



Delivering targeted news for the McKenzie Valley community since 1978

Oregon's "Indiana Jones"

Cressman roamed across the state in his Model A Ford, visiting every piece of rock art he could learn about

PAGE 4

2024 Graduates

Names and photos from both the McKenzie & Thurston High Schools graduating classes.

PAGE 6 & 7



Briefs...



The Widish Community Theater in Springfield will host the Round The Globe Film and Music Festival on Sunday, June 23rd at 2 p.m. The festival highlights the winners in short films, music videos, and original songs that address resilience, sustainability, and other areas of human interest. Submissions are received from all around the world and are represented in this exciting international event. Organizers say the artists of Round The Globe have an expressed intention to appreciate cultural differences and to respect shared [Globe Festival - Page 2](#)



It's calf and fawn season – keep your distance from elk and deer Oregon's deer and elk give birth from May through July. It's natural for mother animals to leave their young alone and hidden for extended periods while they go off to feed, so never assume a young animal is orphaned when you see it alone. The mother will return when it's safe to do so—when people, pets, or predators aren't around.

Fawns are sometimes mistakenly picked up by humans with good intentions, a problem that almost immediately reduces their chances of survival to zero. The doe has put half a year of intense effort into reproducing and will go to great lengths to find her [Leave them alone - Page 2](#)



The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) isn't telling states what to do, which means some continue to use humor in their highway safety messages, like New Jersey's advice against "camping" in the left lane. (New Jersey Department of Transportation)

An FHWA spokesperson, Nancy Singer, said in a statement that "states may develop their traffic safety campaign messages" but they should avoid "messages with obscure meaning, references to popular culture, that are intended to be humorous, or otherwise use non-standard syntax." [Highway humor - Page 2](#)

Is Carmen-Smith too expensive to maintain?

Questions about fish ladder and cost overruns add to concerns

EUGENE: Delays in protecting Chinook salmon and Bull Trout are drawing fire from the public and federal agencies who criticize the Eugene Water & Electric Board's relicensing of the Carmen-Smith Hydroelectric Project. At issue are ways of allowing fish to pass around man-made structures to access approximately eight miles of McKenzie River and tributary habitat long blocked by the project.

In an October letter to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC), the assistant regional administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration wrote that delays in building fish passage options had "reached the point where NOAA Fisheries cannot continue to stand by the plans offered by the project licensee."

The NOAA's letter went on to claim that "EWEB has gone from a 2008 commitment to provide first-class volitional passage within seven years, to a ten-year delay (and counting) to provide trap-and-haul, for the alleged purposes of balancing project economics, even though the present cost of power is now very close to EWEB's original 2008 estimate."

Responding at a utility board meeting, the utility's general manager Frank Lawson noted the utility "takes seriously our responsibilities and commitments under the license for the Carmen-Smith Hydroelectric Project We respectfully disagree with the characterizations in the letter that the National Marine Fisheries Service sent to our regulator, the

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission."

EWEB officials claim they too have been frustrated by delays in creating a fish passage. Contributing factors they say, include potential dam safety issues related to sinkholes in the bed of the reservoir and the new mapping of the White Branch fault zone, as well as challenges linked to EWEB staffing and planning.

Aden Basset, testifying at the EWEB commissioner's June meeting, criticized what he called a "near total failure to comply" with the terms of the utility's license. The 25-year-old felt that "EWEB has spent most of my life skipping between solutions not to construct" which he says furthered the risk "that salmon will go extinct."

Two other agencies (the National Marine Fisheries Service and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service) have also been corresponding with FERC and have withdrawn their support for prior settlement agreements related to fish passage.

Bethany Cotton, Cascade Wildlands' conservation director, told the board "I cannot recall a letter from an agency, let alone all agencies, so strongly worded and stark in their assessment of a partner's failure to meet their obligations."

"EWEB," she felt, "is



Bethany Cotton, of Cascade Wildlands, said she was "deeply concerned" with long-term delays at Carmen-Smith.

contributing to the extinction of two iconic Northwest species - Chinook salmon and Bull Trout."

Complications related to the Carmen-Smith project date back to 2008 when EWEB's 50-year-old operating license expired, followed by a mapping error associated with the upper McKenzie's designation as a national Wild & Scenic River. By 2015 it was determined the costs to build an upstream fish ladder - along with a downstream floating fish screen at the Trailbridge Reservoir - didn't pencil out.

Lisa Krentz, EWEB's generation manager, told the board that under agreements reached by 2021, the utility had agreed to build a trap and haul facility, make modifications to allow fish to pass downstream, and

permanently shut down the Trailbridge powerhouse. She gave three reasons for a series of delays: "Dam safety, understaffing, and protection of natural resources."

Commissioner Sonya Carlson, who represents EWEB's Ward 6 and 7, said she was frustrated by decisions by agencies to withdraw from agreements. She felt they had been continually updated when issues around dam safety were discovered and "we brought it to their attention."

Carlson said, "It's both shocking to me and odd that at the same time, we would get these weird letters when we've been working with them throughout this entire process."

She went on to say some agencies had turned "a [Carmen-Smith - Page 12](#)

Boat Landing back in service

FINN ROCK: The Finn Rock Landing, one of the more popular launches for the McKenzie River's whitewater opportunities, has reopened. The site was developed years ago by the Rosboro Lumber Company and managed for the community in collaboration with the McKenzie River Guides Association.

The site includes 278 acres of adjacent floodplain lands that were acquired by the McKenzie River Trust in 2015. Elizabeth Goward, community engagement manager with the Trust, notes that "Finn Rock Landing has connected thousands of people to the McKenzie. Once you leave the land and slow down to the pace of the river, you gain



Boaters are now making use of the improvements at the updated Finn Rock Landing.

a renewed appreciation of how incredible this area is."

Goward added that it is important to be a good

caretaker of land and water. "These connections between people and the natural world are critical for ensuring that people continue

to care for and invest in the health of our environment," she said.

The larger Finn Rock Reach area was purchased at auction for \$1.55 million using private donations and a low-interest bridge loan. The Trust launched a \$4.8 million capital campaign in 2017-18 to pay off the loan, cover habitat restoration costs, and care for the land long term. 400 community members, local businesses, the Eugene Water and Electric Board, the Bonneville Power Administration, and the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) [Continued On Page 12](#)

Guest Opinion

Something for lawmakers to consider: state of Oregon local journalism



Oregon's media landscape continues to change, and not for the better.

By Randy Stapilus

Oregon Capital Chronicle
Two big slices of news about Oregon newspapers fell shortly after Oregon Memorial Day, sending shock waves across the state.

One was the sale of one of the largest Oregon newspaper groups, Portland-based Pamplin Media, and the other was the announcement of major cutbacks in another, EOMedia, which owns the Bend Bulletin and other newspapers. Both show the immediate urgency for finding a way to rescue community news in Oregon – sooner, not later. Among other things, the Oregon Legislature urgently needs to take up the subject in its next session.

Consider where Oregon newspapers were just 12 years ago, when Steve Bagwell of the McMinnville News-Register and I co-wrote a book, called “New Editions,” about the recent history and prospects for newspapers in the Northwest. We counted 82 paid-subscription, general circulation newspapers, 16 of them dailies, in Portland, Eugene, Salem, Bend, Medford, Albany, Corvallis, Pendleton, Astoria, Ashland, Ontario, Coos Bay, The Dalles, La Grande, Roseburg and Baker City.

Since then an economic hurricane, a perfect storm, swept through the ranks of those newspapers. Many of the dailies that are published six or seven days a week now publish three or four days a week if they're not gone completely. The large business office buildings they occupied nearly all have been sold, along with nearly all newspaper presses, and increasing numbers of newspapers now consist of one or two reporters working out of their homes, with no office support at all. Some Oregon newspapers have been sold to investor groups, and where the papers still are actual print papers, they're far smaller.

That has largely been the case with Pamplin Media Group, which owned 22 newspapers from Prineville to Forest Grove and Madras to Portland, more than any other owner in the state. Their operations and staff have diminished, but they have continued to publish on regular weekly schedules with reports about their communi-

ties.

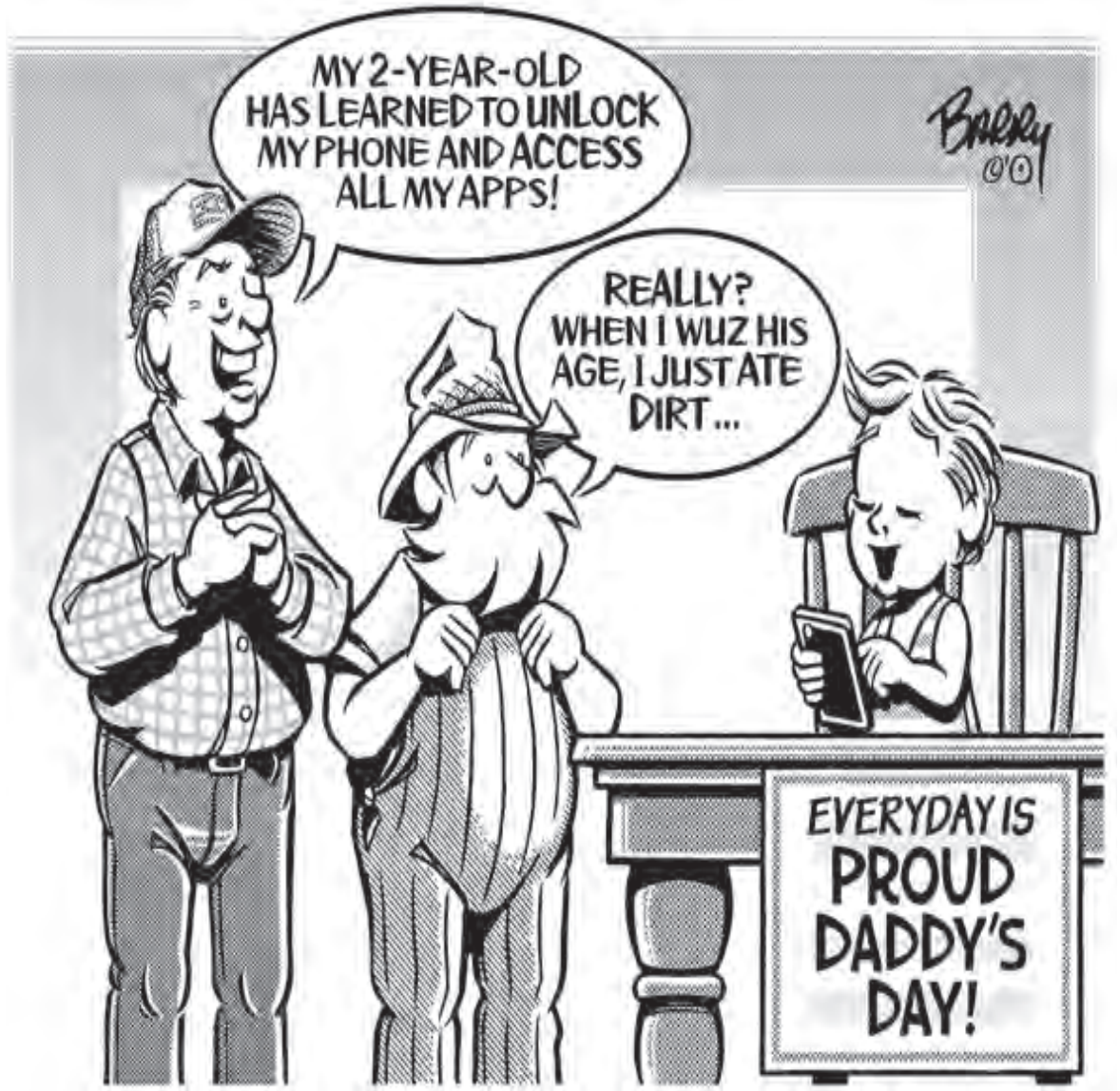
On June 1, all of those papers were sold to Carpenter Media Group of Natchez, Mississippi, which, until recently, mainly had focused on southern-state newspapers. Pamplin is not its only major recent purchase, even in the Northwest, however. Last year, with backing from two Canadian investment companies, it bought 150 newspapers and other media from Black Press Media of Surrey in British Columbia and included dozens of Washington state newspapers. Carpenter is now by far the largest newspaper owner in the Northwest.

It appears to be operated by former executives of the Booth Newspapers group, but other than reports about its many purchases there's little public information about it – or where the money for all these massive buys is coming from. Carpenter has been buying large papers as well as small ones, including the dailies in Honolulu, Hawaii, and Everett, Washington. What that means for Oregon's largest collection of newspapers is far from clear.

The development with EOMedia didn't involve a change of ownership, but it did mark a drastic change of operations.

EO Media Group, named for one of its papers, the East Oregonian of Pendleton, publishes a dozen newspapers in the state, most east of the Cascades. Operated by the Forrester family of Astoria, it has been a rescuer in recent years of community newspapers. In 2019, it took over the Bend Bulletin, which had been in bankruptcy, and kept it running. When the daily Mail Tribune of Medford shut down, EO started a new paper there, Rogue Valley Times.

EO said on June 3 that it will cut its 185 employees by 28, end



print editions at the papers in La Grande, Hermiston, Baker City, John Day, and Enterprise, and reduce the number of editions per week at Medford, Bend, and Pendleton.

The areas in Oregon that are news deserts – or at least extremely arid regions – are expanding rapidly. And considering the scope of these recent large developments, the collapse of Oregon's newspapers seems to be picking up speed rather than slowing.

Oregonians need news reports to decide how to vote and participate in their communities, and the businesses that have made that possible are dissolving rapidly. This amounts to a real, immediate crisis for the government and society in Oregon, as it does in many other places.

The answers are far from clear.

The Oregon Legislature did devote some attention to the problem last session with House Bill 2605. The proposal would have prompted a study of the situation but it didn't ever have a floor vote. Still, that was a good start. Next year, it ought to mark out serious time and attention to figuring out how to help Oregon citizens keep up with the news around them, so the system of self-governance we have had for generations can continue to function.

oregoncapitalchronicle.com

Briefs...

Globe Festival

Continued From Page 1

humanity that mindfully unites us.

The Widish Community Theater is located at 630 Main Street. (541) 868-0689 info@wildishtheater.com

[Return To Page 1](#)

Leave them alone

Continued From Page 1

fawn, often searching the area in a grid pattern. Please, leave fawns where they are.

If you encounter deer or elk, especially with young, give them space and enjoy viewing from a distance. If your presence disturbs wildlife, you're too close.

Deer and elk see dogs as a threat to their young and may act aggressively in response to disturbance from a dog. Keep pets leashed and away from wildlife.

Send news briefs to rivref2@gmail.com

Female elk with young calves have injured and killed pets in Oregon and Washington. It is their instinct to protect their young.

[Return To Page 1](#)

Whooping cough

Continued From Page 1

New Jersey is still using humor in its messages: A batch in May included “SLOW DOWN BAD DRIVERS AHEAD.”

Arizona sometimes gets the public involved in picking safety messages with contests. A campaign last fall led to a winning message: “I'M JUST A SIGN ASKING DRIVERS TO USE TURN SIGNALS” – a reference to a line in the 1990 film “Notting Hill” from actor Julia Roberts, whose character in the film says, “I'm also just a girl, standing in front of a boy, asking him to love her.”

stateline.org

Letters to the Editor



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

Friday 6/21		Saturday 6/22		Sunday 6/23	
McKenzie Valley Partly Cloudy 5% chance precip High: 88 Low: 54	Santiam Pass Sunny 0% chance precip High: 78 Low: 47	McKenzie Valley Sunny 5% chance precip High: 85 Low: 54	Santiam Pass Mostly Cloudy 0% chance precip High: 76 Low: 46	McKenzie Valley Sunny 20% chance precip High: 85 Low: 54	Santiam Pass Partly Cloudy 5% chance precip High: 64 Low: 37

WEATHER REPORT

READINGS TAKEN AT THE US ARMY CORPS COUGAR DAM					READINGS TAKEN AT THE EWING LEABURG POWERHOUSE				
Date	High	Low	Rain	Releases	Date	High	Low	Rain	Riverflow
6/11	52	77	0	496 cfs	6/11	82	49	0	3,430 cfs
6/12	52	76	0	502 cfs	6/12	78	47	0	3,360 cfs
6/13	47	76	0	508 cfs	6/13	75	42	0	3,310 cfs
6/14	47	70	0	502 cfs	6/14	78	43	0	3,190 cfs
6/15	47	57	0.24	502 cfs	6/15	67	49	0.14	3,100 cfs
6/16	41	61	0.06	502 cfs	6/16	65	41	0.15	3,080 cfs
6/17	45	61	0.03	502 cfs	6/17	64	47	t	3,050 cfs

Sheriff's Report

June 2: 9:51 a.m: Suspicious Conditions - McK. Hwy. & Evans Ln. A female was seen checking neighbors' mailboxes in the area, but left before a deputy arrived.

June 5: 2:29 p.m: Suspicious Conditions - 46000 blk, N. Gate Creek Rd. Ongoing civil issue.

9:48 p.m: Water Rescue - 59200 blk, N. Belknap Springs Rd. The Lane County Sheriff's Search & Rescue and Upper McKenzie fire personnel began searching the McKenzie River in the area of Belknap Hot Springs for a subject who had been observed in the water just before dark. No other information was known about the subject, and despite extensive search efforts, no one was located. On June 8th, the Eugene Police Department received a report of a missing person, Tyler Dean Perkins, 26, who was believed to be camping in the area. The Lane County Sheriff's Search & Rescue resumed their efforts, and on the afternoon of June 9th, located Perkins deceased in a log jam in the river. Due to the time of day and dangerous water conditions, plans were made for a recovery mission the next day. On June

10th, Perkins was recovered from the river.

11:44 p.m: Burglary - 39900 blk, McK. Hwy. Deputies responded to a report of a burglary. The call was determined to be unfounded.

June 8: 8:34 p.m: Disturbance, Dispute - 41800 blk, Madrone St. Deputies responded to a verbal dispute and conducted a welfare check.

June 9: 12:30 a.m: Assault - 41300 blk, McK. Hwy. Deputies responded to a physical dispute. No crime was articulated and the potential victim was not cooperative.

1:20 a.m: Suspicious Conditions - 7000 blk, Thurston Rd. Deputies conducted a welfare check on an individual in mental crisis.

June 10: 9:27 a.m: Suspicious Vehicle - 40900 blk, McK. Hwy. A deputy responded to a report of a suspicious vehicle in the area. It left before a deputy arrived.

6:54 p.m: Recover Stolen Vehicle - Lat: 44.233172. Long: -122.836589.

June 11: 2:04 a.m: Suspicious Conditions - 39200 blk, McK. Hwy.

2:18 a.m: Alarm - 90800 blk, La Lone Rd.

12:28 p.m: Unattended Boat - Saddle Dam.

3:58 p.m: Suspicious Conditions - 37200 blk, Tree Farm Rd. A deputy responded to

the location for a welfare check.

4:41 p.m: Assist Public - Marcola Post Office.

June 12: 8:26 a.m: Theft - 89400 blk, Old Mohawk Rd. The caller had a generator stolen from her property.

9:29 a.m: Down line - McK. Hwy. & Conley Rd.

12:11 p.m: Traffic Hazard - Walterville Ln. & McK. Hwy.

1:37 p.m: Disoriented Subject - Marcola Milepost 5.

1:59 p.m: Civil Enforcement - 48000 blk, McK. Hwy.

2:37 p.m: Citizen Contact - 91800 blk, Mill Creek Rd.

6:08 p.m: Alarm - 90800 blk, La Lone Rd.

8:04 p.m: Disturbance, Dispute - 88400 blk, Stephens Rd.

8:32 p.m: Reckless Endangering - 39500 blk, Luzkow Ln. Ongoing issues between neighbors. Advised of the stalking order process.

June 13: 11:45 a.m: Suspicious Vehicle - Marcola Rd. Mp. 13.

1:17 p.m: Motor Vehicle Accident, No Injury - McK. View Dr. & Douthit Dr.

2:31 p.m: Citizen Contact - 88400 blk, Stephens Rd.

3:43 p.m: Fraud - 90100 blk, Marcola Rd.

4:04 p.m: Citizen Contact - 35200 blk, Camp Creek Rd.

4:15 p.m: Traffic Hazard - Camp Creek Rd. & Gemstone
[Continued On Page 12](#)

State Police Report

June 14: 07:48: Crash, Non-Injury - Hwy. 126E, Milepost 16. Troopers responded to a single vehicle collision. A green Subaru was traveling westbound when the driver reported experiencing "double vision." The Subaru veered off the right shoulder and impacted the side of a concrete bridge barricade head-on before rotating and coming to rest in the roadside creek bed. The vehicle sustained heavy front-end damage. The driver denied care from responding Fire/Medics. A tow was called at the owner's request. The driver was given a ride home by a nearby property owner/volunteer firefighter. Involved: 65-year-old female from Marcola.

June 16: 02:44: Towed Vehicle - Hwy. 126E, Mp. 30. A report was called in about a blue Ford Mustang with white stripes broken down and partially blocking the westbound lane around milepost 54. The Ford was later located blocking the westbound lane around milepost 30. The driver was not present and a tow hazard was called to remove the vehicle. The driver was located returning to the vehicle shortly after the tow truck arrived and was given a ride
[Continued On Page 12](#)

McKenzie Fire & Rescue

June 10: 15:53: 88000 block, Tiki Ln. Medial, General. 15:53 Patient Assessed, 1 Transported.

16:03: 88000 blk, Twin Firs Rd. Cardiac Arrest. Deceased.

June 11: 2:03: McK. Hwy./Camp Creek Rd. Motor Vehicle Accident. Blocking, Non-Injury.

5:47: 90000 blk, Lure Ln. Medical, General. 5:47 Patient Assessed, 1 Transported.

13:42: 9000 blk, Thurston Rd. Medical, Heart. Disregarded En Route.

19:21: 46000 blk, Goodpasture Rd. Medical, General. Deceased.

June 12: 5:59: 37000 blk, Camp Creek Rd. Medical, General. Patient Assessed, 1 Transported.

9:31: 48000 blk, McK. Hwy. Lines Down. Refer to Lane Electric.

11:37: 42000 blk, Holden Creek Ln. Medical, General. Patient Assessment, 2 Transported.

13:19: 37000 blk, Camp Creek Rd. Medical, Heart. Patient Assessment, 1 Transported.

June 13: 15:24: 45000 blk, Goodpasture Rd. Medical, General. Patient Assessment, Refusal Obtained.

June 14: 0:23: 49000 blk, McK. Hwy. Medical, General. Patient Assessment, Refusal Obtained.

7:45: McK. Hwy. / Ross Ln.
[Continued On Page 13](#)

Upper McKenzie Fire/Rescue

June 13: 10:36: Medical - 59000 block, N. Belknap Springs Rd. Patient is an unknown age male.



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By Slim Randles

A building project (for those of us who are carpenterially challenged) can be a confusing nightmare of little whatchits we never learned the name of and have no idea how to use.

Oh, if we need a two-by-four that's eight-feet long, we're on pretty safe ground and can head on over to MundoSlab, the building center that dedicates about half an acre to tar paper. It's fun going over there, and you never know when you'll find something you can't live without. You can buy the stuff in there from the kid who mowed your lawn until a month ago.

But when the real tough parts of a project come along, you know, things that involve plumbing or wiring, there's only one place to go ... the old-fashioned hardware store. MundoSlab coming in sure cut down on the number of old-fashioned hardware stores, but there's always one survivor.

They have gray-haired guys standing just inside the door to help you find just what you need, even if you don't know what it's called and have no clue how to install it.

I walked into the real hardware store the other day, and a guy with plenty of gray came over and asked if he could help.

"Well," I said. "I have a float thingie on the horse trough that broke. It's that little doo-trammy that's kinda copper-colored and fits on top of the whiz-gidget."

Without breaking stride, he looked at me and said, "Right-hand threads, or will you need an adaptor?"

Let's see MundoSlab match that.

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"I WILL TAKE THE RING, THOUGH I DO NOT KNOW THE WAY."
 — FRODO BAGGINS

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Luther Cressman: Oregon's real-live Indiana Jones, only better

By Finn J.D. John

In the summer of 1981 a little action-adventure movie titled *Raiders of the Lost Ark* came out, and fans have been speculating ever since on whom the character of Indiana Jones might be based on.

The most popular speculation — *Vanity Fair* magazine goes so far as to opine that he is "almost certainly" the basis for Jones — is Roy Chapman Andrews, a globe-trotting paleontologist and former director of the American Museum of Natural History.

Well, the fact is that Jones probably wasn't based on any real person. Indy is the brainchild of George Lucas, the *Star Wars* guy. Lucas was a serious fan of pre-war pulp-magazine fiction, and the adventure pulps back in the day were full of characters like Indiana Jones.

But then again maybe he was based on a real person, because in the era Jones was set in, the real world was full of those characters too.

Besides Andrews, there were literally dozens of swashbuckling academics and sorta-academics adventuring around the world — digging for dinosaur bones, bushwhacking through the Amazon looking for the "Lost City of Z," or of course digging among ancient Egyptian tombs and pyramids. Names like Othniel Marsh, Howard Carter, and Percy Fawcett spring to mind. Even mystery author Agatha Christie and her second husband, Max Mallowan, could be counted among this adventuresome cohort.

Oregon, too, has a couple candidates it could field as potential proto-Indiana Joneses. One of them was Gilbert Gable, a swashbuckling explorer and paleontologist with a rich wife and a regular nationwide NBC radio show called "Highway to Adventure." Gable is better known from later in his life, after he settled down (sort of) as mayor of Port Orford and became the brains behind the "secession" of the State of Jefferson in 1941.

The other candidate is a far more likely prospect, though. He was a maverick anthropologist with an unimpeachable Ivy League background, a tenured faculty member at Oregon's flagship university, a former military man who did his fieldwork in an Army-surplus campaign hat with a big revolver on his hip in case he ran across a snake. He hated snakes.

As far as I know, he never used



Luther Cressman (left) poses for a photograph with geologist Howard Stafford in front of Cressman's Model A during fieldwork, most likely at the Catlow Valley cave site, in 1932.

a whip. But other than that, the parallels with Indiana Jones are quite striking.

There's even an echo of Indy's love life in our man. In lieu of Marian Ravenwood, our candidate's love interest was a diminutive classmate four years younger than he — a woman you just might have heard of. Her name was Margaret Mead.

As was the case with Indy and Marian, our hero started dating her when she was still a child — a 15-year-old high-school student. As was clearly implied to have not been the case with Indy, though, their relationship stayed respectably Platonic until six years later, when they married.

Our man's name was Luther Cressman, founder of the University of Oregon Department of Anthropology and first director of Oregon's Museum of Natural and Cultural History.

Luther Cressman was born in 1897 in Pennsylvania, and grew up on the East Coast.

In 1914 he enrolled at Pennsylvania State College, where he studied classics and English literature and met Margaret Mead, who at the time was a sophomore at one of the local high schools. Upon graduation in 1918, he headed into the recruiting office to "do his bit," and went into training as an artillery officer; but the war ended abruptly before he could be deployed, and he was released.

But the brief military experience threw Cressman into a bit of a moral crisis. He had been spared from the requirement to go to France and try to kill people; but it bothered him that he'd been on his way to do that, and as the war fever faded in America Cressman got more and more determined to do his part to help society

transcend war.

"The sensitive among us could not help but find the conflict between the utter brutality of the behavior for which we were being trained, and the moral values on which our lives were based," he later wrote. "The haunting question of 'why did I have to kill?' would not go away."

He took orders as an Episcopal minister in 1923. But at the same time, he continued his education at Columbia University. By this time, Mead had her undergraduate degree as well, and the two of them became grad-school classmates at Columbia. They were married that same year.

The two of them became a sort of golden couple in the intellectual circles at Columbia. Their apartment became a social hub for free-thinking Bright Young Things at the university. They studied under Franz Boaz, who was already known as the Grand Old Man of American anthropology.

But in 1925, they separated to pursue their studies abroad — Mead in Samoa, and Cressman in Europe. Neither one of them was willing to subordinate his or her career to the other and become a "trailing spouse." So they decided to end their marriage (although they remained lifelong friends) and go their separate ways.

Cressman's career took him to the West Coast, where he started at the Washington teachers' college in Ellensburg (known today as Central Washington University). A year or so later, he moved south to take a job at the University of Oregon. By this time he was married once again, to Fabian Society member Dorothy C. Loch, a brilliant English woman nine years his senior whom he met at the British Sociological Society while doing research in Europe.

At the UO, Cressman started as

a sociology professor. But when, in 1930, a farmer in Gold Hill uncovered some Indian burial mounds, Cressman was invited to come take a look; and when he arrived, the archaeology bug bit him hard.

Cressman's work collecting and documenting the artifacts and human remains from the Gold Hill site sent him off in a new professional direction.

He took on the project of documenting and preserving pictographs and petroglyphs all over the state. Over the first three years of the 1930s, Cressman roamed across the state in his Model A Ford, visiting every piece of rock art he could learn about. He would contact local postmasters to ask about rock art in their delivery areas, and then he and a graduate student or faculty colleague (often his friend Howard Stafford from the Geology department) would make lengthy trips into the Oregon outback, camping in abandoned homesteaders' shacks and photographing and documenting everything they could find, meeting the locals and learning the stories and legends of the rock art from the remaining Indian communities out there.

(Sources: "Luther Cressman: Quest for First People," an episode of *Oregon Experience* produced by Kami Horton and first aired in 2014; "Luther Cressman," an article by Virginia Butler published by *The Oregon Encyclopedia* on Sept. 15, 2022; *Dorothy C. Cressman papers at UO Archives*)

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.



Luther Cressman in Condon Hall at the University of Oregon, with a friend, in 1946.

Continued Next Week

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Gardening Tips
By Kym Pokorny



Strategies to control invasive weeds



By Kym Pokorny
They float in the wind, get shaken off pets and wildlife, travel the world stuck to luggage or clothes, and hitch rides by plane, ship, train, truck, and car. Invasive weeds enter backyards in multiple ways and can cause havoc once they are there.

“With some of these weeds, you have to fight them forever,” said Ed Peachey, a weed specialist for Oregon State University Extension Service. “Many times, it’s more a process of controlling them rather than eradicating them.”

Peachey said the first line of defense is to get familiar with your weeds. Whether they are annual or perennial plants can determine the approach to curbing them. Annuals spread by seed and die when the weather gets cold, but the seed remains viable in the soil for years. Some examples are sharp point fluvellin, velvetleaf, puncturevine, horseweed, western bittercress, and oxalis.

Perennial weeds thrive year after year with root systems that may be tough to eradicate. They can spread by seed, but some of the more difficult perennials also spread with creeping root systems. These super aggressive weeds include blackberry, Scotch broom, bindweed (also known as invasive morning glory), horsetail, English ivy, poison oak, and old man’s beard (also known as traveler’s joy, an invasive clematis species).

Peachey’s advice is to pull anything you don’t recognize and get it identified. Weeds can get a foothold quickly and are easier to manage before they get out of control. You only have to look at natural areas like Forest Park in Portland to see invasive weeds

like English ivy engulfing native plants.

Get a hand with identification by posting a photo to Ask Extension, an online Q&A feature from OSU Extension, or taking a photo or fresh sample to your local Extension office if it is open. The experts can also offer suggestions for fighting whatever weed invading your garden.

According to Peachey, the best hope for controlling annual weeds is pulling and keeping them from going to seed. Get them out when they are small. Since the seed can live in the soil for years, you’ll need to be vigilant and keep pulling new seedlings year after year. If you keep pulling as they pop through the soil, eventually, you should get the population under control and have to weed less.

Though unsightly and frustrating, annual weeds are nothing compared to perennials, which take a high level of patience and persistence to contain. Anyone who has wrestled with blackberry knows how difficult invasive perennial weeds are to keep in check. Digging out as many roots as you can and then continuing to pull new shoots can eventually eradicate the plant, but it takes vigilance and years to succeed. For more information on how to deal with weeds, Peachey and Chip Bubl, an OSU Extension horticulturist, weigh in with some tips:

Organic mulches such as bark dust, wood chips, leaves, straw, and grass clippings keep weeds under control and improve soil as they break down. Apply a layer of organic mulch 2 to 4 inches deep

to your garden. Avoid the leaves of black walnut trees (*Juglans nigra*) or the tree of heaven (*Ailanthus altissima*), which can inhibit the growth of plants and seeds. Don’t use lawn clippings if the lawn was mowed when weeds were in seed. If you are trying to control perennial weeds, a layer of garden fabric can be placed on the soil before applying mulch.

Compost is one of the worst offenders for bringing weeds into the garden. Get recommendations of businesses that sell compost from friends or neighbors who have had loads without many weed seeds. Ask employees at the business what they do to their compost to avoid weed seeds.

Bird seed is notorious for starting weed infestations. Avoid this by buying black oil sunflower seeds, which many birds prefer, or put a tray under the bird feeder to catch any errant seed.

Hay can contain herbicide residue and many weed seeds. It’s better to use straw, which has much of the seeds removed.

Plastic sheeting may also be used to control weeds. Black plastic reduces light and prevents weed growth. For vegetable gardens, you will need drip irrigation and appropriate fertilizer in place before you lay the plastic. Make slits in the plastic, and if weeds appear in the planting slits, immediately remove them. For other garden areas, pull weeds, cover them with plastic, and leave them for six weeks. The weeds will “starve” without sunlight.

Sprinklers water a large area but encourage weed growth. Drip irrigation delivers water only where you want it and will slow the number of weeds in the garden.

Hand pulling works well in small gardens and raised beds. Pull when the soil is damp but not wet. Try to get to annual weeds before they go to seed, or you’ll get a whole new crop. When you pull perennial weeds, you likely won’t get the entire root system. However, if you persistently remove new weedy shoots, you prevent the plant from storing carbohydrates and may, eventually, kill the perennial plant. This process is called carbohydrate starvation and must be done with passion almost every day to be successful. But people really can control morning glory and other perennial weeds with this level of commitment.

Hoes are a traditional and effective way to weed. Several styles are available. A scuffle hoe is better for larger areas. The hula, or action hoe, is a lightweight scuffle hoe. Pushing and pulling it just under the soil surface eliminates newly emerging weeds. It is less effective against well-established weeds. The lightweight Warren hoe has a heart-shaped blade and is helpful for cultivating between

[Gardening Tips - Page 12](#)



By Mary Emma Allen

FIREFLY MAGIC

As I watch the fireflies flitting around outside our living room windows, turning their lights on and off, I’m reminded of childhood on the farm when my brothers, sister and I scampered around the yard in the evening, trying to catch fireflies, or lightning bugs, as we called them.

It was a relaxing twilight time after the milking was done and the family had finished eating supper (and there was no last minute load of hay to haul to the barn before a shower) Mother and Father, Grandmother if she was visiting, relaxed on the porch after a busy summer day.

This lull was an enjoyable time, almost a magical one with the soft darkness broken by the adults’ muted voices, the children’s giggles, and the tiny lighted insects flitting around. We might capture them for a few moments in canning jars with holes poked in the tin lids. We enjoyed watching their lights flashing on and off. However, Mother always insisted we release them before bedtime.

“They’re too pretty, too important in nature, to let die in a canning jar,” she informed us.

Mother also reminisced about how she, her sister, and brothers watched and caught the fireflies at their Trails End Farm home.

My daughter, when she was small,, discovered the fascination

of fireflies as her children did. Hopefully my great granddaughter will enjoy them, too.

MOLASSES SQUARES provide an old-fashioned treat. Cream 6 tablespoons shortening; then add 1/4-teaspoon salt and 1 teaspoon vanilla. Stir in 1/2-cup sugar and 1/2-cup molasses, 1 unbeaten egg. Mix well until light and creamy.

Sift together 2 cups flour, 1 1/2 teaspoon baking powder, 1/2-teaspoon baking soda. Add to creamed mixture alternately with 1/2-cup milk. Stir in 1/2-cup raisins and 1/4 to 1/2 cup chopped nuts.

Pour into greased and floured jelly roll pan or cookie sheet. Spread batter to the sides and corners. Bake at 375 degrees F. for 20-25 minutes.

Serve plain or with the icing of your choice. You also can simply sprinkle confectioner’s sugar it when cooled. Cut into bars.

(c) Mary Emma Allen

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

Quote of the Week

“Pure ignorance is not the absence of knowledge, but the refusal to acquire it.”

Karl Popper



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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.

June 21

Yoga in Leaburg

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

June 22

Golf for a cause

An 18-hole scramble format tournament - with a shotgun start, including half a cart is set for 1 to 7 pm at the Tokatee Golf Club, followed by a 6 pm Dinner, Auction & a McKenzie Community

Land Trust presentation.

* Team of 4: Register your whole team of 4 or yourself and note your team name.

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June 22

Grange Garage Sale

The Waltherville Grange, 39259 Camp Creek Road, will be having a huge garage sale on Saturday, June 22, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. No early sales. This is a one-day event only. We will have a table

with free items. There will be popcorn to munch on while you shop. There will be all types of items for sale. Be there at 9 AM to get the best choice. Lots of families have cleaned their house and garage out. Their loss is your gain! The garage sale will be at the Waltherville Grange Hall located at 39259 Camp Creek Road in Waltherville. For more information call 541-521-4760 and leave a message (calls will be returned).

June 22

Dime At A Time

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

June 22

Wine Tasting

The McKenzie Crest Wines will present the launch of our sister label, Freytag Cellars from noon to 5 p.m. Stop by and enjoy a delicious flight of wines at the beautiful Vida McKenzie Community Center, 90377 Thomson

Lane. Joining us will be a number of McKenzie River Artists and SARU Bear Essentials, local soap producers. Free Admission to the event! Friends, family, food, kids, all welcome.

June 24

Spfd School Board

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

June 25

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.

June 25

Family Story Hour

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

June 25

McKenzie Food Pantry

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

June 25

Lane Electric Board

The Lane Electric Coop Board of Directors meets from 9 to 10:30 a.m. at

787 Bailey Hill Rd. in Eugene. Each meeting begins with a member comment period. Individual members have three minutes to address the board at that time. Topics presented will be discussed amongst the board and followed up on accordingly. If you wish to address the Lane Electric board please complete a meeting request form at least five days prior to the meeting you would like to attend. <https://laneelectric.com/attend-a-board-meeting>

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Direct Answers

By Wayne & Tamara Mitchell

Just Deserts



Rod Long

My father is estranged from my sister and me. When we were very young, he and my mother divorced. He did not pay child support or anything. Recently he came back into town and wants a relationship with us. He says he's changed. He says he is a Christian. He wants to get to know my sister and me better and be allowed to share in his grandchildren's lives.

As my sister and I are getting used to the idea of giving him a second chance, he admits to all of us that

he cheated on our mother repeatedly while they were married. He finally tells us he is presently involved with one of the women he had an affair with, and he hopes we'll get to know her and accept their relationship.

We told him this was too much for us to deal with. He thinks we're being selfish. Are my sister and I wrong for not being willing to accept this?

Paula

Paula, the most basic law of behavior is the law of consequences. If you don't study, you will fail the exam. In Christian terms, this law is expressed by "As you sow, so shall you reap." Your father is reaping what he sowed.

Justice means balancing the scales. Things should be fair. There is no fairness in what your biological father is asking. He wants to

reap the benefits of having daughters and grandchildren when he is not there for you physically, emotionally, or financially. Justice does not require you to let him into your life or the lives of your children.

Perhaps you believe there is a higher requirement than justice. Forgiveness. Then, by all means, forgive, because forgiveness releases us from the pain and hurt which bind us. But nothing in the idea of forgiveness requires you to let someone who has injured you into your life so they can injure you again.

If forgiveness required that, you would never be permitted to escape people who do bad acts, and your life would be forfeited to them.

There is someone selfish here, and that someone is your biological father. He wants to use religion as a club to get his way. The decision you and your sister made is just. It is in tune with the deepest law of behavior,

the law of consequences.

Wayne & Tamara

A Weak Defense

I read a letter and replied in your column "Old Sayings." The writer, Lauren, was considering telling the wife of a man she had an affair with about his extramarital activities. You encouraged her to tell.

I am baffled. You encourage a woman who is equally guilty to go and possibly ruin a marriage. Tell me something. What happens if this married couple has kids, how will it affect them? Do you know anything about the wife? Maybe she is the root of the reason why this man seeks other women.

So why encourage heartache and certain trauma? I have an old saying for you as well: what you don't know, can't hurt you. Quite fitting for the occasion don't you think?

Gregory

Gregory, we didn't receive a single letter from an innocent party who

wouldn't want to know if their spouse was unfaithful. People who deal with reality seek to know when they are at risk, so they can protect themselves from AIDS, herpes, paternity suits, and the other consequences of betrayal.

A rock climber takes the risk of falling. A cheater takes the risk of being caught. Rocks can't tell, but a spurned woman can.

You suggest ignorance is bliss, but it is not. It is ignorance. What if the lump is malignant? You ignore the lump at your peril.

Not telling is not an option with a serial adulterer, and telling won't ruin the marriage. Cheating will. Your final insult was to ignore the adultery and blame the victim.

Wayne

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.

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Personal

If you want to drink, that's your business. If you want to stop, that's ours. AA Group meets Wednesday

6:00pm-7:00pm and Sunday 5:00-6:00pm at the McKenzie Valley Presbyterian Church, 88393 Walterville Loop, a block from the Walterville Shopping Center. N/c-sub 5/15/-5/11/14

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After the Gentle Poet Kobayashi Issa

By Robert Hass

New Year's morning—

everything is in blossom!

I feel about average.

A huge frog and I

staring at each other,

neither of us moves.

This moth saw brightness

in a woman's chamber—

burned to a crisp.

Asked how old he was

the boy in the new kimono

stretched out all five...

A note from the editor: Kobayashi Issa was born on June 16 in 1763.

Robert Hass is one of the most

celebrated and widely-read contemporary American poets. In addition to his success as a poet, Hass is also recognized as a leading critic and translator, notably of the Polish poet Czeslaw Milosz and Japanese haiku masters Basho, Buson, and Issa.

From 1995 to 1997, Hass set aside his personal role as poet to take up the mantle of the nation's poet, serving as U.S. poet laureate.

In the mid-1990s, Hass cofounded River of Words, an organization that teaches ecoliteracy through multidisciplinary, interactive curricula. In addition to serving as the U.S. poet laureate, Hass was a chancellor of the Academy of American Poets from 2001 to 2007. In 2014, he won the Wallace Stevens Award from the Academy of American Poets.

Hass is Distinguished Professor in Poetry and Poetics at the University of California, Berkeley, and lives in California with his wife, the poet Brenda Hillman.

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CROSSWORD

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55					56				57	58
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62					63				64	

- 42. Giant "Master Melvin"
- 43. Y on Periodic Table
- 45. Unkind one, slangily
- 47. Clairvoyant's gift, acr.
- 48. "_____ under the rug"
- 50. Cry like a baby
- 52. *Number of stripes on Old Glory
- 55. Birch bark vessel
- 56. Object of Frodo's obsession
- 57. Norse war god
- 59. Cut mission short
- 60. Fairy tale beginning
- 61. Tangerine/grapefruit hybrid
- 62. MTV's "_____'d" (2003-2015)
- 63. Like Willie Winkie
- 64. "Team" homophone

DOWN

- 1. Fighter pilot
- 2. Toothy groomer
- 3. Operatic solo
- 4. Openings
- 5. Between once and thrice
- 6. Viva voce
- 7. Maroon's home
- 8. *As opposed to Patriot
- 9. Lab culture
- 10. Type of salmon
- 11. Short for ensign
- 13. Not sympathetic
- 14. Potentially allergenic glove material
- 19. Tubs
- 22. Farm cry
- 23. *Number of stars on Old Glory
- 24. "The Waste Land" poet
- 25. Heads-up
- 26. Wedding cake layer
- 27. 2-dotted mark
- 28. Stradivari competitor
- 29. Moisten, as in a turkey
- 32. 500 sheets
- 33. *Largest Fourth of July pyrotechnics display loc.
- 36. *Celebratory combustible
- 38. Highly skilled
- 40. Break bread
- 41. Come into view
- 44. Even smaller than #7 Down
- 46. Dined elsewhere (2 words)
- 48. Use a shoe polish
- 49. Grimace in pain
- 50. Hindu Mr.
- 51. Before long, to Shakespeare
- 52. Think, arch.
- 53. Part of a seat
- 54. World's longest river
- 55. Upper limit
- 58. Jodie Foster's "_____'s Island"

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

Click here or go to:
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THE 4TH OF JULY

ACROSS

- 1. South American palm berry
- 5. Chi preceeder
- 8. Tatted cloth
- 12. **"Knee high in July"?
- 13. Hole-making tools
- 14. Sign in (2 words)
- 15. Discharge
- 16. Violin's Renaissance predecessor
- 17. Nursemaid in India, pl.
- 18. *On the grill on the 4th?
- 20. Tropical tuber

- 21. Propelled like Argo
- 22. "Fresh Prince of ____ - Air"
- 23. *#18 Across, picnics and such
- 26. Yellow ride
- 30. Not well
- 31. Heavy lifting injury
- 34. "Brave New World" drug
- 35. Feudal estates
- 37. Storm center
- 38. Rand McNally book
- 39. Singer-songwriter Amos
- 40. Deserving veneration

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.

Events from Jun 20th

Springfield Museum closure

Mon Jan 1st - Thu Jul 11th

We have big news to share here at the Museum! We will be closed to the public from January 1 through July 11, 2024, while our staff and...

Leaburg Food Party

The Jan 20th 3:00pm - 5:30pm

All are welcome! Please send your...

McKenzie Valley Neighbors Radio Group

The Jan 20th 6:00pm - 8:30pm

McKenzie Valley Neighbors Radio Group

Check in Thursday @ 5:30 pm. McKenzie Valley Wide Net

Waterside Grange Garage Sale

The Waterside Grange will be having a huge garage sale on Saturday June 22 from 9 AM to 3 PM. No early sales. This is a one-day event...

KIDS EAT FREE

McKenzie Valley Neighbors Radio Group

Check in Thursday @ 5:30 pm. McKenzie Valley Wide Net

McKenzie River Chamber of Commerce Board Meeting

The Board of Directors meet on the 2nd and 4th Mondays of each month (except July). Regular business meetings begin at 7pm on the 2nd...

McKenzie River Food Party

Free groceries are provided in our service with Oregon Food Bank and Food for Lane County guidelines for food. Call Susan to those in need...

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Have a news tip?

Contact rivref2@gmail.com



A Moment in Oregon History

By Rick Steber

(www.ricksteber.com)

June 22 - The first meeting of the Association of Oregon Pioneers was held in 1873. After lengthy discussion, it was decreed membership would be limited to any individual who had come to Oregon before statehood in 1859. The annual meetings became well-attended affairs. For many Oregon pioneers these meetings were considered the social event of the year and featured speakers telling stories of coming to Oregon by sea, or by wagon over the Oregon Trail, and the hardships they had faced in “the early days.” But each year fewer pioneers were alive to attend the meetings and finally, with only a handful of members remaining, the 79th annual reunion, held in Portland on June 21, 1951 was the last meeting ever held.

Fishing Report

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

Trout Stocking Schedule: Trout stocking is underway on many lakes and reservoirs throughout the state. Releases of 8” to 10” hatchery fish this week were: Clear Lake - 3,000, Leaburg Lake - 1,000, McKenzie River above Leaburg Dam - 850, and McKenzie River above Leaburg Dam - 5,500.

Fish Counts

June 13, Willamette Falls
Spring Chinook - 11,914
Summer Steelhead - 11,486

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SUDOKU SOLUTION

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In push to thin forests to prevent wildfire, concerns grow over loss of old growth

By Alex Baumhardt

Oregon Capital Chronicle

It was a mountain biker on a trail in Bend in 2022 who first spotted the pod of large old Ponderosa pines marked for cutting. The biker alerted local environmental groups, including the Bend office of the nonprofit Oregon Wild, where Erik Fernandez works as a wilderness program manager.

Fernandez went out to photograph the trees in the Deschutes National Forest, some of which he and others figured were more than 80 years old after measuring their circumference. More than a dozen were marked with blue spray paint - a universal sign on federal lands meaning “cut.”

The trees were among a stand of pines and other trees slated to be “thinned” as part of a wildfire prevention strategy overseen by the U.S. Forest Service. Thinning stretches of forest to eliminate some smaller trees and debris that could dry out and catch or fuel fires is controversial among wildfire scientists and conservationists. Many agree it can be helpful if done before a prescribed burn - a low intensity fire started across the forest floor to spur soil health and reduce competition among plant and tree species. It can also be helpful to create buffers around infrastructure and areas near communities where flames could easily jump, called “fuel breaks.” But it’s less helpful in areas where vegetation can grow back quickly or in remote areas where people and infrastructure are not protected.

The Forest Service often hires timber companies to help with the thinning, which the agency lacks the staff and resources to undertake alone. In turn, timber companies get access to some marketable timber.

But a growing number of environmentalists say federal agencies in charge of 60% of forested acres in Oregon are increasingly allowing timber companies to log old and mature trees within those thinning projects - the trees that are in fact best equipped to withstand wildfires. Those trees are also among the best resources for sequestering climate-warming greenhouse gases creating increased wildfire risk in the region and globally.

“Looking into the future, if we keep cutting the big trees, it’s self-defeating,” Fernandez said.

Responding with protest A coalition of environmental groups called the Pacific North-



Photos courtesy of Pacific Northwest Forest Defense
Left: a member of the Pacific Northwest Forest Defense sits in an old-growth tree to protest the Bureau of Land Management’s Rogue Gold forest thinning project. Right: a large old tree with blue paint on its trunk, indicating it is slated to be cut.

west Forest Climate Alliance is planning to protest old-growth logging on public lands in front of the Forest Service’s Portland office Thursday afternoon. Member Meg Ward, also co-founder of the Eugene-based nonprofit Breach Collective, said it is part of a growing movement of opposition to mature and old-growth logging across the region.

In southern Oregon, environmentalists calling themselves the Pacific Northwest Forest Defense recently overturned the sale of one forest thinning project near Grants Pass by sitting in an old growth tree that was marked to be cut. Last week members began another protest up in the trees against what’s called the Rogue Gold project, between Grants Pass and Medford, which involves thinning in some forested areas that are in reserve to develop into old-growth habitat. The Bureau of Land Management is managing that project. “Cutting down trees does not make forests more resilient to fire, as the Bureau of Land Management wants us to believe, but actually has the opposite effect - increasing wildfire risk, endangering our communities and driving the climate crisis,” said Sam Shields, an organizer with the forest defense, in a news release.

Both the Forest Service and the Bureau of Land Management allow logging old and mature trees in thinning and wildfire prevention projects if such trees stand in the way of a road that needs to be built for a project, if the old trees are in fuel break areas or if

they deem the trees detrimental to regeneration projects - projects meant to restore forests and create ecosystems that would have existed before more than a century of industrial logging that was followed by replanting tightly packed Douglas fir trees. Federal forest management plans that cover much of the state, including the Northwest Forest Plan and the Eastside Screens, offer flexibility for some old growth to be cut in the process of thinning and wildfire prevention work.

“The Forest Service maintains that the greatest threat to old growth is not logging, but wildfire, which is what they are trying to prevent through thinning,” Catherine Caruso, a spokesperson for the agency, said in an email.

In general, the Bureau of Land Management does not allow trees with a diameter greater than 36 inches to be cut, Sarah Bennett, an agency spokesperson, previously told the Capital Chronicle. Caruso, of the Forest Service, said Wednesday that any further questions about the Forest Service’s allowance for logging and old-growth have to go through channels to the national office of the agency for vetting because the Biden administration is in the middle of crafting new policy on old-growth logging.

In 2022, the president issued an executive order to end old-growth logging on federal lands by 2025 and earlier this year, announced a plan to amend all national forest management plans to ban commercial old-growth logging.

Why thin the forest?
Not all scientists are in agreement that forest thinning is a good idea writ large. Former U.S. Forest Service scientist Jack Cohen has argued in a number of research papers that thinning is futile in many types of forests and in places distant from communities that could be harmed. This is because in many climates, forest vegetation regrows fast and building roads to thinning sites invites more fire risk from humans. Thinning can also create dry conditions that favor fire.

Former deputy chief of the U.S. Forest Service, Jim Furnish, has become outspoken about not using “vegetation management” to spur logging. Most scientists agree any forest thinning should be in strategic areas to protect people and infrastructure, and be followed by prescribed burning, but such burning is rare in many areas where federal agencies undertake thinning.

“We’re actively engaged on multiple fronts in expanding the use of prescribed fire on forests,” said Caruso of the Forest Service in an email. “But while sometimes we are able to follow thinning with fire in short order, in other cases there are barriers.”

The benefits of forest thinning to prevent wildfire start and stop at protecting communities close to forests and to protect critical habitat for Fernandez and Oregon Wild. They’ve been part of projects in the past where they agree it was beneficial to thin and where large old trees were not cut.

“There is a sweet spot,” Fernandez said. Oregon Wild previously partnered with the Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs and the Forest Service to undertake thinning near an area near Bend called Black Butte. “That was thinning the small trees, protecting the big trees, doing prescribed fire, protecting important meadows and riparian areas, and it was great,” he said.

The challenges, Fernandez said, are the financial incentives timber companies need to agree to do the thinning for the Forest Service, and targets set by Congress for logging on public lands. The sale of thinning projects to timber companies helps financially support the Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management.

Thousands of the more than 15,000 acres of forest thinning and restoration projects that the Forest Service alone is planning

[Continued On Page 12](#)

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Concerns grow

Continued From Page 11

across the Deschutes, Mount Hood and Umpqua National Forests will be undertaken by timber companies as "commercial thinning," according to planning documents. Hundreds of acres are in areas designated "late successional reserves," meaning areas that are being managed to one day become mature and old-growth forests. These areas include some of the oldest trees in Oregon's forests.

Some project plans include specific protections for old growth trees, while others do not have clear specifications about the size of the trees that can be taken. Caruso of the Forest Service said there are often differences between what is included in an approved project plan and what actually happens on the ground due to discoveries, litigation and other factors.

Pulling the fire alarm

After Fernandez saw the old-growth slated to be cut near the bike trail in Bend, he raised alarms with the Forest Service and the Bend City Council. But the Forest Service would not change course. The trees were cut a few months after the discovery. In response, the city council wrote a letter to the Forest Service urging it to protect large old growth trees and to keep them out of any logging and thinning plans.

A few years before that, Fernandez himself found several old-

growth trees slated to be cut just off of the Cascade Lakes Highway between Bend and Mt. Bachelor. Trees that appeared to be 200 or more years old were marked with the tell-tale blue spray paint. That time, the Forest Service took a different approach. He got officials to come visit the site with him 48 hours before, it turns out, the trees were scheduled to be cut. The Forest service agreed they had been mismarked, and that they should not be cut.

"They were like: 'We're gonna go get the paint cans and fix this, because this was not supposed to happen,'" Fernandez recalled. They painted orange stripes, meaning "do not cut" over the blue paint wrongfully applied. "But if I had not randomly been out there, then a bunch of some of the last few old growth trees would have been gone," he said.

Correction: Fernandez of Oregon Wild discovered old growth slated to be cut near Cascade Lakes Highway before, not after, the discovery by a Bend mountain biker of more old-growth slated to be cut in the Deschutes National Forest.

Reporting for this story was made possible with a fellowship from the nonprofit Institute for Journalism and Natural Resources.

oregoncapitalchronicle.com

[Return To Page 11](#)

Sheriff's Report

Continued From Page 3

Rd.

4:44 p.m: Suspicious Conditions - 89500 blk, Old Mohawk Rd.

7:36 p.m: Driving While Suspended - McK. Hwy. & Greenwood Dr.

6:16 p.m: Motor Vehicle Accident, Unknown Injury - Lat: 44.091221. Long: -123.022148.

8:52 p.m: Motor Vehicle Accident, No Injury - 88800 blk, Old Mohawk Rd.

June 14: 9:17 a.m: Reckless Driving - Marcola Mp. 7.

12:04 p.m: Vehicle Stop - Marcola Mp. 5.

8:52 p.m: Motor Vehicle Accident, No Injury - 88800 blk, Old Mohawk Rd.

June 15: 2:42 a.m: Theft - Terwilliger Hot Springs.

2:42 a.m: Traffic Hazard - 57900 blk, McK. Hwy.

9:00 a.m: Violation of Stalking Order - 8600 blk, Thurston Rd.

11:53 a.m: Found Property - 54400 blk, McK. River Dr.

1:46 p.m: Vicious Dog - 92200 blk, Whitmore St.

6:31 p.m: Restraining Order Service - 41400 blk, McK. Hwy.

7:46 p.m: Vehicle Stop - McK. Hwy. & Leaburg Dr.

8:35 p.m: Vehicle Stop - McK. Hwy. & Leaburg Dr.

June 16: 2:42 a.m: Traffic Hazard - 57900 blk, McK. Hwy.

2:42 a.m: Theft - Terwilliger Hot Springs.

9:44 a.m: Welfare Check - 37500 blk, Upper Camp Creek Rd.

12:09 p.m: Disturbance, Dispute - 44500 blk, McK. Hwy.

8:52 p.m: Mental Subject - 7000 blk, Thurston Rd.

June 17: 6:45 a.m: Reckless Driving - Marcola Rd. & Old Mohawk Rd.

10:14 a.m: Assist, Follow Up - 40200 blk, Mohawk River Rd.

[Return To Page 3](#)

State Police Report

Continued From Page 3

into town. Involved: 56-year-old male from La Pine.

[Return To Page 3](#)

other plants, many of which are susceptible. Roundup can be productive against annual weeds but is usually not as successful for perennials or shrubs. Crossbow herbicide can be more effective for shrubs such as blackberry and Scotch broom.

Dispose of invasive weeds that are in seed by bagging them and putting them in the garbage bin.

[Return To Page 5](#)

Carmen Smith

Continued From Page 1



A temporary "catch and haul" system has been constructed to transport fish past the Trailbridge dam.

blind eye in recent years to all the other things that have caused these delays."

2016 cost estimates for updates to the project were targeted at \$139 million. That number has since increased to \$194 million due to inflation, supply chain issues, and safety-related modifications.

Board vice president John Barofsky said he was worried those costs could continue to climb if the agencies that said they were pulling out of the settlement "want us to change course." Barofsky added, "if FERC mandates we either build a fish ladder or take

out the dam, what would it take that \$194 million to?"

Krentz said there were no estimates at this time for how much the price of a fish ladder could total. However, design and construction costs for the current fisheries improvements had already increased \$37 million more than their original \$34 million budget estimate.

A discussion on EWEB's Integrated Resource Plan, which includes a 20-year electric forecast, is scheduled for the utility's September meeting.

[Return To Page 1](#)

Finn Rock Landing

Continued From Page 1

all contributed.

In 2018, the Trust began work to improve the landing with funding from ODFW. The work included ADA parking, lighting, and a vault toilet. River users were also surveyed to help design the improved landing. The design by Cameron McCarthy Landscape Architects was completed by Delta Sand and Gravel Company and included defined parking spaces, pedestrian safety routes, places to gather out of traffic, and bird-friendly lighting.

"The most exciting part of this project is the incorporation of Universal Design principles," observed Zane Wheeler with the City of Eugene. "Every summer, through our Adaptive Recreation Program, we bring dozens of people who use mobility aids such as wheelchairs to the river to take advantage of our special rafting equipment. Having accessible infrastructure, including ADA parking and ramps, is an important

step forward in creating a more equitable outdoor experience." The Trust plans to replant the area with native trees and shrubs this fall when rain returns.

The landing project, which cost around \$850,000, was funded with grants from the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department's Recreational Trails Program, the Lane County Parks bond measure, and private donations.

Access continues to be free of charge, and the McKenzie River Trust says it encourages community members to help in the stewardship of the site. "People and land need each other," Goward said. "At Finn Rock Reach, we're relying on people not to leave garbage and to help pick it up when they see it."

The landing is open year-round from dawn to dusk. To learn more about the project, visit www.mckenzie-river.org

[Return To Page 1](#)



Alex Baumhardt/Oregon Capital Chronicle
Erik Fernandez of Oregon Wild stands in a swath of the Deschutes National Forest that was thinned to prevent wildfires. He holds up a photo he took in 2022 of large old Ponderosa pines in the area that were cut as part of the project.

Gardening Tips

Continued From Page 1

plants.

Small hand cultivators are suitable for weeding small areas and between closely spaced plants. Another handy tool is the dandelion digger (also known as a weeder, cultivator, or asparagus knife). It is a 10- to 14-inch metal rod with a two-pronged blade and works well for digging long taproots. Hori Hori knives are a popular choice for any hand weeding.

Herbicides can be used with

varying success and should be used judiciously. Choose an herbicide that is registered for the weed you're trying to kill (it will say on the label). Always follow the directions. Be careful not to allow spray to drift to

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Outdoor recreation - Oregon's 'economic multiplier'



More than a half million people visited Crater Lake National Park in 2023.

By Eric Tegethoff
Oregon News Service
June is Great Outdoors Month, which also underscores the importance of outdoor recreation in Oregon.

As temperatures warm up, people are enjoying nature. Five years ago, Congress designated June Great Outdoors Month to highlight the trove of outside opportunities across the nation. With a half dozen national park sites also state parks, Oregon has a plethora of places for people to get outside.

Sen. Ron Wyden, D-Ore., said outdoor recreation provides a big boost to the state's economy.

"When people go into the forest, they load up on fuel and supplies and equipment and maybe they're going to stay overnight," Wyden pointed out. "They're going to have meals and stop for a craft brew afterwards, and it's a big economic multiplier."

Outdoor recreation generates

\$7.5 billion in Oregon, according to the roundtable, and supports 73,000 jobs. Nationally, outdoor recreation accounts for 2.2% of the country's GDP.

Whitney Potter Schwartz, senior vice president of the Outdoor Recreation Roundtable, said getting outdoors is proven to be good for people's health and her organization wants to ensure everyone has access.

"There's so many benefits," Potter Schwartz emphasized. "Whether that's health benefits, economic benefits, to being outside that we really, truly believe everyone should have that opportunity, regardless of your background or ability, to really experience it and enjoy nature."

The month recognizing the outdoors started as Great Outdoors Week under President Bill Clinton in 1998.

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\$2.6 Million to expand career-connected learning across Oregon

The Lane Education Service District and Southern Oregon Oregon Education Service District (ESD) were recently awarded \$2.6 million+ in grant funding from the Oregon Department of Education through the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER III) fund. With this new funding, Lane and Southern ESDs have partnered with the Mid-Willamette Educational Consortium to create and pilot Team Oregon Build, expanding upon the existing Career and Technical Education (CTE) Programs already operating in these regions. The expansion encompasses areas impacted by recent wildfires, including the Southern Oregon Education Service District and Mid-Willamette Educational Consortium.

Team Oregon Build (TOB) is an innovative partnership between education, industry, state, and community to introduce youth to career pathways within high-wage and high-demand construction trades.

"Every aspect of Team Oregon Build is working towards a better future. CTE Construction teachers are receiving curriculum and material support, while students can see the connection from the classroom instruction to directly helping solve big community issues," said Shareen Vogel, CTE Regional Coordinator, Lane Education Service District.

"These students are the skilled workforce that our industry partners have been asking for. Through hands-on experiences in the trades, Oregon youth are gaining skills that go beyond any textbook or classroom course," said Jesse Quinn, Director of Community Engagement, Lane Workforce Partnership. "So far, what I have seen from our students is hard work and engagement; they are willing and want to learn," said Keith Howard, Prospect Charter School CTE Instructor in Medford. "Just opens the door for opportunity; they learn about the different trades, and it expands their capabilities after high school."

"Makes me feel proud and a sense of pride. You feel like it's going to do something good in life, and it just makes you feel happy knowing it's going to be there for a while," said High School Senior Jonathan Cortez, who is attending



Students are hands-on experiences in the trades.

the Willamette Career Academy in Salem.

"I enjoy working on Team Oregon Build because it builds more community around this area, and we really need that right now," said Cassy Fisher, 8th grader at Briggs Middle School. "It also helps people in 8th grade can start committing to the community more before they're in High School."

With the new funding, regions across the State will expand programming, doubling the number of participating schools from 19 to over 39, thereby significantly enhancing the program's reach throughout the state. More than 3,800 students across three regions will participate in hands-on construction projects, building transitional shelters and sheds as well as supplementary structures like garden beds, chairs, and picnic tables, gaining practical skills while contributing to their communities.

"The building is just a piece of it, and each student brings different skills to the table as they learn how to put this together," said Kurt Huller, CTE Instructor at Willamette Career Academy. "As we talk to people in the industry, swinging the hammer is just a piece of it; it's the customer service piece. It's delivering what you say you're going to deliver, showing up and completing something on a schedule and meeting somebody's needs is huge."

"I loved working on these types of projects. especially to hear that it's going to improve someone's life and not just have them living out on the streets. It makes

me feel happy for myself to see or drive by somewhere and be like, oh, hey, I built one of those," said Matthew Duncan, a Senior also attending Willamette Career Academy in Salem.

"It's been a huge change for my life; it's my home, and I could never be more grateful," said Laura Hart, Everyone Village resident. Hart is living in a home constructed by students. "I plan on wanting to go there with my parents to show them what we did in the future," said Fisher.

Team Oregon Build also collaborates closely with partners like the Workforce Talent Development Board, Oregon Department of Education, and Oregon Housing and Community Services. This teamwork helps provide students with real, hands-on experiences that aren't just educational but genuinely reflect the professional world.

Through this regional work-based learning demonstration, students will:

- * Engage in real-world problem-solving in construction projects.

- * Explore various career pathways in design, architecture, construction trades, and disaster recovery.

- * Develop talents and acquire skills for high-wage, family-sustaining careers.

- * Contribute to addressing statewide and national challenges such as pandemics, wildfires, and the housing crisis.

- * Experience a sense of belonging and connection through community healing and resilience initiatives.

McKenzie Fire & Rescue

Continued From Page 3

MVA. Not Blocking, Patient Refusal Obtained.

20:46: 88000 blk, Old Mohawk Rd. MVA. Cancelled.

21:20: 38000 blk, McK. Hwy. Medical, General. Handled, Cancelled McKenzie Prior to Arrival.

June 15: 9:32: 45000 blk, McK. Hwy. Medical, General. 9:32 Patient Assessed, Refusal Obtained.

12:16: McK. Hwy./Milepost 10. Check Smoke. Controlled Burn.

21:41: 45000 blk, McK. Hwy. Medical, General. Patient Assessed, 1 Transported.

23:25: 45000 blk, N. Gate Creek Rd. Medical Alarm Activation. False Alarm.

June 16: 0:08: 43000 blk, McK. Hwy. Medical, General. Patient Refused Assessment, 1 Transported

6:24: 37000 blk, Camp Creek Rd. Lift Assist Only.

15:44: 89144 Bridge St Fire Alarm. Cancelled.

16:55: 40000 blk, York Ln. Medical Alarm. Cancelled En Route.

23:54: 88000 blk, Millican Rd. Medical, Heart. Cancelled.

[Return To Page 3](#)

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