



Delivering targeted news for the McKenzie Valley community since 1978



JP Doodles

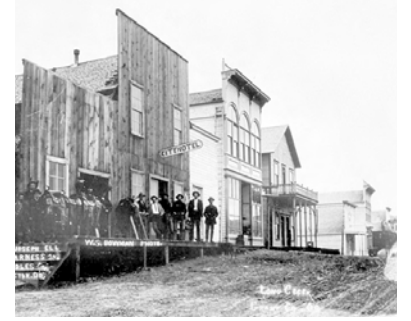
Sometimes even shirttail relatives might be someone you'd rather tell your kids about

PAGE 2

Long Creek tornado

People in Oregon don't expect tornadoes, or hailstones the size of frozen Cornish game hens plummeting out of the sky

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Briefs...



The Maude Kerns Art Center in Eugene will present two shows to begin the 2025 exhibit season: "Flow: The Language of Nature" and "Summoning the Light." The first will open on January 10th with a free public reception from 5 to 7 p.m. The second will be on view through Friday, February 7th.

In the Salon Gallery "Summoning the Light" showcases photographer Linda Devenow and painter Laure Shipley, both local artists whose Willamette Valley landscapes emphasize the role of light.

"Flow: The Language of Nature," in the [Language of Nature - Page 2](#)



Looking for a warm, cozy way to take the edge off a cold and wet Sunday afternoon? Films with Friends at the Vida McKenzie Community Center on January 12th could offer a respite. This month's offerings will include three (and a fourth, time permitting) carefully curated short independent films.

Revenge Inc. is a quirky film about human nature, but be prepared for a twist at the end. The Amber Amulet features Liam, a remarkable boy who desires to bring happiness to others. In The Interviewer, a job applicant gets more than he has bargained for in an interview at a prestigious law firm.

[Films with Friends - Page 2](#)



Taking center stage at 8 p.m. on February 1st, Joshua Josué and his band will skillfully render the classics of Buddy Holly, Ritchie Valens, and the Big Bopper to commemorate 66 years since the day the music died, but did "Not Fade Away."

From the foot-tapping rhythms of "La Bamba" to the infectious energy of "That'll Be The Day" and the soulful ballad "Donna," Joshua's performance promises to be a captivating journey through the golden era of rock and roll.

In addition to the chart-toppers, Joshua [Not Fade Away - Page 2](#)

"Best of the River" Readers picks of notables

The mid-River area can boast that the top voter-getters in all three categories are located there this year.

Topping out the Man of the Year category was Joel Zeni of Vida, who, as an engineer with a construction contractor for several ODOT projects, donated six-speed feedback signs to alert drivers entering 45-mph zones along Hwy. 126 in 2023. A 2009 graduate of Thurston High 2009, he started volunteering with Lane County Search and Rescue when he was 15, joined McKenzie Fire and Rescue at 17, and was selected as Chief of the Upper McKenzie Rural Fire District in 2024.

Some of the people who nominated Joel said they had memories of fatal accidents within the speed reduction zones in the past and were truly appreciative that they had been installed. Others mentioned his "leadership and business qualifications," being "famous for going the extra mile to help people," and how crews from his company plowed snow to open roads for access to Thurston Middle and High during last year's ice storm.

Other nominees included Rick Williams, Rick Smith, and Devon Lawson.

Vida is also home to Shelly Pruitt, named Woman of the Year by readers [Best of the River - Page 10](#)

Man of the Year



Joel Zeni

Business of the Year



Jake's Auto Repair

Woman of the Year



Shelly Pruitt

Funds approved for Deathball Trail complex

Travel Oregon approves plans for off road biking trails near Cougar Reservoir

COUGAR RESERVOIR: Trail maintenance, visitor education, invasive species management, and chainsaw training. The list of activities the Cascade Volunteers have taken on in the past will grow, thanks to the grant approval given to the Deathball Trail Complex plan as part of the Travel Oregon Recreation Ready programs for 2025.

Under Phase 1 approval, plans call for developing a trail complex in the Deathball/Thors Hammer area on the south side of the McKenzie River near Cougar Reservoir.

In their application, supporters favored a trail complex including, but not limited to, interpretive sites recognizing First Nations people of the region (Molalla,



JD Merritt



A surveyor's biscuit baking failure is believed to be responsible for a knoll near Cougar Reservoir being named "Deathball."

Kalapuya, Chinook), low elevation trails that are accessible during the peak, shoulder season, and potentially year-round seasons that would include easier to moderate trails that are beginner-friendly, e-bike friendly, and accessible by adaptive bikes.

Under Phase 1, no development money has been promised, but areas of technical assistance will be supported. If a Phase 2 level were to gain support from Travel Oregon Recreation Ready, up to \$00,000 in grant funding is possible.

The Cascade Volunteers was formed in 2005 by a group of community members focused on maintaining and creating trails on the Willamette National Forest. From 2005 to 2018, more than 3,600 volunteers logged 193,000 hours, work valued at more than 4.9 million dollars.

Guest Opinion

Bill is key to protecting US economy from patent piracy

By Andrei Iancu

Over the last two decades, judicial decisions have made it harder for inventors to keep patent-infringing goods off the market. Intellectual property theft costs the U.S. economy as much as \$600 billion annually, indirectly aiding geopolitical competitors like China, which is the primary IP infringer.

The origins of the problem go back almost two decades. For most of U.S. history, inventors who proved that a competitor had infringed their patent could obtain binding court orders — called injunctions — which compelled the infringer to stop.

This practice was in line with the text and spirit of the U.S. Constitution. Article I, Section 8, grants Congress the power to secure “for limited Times to Authors and Inventors the exclusive Right to their respective Writings and Discoveries.”

This built-in market advantage

is what keeps the engine of innovation running in the first place. Inventors sink their time and financial resources into novel discoveries because they know that if their idea succeeds, they will be able to generate a worthwhile return for their efforts. Injunctions bolster confidence in this system by assuring inventors that their rights will be not just recognized, but enforced.

Yet in a 2006 case called eBay Inc. v. MercExchange LLC, the Supreme Court abandoned this long-standing precedent and decided that inventors were no longer presumptively entitled to injunctions in cases of patent theft.

This decision has made it practically impossible for small inventors to get the justice they deserve. While a check from an infringer is better than nothing, what inventors want most of all is a chance to produce and sell their own innovations free of unfair competition from copycats.

The absence of injunctive relief has allowed patent infringers — who often manufacture their products overseas — to continue

McKenzie Eagles Sports Report



By Cliff Richardson

McKenzie Varsity Sports Schedule This Week

The McKenzie Varsity Boys and Girls Basketball teams travel to Crow on Tuesday, January 7, to contest Crow/City First Christian Academy. The Eagle Boys Junior Varsity team will start at 4:00 pm and the Varsity Boys game will follow with a 5:30 pm tip-off. The Varsity Girls game will begin at 7:00 pm.

The McKenzie teams will host Eddyville Charter on Thursday, January 9. A Junior Varsity Boys game will start at 4:00 pm and the Boys Varsity game is scheduled for a 5:30 pm start. The Varsity Girls game will tip-off at 7:00 pm.

McKenzie Boys End L Streak With 2 Ws Eagles Defeat Wolverines and Mustangs

The McKenzie Varsity Boys Basketball team has been knocking on the door all season long and searching for the right keys to open a pathway to victory. Some contests didn't go well for the young team, especially a Southern Coast road trip to Gold Beach and Myrtle Point, another journey to the other corner of the State at Pendleton versus Nixyaawii JV and a tough home game against Chiloquin.

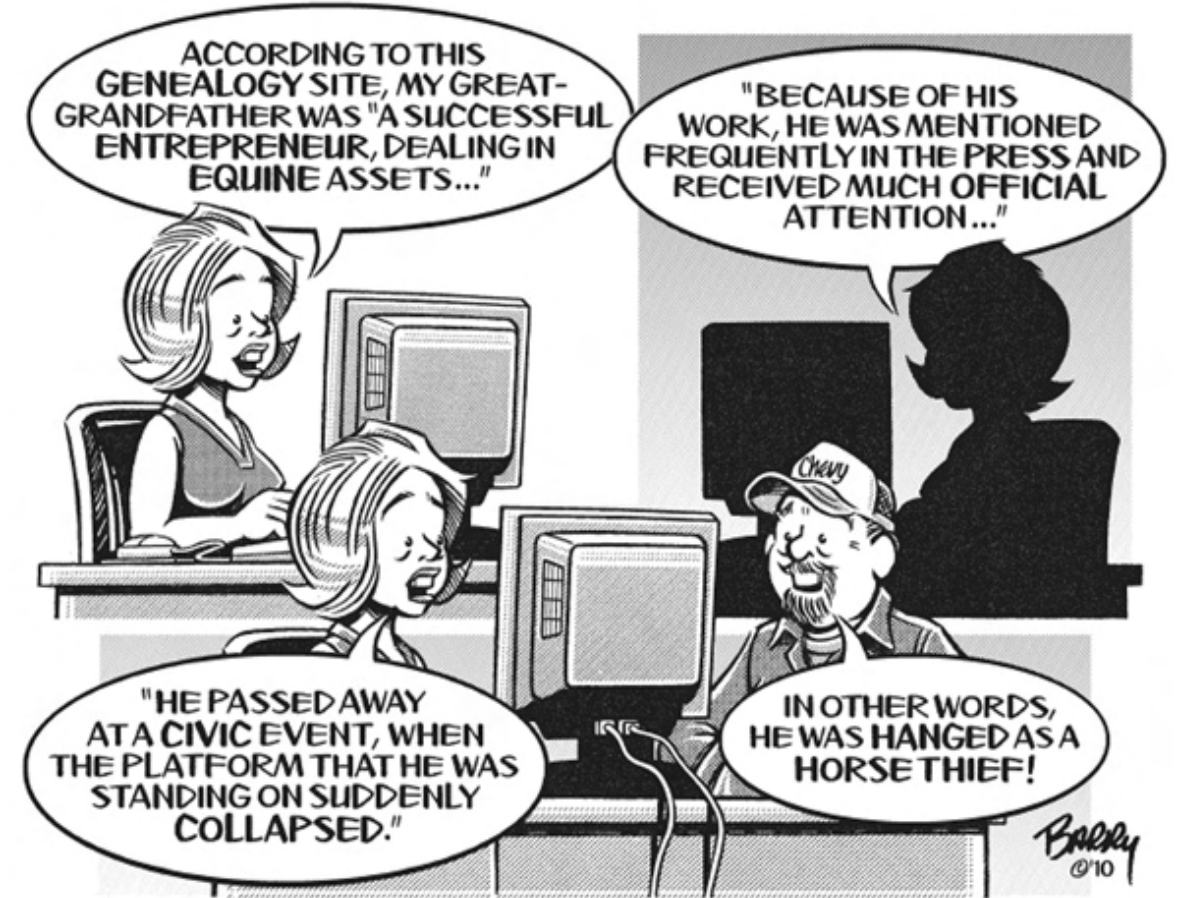
The Eagles suffered through routs on those occasions. But

there was light at the end of the tunnel on the rest of the schedule where, despite the youth, lack of experience and undisciplined action on the court, McKenzie Head Basketball Coach Neil Barrett's team battled hard and each night, came frustratingly close to that first, elusive win of the season. And then, last week, when opportunity showed up, the Eagles fashioned two back-to-back victories, one at home and one on the road.

The home win came at the expense of the Alsea Wolverines, a .500 team at 5-5 when departing the bus last Thursday, January 2. McKenzie upset their rowdy visitors, 44-35, and the home crowd comprised of the Hamlow family reunion/birthday party (Rhys Hamlow birthday!) and the rest of us celebrated loud and proud. The monkey had found a way off the Eagle's back and the feeling in the House was good. Well, except for the defeated Wolverines, who fought valiantly to the end.

McKenzie jumped out of the gates quickly and established a 12-6 first quarter lead. Alsea reversed the momentum and won the second quarter 13-6, thus holding a slim 19-18 advantage at the halftime break. Credit to the McKenzie Coaching staff during the Break. Perhaps Coach Barrett informed the troops that if you're attempting to get a monkey off your back, you can't afford to monkey around! Whatever transpired in the locker room, the conversation and chalk talk manifested itself out on the court in the third quarter.

The inspired Eagle team dominated the period 16-5 and started the fourth quarter with a



dumping infringing products onto U.S. markets.

Fortunately, a little-known government agency known as the U.S. International Trade Commission is stepping in where courts have fallen short. In recent years, the

[Continued on Page 11](#)

34-24 lead. The rest of the contest was a dogfight for and while Alsea scored 11 points, McKenzie answered with 10 points, and secured the night 44-35. And the victory dance was on!

McKenzie freshman guard Amir Enfield put his teammates on his back, leading his team with 13 points scored, 3 rebounds, an assist and a steal. Junior guard Will Meister added 9 points, including 4-4 from the charity stripe and he swiped the ball 4 times. McKenzie post player, Masonn Burton, a sophomore, scored 8 points off a fine 4-8 from the field and he tied with sophomore Rhys Hamlow for the team lead with 7 rebounds. Hamlow dropped in 5 points and also finished with 3 steals. Junior guard Allen Acevedo contributed 5 points, 5 rebounds, 2 steals and an assist. Senior forward Aytan Munoz-Brown and freshman wing Jacob Norlund each scored 2 points. Munoz-Brown added 4 rebounds, 5 steals, 2 assists and a block. Norlund also finished with 4 rebounds and 3 steals. Junior guard Noah Prado played, did not score, but added 1 rebound and 2 steals.

As a team, the McKenzie full court press forced Alsea to turn the ball over 39 times. The Eagles finished with 19 turnovers. Both teams finished with 31 rebounds.

McKenzie Upsets Mohawk, 52-48 Eagles Share Mt. West League Lead

Earning that first victory of the season and sending the monkey packing was an important step forward. The win at home versus Alsea set the stage for the second straight win, this time on the road. And it happened over on

[Continued On Page 12](#)

Briefs...

Language of Nature

[Continued From Page 1](#)

Main Gallery, features McMinville artists Britt Block and Julie Cassin and Portland artist Vickie Meguire. All three focus on nature's healing qualities, particularly water.

The Maude Kerns Art Center, at 1910 E. 15th Ave, is open from 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., Monday – Friday, and from noon to 4 p.m. on Saturday when exhibits are on display. For more information, call 541-345-1571 or visit mkart-center.org

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Films with Friends

[Continued From Page 1](#)

The Movie Theater Snack Bar opens at 2 p.m. with hot and cold

drinks, popcorn, and candy. See you at 90377 Thomson Lane in Vida 97488. Questions? Call Gerry: 626-437-0539.

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Not Fade Away

[Continued From Page 1](#)

will delve into the lesser-known treasures of Ritchie Valens' repertoire, treating the audience to gems like "Ritchie's Blues" and the enchanting "Malagueña." These selections illuminate the depth and versatility of the Chicano musical tradition.

It's all part of celebrating rock 'n' roll history, Chicano heritage, and a fusion of cultural richness and artistic expression at the Widish Theater, 630 Main Street in Springfield.

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McKenzie River Reflections

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Friday 1/10		Saturday 1/11		Sunday 1/12	
					
McKenzie Valley Showers 80% chance precip High: 50 Low: 37	Santiam Pass Rain/Snow 80% chance precip High: 36 Low: 25	McKenzie Valley Mostly Cloudy 10% chance precip High: 47 Low: 35	Santiam Pass Mostly Cloudy 20% chance precip High: 31 Low: 22	McKenzie Valley Partly Cloudy 10% chance precip High: 46 Low: 32	Santiam Pass Partly Cloudy 10% chance precip High: 34 Low: 19

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
1/1	39	40	0.63	564 cfs	1/1	NA			
1/2	39	45	1.25	NA	1/2	NA			
1/3	30	46	1.25	532 cfs	1/3	NA			
1/4	38	42	1.79	580 cfs	1/4	NA			
1/5	39	47	0.49	617 cfs	1/5	NA			
1/6	41	48	0.01	NA	1/6	NA			
1/7	35	48	0	1,422 cfs	1/7	NA			

Sheriff's Report

Dec. 30: 10:39 p.m: Prowler - 88100 blk, Millican Rd.
Dec. 31: 9:20 a.m: Suspicious Vehicle - McK. Hwy.
 9:29 a.m: Citizen Contact - Greenwood Dr.
 12:58 p.m: Suspicious Conditions - McGowan Creek.
Jan. 1: 11:09 a.m: Suspicious Conditions - 88200 blk, Tiki Ln.
Jan. 2: 6:29 a.m: Theft - Shotgun Creek Rd.
 3:38 p.m: Disturbance, Dispute - 49100 blk, McK. Hwy.
 5:20 p.m: Motor Vehicle Accident, Unknown Injury - Marcola Rd.
 5:48 p.m: Welfare Check - Marcola Rd.
 6:53 p.m: Assist Oregon State Police - Camp Creek Rd.
 10:41 p.m: Disturbance, Dispute - 88700 blk, Buck Point Way.
Jan. 3: 6:29 a.m: Theft - Shotgun Creek Rd.

10:46 a.m: Open Gate - Booth Kelly Rd.
 11:11 a.m: Harassment - 56600 blk, McK. Hwy.
 3:05 p.m: Suspicious Vehicle - McGowan Quarry.
 4:34 p.m: Foot Patrol - 39500 blk, McK. Hwy.
 9:33 p.m: Illegal Fireworks - Twin Firs Rd.
 9:55 p.m: Shots Fired - 40500 blk, McK. Hwy.
Jan. 4: 5:39 p.m: Disabled Vehicle - Marcola Rd.
8:09 p.m: Motor Vehicle Accident, No Injury - 194800 blk, Sunderman Rd.
Jan. 5: 6:00 a.m: Alarm - 40100 blk, McK. Hwy.
12:34 p.m: Assist, Follow Up - 49700 blk, McK. Hwy.
11:06 p.m: Citizen Contact - 59200 blk, N. Belknap Springs Rd.
11:16 p.m: Medical Info Call - 41800 blk, Madrone St.

41800 blk, Madrone St.
Jan. 5: 6:00 a.m: Alarm - 40100 blk, mckenzie hwy.
12:34 p.m: Public Assist, Follow Up - 49700 blk, McK. Hwy.
12:34 p.m: Disturbance, Dispute - 89500 blk, Old Mohawk Rd.
11:06 p.m: Citizen Contact - 59200 blk, N. Belknap Springs Rd.
11:16 p.m: Medical Info Call - 41800 blk, Madrone St.
Jan. 6: 9:24 a.m: Assist, Follow Up - Marcola area.
6:00 a.m: Alarm - 40100 blk, McK. Hwy.
4:29 p.m: Assist Oregon State Police - Camp Creek Rd.
10:18 p.m: Motor Vehicle Accident, Driving Under the Influence of Intoxicants - Gemstone Rd.
Comments, as reported, may not be complete or accurate. If further information is required contact the Lane County Sheriff's Office.

McKenzie Fire & Rescue

Jan. 1: 18:14: 41000 block, Madrone St. Medical, General. Patient Assessed, 1 Transported.
19:43: 89000 blk, Marcola Rd. Mutual Aid. Disregarded En Route by MVFR.
Jan. 2: 12:18: 40000 blk, Booth Kelly Rd. Medical, General. Patient Assessed, 1 Transported.
Jan. 3: 0:42: 40000 blk, Deerhorn Rd. Medical, General. Patient Assessed, 1 Transported.
12:45: 42000 blk, McKenzie Hwy Medical, Heart. Patient Assessed, Refusal Obtained.
16:41: 43000 blk, Deerhorn Rd. Medical, General. Patient Assessed, 1 Transported.
18:00: Old Mohawk Rd./ Marcola Rd. Mutual Aid. Disregarded En Route by MVFR.
Jan. 4: 9:10: 39000 blk, Bryant Ln. Medical, General. Patient Assessed, 1 Transported.
9:42: 41000 blk, Holden Creek Ln. Medical, General. Patient Assessed, 1 Transported.
10:48: 39000 blk, Jameson Creek Rd. Medical, General. Patient Assessed, 1 Transported.
Jan. 5: 48000 blk, McK. Hwy.

Fire Alarm. False Alarm.
23:12: 41000 blk, Madrone St. Medical, General. Patient Assessed, 1 Transported.
McK. Fire & Rescue will hold its monthly Board of Directors meeting on Monday, Monday, January 20th, 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

Dec. 31: 12:49: Medical - 56000 block, N. Bank Rd. Male, Not Conscious, Breathing status uncertain.
Jan. 1: 12:38: Medical - 91000 blk, Taylor Rd. Subject has a gash on his right hand.
Jan. 5: 11:14: Medical - 54000 blk, McK. Hwy. Male, Conscious, Breathing.
21:01: Fire Alarm - 48000 blk, McK. Hwy. Caller reports smoke inside.

The Upper McK. Fire District's board of directors will hold its monthly meeting at 7 p.m. on Monday, January 20th, at the Blue River Fire Station 2, 51730 Echo St. in Blue River.

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Deadly Long Creek tornado was worst in state history

By Finn J.D. John

Happy New Year! At the time of this writing, it's just a few days before Anno Domini 2025 is scheduled to inflict itself upon us. This time of year, many writers make a regular practice of looking back upon the past year and writing about it.

I suspect this practice got started with Penny Press-era newshounds who found it very hard to track down sources during the week after Christmas — or maybe they just wanted to relax and bang out an easy story so they could get back to wassailing or speakeasy-hopping or whatever they did back then to celebrate the season.

In the spirit of the season, I also am going to look back on something I wrote — but not something from the past year. Or even the past decade.

Fairly early in my practice as a regular writer about Oregon history, in early 2012, I started a story off with a statement that, although technically true, well — let's just say it showcased my meteorological ignorance more than I like to admit.

"Oregon is not known as a place in which you have to worry about hurricanes of any size," I wrote. "Nor do we get those High Plains storms with hailstones the size of golf balls, or tornadoes that vacuum up houses full of Dorothy and Toto, or dust storms you can't see the house through."

In my defense, though, it's true that people in Oregon don't expect tornadoes, or hailstones the size of frozen Cornish game hens plummeting out of the sky.

Certainly David and Sarah Parrish didn't, when they moved to the Central Oregon town of Long Creek back in the spring of 1894. They were leaving their old home in Kansas, they told their new neighbors, "to get away from the cyclones" — meaning, of course, tornadoes.

Less than four months later, David and Sarah's new Oregon home was demolished and both of them were killed ... by a tornado.

The town of Long Creek developed in the late 1870s and early 1880s on the banks of Long Creek, one of the tributaries of the John Day River. It was, and is, a little north of the center of Grant County, a few dozen miles north-northwest of John Day and Canyon City. It was a prosperous little town, well positioned, and it



Oregon Historical Society

Storefronts in Long Creek as they appeared about 10 years after the cyclone struck.

grew relatively quickly to become one of the most promising settlements in Grant County, so much so that in 1891 the residents incorporated the town and started the process of trying to take over from then-fading Canyon City as county seat.

But before anything could come of that, the town got flattened by the most intense cyclone in recorded Oregon history.

And yeah, about that cyclone: One of the people who watched it descend upon the town gave what may actually be the earliest known eyewitness description of the creation of a "bomb cyclone."

The term "bomb cyclone" is probably familiar to you, since it was just last month that Oregonians were treated to some really breathless weather reports about one.

"Bomb cyclone" is a super-dramatic name for what happens when, during a storm, a mass of cold Arctic air gets sucked into a storm's vortex together with a mass of much warmer air. When that happens, something called "bombogenesis" happens.

Bombogenesis sounds like a made-up word for something Kyle Reese and Sarah Connor got up to in the kitchenette of their motel room while on the run from the Terminator, doesn't it? But it's strictly a weather term, and the reference is metaphorical, not literal. The intensity of the storm, as it were, explodes. And a "bomb cyclone" is the result.

In our most recent example, the bomb reference was a bit of a bust. November's storm was not nearly as apocalyptic as its name suggested — in most of Oregon,

at least. Nor was it as destructive as meteorologists feared it could get. Basically, it manifested itself as a very large and powerful, but otherwise ordinary, windstorm. It knocked out power to half a million people along the West Coast. It did a fair amount of property damage, killed two people by blowing trees down on them, and dumped huge amounts of rain across northern California, Oregon, Washington, and British Columbia. But for all that, it was basically just a really big five-state-wide version of a type of storm we're all super familiar with.

The bomb cyclone that hit Long Creek, though, was a bomb cyclone worthy of the name. It was tiny by comparison; it probably didn't even leave Grant County. But what it lacked in size it more than made up for in intensity.

Writing in his July 8, 1894, edition, Long Creek Eagle editor (and town mayor) Orin Patterson described its inception:

"With a roar and a rumble which was no less than the effect of a severe windstorm in the forest surrounding Fox Valley," he writes, "two angry looking clouds met on the summit of the mountain three miles south of Long Creek and the work of destruction began in all its fury, taking its course almost due north."

Patterson would have no way of knowing that one of the two clouds he saw was warm and the other cold; but what happened next makes it pretty clear that such was the case. The combined cloud swirled together savagely, dropped a funnel cloud to the ground, and started racing down the mountain

toward the town, gouging a half-mile-wide trail of destruction through the thick virgin-timber forest that would be visible as a scar on the mountainside for at least half a century afterward. In minutes it reached the town of Long Creek.

"Dwellings, barns, and store buildings were lifted into the air as if but the weight of a feather, and torn to atoms, portions of which were carried for miles distant," Patterson writes. "For a moment the air was a thickened mass of missiles, flying in every direction."

At the same time, the cloud above was releasing hail, and if someone had been able to preserve some of it, it probably would have set a national record for size. But it was also very unusual stuff, according to S.M. Blandford, the officer in charge of the U.S. Weather Bureau in Portland, who reported his correspondent told him, "The formation was more in the nature of sheets of ice than simple hailstones. The sheets of ice averaged 3 to 4 inches square and from 3/4 to 1 1/2 inches in thickness. They had a smooth surface and in falling gave the impression of a vast field or sheet of ice suspended in the atmosphere and suddenly broken into fragments about the size of the palm of the hand."

Some of the residents managed to get out of the way of the fast approaching funnel cloud, but three of the houses it hit and demolished were occupied. One of them was the home of David and Sarah Parrish — the refugee couple who'd fled Kansas to get away from tornadoes, both of whom died at the whim of this one. Another was the Nichols residence, home of Dr. and Mrs. Nichols. Both were badly injured, and their infant daughter, Blanche, was killed.

The Parrishes and little Blanche were the only fatalities from the storm. Six others were injured, some very badly. One lucky stormwatcher, I.W. Splawn, was snatched up off the ground and carried high into the air over the top of a store before being dashed to the ground — but he landed in a haystack and was completely uninjured. The storm also picked up a piano, probably from Dr. Nichols' house, and hurled it several hundred yards.

All told, the storm inflicted

[Deadly tornado - Page 9](#)



By Slim Randles

It might have been the winter doldrums that did it. You can never be sure of these things. It's just that ... well, Doc is one of those guys who can't stand to see anyone bored. He claims it's bad for their inner chemistry, and since he has more initials after his name than anyone else in town, we tend to listen to him.

When it happened, we in the inner circle of the World Dilemma Think Tank down at the Mule Barn truck stop thought back on what Doc had said a year ago when the temperature dropped, along with everyone's spirits.

"In weather like this," Doc pronounced, stirring sugar into his cup, "a real American would come up with a great hoax."

Those of us sitting at the philosophy counter that morning just nodded, even though we didn't have a clue. No one wanted to admit it, you see.

When the Valley Weekly Miracle hit the street yesterday, we bought one to see how much the editor dared to print, as always, but there in the classifieds was this:

"LOST — One gray squirrel, fluffy tail, two years old. Answers to "Chipper." \$5.25 reward. Call Doc."

The paper was passed down the counter and we all looked at Doc after we read it. He was smirking as only Doc can smirk.

"Doc," Steve said, tentatively, "would this be the same imaginary squirrel that was kidnapped and held for ransom last year?"

"The very same," Doc said. "I named him Chipper."

"But he's imaginary, right?"

"The very best kind."

"Why?"

"Imaginary squirrels don't bite, don't have to be fed, and you never have to clean up after them," he said. "And a real squirrel will eat the leg off a coffee table."

He grinned. "Besides, I've always wanted an imaginary squirrel."

After we laughed, Dud said, "And what if someone finds a squirrel and brings him to you?"

"Dudley," he said, "I figure it's worth \$5.25 to get a squirrel, which would be hibernating this time of year, of course, and then to turn it loose. Besides, I'll make more money than that just stitching up the squirrel catcher's hand."

Brought to you by "Raven's Prey" by Slim Randles. Find it at McRoy and Blackburn, publishers, Ester, Alaska.

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Gardening Tips

By Kym Pokorny



Oregon State University

OSU Extension Service

Don't be timid when pruning grapes



Table grapes grown at the OSU North Willamette Research and Extension Center.

Once grape vines lose their leaves, the plants fade into the background of the winter landscape. That's the time to take action and get out the clippers.

January through the first of March is the season to prune your vines, said Erica Chernoh, an Oregon State University Extension Service horticulturist. First, though, you've got to know how to do it properly.

"Home grape growers don't

prune their vines enough," Chernoh said. "When gardeners prune, they should remove the majority of wood produced the previous season – until about 90% is pruned off."

That's a lot. But look at it this way: There's no need to evaluate shape and size like when you cut back shrubs and trees. The instructions are straightforward and are detailed in OSU Extension's Growing Table Grapes

guide, which includes information on all aspects of growing grapes and illustrations and photos to help you visualize the pruning process.

Grapes are produced from buds that will grow into shoots on 1-year old canes (the long stems or "shoots" after they've borne fruit for at least one year). The most fruitful canes will be those that were exposed to light during the growing season. These are thicker than a pencil in width and as close to the trunk as possible, Chernoh explained.

Common types of grape pruning There are two common types of grape pruning – cane pruning and spur pruning. Mature plants should be pruned yearly to remove all growth except new 1-year-old fruiting canes and renewal spurs (a cane pruned back to one to five buds).

To cane prune, select two to four new fruiting canes per vine. Cut back each of these to leave about 15 buds per cane. For wine grapes, leave about 20 to 30 buds per plant. In table grapes, leave 50 to 80 buds per plant. Leave a one- or two-bud spur cane near the fruiting cane with one or two buds each. These "renewal spurs" will produce the fruiting canes for the following year and thus maintain fruiting close to the trunk. All other cane growth should be pruned off.

Most table grapes produce the highest yield of good quality fruit when cane-pruned.

To spur prune, prune along main canes to leave spurs with two to three buds per spur, each four to six inches apart. Leave no more than 20 to 60 buds per plant, depending on the type of grape. Remove all other 1-year-old wood.

"Pruning properly will improve plant vigor and lead to better yields and higher quality fruit," Chernoh said.



Country Kitchen

By Mary Emma Allen



SNOW ICE CREAM SEASON

Winter meant snow ice cream when I was growing up. This treat, concocted from snow, sugar, milk, and vanilla flavoring was one of the highlights in the days when store-bought ice cream was a rare treat. Snow ice cream, handed down from Yankee ancestors, is a delightful snack. It's best when made from freshly fallen snow, fine and hard

Snow Ice Cream Preparation

You'll find several methods of making this treat. Choose the one that appeals to you

Spoon the snow into a large bowl. Over this pour a custard previously made by mixing together a quart of milk, an egg, 1 cup sugar, 1/4 teaspoon salt, and 1 teaspoon vanilla extract, cooking until thickened, then cooling to room temperature or lower.

Snow and cooled custard are put alternately into the bowl until no more snow can be stirred into the mixture. The ice cream chills to a delicious thickness, but has to be eaten quickly before it melts.

Another Method

This is quicker but doesn't produce such creamy results. Mix together in a large bowl, a cup of top milk or cream, 1/4-cup sugar, 1-teaspoon vanilla. Into this stir snow, as much as can be flavored by the liquid. This also has to be eaten very quickly for it melts even more rapidly than the custard type.

As soon as the first snowflakes drifted down, my siblings and I hoped there would be enough snow so we could make this treat.

History of Iced Treats

Recorded history relates that Emperor Nero of ancient Rome

was the first to indulge in a delicacy even vaguely resembling ice cream. He had swift runners bring snow from the mountains, which when mixed with fruit juices, was not unlike modern ices.

Another mention of frozen desserts was made in 13th century. When Marco Polo brought home to Italy from Cathay a recipe calling for milk in addition to snow and juices. From there these frozen treats spread throughout Europe and were served mainly at the tables of the royal and very rich.

These chilled desserts appeared in the American colonies in the late 1600s. By the end of the 1700s ice cream parlors were beginning to crop up in New York.

(c) Mary Emma Allen

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



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If you live in a CenturyLink service area, visit <https://www.centurylink.com/aboutus/community/community-development/lifeline.html> for additional information about applying for these programs or call 1-800-201-4099 with questions.



Community Notes

AA Meetings

AA meetings are held on Wednesdays at 6 p.m. and Sundays at 5 p.m. at the McKenzie Valley Presbyterian Church in WALTERVILLE, plus in Blue River at 6 p.m. on Thursdays at the clinic on Dexter Street.

January 9

Board of Commissioners

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

January 9

Watershed Council

The McKenzie Watershed Council meets from 5 to 6:30 p.m. at various location, please contact Melanie Giangreco, McKenzie Watershed Council Operations Assistant (458-201-8150) melanie@mckenziecwc.org

January 9

VMCC

The Vida McKenzie Community Center Board meets from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. at 90377 Thomson Lane in Vida.

January 10

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.

January 10

Art Walk

The Second Friday Art Walk meets from 4 to 7:30 p.m. at the Emerald Art Center, 500 Main St, in Springfield.

January 11

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!

January 11

BINGO at VMCC

Bingo at the Vida McKenzie Community Center, from 5:30pm - 7:30pm, is a family (kids welcome) fun night - Doors open at 5:30 p.m. It is not the high dollar payout as some locations are. We use a computer bingo game which is displayed on a large TV screen. Everyone is welcome. The snack bar has a variety of goodies for one's taste...Hotdogs, nachos, popcorn, desserts, an assortment of drinks, no alcoholic beverages

January 13

Parks Meeting

The Lane County Parks Advisory Committee meets from 6 7:30 p.m. the 2nd Monday of each month in the Goodpasture Room, 3050 N Delta Hwy. in Eugene. It advises the Board of County Commissioners on park needs, recommends priorities for projects - including financial and operational development and acquisition. The committee also provides recommendations regarding long-range planning for future park programs and needs, and serves as a liaison group representing the concerns of the community.

January 13

Spfd School Board

The Board of Directors meets in the Board Room of the Springfield Public Schools

Administration Building, 640 A Street, Springfield. 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.

January 14

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.

January 14

Tiny Dental Van

The Tiny Dental Van, sponsored by the Rural Oregon Outreach Program, will be at the Orchid McKenzie River Clinic every second Tuesday of the month from 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. at 51730 Dexter St. in Blue River. 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.

January 14

McK Food Pantry

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

January 14

Tourism Committee

The McKenzie River Chamber of Commerce Tourism Committee meets from 9 to 10 a.m. via Zoom every Second Tuesday of every month. 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

Interested in a stronger community?

Program to feature "Darks Skies" and "Main Street"

"Where you can see the Milky Way from Main Street?" The answer in Oregon is "Antelope." The Central Oregon community of Antelope has been designated as the first International Dark Sky Community in Oregon. But could the answer also include the McKenzie Highway?

This month people will have a chance to discuss both issues at public meetings set for Blue River and Leaburg. On Saturday, January 18th, a representative from the Oregon Outback Dark Sky Network (OODSN) will give a 10 a.m. presentation at McKenzie Schools, followed by an 6 p.m. session at the McKenzie Fire & Rescue's Leaburg training room. Also on the agenda is an update on a project exploring whether Hwy. 126 could become a "Sixty Mile Main Street" under the Oregon Parks Division program.

The Dark Skies initiative currently involves governmental agencies, non-profits, and private individuals interested in promoting dark sky preservation while combating light pollution. Since its inception, the OODSN has engaged in data collection for sky quality monitoring, community outreach, and educational events to raise awareness about the importance of dark skies.

The Main Street proposal would stretch from Cedar Flat to Clear Lake with the roadway acting as a hub for the area's surrounding rural towns. Three community workshops, sponsored by the McKenzie River Chamber of Commerce and Rural Development Initiatives, were held in 2024 and more are planned for February.

For more information contact info@mckenziechamber.com

January 14

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 friendship.

January 15

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.

January 15

Watershed Wednesday

Join McKenzie River Trust every Wednesday morning 31799-31601 Green Island Rd, Eugene, from 9 - 11:30 a.m. to help care for this special area where the McKenzie and Willamette Rivers

meet. Projects vary based on the season but typically include invasive species removal, habitat care, or planting/tree establishment.

January 15

Free Produce

The free fresh produce day is at the new clinic in Blue River. A sign will be posted at the left conference room entrance, where distribution will take place. Pick-up is from 1 to 2 p.m., as produce has been running out within the first hour. All McKenzie community members who sign up can be served as long as they are under the income guidelines. Call Orchid Health to sign up - 541-822-3341.

January 15

Cornhole League

The Upper McKenzie Cornhole League meets from 5 to 6:30pm at the Upper McKenzie Community Center, 54745 McKenzie River Drive in Rainbow. Join us for some free Cornhole fun. We're tossing bags on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of every month. Bring some snacks to share.

Click here and stay in touch with events online

[McKenzie Community Events Calendar.](#)

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



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- 42. Female ancestor
- 43. Two heads are better than one, e.g.
- 45. Bering Strait state
- 47. Rudolph's Clarice, e.g.
- 48. Like thick smoke
- 50. Fountain option
- 52. *No two are alike, sing.
- 56. Surround (2 words)
- 57. Tangerine plus grapefruit
- 58. *Like a river, with over
- 59. #51 Down, pl.
- 60. Heidi's "Magic Wooden Shoe"
- 61. Olufsen's partner
- 62. Sound of a bell
- 63. Not him
- 64. Surfer's stop

DOWN

- 1. Odds' partners
- 2. Tubby little cubby
- 3. "He's Just Not That ____ You"
- 4. Of the same period
- 5. *Popular Snow Day pastime
- 6. Some tournaments
- 7. Zugspitze, e.g.
- 8. *Severe weather
- 9. Deed hearing
- 10. Algae, sing.
- 11. Marble bread
- 13. ____ Jack, English pirate
- 14. *As opposed to rain
- 19. Irregular
- 22. Type of conifer
- 23. Musketeers' swords
- 24. High-strung
- 25. Cerebellum location
- 26. Unit of life
- 27. Students' dwellings
- 28. *Snow Day reading choice
- 29. Helping theorem
- 32. *Like soft pj's
- 33. Intelligence org.
- 36. *Slope fun
- 38. Shorter than California
- 40. Number of years
- 41. No, it doesn't crawl in one's ear
- 44. Horse of certain color, pl.
- 46. Spontaneous additions
- 48. Obtuse one
- 49. Tom Cruise's "The ____ of Money"
- 50. Highway hauler
- 51. Bad sign
- 52. Of a particular kind
- 53. Smoothie berry
- 54. Superman's last name
- 55. Part of a seat
- 56. *Like chocolate on a Snow Day

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

Click here or go to:
tinyurl.com/yeye92hx

Events from Jan 9th



McKENZIE WATERSHED COUNCIL

Thu Jan 9th 4:00pm - 5:00pm
Yida McKenzie Community Center Board Meeting



Thu Jan 9th 6:00pm - 7:00pm
Leaburg GMRS Radio Preparedness



Thu Jan 9th 6:00pm - 7:00pm
McKenzie Valley Neighbors Radio Group



Thu Jan 9th 6:00pm - 7:00pm
Leaburg GMRS Radio Preparedness



Thu Jan 9th 5:00pm - 6:00pm
McKenzie Watershed Council



Thu Jan 9th 6:00pm - 7:00pm
McKenzie Valley Neighbors Radio Group



Thu Jan 9th 6:00pm - 7:00pm
Leaburg GMRS Radio Preparedness



Thu Jan 9th 5:00pm - 6:00pm
McKenzie Watershed Council



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Leaburg GMRS Radio Preparedness



Thu Jan 9th 5:00pm - 6:00pm
McKenzie Watershed Council



Thu Jan 9th 6:00pm - 7:00pm
McKenzie Valley Neighbors Radio Group



Thu Jan 9th 6:00pm - 7:00pm
Leaburg GMRS Radio Preparedness

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SNOW DAY

ACROSS

- 1. Larger-than-life
- 5. Capone's family
- 8. Wild swine
- 12. "You're not allowed," to a baby
- 13. Deal with it
- 14. Cunningly
- 15. Shower with affection
- 16. Allege
- 17. City in Belgium
- 18. *Snow Day exercise?
- 20. Poet Pound

- 21. Ovine sign of the zodiac
- 22. Tasseled hat
- 23. All together (2 words)
- 26. Military College of South Carolina, with The
- 30. For every
- 31. a.k.a. association football
- 34. *All-day Snow Day garb?
- 35. Delete
- 37. Crude fuel
- 38. Read-only disc
- 39. Good's counterpart
- 40. Popular flowering shrub

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.

Solution on Page 9

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Ski Report

January 7, 2024

The Hoodoo Ski Resort report for Tuesday showed no new snow fell overnight, leaving the snow depth at 67 inches. Temperatures were 33 at the base and 29 at the summit, with winds out of the East at 29 mph. A sunny week is expected, with some rain expected on Friday. For more information call 541-822-3337.

Mt. Bachelor reported temperatures of 25 degrees at the base and 19 degrees at the summit on Tuesday, with winds averaging 14 mph. No new snow fell overnight, leaving the snowpack at 106 inches. Partly cloudy skies and moderate winds are expected to continue this week. 110 of 124 trails were open, along with 10 out of 12 lifts. For more information call 541-382-7888.



January 2, 2016, an armed group of right-wing militants seized and occupied the headquarters of the Malheur National Wildlife Refuge in Harney County, Oregon, and continued to occupy it until law enforcement made a final arrest on February 11, 2016. Their leader was Ammon Bundy, who participated in the 2014 Bundy standoff at his father's Nevada ranch. Other members of the group were loosely affiliated with non-governmental militias and the sovereign citizen movement.

The organizers were seeking an opportunity to advance their view that the federal government is constitutionally required to turn over most of the federal public land they manage to the individual states, in particular land managed by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), United States Forest Service (USFS), and other agencies.

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SUDOKU SOLUTION

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

Deadly tornado

Continued From Page 4

about \$30,000 in damage (about \$1.1 million in modern currency) upon the community, leaving some residents with literally nothing left to their names.

“Those houses that had escaped being destroyed were thrown open to the wounded and medical assistance was summoned,” Patterson writes, “while the dead bodies were taken to City Hall and prepared for interment.”

“With all its fury the cyclone swept everything in its course and, of over two dozen structures destroyed, there is not enough left to erect a decent dwelling,” he adds.

In the aftermath, Long Creek struggled to get back on its feet. An appeal for humanitarian assistance was sent out to nearby cities and towns to contribute to a relief fund; but this does not seem to have done much for them. The timing was terrible; in late May of 1894 the Willamette River had flooded the streets of downtown Portland (here’s a link to the Offbeat Oregon column about that event), and at the time the cyclone hit, the floodwaters had just receded a day or two before. So, Portland had a lot of cleaning-up to do and damage to fix, and plenty of other towns situated close to the banks of the Columbia River also took heavy damage from floodwaters.

As if that weren’t enough, the “Panic of 1893” (actually a full-blown depression) was in full swing. There just wasn’t much relief money available, and there were lots of other disasters competing for what there was.

So Long Creek pretty much

had to do its best with what it had. They managed; but after that day there wasn’t any further talk of taking over as county seat.

Today, Long Creek is a nice little community well off the beaten track, and home to somewhere in the neighborhood of 200 people. The weather in the summer is about as close to perfect as it gets — the average highs in the hottest months, July and August, top out at 84 degrees — and winters are not bad either. It’s easy to see why people loved it, back in 1894, and didn’t expect that balmy, mellow weather to suddenly turn as deadly as it did.

(Sources: In the Land of Bunch Grass, Gold, and Trees, a book by Reiba Carter Smith and Louetta Zumwalt Shaw published in 1993 by the authors; “Family and Community on the Eastern Oregon Frontier,” an article by William F. Willingham published in the Summer 1994 issue of Oregon Historical Quarterly; “Lumps of Ice as Hailstones,” an un-by-lined article published in the July 1894 issue of Monthly Weather Review; cityoflongcreek.org; archives of the Ashland Semi-Weekly Tidings, The Dalles Daily Chronicle, and Heppner Gazette, June 1894.)

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 last year. To contact him or suggest a topic: finn@offbeatoregon.com or 541-357-2222.

[Return To Page 4](#)



Richard Bauer photo

The town of Long Creek as it appears today.

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Is your tree dangerous?



More than one-third (36 percent) of U.S. home fires involving Christmas trees occur in January. With this post-holiday fire hazard in mind, the National Fire Protection Association® (NFPA®) strongly encourages everyone to dispose of Christmas trees promptly after the holiday season.

“As much as we all enjoy the look and feel of Christmas trees in our homes, they’re large combustible items that have the potential to result in serious fires,” said Lorraine Carli, vice president of Outreach and Advocacy at NFPA.

According to NFPA data, Christmas tree fires don’t happen often, but when they do occur, they’re more likely to be serious. That’s in part because fresh Christmas trees dry out over time, making them more flammable the longer they’re in the home. A dried-out Christmas tree will burn much more quickly than a well-watered one.

Between 2018 and 2022, there was an estimated annual average of 155 home structure fires that began with Christmas trees, resulting in four civilian deaths, seven civilian injuries, and \$15 million in direct property damage.

“Fires that begin with Christmas trees represent a very small but notable part of the U.S. fire problem, considering that they are generally

in use for a short time each year,” said Carli.

To safely dispose of a Christmas tree, NFPA recommends using the local community’s recycling program, if possible; trees should not be put in the garage or left outside. NFPA also offers these tips for safely removing lighting and decorations to ensure that they remain in good condition:

- Use the gripping area on the plug when unplugging electrical decorations. Never pull the cord to unplug any device from an electrical outlet, as this can harm the wire and insulation of the cord, increasing the risk for shock or electrical fire.
- As you pack up light strings, inspect each line for damage, throwing out any sets that have loose connections, broken sockets or cracked or bare wires.
- Wrap each set of lights and put them in individual plastic bags or wrap them around a piece of cardboard.
- Store electrical decorations in a dry place away from children and pets where they will not be damaged by water or dampness.

For this release and other announcements about NFPA initiatives, research, and resources, please visit the NFPA press room.

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Honoring this year: Joel Zeni, Man of the Year; Shelly Pruitt Woman of the Year; and Jake's Auto Repair, Business of the Year

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"Best of the River"

Continued From Page 1

of River Reflections. Long known for the "extra measure of love" she puts into the treats coming out of her Soft Peaks Bakery, people also mentioned they appreciate the knowledge she's freely shared about her family's long-time connections with Oregon's river-guiding community and the history of the McKenzie Valley.

"She's not a bureaucrat, but a real person we can talk with," was part of a note from someone who first met her through the Homeowner Assistance and Reconstruction Program. "Shelly lost her home in the Holiday Farm Fire, just like we did, so it was reassuring to work with someone who knew what we were dealing with," they added. "After talking with her," another says, "we don't feel like we're all alone."

The other women people feel are noteworthy include Gerry Aster, Val Rapp, Melissa Norlund, Connie Richardson, and Brandi Crawford.

"I've never seen the driveway that empty!" was one description given for their vote recommending Jake's Auto Repair of Leaburg as Business of the Year. He pointed out that vehicles in the driveway to the shop "Keep changing - they're being repaired, not just parked there." And his work inside the shop has earned him a reputation, as another supporter says, as a "great mechanic who knows what he's doing and doesn't overcharge."

Besides working on everything from passenger cars, another supporter says that owner Jake Lawson "has been invaluable to our community, sponsoring school sports events, doing toy drives, and sponsoring the Springfield Christmas Parade." He's also a key member of the Oregon River Society, a group that not only sponsors the parade but also works tirelessly to help children and families in need.

Other businesses suggested for an award were Everyone's Market, Mather's Market, the McKenzie River Clinic, and the Tokatee Golf Club.

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Explore a treasure trove of McKenzie River history - in the back issues of this newspaper.

Go to: tinyurl.com/2rkpkxen

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COLD WATER FACT
 Body heat can be lost **25 times faster** in cold water than in cold air.

Problem Solved



By Christopher Elliott

Help! My Samsung TV is a lemon, and I want my \$500 back

Is Martin Griffin's new Samsung TV a lemon? He thinks so, but Samsung's solution is to tell him to buy another TV. Who is right?

I purchased a 50-inch Samsung TV. Six months later, the display panel failed. When I called Samsung, they said they couldn't do anything since the TV is out of warranty.

I then wrote to the executive contacts you list on your site, and Samsung repaired my TV. I have the receipt for the repair.

The display panel failed again last week, and Samsung offered to repair it. Unfortunately, parts are unavailable.

Samsung is now telling me I have to buy a new TV. I have talked to Samsung on the phone and have spoken with managers in multiple departments. I also exchanged text messages with them earlier this week.

I would like Samsung to replace my TV as I feel it is a lemon. I'd like to get back the \$500 I spent on the TV. Can you help me?

Martin Griffin, Wauwatosa, Wis.

Your TV should last more than a few months -- and no, the solution is not to buy another TV. (And if you do, it probably won't be a Samsung TV.)

Samsung said your TV was out

of warranty, but that's not the entire story. There's an express warranty (the one in your contract) and an implied warranty. True, you were outside your warranty period for your TV. But there's an implied warranty that your TV won't break down after only a few months. I explain the difference in my complete guide to getting a repair, replacement or refund.

First, let me commend you on using our executive contacts for Samsung. Reaching out to a customer service manager the first time your TV broke down really helped. If you hadn't done that, you would have been out of luck.

Even though your TV was not under warranty, you might have reminded Samsung of its mission -- to create "superior products and services that contribute to a better global society." Your product was not superior, nor did it contribute to a better global society. Hold Samsung to its promises.

Strictly speaking, you didn't have much of a case (at least, according to the warranty). But warranties are written by lawyers to protect the company, not you. I contacted Samsung on your behalf. The company agreed to refund you \$240, which is the depreciated value of your TV set after one year. You accepted the offer.

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>

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Are you REAL ID ready?



You've probably heard about REAL ID, but do you know what it is? Let's take a quick quiz. Guess which of the following answers is true.

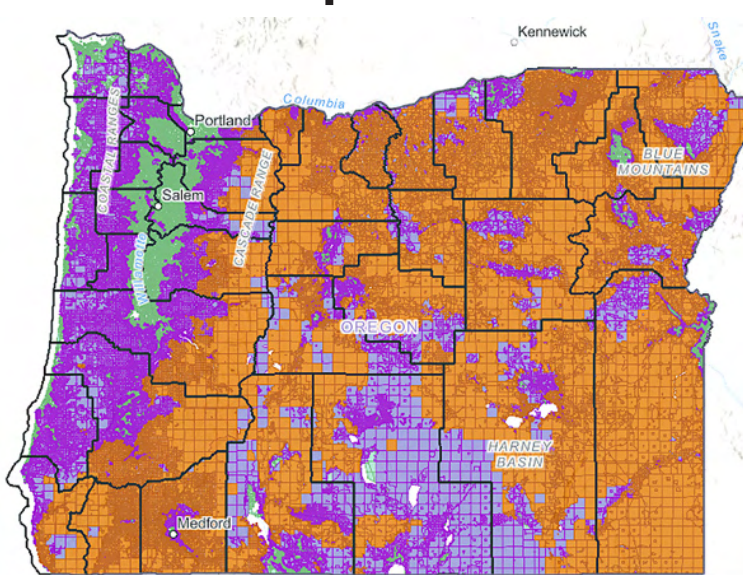
- REAL ID is:
- A. The same as a passport.
 - B. A national ID card.
 - C. Required for everyone.
 - D. All of the above.
 - E. None of the above.

The answer is E. None of the above. If you answered anything but E, we have resources to help you learn more at oregon.gov/realid.

Please consider filling out this six-question anonymous survey. Your feedback will help us determine REAL ID awareness and adoption in the state before the federal deadline.

The survey will close on January 24.

Wildfire maps are available



Statewide maps of wildfire hazard zones and the wildland-urban interface are complete and final versions are now available on the Oregon Explorer website.

The map designates all of Oregon's 1.9 million property tax lots into one of three wildfire hazard zones: low, moderate or high. It also identifies whether a tax lot is within boundaries of the wildland-urban interface. Officials say properties that are in both a high hazard zone and within the wildland-urban interface will be prioritized for future wildfire risk mitigation resources and actions.

"It's a hefty packet of information that property owners will receive by certified mail," said Tim Holschbach, Wildfire Hazard Map Lay Representative. "However, we want to ensure Oregonians get all the relevant information they need on their wildfire hazard exposure."

Anyone who doesn't receive a packet but is still interested in learning about the wildfire hazard where they live can visit the Oregon Explorer website. A Property Owner's Report is available for every Oregon tax lot and includes information about hazards and resources.

"It's important that the map is as objective and understandable as possible," said Kyle Williams, Deputy Director of Fire Operations at ODF. "It took additional time to ensure community protection measures like home hardening and defensible space are prioritized in communities of highest wildfire hazard. It's been time well spent, and we're pleased with the diligence ODF staff and OSU researchers put into addressing input from all sources."

To view the map, go to tinyurl.com/byhbhveb

Guest Opinion

Continued From Page 1

ITC has issued exclusion orders that keep products made overseas — but based on stolen U.S.-developed technologies — off of U.S. markets.

Sadly, despite the ITC's crucial role in supporting U.S. innovators, consumers and jobs, some officials are suggesting that the agency may have overstepped its mandate.

Not true. In the absence of injunctive relief, the ITC is often the only recourse inventors have to protect their ideas and the U.S. market.

Still, as important as the ITC is, it isn't a cure-all. In cases of patent infringement, the agency can only block foreign-manufactured goods from entering the U.S., meaning infringing products made on U.S. soil are beyond its scope. But domestic IP theft is a major problem, too.

That's why it's critical for Con-

gress to fully remedy the court's mistake in eBay by restoring injunctive relief as the default response to patent infringement. Thankfully, the RESTORE Patent Rights Act would do just that. The legislation would effectively overrule the Supreme Court's decision in eBay so that injunctions can once again be presumed in cases where a court finds infringement.

Protecting — and even strengthening — the ITC and passing the restore Patent Rights Act would help ensure inventors get the justice they deserve.

Andrei Iancu served as the undersecretary of commerce for intellectual property and director of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office from 2018 to 2021. He is co-founder and co-chairman of the Council for Innovation Promotion.

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In Memory



Ken Scott

Kenneth M. Scott of Leaburg, OR passed away quickly from cardiac arrest on Friday December 20, 2024 at his home. He was born in Griffin, GA, the son of the late Thomas Leroy Scott, Sr. and Bessie Mae on April 19, 1943. He had one brother, the late Tommy Scott, Jr.. Ken, enlisted in the Navy at age of 15. He then enlisted in the Coast Guard at age 17 and was stationed in Florida, New York and Greece. In 1963 he was stationed in Southern California where he lived until 1970. It was here that he was married to Doris C. and had his firstborn K.C. Scott in 1965. Shortly after devoting his life to Jesus and finding a calling to pursue metal art forms, in 1970, Ken moved north with K.C.

In early 1971, Ken relocated to Eugene, Oregon where he met and married Marji Grenz in 1973. Ken and Marji shared a love of art and enjoyed creating one of a kind works together. Ken and Marji had two daughters, Willow and Brianna and resided on the McKenzie River until they

divorced in 1999.

Ken was a pioneer in his field and brought a diverse range of inspiring metal creations to an appreciative market throughout his career. He fashioned works of bronze statuary, scenic wall sculpture, garden art, steel creatures, gazebos, fire pots, architectural adornment, forged chandeliers, lighting and more. He opened 4 galleries in and around Lane County as well as Sisters, Oregon. They were: The River Run Gallery, Thru The Roof, Ken Scott Sculptures and most recently The Imagination Gallery. His sculptures were also carried in countless other galleries, installed at the Oregon State Capital, the Sea Lion caves, used in parades and school plays, on college campuses and displayed in many homes and businesses throughout Oregon.

Ken left an impression wherever he went and will be remembered fondly for his creative energy, originality, over the top, fun-loving and generous ways. His legacy of creativity and love will be cherished by many.

"Gratitude makes room for more." ~Ken Scott

Ken Scott is survived by his children: K.C. Scott; Willow Travis and Brianna Schulze. Ken is also survived by his half-sister Linda Yucca. Ken's grandchildren are Amanda Hazelton, Kyler Scott, Emerson Travis, A'Marie Travis, Nai'a Travis, Tuck Shulze, JoEvva (JoJo) Schulze and great grandchildren Melody Hazelton and Isaiah Hazelton.

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.

McKenzie Eagles Sports Report



By Cliff Richardson

Continued From Page 1

the Mohawk in Marcola against one of the toughest rivals on one of the toughest courts to play on. At least historically. The Eagle and Mustangs rivalry goes way, way back and there have been many "lay it all out, knuckles out (literally) brawls," that have determined League and State Championships.

Not so much recently, but tell that to either those rooting for the home or visiting teams. That's why McKenzie's 52-48 victory over on the Mustang's home court was a big deal. Two Eagle victories, in a row, in the same week and look where McKenzie Coach Neil Barrett's team sits, at least for the moment. Tied for the Mt. West League lead with Eddyville Charter and Mapleton, all at 2-0. A dangerous road trip over to Crow on Tuesday gives an opportunity for a 3-0 record before Eddyville Charter unloads the bus in Finn Rock on Thursday for a clashing of Eagles. Might be a good time to fill the House seats, like it used to be when the McKenzie court disappointed many visiting teams!

Back down on the Mohawk last Thursday, the Eagles once again got off to a quick start, establishing a hard fought 9-7 first quarter lead and then throwing on the spurs in the second quarter and race to a 23 to 11 halftime lead. That action

always helps put a quiet on the home crowd, except at Mohawk. And true to form, the Mustangs and Eagles came out toe to toe in third, with the homeboys getting the edge, 19-17. McKenzie clung to a nervous 10-point advantage, 40-30, starting the final quarter and sure enough, a stubborn Mustang team wasn't about to be hobbled by an upstart Eagle squad, if they had a say.

Mohawk did indeed rally in the fourth, winning the fourth 18-12, but that disastrous second quarter came back to bite the Mustangs and McKenzie escaped with a 52-48 MWL victory and impressively, sporting a new 2-0 win streak.

Eagle senior Noah Prado grabbed the reins this evening, shooting 6-7 from the field, including 2-2 from the three-point line and adding 1-1 from the free-throw line. Prado finished with 11 points and added 1 rebound. Will Meister led the team with 13 points, finished with 6 rebounds, 2 assists and 2 steals. Masonn Burton added 8 points (4-9 from the field) and led the team with 8 boards, 3 steals and 2 blocked shots. Amir Enfield continued his solid scoring with 7 points and he grabbed 6 rebounds, dished out 4 assists and had 1 steal, 1 assist, and 1 block. Allen Acevedo scored 5 points and finished with 3 rebounds, 3 assists, and 2 steals. Jacob Norlund's game line included 4 points, 3 boards, and an assist, Rhys Hamlow finished with 4 points, 2 rebounds, an assist and a steal, and Aytan Munoz-Brown scored 1 free-throw, had 2 rebounds, 2 assists, a steal and a blocked shot. Hayden Harbick played and finished with 1 board and a block and Jacob Peek added 1 rebound and an assist.

McKenzie as a team held the advantage in turnovers for the

second game in a row, the Eagles committing 17 to Mohawk's 25. And the Eagles won the rebound battle as well, hauling down 33 boards to the Mustang's 20.

Lady Eagles Experience Tough Night At Mohawk Mustangs 51, McKenzie 21

The McKenzie Varsity Girls Basketball team had a tough go-round at the Old Mustang Corral the other night on the Mohawk. Mohawk has some significant court experience and skill level, despite a 6-5 overall record and a MWL opening 47-26 loss to Mapleton, last Thursday, January 2. It probably didn't help to have the Sailors stir up the hornets and anybody who's ever ridden a high mountain trail can share a hornet story or two and the rodeo it can spawn.

The court at Mohawk always seems to play big and the Mustang fans are always enthusiastic supporters. Better to go in that

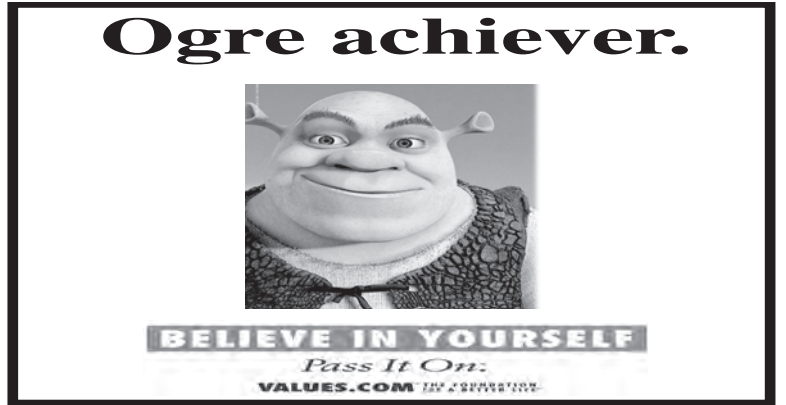
venue with your cinch up tight and your saddlebags full of tricks or you run the risk of a blowout. And that's how it played out for the young Eagle team last Saturday, January 4. A 21-51 point blowout. The Eagles fell to 1-8 on the season.

McKenzie travels to Crow on Tuesday and the Cougars are just one overall victory better, 2-5, so maybe the Lady Eagles can throw a loop over a win. Eddyville

Charter (2-8) rides in a couple of days later and depending on how Mapleton treats them on Tuesday, may arrive looking for an elusive victory as well.

Needless to say, opportunity is there for the taking if McKenzie Head Coach Heather Holte can focus her team on finding the bottom of the basket. No game stats for the Mohawk game were available at printing.

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Share Your Thoughts >>>>

You can help shape the future of the McKenzie River Valley regional economy! Please take 5 minutes to complete a survey to inform the work of the McKenzie River Chamber of Commerce and other regional efforts. Survey respondents will be entered into a drawing for a gift card to a local business: bit.ly/3V6AFae

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Questions? Contact Ken Engelman president@McKenzieChamber.com

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