41900 blk, Deerhorn Rd.

4:40 p.m: Burglary - 49100 blk, McK. Hwy. A subject known to the homeowner came into their house, took some property, and left. A deputy located the suspect, who apologized, and was trespassed from the location. The caller declined to have the suspect arrested.

Oct. 30: 9:14 a.m: Assist Oregon State Police - 46800 blk, McK. Hwy.

Oct. 31: 9:45 a.m: Illegal burn - 37000 blk, Camp Creek Rd.

12:22 p.m: Theft - BLM Rd. 16-2-29.

12:34 p.m: Assist, Follow Up - 90700 blk, Hill Rd.

1:19 p.m: Driving While Suspended - Marcola Rd. & Old Mohawk Rd.

1:32 p.m: Subpoena Service - 39200 blk, Camp Creek Rd.

2:10 p.m: Civil Service - 40000 blk, McK. Hwy.

Nov. 1: 5:31 a.m: Driving Under the Influence of Intoxicants - 39300 blk, McK. Hwy.

8:14 a.m: Graffiti - Holden Creek Ln. & Bridge St.

9:32 a.m: Dispute - 8600 blk, Thurston Rd. A former resident went to the location to retrieve property per a court order. Another resident blocked their vehicle in. A deputy contacted both and the

resident agreed to leave and not violate the court order.

11:44 a.m: Dispute - 38200 blk, Boscage Ln. A caller reported a resident was cutting wood on the property. A deputy attempted to contact the complainant without success.

11:58 a.m: Theft - 89900 blk, Hill Rd. Self report of mail stolen from the location.

6:08 p.m: Welfare Check - 49500 blk, McK. Hwy.

7:49 p.m: Blocked Driveway - 45000 blk, McK. Hwy.

9:59 p.m: Welfare Check - 3700 blk, Goats Rd.

Nov. 2: 8:57 a.m: Disturbance, Dispute - 47300 blk, McK. Hwy.

11:33 a.m: Disturbance, Dispute - 92200 blk, Murdoch St.

12:03 p.m: Subpoena Service - 39200 blk, Camp Creek Rd.

2:08 p.m: Suspicious Conditions - La Lone Rd. & Tree Farm Rd.

2:20 p.m: Disabled Vehicle - Old Mohawk Rd. Marcola Rd.

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State Police Report

Oct. 29: 17:20: Crash, Non-Injury - Milepost 13, Marcola Rd. Trooper observed a vehicle in a ditch. Mohawk Valley Fire was on scene and advised the driver was

uninjured and a tow truck was en route. A gray BMW sedan was in the ditch of the southbound lane with damage to a mailbox nearby. The vehicle was towed Trooper remained on scene to assist with traffic control until the vehicle was recovered. Involved: 64-year-old male from Eugene.

Nov. 3: 06:47: Hunting - 32000 block, Parsons Creek Rd. Received a game complaint from the Northern Command Center on the evening of Nov. 2 regarding a dead deer along a fence. During the follow up on Nov. 3, troopers interviewed two subjects in possession of the deer in question. Subsequent investigation led to one subject being cited for unlawful possession of antlerless deer. The deer was seized at the subject's residence. Involved: 62-year-old male.

08:33: Crash, Non-Injury - Hwy. 126E, Milepost 11. Troopers responded to a single vehicle into a utility pole. A black sedan was traveling westbound, lost control for unknown reasons and traveled over the eastbound lane of travel and collided with a utility pole off the shoulder. The sedan continued into a fence where it eventually came to an uncontrolled rest. No injuries were sustained from the collision. Involved: Volvo XC9, 38-year-old male from Springfield.

McKenzie Fire & Rescue

Oct. 28: 10:43: Mutual Aid - McK. Hwy./Milepost 44. Patient Assessed, 1 Transported.

Oct, 29: 9:14: 46000 block, McK. Hwy. Motor Vehicle Accident. Disregarded By LCSO.

15:04: 900 blk, 63rd St. Medical, General. Disregarded On Scene.

17:09: 40000 blk, Deerhorn Rd. Illegal Burn. Unable To Locate.

Oct. 31: 9:15: 87000 blk, Cedar Flat Rd. Medical, General. Patient Assessed, 1 Transported.

9:45: 37000 blk, Camp Creek Rd Illegal Burn. Prescribed Burn.

13:08: 87000 blk, Cedar Flat Rd Medical, General. Lift Assist Only.

19:34: 87000 blk, Dowdy Ln. Medical, General. Patient Assessed, 1 Transported.

20:06: 7900 blk, Thurston Rd Medical, General. Disregarded By LCSO

20:50: 41000 blk, Holden Creek Ln. Medical, General. Patient Assessed, 1 Transported.

McK. Fire & Rescue will hold its monthly Board of Directors meeting on Monday, November 18th, 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.

Upper McKenzie Fire/Rescue

Oct. 31: 11:38: Fire - Paradise Campground. Tree stump on fire near the day use restroom area.

Nov. 4: 01:41: Medical - 55000 block, McK. River Dr. Male, Conscious, Breathing.

The Upper McK. Fire District's board of directors will hold its monthly meeting at 7 p.m. on Monday, November 18th, at the Blue River Fire Station 2, 51730 Echo St. in Blue River.

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Pendleton Underground tunnels were like a secret shopping mall

By Finn J.D. John

Sometime in 1922, a letter came in to the city of Pendleton. Enclosed with it was a bill for \$45 — for a set of new Goodyear tires.

It seemed the letter writer had come to Pendleton for the annual Pendleton Round-Up and had lost both front tires to the city's downtown potholes.

The writer also suggested that the city post warning signs at city limits reading, "If you want to experience the joys of a bucking horse, and you own no horse, just drive the streets of Pendleton."

And indeed, Pendleton's potholes were famous, both for their size and for their intractability. They seemed hungry; one filled them up with gravel (or, later, asphalt), and a few weeks later they were empty again, as if some night-stalking gravel thief had scooped it all out.

The locals got used to it, and tried to take it slow. But for many years, as author Rufus Crabtree recalls, "they created an obstacle course that would put even the best of drivers to the test, and put much hard-earned money in the pockets of the tire dealers."

It wasn't until the 1970s and 1980s, when some of Pendleton's most intractable roadbeds got a complete rebuild, that road crews realized what the problem had been:

Tunnels. The town was honey-combed with them, running a few feet below the ground level, connecting the basements and sidewalk vaults downtown with various other places nearby.

And, that's how the Pendleton Underground was rediscovered.

To be clear, pretty much everybody in town already knew there were tunnels under the downtown. They'd been the subject of stories, legends, and midnight explorations for decades. But, nobody had thought of there being other, undiscovered tunnels under the streets causing potholes.

Now, before we continue, I have to warn you about something. There is a duo of academic historians from an out-of-state university who are kind of on a campaign right now against what they are pleased to call "the myth of the Chinese tunnels of Pendleton." Their motivation, as far as I can determine it, appears to be to rescue the Chinese community from hurtful racial stereotypes that might be associated with living underground in a tunnel system.

As we'll discuss, the Pendleton tunnels were far from an exclusive Chinese thing, and most likely the only Chinese people who actually lived in them were human-trafficking victims. But, if you've encountered "myth-busting"



F.J.D. John

The Pendleton Underground Tours group has furnished and fixed this diorama of a Prohibition-era speakeasy in the space formerly occupied by one.

stories about the Pendleton Underground, that's probably their source.

The tunnels under Pendleton's streets started out as storage basements under downtown buildings. The basements got connected together very early in the town's history; when the sidewalks were installed downtown, vaults were dug under some of them to connect all the basements on the block together. Light filtered down through a series of wooden grates in the sidewalk surface (they were, of course, boardwalks at first) so that folks down below could see where they were going. Later, when concrete sidewalks were installed, the grates were replaced with blocks of prism glass, which let in more light and less rainwater. You can still see them in Pendleton's streets today; they have turned purple from years of solar exposure, but they still illuminate the sidewalk vaults nicely.

The sidewalk vaults were like streets under the street, with plenty of headroom for even very tall people to walk upright. They provided drainage when it rained, and the light coming through the grates or prism glass was let into the adjoining basements through windows that usually were standard sash windows like the ones used above ground on houses. Some of them, the basements under businesses such as banks and taverns, were set up for high security, with bars in the windows.

There were several reasons why the basements were connected to the sidewalk vaults. For one thing, it made deliveries of anything robbers might be interested in much safer and more discreet.

But the main reason was cowboys.

Pendleton was always a cowboy town. Back in the day, when cowboys were more plentiful, rambunctious, and well armed than they are today, other Umatilla County burghs kind of outsourced

their rowdy young single men to Pendleton to keep their places respectable. Hermiston and Stanfield and Umatilla were nice little residential towns; Milton-Freewater, Athena, and Weston catered to the hard-working, wide-awake homesteaders. All these towns had their saloons, and some of them had bordellos; but these "sin-industry" establishments were kept in check by laws and law enforcement. (Well, mostly. The adventures of legendary Oregon outlaw Hank Vaughan in Athena are a good demonstration that other Umatilla County towns were far from immune from rambunctiousness.)

Pendleton, though, ran wide-open at all times. It was like a cowboy Vegas.

"Saloons with free lunches opened 24 hours a day and closed for one hour on Sundays for cleaning," Crabtree writes. "Picture women hanging out of windows begging cowboys to come upstairs; and for a few bucks you could have a hot bath, a bed to sleep in, and company for a time. All this, and no hassle from the law."

It wasn't until 1902 that the town council got around to passing an ordinance forbidding horse racing and cow roping on Main Street downtown. And even so, a number of the downtown saloons fought to keep things the way they were, fearing they'd lose business if cowboys couldn't blow off steam in the street.

As it happened, the cowboys picked a new spot, close by downtown, for their racing and roping sports. The spot they picked would, a few years later, become the Round-Up rodeo grounds. But that's a story for another time.

The upshot of all this rowdiness was that Pendleton was very much a "sundown town" back in the day. It was like an unwritten law that, especially on a Friday or Saturday night, nobody who wasn't a

young cowboy with a pistol on his hip and a bottle in his hand should ever risk being caught out on the streets of downtown after nightfall. (That's an exaggeration, but not by much!) That was especially true for Pendleton's "working girls," who would be at serious risk of sexual assault, and members of the town's rather sizeable Chinese community.

Most likely, it was the Chinese who dug the tunnels connecting the sidewalk vaults together. Of all the Pendleton residents who used the underground to get around, they were the most industrious and probably also the most motivated to avoid contact with cowboys even during the daytime. Remember that scene that was in every other Yosemite Sam cartoon, where he gets his pistols out and tries to make Bugs Bunny "dance" by shooting at his feet? Warner Brothers did not make that up. That was a real thing that happened regularly when a liquored-up cowboy came across someone he was pretty sure he could get away with doing it to. And because of the prejudice of the day, basically any Chinese person was vulnerable to this kind of bullying at almost any time.

If a Chinese fellow did press charges, the court would be very unlikely to convict unless there was straight-up murder involved. Even then, it was no sure thing. All the Chinese knew they needed to be off the streets at sundown.

So, who used the tunnels?

Well, after Prohibition was enacted in Oregon in 1915, obviously anyone interested in moving liquor discreetly around the town. A fairly credible rumor has it that one tunnel actually led to a secret entrance at the city airport.

Even before Prohibition broke out, they were in regular use by merchants who didn't want to risk being robbed on the street; bordello girls and other working professionals at risk of being threatened and bullied; and, of course, the residents and merchants of Pendleton's Chinatown.

There was also a tunnel for the convenience of members of the Catholic church that was built just outside city limits — Catholic missionaries from Walla Walla had antagonized the city leaders by trying to get the bordellos shut down, so they retaliated by denying them permission to build a church in town.

The tunnel network was extensive, and varied widely in quality and hazardousness. They have been compared to an underground city; but probably a better comparison would be a giant sprawling shopping mall during a power outage. Folks from one building could pass under the street and patronize businesses on the

[Blowing up - Page 10](#)



By Slim Randles

Ah ... politics! If you're a responsible American, as I often pretend to be, you'll have watched and read and listened to as much hogwash on every side of every question ad nauseum, and we'll all troop to the polls, read the names and say "Is this the best you guys can do for candidates?"

And then we'll vote, anyway. And that's why I'd like to suggest March 4 as a new national holiday, it being the entire term of the only non-toxic President of the United States.

His name was David Rice Atchison, who later on had Atchison, Kansas named for him, along with one third of the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railroad.

Never heard of him? Well, he was a pro-slavery Democrat who never met a bottle of booze he didn't like. But back in 1849, when Atchison became President for an entire day, some people knew how to throw parties. And Atchison spent his entire term as President sleeping off a dandy drunk. (You can always turn here for the real skinny on history, of course).

Here's what happened. At noon on March 4, 1849, the term of President James Polk ended. At that very moment, the term of incoming President John Taylor was scheduled to begin. But Taylor was a religious man, and March 4 was on a Sunday, you see, so he said he'd wait until noon on Monday to be sworn in.

This left a 24-hour period where the United States didn't have a President. Normally, the vice president would take over, but his term expired at Sunday noon, just like Polk's.

So we look on the list of successors and who do we find? David Rice Atchison of Missouri, who was president pro-tem of the Senate.

His headstone says "President of the United States for one day" too.

But we should set March 4 aside in honor of this man, because he was the only leader of this nation who didn't get at least half the country mad at him. For the rest of his life, Atchison enjoyed polishing this historical hiccup, describing his presidency as "the honestest administration this country ever had."

May his example shine forever.

Brought to you with a smile from Slim's just-out fun novel, **Whimsy Castle**. At better book stores and on the internet at Amazon, Kindle, Barnes and Noble, Ebay, Thriftbooks and Page Publishing.

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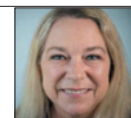
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Gardening Tips

By Kym Pokorny



Oregon State University

OSU Extension Service

Slow, cool composting is the easy way



Hope Stephens

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 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. 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.

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Country Kitchen

By Mary Emma Allen



THE BEAUTY OF AUTUMN FOLIAGE

To me, the autumn foliage seemed very brilliant in New Hampshire this year. As I traveled around the area to work, to church, and on errands, the beauty of it all enthralled me.

When Jim and I lived in Texas, during our early marriage years, the aspect of New England we missed most was fall with its colorful leaves and crisp frosty mornings. We showed photos of the autumn foliage to friends there, and they were sure we'd painted the colors.

"No trees could actually be that bright red or orange," they remarked.

Even as the colors have gradually turned more brown, maroon, and deep gold, they still are rich and colorful midst the evergreens, especially when the sun shines on them. The autumn palette, in its glory presents natural beauty at its utmost.

Preserving Leaves as Placemats

We often wish we could preserve the leaves with their vibrant colors, yet somehow they generally become dull when we try. However, there are a few ways to extend autumn in our homes. One of these is with placemats.

These are projects I made with my 4-H group years ago. They were decorative items for their

homes or gifts for their mothers as they preserved a bit of fall.

LEAF PLACEMATS

With a dab of glue, attach leaves onto an 11 1/2 x 14-inch piece of construction paper of desired color.

Cut leaves from colored paper or fabric and attach the same way.

Color drawings of leaves with a markers, crayons, or colored pencils on the construction paper.

Then spread clear contact paper over the paper and leaves. Press firmly to placemat back and front. You also can laminate the page. We sometimes incorporated leaves or leaf designs into decoupage projects.

ZUCCHINI BREAD FOR FALL

Beat 3 eggs until foamy. Add 1 cup cooking oil, 2 cups sugar, 2 cups peeled, grated zucchini, and 1-teaspoon vanilla. Mix well.

Sift together 3 cups flour, 1-teaspoon baking powder, 1-teaspoon baking soda, 2 teaspoons cinnamon, 1-teaspoon salt. Add dry ingredients and 1/2 cup chopped nuts to egg mixture. Stir until well mixed

Divide batter into two portions and pour into 2 greased and floured loaf pans. Bake 45 minutes to 1 hour (until inserted pick tests done) at 325 degrees F.

(c) Mary Emma Allen

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

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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 Waltherville. 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.

November 8

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.

November 8

2nd Friday Art Walk

The Second Friday Art Walk is scheduled from 4 to 7:30 p.m. starting at the Emerald Art Center, 500 Main Street, in downtown Springfield.

November 9

A Dime At A Time

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

November 9

Living River Day

Join the McKenzie River Trust and take a walk near the place the Willamette and the McKenzie Rivers meet. The Living River Exploration Day is set for 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. at 31799 Green Island Rd, Eugene. Observe 15 years of tree-planting work on Green Island, a habitat for beaver, river otter, and over 150 species of birds. If you're looking for a special place to connect to nature this year, join in the fun on the second Saturday's, March through December, and explore the Living Rivers in your backyard!

November 9

BINGO at VMCC

Bingo at the Vida McKenzie Community Center, 90377 Thomson Lane, is a family (kids welcome) fun night - Doors open at 6:30 p.m. The snack bar has a variety of goodies for one's taste... Hotdogs, nachos, popcorn, desserts, an assortment of drinks, no alcoholic beverages.

November 10

Films With Friends

The Vida McKenzie Community Center, 90377 Thomson Lane, is showing "Walking the Camino" followed by a film discussions with friends and neighbors, moderated by Alison Hennes, who walked the Camino de Santiago along a pilgrimage route leading to the tomb of the Apostle Saint James the Greater in Santiago de Compostela, Spain. Times are 2 to 4:30 p.m. Contact Gerry Aster for more information at 541-896-3001.

November 10

Parks Committee

The Parks Advisory Committee meets 2nd Monday of each month (except during July & August)

from 6 to 7:30 p.m. in the Good-pasture 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 and needs, and serves as a liaison group representing the concerns of the community.

November 11

Spfd School Board

The Board of Directors meets twice during most months during the school year. Regular business meetings begin at 7 p.m. on the second Monday of the month. 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 Springfi

November 12

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

November 12

McK Food Pantry

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

November 12

Chamber Tourism

The McKenzie River Chamber of Commerce Tourism Committee meets via Zoom every second Tuesday of every month from 9 to 10 a.m. Please join us even if you are not a Chamber member. The committee strives to strengthen the support of locals interested in improving tourism and the

economic vitality of the entire McKenzie River Valley. Email the Tourism Chair to get on the meeting email list: Treasurer@McKenzieChamber.com

November 10

Local Blood Drive

A Local Blood Drive is scheduled from 11:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. in McKenzie Fire & Rescue's Safety Room, 42870 McKenzie Hwy. Appointments are required for the best donation experience: 800-398-7888 bloodworksNW.org/giveblood

For safety, we request that no one under the age of 16 donates. Before donating, eat a hearty meal and drink plenty of fluids.

November 12

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.

November 12

Board of Commissioners

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

November 13

Board of Commissioners

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

November 13

Watershed Wednesday

Join McKenzie River Trust every Wednesday morning from 9 to 11:30 a.m. at Green Island 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. Green Island is a 1,100 acre preserve located just outside of the city of Coburg.

November 13

McKenzie History

A History Show and Tell focused on Mckenzie Schools will be held from 2 to 4 p.m. at the Vida Mckenzie Community Center, 45937 McKenzie Hwy. Gather together and share the history of the schools up and down the McKenzie River. A slide show of some of the older schools will be shared. There will be a place to share your memories and class yearbooks! Bring YOUR Story and your questions, and hopefully, it will be a good time. Some of the "old timers" will help get those stories started, along with a guided presentation. Refreshments will be available. Support your Vida Mckenzie Community Center by making a small donation to use the space! Contact Shelly Pruitt with any questions at 541-554-9332

November 14

VMCC Board

The board of directors of the Vida McKenzie Community Center will meet at 4:30 p.m. at 90377 Thomson Lane in Vida.

November 14

McK Watershed Council

The McKenzie Watershed Council will meet from 5 to 6:30 p.m. I's mission is to foster better stewardship of the McKenzie River watershed resources, deal with issues in advance of resource degradation, and ensure

November 15

Spaghetti Feed

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

<h2>An Invitation to Worship</h2>	<p>Living Water Family Fellowship Pastor - Doug Fairington 52353 McKenzie Hwy - Milepost 42 541-822-3820 Gathering Sundays at 10:00 AM, Children's ministry also. Come early for a meet and greet continental breakfast and coffee at 9:30 AM. Thursdays, 6:00 PM, Celebrate Recovery (12 Step Program)</p>
<p>McKenzie Bible Fellowship 45061 McKenzie Hwy - Vida, Oregon Sunday Worship - 10:00 a.m. Youth Ministries KidsFest Family Activities Small Group Fellowships Men's & Women's Bible Studies Call 896-3829 for information www.mckenziebible.com</p>	<p>Catholic Church St. Benedict Lodge Chapel 1/2 mile off Hwy. 126 on North Bank Rd., McKenzie Bridge Sat. Eve. 5:00pm Sun. Morn. 9:30am; web page: 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 Waltherville, or on our Facebook livestream. You may also make prayer requests, or request an emailed or earth-mailed bulletin -- phone or send email to Nancy Ashley, nancy.w.ashley@gmail.com, 541-914-1986. We would love to meet you! Milepost 13 McKenzie Hwy. (541) 747-2604</p>	

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Direct Answers

By Wayne & Tamara Mitchell

Missing Ingredient



Vitali Gariev

I am writing from the UK to thank you for the first bit of advice that has ever made sense to me.

I have lived for many years with a "good" man who has provided me financial security and the sort of life I dreamed of living. Unfortunately, I knew that although I cared about him and we had similar interests and life values, I didn't truly love him. I spent the best part of 20 years trying to make this marriage work. I perfected the art of being a wife, mother, and lover. The truth, though, was always just beneath the surface.

He loves me deeply, but at the same time has always chosen to do what he wants, when he wants, with no compromises. I stupidly tried all sorts of ways to make

the relationship what I wanted it to be, becoming a doormat, and eventually becoming depressed. I managed to kick myself out of depression and started studying and creating a new life for myself.

However, the habit of being in a relationship is hard to kick, and I find myself trying to repeat my original mistake by thinking I can awaken love and sexual interest in my husband for the sake of the children and everything we have built together. What I really want is to have a life of my own and maybe someday finding someone I truly know I love.

The answers you have provided to other distressed people have helped me see what I have been doing to myself and to him. I've always listened to others' advice that staying together is best, but the truth is, it is if you are with the right person, and it is not, if you're not. I realize now a relationship can be addictive even if the goodies are poisoning you. Thank you again.

Suzanne

Suzanne, most people say "thank you" many times each week, but there is a huge difference between saying thank you and feeling gratitude. There is a much larger

difference between doing what we are supposed to in a relationship and experiencing love.

Wayne & Tamara

My Daughter

I am divorced. Visitation with my daughter has been a nightmare. My ex-wife takes me to court twice a year trying everything she can to keep me from seeing my child. I thought this would pass. We are both remarried, but this behavior of hers continues.

There is absolutely no legitimate reason why I shouldn't be able to have a relationship with my daughter. To make matters worse, the judge is a female with a reputation as a man-hater. It's always the same thing in the courtroom; my ex-wife puts on the "poor pitiful me" show every time. I'm tired of wasting money on attorney's fees, not to mention being ordered to pay hers.

Marc

Marc, your ex-wife is attempting to erase you from her past. She is acting as if your child is hers with another man.

There are several things you can do short of paying more to an attorney. First, maintain a consistent attempt to see your daughter. Send cards, make calls, and show up. That accomplishes two things: it shows your determined mindset, and it may wear down your ex-wife and her new husband into letting you have reasonable visits.

Second, make sure your daughter

knows how much you want to be in her life. Start a scrapbook and keep it in a positive light. Record memories of your visits with her, save copies of the cards you send and pictures of gifts you give. Take pictures on visits.

What our children most want is proof that we have never stopped loving them and never stopped wanting to be in their lives. What

your daughter will most value in the future is the knowledge that you have been rooting for her all of her life.

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.

Vinegar

By Sarah Barber

That summer I got very thin on my diet of he-loves-me-not: kale, fried egg, a tomato melted in butter. And when I was flat enough, gin and the ring-ring-ring of that unanswered phone. Each week I bought a new bottle of vinegar—which is delicious slopped on hot white bread. Who with a tongue hasn't loved some sweet slow rot. You catch flies with it, too. Put a drop in the base of a jam jar—it was plum, I ate it straight off the spoon—cover tight with plastic wrap, with the tip of a knife make a

hole too small to get out. They drown but who hasn't needed to watch some smaller thing suffer? That summer I scrubbed and rinsed with it, too. I had read somewhere you can break open even a rock if you pour enough vinegar on.

Source: Poetry (March 2024)

Sarah Barber is the author of *Country House* (Pleiades Press, 2018) and *The Kissing Party* (National Poetry Review Press, 2010). She teaches and lives in Canton, New York.

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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 Waltherville Loop, a block from the Waltherville Shopping Center. N/c-sub 5/15/-5/11/14

Piano Lessons

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

Quilters/Needle Crafters

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

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FAMOUS ACTORS

ACROSS

- 1. QA's focus, pl.
- 5. "Swan Lake" steps
- 8. Evite request, acr.
- 12. Long stories
- 14. Final, abbr.
- 15. Opposite of neo-
- 16. Synagogue scroll
- 17. Poseidon's domain
- 18. One-eighty
- 19. *Mary Poppins and Maria von Trapp
- 21. *Vivian Ward and Erin Brockovich
- 23. Kum Ba follower

- 24. Cry out loud
- 25. Stolen, slangily
- 28. Greek salad cheese
- 30. Popular clubs of the 1970s
- 35. Chimpanzees, e.g.
- 37. Porcine fat
- 39. Great divide
- 40. Cat o'how many tails?
- 41. Podium, pl.
- 43. Dead against
- 44. Work the dough
- 46. Urban haze
- 47. Manner of walk
- 48. Parlor piece

Solution on Page 9

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

- 50. Riyadh native, e.g.
- 52. Sixth note
- 53. Common fairway club
- 55. Brewed beverage
- 57. *Red Redding and Nelson Mandela
- 61. *Ricky Bobby and Buddy
- 65. Beat the Joneses
- 66. Outrage
- 68. Adjust, as laces
- 69. Tears violently
- 70. Anointment liquid
- 71. Talks and talks and talks
- 72. a.k.a. Operation Neptune
- 73. "Just kidding!"
- 74. Billy Joel's "_____ Always a Woman"

DOWN

- 1. Between Phi and Kappa
- 2. Second word in a fairytale
- 3. Encircle
- 4. Like Freddy Krueger, e.g.
- 5. Boot-wearing feline
- 6. Draft pick
- 7. Impolite look
- 8. Miles per hour, e.g.
- 9. Insult
- 10. Between bleu and jaune
- 11. Connection between brain and spinal cord
- 13. Bundle of wheat
- 15. Like certain libraries
- 20. Pup
- 22. Hemingway's "The _____ Man and the Sea"
- 24. Railyard worker
- 25. *Forrest Gump and Jimmy Dugan
- 26. Offer two cents
- 27. Doctrine
- 29. New Mexico town
- 31. Deep pile carpet
- 32. Atlantic Ocean/Pacific Ocean waterway, e.g.
- 33. Ostium, pl.
- 34. *Violet Crawley and Minerva McGonagall
- 36. Center of authority
- 38. "The New Look" main character
- 42. September stone
- 45. Phobos' brother, Greek mythology
- 49. Time period
- 51. *Catwoman and "Jinx" Johnson
- 54. Vidalia one
- 56. Regions
- 57. *Han Solo and Indiana Jones
- 58. Wished undone
- 59. Europe's highest volcano
- 60. *Nelson, star of 8 films with Jeanette MacDonald
- 61. Matted wool
- 62. Write on tombstone, e.g.
- 63. Facebook button
- 64. More is _____?
- 67. Duran Duran's 1982 album

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

Click here or go to: tinyurl.com/yeye92hx

Events from Nov 7th

BOOK FAIR

Men Nov 8th Noon - Fri 8th 12 oopgs

Book Fair

Join us at McKenzie Elementary School for an exciting book fair at our Elementary School Library. All purchases made through the...

The Nov 7th 6 oopgs - 6 oopgs

McKenzie Valley Neighbors Radio Group

GMRS net night (Thursday) "See" you on the repeater! Transmission 4:37 & 7:35. Listen 4:02 & 7:15. Tune 100 on the uplink! Make it ready!

The Nov 7th 6 oopgs - 7 oopgs

Leaburg GMRS Radio Preparedness

Every Thursday McKenzie Valley Neighbors GMRS Radio Preparedness Group Network. Check in Thursday 6:30-8:30. McKenzie Valley Wide Net

Nov 8th 8 oopgs - 9 oopgs

Yoga in Leaburg

Every Friday at McKenzie Fire & Rescue's Leaburg Training Center

LeClair Family Fundraising Dinner

Nov 8th 6:30-9:00pm

For those who don't know Jamie, he worked on our maintenance staff this year. He is 18 and was diagnosed this summer with terminal brain...

EMERALD ART CENTER

Fri Nov 8th 4 oopgs - 7:30pm

2nd Friday Art Walk

Emerald Art Center in downtown Springfield

Sat Nov 9th 10 oopgs - 12 oopgs

A Dime At A Time

Blue River Little Boys Collection/Sorting - Saturday morning sorting sessions every Saturday from 10-noon. Donations can be dropped off...

Sat Nov 9th 10 oopgs - 12 oopgs

Living River Exploration Day

Join the McKenzie River Trust and take a walk near the place the Willamette and the McKenzie Rivers meet. Celebrate 15 years of tree-planting...

BINGO at VMCC

Bingo at the Center is a family focus event that fun night. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. It is not the high dollar party at same locations as...

FILMS WITH FRIENDS

Sun Nov 10th 2 oopgs - 4:30pm

Films with friends

Showing "Breaking the Ground" followed by local film discussion with friends and neighbors, moderated by Alison Hennes, who walked the...

KIDS EAT FREE!

Every Monday (with adult meal purchase). Family Dinner, outdoor seating (541) 729-1988.

Lane County Parks Advisory Committee

The Parks Advisory Committee meets 2nd Monday of each month (except during July & August). It advises the Board of County Commissioners on...

SPRINGFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Men Nov 11th 7 oopgs - 9 oopgs

Springfield School Board Business Meeting

Springfield Public Schools is led by a five-member elected school board. The board of directors meets once during each month during the...

Lane County Board of Commissioners

The Board of Commissioner meetings begin at 9:00 a.m. in main hall, unless otherwise noted on the published agenda. Regular Board...

Tiny Dental Van

The Tiny Dental Van, sponsored by the Rural Oregon Outreach Program, will be at the Ochs McKENZIE RIVER CLINIC every second Tuesday of...

McKENZIE RIVER CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

The Nov 14th 9 oopgs - 10 oopgs

McKenzie River Tourism Committee

The McKenzie River Chamber of Commerce Tourism Committee meets via Zoom every second Tuesday of every month. Please join us even if you're...

Family Story Time

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

McKenzie River Food Pantry

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

Local Blood Drive

Appointments are required for the best donation experience. 800-368-7488. bloodbanker.org/giveblood. For safety, we request that no...

Save Leaburg Lake

"Save Leaburg Lake" members meet on the second Tuesday of each month at the VOA Wilderness Office in VOA. For more information, call...

Lane County Board of Commissioners

The Board of Commissioner meetings begin at 9:00 a.m. in main hall, unless otherwise noted on the published agenda. Regular Board...

Watershed Wednesday

Join McKenzie River Trust every Wednesday morning from 9am-11:30am at Green Island to help care for the special area where the McKenzie...

History Show and Tell, McKenzie Schools

Gather together and share the history of the schools up and down the McKenzie River. A slide show of some of the older schools will be...

Wacky Wednesdays Bingo

Cards go on sale at 6 pm. Bingo starts at 7 pm. Call 541-729-4688 for reservations in the morning spots fill up quickly. Snapper and brew...

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Problem Solved



By Christopher Elliott

Amazon promised to price-match my gaming keyboard.

Where's my \$32?

When Bret Taylor finds a cheaper gaming keyboard online, he asks Amazon if it will price-match. A representative says yes three times, but then the company refuses.

I recently went online shopping for a gaming keyboard. I found a SteelSeries APEX 7 Mechanical Gaming Keyboard for \$159 on Amazon. I noticed that I could buy it elsewhere for about \$32 less.

I initiated an online chat with Amazon, asking if they would price-match. A representative told me three separate times, in writing, that Amazon would match the other price. Amazon advised me to place the order and then file a price-match claim.

I ordered the keyboard and then asked Amazon to match the price. But it is refusing to give me a refund for the price difference. Can you help me get the \$32 Amazon owes me?

Bret Taylor, Duncan, Okla.

Amazon should have promptly credited you the \$32, as agreed. But wait a second. Did Amazon expressly agree to give you \$32? It only gave you a vague promise to price-match, but you got it in writing, and as they say, a promise is a promise.

It looks like something went sideways with your order. I can see that you initiated several online chat conversations with Amazon representatives, and they not only told you they would price match, but they encouraged you to place your order through Amazon. Then they said they would price match.

But Amazon does not price match. According to its site, it is "constantly" comparing its prices to those of its competitors to ensure its prices are as low as or lower than all relevant competitors. "As a result," it says, "we don't offer price matching."

That's nonsense. Amazon says,

"Trust us, we have the lowest prices," but as you found out, it does not always have the lowest prices. Then it says it doesn't match the price, but it secretly does. It isn't very clear.

You were smart to get Amazon to put its promise in writing. That makes it so much easier to resolve a complaint. A quick, polite email to the company should have fixed this. I publish the names and numbers of Amazon's executives on my consumer advocacy site, Elliott.org.

I contacted Amazon on your behalf. A representative contacted you and said the company had been wrong to offer you a carte blanche price matching guarantee when, in fact, it doesn't offer price matching. But there's a useful lesson for you here. If this happens again, ensure the company is specific about what it will do, right down to the dollar.

To those of you who say, "Why didn't you just order from the cheaper online store?" I think you already suspect the answer. They are not Amazon, a company with a strong reputation for customer service. I would pay a little extra to order through Amazon because they would care for me if something went wrong. The other guys? Maybe, maybe not.

Amazon offered you a \$50 gift card instead of crediting you \$38, which you accepted. But you still have reservations about your resolution.

"I'm still a little concerned that they can put things in writing and feel they do not have to abide by that," you told me. "I'm still trying to determine if that is even legal."

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

© 2024 Christopher Elliott

Department of Education releases cell phone guidance
Policies could limit or reduce cell phone use during the school day

By Alex Baumhardt
Oregon Capital Chronicle

The Oregon Department of Education (ODE) has released a guidance document for school districts, outlining research, recommendations, and three model policies to limit or restrict cell phone use in classrooms. The guidance aims to help school districts update their current policies on the use of cell phones and other mobile devices and increase student learning, well-being, and belonging.

"We will be challenged to help students achieve their educational goals, like reading and math skills, if students aren't focused on learning when they're in school. Cell phones are a distraction and can harm students' mental health and well-being if used inappropriately," Governor Tina Kotek said. "Our job as leaders is to add as many supports as we can to help students and educators be successful. Toward that goal, ODE's guidance includes clear model policies for cell phone use in schools."

"We know that cell phones can offer benefits to students including those who may have health and safety concerns, or where students with disabilities require assistive technologies for additional support," ODE Director Dr. Charlene Williams said. "At the same time it is important for schools to work purposefully to create conditions that promote deep thinking and sustained attention, free from the constant interruptions that cell phones and mobile devices can introduce."

The guidance released today also profiles current policies from across Oregon districts and other



Gary Cassel/Pixabay

states. Key recommendations and implementation strategies include:

Incorporate staff, student, and community input at every stage: design, implementation, and review. Support and consistency from school staff helps maintain its credibility and effectiveness.

Address liability risk for theft, loss, or damage. Be clear about how school cell phone policies intersect and align with existing personal property rules.

Consider how the policy will be enforced so students do not lose instructional time. Implement strategies other than suspension and expulsion to uphold the educational rights of all students and address behavior effectively.

Each of Oregon's 197 school districts set their own cell phone policy and current law already requires districts to have policies on personal electronic devices in schools.

The Pew Research Center estimates that over one-third of parents with a child under 12 report that their child began using a smartphone before the age of five, and recent research underscores the potential risks from cell phone use to students' mental health and the learning process. This widespread use and risk of cell phones among students across Oregon creates a need for effective, equitable, and sustainable cell phone policies in schools.

oregoncapitalchronicle.com

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2017 NNA Community Newspaper Readership Survey

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SUDOKU SOLUTION

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

November 9 - Historians disagree on what became of York after the completion of the Lewis and Clark Expedition. York was the African-American slave of William Clark and he was considered to be a valuable member of the Expedition. He helped with chores, hunted and packed game back to camp, portaged supplies around rapids and help scout the trail west. He was a curiosity to the Indians, who had never encountered a man with black skin, and several times was instrumental in establishing friendly relations with the Indians. Some historians believe Clark eventually freed York, and that he became a wagon freighter and died of cholera in New York State. But others say that after York was given his freedom he returned west and spent the remainder of his days living among the Crow Indians.

Pendleton Underground

Continued From Page 1



A postcard view of downtown Pendleton as it appeared circa 1940. At this time, most of the tunnels and vaults under the city streets were out of use, although the ladies working in the town's bordellos probably still used them to get around discreetly.

Continued From Page 4

other side. Some of them even had second storefronts in the basement to cater to the underground crowd. After Prohibition, those storefronts were pretty easy to convert into speakeasies.

Pendleton had active, open bordellos going right up until the mid-1950s, most of them right downtown. When one of the girls needed something, especially late in the evening or at a time when she wasn't dressed to go out, the tunnels were a great convenience. McCarty's ice cream parlor's "underground storefront" did a brisk business with the ladies of the evening, most of whom were big fans of ice cream sodas. They probably liked a little drinky from one of the saloons' cowboy-free basement rooms from time to time as well.

Visitors to and residents of Chinatown, both Chinese and otherwise, sometimes liked to indulge in a little opium smoking, and the underground was a great place to set up a secret opium den.

In other words, the Pendleton Underground was a shadow community of folks who appreciated safety and discretion, and had a connection with one of the businesses whose basements allowed access. It's amusing to contemplate a Friday night in Pendleton, with gunshots and thundering hooves and shouts and whoops ringing out above and a busy community of shopkeepers and working girls bustling back and forth in safety beneath the streets.

Amusing, but maybe a bit misleading. Not all the businesses under there were benevolent and

fun. Especially when it came to the labor contractors specializing in Chinese workers, who — according to Crabtree — used some of the more fortified basement rooms (with bars on the windows) to imprison workers who'd signed indentured-servitude contracts with their organizations.

Today, a number of these tunnels have been reopened and cleaned up by a public-history organization called Pendleton Underground Tours. If you haven't taken the tour, it's very good, and the tour leaders do a really good job of balancing the history and folkloric aspects of Pendleton's "underground shopping mall."

(Sources: *The Pendleton Story*, a book by Rufus Crabtree published in 1990 by Ful House Publishing; *More on the Pendleton Underground*, a book by Pam Severe and Lon Thornburg published in 2003 by Maverick Publications)

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.

[Return To Page 4](#)

McKenzie Eagles Sports Report



By Cliff Richardson

Continued From Page 2

Round, but fell to top ranked North Clackamas Christian 3-0.

It's been since the 2017 season that a Mt. West League team has qualified for the Quarterfinals (Elite Eight) held at Ridgeview High School in Redmond. That team was McKenzie, coached by Head Coach Dan Brenner and Assistant Coach Mary Lipp, and the Eagles steam-rolled through the MWL regular season schedule 16-0 and finished with a 23-7 overall record. McKenzie fell to Crosshill Christian, 3-1, in the Quarterfinals and to South Wasco County, 3-0, in the Consolation Semi-finals, to finish out the season as the OSAA State 7th ranked team.

SD2-S Special District 2 South Six-man Starts Post Season

Post season play kicks off this week with the 2024 OSAA /OnPoint Community Credit Union 1A (6) Football State Championship Round 1 contests. Six-man football is divided into three Special Districts. Special District 1 is comprised of eleven teams, all east of the Cascades. These teams are Harper Charter, South Wasco County, Joseph, Prairie City/Burnt River, Echo, Jordan Valley, Wallowa, Dayville/Monument/Long Creek, Pine Eagle, Spray/Mitchell/Wheeler, and Huntington.

The first five listed above qualified for the First Round State playoffs, except Harper Charter, which receives a Round 1 bye by virtue of winning the SD 1 Regular Season Championship and advances to the Quarterfinals held on November 15,16. Also, as one can see, these schools and communities represent some of the smallest in the State, and at times, in order to have the athletic participants to field a team, form cooperatives (ex: Prairie City/

Burnt River), thus providing opportunity for their athletes to participate.

The other two Special Districts represent the Schools located on the West Side of the Cascades, for the most part. Special District 2 North is comprised of Eddyville Charter, Triangle Lake, Alsea, Falls City, C.S. Lewis Academy, and Siletz Valley. Triangle Lake and Alsea qualified for the Round 1 playoffs and SD 2 North Champion Eddyville Charter automatically advances to the Quarterfinals.

The Special District 2 South, which McKenzie is a member, advances three teams as well. Days Creek, the third place regular season team will meet SD 1 North second place South Wasco County in Round 1 play on Saturday, November 9, 1:00 pm, at SWC. SD-2 South second place North Lake earned the fourth best overall record this season in six-man football and will advance along with SD-2 South Champion Powers to the Quarterfinals.

Local Football/Volleyball/Cross Country Teams Earn Post Season Berths

North Douglas and Mohawk will both play eight-man football in the OSAA State playoffs. The Mustangs of Mohawk will host Sherman County/Condon on Friday, November 8, 7:00 pm kickoff, and the Warriors of North Douglas earned an automatic Quarterfinal Berth with the winner of Powder Valley/Dufur, game date November 15.

Class 3A Cottage Grove earned Round 1 match up with Burns (Friday Nov. 8 at Cottage Grove), Marist Catholic toes up to Gladstone/Riverdale in Friday Class 4ARound 1 action, Churchill, Willamette, and Thurston will all

represent local Class 5A teams in First Round play, and Sheldon, from the Class 6A ranks, tests its perfect 9-0 regular season record in Quarterfinal play on November 15.

The State's top-ranked Class 3A volleyball team, the Billies of Pleasant Hill, will meet Westside Christian in Quarterfinal play on Friday November 8 at Marshfield High School. Class 4A and second ranked Marist Catholic will meet Henley in Quarterfinal match play held Friday at North Bend, and Churchill meets Class 5A foe Wilsonville in the Quarterfinals at Forest Grove.

Central Linn Boys and Girls Cross Country teams both qualified for the 2024 OSAA/OnPoint Community Credit Union Cross Country State Championships Presented by Nike, held on Saturday, November 9, at Lane Community College. Mohawk's Corbin Dalton qualified as an individual entry. The Pleasant Hill girl's team qualified for the 3A/2A/1A Championship race. Elmira's Jude Carman qualified for the Boys 3A race, as did Gage Roper of Pleasant Hill. Cottage Grove qualified its 4A Girls team as did Marist Catholic, its Boys team. The North Eugene and Springfield Girls teams qualified for the 5A Championship race and the Churchill and North Eugene Boys will also participate.

In Class 6A Girls action, Sheldon will be represented by Sylvia Czarnecki and Jazlene Washington as individual racers, as well Willamette's Piper Richmond. South Eugene will represent in both the 6A Girls and Boys team races and will be joined by the Sheldon Boys team.

[Return To Page2](#)

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MRR McKenzie River Reflections

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Banking on Oregon forests: In spite of flaws, carbon markets put a price on climate pollution



Rian Dundon/OCC

The Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation has more than 450,000 acres enrolled in the California cap-and-trade emissions market.

By Alex Baumhardt
Oregon Capital Chronicle
The extraordinary costs of climate change hit home for Cody Desautel during the 2015 wildfire season.

Now the executive director of the Confederated Tribes of the Colville Indian Reservation, Desautel was a forester and a firefighter who had just completed taking a full inventory of the 922,000 acres of forest on the 1.4 million acre reservation in north-central Washington. About half of those forests – 450,000 acres – were nearly ready to be enrolled in California’s emissions trading program, where tribal-owned forests have become the workhorses of the state-regulated carbon offset market.

At least eight Indigenous nations in the U.S. today generate carbon credits worth hundreds of millions of dollars for the California offset market from their forests, including the Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs Reservation in central Oregon. To date, about half of the more than 180 million offset credits generated from forest projects enrolled in California’s market are from tribal forests.

For Desautel and other tribal leaders, carbon markets are a way for corporations responsible for environmental degradation to reward and protect Indigenous forest management practices that have historically been less extractive. Desautel saw it as a way for his tribe, in one of the poorest corners of Washington, to generate revenue on the back of a promise that few industrial forest owners today are willing to make: ensure that above all other interests, especially logging, forests keep providing the air-cleaning, water-filtering, habitat-supporting work they’ve done for free, forever.

But now those forests were burning.

Ongoing drought exacerbated by long stretches of abnormally hot days created the conditions for the 2015 fires, many of which were really windstorms with fire. They created so much convective and radiant heat that Desautel said it was like the trees had been put in an air fryer. The fires that year ultimately burned over 255,000 mostly forested acres on the Colville Reservation.

“I did 20 years of fighting fire before that, and I had never seen fire behavior like that,” he said.

Pricing pollution
Dealing with megafires is among the many ways tribes and the general public bear the brunt of the high costs of climate change and continued greenhouse gas pollution. Tribal, local, state and federal governments pay overwhelmingly with public dollars to respond to the fires, hurricanes, extreme heat, ice storms and other natural disasters that have gotten worse in recent years as the climate has dangerously warmed from more than a century of humans burning fossil fuels.

Study after study shows that putting a price tag on each metric ton of carbon dioxide a company emits, such as a fine or tax, works at reducing emissions. Modeling shows it is the single most effective policy decision any government could make to accelerate decarbonization and curb the worst effects of climate change by the end of the century. In fact, the U.S. has enacted policies before that forced polluters to pay before – and they were more successful than anticipated.

In the early 1990s, Congress passed an amendment to the Clean Air Act that put a price on emissions of sulfur dioxide from coal-burning power plants, which was causing acid rain harming marine life in lakes, rivers and streams all over the country and in Canada. By putting a cap and a price on

the pollution, the U.S. reduced sulfur dioxide emissions 43% between 1990 and 2007, despite a 26% increase in the number of coal-fired power plants that were built during that time. The threat of paying to pollute successfully spurred energy companies to pursue new technologies and methods for keeping sulfur dioxide out of the air.

But, Congress has failed to pass repeated proposals to enact a cap or fee on greenhouse gas emissions, and a growing voluntary market in the U.S. has grown in place of a regulatory one, where companies can choose to buy credits.

Both regulatory and voluntary markets have drawn criticism for being easy to manipulate and for offering a way for companies to delay transitioning off of fossil fuels, or essentially paying to pollute. Investigative reports from ProPublica, the New Yorker and The Guardian, among others, have revealed bad actors in these schemes, responsible for generating carbon credits from forests that don’t add any real climate value. But carbon markets are, according to their architects, the only way to effectively begin putting a price that’s long overdue on greenhouse gas pollution in the U.S. And they can be used to change how forests are managed to improve biodiversity and help combat climate change.

Among those architects is Alexia Kelly, who grew up on the Oregon coast, and who has spent her career attempting to get governments to put a price on carbon dioxide emissions. She’s worked in state and federal governments helping to draft and enact carbon policies, and spent six years as lead negotiator for the U.S. on emissions trading at the United Nations, helping to create key climate accords that govern the international emissions trading programs for much of Europe. Most recently, she helped create The Integrity Council for the Voluntary Carbon Market, a watchdog group hoping to improve standards and accountability among carbon project developers and credit buyers.

“The hard truth is that our economy is 100% built on unfettered access to basically free-polluting, fossil fuels. Everything about our economy is built on the back of unpriced carbon,” she said.

If existing carbon markets can earn the trust of buyers and the public, it could make the idea of enforcing a carbon tax or fee more palatable to regulators, she said, or it could drive consumers to demand companies participate in the voluntary market and start addressing their emissions.

“That’s the fundamental shift that needs to happen,” she said. “We need to go from no pricing to some pricing.”

Carbon concerns
For several years leading up to the 2015 fires, Desautel had worked to earn support for putting some of Colville Tribe’s forests into a carbon market. He organized dozens of meetings

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In spite of flaws

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Rian Dundon/OCC

Outside the Lucy F. Covington Government Center on the Colville Indian Reservation

with the tribe’s council and public meetings to discuss the idea with the tribe’s 9,200 members. Several developers had approached him and tribal leaders over the years, hoping they could help broker a deal to enter the tribe’s hundreds of thousands of acres of forest into the California carbon market.

Council and tribal members expressed many of the concerns about entering markets that had been borne out in investigative reports of forest projects in carbon markets. Namely, they were concerned that it would not help curb climate change, but instead allow oil companies to buy their way out of changing.

It didn’t help that the tribe’s plan was to sell the credits – more than 12 million – directly to oil giant BP. The company planned to spread the credits out over several years to help it meet its California emissions ceilings – while continuing to sell fossil fuels.

“One of the biggest concerns we got, particularly from the tribal membership, was that they saw this as us just giving the ability for polluters to continue to pollute,” he said. “I think they saw it almost as, like, prostitution: ‘You guys are just taking money so they can pollute.’”

But, he told his neighbors,

friends and family, they could be part of a market whose end goal was to make companies pay for the costs of their pollution. Companies would have their emissions capped, and there would be a cost associated with meeting those limits.

“The company’s writing the check one way or the other, and they’re either writing it to the state or they’re writing it to us,” Desautel explained.

The forests of the Confederated Tribes of the Colville Indian Reservation were ideal for companies hoping to develop a carbon project because of the extraordinary number of credits they could generate with relative ease. Like many Indigenous nations, the tribe already practiced conservative logging and ecological forest management compared to the industrial forest owners surrounding them, which is the baseline they’d be measured against. If “business as usual” in the region is to clear-cut as many acres as possible every 40 years, the tribe could show far more carbon stored on their landscape. They do not, on the whole, practice clear-cutting, Desautel said. They keep most of their timber harvests on an 80- or 100-year rotation and leave at least five trees permanently on every acre to be-

come old growth.

Finite Carbon, the company they chose to broker a deal, works with several Western tribes, and about half of its carbon credit portfolio is from projects that tribes or tribal corporations have launched, according to Brendan Terry, a spokesperson for the company.

The company has been criticized for targeting tribes in need of revenue and for proving the many tribal forest acres it helps to enroll in carbon markets – which are often far healthier and more intact than the industrially logged forests they’re compared with in carbon markets – were bringing an “additionality,” or extra carbon storage. In carbon markets, polluters aren’t supposed to be able to buy the carbon storing power of existing forests, necessarily, but only ones that are being improved or managed specifically to store more carbon dioxide than they typically would.

Other members of the tribe were worried that the plan would further limit logging on forests, and the jobs that come with it, for four or five generations. The tribal government depends on timber revenues for many general operating costs, including for schools, health care and law enforcement.

“I didn’t take it lightly that this was a decision that would potentially change how we do business or what we had access to for over a century,” Desautel said.

Signing on to a legally binding plan for the forests’ next 100 years brought up another concern – permanence. By 2015, the project was ready to be verified and entered into the market. But after the fires, Desautel and Finite had to rework parts of it, and take some acreage out. Fires, pests and disease, all likely to become more intense and more common under climate change, could lead to major reversals and cancellations on credits. Those credits allow companies to release tons of carbon dioxide into the atmosphere forever, and that can’t be taken back.

After two years of addressing concerns in meetings with the tribe’s membership and council and doing due diligence on the protocols and laws they’d have to abide in California’s market, Desautel and members of his natural resources team, along with Finite Carbon, created a plan to show they could store millions of tons of additional carbon dioxide on

the reservation’s forests for the next century and generate credits worth an estimated \$80 million. The plan was to invest the earnings in money markets and would grow, giving the tribe leverage for loans to build critical infrastructure and to fund future wildfire prevention and response.

“Buying the promise”

Despite even more large fires since 2015, including some that required cashing in on “buffer pool credits” – credits that are set aside and not sold from a project as insurance for credits that were sold but that get reversed or canceled – the project has dipped only slightly below the baseline for the amount of carbon storage it’s supposed to be holding, Desautel said.

“We haven’t lost half the carbon because we’ve burned half of the project,” he said.

Even a burned forest holds onto most of its carbon before decomposing over decades. In many Northwest forests, less than 10% of carbon in the environment enters the atmosphere during and in the immediate aftermath of a wildfire, according to researcher Bev Law, a forest scientist and professor emeritus at Oregon State University.

Not all forests registered in the market survive fires. In the 2020 Lionshead Fire that swept through central Oregon, the Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs Reservation had the bulk of its 24,000-acre forest carbon project enrolled in the California market burn up. It’s currently being reviewed to see whether it can be maintained or needs to be entirely reversed and canceled, according to David Clegern, a spokesperson for the California Air and Resources Board. Over the last decade, one-quarter of California’s buffer pool credits have had to be used to cover losses from wildfires, according to an analysis from San Francisco-based CarbonPlan, a watchdog group that investigates proposed climate solutions.

Keeping the carbon on the landscape, even in the form of decomposing trees, coupled with the amount of growth happening across the rest of the forest, means the Confederated Tribes of the Colville Indian Reservation have been able to keep the project mostly in balance, Desautel said. The tribe has delayed some logging, protected more old growth

and has undertaken major forest restoration on the burned landscape.

“By and large, we’ve been growing a lot more than what we’re cutting,” Desautel said.

He said the tribe was likely on track to execute the forest management plan it agreed to with Finite Carbon, regardless of the carbon market, undermining the additionality requirement that involves proving a project would not happen without the incentive of the market.

But, he said, what the market is buying from the tribe is not just additionality – which he argues only rewards bad actors – but a promise to keep carbon on the landscape for the next century. Agreeing to lock the landscape into a 100-year forest management plan for \$80 million is not as financially lucrative as leaving it open to logging as needed, Desautel said.

“We’ve got over 4 billion board feet of timber out here, which is probably worth a couple billion dollars,” he explains. “You’re buying the promise that if our leadership totally changes, and they get really zealous for timber, we’re not going to go liquidate those assets to generate a lot of money.”

This argument, he said, will get more and more potent as climate change threatens the health and access to critical natural resources: that people and companies and governments will have to pay for certain ecosystems to remain intact, say a forest remaining a forest so that it continues to keep our air and water clean, provide habitat for living creatures while providing food, a place to recreate and fostering spiritual health and a sense of purpose.

“We are starting to see, with carbon, that we have to place a value on it, so that people who protect those ecosystems and the services those ecosystems offer have a reason to continue to provide that,” he said. “My personal perspective on this is that, for most of our history, those ecosystem services have come for free, but because of the pressure we put on the environment, I don’t think that’s going to be the case in the future.”

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

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Sheriff's Report

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4:16 p.m: Hunting Check - Tree Farm Rd. & La Lone Rd.

10:06 p.m: Incomplete 911 Call - 94400 blk, Johnson Rd.

10:19 p.m: Mental Subject - 91000 blk, Hill Rd.

Nov. 3: 9:46 a.m: Reckless Driving - 8500 blk, Thurston Rd.

11:50 a.m: Extortion - 51200 blk, Blue River Dr.

12:17 p.m: Shots Fired - 89800 blk Greenwood Dr.

5:23 p.m: Attempt To Locate

Drunk Driver - Dehorn Rd. & Tiki Ln.

Nov. 4: 1:42 a.m: Suspicious Vehicle - 3900 blk, Hayden Bridge Rd.

3:05 p.m: Motor Vehicle Accident, Unknown Injury - 89100 blk, Marcola Rd.

3:24 p.m: Harassment - 35200 blk, McK. View Dr.

4:04 p.m: Assist, Follow Up - 59200 blk, N. Belknap Springs 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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Ski Report

November 5, 2023

The Hoodoo Ski Resort report for Tuesday showed ½ inch new snow fell overnight, bringing the snow depth to 18 inches. Temperatures were 41 at the base and 28 at the summit, with winds out of the west at 13 mph. For more information call 541-822-3337.

Mt. Bachelor reported temperatures of 23 degrees at the base and 14 degrees at the summit on Tuesday. No new snow fell overnight, leaving the snowpack at 26 inches. The forecast called for a trace of snow through the day, followed by a snowy pattern over the weekend. The resort is scheduled to open on November 29. For more information call 541-382-7888.

Letters to the Editor

Continued From Page 2

There are some things that are so connected to our ancient heritage that they are still in our bones. The hiss of a snake still gets our attention. Most of us fear the cold and the dark. This time of year, as spectacularly beautiful as it is, anticipates the approach of winter, a time when we have had, for the past million years or so, reasons to feel anxious. And I am not at all sure that we have completely walked away from the notion that forces beyond our ken might lurk in the shadows.

Because we are no longer people who are comfortable with obvious communal ritual, we do what we are comfortable with. But I think no matter how much we make Hal-

loween a goofy celebration, with sexy nurses and tiny demons, we are still working hard to push the darkness away. As our ancestors did long ago, we engage in a kind of sympathetic magic, dressing as goblins and ghosts, and gathering together to make light of it all, as a way of convincing ourselves there is nothing to fear.

Ruth S. Taylor retired at the end of 2022 after 16 years as executive director of the Newport Historical Society in Rhode Island. She now serves as a consultant working to improve the governance of non-profit organizations.

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