

Jim Search Remembered for Big Heart

By Sarah Brown
Of The New Era

The loss of one of Sweet Home's own could be felt as hundreds, maybe even a thousand, gathered Sunday to say goodbye to James "Jim" Boyd Search.

Grieving hearts filled the sanctuary, overflowed into the lobby and spilled outside at Sweet Home Community Chapel on April 21. Only as friends shared memories about Jim could the palpable sorrow be cut through with stories that made the crowd laugh.

Jim was born March 2, 1966, in Klamath Falls and made a life for his wife, Heather, and two children, Ian and Ashley, in Linn County as he developed a career with the Linn County Sheriff's Office. Starting early as a man who gave his life for others, Jim started volunteering for Search and Rescue (SAR) as a teen. He later joined LCSO as a reserve deputy and worked his way up to sergeant in the civil division until his retirement in 2016. Shortly after, he went to



The Search family, from left, Heather, Ian, Ashley and Jim.

work for Advanced Mechanical Inc. in Brownsville.

Friend Tim Mueller could recall the first time he worked with "this tall, skinny, goofy kid" back in the 1980s when the two were part of a search and rescue mission up above Quartzville, and how for the next 38-some years their

friendship developed into a bond that would bring Mueller to tears upon hearing his good friend had died.

"He was one of those kinds of guys that everybody was just glad to see because you knew that your day was going to be better when he would show up," he said. "He was a

Photo provided by Wendi Melcher

light, I guess would be a good way to put it, because he would light up the darkness anywhere he went."

Mueller retrieved memories he had with Jim: their hunting trips, years of search and rescue missions, the

See Big Heart, Page 8

Community Rallies for Child Abuse Awareness

By Sky Chappell
Of The New Era

Community members, police personnel and volunteers gathered in front of the Sweet Home Police Department with a mutual thought in mind, "How can we bring awareness to child abuse?" on April 2.

The event started with Community Service Officer Sean Morgan introducing the event, as well as Mayor Susan Coleman.

After the introduction Mayor Coleman gave a speech. During this speech, Mayor Coleman touching on many important issues including troubling facts she was not formerly aware of.

"Recently, I learned disturbing facts about child abuse in Linn County," she said. "In 2022, there were 461 child abuse cases with 48.5% of these cases involving children under the age of 6."

According to Mayor Coleman, in the same year 19 children died from familial or caregiver abuse or ne-



Photo by Sky Chappell

Community members, volunteers, police personnel and the mayor during the one mile walk to spread child abuse awareness.

glect.

"As we know, [I] would anticipate, those Linn County stats include incidents that happened here in Sweet Home," Mayor Coleman stated.

The importance of bringing awareness to these

things was also on the forefront of Mayor Coleman's mind.

"Let us be a community that chooses to shed light on this matter, to speak out, to become aware of the signs of child abuse, and be willing to report child abuse.

Awareness is the first step towards prevention."

Mayor Coleman ended her speech stating that individuals, families and community members have the power to make a difference.

"We must speak up for

See Rallies, Page 16

Hometown
Newspaper of

SHARON
SMITH



EDUCATION AND
ADVOCACY KEY TO
ABUSE PREVENTION
PAGE 6



TRACK FACES TOP
COMPETITION AT
MEET OF CHAMPIONS
PAGE 7



DOGWOOD PLANTED
IN MEMORY OF
MOLLIE
PAGE 9

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OBITUARIES



Shirley June Gingerich
March 16, 1942 - March 30, 2024

Shirley June Gingerich, 82, of Albany passed away on Saturday, March 30, 2024. Shirley was born March 16, 1942 to B. Mary (Eash) and Ira "Bud" Baker at Sacred Heart Hospital in Eugene.

She was raised in the farming community of Harrisburg. She married Norman Gingerich on December 14, 1960. Her son, Troy was born in August of 1965, her daughter Sharlene was born in December of 1966. Shirley recounted many times to her children how happy she was to have become a mother. The Gingerich family moved to Junction City in 1980. Shirley later lived in Eugene from 1994 to 2014, then to Mennonite Village in Albany until her passing.

Shirley was a devout follower of Jesus, she loved the Lord with her whole heart. She was a loving daughter,

sister, wife and mother. Shirley drove a school bus and was a janitor for Harris Elementary School, was a CNA, an office manager for Dr. Huff in Junction City and later caregiving in private homes as well as for hospice. Shirley had a passion for serving others and she did so with joy and love. She adored children and rarely passed one without saying hello.

Shirley greatly enjoyed gardening, her yard was filled with beautiful flowers and shrubs. She also kept a large vegetable garden, putting up vegetables and fruit for the winter. She also had a talent for drawing, in earlier years she enjoyed using her artistic abilities with oil based painting of landscapes and flowers. Shirley loved to sing and for several years joined a troupe singing and dancing at the Scandinavian Festival in Junction City.

She is survived by her son Troy Gingerich of Sweet Home, grandchildren: Rachel Gingerich of New Smyrna Beach, FL, Aaron Gingerich of Spokane, WA, Moriah Gingerich of Bend, Bethany (Josiah) Schmidt of Irvine, CA, Valeri Gingerich of Junction City, daughter Sharlene Campbell of Tigard, grandchildren: Sophia (Josiah) Pilskalns, great-granddaughter Yael Pilskalns of Salt Lake City, UT, grandson Nathan Campbell of Bremerton, WA, brother Richard (Arlene) Baker of Harrisburg, sister Jo-Anne (Pieter) Bos of Lebanon and many dear nieces and

nephews. She was preceded in death by her husband Norman Gingerich (1999), father Ira "Bud" Baker (1999), mother B. Mary Baker (2001) and sister Carolyn Ulrich (2023).

Memorial service will be held at a later date. Sweet Home Funeral Chapel is handling arrangements. www.sweethomefuneral.com.



James Boyd Search
March 2, 1966 - April 14, 2024

James Boyd Search, 58, of Sweet Home passed away April 14, 2024. He was born on March 2, 1966 to Thelma D. (Faulkner) and Mark E. Search, Sr., in Klamath Falls.

Jim lived in Dorris, California until he was 10 years old. The family then moved to Lebanon in 1976. He graduated class of 1984 from Lebanon Union High School and went on to receive an associate's degree from LBCC in 1986.

He worked at various jobs throughout his life such as farming, a machinist and titanium plant worker. Jim started with Linn County Search and Rescue at age 15 as a cadet. He later became an adult leader and reserve deputy for the Linn County Sheriff's Office until he was hired on full time in June of 1991. Jim retired from the Linn County Sheriff's Office in June 2016 after 25 years of service. He then worked as a maintenance supervisor for Advanced Mechanical Inc. in Brownsville.

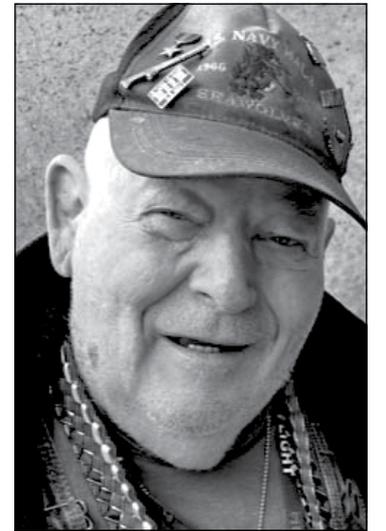
Jim was a gun and knife enthusiast. He enjoyed boating, fishing, traveling and most of all enjoying his family and friends. His greatest joy was giving and helping others. Jim never met a stranger. He loved to strike up conversations with anyone who would listen.

He is survived by his wife of 30 years, Heather Search, two children: Ian and Ashley Search, both of Shelbyville, Tennessee, and his brother Mark (Lawona) Search Jr. He is preceded in death by his parents and older brother.

A celebration of life will be 2 pm Sunday, April 21 at Community Chapel. Donations may be made in memory of Jim Search to: Linn County Search and Rescue Unit at the following: Linn County Sheriff's Office, Jim Search Memorial, 1115 Jackson St. SE, Albany OR 97322. Sweet Home Funeral Chapel is handling arrangements www.sweethomefuneral.com.

Richard Lester Miller
August 6, 1932 - April 17, 2024

Richard Lester Miller, 91, of Albany passed away Wednesday, April 17, 2024. Sweet Home Funeral Chapel is handling arrangements www.sweethomefuneral.com.



Frederick Craig Wellhouser
May 21, 1947 - March 27, 2024

Frederick "Fred" Craig Wellhouser was born in Spokane, Washington, on May 21, 1947 and passed away on March 27, 2024 in Brownsville. Celebration of Life for Fred on Saturday, May 18, 2024 at 11:30 a.m. at Central Linn High School located at 32433 Hwy 228, Halsey. Sweet Home Funeral Chapel is handling arrangements. www.sweethomefuneral.com.

LOCAL EVENTS

Garden Club Flower Design Classes

The Lebanon Garden Club will host free flower design classes at the Lebanon Senior Center from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. on the following dates: April 25 (teacup class design, bring your own teacup/saucer), May 2 (green & petite design), May 9 (miniatures & dried design). This will be in anticipation of the club's upcoming annual flower show to be held

on Friday, May 31, and Saturday, June 1.

Registration required to ensure enough supplies. The sign up sheets are located at the Lebanon Senior Center front desk, or contact Merrie Wales at 530.936.7464 or email happycelts@att.net.

Dinner, Silent Auction Fundraiser

Lake Town Academy will host a dinner, movie and si-

lent auction at 6 p.m. on Friday, April 26, at House of Glory church, 30337 Fairview Road, between Lebanon and Sweet Home.

Cost is \$25 per person. Childcare is available for \$5 per child. Silent auction donations are sought. To purchase tickets, visit LakeTownAcademy.com/store. For more information, contact Ashley Knight at 541.224.6828 or email laketownacademy@gmail.com.

The funds raised through the auction help enhance the educational experience for

the students, provide resources that may not be covered by the school's regular budget, and support scholarships. This year Lake Town is specifically trying to raise funds for a school van/bus that would allow them to get out and do more field learning, community service, and have an increased access to resources.

Indoor Organic Gardening Classes

Master Gardener Sheryl Casteen offers free gardening

classes from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. on Saturdays, April 27 and May 4, at the Lebanon Senior Center, 80 Tangent St., Lebanon.

Casteen promises "a garden myth busted every week" and hands-on planting to take home, in addition to lessons on why plants don't produce, what soil needs, when to harvest, plant disease and nutrient deficiencies, and pests & predators.

Pre-registration is required. Call 541.791.6262, or email sherylcasteen@gmail.com.

The New Era

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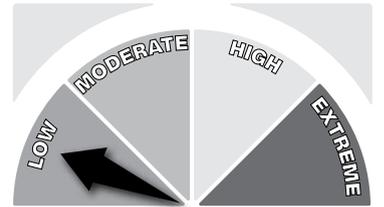
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TEMPERATURES

DATE	HIGH	LOW	PRECIP
April 15	59	44	0.01
April 16	57	41	0.00
April 17	62	36	0.00
April 18	68	36	0.00
April 19	72	38	0.00
April 20	68	41	0.00
April 21	63	34	0.00

FORECAST

DAY	WEATHER	HIGH	LOW
Thur	Rain	54	48
Fri	Rain	55	44
Sat	Showers	58	45
Sun	Showers	57	43
Mon	Showers	56	40
Tues	Showers	60	40
Wed	AM Showers	61	41



TODAYS FIRE DANGER IS
LOW

The fire danger information provided is current at the time of publication. For the latest and most accurate updates, please visit: oregon.gov/odf

PRECIPITATION

Year to date: 14.53
April 26, 2023: 18.57

LAKE LEVELS

Foster Reservoir: 615.5
Green Peter Res.: 984.8

Weather predictions are reported based on forecasts provided by the National Weather Service and others. Temperature and lake level information courtesy of the U.S. Corps of Engineers. For updated stream flow information, call (541) 367-5132.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Information for the Public Safety report in The New Era is sourced from local law enforcement and fire agencies. Incident details, which may not always be available from agencies in time for publication in our weekly paper edition, could be updated online as information becomes available. Addresses provided generally denote the location of the incident or arrest, occasionally indicating the origin of the call. It is crucial to emphasize that our reporting of an individual's arrest or citation for a crime does not imply guilt. Determination of guilt can only be established through legal proceedings in court.

April 15

- 9:28 a.m. - Garrett Solis, 28, was cited for speeding. 38/25.
- 9:54 a.m. - Caroline Meyer, 64, was cited for speeding. 35/25.
- 10:09 a.m. - Jack Wooton, 73, was cited for speeding. 35/25.
- 10:29 a.m. - Matthew Woods, 36, was cited for speeding. 38/25.
- 10:46 a.m. - Gavin Whitney,

32, was cited for failure to obey a traffic control device.

11:15 a.m. - Caller reports theft of a BB gun. Officer responded, report taken. Valued loss \$40. Foster Lake Mall.

12:51 p.m. - Kayla Laree McKnight, 33, arrested on a Sweet Home Municipal Court warrant for failure to comply on an original charge for third degree theft.

7:58 p.m. - Andrew Edwin Amudson, 34, was arrested on a Sweet Home Municipal Court warrant for failure to appear on an original charge for first degree criminal trespass, a Linn County Justice Court warrant for criminal trespass and a Linn County Circuit Court warrant for first degree criminal mischief. Amudson was additionally arrested for second degree criminal trespass and resisting arrest. Lodged at Linn County Jail.

9:40 p.m. - Shelly Wagner, 41, was cited for driving while suspended, driving uninsured, failure to renew registration and failure to display plates.

10:13 p.m. - Amey Ford, 45, was cited for driving while suspended and undisclosed war-

rants.

11:40 p.m. - Benjamin Philip Hyatt, 45, was arrested by Lebanon PD on a Sweet Home Municipal Court warrant for failure to appear on an original charge for second degree criminal trespass.

April 16

5:19 a.m. - Aliyah O'Bannon, 28, was cited for speeding. 64/45. 38600 Scrael Hill Rd, Albany.

7:44 a.m. - Rhealyn Unruh, 19, was cited for driving uninsured and speeding. 35/20.

8:58 p.m. - Shyanne Nickole Church, 26, was arrested by Linn County Sheriff's Office on a Sweet Home Municipal Court warrant for failure to comply on an original charge for second degree failure to appear.

9:57 p.m. - Ame Gerard, 46, was arrested on multiple undisclosed warrants. Lodged in Linn County Jail.

10:23 p.m. - Arne Joseph Gerard, 46, was arrested by Linn County Sheriff's Office on a Sweet Home Municipal Court warrant for failure to comply on an original charge for hit and run.

April 17

8:14 a.m. - Arthur Train, 38, was cited for expired registration.

3:45 p.m. - Macayla Marie Jimenez, was arrested by Linn County Sheriff's Office on a Sweet Home Municipal Court warrant for failure to comply on an original charge for theft by receiving.

5:04 p.m. - Caller reports a battery was stolen. Officer responded, report taken for second degree theft. Valued loss \$335.99. Napa Auto Parts.

6:39 p.m. - Oregon State Police reported a cougar sighting. Officer responded, checked the area, and was unable to locate it. 2300 block of Harding St.

April 18

8:51 a.m. - Earl Ryan Dodge, 30, was arrested by Linn County Sheriff's Office on Sweet Home Municipal Court warrants for failure to appear on charges for third degree theft, second degree criminal mischief, offensive littering and second degree criminal trespass.

9:59 a.m. - Lisa Johnston, 49, was cited for driving while suspended and driving uninsured.

11:50 a.m. - Buzz Starr Dod-

son Jr., 26, was arrested on a Linn County Justice Court warrant for a probation violation on an original charge for driving while suspended.

1:25 p.m. - Daniel Cunningham, 38, was arrested for criminal driving while suspended.

3:13 p.m. - Julianne Nicole Phillips, 30, was arrested on a Sweet Home Municipal Court warrant for failure to appear on an original charge for third degree theft.

4:41 p.m. - Trevor Paul Ride-nour, 22, was cited for no valid operator's license.

8:26 p.m. - Brittanee Morgan Jones, was arrested for second degree disorderly conduct and resisting arrest.

April 19

7:33 a.m. - Caller reports someone broke into the apartment and stole her safe and the contents inside. Officer responded, report taken for first degree burglary. Valued loss \$2500. 1800 block of Kalmia St.

10:41 a.m. - Sara Lynn Hoffman, 36, was cited for operating a vehicle while using a mobile device.

See Public Safety, Page 12

CIRCUIT COURT

Warrants are out on the following individuals: *Damion Michael Aragon, Kaleb Kimber Banta, Jacob Reginald Bliss, Raymond Larry Bodda, Hope Marie Connors, Curtis Ray Daniel, Ashlee Dee Flanagan, Aaron Thomas Halvorson, Noe Hernandez-Reyes, Michael Trevor Hilton, Ariel Shanea Kaping, Andrew Donald LeGore, Bryce William McGowan, Eric Wayne McKnight, Larry Robert Morgan, Nicholas Alan Nelson, Daniel Austin Phillips, Tammy Lavonn Robinson, Paul Levi Shelton.*

Ryan Randall Carbon, 40, was dismissed March 26 of charges for unlawful use of a weapon and unlawful possession of a firearm.

Kealie Rae Kallai, 20, was

sentenced April 18 to 48 hours confined to jail, 24 months of bench probation and a \$100 fine following a guilty plea for fourth degree assault. Charges dismissed: First degree burglary and harassment.

Charles James Marvel, 22, was charged April 14 with two counts of unlawful delivery of methamphetamine within 1,000 feet of a school, two counts of unlawful delivery of methamphetamine, two counts of unlawful manufacture of methamphetamine and two counts of possession of methamphetamine.

Wayde Leland Savolt, 25, was charged April 16 with driving under the influence of intoxicants and reckless driving.



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Crossword KEY

Puzzle on page 15

D	A	T	A		S	P	T		P	V	A				
A	R	A	B	S		A	L	I		P	A	I	N		
P	A	R	E	R		D	A	M		A	D	I	T		
S	A	T	I	S		D	N	B		J	I	R	I	S	
					A	M	E	N	A	B	L	E			
P	R	E	M	A	T	U	R	E	L	L	Y				
C	H	O	P	P	E	D		D	E	W					
T	O	N	G	A					O	C	A	L	A		
					C	P	A		C	O	R	O	N	A	S
					H	A	M	S	A	N	D	W	I	C	H
					A	D	E	L	A	I	D	E			
A	L	A	E		A	Z	T		S	A	B	E	R		
D	O	H	A		C	O	T		A	I	L	E	D		
A	B	E	D		E	N	E		R	A	B	B	I		
R	E	D			S	S	R			S	A	S	S		

SUDOKU KEY

Puzzle on page 15

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

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FROM OUR FILES



“Ma” Gilliland has finally in 1974 retired from cooking. She has been working as a cook since 1920, and is pictured here at a reception held in her honor at the Veterans’ of Foreign Wars Club.

April 25, 1974

“The future of industry in the Sweet Home area and how the chamber may help” will be the theme of a general Chamber of Commerce membership meeting. The program will be composed of talks by area industrialists followed by a panel discussion on the local problems their industries are facing and how the chamber might be able to help.

Proceeds from this year’s Sportsman’s Holiday will go for a heart monitoring machine for the Sweet Home ambulance. More clubs and organizations are urged to participate in the hometown carnival and parades. This year’s theme is “Reflections of 100 Years.”

The school board approved contracts for additions to Oak Heights and Hawthorne elementary schools. Only board member Betty Dedman expressed concern over the action due to large school budget increases and an “unsure economy.” Oak Heights will get a new library and Hawthorne will get an opportunity reading room.

April 28, 1999

A \$15,000 reward has been posted in the hunt for persons responsible for an arson fire that damaged more than \$1 million worth of logging equipment last month. The equipment owned by Jim Cota and Mike Melcher was

parked on a logging site near Cascadia. Shortly after the fire, equipment owned by Rice Logging was vandalized while on a job site near Cottage Grove. Mike Miller, of Associated Oregon Loggers, said he had testified on a bill that would make it a Class C felony to damage logging or farming equipment.

Money raised in the community will remain here after Communities for a Great Oregon donated \$7,900 to teen programs sponsored by the Sweet Home Boys and Girls Club. Jean Teschner of CGO said the money closes out the organization which banded together nearly a decade ago to help fight for timber-dependent communities like Sweet Home. The club director said the money will finance late night programs for teens such as basketball, movies and snacks.

An OSU exchange student from Albania asked for support for peace-loving people who are under siege. Monika Causholli, a finance major sponsored by Judy Maniates of Sweet Home, shared the long history of conflict between Serbia, Kosovo (where some Albanians were living), Bosnia and Yugoslavia that pulled NATO into action. She believes many Americans don’t understand the cause the U.S. is fighting for, and asks them to support refugees and the ousting of President Slobodan Milosevic.

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Wildland Program Moves One Step Closer

By Sky Chappell
Of The New Era

Members of the board discussed an update on the upcoming wildland program during the Sweet Home Fire Board meeting that took place April 16.

Fire Chief Nick Tyler and Wildland Fire Division Program Manager Christian Whitfield presented the board with a 23-page document highlighting various things all contributing to the wildland program.

Whitfield's position is funded through a grant for the purpose of managing the Community Wildfire Risk Reduction Program. The next step is for SHFAD to hire a handcrew funded by the National Forest Foundation (NFF) that will assist homeowners with creating a defensible space around their homes and other structures, as well as working within the forest surrounding the Sweet Home area.

The documents submitted to the board included legalities and the contract between the Forest Service and the NFF; the technical proposal of 40 miles of work; the map of the project as well as the financials; \$1.9 million amount



Photo by Sky Chappell

Chief Nick Tyler going over call volumes during the April 16 board meeting.

the NFF is granting to do the project; and a 20-person crew costing about \$906,000.

Chief Tyler was requesting pre-authorization from the board to vote on his ability to sign the document as it hits his desk.

"There is an element of blind faith," Chief Tyler said. "We're optimistic, and confident, but I'm nervous about over-selling."

The wildland program will be beginning with the hopes

of creating potential control lines for fires. These control lines would not only be an employment opportunity, but would also be a way into fire service without having to do medical.

"There is a large number of people who don't like EMS, but want to fight fire," Whitfield said.

Chief Tyler told the board he will be in front of city council on April 23 to discuss the project.

Board member Charlene Adams made the motion to approve the authorization for the signing, and the motion passed unanimously.

"I think that this is going to be a huge milestone for the district and the community," Chief Tyler said.

In other business:

- The board covered financials and call volume for the month of March;

- Madison Yoch from Alyrica requested the usage of

Sweet Home Fire and Ambulance District (SHFAD) unused property and presented to the board Alyrica information;

- The new owner of the Bohemian Club requested buying a stretch of property owned by SHFAD;
- Brent Gaskey will be volunteering to sit on the budget committee;
- Chief Tyler recognized firefighter Josh Marvin, who recently finished his bachelor's degree in fire service administration;
- Discussion of shop projects being finished;
- Josh Marvin is looking into the possibility of hosting an EMT course;
- Ambulance and Ambulance Service licensing renewal was discussed;
- Training report was discussed;
- The New District website was discussed;
- City Councilor Dave Trask presented to the board a discrepancy with the chief;
- Zach Lincoln discussed documents given to the board and the lack of response from those documents concerning potential litigation.

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Education and Advocacy Key to Abuse Prevention

By Sarah Brown
Of The New Era

They say it takes a village to raise a child, but when it comes to protecting those who need a little extra care, it takes a specific community.

Every year during Child Abuse Prevention Awareness month in April, local communities such as Sweet Home and Lebanon host an event with guest speakers who deal directly with child victims. Among the speakers regularly present are representatives from ABC House and CASA of Linn County, two nonprofit organizations who make it a goal to not only care for a victim's needs, but also educate the public about prevention.

"Education and awareness are an incredibly important part of preventing child abuse," ABC House Executive Director Karsen O'Bryan said.

To that effort, she reported they have been able to educate more than 5,000 students and community members on how to recognize, interrupt and report child abuse.

"We know that the more people who understand what the risk factors are and if they see something to say something, that it will help protect kids in our communities," she said. "Our goal is to grow our prevention efforts and become the gold standard for prevention education so we can educate as many people as possible to help keep our most vulnerable kids safe."

Currently ABC House in Albany sees about 800 kids a year, but cases had gone up in both numbers and severity surrounding the COVID-19 timeframe.

"There was a 30% increase



Photo by Sarah Brown

Staff at ABC House pose with Xander.

from 2019-2022 mostly due to the factors of the pandemic - i.e. kids being at home more, not as many eyes on them, stress on families, parents out of work, etc.," she said.

ABC House recently started doing mental health counseling in Sweet Home one day a week to help remove barriers and engage kids more.

The nonprofit operates fundraising activities year round in order to keep their services free for victims and victims' families. According to O'Bryan, the cost of services per child starts at approximately \$4,176.41, broken down as follows: medical exam, \$3,227.06; forensic interview, \$496; mental health assessment, \$222; crisis session, \$231.45.

"This is for every unique time they are seen, meaning if children come back to us multiple times, this would be the amount every time they are seen," she said.

O'Bryan reported the most common type of child abuse case they see each year is physical abuse. She cited Kar-

ly's Law, which passed in 2008 after 3-year-old Karly Sheehan, of Corvallis, died under the care of her mother and convicted boyfriend Shawn Wesley Field.

According to the Oregon Department of Justice, the law "mandates that children in Oregon who exhibit suspicious physical injuries in the course of a child abuse investigation must receive medical attention within 48 hours." Karly's father, David Sheehan, and others had reported suspected abuse of Karly several times, but she was not removed from the situation in time, according to news reports.

"Because of how robust Karly's Law in Oregon is, we see the most physical abuse cases," O'Bryan said.

Following closely behind cases of physical abuse are cases of sexual abuse, and then in descending order are threat of harm, neglect, and witness to violence. O'Bryan noted Linn County has a "much higher case rate" than Benton County.

When a child is taken to ABC House for help, one of

the most highly admired staff members is Xander, a five year old yellow lab/golden retriever. Born in Australia and raised in Hawaii, he comes from an "incredibly long line" of service dogs through Assistance Dogs Northwest, O'Bryan said. His job is to greet kids and families, and "give them a friendly snuggle" when needed.

"As we know, dogs greatly reduce stress, and Xander does a wonderful job of sitting with kids while they are waiting for services, or to greet them when they come out of services," O'Bryan said. "He will also occasionally wait with kids in the courthouse before they get on the stand to testify."

The dog is also responsible for attending community presentations, as well as visiting schools and businesses, but he also cheers up staff when they are having hard days, she said.

"We are so extremely grateful for him to be a part of our building."

Another angle to child support services includes the foster system and the court process many victims have to go through. CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates), a nonprofit that trains volunteers to support foster youth, steps in by becoming involved as an advocate on behalf of a child in court.

Kids should be entitled to a safe home and surrounded by loving people, Executive Director Leslee Mayers said. CASA volunteers listen to the child's story and bear witness to that story when needed.

"There are typically multiple agencies and people involved in a foster youth's life and it is when all are working together that the youth most benefits," she said.

While most of the agencies are managing multiple aspects of a family's case and working to create stability for the child, CASA's sole responsibility is to focus on the child, Mayers explained. They make sure the child receives all services they need, including how to be successful academically.

A CASA might stay on a child's case for years, provid-

ing necessary history and context every time a change in a resource home or caseworker takes place. This ensures a youth does not get "lost in the system," Mayers said.

She shared one instance when a child was moved several times and advocates began to feel he was getting lost in the system. When they tracked him down and made contact, he exclaimed, "I knew you would find me."

Aside from being an advocate in court, CASAs find themselves helping teens learn life skills. One has taught youth how to cook and do laundry, and another connected a child to a summer camp geared specifically for kids with a certain disability.

On average, a CASA volunteer will spend between five to 10 hours a month working on a case. Each open case lasts about two years. The workload includes: meeting with the youth; reviewing reports and documents from Oregon Department of Human Services and services providers; talking with teachers, family members of youth and resource parents; attending meetings facilitated through ODHS; attending court; and writing reports.

Mayers reported they are currently serving around 104 youth, which makes up around 50% of the youth care in Linn County. CASA volunteer service tends to last around four years, she said. CASA of Linn County provides information sessions on the second Thursday of each month and training three times a year (February, April and September/October). Anyone interested in becoming a CASA will go through an application and background process, as well as complete 35 hours of pre-service training and court observation.

"Did you know that one meaningful and nurturing relationship with an adult is a child abuse prevention strategy?" Mayers asked. "While we focus-in on foster youth, it's our community's responsibility to focus-in on all youth."

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Track Faces Top Competition at Meet of Champions

By Scott Swanson
For The New Era

Sweet Home's track and field athletes had a good day Tuesday, April 23, in a dual at North Marion, winning both the boys and girls competitions.

Then the Huskies' top performers got a chance to face off with the cream of the crop from northwest Oregon's smaller schools Saturday at the Meet of Champions, which they hosted with Cascade's coaches helping to organize the event, for which competitors had to qualify.

"We had a great turnout," said Head Coach Nathan Whitfield. "The meet went without any real hitches. We had good marks from our kids and the other kids from other schools showed up."

The boys' competition drew athletes from 27 teams and the girls' 25 schools. Cottage Grove won the boys' competition with 65 points, ahead of Philomath (51) and Cascade (49), and Philomath won the girls' with 108 points, well ahead of Cascade (86) and Molalla (61).

Sweet Home's boys were 13th with 21 points, while the girls finished with 1 point, scored by Mckenzie Miller with an eighth-place finish in the 1500.

But the Huskies produced a number of personal bests, and they got a chance to see some top-level competition, which is what coaches were looking for.

"It gave the kids a chance to see what a big meet is like, to see competition they don't always get to see," Whitfield said.

The boys' top finisher was Colin Nicholson, who was second in the High Jump (5-10) and the third in the Triple Jump, with a 1-foot PR of 40-10.

Nicholson was tied with East Linn Christian's Elliot Nofziger at 5-10 in the High Jump, and the "crazy" (as Whitfield described it) resulting jump-off started at 5-10 after they both missed at 5-8, back to 5-10, which they both cleared, and then Nofziger finally won it by clearing 6-0.

"Colin's getting there," Whitfield said of the senior who is midway through his first full season of track and field after being sidelined by an early injury last year. "He still has some more work to do. He's getting his technique figured out."

Other top performers for the Sweet Home boys were freshman Kason Koenig-Walters, who posted a 10-second PR (10:18.08) in the second 3000 of his high school career, freshman hurdler Nick Larson, who was the top underclassman in the 110 hurdles (18.38), junior Dylan Sharp who PR'd in the Shot Put with a throw of 45-8½, and junior Rickey Erickson, with a 2-foot PR of 138-3 in the Javelin.

For the girls, Miller, who had been ill prior to the Meet of Champions, was the top finisher of the day with her eighth in the 1500 and a ninth-place finish in the 3000.

The three Huskies who qualified for the 800 all finished with PR's, senior Lydia Wright slicing two seconds off her personal best with a 2:40.44, junior Amelia Sullens cutting six seconds to run 2:44.61, and junior Nadiyah Koenig-Walters posting a 7½ second PR in 2:45.37. Wright also posted a 2-second PR in the 400 (1:05.83).

At North Marion on Tuesday, the Huskies posted 32 personal bests on the boys side to beat the hosts 78-50, and 25 for the girls in outscoring North Marion 86-45.

"The kids did really well there," Whitfield said. "The throws did really well, our 4x4 (relays) did well and Keagan Vogel had a big PR to qualify for the Meet of Champions."

Vogel, a sophomore, had a 30-second PR by himself to finish in 10:30.86.

"We're looking good so far," Whitfield said, noting that the Huskies have four meets left before the district meet at Newport on May 10-11.

This week they will travel to Cascade Wednesday, April 24,

Sweet Home will then compete Friday at the Rob Allen Twilight Invitational at Lebanon, which starts at 3:30 p.m. and will include nine teams, all of them 5A Division except for Sweet Home and East Linn Christian.

"Lebanon should be fun," Whitfield said. "There will be a bunch of bigger teams there."

He said he expects tough competition at Cascade, both on the guys and girls sides, but the Huskies have more depth this year and have "done well in all our duals."

"We're still working on a bunch of things and we'll know better how we're doing as we go along," he said.

Meet of Champions

Top Three in Events Sweet Home Athletes Competed In and Husky Finishers

* Personal Best

Boys Results

100 - John Coiner (Santiam Christian) 10.95; (2) DeSean Stafford (Banks) 11.41; (3) Josiah Hawkins (Cascade) 11.42; (15) Chase Cameron (SH) 11.82.

200 - John Coiner (SC) 22.65; (2) Warwick Bushnell (Philomath) 23.06; (3) C.D. Nuno (Philomath) 23.41; (11) Chase Cameron (SH) 24.23.

800 - (1) Viggo Beck (Triangle Lake) 2:03.29; (2) Juan Gomez (Tillamook) 2:03.71; (#) Micah Hanke (Cottage Grove) 2:04.14; (11) Kasey Kast (SH) 2:08.70.

3000 - Louigi Etta (Yamhill-Carlton) 9:17.27; (2) Leo Pausch (Philomath) 9:26.09; (3) Lukas Hernandez (Philomath) 9:40.55; (18) Kason Koenig-Walters (SH) 10:18.08*; (22) Keagan Vogel (SH) 10:31.22.

110 Hurdles - (1) Hayes Valley (Cottage Grove) 15.68; (2) Lucas Curry (Delphian) 15.70; (3) Ryan Smith (Harrisburg) 16.69; (11) Nick Larson (SH) 18.38.

300 Hurdles - (1) Lucas Curry (D) 42.04; (2) Hayes Valley (CG) 42.66; (3) David Markham (Banks) 43.75; (12) Nick Larson (SH) 47.33;

4x100 Relay - (1) Blanchet 44.41; (2) Cascade 44.70; (3) Junction City 44.94; Sweet Home DNF.

4x400 Relay - (1) Delphian 3:33.42; (2) Banks 3:36.08; (3) Santiam Christian 3:39.81; (8) Sweet Home (Kasey Kast, Landon Murry, Colin Nicholson, Chase Cameron) 3:48.42.

Shot Put - (1) Mason Detzler (Myrtle Point) 57-1; (2) Kaleb Moore (Junction City) 51-0; (3) Eli Williams (Cottage Grove) 47-2; (4) Dylan Sharp (SH) 45-8½; (8) Gavin Tyler (SH) 41-5¼;

Discus - (1) Mason Detzler (MP) 169-8; (2) Kaleb Moore (JC) 159-6; (3) Logan Motsinger (Tillamook) 143-0; (16) Conner Pace (SH) 110-0.

Javelin - (1) Kiyan Vrell (Amity) 178-8; (2) Brandon Robertson (Molalla) 175-8; (3) Rowan Files (Lowell) 158-11; (11) Rickey Erickson (SH) 138-3*.

High Jump - (1) Elliott Nofziger (East Linn) 6-0; (2) Colin Nicholson (SH) 5-10; (3) Gavin Grogan (Cottage Grove) 5-8.

Triple Jump - (1) Nathaniel Young (Monroe) 42-4; (2) Jax Norcutt (Lowell) 41-8; (3) Colin Nicholson (SH) 40-10*.

Girls Results

100 - (1) Mya Haarsma (Amity) 12.61; (2) Janice Hellesto (Philomath) 12.91; (3) Jade Naylor (Molalla) 13.06; (21) Brooke Elder (SH) 13.87.

400 - (1) Lillian Pickett (Cascade) 58.48; (2) Natalie Dunn (Philomath) 58.86; (3) Celia James (Salem Academy) 1:00.17; (13) Lydia Wright (SH) 1:05.83*.

800 - (1) Macallan Cutsforth (North Marion) 2:22.52; (2) Iris Frome (Elmira) 2:26.53; (3) Sonja Fischer (Molalla) 2:27.17; (13) Lydia Wright (SH) 2:40.44*; (15) Amelia Sullens (SH) 2:44.61*; (16) Nadiyah Koenig-Walters (SH) 2:45.37*.

1500 - (1) Adele Beckstead (Phi-

lomath) 5:04.29; (2) Melea Lattin (Philomath) 5:10.21; (3) Libby Fox (Junction City) 5:11.50; (8) Mckenzie Miller (SH) 5:22.55.

3000 - (1) Adele Beckstead (Philomath) 10:51.31; (2) Lola Esplin (Junction City) 11:09.70; (3) Ella Cardwell (Cottage Grove) 11:10.54; (9) Mckenzie Miller (SH) 11:57.73; (13) Rylee Markell (SH) 12:22.59.

100 Hurdles - (1) Peyton Craven (Molalla) 15.90; (2) Samara Baker (Triangle Lake) 15.92; (3) Calley Starr (Junction City) 17.10; (20) Delainie Pratt (SH) 18.74.

4x100 Relay - (1) Philomath 50.34; (2) Cascade 50.52; (3) Amity 50.83; (15) Sweet Home (Stephanie Saultz, Amara Gonzales, Brooke Elder, Loralai Mark) 54.74.

4x400 Relay - (1) Cascade 4:11.86; (2) Salem Academy 4:23.62; (3) Molalla 4:24.83; (10) Sweet Home (Lydia Wright, Amara Gonzales, Brooke Elder, Amelia Sullens) 4:39.80.

Shot Put - (1) Kalina Saechao (Cascade) 39-7½; (2) Molly Mucken

(Blanchet Catholic) 33-6; (3) Matilyn Richardson (Monroe) 33-1½; (16) Selah Wright (SH) 29-7.

Discus - (1) Kalina Saechao (Cascade) 124-5; (2) Molly Mucken (Blanchet Catholic) 116-5; (30) Hadley Hughes (Willamina) 115-1; (10) Selah Wright (SH) 87-3.

Javelin - (1) Ahnika Tryon (Philomath) 126-2; (2) Hadley Hughes (Willamina) 116-8; (3) Makya Alsup (Cottage Grove) 114-4; (17) Peyton Markell (SH) 97-5.

Pole Vault - (1) Elaina Deming (Junction City) 9-6; (2) Grace Mucken (Blanchet Catholic) 9-0; (3) Makayla Webber (Nestucca) 8-6; (12) Delainie Pratt (SH) 7-0.

Sweet Home at North Marion Boys Results

Team Scores - (1) Sweet Home 78, (2) North Marion 50.

Top Three and Sweet Home Results

* Personal Best Time/Mark
100 - (1) William Orr (NM)

See Champions, Page 10

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BIG HEART

From page 1

“bickering like a married couple,” pranks, raising kids together, and the one time in 40 years that Jim got mad because Mueller dumped out his Mountain Dew.

For those who never had a chance to meet Jim, they missed out, Mueller said. It was a statement well-appreciated as story after story revealed the kind of man Jim was and made one re-think what really matters in life.

During the service, friend Scott Melcher shared a sentiment that was common among most who knew Jim.

“I was Jim’s friend,” Melcher said. “I say that because, like all of us here today, that is how he made us feel. In Jim’s words, ‘You look like you could use a hug.’”

And like many before him, Melcher praised Jim for his willingness to offer a helping hand.

“I knew him as a friend driven by a desire to always be serving others,” said Mark McCartin, pastor at the chapel.

McCartin – referred to as “Preacher” by Jim – said most of their conversations together were brief, usually in the church lobby or parking lot, and maybe once at the Oregon Jamboree where he “con-



Photo provided by Wendi Melcher

Sandwiched between Colton (left) and Tyler (right) Schilling, Jim Search (center) celebrates the boys’ graduation from college.

fessed all his sins in the beer garden.”

They would talk about things like Jesus, politics and the Second Amendment, but perhaps the most serious conversation they had revolved around a subject Jim strongly believed in: the existence of bigfoot.

“He had such good humor, such an easy smile, such a cheerful disposition,” McCartin said. “He always was a light when I saw him.”

Friend Steve Schilling recalled camping and fishing trips with Jim, and expressed gratitude for having Jim close by on a daily basis as a friend

who was always available to talk or to help.

“It didn’t really matter what he was doing; he was always giving back,” Schilling said. “Jim loved everybody, and everybody loved Jim. He did everything he could to serve everyone by just figuring out a way to get it done.”

The 58-year-old’s son, Ian Search, called his dad his “first superhero” and spoke from the heart about a man who, simply put, “was the best.”

Search said his family couldn’t go anywhere in the Pacific Northwest without Jim running into someone

he knew. He pondered how his dad could know so many people and remember them all, and Search came to one conclusion.

“The simple truth is that his heart was that big.”

He shared what so many before and after him did, stories of a man who could be called upon day or night.

“Somehow he just always had whatever you needed – whether it was a big bear hug, the right words to say, or even just a napkin so you could wipe off your glasses – he was always there,” Search said. “He never asked for thanks, but he gave everything he had.”

When Jim walked into a room, he filled it, Mueller said.

“The world is gonna be a less happy place without that man on it. Nothing ever got him down,” Mueller said. “He was always so upbeat, even with something that he should’ve been really mad about. He’d be, ‘Eh, it’ll buff out, it’ll be fine.’”

Nick Tyler agreed “this is a major loss to our community,” and Wendi Melcher said the community is losing a leader, a role model and a friend.

“He changed people,” she said. “It was always about the good in people. It didn’t matter who you were or where you came from or anything. He always left you feeling better and was always positive. He made a huge impact on people.”

Scott Melcher recalled the “adventures and memories” he and Jim compiled together with their wives over the course of their friendship, including an Alaskan bigfoot cruise and Jim’s “emergency kit” that held a “wee” bottle of Jameson whiskey, which Jim referred to as his ‘vitamin J.’

“To say that we will miss Jim is an extreme understatement,” Melcher said. “Like Jesus said to the apostles when he appeared before them after being raised from the

dead, ‘You have seen and you believe. Blessed are those who have not seen but believe.’

“I believe Jim is with his friend Jesus in heaven. I believe Jim has found his bigfoot. And I believe he is up on the vibe deck with his vitamin J making new friends and waiting for us to join him.”

As can be gathered, Jim was remembered for his volunteer work. According to friends, he was a leader for the Linn-Benton Young Marines and worked with kids in SAR. He helped at Oregon Jamboree, sporting events and at his church, arrived as Santa for Shop with a Cop, held firearm safety and women’s self defense classes, and even donned a dress once or twice (or three times) to raise money for community programs.

“They would do these fundraiser things where these guys with beards would dress up like women and go out and do this song and dance,” Mueller explained. “It brought a ton of money in because everybody was just dying laughing at it.”

Schilling said the list is “endless” what Jim would do to help out somewhere.

“Jim just gave and gave and gave,” he said.

In the three decades Jim worked at LCSO and SAR, he saw “some pretty bad things,” Search said.

“He knew just how bad the world can be, and he would protect us from it the best he could, but the reality is that things aren’t always great out there. But he found a way somehow, some way, to just make things a little bit better for someone when he could.”

And with that, Search asked those gathered at the service to “just try and do a little good.”

“Reach out and just do something good, because in my mind that’s the best way to remember Jim and that’s what he would want.”

Jim died on Sunday, April 14, when he was electrocuted while operating a boom lift near high-voltage power lines.

“It is a huge loss,” Mueller said. “We just cannot get our head wrapped around it. How can we never see that lovable goofball ever again? Well, we will some day, but in the meantime we’re stuck here without him.”

According to Mueller, he and his best friend lived by movie quotes, so Mueller found it fitting to close his remarks at the service with a Lonesome Dove quote.

“Cheerful in all weather. Never shirked a task. Splendid behavior.’ That was Jim.”

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Dogwood Planted in Memory of Mollie

By Sarah Brown
Of The New Era

Despite a light rain falling upon Sankey Park on Saturday, April 20, families and tree lovers seemed to enjoy the Kid to Park event hosted there in honor of Arbor Day.

The City of Sweet Home celebrated Arbor Day at the park by planting a pink flowering dogwood tree in honor of Mollie Andrews, former owner of Mollie's Bakery, who passed away in 2016.

"A lot of people in the community remember Mollie, so we wanted to do a celebration tree for her," Park and Tree Committee Member Lena Tucker said.

Andrews' son, Rod Andrews, and granddaughter, Debra Northern (who serves on the Park and Tree Committee), had a front row seat to watch the planting of the tree, which overlooks the babbling Ames Creek.

Northern said the tree is beautiful, her grandmother would love it, and it's in a perfect spot.

"She enjoyed being with people and serving people," Rod said of his mother.

The City of Sweet Home has been recognized as a Tree City USA for 37 years. To qualify for the honor, a



Photo by Sarah Brown

Above: Park and Tree committee members and city staff plant a dogwood tree at Sankey Park in honor of Arbor Day. **Right:** Park and Tree Committee Member Lena Tucker gives a tree its first drink of water in its new location near Weddle Bridge.



city must maintain a tree board, have a community tree ordinance, spend at least \$2 per capita on urban forestry and celebrate Arbor Day.

While the city's Park and Tree Committee is committed to celebrating Arbor Day, they wanted to also make the day more of a kid-focused event, Tucker said.

Eli Bullock and his son, Bentley, said they went to Sankey Park because they saw a flier for the kids event. They ate hot dogs, and played some disc golf and Connect Four.

"We could play cornhole, but he's afraid of getting smoked," Eli joked.

When asked if he knew why the committee plant-

ed a tree that day, Bentley simply responded, "air," but he soon was able to explain how trees provide clean air for people.

Committee Chair Wally Shreves said there are many holidays and celebrations throughout the year across the nation, but Arbor Day is the only one "that celebrates the future." It's a day when people are encouraged to plant a tree that will be appreciated by a community into the future.

"Trees will reduce the erosion of our precious topsoil by wind and water, cutting heat and fueling costs, moderate the temperature, clean the air, produce life-giving oxygen and provide habitat for our wildlife," Shreves said. "They're a renewable

resource. They give us paper and wood for our homes, fuel for our fires and countless other wood products. Trees in our city increase the property value, enhance the economic vitality of business areas and beautify our community."

After sharing a short speech and planting the dogwood near Weddle Bridge, the committee fed hot dogs to families and gave plants away. Cornhole, Jenga, Connect Four and other games were utilized by kids while other children screamed in delight as they ran through the playground structures under the cover of a grove of trees.

"Trees, wherever they are planted, are a source of joy and renewal," Shreves said.

Huskies 3-3 in Oregon West

By Sky Chappell
Of The New Era

The Sweet Home softball team (5-11) finished their second week of league games, ending 2-1 for the week. The two wins for the week have brought the Huskies to an overall 3-3 in the Oregon West Conference.

At the start of the week, April 15, the team faced North Marion (2-12), ultimately ending the game 5-4.

"The game against North Marion was a close one and the girls did a good job of competing the entire game to come back and win in the eighth inning," Head Coach Emily Marchbanks said.

After the win against North Marion, the Huskies faced Philomath/Alsea (1-14) April 17. This away game ended in a landslide victory for the girls, finishing 19-4. Marchbanks attributed this win to solid defense and the ability to string hits together.

At the end of the week, April 18, the girls faced Cascade (13-1). Cascade is currently undefeated in league



Photo by Sky Chappell

Adisen Graber catching a fly ball, with pitcher Katriona Harris and catcher Natalie Smith backing her up.

(6-0) and ended the game 9-0 in their favor.

"Cascade didn't go the way we wanted, but we will continue to work on being more consistent defensively and capitalizing when we get runners on base," Marchbanks said. "Riley Watkins competed really well in center field, and

made several difficult and important catches to back up our pitchers."

The girls will be back for their third week in league on April 22 at home versus Stayton (10-4), followed by an away game against Newport (2-13) on April 24, and ending their week against North Marion on April 25.

Huskies Learn from Losses to Top-Ranked North Marion

By Sky Chappell
Of The New Era

Following this week of full league games, the Sweet Home Huskies (2-13) proved that although up against a tough team, North Marion (13-2), they were able to learn valuable lessons that will stick with them through the rest of the season.

"North Marion showed us why they are one of the best in the state," Head Coach Evan Teter said. "But we also showed we can hang with them."

North Marion is currently ranked number three in the 4A division.

In the first game, the team

faced the defending conference pitcher of the year, who is also committed to playing at George Fox, according to Teter. This game, April 15, ended with a loss for Sweet Home 0-9.

The following away game, the Huskies were able to lead for a couple of innings whilst carrying a sense of confidence against North Marion. Although this game ended in a loss for Sweet Home, Teter stated, "We were told by the North Marion head coach after the game that the pitcher we were facing hasn't given up very many hits to a single

See Learn, Page 16

CHAMPIONS

From page 7

11.68; (2) Chase Cameron 11.81; (3) Kyle Sieminski (SHO) 12.19; (4) Conner Stevens (SH) 12.44.

JV 100 - (1) Dillan Davis (SH) 12.38*; (2) Landon Murry (SH) 13.07; (3) Daniel Benitez (NM) 13.38; (4) Logan Estep (SH) 13.55; (6) Domylic Daniel (SH) 14.14*.

200 - (1) Chase Cameron (SH) 24.27; (2) Caique Credidio (NM) 24.36; (3) Kyle Sieminski (SH) 24.36*; (4) Dillan Davis (SH) 24.42*; (5) Conner Stevens (SH) 25.12.

JV 200 - (1) Kasey Kast (SH) 25.04*; (2) Noah Valdez (SH) 27.19; (3) Daniel Benitez (NM) 28.24; (4) Domylic Daniel (SH) 24.49*; (5) Kyle Porter (SH) 29.90; (9) Izack Slayter (SH) 31.66*.

400 - (1) Kasey Kast (SH) 56.97; (2) Eli Gonzalez (NM) 1:10.05.

JV 400 - (1) Kyle Porter (SH) 1:07.46; (2) Joan Ortega (SH) 1:11.15.

800 - (1) Peter Crosby (NM) 2:20.43; (2) Joshua Yakis (NM) 2:32.45; (3) Thomas Culbertson (SH) 2:25.48.

1500 - (1) Kason Koenig Wlaters (SH) 4:44.66*; (2) Hunter Clark (SH) 4:44.82*; (3) Nicholas Young (NM) 6:09.49.

JV 1500 - Izack Slayter (SH) 5:28.15*.

3000 - (1) Keagan Vogel (SH) 10:30.86*.

110 Hurdles - (1) London Swank (NM) 18.05; (2) Nick Larson (SH) 18.07*.

300 Hurdles - (1) Nick Larson (SH) 47.20*; (2) London Swank (NM) 48.41.

4x100 Relay - (1) Sweet Home (Conner Stevens, Kyle Sieminski, Dillan Davis, Chase Cameron)

46.30; (2) North Marion 48.48.

4x400 Relay - (1) Sweet Home (Kasey Kast, Dillan Davis, Chase Cameron, Kyle Sieminski) 3:42.20; (2) North Marion 4:18.44.

Shot Put - (1-tie) Dylan Sharp (SH), Gavin Tyler (SH) 41-11; (3) Hayden Miller (NM) 41-7; (6) Colton Bennett (SH) 35-2.

JV Shot Put - (1) Jackson Barringer (SH) 33-4; (2) Conner Pace (SH) 32-10; (3) Jayden Maincilla (SH) 32-5; (4) Caden Foley (SH) 29-9*; (5) Liam Martin (SH) 27-7; (6) Payton Messmer (SH) 24-10; (8) Henry Jones (SH) 19-5.

Discus - (1) Conner Pace (SH) 102-2; (2) Gage Zimmer (NM) 98-6; (3) Gerardo Velazquez (NM) 94-1; (5) Dylan Sharp (SH) 90-0; (6) Gavin Tyler (SH) 88-7.

JV Discus - (1) Colton Bennett (SH) 102-6*; (2) Gunnar Summers (SH) 75-8; (3) Karim Perea (NM) 74-6; (4) Jayden Mancilla (SH) 71-3; (5-tie) Payton Messmer (SH), Jarron Slater (SH) 69-7 (both PR's); (7) Liam Martin (SH) 66-4; (8) Jackson Barringer (SH) 62-5; (9) Henry Jones (SH) 61-2*; (10) Memphis Gay (SH) 59-2*; (11) Caden Foley (SH) 58-11.

Javelin - (1) Kyle Manning (NM) 144-4; (2) Gavin Tyler (SH) 132-9*; (3) Rickey Erickson (SH) 126=3; (5) Jack Simmons (SH) 117-7*.

JV Javelin - (1) Joab Zeek (SH) 100-9*; (2) Blake Arthur (SH) 95-2*; (3) Gunnar Summers (SH) 93-6*; (4) Kaeson Walker (SH) 91-6; (5) Memphis Gay (SH) 91-5*; (6) Payton Messmer (SH) 84-5*; (7) Caden Foley (SH) 57-6.

High Jump - Both competitors no-heighted.

JV High Jump - Elisha Scofield (SH) 5-0*; (2) Kaeson Walker (SH) 4-8*.

Pole Vault - (1) Elisha Scofield



Photo by Kristine Banker

Rickey Erickson prepares to throw a javelin during the Meet of Champions.

(SH) 7-6*; (2) Thomas Culbertson (SH) 7-0; (3) Roman Shreves (SH) 6-6.

Long Jump - (1) William Orr (NM) 18-0; (2) Juruen Delgado (NM) 16-6½; (3) Noah Valdez (SH) 16-5; (4) Logan Estep (SH) 13-5; (5) Domylic Daniel (SH) 12-11.

JV Long Jump - (1) Elisha Scofield (SH) 14-11; (2) Nick Larson (SH) 13-5½; (3) Lucas Kratochvil (NM) 13-4.

Triple Jump - (1) Juruen Delgado (NM) 33-11; (2) Kaeson Walker (SH) 32-4.

Girls Results

Team Scores - (1) Sweet Home 86, North Marion 45.

Top Three and Sweet Home Results

100 - (1) Kenley Doubrava (NM) 13.76; (2) Doris Rios (NM) 14.23; (3) Stephanie Saultz (SH) 14.28; (4) Loralai Mark (SH) 14.48; (5) Delainie Pratt (SH) 14.59*; Aara Gonzales (SH) 15.21.

JV 100 - (3-tie) Khloe Wood (SH), Amelia Berg (SH) 15.25 (PR for Berg); (5) Sophia Stock (SH) 15.43; (6) Aivaih Duran (SH) 16.25; (7) Mckenzie Olheiser (SH) 17.45; (8) Ally Downs (SH) 17.57; (9) Madison Olheiser (SH) 17.68*.

200 - (1) Kenley Doubrava (NM) 28.34; (2) Stephanie Saultz (SH) 30.07*; (3) Doris Rios (NM) 30.67; (4) Loralai Mark (SH) 31.17.

JV 200 - (1) Sophia Stock (SH)

31.17*; (2) Ariana Medina (NM) 31.77; (3) Khloe Wood (SH) 32.80; (4) Aivaih Duran (SH) 33.65; (5) McKenzie Olheiser (SH) 36.27; (6) Madison Olheiser (SH) 37.99; (7) Ally Downs (SH) 38.41.

400 - (1) Amelia Sullens (SH) 1:10.61; (2) Kira Bonser (NM) 1:16.53; (3) Koharu Yasuda (SH) 1:30.59*.

800 - (1) Macallan Cutsforth (NM) 2:21.02; (2) Lydia Wright (SH) 2:43.89; (3) Nadiyah Koenig-Walters (SH) 2:52.70*.

1500 - (1) Mckenzie Miller (SH) 5:27.43; (2) Rylee Markell (SH) 5:50.62; (3) Miu Simmons (SH) 6:03.35*.

100 Hurdles - (1) Delainie Pratt (SH) 18.68; (2) Ariana Medina (NM) 20.64.

300 Hurdles - (1) Miu Simmons (SH) 1:05.95*; (2) Koharu Yasuda (SH) 1:19.13.

4x100 Relay - (1) Sweet Home (Stephanie Saultz, Amara Gonzales, Delainie Pratt, Loralai Mark) 55.74; (2) North Marion 56.37.

4x400 Relay - (1) Sweet Home (Lydia Wright, Amara Gonzales, Brooke Elder, Amelia Sullens) 4:45.77; (2) North Marion 4:46.65.

Shot Put - (1) Selah Wright (SH) 31-0½*; (2) Jess Martineau (SH) 29-1*; (3) Emma Durrett (SH) 26-10.

JV Shot Put - (1) Mailey Brewer (SH) 23-4*; (2) Madison Looney (SH) 22-9½; (3) Gracie Vaughan (SH) 22-3*; (4) Kaylee Looney (SH)

19-4; (5) Timber Nobles (SH) 17-7*; (6) Mahala Gourley-Webster (SH) 17-3*.

Discus - (1) Selah Wright (SH) 87-4*; (2) Jess Martineau (SH) 75-11; (3) Allison Kirkbride (NM) 66-6.

JV Discus - (1) Emma Durrett (SH) 67-10*; (2) Mailey Brewer (SH) 62-5; (3) Emmersin Coelho (SH) 59-3*; (4) Gracie Vaughn (SH) 57-11; (5) Madison Looney (SH) 55-2*; (6) Kaylee Looney (SH) 44-9; (7) Mahala Gourley-Webster (SH) 43-6*; (8) Haylee Fortune (SH) 41-3; (9) Timber Nobles (SH) 31-6.

Javelin - (1) Peyton Markell (SH) 95-3; (2) Selah Wright (SH) 94-2*; (3) Abygail Foss (SH) 82-7.

JV Javelin - (1) Rylee Markell (SH) 75-10; (2) Emmersin Coelho (SH) 59-2; (3) Haylee Fortune (SH) 49-1*.

High Jump - No Sweet Home competitors.

JV High Jump - (1) Sophia Stock (SH) 3-8; (2) Khloe Wood (SH) 3-8.

Pole Vault - (1) Delainie Pratt (SH) 6-6; (2) Nadiyah Koenig-Walters (SH) 6-6.

Long Jump - (1) Amara Gonzales (SH) 13-9½; (2) Zera Holmgren (NM) 13-4; (3) Beatrice Reeve (SH) 13-0½.

JV Long Jump - (1) Khloe Wood (SH) 12-9; (2) Sophia Stock (SH) 11-3.

Triple Jump - No Sweet Home competitors.

April 21

4:39 p.m - Jaycee Ryan McClurg, 36, was arrested on a Lebanon Municipal Court warrant for failure to appear on a criminal citation for driving while suspended, and a Lebanon Justice Court warrant for a probation violation on an original charge for driving while suspended.

7:06 p.m - Michael Halsell, was arrested for fourth degree assault. Lodged at Linn County Jail.

8:48 p.m - Roxanna Beaver, 50, was cited for driving while suspended, driving uninsured and a warrant.

April 22

3:34 a.m - Titus Laray Shaum, 39, was cited for speeding. 54/35.

PUBLIC SAFETY

From page 3

11:54 a.m - Bradley Wright, 52, was cited for driving uninsured.

12:26 p.m - Tyler Adams, 34, of Lebanon, was cited for driving uninsured.

11:03 p.m - Caller reports a three-wheeler ran into a pole. Officer responded, report taken.

April 20

12:42 a.m - Corey Lawrence, 56, was cited for driving while suspended, driving uninsured and an undisclosed warrant.

9:58 a.m - Caller reports a storage box in front of the house was spray painted. Officer responded, report taken. Valued damage \$500. 1600 block of 9th Ave.

4:09 p.m - Larry Dean Bergstrom, 59, was arrested by Linn County Sheriff's Office on a Sweet Home Municipal Court warrant for failure to appear on an original charge for second degree theft.

7:27 p.m - Kimberly Boehnen, was arrested for interfering with making a report.

7:49 p.m - Sandra Jane Hendrix, 50, was arrested by Linn County Sheriff's Office on a Sweet Home Municipal Court warrant for failure to appear on an original charge for reckless driving.

10:40 p.m - Michael Milligan, 53, was cited for driving uninsured.

10:55 p.m - Chase Davis, 32, was cited for driving while suspended, driving uninsured and a warrant.



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The CCC Remembered

By Roberta McKern
For The New Era

Some of us who were Girl Scouts back in the early 1950's may recall the two or three summer trips we took as pre-teens to Longbow, a rustic campsite on the South Santiam River above Cascadia. There we roughed it, taking advantage of the large kitchen and dining area with its cast iron stove and cold water, eating stews mixed from canned soups and vegetables plus necessary camp fare like pork and beans and hot dogs, and each year we could cobble together a cobbler of freshly picked huckleberries topped with a mix of sugar and Hungry Jack pancake flour and it was never sweet enough.

We bunked in the three-

sided log bunk houses that were open on the side toward the river and met with other troops of girls in a centralized area with a fire pit where we sang, "What did Ida Ho? She hoed a Maryland!" We learned the saga of finding and consuming a very stale peanut resulting in appendicitis plus dire consequences to the liver!

As we scurried up and down, cleared forest trails and visited strategically placed privies, we never gave a thought to how civilized Long Bow was compared to the realities of nature. Our main hardship came from carrying everything we brought across a log suspension bridge connecting the campsite on the river's southside with High-

way 20 on the north. And we saw the campsite as being old and dating back to pioneer days.

Longbow, built in 1937-1938, was only a few years older than most of us girls. If anyone mentioned the Civilian Conservation Corps, which built Longbow, we would have had no recognition of what that was. The CCC was on track to be forgotten. Memory of what it had been and done was superseded by the cataclysmic events of World War II and the advent of the atomic age and almost peace in our 1950's time.

Too, the CCC had been a product of hard times, the Great Depression, which dogged the 1930's. The economic bust affecting the na-

tion involved the collapse of the stock market and bank closures starting in 1929 and taking effect worldwide as the thirties progressed. At least a quarter of the workforce was unemployed and wages for those working dipped to twenty-five cents an hour for many. The lack of income brought about school closures, homelessness and hunger.

Herbert Hoover, the President at the time, was unjustly accused of causing the Depression which was triggered primarily in over-enthusiasm involving the inflation of stocks and buying on time leading to the resulting bank closures. Even those persons practicing the admired American value of thrift suffered when panicked savers wanted withdrawals greater than the amount of money banks had

kept on hand.

The Depression was a good time, it's been said, for those who had money because it went so far. They could spend a lot of nickels buying apples from former workers selling them on street corners for five cents apiece.

By 1932 when Franklin D. Roosevelt assumed the presidency, time looked very desperate. Homeless people lived in makeshift communities called "Hoovervilles" and in some places dined on "Hoover Hogs", that is, possum and raccoon. In our vicinity, we hear of "wood rabbits" becoming so scarce it became difficult to put poached venison on the table, and that did not refer to how it was cooked!

Rural areas like East Linn contained farmers and gardeners as well as wild fruit

See CCC, Page 12

Calendar 2024

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	
Exercise 8:30 Crafters 10:00 Meals on Wheels Sr. Meals 12:00 Bridge 12:30pm	Qi Gong 9:00 Jolly Stitchers 10:00 Meals on Wheels Sr. Meals 12PM	Exercise 8:30 SALT 10am Painters/Papercraft 10:00 Lunch 11:30 Ponytail 1:00	Qi Gong 9:00 Jolly Stitchers 10:00 Bible Study 10:00 Pinochle 12:30	Exercise 8:30 Meals on Wheels Sr Meals 12:00	<p>SHSC Disclaimer: At times we may have to change /cancel a class or activity due to illness, weather etc.</p> <p>SHSC Hours 8AM-4PM Mon-Fri. Phone:541-367-4775</p> <p><i>Special events will be posted in the monthly newsletter.</i></p> <p>Thursday May 9th we are going on a trip to Silverton Oregon to see the Oregon Gardens! See flyers at Center for rates and times!!!</p> <p>Friday May 10th 12PM Mother's Day Tea! \$5.00</p> <p>Free Diabetic Information Classes for Seniors! Wednesday May 8th and Friday May 24th from 10:30 AM to 11:30 AM in our East Dining area. You do not need to be a member to attend but we do ask that you come into the Senior Center to sign up as space is limited!</p>
Exercise 8:30 Crafters 10:00 Meals on Wheels Sr. Meals 12:00 Bridge 12:30pm	Qi Gong 9:00 Jolly Stitchers 10:00 Meals on Wheels Sr. Meals 12PM	Exercise 8:30 Painters/Papercraft 10:00 Lunch 11:30 Ponytail 1:00	Qi Gong 9:00 Jolly Stitchers 10:00 Bible Study 10:00 Pinochle 12:30 Oregon Gardens Trip	Exercise 8:30 Meals on Wheels Sr Meals 12:00 Mother's day Tea 12 PM \$5.00	
Exercise 8:30 Crafters 10:00 Meals on Wheels Sr. Meals 12:00 Bridge 12:30pm	Qi Gong 9:00 Jolly Stitchers 10:00 Meals on Wheels Sr. Meals 12PM	Exercise 8:30 Painters/Papercraft 10:00 Lunch 11:30 Ponytail 1:00	Qi Gong 9:00 Jolly Stitchers 10:00 Bible Study 10:00 Pinochle 12:30	Exercise 8:30 Meals on Wheels Sr Meals 12:00	
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TRANSPORTATION

Dial-A-Bus – The Sweet Home Dial-a-Bus is a curb-to-curb transportation system within the Sweet Home area within the School District #55, from Crawfordsville to Cascadia and as far west as Santiam Terrace. Rides are \$1 within a five-mile radius of our office at the Sweet Home Senior Center. Over five miles, the charge is \$2. Ten ride tickets are available for \$10. Caretakers riding with a passenger ride at no charge. Call 24 hours in advance to schedule a ride at (541) 367-4775.

Linn Shuttle – The Linn Shuttle operates on a scheduled route, traveling from Sweet Home with stops in Lebanon and Albany. It leaves 10 times a day, Monday through Friday, and six times a day on Saturdays, from the Sweet Home Senior Center 880 18th Ave. Any requests for route deviations must be cleared through the Transportation Director. Rides are \$1 each way. Through an agreement between Linn-Benton Community College and Linn Shuttle, LBCC students ride free of charge upon showing their current ID card. Multi-Ride tickets are available from the bus driver and at the office. The mission of the Linn Shuttle is to provide a safe transportation service that supports the economic, social, transportation and environmental needs of the community it serves.

CCC

From page 11

and game. Even having a garden and a few chickens did not stave hunger however. Years after the Depression one man would not eat pumpkin, not even pumpkin pie. His family had a good crop one year and lived as pumpkin eaters at nearly every meal.

F.D.R.'s campaign offered a "New Deal". His programs were aimed directly at those suffering the most from the Depression losses. The government would fund programs creating jobs beneficial to the whole country. The Civilian Conservation Corp was one of the first to be organized.

Put together by a committee which included, particularly, the Army, the Department of the Interior and Agriculture and the Treasury Department, the CCC was organized on semi-military lines with the Army playing a major part. For Oregon and Southern Washington, for instance, in 1937 twenty-seven CCC camps came under Vancouver Barracks. Aside from Army personnel, however, local experienced men were hired to help train and teach CCC volunteers useful skills.

Much of what we at the Museum have learned about the CCC comes from a 1937 yearbook owned by the late Melvin Moe, an East Linn product. The yearbook includes his certificate of membership and a photograph of Company 2097 located at Cascadia. Those of us who have stayed at Longbow or other campsites on the South Santiam owe gratitude for the work the young men did.

At first the CCCer's were young men between the ages of 17 and 28, single and in

good physical condition. As the program progressed, some older and married men were accepted including World War I veterans. Recruits volunteered for a six-month period and could continue re-enlisting, whereby Melvin Moe spending 3 years at the Cascadia camp. They received food, clothing, shelter and medical and dental care. They were issued uniforms too large because they were expected to gain muscle bulk from working hard for six eight-hour days a week.

Some former members recall being fed as of major importance. A sample lunch menu had a man eating one third of a loaf of bread, one quart of spaghetti (sauce not mentioned, if any) and five cups of coffee. At Cascadia, dairy products and fresh fruits and vegetables were in some supply from local farmers, a monetary bonus for them.

Thirty dollars and found, just like the monthly wages paid loggers and cowboys back in the late 1800's constituted the pay given the CCC boys, but twenty-five dollars went to their families and the volunteer received five dollars for spending money. This did not sit well with some men and a former recruit held bitter memories of the CCC. He and a few like-minded men formed a group who took unofficial leave and set out for California to see what they could see.

Others had fonder memories and one named his daughter Christopher Catherine Camille in honor of his experience. This later provoked consternation in teachers who looked for a boy named Christopher rather than at the CCC initials.

All in all, the CCC planted

billions of trees on logged off lands left behind when "daylight being let in the swamp" meant cut and get out. A CCC boy was able to plant 600 seedlings a day. The boys built a road from Foster to Mill City here and lookouts and fire roads, as well as fighting fires at Bandon and on the Santiam Pass at Seven-Mile Hill and other Oregon sites. They rescued families caught in snowstorms and lost hunters and hikers, and they once carried an injured miner fourteen miles to aid.

In addition, they learned leadership plus skills making them employable in such industries as logging and construction. Some helped build Highway 20. They worked with state and federal forestry agencies across the nation and left behind three memorable trails, the Pacific Crest, Skyline and Appalachian.

Folklore says CCC boys from the South introduced opossums to Oregon by bringing them as pets.

Franklin D. Roosevelt's "New Deal" and its social welfare emphasis was met with doubt and even alarm by many Americans who compared what was happening in this nation with what was going on with the rise of militarized nationalism in Germany, Italy and Japan. But the work the CCC performed was of real and lasting benefit. Also, the CCC produced leaders for the upcoming Second World War. One ex-member felt his CCC training helped him survive as a prisoner of war in Nazi Germany.

Although CCC members were expected to work hard, there was some play and camps, established baseball and basketball teams, published newspapers and



Q: What is the difference between Vision and Medical Insurance?

A: I get this question frequently and it is troubling to me that so many do not understand the difference. Many Insurance companies tell their clients if you do not have vision insurance you can not have a routine eye examination. This is true. However, many insurance companies will not tell you if you have a medical condition you can have your eyes evaluated for that condition. The following is a short description of Vision and

Dr. Michael W. Stoner

Medical Insurance differences.

If you have Vision Insurance, depending on your plan, you can have a complete vision examination that includes the determination of your glasses prescription and a front to back analysis of the health of your eyes. Some plans will allow a precise amount of benefit towards your frame and lenses, some do not offer any benefits towards glasses at all. It depends on the company, and the benefit plan. No two plans are the same. If you have Medical Insurance, depending on your plan, you can have any medical type condition evaluated and your insurance plan will pay towards your office visit. Your medical insurance will not cover routine vision examinations or glasses, frame and lenses. For a more detailed description of the differences between Routine Vision and Medical Insurance, visit our Facebook Site, at (Dr Stoner @ Advanced Family Eyecare) or request an email at (advancedfamilyeyecare@comcast.net).

To see if Dr Stoner accepts your insurance plan visit the office FaceBook Site at Dr Stoner @ Advanced Family Eyecare.

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- Ken Bronson, Director
- Tonni Hutchinson, Director
- Ruben Rivas, Director
- Carliss Bates-Stanley, Director
- Dawn Mitchell, Executive Director

had educational programs in which some boys learned to read and write. Cascadia's camp ran an open-air truck to Bend so the CCCers could appreciate the amenities of a larger town. Part of the time Melvin Moe drove the truck over the Santiam Pass on Saturday evenings.

The entry of the United States into World War II caused the end of the CCC. The rising economy brought about by the coming of war opened the job market as America prepared for the continuing onslaught during the first half of the 1940's: War.

In the 1950's when Girl Scouts went to Longbow, the post-war economy continued to expand with much optimism despite the advent of the atomic age. The Civilian Conservation Corps ended in June 1942. During its years from 1933 to 1942, it had done more for us and the East Linn area than any of us really know and we still benefit from that work. We have to thank Melvin Moe's book for reminding us of how much our present benefits from the CCC's past.

The role of a home health aide

Caregivers come from all walks of life. Doctors and nurses may be the frontline medical providers people encounter most frequently, but there are plenty of others who do their part to maintain the well-being of individuals, including home health aides.

Home health aides, sometimes called personal care aides, are brought in to assist a person with activities of daily life. An HHA typically helps a person who may need some assistance with tasks they cannot perform due to illness or disability. HHAs may work in a person's home, in a group home or in another care facility.

AARP says home health aides are considered health care paraprofessionals and must meet established training requirements, which vary by location.

HHAs may perform various duties, including:

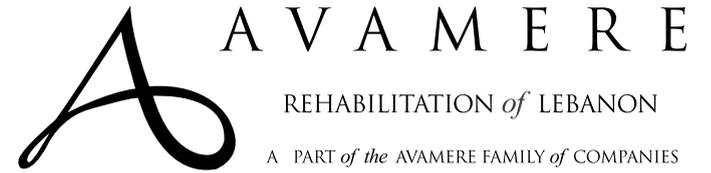
- assistance with personal care, such as dressing, toileting, feeding, and moving from bed to chair, etc.
- checking vital signs
- monitoring a client

- light housekeeping
- meal planning and cooking
- picking up prescriptions
- companionship

HHAs typically will not provide skilled nursing care and may not be able to offer recommendations on treatment or medications.

Individuals can find the services of HHAs who may work independently or are placed through agencies. Sometimes a doctor or hospital will have connections to HHA services and can make referrals. It can be useful to interview several potential HHAs to find one who will fit with the needs and personality of the person requiring assistance. A good HHA will be compassionate, patient and flexible. As illness or injury also can affect a person's mood, HHAs must be able to adjust if a client is reluctant to receive help or is depressed or anxious from his or her limitations.

Home health aides serve vital roles in the health care community by providing care and companionship to those who can no longer live independently.



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Fortunately, for the most part, bad breath is manageable. Choose breath-friendly foods and beverages. Water washes away food debris and helps keep bacteria in check. Healthy food choices like carrots, celery, and apples actually help scrub bacteria from the teeth. Brush your teeth at least morning and night. We also highly recommend cleaning your tongue either by brushing it or using a tongue scraper.

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MAY



Wednesday Menu

1: May Day!

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8: Stuffed Peppers

Baked green peppers stuffed full of seasoned ground beef & rice and smothered in a rich tomato sauce, served with veg, fruit cocktail, dessert

15: Chicken Enchiladas

Corn tortillas wrapped around shredded chicken, cheese & onions covered in enchilada sauce and more cheese, served with Mexican rice, salad, dessert

22: Spaghetti

The chef's famous spaghetti served with salad, veg, dessert

29: Chef Salad

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ABC House: Ana's Story

By Sarah Brown
Of The New Era

Tami and Mike Speten had donated to ABC House from time to time, but until they found themselves in a situation where they actually needed help from the nonprofit, they didn't fully understand what the organization did.

Tami, who now works for ABC House as a human resource coordinator, shared her family's story, a story about a young girl who hid her secret for seven years and began to blossom as ABC House surrounded her with support.

The Spetens are a blended family with a total of 12 children between the two of them, six of which were still living with them when they married. The parents had only been married six months when Tami's step-daughter, Ana, 14 at the time, shared she was sexually abused by her older brother when she was approximately 7 to 10 years old. He is about 10 years older than her.

Prior to that revelation, Tami said she and her husband felt they were prepared for anything, given the fact they've raised so many kids and have a long history of working with youth and the community. They didn't sleep very well that first night, but Tami said she noticed Ana was visibly different the next morning.

"I had never seen her seem so free and happy," she said. "For her, the burden had been shifted; there were more people carrying it."

But there was still a long road to go. For them, the journey to healing had only just begun. First, a detective and a representative of DHS came to their house to interview the family, but after that they really had no idea what would happen next.

"There's no solid thread you can grab ahold of and go, 'Okay, this is gonna show

us the path," Tami said. So they just waited.

Later, staff from ABC House contacted the family and invited them to their facility in Albany.

"It's like from the second you walk in as a family in services, there's this sense of people enveloping you and wrapping around you," Tami said, still emotional from the experience.

She described the four-hour process as "well-choreographed" in a manner that made the family feel safe. It was during this time the family heard for the first time the details of what Ana had gone through.

"That's not anything any parent ever wants to hear," Tami said.

At the time, Tami thought Ana's situation had a lot of unique variables - according to her, a pastor refused to report the abuse (because the abuser expressed he was sorry), some family members didn't support Ana's decision to talk, the abuser said she initiated the acts, and there were other victims. But now that Tami works at ABC House, she has since learned these kinds of variables are not uncommon.

Despite fallouts and ripple effects, Tami reported that several years later Ana is thriving. She praised ABC House services for continually reaching out to check on the family and providing resources that helped Ana work through her "stolen innocence."

"You feel like this is just going to be a legal process - he's going to be prosecuted or he's not going to be prosecuted - but the fact there was an organization that exists solely to kind of wrap around our family and help shoulder the burden, that was incredibly helpful to our family," Tami said. "It was like somebody holding a flashlight at the end of a very dark tunnel, and realizing there is a path and, whatever it looks like, we're

gonna go down that path together."

ABC House was an instant community where Ana felt safe and comfortable, Tami said, not to mention the fact there is a canine employee (Xander) who comforts the visitors. And even though it's been a few years since they first tapped into the organization, staff continue to provide support whenever questions and concerns arise.

Still, "Ana's story, like a lot of others, doesn't have a tidy little bow at the end," she said.

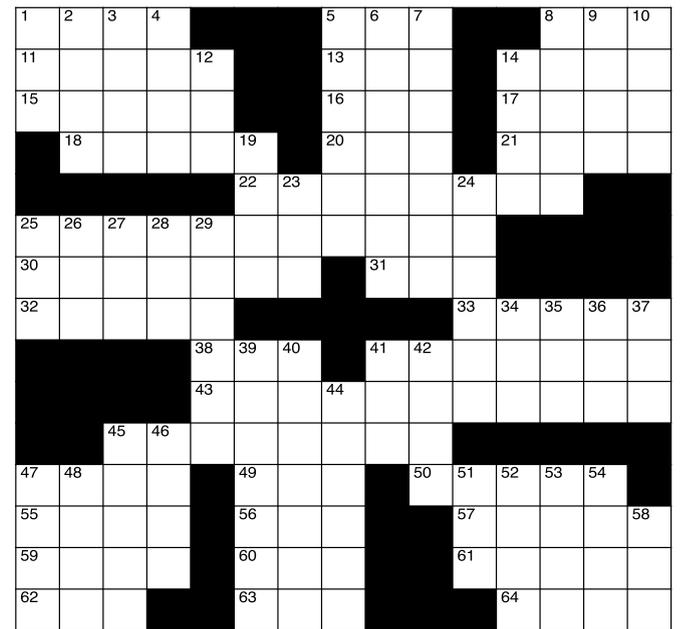
While the abuser was never formally prosecuted, the Spetens were able to secure some regulations he would have to abide by. According to Tami, Ana's sole focus was to make sure there were no more victims.

"Still to this day, (Ana) says, 'I wanna use my story to help people. I want people to know they're not alone, because I thought I was alone.'"

While staff at ABC House continue to provide fee-free support for after-the-fact situations, they are also proactive about educating the community and raising awareness in an effort intended to reduce abuse cases.

"The training really enforces how vital it is that you be the person that steps forward to protect that child and speak up and say something if you see something that looks off," Tami said. "Just watching the people here and the incredible heart for what they do, and just the fact that they show up day after day is so impressive to me. These are the people that run into the burning building day after day after day no matter what the cost to themselves."

CROSSWORD



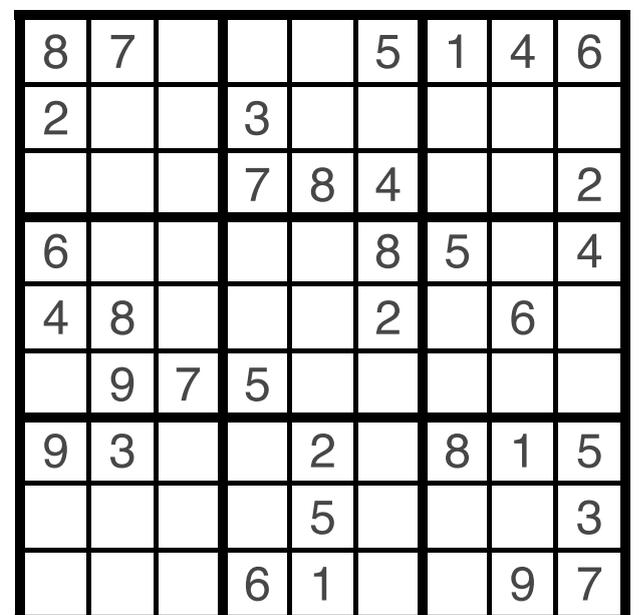
CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Information
- 5. Seaport (abbr.)
- 8. Agricultural disease (abbr.)
- 11. Riding horses
- 13. Boxing's GOAT
- 14. Hurt or discomfort
- 15. A small sharp knife to trim vegetables
- 16. A beaver builds one
- 17. Horizontal passage into a mine
- 18. Self-immolation by fire rituals
- 20. Chain bar with lots of games (abbr.)
- 21. Goo Goo Dolls' hit
- 22. Agreeable
- 25. In an early way
- 30. In a way, struck
- 31. It's there in the morning
- 32. County in the S. Pacific
- 33. Central Florida city
- 38. Numbers cruncher
- 41. Mexican beers
- 43. Lawyers say you can indict one
- 45. Capital of South Australia
- 47. Wings
- 49. Drug used to treat HIV/AIDS
- 50. Fencing sword
- 55. Capital of Qatar
- 56. Portable bed
- 57. Afflicted
- 59. Lying down
- 60. Midway between northeast and east
- 61. Spiritual leader of a Jewish congregation
- 62. Inflamed
- 63. Soviet Socialist Republic
- 64. Impudence

CLUES DOWN

- 1. A way to fish
- 2. Greek mythological figure
- 3. Scarlett's home
- 4. Assist
- 5. More doleful
- 6. Premeditated
- 7. Dish featuring minced food
- 8. San Diego ballplayer
- 9. Eight
- 10. Unwelcome picnic guests
- 12. Human gene
- 14. Bucket
- 19. Make full
- 23. Dirt
- 24. Person cited as ideal example
- 25. A part of (abbr.)
- 26. The 17th letter of the Greek alphabet
- 27. Very long period of time
- 28. Gas usage measurement
- 29. North American native people
- 34. It says "moo"
- 35. Folk singer Di Franco
- 36. Resinlike substance of certain insects
- 37. Residue
- 39. Grand homes
- 40. Popinjays
- 41. Man who behaves dishonorably
- 42. Figures
- 44. One who watches over children
- 45. Expressed pleasure
- 46. No longer living
- 47. Hebrew calendar month
- 48. Part of the ear
- 51. Swiss river
- 52. Prejudice
- 53. Italian Island
- 54. Resist authority (slang)
- 58. Criticize

SUDOKU



Level: Beginner

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RALLIES

From page 1

those who cannot speak for themselves and we must take action to create a world where every child is safe, loved and protected," she said.

Following Mayor Coleman's heartfelt speech, Officer Morgan introduced Glenda Lonstron, the development director for ABC House, a nonprofit children's advocacy center located in Albany.

Lonstron began her speech explaining what ABC House is, and what they do.

"We are dedicated to providing child abuse assessment and support services for children who are referred by our partners for concerns of abuse and neglect, and their families."

ABC House serves all of Linn and Benton counties. Their multidisciplinary team consists of law enforcement, DHS, child protective services, medical and mental health professionals, and youth serving agencies with one goal: to form a collaborative and efficient response to child abuse allegations.

"This prevents a child from having to retell the



Photo by Sky Chappell

Community members planting pinwheels in front of the Sweet Home Police Department to show support.

worst experience of their life over and over again with people who are not working together," Lonstron said. "Ninety percent of the children and families that we serve are low income or under-insured. Thanks to generous community support at the ABC House, no child is ever turned away due to the inability to pay."

Lonstron finished her speech by thanking the community for their support of children.

After the speeches, Officer Morgan guided attendees to gather pinwheels to plant in the garden of the SHPD. This was followed

by a one-mile walk through the town, starting at the police department. Attendees walked Highway 20 to 18th Avenue, then walked Long Street to 15th Avenue, subsequently walking back onto Highway 20 and back to the police department. Captain Ryan Cummings was alongside the walk in order to ensure safety as community members marched for a purpose.

"I'd like to see the whole town out here," Officer Morgan said. "The New Era came out here and helped plant pinwheels in the median. It's just really about spreading awareness."



Photo by Sky Chappell

Kelso Ellis attempting to get an out at third base.

LEARN

From page 9

team all season, and that we got the most hits off him so far. We finished the game with 5 hits."

This game, April 17, ended 2-12 in favor of North Marion. Teter stated the team got quite a lot of compliments from the North Marion coaching staff.

"We struggled with confidence the rest of the series and it showed," Teter said. "It's discouraging for the guys when we play the top two teams in our league the first two weeks of the league

season."

The last game of the week, April 18, ended in another defeat for Sweet Home 0-11. The losses of this week don't define the rest of the league season.

"After talking to our guys at practice today, they agreed that they played some good baseball against a very good team and they are ready for Stayton next week," Teter said.

The team will be playing at 4:30 p.m away against Stayton on April 22 and April 25, with a home game at 4:30 p.m against Stayton April 24.

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