

School District Adds to Roster of Educators

By Sky Chappell
Of The New Era

The Sweet Home School District welcomes 11 new teachers this year. Here is a list of the new arrivals, with details provided by the district:

- Logan Shea will teach physical education at Oak Heights Elementary. He is from Bandon, and loves to travel and hike with his two dogs; a corgi and a red heeler.
- Emily Wagner will teach Algebra I and Geometry at the high school. This year marks her fifth year teaching. She is excited to be a part of the Sweet Home team. She graduated from the University of North Dakota and taught in Minnesota for four years.
- Chris Sherburne will teach biology at the high school. He studied field and wildlife biology at California Polytechnic State University and was educated at Oregon State University. He is excited to get to know the community.
- Bethanie Young will be a Title One teacher at Foster Elementary. She is super excited to work with the team at



Photo by Sky Chappell

Back row, from left: Hannah Bliss, Lillyanna Walker, Emily Wagner, Alli King, Logan Shea, Shelly Strong, Bethanie Young and Chris Sherburne. Front row, from left: Danae Teixeira, Hailey Miller and Hunter Johnston.

Foster. She and her husband moved here six years ago and they walk the community daily with their three dogs.

- Shelly Strong will teach fourth grade at Foster Elementary, sharing the role with

Katie Virtue. Strong grew up in Sweet Home, graduating in 1998. She got her master's degree from Willamette University and taught for nine years in the Salem-Keizer School District. She is excited

to be back in the classroom in Sweet Home.

- Alli King will be teaching first grade at Foster Elementary. King is a first year teacher. She began working

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SHFAD Offers EMT Course to Combat Staffing Shortage

By Sarah Brown
Of The New Era

Firefighters at Sweet Home Fire and Ambulance District are getting ready to host their first EMT course next month.

SHFAD Firefighter Paramedic Josh Marvin explained that every agency is struggling with staffing right now, and even SHFAD has identified a shortage of EMTs. As such, he was tasked with putting together a locally-held class that would make it easier for volunteers to become certified as EMTs at the national and state level.

Sheri Guerrero, director of emergency services at Umpqua Community College, said there is a nationwide shortage of pre-hospital personnel for a number of reasons, adding that two of the biggest reasons include retirements during COVID and a perception of unequal pay compared to other healthcare providers.

Julie Ryan, EMS program director at Southwestern Oregon Community College, agreed.

"I have been in EMS for thir-



Photo by Sarah Brown

From left, Deputy Chief George Virtue, Josh Victor and Fire Chief Nick Tyler pose for a photo as Victor hands over a \$5,000 donation for the SHFAD.

ty years and I think the pandemic of COVID is a big reason the numbers of EMTs and paramedics are down," Ryan said. "It really changed everything. Another factor is the huge money nurses are making and many paramedics

have jumped ship to nursing." Despite apparent staffing shortages, Chris Arbuckle, EMS program director and chair at Chemeketa Community College, believes EMT courses at Oregon colleges are at capacity. Chemeketa,

he said, produces more than 240 eligible candidates a year. Chemeketa, in addition to other community colleges, provide EMT courses or satellite labs through other fire districts throughout the state.

See EMT Course, Page 7

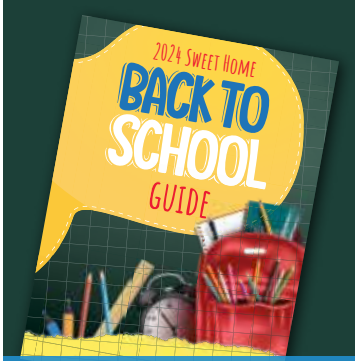
Hometown Newspaper of

MARTY FORBES




WILDLAND DIVISION CHIEF PINNED, UPDATES FIRE BOARD

PAGE 14



BACK TO SCHOOL

PAGES 15 - 27



ELEVEN GRADUATE SAR TRAINING

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OBITUARIES



Jesse Lee Barnes
July 11, 1967 - July 26, 2024

Jesse Lee Barnes, 57, of Cascadia passed away Friday, July 26, 2024, at his summer residence at Lake Billy Chinook. He was born July 11, 1967, to Danny and Faye (Nonemaker) Barnes in Lebanon.

He graduated from Sweet Home High School in 1985. Jesse enlisted in the Navy with an Honorable Discharge in 1992. After spending 4 years on the USS Haleakala in Guam as an underwater welder. Jess and his wife Lori were married for 25 years.

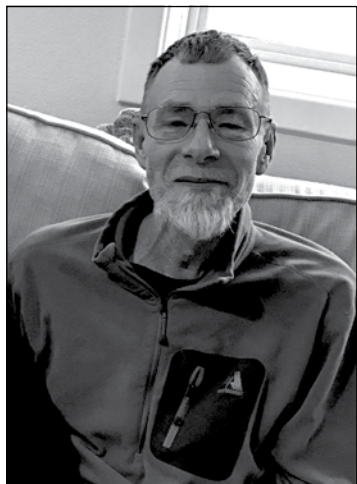
Jesse loved fishing in his boat, especially for bull trout at Lake Billy Chinook. He enjoyed hunting especially in the Silvies unit where his grandpa hunted for many years. He loved spending time with his two granddaughters whom he adored and they loved spending time with their "Pappy". Jess had a wonderful sense of humor and made everyone around him smile.

Jess was a Mechanical Piping Construction Manager. He worked all over the United States for the last 15 years at the International Paper in Springfield.

Jesse is survived by his wife Lori, son Brent (Jessica) Putney, granddaughters Aubrie and Emalee Putney, parents Danny and Faye Barnes, brother Mike (Missy) Barnes, sisters Kathy (Jeff) Freeman and Shanna (Brad) Middaugh, sister-in-law Karen Lee, niece Brittney (Jason) Dearborn, nephews Chris

(Amber) Barnes. Matt (Kristen) Barnes, Steven and Jo Middaugh.

A memorial service with military honors will be 1 pm, Saturday, September 21, 2024 at the Community Chapel in Sweet Home. In lieu of flowers please consider donations to Tunnel to Towers website (<https://t2t.org>) Sweet Home Funeral Chapel is handling arrangements. www.sweethomefuneral.com.



Robert Dale Stratman
September 17, 1955 - August 16, 2024

Robert Dale Stratman, 68, of Sweet Home passed away Friday, August 16, 2024. He was born on September 17, 1955, to Roger Dale and Patricia Irene (Pickert) Stratman at Memphis Naval Air Station in Millington, Tennessee.

Bob had many adventures growing up as the family traveled to different Naval bases. He graduated from Sweet Home High School in 1973, and married Nancy on May 17, 1986. They raised their four children in Sweet Home on the family property.

Bob was a meticulous craftsman and has built anything from bunk beds to homes that will be cherished for generations. He was appreciative of nature, enjoying a beautiful sunset, the calls and migration of birds and a tasty meal after a good day of fishing.

He was always willing to lend a hand and teach a skill to his children and grandchildren. He loved a good cup of coffee and racing RC cars

with friends. He always had time for a golf cart ride with his grandkids. He was a good egg and will be missed.

Bob is survived by his wife Nancy J. (Jensen) Stratman; sons: Ray, Edwin, Jeffrey and daughter Katie; 13 grandchildren and 7 great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his parents Roger D. Stratman and Patricia I. (Pickert) Stratman; brother John M. Stratman.

Sweet Home Funeral Chapel is handling arrangements. www.sweethomefuneral.com.



Mark Edward Harris
May 25, 1971 - August 22, 2024

Mark Edward Harris, 53, of Foster passed away Thursday, August 22, 2024. He was born May 25, 1971, to Gene Edward and Adelle (Collins) Harris in Lebanon.

Mark lived in the Sweet Home area all his life. He was a very talented musician. He could play any musical instrument. He loved to play the electric guitar. Mark also liked to play and watch baseball.

He is survived by sisters, Angela Belveal of Sweet Home and Susan Dimick of Foster. He is preceded in death by his parents Gene Edward Harris (2019) and Lulu Adelle Harris (2022).

No funeral arrangements at this time. Sweet Home Funeral Chapel is handling arrangements. www.sweethomefuneral.com.

Harvey Irving Castle
June 17, 1947 - June 27, 2024

Harvey Irving Castle, 77, of

Lebanon passed away Thursday, June 27, 2024. He was born June 17, 1947, to Melvin O. and Esther M. (Wigle) Castle in Corvallis.

Harvey was drafted and served in the US Army 1966-1968 during Vietnam. He was honorably discharged as an E5 with GCMDL and NDSM honors. While he was in the Army, he was stationed in Germany for two years.

Harvey grew up in Philomath. He also lived in Corvallis, Albany, Sweet Home and finally settled in Lebanon. He had two other, Linda and Gerry Castle.

Harvey was a member of the Albany Jaycees and Timber Carnival. He also was a past member of the American Legion in Albany. When he was 14, he started logging with his father. After being discharged from the Army and returning to Oregon, he attended Linn Benton Community College (LBCC) and received his Associates in Auto Mechanics. He worked for Fairview, owned a bookstore (Castle Books) in Albany and later was a long-distance truck driver

His hobbies included hunting, fishing, and camping.

He is survived by his step-children: Nicole Piper, Scarlett Guerra (Salem), Keri Randklev (Portland), Kristina Wallsten (Oregon City). He has two grandchildren, Anthony Brandt and Mabel Wallsten.

Donations can be made to Paralyzed Veterans of America Tri-State Chapter, PO Box 1202 Silverton, OR 97381. Sweet Home Funeral Chapel is handling arrangements. www.sweethomefuneral.com

Marilyn Kay Wood
February 17, 1941 - August 15, 2024

Marilyn Kay Wood, 83, of Sweet Home passed away Thursday, August 15, 2024. She was born February 17, 1941 to Cecil Leslie and Lorene Marie (Fillmore) Coffman in St. Joseph, Missouri.

She was raised in Salem by her mother and step father Ernest Britton. She graduated from South Salem in 1959.

Marilyn met Raymond Wood at a Sweet Home football game and danced the night away. She married Raymond and moved to Sweet Home in 1959. Shortly after being in Sweet Home they bought property on Liberty Road where she lived the rest of her life. Marilyn and Raymond divorced in 1982 after 21 years.

She worked at Sweet Home School District for 17 years, worked security for 17 years, and finally retired from Walmart after 20 years in 2019.

Marilyn loved her horses and cats. She liked doing ceramics, drawing and was very crafty. She enjoyed going to the ocean to fish.

She is survived by her daughters: Kathy, Cheryl, Marian; seven grandchildren: Cari, Raymond, Suzan, Danielle, Tyler, Tressa, Travis and several great-grandchildren. She is preceded in death by her parents; ex-husband Raymond Wood, and 3 month son Randal.

A celebration of life will be 12 pm Saturday, September 7th, at the old Liberty school/charter school. Sweet Home Funeral Chapel is handling arrangements. www.sweethomefuneral.com.

Martin Paul Anderson
July 21, 1950 - August 22, 2024

Martin Paul Anderson, 74, of Sweet Home passed away Thursday, August 22, 2024. Sweet Home Funeral Chapel is handling arrangements. www.sweethomefuneral.com.

James Roy Arthur Sr.
November 2, 1936 - August 24, 2024

James Roy Arthur, Sr., 84 of Sweet Home passed away Saturday, August 24, 2024. Sweet Home Funeral Chapel is handling arrangements. www.sweethomefuneral.com.

Richard Don Kirschner
January 5, 1952 - August 24, 2024

Richard Don Kirschner, 72 of Sweet Home passed away Saturday, August 24, 2024. Sweet Home Funeral Chapel is handling arrangements. www.sweethomefuneral.com.

Dorothy I. Slinger
April 7, 1943 - August 20, 2024

Dorothy I. Slinger, 81, of Sweet Home passed away in Lebanon, Tuesday, August 20, 2024. Sweet Home Funeral Chapel is handling arrangements. www.sweethomefuneral.com.

The New Era

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TEMPERATURES

DATE		HIGH	LOW	PRECIP
August 19		80	58	0.00
August 20		82	52	0.00
August 21		77	52	0.00
August 22		70	59	0.00
August 23		65	51	0.00
August 24		74	51	0.34
August 25		81	48	0.00

PRECIPITATION

Year to date: 19.72
August 30, 2023: 21.16

FORECAST

DAY	WEATHER	HIGH	LOW
Thur	Sunny	92	56
Fri	Sunny	96	57
Sat	Mostly Sunny	93	56
Sun	Partly Cloudy	81	56
Mon	AM Clouds	75	54
Tues	Mostly Sunny	81	54
Wed	Mostly Sunny	82	56

LAKE LEVELS

Foster Reservoir: 635.7
Green Peter Res.: 970.4

TODAYS FIRE DANGER IS
MODERATE

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

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.

Aug. 18

7:51 a.m. - Officer located graffiti. Report taken, valued damage \$330. 1600 block of Long Street.

8:05 a.m. - Officer located graffiti. Report taken, valued damage \$330. 1500 block of Main Street.

8:15 a.m. - Officer located graffiti. Report taken, valued damage \$330. 1200 block of

Long Street.

8:57 a.m. - Caller reports theft of tools. Report taken for second degree theft. Valued loss \$500. 4400 block of Ninebark Loop.

5:17 p.m. - David Lee Oviatt, was arrested on a Sweet Home Municipal Court warrant for failure to appear on an original charge for harassment.

5:22 p.m. - Lesa Carina Hansen, was arrested on a Sweet Home Municipal Court warrant for failure to comply on an original charge for second degree disorderly conduct.

7:04 p.m. - Loretta May Delaney, 40, was arrested for violation of a release agreement and resisting arrest.

8:59 p.m. - Officer was flagged down at location. Report taken for second degree theft. Valued loss \$700. Safe-way.

9:40 p.m. - Kyle Jordan Frederick, 27, was cited for driving while suspended.

Aug. 19

12:17 p.m. - Corey Alan Smith, 60, was arrested on a Sweet Home Municipal Court warrant for failure to comply

on an original charge for hit and run.

12:37 p.m. - Denise Rochelle Burrow, 57, was arrested on a Sweet Home Municipal Court warrant for failure to appear on a charge for second degree trespass and harassment.

1:07 p.m. - Heather Mae Kelly, 44, was arrested on an Albany Municipal Court warrant for failure to comply on an original charge for contempt of court.

1:19 p.m. - Marv Dean Cox, 56, was arrested for second degree criminal trespass and a Linn County Circuit Court warrant for failure to appear on an original charge for fourth degree assault.

3:26 p.m. - Caller reports theft of packages. Report taken for second degree theft. Valued loss \$120. 5400 block of Main Street.

5:31 p.m. - Sara Kay Mc-Bee, was arrested on a Sweet Home Municipal Court warrant for failure to comply on an original charge for third degree theft.

8:44 p.m. - Tyler Bruce Lanz, 37, was arrested for fourth

See Public Safety, Page 6

EVENTS

Paint the Parking Lot

The Sweet Home Library seeks volunteers to help paint the parking lot at 10 a.m. on Sunday, Sept. 1. The parking lot will be designed to look like a shelf full of books.

Swim Club Tryouts

The Sweet Home Swim Club will host tryouts at 5 p.m. on Thursday, Sept. 5, at the high school pool, 1641 Long St.

The tryout consists of swimming a continuous 25 yards one length of the pool freestyle and coming back with a continuous 25 yards backstroke. Based on your swimming ability, you will be directed to one of the four swimming groups (bronze, silver, gold and platinum).

For questions regarding

tryouts or the club, contact jcoats2017@gmail.com or call the pool facility at 541.367.7169.

Socks for Firefighters

Servpro of Linn and Benton Counties is collecting socks for wildland firefighters.

Socks must be new and made of natural fibers (cotton, wool). They will be distributed to help keep our firefighters comfortable while out there fighting fires.

Drop off socks by Sept. 20 during business hours at the Sweet Home Chamber of Commerce, 1575 Main St., or the Lebanon Chamber of Commerce, 1040 S Park St.

Community Dinners

Sunshine Industries invites the public to a free dinner ev-

ery Monday from 5:30-6:30 p.m. at 1333 Clark Mill Road. Because everyone matters.

Tomato Day in Lebanon

The Lebanon Downtown Farmers' Market and Santiam Food Alliance will host Tomato Day from 2-6 p.m. on Thursday, Aug. 29, on the corner of Grant and Main streets in Lebanon.

The community is invited to admire, taste and stock up on tomatoes at the market. There will be tastings of dozens of unusual and often beautiful tomato varieties from the market farmers and club gardens. An Oregon State University Extension Master Food Preserver will offer information on drying and canning tomatoes, a Master

MUNICIPAL COURT

All information presented herein is obtained from publicly available Oregon court and law enforcement records. The Oregon Public Records Law, as detailed in the Attorney General's Public Records and Meeting Manual, allows public access to these records. Every individual named or referenced is presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

Banta, Kaleb K, 26 - no contest - Theft in the third degree, fine \$4015, probation 60 months, work crew 14 days, no contact orders; Resisting arrest, fine \$1766, probation 60 months, no contact orders; Escape in the third degree, fine \$266, probation 60 months, no contact orders; Escape in the third degree, dismissed; Criminal trespass in the second degree, dismissed; Theft in the third degree, dismissed; Harassment, fine \$566, probation 60 months, no contact orders.

Bogan, Emily R, 21 - guilty by default - Operating a vehicle without driving privileges,

fine \$790, suspend license; driving uninsured, fine \$1015, suspend license.

Brett, Toni R, 45 - no contest - Animal abandonment, fine \$651, probation 2 years. (22-02652)

Cruse, Nicholas E, 29 - no contest - Reduced to Operating a Vehicle without driving privileges, fine \$300; driver failure to obey traffic control device, fine \$215.

De Lay, Michael S, 36 - guilty by default - Violation driving while suspended or revoked, fine \$2015, suspend license; driving uninsured, fine \$1015, suspend license.

Deshazer, Natalie M, 35 - guilty by default - Driving Uninsured, fine \$1015, suspend license.

Hoffman, Michael J, 52 - no contest - Violation driving while suspended or revoked, fine \$440; violation driving while suspended or revoked, fine \$440.

See Courts, Page 5

Crossword KEY

Puzzle on page 13

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

SUDOKU KEY

Puzzle on page 13

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

See Events, Page 8

COURTS

From page 3

Koontz, Jalayne A, 69 – no contest – Criminal driving while suspended or revoked, fine \$1201, probation 60 months; Driving uninsured, dismissed.

Martin, Matthew C, 34 – no contest – Fleeing or attempting to elude police officer, fine \$351, probation 60 months, work crew 5 days, license suspension 3 months.

McCarty, Daniel E, 64 – no contest – failure to report as a sex offender, fine \$301, probation 60 months, work crew 10 days.

Pugh, Bradley M, 40 – No contest – Failure to perform the duties of a driver when property is damaged, fine \$7201, probation 60 months, license suspended 3 months; Driving uninsured, dismissed; Violation driving while suspended or revoked, dismissed.

Shenk, James R, 32 - no contest – Theft in the third degree, fine \$314, probation 24 months, no contact orders.

Watkins, Shantell R, 28 – guilty by default – Violating a speed limit 11-20 mph over speed limit 63/45, fine \$515,

suspend license; violation driving while suspended or revoked, fine \$2015, suspend license.

Sweet Home Municipal Court July 24, 2024

De Lay, Michael S, 39 – guilty by default – Violation driving while suspended or revoked, fine \$2015, suspend license; driving uninsured, fine \$1015, suspend license.

Gambill, Kayla M, 40 – guilty by default – Operating a vehicle without driving privileges, fine \$1015, suspend license; driving uninsured, fine \$1010, suspend license.

Hoffman, Michael J, 52 – Violation driving while suspended or revoked, fine \$440.

Humphries, Patrick A, 34 – Reduced to Operating a vehicle without driving privileges, fine \$265

Huntoon, Riley S, 20 – no contest – Driving under the influence of intoxicants, fine \$1406, probation 24 months, work crew 10 days, Drug and alcohol evaluation and treatment, Victim Impact Panel, License suspension 12 months; Reckless driving, dismissed; Recklessly endangering another person, dismissed; Driver failure to obey traffic con-

trol device with an accident, dismissed; Failure to drive within land with accident, dismissed; Minor in possession of alcohol, dismissed.

Kalina, Paul W, 49 – Violation driving while suspended or revoked, fine \$440; no insurance, fine \$265.

Knutson, Victoria A, 38 – Operating a vehicle while using mobile electronic device, fine \$265.

McCarthy, Thomas J, 61 – guilty by default – Violation driving while suspended or revoked, fine \$2015, suspend license; driving uninsured, fine \$1015, suspend license.

Ochoa, Hector J, 36 – Violation driving while suspended or revoked, fine \$475.

Varkalis, Nicole M, 47 – Careless driving with accident, fine \$440.

Parker, Brandy L, 43 – guilty by default – Illegal stopping, standing or parking, fine \$265, suspend license.

Phillips, Davy A, 51 – pled guilty – Theft in the third degree, fine \$307, probation 60 months, work crew 10 days, no contact orders.

THE NEW ERA

on the road...



Wyatt was in Marine boot camp at MCRD in San Diego. We traveled there for family day on June 27th and graduation on June 28th. Following graduation Wyatt got to return home for a 10 day leave before going back to San Diego for his combat infantry training. After that he will be sent to North Carolina for schooling for combat engineer.



Left to right is Nevada Hankins (sister), Cyrus Hankins (dad), Theresa Hall (grandmother), Freddie Seiber (brother), Wyatt Hall (Marine graduate), Courtney Hankins (mom), Allen Hall (grandfather), Elizabeth Hankins (sister).

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EDITORIAL

The Decline of Work Culture: Sacrifice vs. Comfort in Modern America

By Sky Chappell
Of The New Era

Many Americans have it easy. However, not everyone is as fortunate. There isn't anything inherently wrong with those who have it easy, but those who don't, or are unable to, must live to work and work to live. Most people with this mindset understand that they must sacrifice their comfort in the present to obtain future rewards. But those who don't often wonder, "Maybe there's more to life than just working." Between workplaces becoming unenjoyable, popular films backing up this ideology, and fewer people wanting to work, the "work culture," as we know it, is set to disappear. As that happens, people will slowly learn that no one can get what they truly want without making sacrifices.

Due to the pandemic, many people have changed how they view the workplace. Zen Dochterman, a writing lecturer at the University of Southern California, states, "Quiet quitting comes from a deeper, more long-term disengagement with stressful work environments."

Quiet quitting is a new trend where a person only does what they are paid to do, essentially no longer going above and beyond. The problem with this, however, is that people want comfort now but are, in turn, sacrificing future rewards. It's like going to the gym. Almost no one wants to work out to

the point of failure and then wake up the next morning and do it again. Those who want future rewards, however, will do this. Just as if there is an unpaid work meeting, those who want the experience will attend. Those who don't will give up the reward of experience because it is inconvenient or uncomfortable.

Many popular films have backed up this anti-work narrative that's been around for decades, showing what it'd be like in an anti-capitalist society. But those films never highlight the hard work that would've brought later rewards. As Dochterman describes, "Around World War II, crime became an allegory for an anti-work ethos: little effort, big payoff." Films such as "Double Indemnity," "The Postman Always Rings Twice," and "Gun Crazy" document different crimes and how it is to live a life of little effort and big payoff. This ideology, however, is the very opposite of the truth. There might be a chance that little effort yields a big payoff, but overall, you will not accomplish any goal by putting in minimal effort. You can only see the rewards if you put in the work.

Fewer and fewer people want to work. Between technological automation and the inability of paychecks to keep up with the cost of living, one could assume that the workforce will diminish. Although these are key factors in why

people aren't working, one key component is missing: humans are lazy. Due to being lazy, humans have found every way possible to automate tasks for nearly 100 years. Automation has continuously sent people out of the workforce for safety or simply because it's cheaper not to have them there. However, one cannot have a capitalist society without a workforce. As automation advances, more jobs will follow, such as maintenance on those machines and building the machines in the first place. Regardless, if humans let machines do all the work, they will not benefit at the end of their careers.

The United States was founded on the hard work of our founding fathers. Without them sacrificing their comfort then, none of us would have what we have today. America has its flaws, but as a whole, it has freedom. Every day, people put in hard work and dedication to keep that freedom. But without hard work or taking on extra responsibilities, one cannot achieve any goal. A common saying is, "You can achieve anything you put your mind to." However, without dedication, one cannot accomplish anything. Even with every odd working against achieving certain goals, America still stands, just as our forefathers worked to ensure. To achieve any goal, to progress in any way, one must sacrifice whatever is needed.

PUBLIC SAFETY

From page 3

degree assault and strangulation. Lodged at Linn County Jail. Alexis Morgan Bowers, 24, was arrested for harassment and Sweet Home Municipal Court warrants for failure to comply on an original charge for third degree theft and failure to appear on an original charge for second degree criminal trespass. Bowers was also arrested on a Lebanon Municipal Court warrant for failure to appear on an original charge for third degree theft.

8:52 p.m - Caller reports a female stole groceries. Officer responded, report taken for second degree theft. Valued loss \$300. Safeway.

Aug. 20

5:37 a.m - Caller reports theft of kayak. Officer responded, report taken for second degree theft. Valued loss \$280.

6:36 a.m - Bryanna Sue Harley, 32, was arrested on Sweet Home Municipal Court warrants for failure to appear on charges for third degree theft.

8:03 a.m - Nicholas Scott Warren, was arrested on a Linn County Justice Court warrant for a probation violation.

Aug. 22

9:52 a.m - Clifford Lawrence Stoner, 51, was arrested on a Sweet Home Municipal Court warrant for failure to comply on an original charge for driving while suspended.

10:47 p.m - Cathay Ann Smith, 49, was arrested on a Sweet Home Municipal Court warrant for failure to comply on an original charge for felon in possession of a weapon.

Aug. 23

12:02 a.m - Ariel Victoria Gillette, 27, was arrested for

driving while suspended.

2:35 a.m - Donald Glenn Rodgers, 60, was arrested for fourth degree assault.

12:12 p.m - Rachel Lynn Gonzalez, was cited for no valid operator's license and driving uninsured.

Aug. 24

4:26 a.m - Michael Ray McQueary, 21, was cited for speeding. 71/35.

5:03 a.m - Elizabeth Glick, 34, was cited on a warrant.

11:59 a.m - Caller reports theft of trailer. Report taken for first degree theft. Valued loss \$4,200.

2:38 p.m - Kevin Jay Crooks, was arrested on a Sweet Home Municipal Court warrant for third degree theft.

6:09 p.m - Lola Wolfe, 31, was lodged in the Linn County Jail on a Jefferson County warrant for driving under the influence of intoxicants.

Aug. 25

9:27 a.m - Timothy Loren Ames Jr, 35, was arrested on Sweet Home Municipal Court warrants for failure to comply on two counts of unlawful entry into a motor vehicle, failure to appear on an original charge for third degree theft, failure to appear on an original charge for reckless burning, failure to appear on two counts of first degree trespass, failure to appear on an original charge for second degree disorderly conduct, and failure to appear on two counts of unlawful entry into a motor vehicle.

10:28 a.m - Ryan Davis Meacham, 21, was arrested on a Lebanon Municipal Court warrant for failure to appear on a criminal citation.

3:28 p.m - David Sterling Schwan, 34, was arrested on a Sweet Home Municipal Court warrant for failure to appear on an original charge for third degree theft.

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County Commissioners Boost Mental Health Staff Salaries

By Alex Paul
For The New Era

In a continuing effort to attract and retain qualified staff within the Linn County Mental Health Department, commissioners Roger Nyquist and Will Tucker approved wage increases of about 5-10% for Mental Health I and Mental Health II associates during their board meeting July 23.

Commissioner Sherrie Sprenger was not present.

This is the second wage increase within the Health Department in the last two months. At the board's May 28 meeting, the commissioners increased pay range classifications by 15% for the Qualified Mental Health Professional (QMHP) staff with masters degrees.

The funding is primarily from the State of Oregon through the local Coordinated Care Organization.

Health Director Todd Noble told the commissioners that the COVID-19 pandemic has contributed to unprecedented mental health issues nationwide. The increased needs have created pressure on current mental health staff and also made it more difficult to acquire new employees.

Noble said there are 122 total mental health positions in the annual budget, which is up from 96 in 2022.

The county has 26 qualified mental health professionals

on staff, but another 19 positions are vacant. Noble said the need is especially acute for the QMHP category. They have master's degrees and are therapists who do assessments and treatments such as counseling.

"The pandemic was so disruptive," Noble said. "We have great workers, but it was a very difficult time for them. We are grateful to be able to recognize their work with these increases."

Board Chairman Nyquist said that due to COVID-19, the demand for mental health services basically doubled and the county's actions are recognizing the rule of supply and demand when it comes to labor and providing need services.

"We believe this will help not only retain our staff members, but also help us fill those vacant positions," Nyquist said.

Commissioner Tucker agreed.

In other business, the commissioners:

- Were informed by Dr. Adam Brady that in June there were 87 deaths and 51 births – 27 girls and 24 boys.

- Approved an intergovernmental agreement with the Department of Corrections to provide pass-through funding not to exceed \$487,000 from the Criminal Justice Commission's Justice Reinvestment Program. The funds will support a Probation

Officer Liaison who will provide Prison Re-Entry and Downward Dispositional Departure offenders via shelter beds, housing assistance, transportation and ID cards.

- Approved a Personal Services Contract with the Pelton Project for \$150,000 for two years to help mental health clients access their maximum level of independence and reside in the least restrictive and most independent community setting as possible.

- Approved a Student Affiliation Contract with Linfield College to assist students in the bachelor's and master's level nursing degrees.

- Approved a Personal Services Contract with Family Tree Relief Nursery in pass-through funding of \$259,134 from the Criminal Justice Commission's Justice Reinvestment Program. This will allow Family Tree to provide Peer Recovery Mentors to Department of Corrections and Drug Court clients.

- Approved advertising for bids to roof the 7th Street Medical Building.

- Appointed Brandon Fountain to the Ambulance Service Area Advisory Committee as the law enforcement representative.

- Approved First-Time Youth Wage agreements with Cook Family Farms and RAM Trucking.

EMT COURSE

From page 1

By providing the course at SHFAD through Blue Mountain Community College (Pendleton), access is much easier for local residents, Marvin said. The nearest course is one hour away at either Lane or Chemeketa community colleges, which can be challenging for Sweet Home volunteers who would have to make the commute after getting off work.

The 10-week class at SHFAD is already capped out at 24, with half of them from Sweet Home (at least four of which are fresh out of high school). Others are coming from as far away as Cottage Grove and Idanha, and at least 20 names have been placed on the wait-list.

The course can be taken as a non-credit option to make the tuition cost more affordable. Marvin said some of the registered students are opting to take the credits as part of their prerequisite for the



paramedics program, while others will do no-credit to get their EMT certification.

Marvin said SHFAD expects to continue offering the course on a yearly basis so long as there is interest from students and BMCC is willing to be the host college.

In June, Josh Victor delivered a \$5,000 donation from Northern Investments to SHFAD.

"You guys have been doing such a great job as far as

– literally and figuratively – putting out fires," Victor told Chief Nick Tyler. "You guys are on top of it and we just wanted to tell you how much we appreciate you guys."

The money will be directed specifically for scholarships to the EMT program, Chief Tyler said.

"It's an amazing opportunity," Marvin said. "It's amazing for us as a district, it's amazing for the community, it's amazing for our volunteers."

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EVENTS

From page 3

ery Wednesday. There will also be one Sunday field trip to the firearms range and Animal Control; date to be determined later.

Students are introduced to each of our divisions and specialty teams. They receive classroom instruction and hands-on training in areas such as patrol, detectives, cor-

rections, firearms, defensive tactics, traffic enforcement, narcotics investigations, swift water rescue and dive recovery, prisoner transport, and search and rescue.

The atmosphere at the Citizens Academy is fun and informative for attendees 18 years and older. Applications will be considered for those as young as 16, provided they take part with a parent or guardian.

For more information, contact Community Services Specialist Michael Mattingly at mmattingly@linnsheiff.org.

Chorus Rehearsal Invitation

The Lebanon Community Chorus is inviting new singers for its upcoming winter performance season. Rehearsals begin Sept. 12 and are held every Thursday (hol-

idays excepted) from 7-9 p.m. at The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, 1955 S 5th St., Lebanon. Registration is \$30 and can be done in person during the first three rehearsals, or online at lebanoncommunitychorus.org. Feel free to observe rehearsal first to get to know the group better before deciding to register.

Director Terence Madlangbayan will lead the

chorus in a performance of Vivaldi's "Gloria" as part of the winter concert, "Reflections of Life," which takes place Nov. 24. Bill Langdon is the piano accompanist. Previously, LCC was led by a community volunteer, but now there is a professionally trained music director to lead the small ensemble.

The LCC is made up of nearly 50 talented singers

See Events, Page 13

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A Look at the Oregon Trail in 1852

By Roberta McKern
For The New Era

In traveling from Independence, Missouri to the East Linn area we once went along parts of the Old Oregon Trail. Independence had been a main kick-off point for the Trail in its earliest years. The Trail had more or less settled on a route most opportune for emigrant wagons, which meant the route was good for highways, too, with some alterations to take into account the growth of cities unforeseen by wayfarers on their way to Oregon Territory and the promise of nearly free land, 320 acres for a man and for a total of 640 acres if he had a wife.

Of course not everyone going down the trail headed for Oregon because cut offs led

to the Mormon settlements in Utah and more importantly to the golden land of California, good both for finding gold and for industry and agriculture. One estimate says out of 70,000 people going down the trail in 1852, 10,000 were Mormons and another 10,000 traveled to Oregon while 50,000 preferred California.

But our trek took the northern route through the various mountains to Oregon, 2000 miles traveled by car in four or five days compared with the four to six months it could take to reach Oregon following a wagon pulled by oxen, horses or mules. Oxen and mules were preferred because they fared better on the diet of native grasses found along the way. Oxen plodded along, pull-

ing heavy loads without complaint according to one of our sources about the Oregon Trail, Ezra Meeker's 1908 book The Ox Team.

He and his young wife, Eliza Jane, and their baby son had been part of the 1852 crossing of the plains when up to a thousand wagons jostled along the trail with ten to fifty of them abreast. The need to find adequate food and water for stock made it a cruel time, particularly as many men tried to force their way along as quickly as possible to the detriment of their animals. When emigrants reached Fort Laramie in Wyoming, they felt relief, not realizing that the worst of the trip lay ahead.

Ezra and his small group op-
See Oregon Trail, Page 10

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

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Calendar 2024					
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	
Exercise 8:30 Crafters 10:00 Meals on Wheels Senior Meals 12:00 Bridge 1:00	Qi Gong 9:00 Jolly Stitchers 10:00 Meals on Wheels Senior Meals 12:00	Exercise 8:30 Painters/Paper-crafters 10:00 Lunch 11:30 Ponytail 1:00 NO SALT FOR AUGUST ONLY	Qi Gong 9:00 Jolly Stitchers 10:00 Bible Study 10:00 Meals on Wheels 12:00 Pinochle 12:30	Exercise 8:30 Meals On Wheels Senior Meals 12:00	SHSC Disclaimer: At times we may have to change/cancel a class or activity due to weather, illness etc. SHSC Hours 8AM-4PM Mon.-Fri. Phone: 541-367-4775 CLOSED September 2nd Labor Day
Exercise 8:30 Crafters 10:00 Meals on Wheels Senior Meals 12:00 Bridge 1:00	Qi Gong 9:00 Jolly Stitchers 10:00 Meals on Wheels Senior Meals 12:00	Exercise 8:30 Painters/Paper-crafters 10:00 Lunch 11:30 Ponytail 1:00	Qi Gong 9:00 Jolly Stitchers 10:00 Bible Study 10:00 Meals on Wheels 12:00 Pinochle 12:30	Exercise 8:30 Meals On Wheels Senior Meals 12:00	September Events: Wednesday September 4th SALT 10 AM. September 11th Member's Meeting. September 19th Trip to Sisters.
Exercise 8:30 Crafters 10:00 Meals on Wheels Senior Meals 12:00 Bridge 1:00	Qi Gong 9:00 Jolly Stitchers 10:00 Meals on Wheels Senior Meals 12:00	Exercise 8:30 Painters/Paper-crafters 10:00 Lunch 11:30 Ponytail 1:00	Qi Gong 9:00 Jolly Stitchers 10:00 Bible Study 10:00 Meals on Wheels 12:00 Pinochle 12:30	Exercise 8:30 Meals On Wheels Senior Meals 12:00	
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Exercise 8:30 Crafters 10:00 Meals on Wheels Senior Meals 12:00 Bridge 1:00	Qi Gong 9:00 Jolly Stitchers 10:00 Meals on Wheels Senior Meals 12:00	Exercise 8:30 Painters/Paper-crafters 10:00 Lunch 11:30 Ponytail 1:00			

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.



Q: What are the worst drinks for my teeth?

A: Ironically, many of the foods and drinks we enjoy the most aren't good for us at all.

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- 2. SPORTS DRINKS.** Like soda, they are often full of sugar and are highly acidic. One study showed that lemon-lime Gatorade dissolved more tooth enamel than any other drink, including Coke.
- 3. FRUIT JUICE.** After reading to this point, you probably know why this is on the list. Juice has lots of sugar and acid too. While it could be considered a healthy option, most fitness experts will advise you not to drink your calories. Eat the entire fruit instead, and enjoy the health benefits of the fiber.
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OREGON TRAIL

From page 9

erated on good sense, believing slow and steady would win the day. There were nine men, three women and a baby, four wagons and the livestock.. Ezra Meeker wrote the account of his journey fifty plus years after having successfully settled in Oregon Territory in what became Washington state. At the time, he was retracing the Trail from west to east to encourage marking its passage as a historic event, traveling with an ox team and a companion dog for emphasis. Yet what he recalled of his original 1852 trek west gives us a picture of the trip.

On our own journey, we experienced a day in Nebraska when the sky turned blue black at noon. Lights shining along the edge of the threatening cloud lit up the pale prairie grass on an unending flat land. We had one hope, that the storm would go elsewhere, which it did, but we remembered tales of flooded gullies and already knew of hailstones as big as plums, so we could feel sympathy for past travelers along the Platte River back in the emigration heyday.

For much of the way through Nebraska the trail travels along the Platte. In pioneer days its water was described as too thick to drink and too thin to walk on because of its silty nature. To pass along the river in 1852 was particularly hazardous because of cholera. This is as we now know a water borne disease caused by poor sanitation and fecal contamination. Severe vomiting and diarrhea are its symptoms, and a victim can look lively and healthy in the morning and be dead by nightfall due to the shock to the body of extreme dehydration.

On the Platte, Ezra's brother, Oliver, became ill. Contrary to what others were doing in the

thousand wagon train, Ezra's small party stopped traveling for five days. Oliver recovered and Ezra decided he had over exerted himself on a buffalo hunt. Ezra believed those digging wells to get water next to the river got too much alkali with the water, encouraging cholera. His party took water toward the river's middle. If the water was left standing in a bucket overnight, the silt settled out. Also, boiling coffee water helped kill some of the infectious germs. Those who died of cholera often received burial nearby, adding further pollution to the area, especially when the graves were unmarked.

On the Platte, people began to lighten their wagons, leaving bacon, flour and assorted goods for others to take, as Ezra said. In other times, generosity did not hold. People would deliberately spoil bacon, flour and their goods so nobody else could use them.

According to Wikipedia, emigrants were advised to take along 200 pounds of flour, 150 pounds of bacon and/or salt pork, 20 pounds of sugar, and ten pounds of salt for each person plus saleratus for baking. Cornmeal, dried fruits and vegetables, fresh fruit, rice and beans could be added by choice. Some canned goods were available, but were heavy to haul.

Ezra had a clever wife, and the Meekers started out with butter packed in the middle of the flour in double sacks, eggs packed in cornmeal or flour to last about 500 miles, fruit, dried pumpkins, some jerked beef and a demijohn of brandy for medicinal emergencies. Eliza Jane made yeast cake and baked bread in a reflector oven for much of the way. This fit with whatever else was needed in one wagon pulled by two

yoke of four year old steers and a yoke of cows. An included spare cow was lost shortly after the trek's beginning.

The cows supplied milk which was churned into butter by hanging a container in the single wagon. Jolting over the day's journey churned the fat in the milk to butter, leaving buttermilk too. All of the Meekers animals except for the lost cow made it to Oregon Territory. Ezra felt it was because of their more varied diet that his family experienced better health than many others.

Few changes of clothing were taken along, but one thing Eliza Jane and the two McAuley ladies traveling along did was wear bloomers as trail dress without embarrassment. After all, they were walking most of the way while picking up a couple of bushels of buffalo chips for the evening fires. The draft animals had to be spared, so riding in wagons was mainly for invalids and small children. Besides, it was a jolting ride.

As Ezra pointed out, most on the wagon train were upstanding law abiders. Infractions came before a council of older men. He recalled one dire incident of murder. A man killed another in the act of robbing him. The evidence was clear. The elders decided to hang the murderer. But he had a wife and four young children. Some in the train thought leniency should apply. Not so the elders. The man was hung before his wife and children, although in mitigation a collection was taken up to assist the widow and her children. Ezra did not see the hanging, but he did see the wagon tongues propped up to make the gallows.

Ezra Meeker continued to believe his little party got through to Oregon by treating the stock as well as possible and resting them instead of forcing them to



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travel an incessant journey day after day. In the East Linn area Philemon Vawter Crawford, after whom Crawfordsville is named, felt much the same and it made for a more amenable crossing of the plains and mountains.

Ezra had not thought he'd need money for the journey, but others had set up toll bridges and ferries and would charge a fee. As it was, he set to work on the Snake River, built a ferry out of a calked wagon bed and earned \$110. By the time he reached Portland he had \$2.25 left after his family went down the Columbia on a scow to Portland. By that time everyone was wearing rags and tatters. Some men had hats. Some ladies wore bonnets, but most of the clothing, including shoes, had worn out. For many, finding a new beginning in Oregon was the next adventure.

The Oregon Trail continued to be used until the late 1800's, augmented by cut offs, toll roads, bridges and ferries. Parts of it, as we've seen, became highways connecting the east to the west. Commemorating the Trail became Ezra Meeker's ambition around the early 1900's when he set out to drive an ox team to Washington, D.C. while setting up monuments along the way. One thing about an ox, he pointed out, was that on a cold night on the trail, the

traveler could keep warm by sheltering against the broad back of a placid beast.

His little book, The Ox Team, gives us insights into the 1852 journey on the Oregon Trail. Known as the year of the great migration, the Meekers and their group survived by traveling along the fringes of the massed wagons rather than by jostling for a place in the race to be first. In the future, others would continue to experience worse times with cut offs and short cuts than did Ezra's party.

A Wikipedia estimate puts 53,000 emigrants arriving before 1860 and 4% to 10% were thought to have died along the way. Included were Carter Meeker, Ezra's brother, and their mother who became victims in a later wagon train. Carter drowned in the Sweet Water in Wyoming.

Trains superceded the Oregon Trail and then highways and planes. Those of us who glimpsed it fleeting by while traveling to and from Missouri can admire some of its scenics, but we would just as soon travel the current way by automobile, although we may never pass that way again.

In the meantime, portraits of Oregon Trail survivors hang on the East Linn Museum walls, and we can look for objects which may have come down the Trail sometime between

1843 and about 1900. Among those looking down from those walls are the Wileys, Gillilands, Mosses, Russels, Pickens, Rices and Robnetts. Most were farmers, whose families moved west several times before reaching about as far west they could go. Having come as families, they settled to stay. Their history shaped our present, and we can still benefit from hearing about the Oregon Trail although we want to retain compassion for those who suffered along the way, men, women, children and beasts. Which is why we like Ezra who showed respect for the "dumb brutes", as he called the stock, particularly the oxen which pulled the wagons. Many left their bones along the last part of that rough trail, some near the graves of less fortunate immigrants.

Opportunities are not the same now, as when intrepid, enterprising and sometimes just plain foolish folk set out down the Oregon Trail going across the wide Missouri in search of apples on every tree in Oregon, but for us most things are better. We can retain this thought while searching for souvenirs of the Oregon Trail in the East Linn Museum. At least a spinning wheel can be vouched for with some certainty. So we look forward to your visit.

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Sweet Home Senior Center

SEPTEMBER

Wednesday
menus

4: Garden Harvest

A harvest of vegetables accompanying savory pork roast, with apple chutney, served with potatoes, garden salad, dessert

11: Salisbury Steak

Ground beef 'steak' patty smothered in a beef & onion gravy, served with baked potato, veg, dessert

18: Sauerkraut & Brats

German bratwurst and sauerkraut, served with buttered potatoes & carrots, dessert

Dessert provided by Wiley Creek Senior Community

25: Chicken Alfredo

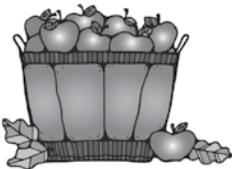
Pasta in an Alfredo sauce topped with slices of roasted chicken breast, served with Caesar salad, veg, dessert

\$5 dine in \$5.50 take out

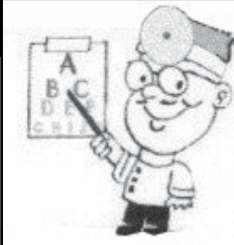
Dining room opens 11:15
Lunch served 11:30 - 12:30

Please call at least a day ahead of you plan on 3 or more take out lunches. 541-367-4775

It's back to school time!
Watch for kids and buses



Q: Do I have dry eyes or allergies?



Dr. Michael W. Stoner

A: Although allergy season is in full swing some people who have allergy type symptoms may in fact have dry eyes. There are specific eye drops for allergies and dry eyes. It's important to use the correct drop or you may make your symptoms worse. Education or evaluation can facilitate the right treatment. Dry eye is an inflammation type condition in which there are insufficient tears to lubricate and nourish the eye. Tears are necessary for maintaining the health of the front surface of the eye and for

providing clear vision. People with dry eyes either do not produce enough tears or have a poor quality of tears. Dry eye is a common and often chronic problem, particularly in older adults. The primary approaches used to manage and treat dry eyes include adding tears, conserving tears, increasing tear production, and/or treat the inflammation of the eyelids or eye surface that contributes to the dry eyes. Ocular Allergies is the abnormal response of sensitive eyes to contact with allergens and other irritating substances. Pollen in the air is the most common cause of allergy symptoms but other things in the air such as smoke, animal dander or fumes may also trigger an allergic response. The primary approach to manage ocular allergy is avoidance of allergic triggers, cool compresses, eyewash, oral anti-histamines or eye drops specific for allergies. Most eye drops used for dry eyes are mainly used to increase volume of tears. Drops used for ocular allergies have an anti-histamine component, which reduces the effects of histamine but also dry the eye. Using an ocular allergy drop will make a dry eye problem feel worse. If you are unable to find relief you should have your eyes evaluated to determine what condition you have and the best treatment options available to you specifically.

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Public Notices

In the Circuit Court of the State of Oregon For the County of Linn In the Matter of the Estate of: John D. Salyer, Deceased. Case No. 24PB06682 Notice to Interested Deceased. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned has been appointed personal representative. All persons having claims against the estate are required to present them, with vouchers attached, to the undersigned personal representative at the Law offices of Melinda M. Brown, 725 Ellsworth Street SW, Albany, OR 97321, 541-967-7776, within four months after the date of the first publication of this notice, or the claims may be barred. All persons whose rights may be affected by the proceedings may obtain additional information from the records of the court, the personal representative, Robin S. Anderson, or the attorney for the personal representative, Melinda M. Brown. Dated and first published on August 14, 2024. Personal Representative Robin S. Anderson 31919 N. Lake Creek Dr. #96 Tangent, OR 97389 (Aug 14 - Aug 28) _____

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE STATE OF OREGON FOR THE COUNTY OF LINN IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF JACOB RYAN DAHLENBURG, Deceased. Case No. 24PB06807 NOTICE TO INTERESTED PERSONS Notice is hereby given that Bennie D Dahlenburg has been appointed and has qualified as the personal representative of the estate. All persons having claims against the estate are hereby required to present their claims, within four months after the date of first publication of this notice, as stated below, to the personal representative at: 1275 Main Street or P. O. Box 486, Sweet Home, Oregon 97386, or the claims may be barred. All persons whose rights may be affected by the proceedings in this estate may obtain additional information from the records of the Court, the personal representative, or the attorney for the personal representative. Dated and first published: August 14, 2024. Personal Representative Bennie D Dahlenburg Attorney for Personal Representative Robert Snyder Attorney at Law 541-367-5191 (Aug 14 - Aug 28) _____

Sale of Abandoned Manufactured Home: One (1) 1985 ESQUI manufactured dwelling, Plate number X187936, Home identification number 246484, Manufacturer's serial number(s) 11503, with contents (if any) has been abandoned by Sandra Rollins. The home is located at 5050 Columbus St. SE, Unit 78, Albany, OR 97322. Sale shall be by private bidding, with sealed bids, and "as is" (there is no warranty relating to title, possession, quiet enjoyment or the like). Bids must be for a specific stated dollar figure and must be delivered to: Columbus Greens Mobile Home Park at 5050 Columbus St. SE, Unit 41 – Office, Albany, OR 97322, no later than the end of the day on the 30th day of August, 2024. Upon confirmation of the winning bid, the purchaser must promptly tender full payment in cash, money order, or cashiers' check and promptly remove the dwelling from the manufactured home park unless a storage agreement can be promptly negotiated between the successful bidder and the Park. Future owner occupancy of the dwelling onsite would require successful application for tenancy, screening, and entry into a written rental agreement, none of which will be considered until after the sale is complete. This auction may be cancelled at any time prior to the start of bidding without notice. Please contact Elizabeth Clark for more information and/or questions at 541-928-5163. (Aug 21- Aug 28) _____

Public Notices

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE STATE OF OREGON FOR THE COUNTY OF LINN IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF FARRELL CLAUDE FINLEY, Deceased. Case No. 24PB07132 NOTICE TO INTERESTED PERSONS Notice is hereby given that Brenda Tunnell has been appointed and has qualified as the personal representative of the estate. All persons having claims against the estate are hereby required to present their claims, within four months after the date of first publication of this notice, as stated below, to the personal representative at: 1275 Main Street or P. O. Box 486, Sweet Home, Oregon 97386, or the claims may be barred. All persons whose rights may be affected by the proceedings in this estate may obtain additional information from the records of the Court, the personal representative, or the attorney for the personal representative. Dated and first published: August 21, 2024 Personal Representative Brenda Tunnell Attorney for Personal Representative Robert Snyder Attorney at Law 541-367-5191 (Aug 21 - Sept 4) _____

Help Wanted

Job details
Swim Team Coach for a youth swim team
Job Type
Part-time
Full Job Description
Sweet Home Swim Club is looking for a swim coach for our beginner to intermediate swimmers. This is a part-time position with 4-5 hours during the week-day evenings and approximately 1 weekend per month. Swim coach is also responsible for new swimmer Try-Outs (twice per year) and teaching stroke technique and pool etiquette. Pay is depended on experience. Advancement opportunities available.
The Ideal Candidate
• Have experience as either a swimmer or a coach in competitive swimming at the state and/or regional level for at least 4 years.
• Have experience coaching or teaching swimming skills.
• Someone who is energetic and willing to take ownership of a championship program.
Requirements
• 18 years old
• Oregon Driver's License (by start date)
• Safety Training for Swim Coaches
Preferred
• USA Swimming Coach Certification (or ability to obtain certification before start date)
• Professional Rescuer CPR/FA or Lifeguard Certification
Anticipated Schedules
• Monday - Friday 4:00 pm - 5:30 pm
• Some weekends depending on swim meet schedule
Apply by sending resumes to keithsautel@yahoo.com
Interviews are scheduled by appointment only. All employment offers are pending a background investigation and pre-employment drug testing.
(Aug 28) _____

Statewide Notices

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SERVICES:
Stroke and Cardiovascular disease are leading causes of death, according to the American Heart Association. Screenings can provide peace of mind or early detection! Contact Life Line Screening to schedule your screening. Special offer - 5 screenings for just \$149. Call 1-844-655-0972.

EVENTS

From page 8

from Albany, Brownsville, Lebanon, Sweet Home and surrounding areas. This non-auditioned chorus is open to all voices 16 years and older.

For more information, send an email to Lebanon-CommunityChorus@gmail.com, leave a voicemail at 541.730.3335, or contact Board President Doug Young at 541.570.5474.

Learn to Square Dance

Lebanon Square Circlers announces this year's square dance lessons will start at 6:30-8 p.m. on Sunday, Sept. 15, at the Lebanon Senior Center, 80 Tangent St.

Each class, held every Sunday, is \$6 per person or \$15 for a family of three or more; the first class is free.

No partner is required to participate. Organizers point out that modern square dance is a great way

to get low-impact exercise, stimulate the brain, and have a lot of fun in a family friendly, and smoke- and alcohol-free environment. No previous dance experience is necessary.

Those who enjoy line and contra dancing are invited to check out "our brand" of American folk dancing. Classes are taught by Shaun McKamey. For more information, call 541.401.9780 or visit lebanonsquarecirclers.com.

Head-On Collision on Highway 228 Sends Three to Hospitals



By Sky Chappell
Of The New Era

The Sweet Home Fire and Ambulance District (SHFAD) responded to a call regarding a head-on collision in the 40500 block of Highway 228, Aug. 20.

Shortly after receiving the initial call, another vehicle struck the wreck, adding a third to the accident.

The initial wreckage, according to the on-scene

Battalion Chief Randy Whitfield, consisted of two vehicles that ran into each other head-on. One of those vehicles was a Chevy pickup truck carrying a trailer with an ATV on it, and the other was a smaller SUV.

The damage done to both vehicles was extensive; it is presumed that the additional vehicle that ran into the wreck also had extensive damages.

All people were transferred to hospitals. One driver was transferred code three to Corvallis Hospital, while the other two drivers were taken to Lebanon Community Hospital code one.

Oregon State Police took over the scene; they have not provided updates at this time. Any further information will be added.

CROSSWORD

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14				15					16			
17				18					19			
20				21	22			23				
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52	53	54			55			56		57	58	59
60				61			62		63			
64				65					66			
67				68					69			

CLUES ACROSS

1. Dylan and Marley are two

5. Makes healthy

10. The Who's "O'Riley"

14. Side sheltered from wind

15. Flat-bottomed sailboats

16. Egyptian supreme god

17. Advice

18. Mass of small, loose stones

19. Online learning services provider

20. "Lords" in Northwest Semitic languages

22. Of she

23. A place to relax

24. Critical and mocking

27. Consumed

30. You get one in summer

31. Bath

32. Luxury automaker

35. Spiders spin one

37. Guy (slang)

38. Greek personification of Earth

39. Large instruments
40. Domestic cattle genus

41. Appetizer

42. Oil group

43. Where to put groceries

44. Speak incessantly

45. Popular color

46. A place to sleep

47. Make fun of

48. Former CIA

49. Salts

52. Bleated

55. Never sleeps

56. Sword

60. Water (Spanish)

61. Cyprinids

63. "Dark Knight" actor Christian

64. Fictional demon

65. Old World lizard

66. The content of cognition

67. Makes a mistake

68. A way to make wet

69. Tide

CLUES DOWN

1. One-liner

2. Evergreen genus

3. College in Rome

4. Prevents from seeing

5. Cycles/second

6. Mischievous child

7. Less common

8. Honorably retired

9. Midway between south and southeast

10. A confusion of voices and other sounds

11. Bony fish genus

12. Type of pear

13. Egyptian cross

21. Satisfies

23. Founder of Babism

25. Bar bill

26. Chicago ballplayer

27. Performer

28. Hairpiece

29. Partner to flowed

32. Aircraft formation
33. You have 3 per day

34. Goes into

36. College athletic organization

37. Wet, muddy ground

38. Talk

40. Witty conversation

41. Gurus

43. "French Price of ___ Air"

44. Sports equipment

46. Try to get

47. Flower cluster

49. Sea dwellers

50. Palmlike subtropical plant

51. Polio vaccine developer

52. Baseball's Ruth

53. Gelatinous substance

54. Hungarian violinist Leopold

57. Offered

58. Ancient Greek City

59. A way to derive

61. Touch lightly

62. Witnessed

SUDOKU

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

Level: Intermediate

Wildland Division Chief Pinned, Updates Fire Board on Expansion

By Sky Chappell
Of The New Era

The official pinning of Wildland Division Chief Christian Whitfield was the primary focus of the monthly fire board meeting, Aug. 20.

Chief Nick Tyler was not present for the official swearing in of Whitfield, nor was his father, Randy Whitfield. Both of them requested it to be done during this meeting. Unfortunately, Randy wasn't present for this as he was at a motor vehicle collision call.

Christian was pinned by his daughter as the board and district personnel watched. During his pinning, Tyler commented on Christian's work turning a \$440,000 grant into a 1.9 million dollar National Forest Service contract.

Whitfield gave an update about the division; according to him, he's 2-3 weeks into the testing process for joining the wildland division and the district has received 32 different applications ranging over seven different jobs.

"I was very impressed with the number of applicants," Tyler said. "I was not expecting that, especially as late into the fire season as we tried to launch this. The excitement around this program has brought a lot of interest to a



Photo by Sky Chappell

Christian Whitfield's oldest daughter pins him during the August board meeting.

lot of people."

Whitfield has chosen to not hire a person for every job with the assumption that there will be a larger candidate pool from January to May; he said this would be the best opportunity to get the best employees into those

positions. Whitfield also received a map of the predicted work from the National Forest Service and presented it to the board.

A new chipper, which is anticipated to arrive by Oct. 1, was considered one of the bonded items granted with the passage of the Sweet Home Fire and Ambulance General Obligation Bond 22-203.

Whitfield and Josh Starha both took a trip to Boston to research the new chipper, which would be able to run 24" pine. This chipper is not the traditional hot feeder, it requires loading, then stepping back before starting it, ensuring safety among whoever is using it.

Whitfield discussed the purchasing of the vehicles that will be used for the wildland division. The anticipated state-bid vehicles, voted and passed by the board, are four 2023 4x4 Ford F-350's costing \$61,000. Originally there were supposed to be only three, but Tyler made a request to the board for a fourth.

"I like the idea of having three that are going [out] working, and the fourth to rotate those vehicles through," Tyler explained.

The money used on these vehicles will be from the Wildland Division Fund and are expected to make their way into the public eye within 90 days. These vehicles will also be specially branded to

the Wildland Division.

In other business:

- Tyler presented to the board call volumes using a new tracking system. The board reviewed the call volumes over the Oregon Jamboree weekend. Tyler stated this year's jamboree calls followed the usual call volume for the day and attributed this to the multi-agency preventative measures. Transportation and walltime were also discussed.

- SHFAD recently received the Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG). This is \$180,000 awarded to help with handheld radios. Receiving this was passed unanimously.

"That just puts our bond at \$180,000 stronger," Tyler said.

- Battalion Chief Shannon Pettner was recognized for her hard work in the district receiving grants. According to district documentation, Pettner has helped the district receive over 4.8 million dollars.

"If you've never been involved in writing grants, getting grants approved, tracking grants, doing the whole process; you have no idea how time consuming," board member Charlene Adams said. "This is very impressive. [Pettner] can't be thanked enough."

- Discussion was held for a surplus of a 1995 Mako Air Compressor. The board unanimously approved the surplus of this compressor.

- Webster Bank National Association in Connecticut is looking to buy the general obligation bond. Tyler should get the signed documents by Aug. 27 and sign and close by Sept. 5.

- Julie Maynard, Assistant to the Chief, mentioned having \$161,000 collected in ambulance revenue; which is a "high month"

- SHFAD were contacted by a law office in Eugene. This law firm saw a KEZI story about the district not receiving life jackets. This undisclosed law firm purchased \$500 worth of life jackets. Private citizens also brought in used life jackets to help curb this problem.

Training hours were as follows: 15 hours of online training, 106 hours of drills, 24 hours of outside training, 86.5 hours of on-shift training, and 40 hours of fire corp training.

- Josh Bondsden spoke about an EMT class in Sweet Home, and updated the board about it. It's set to begin Sept. 23.

Board members requested an update about Alyrica. Tyler assured it is in process and still moving forward.

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OCTOBER 5, 2024
11 AM - 4 PM**

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SATURDAY, OCTOBER 5, 2024

prizes for the best pies - youth and adult

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**During the Sweet Home Harvest Festival
located in Sankey Park 847 14th Avenue**

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 5, 2024

Judges Choice, People's Choice and Grand Prize Awarded

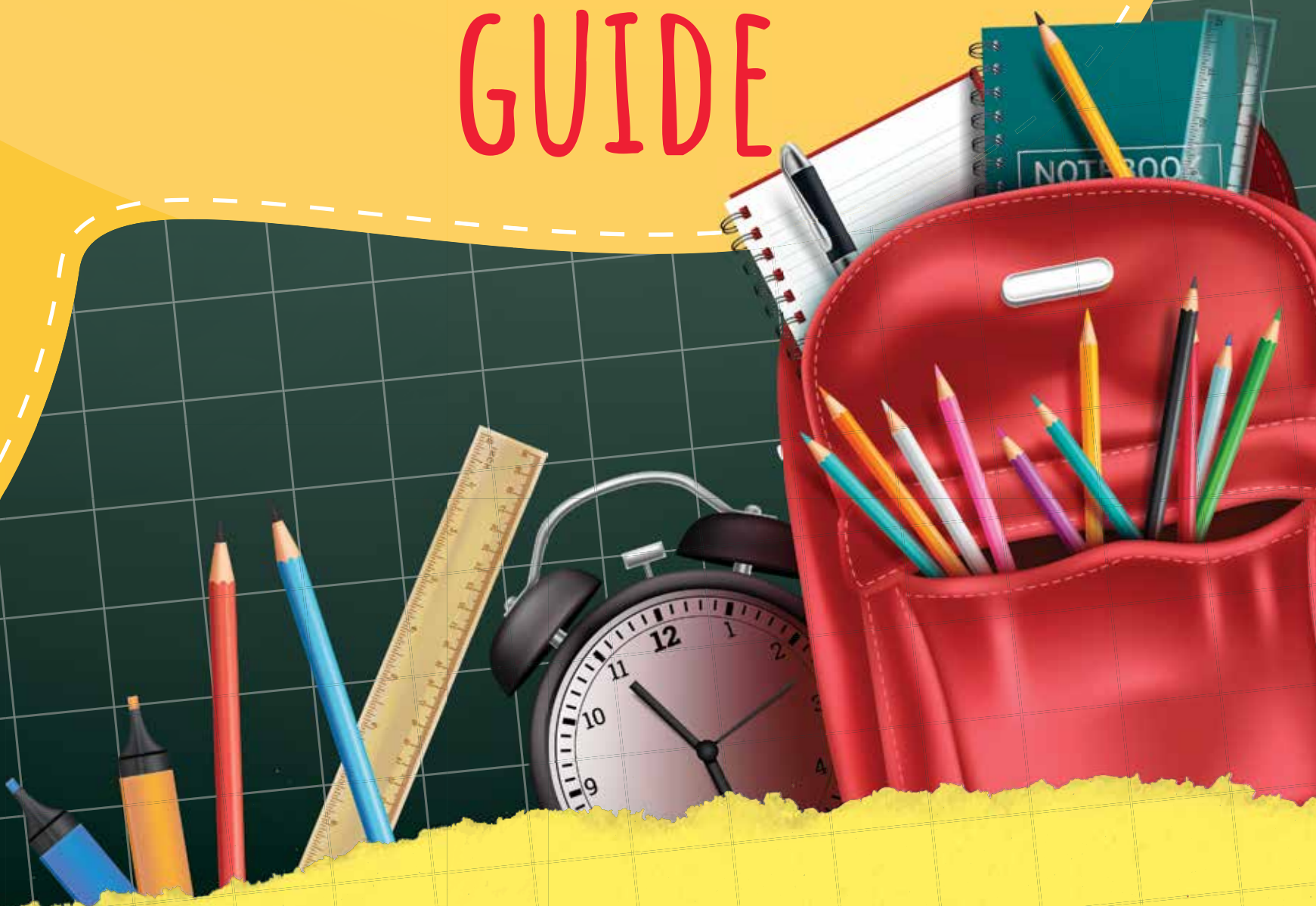
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541-818-8029

2024 SWEET HOME BACK TO SCHOOL GUIDE



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Sweet Home School District is committed to providing access and reasonable accommodation in its services, programs, activities, education and employment for individuals with disabilities. To request disability accommodation in the application process, contact the Superintendent's Office at least ten days in advance at: 541-367-7637. Sweet Home School, 1920 Long Street, Sweet Home, OR 97386.



2024-2025 SHSD Calendar

1ST SEMESTER							2ND SEMESTER							
M	T	W	Th	F	Instructional Days	Contract Days	M	T	W	Th	F	Instructional Days	Contract Days	
AUGUST							FEBRUARY							
			1	2	0	0	3	4	5	6	7	5	5	
5	6	7	8	9	0	0	10	11	12	13	14	5	5	
12	13	14	15	16	0	0	17	18	19	20	21	4	4	
19	20	21	22	23	0	0	24	25	26	27	28	5	5	
26	27	28	29	30	0	4	MARCH							
SEPTEMBER							3	4	5	6	7	5	5	
2	3	4	5	6	4	5	10	11	12	13	14	5	5	
9	10	11	12	13	5	5	17	18	19	20	21	5	5	
16	17	18	19	20	5	5	24	25	26	27	28	0	0	
23	24	25	26	27	5	5	31	APRIL						
30							1	2	3	4	5	6	4	4
OCTOBER							7	8	9	10	11	12	3	5
	1	2	3	4	4	4	14	15	16	17	18	5	5	
7	8	9	10	11	4	5	21	22	23	24	25	5	5	
14	15	16	17	18	5	5	28	29	30	31		3	3	
21	22	23	24	25	3	5	MAY							
28	29	30	31		4	4					1	2	2	2
NOVEMBER														
				1	1	1	5	6	7	8	9	5	5	
4	5	6	7	8	5	5	12	13	14	15	16	5	5	
11	12	13	14	15	4	5	19	20	21	22	23	5	5	
18	19	20	21	22	5	5	26	27	28	29	30	4	5	
25	26	27	28	29	2	3	JUNE							
DECEMBER							2	3	4	5	6	5	5	
2	3	4	5	6	5	5	9	10	11	12	13	4	5	
9	10	11	12	13	5	5	17	18	19	20	21	0	0	
16	17	18	19	20	5	5	24	25	26	27	28	0	0	
23	24	25	26	27	0	1								
30	31						0	0						
JANUARY														
		1	2	3	0	1								
6	7	8	9	10	5	5								
13	14	15	16	17	5	5								
20	21	22	23	24	4	4								
27	28	29	30	31	4	5								
					90	103						85	89	

Total 175 192

	Instructional Days
	Teacher Non-Contract Day
	Teacher In-Service Day (no students)
	Holidays
	Early Release PD Days
	Half Day-Prep/Grading/Conference Prep
	K-12 Conferences (no students)
	End of Semester
	Grading Days
	Graduation (June 6) No School for High School Only
	End of Quarter for JH- 11/8/24, 1/30/25, 4/9/25, 6/12/25

SHSD Regular Start/Stop Times

	START	END
Elem:	7:45	2:15
JH:	8:00	3:00
HS:	8:10	3:15

Early Release Times for Wed. Professional Development

Elem:	1:15 PM
JH:	2:00 PM
HS:	2:15 PM

Half Day 10/23 & 4/9, 6/12 PD

Elem:	11:30 AM
JH:	12:00 PM
HS:	12:00 PM

This calendar meets or exceeds all requirements of OAR 581-022-1620

Adopted 3/11/2024

Welcome Back to School



Greetings, and welcome to the 2024-2025 school year. Great things have been happening over the summer at Oak Heights, and we will be hosting a community open house there to show off the “new” school shortly. Stay tuned for more information on this great celebration of the seismic retrofit and facility improvements at Oak Heights!

The start of a new school year is such a joyous time! We are excited to have students return to our buildings, and we are looking forward to a great year. Friends get back in contact with one another, students and teachers are reunited, and another school year will be underway! We truly want this to be our best year ever. As our mission statement says, we want to “Give each child every chance to achieve their potential.”

I am proud to be superintendent for Sweet Home School District #55. I enjoy my job, and I am proud of each and every one of our staff. We have incredibly talented and dedicated employees, and our teamwork is top shelf!

We have greatly increased our students’ abilities to take

more career-related trade and technical classes as well as earn college credit while attending our high school. We will regain our loss of schooling and continue to strive for gains on all academic fronts. Our high school will be offering both a financial literacy class, and also a new career pathways course as well to help students as they transition into adulthood.

It is important to note that we will be reviewing and updating our strategic plan this year, and we welcome your input. You can drop off or email written feedback to julie.emmert@sweethome.k12.or.us, or write Julie and let her know you would like to be on the committee to review our strategic plan.

Finally, as superintendent it’s important to communicate my fundamental beliefs:

- I believe in treating everyone with dignity and respect.
- I believe in honesty and transparency in leadership.
- I believe students are our greatest asset they are our future
- I believe in continuous improvement. I don’t expect perfection on day one, but I do

expect we should be better tomorrow than we are today.

- I believe in teamwork and unity of purpose. Teaching students is our job. Let’s focus on that and celebrate our successes. We have the greatest profession on earth.
- I believe students need to be safe so they can learn. In addition, let’s learn to be kind and encourage and support one another.
- I believe happiness is a choice, we are all as happy as we choose to be daily. Even in the face of adversity, conflict, hardship, and differences -- from these things we can learn, grow, and demonstrate compassion and strength. And in education, the practice of the positive belief in a student’s potential can bring that potential to life. I believe in your student’s potential to be the very best they can be!

In closing:

As parents, students, and the community, as we embark on a new year, let us partner for the 2024-25 school year to make it the best year of our lives for our children.

Sincerely, Terry Martin
Sweet Home School District Superintendent

District Seeks Budget Committee Members

Current Budget Committee Members:

- #3 Foster Lori McKinnon
- #5 At Large Kevin Hill
- #9 Sweet Home Mike Reynolds

The School District is presently seeking applicants for six vacancies on the eighteen-member Budget Committee.

If you are interested in serving on the Committee, the District will be taking applications through October 22,

2024. Budget Committee appointments will be made by the Board at the November School Board Meeting. The following positions are vacant:

Zone

- #1 Holley
- #2 Liberty
- #4 Cascadia
- #6 Crawfordsville
- #7 At Large
- #8 At Large

To qualify as a candidate, the following criteria must be met:

- Live in the District and reside in the proper zone,
- May not be an officer, agent, or employee of the District,
- Be a citizen of the United States,
- Be a registered voter.

Interested parties may pick up an application form on our website: www.sweethome.k12.or.us. Questions may be directed to Julie Emmert at the Superintendent’s Office by calling 541-367-7637.

STUDENT REGISTRATION

Annual Registration

You should have received an activation letter via ParentSquare in the spring to go through the re-verification process. If you did not or if the activation key has expired please contact your building secretary to get a new activation key. This process will help update our contact information and you will have the opportunity to sign some permission paperwork for the school year. All students who attended a Sweet Home school last school year need to go through this re-verification process.

New Enrollment

If you are NEW to the District and need to enroll a student, please visit the district website at sweethome.k12.or.us Across the top you will find a tab titled Resources, click on Parents & Students, from there you will click the Registration Info button. When the next screen comes up click the Enrollment-New Students button, then new parent/student. This will take you to an activation page, answer the questions and create your account. This will then walk you through the enrollment process.

If you have any issues or questions please reach out to your student’s school secretary.

COLLEGE NOW CLASSES

College Now high school classes can save time, tuition and earn students college credit! In partnership with Linn Benton Community College, Sweet Home High School has several course offerings that have been articulated for college credit. The grade a student receives in the College Now class will appear on their college transcript. There is no fee and students can take as many College Now courses as they want. College credit earned during high school however, will impact Oregon Promise funding for community college tuition after high school graduation. College Now opportunities exist in the following areas: Math, Science, English, History, Wellness, and Welding and Manufacturing. Details are available in the Curriculum Guide. Classes may be added to these fields and are subject to change. For additional information contact the high school counseling office.

DIRECTORY INFORMATION

Directory information may be released to the public through appropriate procedures, unless parents or eligible students request the district withhold this information. Such notice will be given prior to release of directory information. (Board Policy JOA)

CHILD PRIVACY ACT

The district adheres to the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) guidelines and allows for student privacy, when requested, with the Student Information Opt Out Form located on the District website: www.sweethome.k12.or.us.

Completion and submission of this form by parents/legal guardians will exclude/block a student from appearing in pictures, various media/communication channels, showcasing of student work and potentially many other things as well.

If you decide to have your student excluded/blocked from these various forms of communication, it is strongly recommended that you discuss the decision so the student can fully understand the reasoning behind it.

CHILD DEVELOPMENT CONCERNS

Do you have a concern about your infant, toddler or preschooler’s development?

Does she/he seem to be having difficulty talking, hearing, or understanding? Are you concerned about your child’s coordination or social skills?

If you answer “yes” to any of these questions, please contact Brian Brands, Director of Student Services, at (541) 367-7115. They can help you sort out the severity of the problem and then, if needed, will connect you with those who provide free services to special-needs children and families.

Every special-needs child in this country from birth to 21 has the right to get the help she/he needs. It’s the law.

The earlier the need is known, the better for the child. If you know of a child who may have a special need, please share this article with the child’s guardian.

PUBLIC NOTICES

CUSTODIAL PARENT/GUARDIAN INFORMATION

This information is provided for students not living with both parents. Unless otherwise ordered by the court, an order of sole custody to one parent shall not deprive the other parent of the right to inspect and receive school records and to consult with staff concerning the child's welfare and education to the same extent as the custodial parent may inspect and receive such records and consult with staff.

SCHOOL DISTRICT POLICIES

Copies of the School Board's adopted policies and administrative rules regarding the role and function of the School Board, administration of the District, personnel, employee benefits, students, fiscal management, support services, curriculum and instruction, and relationships with the community are available online at sweethome.k12.or.us.

SUSPENSION OF DRIVING PRIVILEGES

The superintendent may, under ORS 339.257, notify the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) of the withdrawal from school of a student who is at least 15 years of age and under 18 years of age. Upon receipt of district notice that a student has withdrawn from school, ODOT shall notify the student that driving privileges will be suspended on the 30th day following the date of notice unless the student presents documentation that complies with ORS 807.066. A student shall be considered to have withdrawn from school if the student has 1) more than 10 consecutive school days of unexcused absences; or 2) fifteen school days total of unexcused absences during a single semester. The student has a right to appeal the superintendent's decision through district suspension/expulsion due process procedures.

RECORDS RETENTION SCHEDULE

In compliance with the Public Schools of Oregon General Records Retention Schedule, certain student records will be destroyed or saved on microfilm. All students' records generated before June 1991 will be destroyed according to the State Archivist Retention Schedule. A special schedule approved by the State Archivist, authorizes the Sweet Home School District to destroy public records which have met the minimum retention period, subject to audit requirements of OAR 166-30-041 and any suspension ordered under the provisions of OAR 166-30-045. All information in student records will be destroyed except transcripts, cumulative records and health records. These items will be microfilmed. If a parent or eligible student objects to the destruction of the records in question, they must submit in writing to the Sweet Home School District within 2 calendar years of student's graduation or withdrawal date.

CUSTODY

By law, if parents are legally separated or divorced, each parent has equal rights to the custody of the child/children UNLESS a parent has a court order that indicates which parent has custody of the child/children and under what conditions. The school MUST HAVE A COPY OF THE COURT ORDER on file, otherwise, either parent may check the child out of the school with proper identification. If a parent comes in with a court order stating current custody over the enrolling parent, s/he may take the child/children after documents are verified, as needed, and after effort has been made to reach the enrolling parent by phone.

HOMELESS STUDENTS

Homeless students in the district will have access to the education and other services needed to ensure that an opportunity is available to meet the same academic achievement standards to which all students are held. A liaison for students in homeless situations will be designated by the district to carry out duties as required by law.

INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT PLAN (IPM)

In accordance with ORS 634.116 the District has adopted an Integrated Pest Management Plan (IPM) with a list of low-impact pesticides for use with the IPM Plan. The Maintenance Supervisor shall serve as the IPM Plan Coordinator and for details; refer to the IPM Plan located on the District web site.

NOTICE OF RIGHTS REGARDING STUDENT RECORDS

- In accordance with Federal guidelines, parents or eligible students (if eighteen years of age or older) have the right to:
1. Inspect and review student education records.
 2. Request the amendment of the student's education record to ensure that they are not inaccurate, misleading or otherwise in violation of the student's privacy or other rights.
 3. Consent to disclosures of personally identifiable information contained in the student's education records, except to the extent that the applicable State or Federal law authorizes disclosure without consent.
 4. Pursuant to Oregon Administrative Rule 581-21-410, file with the United States Department of Education a complaint under 34 CFR § 99.64 concerning alleged failures by the District to comply with the requirements of Federal law.
 5. Obtain a copy of the District policy and administrative rules regarding student education records. Copies may be obtained by

See Public Notices, Page 20

School Closure Information

Severe weather makes it necessary occasionally to suspend school for a day, run a late bus schedule or send students home early.

When this happens, Sweet Home School District uses an internet-based system, FlashAlert, for delivering changes in schedules to the news media and also Parent Square.

Information on school closures or delays will be announced on KFIR - 720 AM, KGAL - 1580 AM, KRKT - 99.9 FM radio or TV channels 2, 6 or 8 in Portland or Channels 9, 13 or 16 in Eugene.

Information specific to Sweet Home School District is available online at: <http://www.flashalert.net/news.html?id=1038>, and on FaceBook.

Setup of Automatic Notification of Emergency School Closure

Emergency closure message delivery is extended directly to the public through a system called FlashAlert.

You may self-register and manage several email and/or cell phone text message addresses and receive emergency

information just minutes after it is posted. If text messaging is not included in your plan, your cell phone provider may charge for text messages.

To have the messages sent to your cell phone(s), please use the appropriate format below:

- E-mail Notification Set-up
- To register, go to FlashAlert.net
 - Select Eugene on the map
 - Select Linn Co. Schools, then Sweet Home
 - Enter your primary e-mail address for a new account
 - Click on "Subscribe"
 - Confirm your e-mail address (which is now your user name)
 - Create and confirm a password
 - Click on "Create Your Account" and you will see the Welcome Page. You can enter up to two more email and/or cell text message addresses.
 - When you are done, click "Update". A verification message will be sent to each of your listed addresses

Cell Phone Text Notification Set-Up

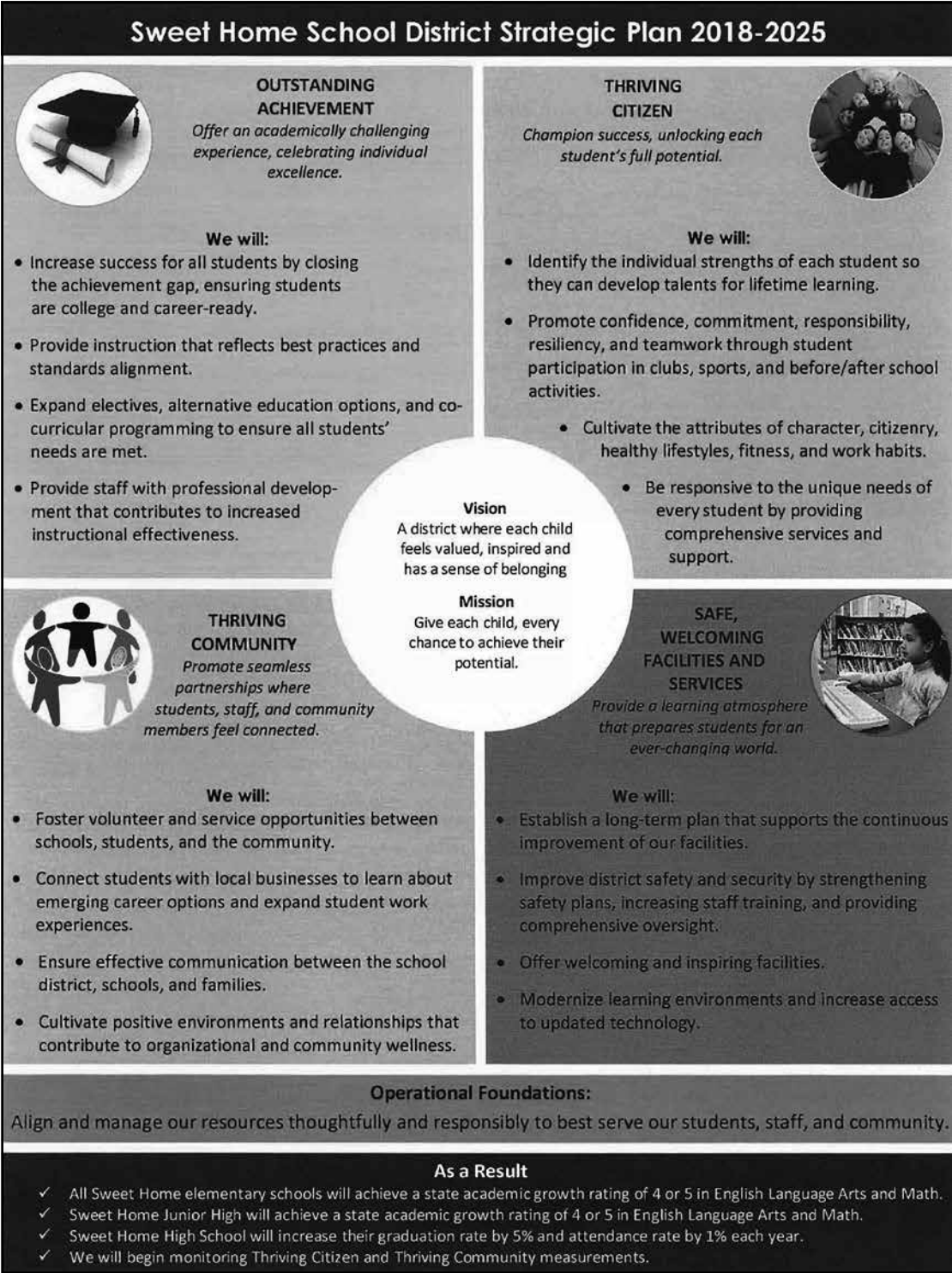
To be notified via a cell phone text message, address examples

follow:

- Cingular: (10 digit cell #)@cingularme.com
 - Nextel: (10 digit cell #)@messaging.nextel.com
 - Sprint: (10 digit cell #)@messaging.sprintpcs.com
 - T-Mobile: (10 digit cell #)@tmomail.net
 - Verizon: (10 digit cell #)@vtext.com
- Please be aware that with the proliferation of spam and the resulting spam filters, it is impossible to completely guarantee message delivery, since different filters block different messages, and ISPs and cell companies may delay messages.

After adding or changing email addresses, you may have test messages sent to verify they will pass through your mail server's filters.

All addresses registered on FlashAlert will remain confidential. Each summer, you will receive an e-mail at your primary address asking if you wish to continue your subscription. Therefore, please keep your addresses up to date.



The Board Welcomes and Encourages Participation

The Board of Directors of the Sweet Home School District No. 55 welcomes you to a new school year and invites you to attend and participate in School Board meetings. School Board members have been elected to these positions of responsibility by your votes and they are here to serve you and the needs of our children and community. Their reward is the success of your child. The Board hopes that its efforts to make your child's educational experiences fulfilling will encourage you to attend School Board meetings.

As a School Board, members derive their power and authority from the State. Legally they are agents of the State and are governed by State law. They also generate "law" of their own by establishing policies for the orderly operation of the schools. In making educational decisions, the Board always attempts to represent the wishes of the people of Sweet Home while working within the framework of the law and adopted Board policies. Board decisions focus on "what is educationally best for children" within the economic constraints of the budget. The Board is challenged in meeting State mandates while trying to ensure a balanced educational program for all students. District schools have implemented State reform requirements while holding students to high academic standards. Board members serve without pay and spend many hours outside of regular meetings studying issues on which decisions must be made. Your opinions and feelings are important in providing a quality education for children. The Board is proud of its community and schools and encourages all patrons to be involved.

Board of Directors

The Sweet Home School Board consists of nine citizens of the School District, each of whom is elected to serve on the Board for a four-year term. Any adult resident may run for election to the Board providing certain legal requirements are met.

Serving on the Board for the 2024-2025 school year are:

- Board Chairman Jason Redick, representing #7- At Large
- Vice-Chairman Mike Adams, representing #5 - At Large
- Secretary Mary Massey, representing #3- Foster
- Dale Keene, representing #9 - Sweet Home
- Sarah Hoffman, representing #1 - Holley
- Amanda Carter, represent-



- ing #2 - Liberty
- Jenna Northern, representing #6 - Crawfordsville
 - James Gourley, representing #8 - At Large
 - Floyd Neuschwander, representing #4- Cascadia
 - Board Secretary: Julie Emmert

Functions of the Board

The Board is responsible to the people for whose benefit the district has been established. Further, the Board's current decisions will influence the future course of education in the district's schools. By virtue of this responsibility, the Board and each of its members must look to the future and to the needs of all district patrons. This requires a comprehensive perspective and long-range plan in addition to addressing immediate problems. The Board's primary responsibility is to establish policies, purposes and programs which will best produce educational achievement. The Board is charged with accomplishing this while also being responsible for wise management of available resources. The Board must fulfill these responsibilities by functioning primarily as a legislative body which formulates and adopts policy, by selecting a chief executive officer to implement policy and by evaluating the results. Further, it must carry out its functions openly and seek the involvement of students, staff and the public during its decision-making processes. In accordance with these principles, the Board, through its operations, will review and vote to adopt Board goals that align with the following:

1. Concentrate the Board's collective effort on policy-making and planning responsibilities;
2. Formulate Board policies that best serve each student's educational interests;
3. Provide the superinten-

- dent with sufficient and adequate guidelines for implementing Board policies;
4. Maintain effective communication with the students, staff and the public to maintain awareness of attitudes, opinions, desires and ideas;
 5. Conduct Board business openly, soliciting and encourage broad-based involvement of the students, staff and the public in the Board's decision-making processes.

Role of the Superintendent

The Superintendent is hired by, and is directly responsible to, the Board of Directors. They serve as the Chief Executive for the School District. It is their responsibility to provide effective leadership and secure maximum educational opportunities for children by managing funds, facilities, staff and instructional programs. They work within the policy guidelines and goals established by the Board while ensuring that the District is meeting State mandated educational reform requirements. Terry Martin is the Superintendent of the Sweet Home School District.

Board Meetings

Regular meetings of the Board are held on the second Monday of each month at 6:30 p.m. in the Conference Room of the District Administrative Office Building at 1920 Long Street. When there is a change in time, date, or place, public notice is given through the news media and posted on our website. By Board rule, regular School Board Meetings are scheduled to end by 10:00 p.m.

Meeting Agenda

Meetings of the Board are governed by an agenda prepared by the Superintendent and the Board officers. The agenda is divided into items requiring Board action and discussion and informational reports. Meetings are conducted

by the Board Chairman in prescribed order. Changes in order may be made by the Board Chairman. The chairman may call upon the Superintendent or other staff members for reports and information or recognize individuals in the audience who wish to comment.

Visitors and guests are welcome to comment on agenda items, but it is the policy of the Board that they will only take formal action on those items for which they have received prior information. Thus, persons who desire to place an item on the agenda for discussion or action must contact the Superintendent at least two weeks prior to the regularly scheduled Board meeting. This will allow the Superintendent time to research the agenda item in question and provide information to the Board prior to the meeting.

Public Participation in Board Meetings

All Board meetings, with the exception of executive sessions, will be open to the public. The Board invites the district's community members to attend Board meetings to become acquainted with the program and operation of the district. The public has a right to attend public meetings held in open session, and may be invited to share comments, ideas and opinions with the Board during designated times on the agenda. The Board may conduct a meeting without public comment.

Individuals with hearing, vision or speech impairments will be given an equal opportunity to participate in Board meetings and submit written comments to the Board. Individuals requesting assistance, aids or accommodations are encouraged to notify the district at least 48 hours prior to the Board meeting with the request, consistent with Board policy BD/BDA - Board Meetings.

Procedures for Oral Public Comment

The Board establishes the following procedures for public comment at Board meetings held in open session. The information will be accessible and available to all patrons accessing or attending such a Board meeting.

1. Public comment is limited to its designated place on the agenda and while time allows.
2. A person wishing to provide public comment, if an opportunity is provided by the Board during a meeting open to the public, will complete and submit the Intent to Speak card to the Board secretary or

submit their name electronically prior to the Board meeting.

- 1 A request to give public comment in-person or electronically does not guarantee time will be available.

3. A person speaking during the public comment portion of the meeting may comment on a topic not on the published agenda.

4. A person speaking during the public comment portion of the meeting should state their name, whether they are a resident of the district, and, if speaking for an organization, the name of the organization. A spokesperson should be designated to represent a group with a common purpose.

5. A person giving public comment is limited to an established time limit of three minutes. Statements should be brief and concise. The Board chair has discretion to waive time limits or extend the overall time allotted for public comment. Additional time will be allocated in a fair and equitable manner. Time limits will be determined based on the number of commenters and the amount of time available for public comment. If a person has more comments than time allows or is unable to comment due to time constraints, the person is encouraged to submit additional written comments to the Board through the district office as directed.

6. Inquiries from the public during the designated portion of the agenda will not generally be responded to immediately by the Board chair, and may be referred to the superintendent for reply at a later date. The Board will not respond to inquiries that are expected to be addressed during another designated portion of the agenda. The Board will not hear public comment at Board work sessions. Topics raised during the public comment portion may be considered for inclusion as agenda items at future Board meetings.

Public Complaints

Personnel complaints, by Board Policy, are to be dealt with through building principals or the Superintendent's Office as appropriate. Such charges or complaints shall be presented to the Superintendent in writing on a form provided by the District and signed by the person, or persons, making the charge or complaint (KL- Public Complaints). It is not permissible to present or discuss complaints on individual District employees in open Board meetings.

PUBLIC NOTICES

From page 18

contacting the Superintendent's office at the following address:
Superintendent's Office
1920 Long Street Sweet Home, Oregon 97386

6. Access student records. Access rights shall be given to either parent unless the District has been provided with specific written evidence that there is a court order, State Statute or legally binding document relating to such matters as divorce, separation or custody that specifically revokes these rights.

7. Know that the District transfers educational records of students within ten days of receipt of a request for the student's records from another educational institution in which the student is enrolling.

8. The following kinds of information will be considered directory information and will be available for release by each school of Sweet Home School District #55: student's name, student's address, student's telephone listing, student's photograph, student's date and place of birth; participation in officially recognized sports and activities, weight and height of athletic team members, dates of attendance, degrees or awards received, and the most recent previous school or program attended. Parents or eligible students NOT wanting directory information released must identify the exclusions in writing to the principal of the appropriate school within fifteen (15) days of the annual notice published in the newspaper.

WALK ZONES

In accordance with Oregon Revised Statute 327.043, "A school district is required to provide transportation for elementary students who reside more than 1 mile from school and secondary school students who reside more than 1½ miles from school." Students within those boundaries must walk.

ASSESSMENT, RECORDING AND REPORTING OF STUDENT PROGRESS

Student progress in Sweet Home School District is assessed to determine how well the student is doing in reaching the instructional goals in each course taken. Periodic assessments are recorded in the teacher's grade book. Progress is averaged and calculated into a grade. The progress in each course is reported as a term grade and indicated on the report card.

Parents may make an appointment with the teacher, the building principal or the counselor if they desire to find out what the progress has been on any of the course work used to determine the grade. Instruction is related to the program guides, planned course statements and course goals. Assessment is for each unit or subpart of the instruction. Please call if you have questions.

STUDENT INFORMATION "OPT-OUT"

The District adheres to FERPA guidelines and allows for student privacy, when requested, with the completion and submission of the Student Information Opt-Out Form. Completion and submission of the form by parents/guardians will exclude/block the student from appearing in pictures, media/ communication channels, websites, etc.

GOAL BASED CURRICULUM NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY

Instruction in the Sweet Home School District is based on program goals for each subject. The Essential Learning Skills and Common Curriculum goals adopted by the State Board of Education are included in the program. Course content is covered in Planned Course Statements at the High School and in course goals at the elementary schools. Each document includes course goals and objectives.

Copies of the District programs, planned course statements and elementary course goals are available in the District office, each building office, and in each library. Parents, the public and students may examine these documents at any time during the regular working hours.

INFORMATION REQUESTED

In compliance with Public Law 94-142 the Sweet Home School District is searching for any handicapped children ages birth through 21 years living in the Sweet Home School District. Handicaps include things such as unusual learning needs, physical, mental, and emotional handicaps.

If you are aware of any pre-school handicapped children or school-age children not enrolled in school, please contact the Student Services Director at 541-541-367-7115.

NOTICE OF VIDEO CAMERAS IN DISTRICT FACILITIES AND ON TRANSPORTATION VEHICLES

Sweet Home School District is using video cameras at all District facilities and on transportation vehicles that transport students to and from curricular and co-curricular activities during the school year. The purpose of the video system is to improve student behavior and provide improved safety. Board Policy EEACCA relating to video cameras on transportation vehicles is available for review online at www.sweethome.k12.or.us or at the District Office.

21st CENTURY SCHOOLS COUNCILS

21st Century Schools Council meetings shall be subject to the Public Meetings Law, pursuant to ORS 192.610 – 192.690. Check with individual schools for meeting dates and times.

See Public Notices, Page 21

New Nutrition Standards

As Sweet Home students return to school this fall they will continue to find healthy new choices in their school cafeterias.

Sweet Home will be serving school meals that meet tough federal nutrition standards ensuring that meals are healthy, well-balanced and provide students with the nutrition they need to succeed at school.

School meals offer students milk, fresh fruits and vegetables, quality proteins and whole grain rich bread items. They must meet strict limits for saturated fat and portion size as well as other requirements:

Age-appropriate calorie limits as well as salt intake guidelines,

Seasonal fresh fruits and vegetables, including local products when available,

Weekly offerings of a wide variety of vegetables, including dark green and red/orange vegetables and legumes.

Sweet Home School District will be following and adapting to new flexibilities provided by USDA including:

- Serving non-fat chocolate milk and non-flavored low fat



milk,

- Continuing to provide high quality breads and crackers, all of which will be whole grain or enriched.
- Reduction of sodium limits and sugar content in our breakfast and lunch programs.

School meals are a great value and a huge convenience for busy families.

Breakfast and lunch will be free for all students, including elementary, middle and high school.

To find out more about Sweet Home School District's healthy school meals, find us on the web at: [sweethome.k12.or.us](http://www.sweethome.k12.or.us/departments/nutrition/index.php) <http://www.sweethome.k12.or.us/departments/nutrition/index.php>.

Free School Meals 2024

The lunch and breakfast programs will begin at all schools on September 3, 2024 and all student school lunches will be provided at no charge for the 2024-2025 school year.

The schools are participating in the Community Eligibility Project, and are funded by the State of Oregon and the USDA. As a result, lunch and breakfast are served free of charge to all of the children in our district's elementary, middle and high schools, regardless of family income status.

Sweet Home School District Nutrition Service staff members are again looking forward to serving your children quality, nutritionally sound meals.

If you pack a lunch for your child we encourage you to

follow a lunch pattern that provides adequate nutrients for proper growth and development.

A nutritionally adequate lunch includes a good source of protein such as meat, cheese, peanut butter, tuna, hummus, yogurt, or nuts.

Fresh fruits and vegetables are encouraged as well. Whole grain rich or enriched breads and crackers are a good source of fiber. The choices you make now will influence your children's overall health for a lifetime.

We encourage every student to develop the habit of eating breakfast daily. When children have a nutritionally adequate breakfast they have the ability to concentrate on their studies, to perform better

in the classroom and to heighten their self-esteem.

School breakfast will consist of milk, fruit or juice, and a breakfast entree item such as a breakfast bar, muffin, cereal or French toast sticks, etc. We also like to include a source of protein such as peanut butter, a cheese stick or yogurt.

Lunch Prices for school Meals for the 2024-2025 School Year

Elementary	- NO CHARGE
Jr. High	- NO CHARGE
High School	- NO CHARGE
Adults	- \$6.00

Breakfast Prices for school Meals for the 2024-2025 School Year

Elementary	- NO CHARGE
Jr. High	- NO CHARGE
High School	- NO CHARGE
Adults	- \$4.00

CLOTHING CLOSET

Location: School District Office, West entrance. 1920 Long St
Hours of Operation: 1-3pm Early Release Wednesdays September 20, 2024 - May 29, 2025 school days only (closed on Wednesdays when school is not in session)
What: Inventory varies and can include donated new and gently used clothing, shoes, school supplies, toiletries, and blankets
Who: Children who attend Sweet Home School District (and their families as inventory allows)

Donations are accepted at the Sweet Home School District Office 1920 Long St, Sweet Home, OR 97386.

Please bring donations inside the building. We will accept new and clean gently used clothing, shoes, and backpacks, NEW underwear and socks only. We will also accept NEW full sized bottles of shampoo and conditioner, soap, body wash, toothpaste, toothbrushes, toilet paper and feminine hygiene products.

Bus Transportation Basics

Following is some general information we would like to share with parents and students regarding school bus transportation for the upcoming school year.

If you have questions or concerns regarding any of this information, please contact the Transportation Department at (541) 367-7116.

Rules: Parents and students should be familiar with the rules and regulations pertaining to proper behavior while being transported.

School bus rules and regulations can be found in the Student/Parent Rights and Responsibilities Handbooks, and are posted in the buses or can be obtained by calling the Transportation Department. Student behavior and driver's management of that behavior are two key elements to a safe and enjoyable bus ride.

A black box containing a video/audio camera has been installed at the front of the bus. The recorded tape may be reviewed by the District staff assigned to monitoring this project.

Any information that may be helpful in improving student management will be passed along to the appropriate school staff, drivers or parents.

For those parents who have kindergarten students riding buses, we require that someone be there to meet the child unless the parent has signed a "Release to Walk Form", which can be obtained in your child's school office, on the District website at www.sweethome.k12.or.us, or by calling the Transportation Department.

District Property: Vandalism and malicious damage to School District property will not be tolerated. Parents and students will be held accountable for full restitution. Your help in controlling and reporting acts of vandalism will make a difference.

School Bus Safety: Not only do we want students to arrive at school on time, we want them to arrive safely. This is the primary goal of your Transportation Department. Safety will not be sacrificed; our cargo is too valuable!

Please Note: School buses do NOT stop anywhere other than designated stop locations. All routes are identified by route signs located to the left of the bus entry door. This route number may differ from the vehicle number on the bus.

Buses will run routes beginning the first day of school and detailed information concerning bus routing and schedules is available from the Transportation Department, (541) 367-7116 and at individual school offices.

Please remember if a bus seems to be running late, do not leave the stop right away. Due to unforeseen circumstances, the bus has been detained, mechanical issues or other events may have caused a time issue. Please call the Transportation office to check before you leave the stop. This is how we will miss you most of the time.

A student will never be counted tardy due to a bus being late. The Transportation office will call the schools and let them know the route is running late.

Rules for Riding the Bus

The following regulations taken from OAR 581-053-0010 govern conduct on school buses or activity vehicles. These are posted in a conspicuous place in all buses:

1. Pupils being transported are under authority of the bus driver;
2. Fighting, wrestling or boisterous activity is prohibited on the bus;
3. Pupils shall use the emergency door only in case of emergency;
4. Pupils shall be on time for the bus, both morning and evening;
5. Pupils shall not bring firearms, weapons, or other potentially hazardous material on the bus;
6. Pupils shall not bring animals, except approved assis-

tance guide animals on the bus;

7. Pupils shall remain seated while the bus is in motion;
8. Pupils may be assigned seats by the driver;
9. When necessary to cross the road, pupils shall cross in front of the bus or as instructed by the bus driver;
10. Pupils shall not extend their hands, arms, or heads through bus windows;
11. Pupils shall have written permission to leave the bus, other than at home or school;
12. Pupils shall converse in normal tones; loud or vulgar language is prohibited;
13. Pupils shall not open or close windows without permission of the bus driver;
14. Pupils shall keep the bus clean and refrain from damaging it;

15. Pupils shall be courteous to the driver, to fellow pupils and passersby;

16. Pupils who refuse to obey promptly the directions of the bus driver or refuse to obey regulations may forfeit their privilege to ride on the bus;

17. Rules Governing Pupils Riding School Buses must be kept posted in a conspicuous place in all school buses.

The Superintendent will establish other regulations as necessary for the safe conduct of students riding district school buses or other forms of district transportation. Such regulations will be available to all parents and students.

The Superintendent will develop and establish appropriate disciplinary procedures.

Who Gets To Walk To School?

In accordance with Oregon Revised Statute 327.043, "A school district is required to provide transportation for elementary students who reside more than one mile from school and secondary school students who reside more than 1½ miles from school."

Walk zones that include students within one mile from elementary schools and 1½ miles from the junior high and high schools will

be strictly enforced for the 2023-24 school year.

The district will be setting up collection sites outside of the walk zones for students to access District transportation. Students may walk to the nearest stop if that route services their school and there is space and time available.

Sweet Home School District offers home-to-school and school-to-home trans-

portation services.

Parents are responsible for transportation outside of a student's attendance area. Boundaries are established according to Oregon State Department of Education regulations.

Questions concerning routes may be directed to the Transportation Department at (541) 367-7116 or the student's school office.

PUBLIC NOTICES

From page 20

PARENTAL RIGHTS

The district affirms the right of parents, upon request, to inspect a survey created by a third party before the survey is administered or distributed by the district to a student, any instructional material used by the district as part of the educational curriculum for the student or any instrument used in the collection of personal information from students for the purpose of marketing or for selling that information or otherwise providing that information to others for that purpose. The district will ensure that activities requiring parental notification are provided.

EQUAL EDUCATION AND EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Sweet Home School District is an equal opportunity employer. We will not discriminate and will take affirmative action measures to ensure against discrimination in employment, recruitment, advertisements for employment, compensation, termination, upgrading, promotions, and other conditions of employment against any employee or job applicant on the bases of race, color, gender, national origin, age, religion, creed, disability, veteran's status, sexual orientation, gender identity or gender expression. Persons having questions about equal opportunity and nondiscrimination are to contact District School Superintendent, Tom Yahraes, phone (541) 367-7126, 1920 Long Street, Sweet Home OR.

ANNUAL NOTICE AS REQUIRED UNDER ASBESTOS HAZARD EMERGENCY RESPONSE ACT

Sweet Home School District No. 55 has completed the initial phases of the Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act (AHERA) by having all facilities inspected for friable and non-friable asbestos-containing materials and having an Asbestos Management Plan developed. Asbestos-containing materials have been identified.

The District is implementing Response Actions, which include repair and removal of asbestos-containing materials. The asbestos management program will be an on-going effort and each response action will be documented in the management plan. Re-inspection of the asbestos-containing material will happen every six (6) months to assure the materials remain in a safe condition. The District also complies with Federal and State law for re-inspections.

Management Plans are available at the District Administrative Office and at each individual school/building for review. If you desire a personal copy please allow five (5) days' notice. The cost is \$40 to cover reproduction.

Please contact the Maintenance Supervisor at 541-541-367-7131 or Business Manager at 541-541-367-7113 should you have any questions or concerns.

ACCESS TO STUDENT INFORMATION BY MILITARY OR COLLEGE RECRUITERS

Sweet Home School District receives funds from the federal government under the Every Student Succeeds Act. These funds are used in a variety of ways to provide additional help to students in greatest academic need. The law also requires that districts receiving funds must, upon request, provide to military recruiters, colleges and universities, access to the names, addresses and telephone listings of secondary students. It is important for you to know that a secondary school student or his/her parent or guardian may request that the student's name, address and telephone not be released by the district without prior written parental consent.

CUSTODY ISSUES

Custody Information

This information is provided for students not living with both parents.

Unless otherwise ordered by the court, an order of sole custody to one parent shall not deprive the other parent of the right to inspect and receive school records and to consult with staff concerning the child's welfare and education to the same extent as the custodial parent may inspect and receive such records and consult with staff.

Custodial Parent/Guardian Information

By law, if parents are legally separated or divorced, each parent has equal rights to the custody of the child/children UNLESS a parent has a court order that indicates which parent has custody of the child/children and under what conditions.

The school MUST HAVE A COPY OF THE COURT ORDER on file; otherwise, either parent may check the child/children out of the school with proper identification.

If a parent comes in with a court order stating current custody over the enrolling parent, they may take the child/children after documents are verified, as needed, and after effort has been made to reach the enrolling parent by phone.

The Directors Corner Are You Living in Transition?



Barbi Riggs, Director of Teaching and Learning

The Sweet Home School District Teaching and Learning Department is responsible for ensuring that curriculum development meets high standards and that the delivery method is effective. Our department is also in charge

of designing and implementing faculty development programs. The focus this year is to observe, assess, and analyze teaching practices. We will be working closely with faculty to improve and modify curriculum to stay up-to-date on new research-based methods. We are excited about our newly adopted 7-12 Science and ELA K-5 curriculum. We will be adopting K-12 PE/Health curriculum this year as well. We will be supporting new teachers with a mentor program and provide professional development throughout the year. The teaching and learning department will be an advocate for change and will help the Sweet Home School District staff to become more effective educators.



Brian Brands, Director of Student Services

The Student Services Department oversees a variety of programs related to student health, wellbeing, and academic support. Special Education, Nurses, Title X, Title IX, Talented and Gifted, District Behavior Specialists, and Nonviolent Crisis Intervention training are some examples of the programs that fall under student services. This year I will also serve as the Civil Rights Coordinator for the district.

The Sweet Home School District Student Services Department is committed to working with families to provide the best educational experience possible to all students. It is our goal to improve services and learning for all students by providing a spectrum of excellent interventions and instruction. We are devoted to building strong relationships with students and families to help all students achieve their greatest potential.

I am excited to begin my second year as the Student Services Director for the Sweet Home School District. We have amazing staff and their passion and dedication in serving the students of Sweet Home is clear. The Student Services Department is looking forward to the "2024-25" school year and serving students.

Concerned that your child might have, or catch, the flu?

Here are some basic steps for flu prevention:

The flu is a seasonal disease caused by the Orthomyxoviridus virus. It spreads via airborne droplets and contaminated surfaces. It's highly contagious – people can spread the flu even if they don't know they're sick. Influenza spreads mainly person-to-person when infected people cough or sneeze. A few simple, everyday steps will help you stay healthy and protected from the flu virus:

- Cover your nose and mouth with a tissue when you cough or sneeze.
- Throw the tissue in the trash after you use it.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water, especially after you cough or sneeze.

Alcohol-based hand sanitizers are also effective.

- Avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth. Germs spread that way.
- Try to avoid close contact with sick people.
- Stay home when you are sick.

How long should you stay home? One of the basic guidelines for stopping the spread of influenza is to stay home if you're sick.

When is it OK to go back to work or school? Oregon Public Health Division recommends that people with flu-like symptoms stay home until at least 24 hours after they are free of fever (100° F or 37.8° C) without using fever-reducing medications.

Do you lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence?

If any of the following situations apply to you, you may qualify for certain rights:

- "Doubled Up" – sharing the housing of others due to the loss of housing, economic hardship, or similar reason;
- "Couch surfing" – staying temporarily in other people's homes, typically making use of improvised sleeping arrangements;
- Living in emergency or transitional shelters;
- Living in hotels, motels or campgrounds due to a lack of alternative accommodations;
- Living in cars, parks, tents, RVs;
- Sleeping in a public or private space that is not designed for or ordinarily used as a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings;
- Living in abandoned buildings or substandard housing without heat, electricity, running water, or floors; or infestations.

Unaccompanied youth not in the physical custody of a parent/guardian and living in transition.

The McKinney-Vento Act protects the educational rights of youth and children experiencing homelessness and living in transition. It provides the opportunity for you to:

- Enroll and attend classes immediately even if unable to provide proof of residency, immunization records, or other documents;
- Attend the neighborhood school where you are staying OR attend your school of origin (the actual school when permanently housed or last enrolled);
- Receive written explanation and right to appeal if educational placement is denied;
- Attend school while a dispute is resolved;
- Receive transportation to and from school of origin;
- Participate in extra-curricular school activities; and
- Receive free and reduced

school meals;

McKinney-Vento Program Services may include:

- Ensuring McKinney-Vento students are identified, enrolled and attending school;
- Educational advocacy and access to special programs (SPED, TAG, etc);
- Working closely with school counselors to gain access to academic support (credit recovery, graduation support);
- Assistance with obtaining educational records;
- Providing school supplies and backpacks when available;
- Referring students and families to community resources and programs; and
- Resolving enrollment and/or transportation disputes for McKinney-Vento eligible students.

If any of the situations apply to you or you have any questions, contact Sweet Home School District McKinney-Vento Liaison Kristi Walker at (541) 367-7114 or by email at kristi.walker@sweethome.k12.or.us.

SCHOOL FACILITIES USE

Sweet Home School District No. 55 would like to inform the public of the availability of school building facilities, athletic fields and grounds for community use. The district encourages the use of these facilities by all agencies, service organizations, clubs and private groups for activities of an educational, recreational or civic nature. Applications are available on our Web site at www.sweethome.k12.or.us or at each school and must be approved seven (7) days prior to use. All applications are approved by the school principal. A fee may or may not be charged depending on the usage proposed. All applicants shall provide adequate supervision and be responsible for proper conduct of participants, as well as assume liability for accidents to persons or damage to property. Tobacco use, drugs and alcohol are prohibited at all times on school district property.

SCHOOL SUPPLY LIST

SCAN THE QR CODE OR GO TO THE LINKS BELOW FOR A SUPPLY LIST FOR THE SCHOOL THAT YOUR CHILD WILL ATTEND.

HAWTHORNE ELEMENTRY

<https://bit.ly/4dAvJkO>



HOLLEY ELEMENTRY

<https://bit.ly/3Xfl7B3>



FOSTER ELEMENTRY

<https://bit.ly/4dVrgJh>



OAK HIGHTS ELEMENTRY

<https://bit.ly/3YYTcYC>



SWEET HOME JUNIOR HIGH

<https://bit.ly/44s9A2X>



SWEET HOME HIGH SCHOOL

<https://bit.ly/4cEgEOg>



Student Injuries and Insurance

The safety of our students is of critical importance to all of us and we want to protect them from injury. Even so, accidents do happen (at school and elsewhere) and required medical care can be expensive. Please know that your school does not assume responsibility for such costs but does offer you access to several student accident insurance plans for voluntary purchase.

Options are available to cover your child 24/7, anywhere in the world or you can limit coverage to school-related injuries only. The plans do not restrict your choice of doctors or hospitals. However, you'll also have access to an extensive network of providers with discounted fees. Seeking care through contracted providers may further reduce your out-of-pocket costs, particularly if your child needs surgery or hospitalization.

Also offered is the pay-as-you-go Student Accident & Sickness Plan which covers sickness as well as injury, in and out of school. The Dental Accident plan can be of particular value with younger students as final treatment to injured teeth often needs to be deferred until after they mature.

Common emergency benefits – Regardless of the benefit level selected, all of the accident medical plans and the Student Accident & Sickness Plan will cover eligible charges for Ambulance, Emergency Room and Emergency Room Physician at 100% of Usual, Customary and Reasonable charges (UCR) up to plan limits.

Enhanced benefits for qualified concussions – If an insured student suffers a concussion

while participating in any covered activity and is consequently removed from play from his/her interscholastic sport per the school's formal concussion protocols, then any deductible or inside limit features of the plan are waived and eligible charges for the evaluation and treatment of the concussion are paid at 100% of UCR subject to remaining policy terms and conditions.

Interscholastic Sports – Please know that all plans offered (other than the Dental Accident Plan) may be used to comply with applicable state and local insurance requirements for participation in interscholastic sports (coverage for tackle football is offered on a stand-alone basis).

You are encouraged to carefully review the information provided. If your child already has health coverage, the student insurance plans offered can also be used to expand choice of providers and help cover the high deductibles and 30% to 40% cost sharing obligations imposed by many health plans today.

Enrollment is available by going to www.myers-stevens.com, or at the link below. While your child is eligible to enroll at any time, one-time-pay rates for the accident medical plans and Dental Accident Plan are the same regardless of enrollment date. As such, you are encouraged to consider enrollment now in order to include coverage for this summer and the full 2023-2024 School Year. Once processing is completed, an ID card verifying coverage will be mailed home to you.

<https://www.myers-stevens.com/enrollment-page/>

Parent Communication

We are excited to announce that we will continue using the form of school-to-home communication at Sweet Home School District called Q Communication Powered by ParentSquare. This unified communications platform is designed to keep parents and guardians informed and encourage greater engagement and connection with Sweet Home Schools. It provides a safe way for district administrators, school principals, teachers, staff, and parents to:

- Send and receive school and class information
- Share pictures and files
- See calendar items
- Sign up to volunteer

- Schedule parent-teacher conferences
- and much more . . . all in one centralized place!

When you receive your first message you will need to activate your account by clicking on the link in your email or text message. For even more convenience, download the ParentSquare app (available for free for iOS and Android devices). You will be able to set your preferences for notifications and language once you have activated your account by clicking on your name in the top right corner.

Be on the lookout for more information as we explore ParentSquare together.

ATHLETICS INFORMATION

Registration is provided through ArbiterSports. All Athletic registration is to be completed on-line. Please register @ <https://students.arbitersports.com/organizations/sweet-home-high-school>. Every athlete must have a current physical on file. The OSAA approved Physical Form is available on the School District Webpage or you can pick one up in the Athletic Office at SHHS.

ACTIVITY	BEGINNING DATE	PRACTICE TIMES
Volleyball Practice - all levels	August 19th	M,W,F - 8:00 a.m.-10:00 a.m. & 5:00 - 8:00 p.m.
Football Conditioning Camp (Gr. 2-12) Practices	August 12th-15th August 19th	5:00 - 7:30 @ Husky Field M,W,F -6:00 a.m.-8:00 a.m. & 4:00 - 7:00 p.m.
Cross Country	August 19th	Monday - Friday: 8:00-10:00am (Meet @ Husky field) T & TH - 4:00-5:30pm (meet @ Gedney Creek)
Soccer - Boys	August 19th	Monday - Friday: 9:30-12:00am
Soccer - Girls Boys & Girls Camp (Gr. 1st-8th)	August 12-15th August 19th	9:00 - 11:00 am @ Husky Field Monday-Friday: 8:00-10:00am T & TH 5:00-7:00pm
Cheer	August 19th	Monday, Tuesday & Thursday 5-7am (Activity Gym)
Dance	August 19th	Monday- Friday 8:00-10:00am (Main Gym)

Sweet Home High School

Questions about high school athletics should be directed to Andee McCubbins, athletic secretary, at (541) 367-7629. All athletic registrations must be completed through ArbiterSports (formerly FamilyID). Visit www.familyid.com/sweet-home-high-school to complete the necessary registration. ALL athletes must complete the registration on-line and provide a current, completed physical examination. Fall Athletics will begin practices on August 14th, 2023.

Sweet Home Junior High School Sports

Official practice for junior high athletics will begin after school on Sept. 9. Students having questions about Sweet Home Junior High athletics may call Craig at the Sweet Home Junior High School Office at (541) 367-7143. Questions about athletic paperwork should be directed to the secretary, Kim Wilson, at 541) 367-7143.

SHHS Athletic Ticket Prices

Sweet Home High School is a member of the Oregon West League for the 2024/25 school year. Admission prices to sporting events in the Oregon West League are determined by the league.

Individual prices

Adults to age 64	\$5.00
Students, Grades K-12	\$3.00
Adults 65 years of age and older/Children under 6	Free

Senior Citizen Guest Passes are available to district residents 65 years of age and older for all school activities, including athletic events. For more information, contact the Sweet Home High School Bookkeeping Office at (541) 367-7140. These passes may be obtained at Sweet Home High School, 1641 Long Street, Sweet Home.

All children through Grade 8 must enter and be seated with an adult during events.

Husky Sports Passes*

Family Pass All Sports/All Seasons (Family passes limited to immediate family - parents and children - living in the same dwelling.)	\$150
Football Reserved Seating	\$25
General Admission Husky Punch Card (Ten punches for any regular-season home sporting event – no expiration date. Save \$10 off adult price for 10 events.)	\$40

VOLUNTEERS

Community patrons who voluntarily contribute their time and talents to the improvement and enrichment of the public schools' instructional and other programs are valuable assets. The Board encourages constructive participation of groups and individuals in the school to perform appropriate tasks during and after school hours under the direction and supervision of professional personnel. The responsible school personnel will identify appropriate tasks for volunteers and will plan activities for them so they may become skilled in performing those tasks. A volunteer authorized by the district for service into a position that allows direct, unsupervised contact with students shall undergo an in-state criminal records check. A volunteer that will not likely have direct, unsupervised contact with students will be required to undergo an in-state criminal records check.

Volunteer forms are available on the school district website and at school offices.

2024-2025 STAFF LIST

ADMINISTRATORS

Augsburger, Luke– HS Assist Principal
Barrett, Todd – OH Principal
Brands, Brian– Dir Student Services
Brown, Ralph – HS Principal -PRA
Dargis, Josh - .6 HO Principal/.4 Title
GaVette, Amanda - JH Assist Principal
Huff, Aaron - HS Assist Principal
Looney, Mark – HW Principal
Martin, Terry –Superintendent
Perry, Darren –FO Principal
Riggs, Barbi – Dir of Tch & Learning
Tyler, Nate - Jr. High Principal

FOSTER

Clark, Tori - 6
Damag, Ofelia- Special Ed
Griffin, Linzy – 4
Hayes, Pam- K
Hill, Austin – 5
Lundy, Marybeth - K
Markell, Rachel – 6
Miller, Hailey - 2
Neuschwander, Deanna – 1/2
Quest, Michelle – 3
King, Alli - 1
Ruby, Devin- Oppt Rm
Russell, Marissa - 5
Stevenson, Michael - Counselor
Strong, Shelley- 4 Job Share
Teter, Evan - PE
Virtue, Kate - 4 Job Share
Ziemer, Marissa -3

HAWTHORNE

Anderson, Summer – K
Collins, Lisa – PALS
Harvey, Julie – Counselor .6
Hatchard, Michelle – 2
Humpherys, Hannah – Teacher 5
Janzer, Lindsay - PE
Johnston, Hunter - 2
Kauffman, Brittany – 5
Liermann, Elspeth – 1
McCaffrey, Laura -1
Rosa, Amber – K (JS)
Saveskie, Pete – 6
Schilling, Hailey – K (JS)
Spencer, Jerika – 3/4
Sullens, Marci – Title 1
Unger, Collen – 4
Wilson, Serenity – 3
Wilson, Teresa – Res Rm/Sp Ed
Ydia, Jane -PALS/Sp Ed

HOLLEY 005

Bliss, Hannah - PE
Bowers, Brett – 5
Deckard, Kelley - .5 Special Ed/ .5 CH
Gonyea, Meagan – 4
Hepburn, Sirena - 6

Rehart, Deborah - 3
Reisbick, Joanna – 1
Rice, Isabelle – K
Sayer, Tenille - 2
Sciscioli, Amanda–Coun .5/.25 Tag/.25 TOSA

OAK HEIGHTS

Adams, Laurel - 3
Bowen, Caitlin - K
Brett, Melinda - Counselor
Daniels, Courtney – 1
Davis, Cynthia - 4
Harkin, Sarah - PALS
Hart, Krista – Title 1
Jones, Cheryl - 3
Konstantin, Liz- K
Kruzel, Melissa - 6
McCoy, Pamela – 1/2
Medina, Mindie -6
Patton, Ashley - 2
Sartin, Zach – 4
Shea, Logan– PE
Suing, Deborah - 5
Tolle, Joan - Res Rm/Sp Ed
Vokes, Heidi – Sp/Lang Spec
Young, Bethanie - 5

JUNIOR HIGH

Brands-Hawken, Cathy – Res Rm Sp Ed
Cardwell, Tynan- PE
Collins-Beairsto, Maggie – Math/Science
Ellis, Alyson – Spec Ed BLS
Felix, Guy - LA/SS
Gardner, Alecia - .5 PE/.2 Tiger Leadership
Giles, Brooklyn – Mental Health Couns
Hawken, Maddie – (MH)– LA/SS
Holden, Lana – ELA/History
Holden, Mark – Science
Hamol, Razelle- Math
Jacobs, Tiffany– Counselor
Kauffman, Grant – Health
Kildea, Ryan - Science
Lynn, Sarah –ELA/History
McLachlain, Nathan – Media Arts
McNeil, Dave – Science
Nelson, Robert – ELA/History/Forestry
Sayers, Terra-ELS/History
Requintina, Andres- Sp Ed Behav
Stevens, Angela- Math
Teixeira, Danae- Math
Tuquero, Razelle-Math
Wilson, Craig – PE/AD
Yon, Angie – Res Rm Sp Ed

HIGH SCHOOL

Adams, Jarid, Social Studies
Adams, Ryan- Social Studies
Balbon, Juacrisa - Spec Ed LRC
Best, John – PE/Health
Booker, Leon - Special Ed BLS
Brown, Zech – Natural Resource

Costa, James – Social Studies
Eder, Elizabeth - Special Ed LRC
Emmert, Drew – PE/Health
Evans, Erika – Social Studies
Foley, Andrea – Fam/Cons Sciences
Gillispie, Caytlin- LA/SS
Graville, Ryan - Career/PF
Hagan, Leah – Art
Haggas, Lindsey – PE/Health
Hart, Austin – Vocational Ed Instructor
Hart, Spencer - Science
Hartman, Christopher - Math
Hay, Alison - Vocal Music Dir HS/Jr. High
Jacobson, Scott – Agriculture Ed
Knight, Ann- Grad/Asmt Coach/math
Lawrence, Josalyn - Mental Health Spt
Macklin, Josie – Language Arts
Malabago, Lisa– Counselor
Marchbanks, Emily – Math
May, Haley - Counselor
McIntyre, Jennifer – Language Arts
McNellis, Sarah – Language Arts
Mills, Ammon – Business/Computers
Neal, Harrison - Chem/Phy Sci
North, Breonna- LA
Parrish, Laura – Science
Rendado, Maricel - Special Ed LRC
Rosa, Tomas - Language Arts
Smithson, Richard – Tech Ed
Sherburne, Christopher- Biology
Snyder, Michelle – Science
Stutzer, Eric - Special Ed
Thorpe, Steve – Math
Thorstad, Heidi – Credit Recovery
Tow, Dan – AD
Tuter, Lori–Music/Band (JH/6 th - .25)
Wagner, Emily - Math
Walker, Lillyanna- LRC Sp Ed
Weist, Julia - Counselor
Whitfield, Nathan – Math

SPECIAL CERTIFIED PERSONNEL

Adams, Katie- LITERACY COACH
Ashcraft, Jennifer-.50 ESOL/.50 Dist Sub
Bliss, Hannah - .50 PE district Elementary
Brown, Stefani – Counselor - Elementary
Murphy, Lisa – Nurse
Saveskie, Christina - Speech/Lang (HW/HO/OH) (.8)

SPECIAL PERSONNEL

Adams, Kristin – HS Success Coordinator
Bidwell, Darel – Transportation Supv
Bronson, A Jay– Swim Pool Supv
Darwood, Josh – Maintenance Supv
Emmert, Julie – Conf. Secretary – Supt
Hill, Amanda - HR Secretary
Strong, Kevin - Business Manager
Walker, Amber – Nutrition Serv Supv
Walker, Kristi– DHS Coord (.6)

2024-2025 DISTRICT CONTACTS

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES

1920 Long Street, Sweet Home, OR 97386

Terry Martin, Superintendent	541-367-7637
Julie Emmert, Superintendent's Secretary	541-367-7637
Kevin Strong, Business Manager	541-367-7122
Amanda Hill, HR	541-367-7137
Cindy Bell, Payroll	541-367-7112
Kathleen Cochran, Accounting/Purchasing	541-367-7121
Josh Darwood, Maintenance Director	541-367-7636
Loni Weiman, Printshop, Maintenance Secretary	541-367-7133
Brian Brands, Director of Student Services/Special Ed	541-367-7119
Heather Shipp, Director's Secretary	541-367-7119
Heather Cartwright, Speech/Resource Secretary	541-367-7115
Lisa Murphy, Nurse	541-367-7132
Kristi Walker, Health Services Project Director	541-367-7114
Barbi Riggs, Director of Teaching and Learning	541-367-7175
Michelle Bidwell, Instructional Tech	541-367-7198

Foster Elementary School

PO Box 747, Foster, OR 97345

Darren Perry, Principal	541-367-7180
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Hawthorne Elementary School

3205 Long Street, Sweet Home, OR 97386

Mark Looney, Principal	541-367-7167
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Holley Elementary School

40336 Crawfordsville Drive, Sweet Home, OR 97386

Josh Dargis, Principal	541-367-7162
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Oak Heights Elementary School

605 Elm Street, Sweet Home, OR 97386

Todd Barrett, Principal	541-367-7165
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Sweet Home Junior High School

880 22nd Avenue, Sweet Home, OR 97386

Nate Tyler, Principal	541-367-7187
Amanda GaVette, Assistant Principal	

Sweet Home High School

1641 Long Street, Sweet Home, OR 97386

Ralph Brown, Principal	541-367-7142
Luke Augsburger, Assistant Principal	541-367-7144
Aaron Huff, Assistant Principal	541-367-7139
Amber Walker, Nutrition Services Supervisor	541-367-7149
A Jay Bronson, Swim Pool Supervisor	541-367-7169

HOLLEY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



Dear Parents,

The staff of Holley Elementary would like to welcome our new and returning students and parents to the 2024-2025 school year.

School hours are 7:30 – 2:15. Breakfast will be served from 7:30-7:45 in the cafeteria.

Doors will open at 7:30. Students who are dropped between 7:30 and 7:40 can go to the cafeteria or can walk the halls. Teachers will open their classroom at 7:40.

*Early Release Wednesday- 7:30 - 1:15

Office hours are from 7:15-3:45 (541-367-7162)

Open house will be held on Wednesday August 28th from 5:30-7:00. Families

are invited to come meet teachers, drop off materials, and get some goodies from the school.

Welcome back to all our staff. We are happy to welcome two new staff members to Holley School. Mrs. Bliss (PE teacher) and Mr. Lupoli (Assistant) are joining our Holley community this year; welcome to the Holley team. We are also excited to have Mrs. Renek take over food service. Lastly, it might appear we have two additional staff members, however these are new last names only: Mrs. Cherrington (Rice) and Mrs. Repp (Hepburn).

Outstanding Achievement

At Holley we offer an academically challenging experience celebrating individual excellence. We are very proud of the growth our kiddos made this last year. This year we will work hard to achieve an academic growth level 4 or 5 every year in English Language Arts and Math. To achieve our goal we utilize early release Wednesday to refine and enhance our curriculum and instructional methods through Professional Learning Communities, District Professional Development, and focused Building Professional Development.

This year we are looking forward to having each student grow academically in all areas, with a focus on both Math and Language Arts. In support of these goals we are adopting a new Science and ELA curriculum. This last year we used iReady which is a great assessment tool that helps us track our

students progress. At home, parents can help us achieve our goals by encouraging reading at home, discussing what was done at school each day, and by regularly communicating with the school to help best support each child's learning.

Thriving Citizen

Holley promotes Thriving Citizens through a robust PBIS program that includes the Orange Frog Happiness learning program, attendance rewards and a Character Ambassador Program. Each one of these along with our PBIS Talon Ticket currency promotes students to strive to be the best students that they can be. Holley's school motto is- "Let Your Dreams Take Flight."

In addition to our continued work with Kelso's Choices we will continue our Character Ambassador program. Through this new program we focus on different character attributes each month.

The last several years we have been implementing the Orange Frog Social Emotional learning program. If you hear students talking about Spark or being Orange, they are referring to this program. Being Orange is about having a mindset of choosing happiness. We have several lessons throughout the year that promote this thinking amongst our students.

Thriving Community

Holley promotes seamless partnerships where students, staff and com-

munity members feel connected. We know that communication between home, school, and our local community is vitally important to student success. We send out a monthly newsletter on the back of the lunch menu. This newsletter will inform you about school wide events for the month. Teachers also regularly send notes home about things specific to their classroom in addition to using the ParentSquare app to communicate with parents and guardians. We also post current information on the District's website (www.sweethome.k12.or.us), as well as on our Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/HolleyHawksSHSD/>

Safe, Welcoming Facilities and Services

In 2021, Holley underwent a seismic and security upgrade including a safety vestibule, cameras throughout the building, and automatic door locks with key card entry. We will be following all safety requirements to ensure a safe and secure environment.

We have met as a staff to outline our goals for the 2024-25 school year, and are ready and very excited to make this school year the best possible for your child. When parents and school staff work together, we can provide the opportunity for your child to achieve great things. I look forward to a GREAT year at Holley!

Josh Dargis, Principal

FOSTER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



Another exciting school year is upon us! Foster Elementary School would

like to welcome all new and returning families to the 2024-2025 school year. School hours are 7:45 a.m. to 2:15 p.m., with doors opening at 7:30 a.m. for breakfast. Breakfast and lunch will continue to be free for all students this year. Students will attend school Monday through Friday. Wednesday will be an early release day, with students being released at 1:15.

Foster Elementary would like to welcome back all the staff. We have a very talented group of staff members and are confident that Foster students will continue to meet the academic, attendance, and behavioral goals that have been set. We are thankful for the hard work done by our staff throughout the year. This year, we welcome Mrs. King who will be teaching 1st grade.

Foster Elementary is working hard

to continue to improve our Positive Behavior and Incentives program. This past year, we were able to incentivize positive behaviors utilizing a whole school approach. Each month we focus on one positive characteristic to implement school-wide.

For the upcoming school year, we are committed to continued improvement for each student. It is so important for students to be present at school each day. With consistent attendance, students are able to achieve and grow. Our goal this year is to have 95% of students at school 90% of the time. Please help us attain this goal by minimizing absences.

Our students and classes were able to make a number of community connections this past year. Students were able to benefit from experiences outside the classroom such as Salmon Watch, Outdoor School, as well as field trips to the Oregon Gardens, Oregon Zoo, and OMSI. We look forward to continuing to cultivate these community relationships to help our students gain experiences outside of the classroom. We would like to thank all our community partners for their generous support to help all students thrive and succeed.

This year we will continue to work on building a positive Growth Mindset with all students. We are working with all students to achieve their personal best. Please feel free to contact us at 541-367-7180. We are looking forward to working with you in our positive learning environment.

See you in September!

Darren Perry, Principal

SWEET HOME JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL



Greetings from the principal at Sweet Home Junior High School. I am excited to return as the principal of the Junior High. I am starting my nineteenth year in education and sixth year in the district.

Amanda GaVette is returning as our assistant principal, and the majority of staff are returning as well, with a few new faces added. We will be having an open house on Wednesday, August 28 at 6:00pm. We will serve a snack, but please come early as they could run out. At the open house we will have more information available for you about the school's expectations of students, sports and activities, and

community and district resources available to you.

I would like to welcome back all new and returning students to the 2024-2025 school year! We look forward to having you all here for another wonderful year. We look forward to a successful year in growing, learning, and preparing for high school. Every year there are changes and tweaks that schools do and SHJH is no different. There will be minor adjustments as we continue to try and make every school the best that it can be.

To follow our journey this year, don't forget to click the + to 'Subscribe' to our online Google School

Calendar at sweethome.k12.or.us/juniorhigh, 'Like' us on Facebook – Sweet Home Junior High - 'Follow' us on Instagram @SweetHomeJrHigh, and use the hashtag #tigerpride when posting to include us in your stories. We will be relying on these social media services and other technologies like ParentSquare, to keep parents up-to-date with happenings and news during the school year.

We hope you enjoy the rest of your summer, and like us, are looking forward to another exciting, unforgettable school year.

Nate Tyler, Principal

OAK HEIGHTS ELEMENTARY



Dear Parents,

Oaks Heights Elementary would like to welcome all new and returning students and families to the 2024-25 school year.

School hours are 7:45 - 2:15.

*Early Release Wednesday- 7:45 - 1:15

*Half days 7:45 -11:15

Office hours are from 7:30-3:30 (541-367-7165)

Open House - We have spent the summer under construction and will host an open house as soon as we can safely welcome the community

back into the building.

Class lists will be posted on the front door no later than 3:00 on August 29th, 2024

Outstanding Achievement

At Oak Heights, we strive to achieve an attendance rate of over 95%. The research is clear that kids who are in school 95% or more have a higher graduation rate. To achieve 95% attendance students can miss only 9 days per school year. When kids are not in school they are missing out on instruction.

We are working hard to achieve an academic growth level 4 or 5 every year in English Language Arts and Math. To achieve our goal, we utilize early release Wednesday to refine and enhance our curriculum and instructional methods through Professional Learning Communities, District Professional Development and focused Building Professional Development. We are continuing to offer intervention blocks for all students to support their academic needs.

Students are expected to read or be read to every night for a minimum of 20 minutes. This exposure to new vocabulary and literature is a springboard to the work we do in class every day.

Thriving Citizen

Oak Heights is a Self-Manager School. The self-manager program encourages all students to take pride in being a member of Oak Heights. The Self Manager program was put in place to instill a sense of character, kindness, and responsibility in all students.

Kelso's Choices and Second Steps are both curriculums that we use at Oak Heights. Both of these programs implant confidence in students to problem solve and manage small problems on their own.

We are continuing our Orange Frog Social Emotional learning program developed by Harvard University. The lessons are about positivity and teaching students to find the positive aspects of each day. We will be celebrating a school wide Kindness Day at the end of the year.

Be Respectful, Be Responsible, Be Safe, and Be Kind

Thriving Community

We encourage families to become part of the Oak Heights team by volunteering in the classrooms, on field trips, special projects that can be done from home or joining the Site Council, and the Parent Teacher Club (PTC). Both the PTC and Site Council meet

once a month and meeting times will be listed on monthly newsletters along with special "happenings" at Oak Heights. In addition to our monthly newsletter, please friend Oak Heights on Facebook to see updates and event details for our school.

Families may also hear your child talk about Mustang Pride slips. Mustang Pride slips help to reinforce positive student behavior. This year we will continue revamping and expanding our character ambassador program. This will include monthly awards and recognition for character leaders.

Safe Welcoming Facilities and Services

At Oak Heights, all of our doors have been upgraded with security keyscan locks and upgraded security cameras in and around our school to better provide a safe and secure learning environment. This summer we are scheduled to begin our seismic remodel. We look forward to renewing old acquaintances and welcoming new families this school year. Student success is our goal and we look forward to making strong connections with family and community members to help us make students at Oak Heights the best!

Todd Barrett, Principal

HAWTHORNE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



The Hawthorne Elementary Family is looking forward to a successful 2024-25 school year! This is my eleventh year in the District and I am so excited to start my second year at Hawthorne Elementary. I feel blessed and honored to be the principal this year and to be a part of the awesome Hawthorne family! I can't wait to get to meet you all and see your smiling faces.

Outstanding Achievement

Our highly trained and caring staff will continue to effectively serve the academic, social and emotional needs of all of our students. Hawthorne's core belief is to provide rigorous, relevant and relationship based instruction to meet each individual student's needs and prepare them for junior high, high school and beyond. Hawthorne's Mission Statement is, "The Hawthorne Family strives to create an environment where there is success for every student every day!"

Our talented staff will continue teaching to the common core state

standards (CCSS) and hold true to the idea that ... every student can learn and achieve. Hawthorne will continue to promote the easy to read 3-colored (red, yellow and green) "pyramid" chart as a way of quickly communicating to parents about their child's academic, behavioral and attendance progress. Parents, when you receive a pyramid chart please check in with your child's teacher so we can explain the information and be sure that parents are aware and involved in their student's learning and growth progress.

As part of the 5-day schedule, the Sweet Home School District will continue to use the early release Wednesdays for some staff development time. Using this dedicated time slot, Hawthorne will continue to improve and develop our Professional Learning Communities (PLC) groups. The PLC process involves staff working collaboratively together to identify ... what we want our students to learn, and how we will know if they have learned it. Most importantly, as a staff, we will decide how to respond when students are not learning and how we will enrich and extend the learning for our students, so they can grasp the vital information essential to the lessons we are providing in the classrooms.

Thriving Community

I strongly believe in a committed partnership between school and home. This serves as a key component in promoting and strengthening each and every student's educational experience. I view my role as the building principal as your partner in helping to provide the students, staff and community with the resources necessary to effectively educate all the students

of Hawthorne Elementary. Keeping in the forefront of our minds that we work together as one strong family - All means ALL!

Our dedicated and energetic PTC group (Parent Teacher Club) has been a contributing factor for some of our success over the last few years. Our PTC group funds activities, classroom needs, field trips and attendance incentives. We encourage all parents, grandparents, families and friends of Hawthorne to become actively involved in our Parent Teacher Club (PTC) so each year we can provide great opportunities for our kids. For more information about how to join, volunteer in our school activities or make a tax-deductible donation, please contact me or follow them directly on Facebook at "Hawthorne Family Group."

Thriving Citizen

Hawthorne is proud to be a Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS) school. We focus on rewarding positive behaviors through our monthly PBIS activities that celebrate students making good choices and being good citizens. Our three school rules; be safe, be respectful and be responsible are explicitly taught to every student and modeled by every staff member. Our recent data shows the majority of Hawthorne students are in the green zone for behavior by adhering to our three school rules and being good citizens.

Hawthorne will continue to focus on our attendance incentive program. The kids love to earn shout outs, treats, and classroom dress up days based on great attendance. We all know that good attendance will help our students be successful. Thank you

for making attendance a priority...way to go Hornets!

Essential to the foundational building blocks of a good education is forming good attendance habits early. These habits start in elementary school and pay benefits for student learning well beyond the classroom. Our attendance goal is 95% or better for the 2024-25 school year, and by implementing specifically designed intervention tools, along with the help of our attentive parents, I'm confident that together we will reach our 95% or better goal.

Hawthorne will also be recognizing students with the use of our "Shout-Out" awards through our Pride Assemblies. The Hawthorne staff was able to acknowledge our students making good choices and being great citizens last year with "shout outs." and other incentives and we intend to carry these programs into the future. We are proud to celebrate and reward our kids for being great and making good choices every day!

Safe, Welcoming Facilities

We are proud of our beautiful school and welcome you all to the Hawthorne Family. We pride ourselves with being safe, respectful and responsible.

I encourage the entire community to get involved in our school and assist in helping our young people develop into quality citizens of Sweet Home. You are always welcome at Hawthorne!

Please contact me for further information about our amazing school. My email address is; mark.looney@sweethome.k12.or.us or feel free to call Hawthorne at 541-367-7167. Sweet Home - Our Home Sweet Home!!

Mark Looney, Principal

SWEET HOME HIGH SCHOOL



It is very hard for me to believe that this year I am starting my tenth year as the principal of Sweet Home High School. My time in Sweet Home has been the very best of my 31 years and counting in education in Oregon. It does get a little scary though when I realize that some of our new teachers were not born when I started working as a high school administrator. While I don't believe my son was accurate last year for thinking I would never retire because that day eventually comes for all of us; however, SHHS is a wonderful place to work and will be hard to leave when the day arrives. I am very blessed and remain very grateful to be allowed to serve our students and families. Sweet Home has been wonderful for my family and me. Thank you to all of our students and parents for making the past nine years great.

I am looking forward to the next school year. While I know that we will face challenges, I believe we have a staff that will work incredibly hard to serve all of our students. I am very optimistic as we all keep in mind that as

"One Town, One School, One Family. We are Sweet Home Strong!"

Again, we are looking at a District-wide vision that covers the areas of Outstanding Achievement, Thriving Community, Thriving Citizen and Safe, Welcoming Facilities and Services.

Outstanding Achievement

Academic achievement is about more than the overall grades our students earn and how well they perform on state tests, but those things are important and we continue to help our students improve in those areas. We constantly look for ways to serve each student and help the individual gain the knowledge and skills to prepare for life after high school. I talk every year about our focus on our 9th grade on-track to graduate numbers. Research shows that if a student earns at least six credits during the 9th grade year, they will very likely graduate in four years. If they don't earn six or more credits during that first year of high school, they are in danger of not finishing in four years or at all. I am very proud of seniors who graduated in 2024. That class was hit hard by COVID and had an on-track percentage of about 68% at the end of their 9th grade year. The students and staff worked very hard to overcome that obstacle and many who were off track as 9th graders were still able to graduate with their class, but the struggle was intense. This last school year our 9th grade on-track rate was at nearly 92%. Our 9th Grade Success Team was led by a veteran teacher and one of our assistant principals. They were relentless in working with students and reaching out to parents to help the 9th graders find success. Thank you Lindsey, Luke and the rest of the

Team. We will continue our credit recovery efforts while still offering college credit opportunities and a very large number of Career and Technical Education classes to help prepare students for the workplace or college after high school. The work is hard, but very worthwhile.

Thriving Community

Last year we continued to connect with our community at large and move further away from the isolation that was widespread during the pandemic. Tomas Rosa and other staff worked with students to reach out to our community and serve some of the needs that are present. We helped families with food and presents during the holidays, welcomed people to sporting events, had plays and concerts and continued to have very engaging all-school assemblies. May Week was a big success and allowed our students to serve others. We plan to continue to strengthen the connection between our school community and the rest of Sweet Home. Writing this on the first day of the Jamboree Weekend, I realized fully that the connection between the schools and the community is very evident.

Thriving Citizen

I want to note again this year that the definition of what a Thriving Citizen is will vary from one individual to another. However, most Folks would agree that we want our students to be productive members of our society who strive to make the world a better place. All parents have hopes and dreams for their students. Our goal at SHHS is to help each of our students find and navigate their unique path and become the Thriving Citizen that they want to be. Some will serve their

country in the military as I chose to do after graduating from high school. Others will attend college and earn a degree. Some will attend a trade school or immediately start a career. ALL of these pathways are honorable. We want to help our students achieve their dreams.

Safe, Welcoming Facilities and Services

Safety is taken very seriously at SHHS and in our entire Sweet Home School District. Many of us who work for the District have students who currently attend District schools or who will one day roam our halls. Our Facilities director Josh Darwood and all of our maintenance and custodial people in the District work tirelessly to keep our buildings clean, safe and inviting. The high school campus is large and many of our buildings are fairly old, but our custodial crew at SHHS, led by Darren Schultz, continues to prepare for school opening in September. The new radios the District provided last year were a great asset for security and communication. Thank you.

Please allow me to share our school's Vision and Mission statements and our school motto.

Vision: Create a school where each student feels valued and inspired to improve.

Mission: Give each student every opportunity to achieve their potential.

Motto: One Town, One School, One Family – Husky Pride.

Thank you parents and community for your continued support of SHHS and our District. Thank you to The New Era for printing this special edition each year.

Ralph J. Brown

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Eleven Graduate SAR Training

By Sarah Brown
Of The New Era

Linn County Sheriff's Office held its 30th annual Youth Search and Rescue Training Academy this summer, turning over 11 recruits for preparation in assisting SAR missions.

The LCSO academy brings volunteers aged 14 to 21 together for an 11-day program designed to prepare youth to be physically and mentally prepared for the challenges of wilderness ground rescue missions.

"Basically they learn rescue skill sets and they learn search skill sets," said Ric Lentz, LCSO SAR coordinator.

Participants learn basic land navigation skills – such as how to use a compass and GPS, and how to navigate in the wilderness; first aid, CPR and basic medical training; search tactics; how to work as a team; how to work a radio; and basic survival skills – how

to make a fire, how to keep a patient warm, how to properly package a patient, etc.

Weyerhaeuser has leased the land to LCSO at no cost since 1983, creating long term stability for one of Oregon's only dedicated SAR training locations. The support provides ample space needed for team-building exercises and intensely physical skill-building and obstacle course work.

"I can't overstate the value of this place," Lentz said. "Without it, we wouldn't have the ability to modify and build training structures or have our volunteers out here learning together for nearly two weeks. The teambuilding required for search and rescue wouldn't be possible."

After completing the training, volunteers are ready to support real life rescue missions on LCSO's SAR coverage area of more than one million acres in the Willamette Valley.



Photo provided by Kirsten Meyer, Weyerhaeuser

Trainees learn how to attach a wheel to a Stokes litter that can be used for rescue in dry or snowy conditions.

EDUCATORS

From page 1

at the Lebanon District as an Instructional Assistant. She graduated from Western Governors University and is so excited for her start in Sweet Home.

- Lillyanna Walker will be a behavioral LRC at the high school. Walker graduated from Sweet Home High in 2020, before working as an educational assistant in 2021. She is so excited to begin her first year teaching.

- Hannah Bliss will teach physical education in the Holley District. Bliss grew up in southern Oregon and moved to Sweet Home six years ago. When she is not in school, she loves to spend

time outdoors with her family. She is excited for this year.

- Hunter Johnson graduated from Portland State University. She moved in June with her husky, Blue, to be a part of the Sweet Home School District Family.

- Hailey Miller will teach second grade at Foster Elementary. After being a title one assistant for three years at Foster, she is excited and grateful to return as the second grade teacher.

- Danae Teixeira will teach math at the junior high. "Math may not teach us to add love or subtract hate, but it gives us hope that every problem has a solution."

Shed Fire Extinguished Quickly by Crews

By Sky Chappell
Of The New Era

The Sweet Home Fire and Ambulance District (SHFAD) was dispatched to a barn fire, which was spreading into old-growth trees Sunday, Aug. 18.

Due to the location between the SHFAD and the Brownsville Fire District (BFD), this fire triggered an automatic aid response, which called in Brownsville Fire District, Halsey Fire District, the Crawfordville Station and the Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF).

According to Battalion Chief Shannon Pettner, the fire was found to be in a small shed, rather than a barn. The first unit on scene was a pumper tender from the Crawfordville station, which was able to knock down the fire, utilizing the tactical spray bars on their apparatus, and put the fire out in minutes, according to Pettner. This led to the cancellation of additional resources including: 12 SHFAD personnel, nine BFD personnel, and an unidentified number of other personnel from ODF and the Halsey Fire District. While these additional resources were canceled, the remain-



Photo by Evan Milburn

Virgil Kropf looks at the wreckage left by the fire.

ing few on scene were used to overhaul the remnants of the structure and mop-up the wildland interface area surrounding the structure. The cause of the fire was ruled to be unintentional and is still undetermined.

According to Pettner, the area of origin contained an extension cord, power strip and an unidentified object destroyed by the fire. The breaker, which powered the cord, was found to be tripped at the panel. No injuries were reported, though the structure and its contents were a total loss.

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