



Hawthorne sixth-graders show off their moves

Sixth-graders from Hawthorne compete in their annual dance competition Thursday evening, May 22, in the Sweet Home Junior High gymnasium. Sixth-grade instructor Pete Saveskie each year teaches his students basic waltz and tango steps, and the students compete in those styles, as well as a free dance competition. For more, see page 13 and view a photo gallery at sweethomenews.com.

Day of Remembrance

Local veterans groups held their annual Memorial Day service, above, at noon Monday, May 26, at Gilliland Cemetery. Earlier services were held at the Brownsville Pioneer Cemetery and Union Cemetery in Crawfordsville. At left, Sweet Home VFW Honor Guard members fire a seven-gun salute during the ceremony. The event included laying of wreaths at the Veterans Memorial, the playing of "Taps" and "Amazing Grace," a recitation of "In Flanders Fields" by Jan Hufford-Wilson. See more photos at sweethomenews.com.

SH voters support directly electing mayor, police and library levies

Sweet Home's charter amendment had a strong lead in the May 20 election following the most recent count prior to press time, on Thursday afternoon, May 22. The amendment, which would require voters to elect Sweet Home's mayor rather than the mayor being elected by City Council members, had 80.01% of the 1,441 votes cast – which is 18.51% of the city's registered voters. Sweet Home's police and library operating levies both had comfortable leads. In the election for Sweet Home School Board seats, Mike Adams and Erin Barsstad both appeared to be clear winners in the two races with more than one registered candidate. As of noon Wednesday, the five-year Police Operating Levy had a strong "yes" vote lead, with 67.59% of the vote. The library levy, also for five years, had an identical 67.59% "yes" lead. Adams, the incumbent, had 61.67% of the votes in the initial tally of votes for the Zone 7 (at-large) seat. Robert Egner had 38% as of noon

Wednesday. Barstad, a newcomer to the board, had 60.66% of the votes for the Zone 8 (at-large) seat. Matthew Bechtel, also challenging for the seat, had 38.78%. Incumbent Amanda Carter was unchallenged for the Zone 2 (Liberty) seat and newcomer Rachel Maynard was unchallenged for the Zone 5 (at large) seat. No one filed for the Holley seat (Zone 1), but there were 280 write-in votes, so the top vote-getter will likely get that seat if they agree to serve. Incumbents Dawn Mitchell and Rob Younger ran uncontested for their seats on the Sweet Home Fire and Ambulance District Board of Directors, and Jami Snyder was unchallenged for the Position 1 seat on the Sweet Home Cemetery District Board of Directors. No one ran for the Position 2 seat, so that will likely be filled by a write-in choice; there were 118 write-in votes as of Thursday. More votes are likely in coming days as absentee or mail-in ballots arrive at the County Elections Office.

Hometown Newspaper of
WHITNEY FUNK



HUSKIES WIN PLAY-IN, MAKE FIRST ROUND OF STATE PLAYOFFS
PAGE 9



LOCAL KIDS' WORK ON DISPLAY AT CITY HALL ART GALLERY
PAGE 11




SWELLING FFA PROGRAM HANDS OUT AWARDS, ANNOUNCES OFFICERS
PAGE 12

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EVENTS

See Events, Page 4



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TEMPERATURES

| DATE | HIGH | LOW | PRECIP |
|------|------|-----|--------|
| May | 20 | 61 | 48 |
| May | 21 | 67 | 35 |
| May | 22 | 59 | 51 |
| May | 23 | 69 | 48 |
| May | 24 | 77 | 38 |
| May | 25 | 67 | 46 |
| May | 26 | 70 | 44 |

PRECIPITATION

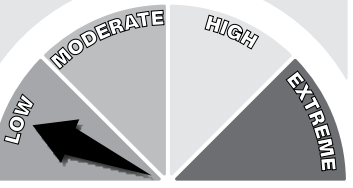
Year to date: 19.23
May 29, 2024: 17.92

FORECAST

| DAY | WEATHER | HIGH | LOW |
|------|---------------|------|-----|
| Thur | Partly Cloudy | 72 | 48 |
| Fri | Sunny | 82 | 53 |
| Sat | Partly Cloudy | 85 | 55 |
| Sun | Partly Cloudy | 74 | 47 |
| Mon | Partly Cloudy | 73 | 48 |
| Tues | Partly Cloudy | 77 | 50 |
| Wed | Partly Cloudy | 82 | 51 |

CURRENT LEVELS

Foster Reservoir: 635.0
Green Peter Res.: 975.5



TODAYS FIRE DANGER IS
LOW

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

PUBLIC SAFETY

Information for the Public Safety report and Courts 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, is often 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. We commit significant effort to following through as cases move through the judicial process.

Following is a list of abbreviations that may appear in our log reports: LCSO (Linn County Sheriff's Office); SHPD (Sweet Home Police Department); OSP (Oregon State Police); LCCC (Linn County Circuit Court); LCJC (Linn County Justice Court); SHMC (Sweet Home Municipal Court); LMC (Lebanon Municipal Court); FTA (failure to appear); FTC (failure to comply). A roman numeral listed after a charge means that the charge is that numbered-degree: theft I (first-degree theft).

May 22

10:38 a.m. - Multiple callers reported male following female in 2400 block Main St. as she yelled at him to leave her alone. Officer responded, contacted both parties, trespassed male from female's residence and advised him to

stop contacting her.

11:11 a.m. - Caller reported female spit in his eye multiple times. Officer responded. 2200 block Nandina St. Report taken.

11:41 a.m. - Deputy responded to report of disturbance in 37800 block Hwy. 228 involving male throwing knife at trees. Caller requested welfare check on male. Deputy determined male was OK.

11:54 a.m. - Caller reported juvenile appeared to be vandalizing Weddle Bridge, 877 14th Ave. Officer responded. Juvenile was counseled.

1:40 pm. - Scott David Citro, 49, arrested on LCCC warrant for FTA in burglary case, SHMC warrant for FTA in reckless driving case. 600 block Main St. Cited and released.

1:42 p.m. - Caller reported group of juveniles waiting outside Taco Bell restaurant to jump her. Officer responded, "mob" dispersed after officer's arrival, though one member returned to make threats, according to police log. Caller advised of protection order options.

2:35 p.m. - Caller from City Hall reported finding bicycle trailer left at 3225 Main St. Officer placed item in property at SHPD.

3:34 p.m. - Brandon Horton, 37, of Halsey, cited for failing to register vehicle, 300 block N. Main St., Brownsville.

4:50 p.m. - Thomas Joseph Lee Burke, 46, arrested by Cottage Grove police

on SHMC warrant for FTA in telephonic harassment case. Cited to appear June 11.

5:17 p.m. - Caller reported vehicle unable to maintain lane as it approached Sweet Home from west. Officer contacted driver, no indication of intoxication. Driver submitted for re-evaluation after warnings for failing to signal, impeding traffic.

7:32 p.m. - Daniel Bernacel, 66, arrested on AMC warrant for FTA in disorderly conduct case after multiple callers reported male screaming and trying to fight in 1000 block 12th Ave. Officer responded and located Bernacel, who had calmed down "significantly," according to police. He was trespassed from location.

8:23 p.m. - Crash reported in 40300 block Hwy. 228. According to LCSO, vehicle had mechanical failure, slowly rolled into thin wire fence at Holley Church. Information exchanged between parties.

9:52 p.m. - Caller reported juveniles starting fire on Weddle Bridge. Officer responded, contacted group of people, including two adults, who were starting a charcoal barbecue on the bridge. They were counseled.

9:56 p.m. - Raymond Binford, 35, of Sweet Home, arrested for DUII, reckless driving, driving while suspended, on a Lane County

See Public Safety, Page 8

CIRCUIT COURT

Warrants are out on the following individuals: Tiffany Anne Burks, Scott David Citro, Christopher Frances Ciullo, Kelsey Nicole Ciullo, Brien Keith Cockrell, Hope Marie Connors, Ashlee Dee Flanagan, Sean Doyle Gay, Nicholas Gregory Godell, Aaron Thomas Halvorson, Noe Hernandez-Reyes, Michael Trevor Hilton, Tyler Bruce Lanz, Charles James Marvel, Bryce William McGowan, Eric Wayne McKnight, Carrie Lynne Miller, Thomas Elbridge Miller, James Keith Mortensen, Nicholas Alan Nelson, Andrew Mark Parker, Daniel Austin Phillips, Tammy Lavonn Robinson, James Ryan Routon, Kristina Marie Sleutel, Joshua Alexander Williams

A charge against **Lester Lee Hendrix Jr.**, 50, of possession of a stolen vehicle was dismissed with prejudice May 9.

Edward Dennis Horn, 38, sentenced May 22 to five days compensatory service in lieu of jail, 18 mos. bench probation and a \$100 fine after pleading guilty to attempt to commit a Class C/Unclassified felony - strangulation. A harassment charge was dismissed.

Sarah Emily Littell, 48, charged May 20 with DV - attempted assault II.

Joshua Meulink, 43, sentenced May 20 to seven days compensatory service in lieu of jail and 24 mos. supervised probation after

pleading no contest to DV assault IV. A harassment charge was dismissed.

Levi Allen Moles, 32, sentenced May 16 to 30 days jail, 36 mos. supervised probation and \$200 in fines after pleading guilty to assaulting a public safety officer, and attempt to commit a Class C/Unclassified felony - assaulting a public safety officer. Charges of resisting arrest and bias crime I were dismissed.

Andrew Mark Parker, 37, charged May 5 with DUII (liquor).

A former DUII charge against **Kaden James Rodriguez**, 22, was dismissed with prejudice May 23 after the court found he had fully complied with and completed a diversion program.

Jacob Thomas Salvador, 31, charged May 20 with two counts of fleeing or attempting to elude police officer, reckless driving and recklessly endangering another person.



East Linn
ROOFING

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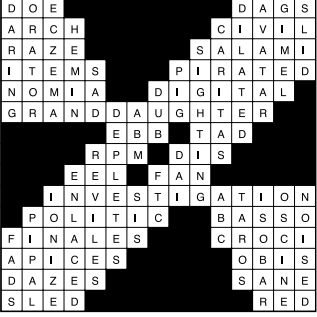
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DRIVE UP PHARMACY

Crossword KEY

Puzzle on page 19

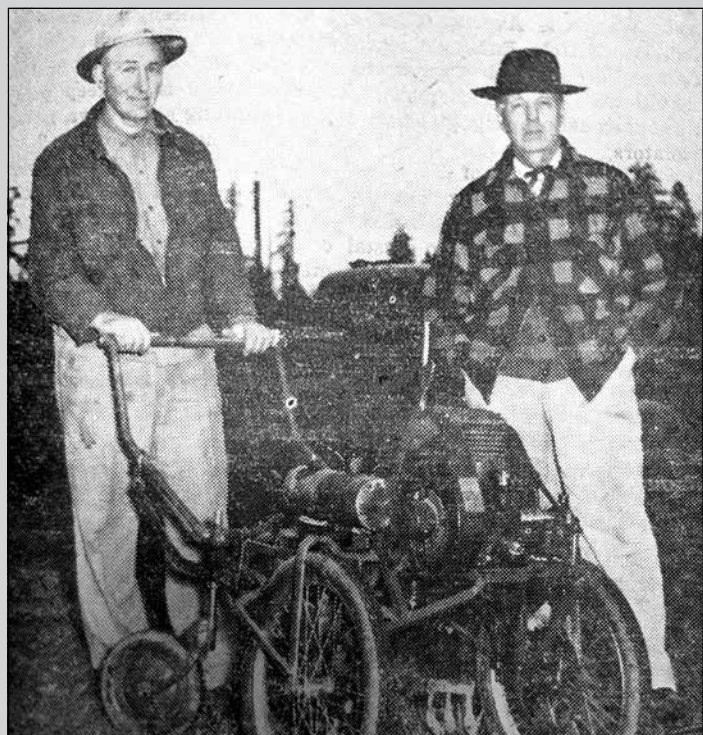


SUDOKU KEY

Puzzle on page 19

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

FROM OUR FILES



From left, J.J. Kroenlein and Jim Sheridan, local inventors, stand beside their strawberry cultivating machine, which will be a featured invention at a special show hosted by the Chamber of Commerce in 1950.

June 1, 1950

The Sweet Home Swimming Pool Association, inactive for several months, was reorganized when new trustees were elected. The trustees passed a resolution turning over the \$9,957 in the swimming pool fund to Union High School District No. 2. The funds, if accepted by the school board, are to be used for construction, maintenance and operation of the pool. Additional funding for the construction of a swimming pool will be raised during the 1950 Frontier Days.

The Sweet Home Pirates, who recently faced doom due to insufficient financing, gained enough money for a starter and will meet Corvallis in a State league season opener on the Sweet Home Union high school diamond. Bill Stokes, president of the Sweet Home Baseball Association, said contributions totaling \$450 was enough for a starter, but more will be needed for equipment and other uses.

May 29, 1975

GIN, a rock group out of

Sweet Home, won the Battle of the Bands held at the Polk County Fairgrounds. The band beat out 14 other bands from Oregon, winning seven hours of recording time at a Portland station. Band members are Lon Reeder (lead guitar), John Bennitt (lead singer), Chuck Stenberg (drummer) and Richard Black (bass guitar and group leader).

The on-again, off-again septic tank moratorium in the Foster-Midway area is on again after being reimposed by the Oregon Environmental Quality Commission. The temporary ban will continue until the Dept. of Environmental Quality holds a public hearing to determine whether a permanent ban should be imposed.

May 31, 2000

As Thriftway gets a facelift, another improvement is underway just next door. Recently established Mountain View Real Estate is building a 6,300 square foot building with commercial and office spaces.

Letter to the Editor: Words to Community from Samaritan executive Marty Cahill

An Open Letter to Our Colleagues, Leaders and Community:

As I wrap up my first week as CEO of Samaritan Health Services, I want to take a moment to speak directly and plainly. There's been a lot of talk this week — some of it based on incomplete information. So let me be clear about what's happening, why it matters and how we're moving forward.

Health care in Oregon is in a tough spot. According to the Hospital Association of Oregon, half the health systems in our state are operating at a loss. That's not sustainable. Reimbursement from government payers is shrinking, even as more people rely on those programs. At the same time, the health challenges our patients face are more complex than ever.

Costs are rising — driven by inflation, staffing shortages and new regulations. It's a simple but brutal equation: expenses are up, and revenue is down.

All across our industry, we're being asked to do more with less — see more patients, provide more services, stretch farther. And while those of us

in health care will always do our best to serve, no system or caregiver can keep stretching indefinitely without strain.

Samaritan is not immune. We've stepped up time and again to meet growing needs — expanding access, adding services, recruiting specialists and stepping in when other community providers have needed support. And we've been open about the financial pressure we're under.

But what hasn't changed is why we're here: to serve. As a nonprofit rooted in this region for more than a century, our mission is simple and unwavering: Building healthier communities together.

That work continues — and in many ways, it's just beginning. Across our system, teams of clinicians and leaders are asking hard questions and thinking boldly about what a strong, sustainable Samaritan should look like in the future. This isn't about quick fixes or sudden changes. No decisions have been made, and no changes to services are being implemented. In addition, no timeframe has been set to develop a plan or implement changes. The ideas we're ex-

ploring still need to be tested, shared, improved and aligned with what our community needs — not just this summer, but for the long term.

This is a pivotal moment. Health care is changing. If we want Samaritan to be here for the next 100 years, we must adapt. And we can't do that alone.

To our legislators: We need your partnership to ensure fair reimbursement and investment in the systems that keep our communities healthy.

To the media: Help us tell the full and accurate story of what health care in Oregon is really facing.

To our community: Stand with us. Your support allows us to keep showing up when you need us most.

And to our employees: You are the heart of Samaritan. We are committed to supporting you, so you can keep doing the work you were called to do.

Building healthier communities is not a slogan — it's a shared responsibility. Let's move forward together.

With appreciation,

Marty Cahill
President and CEO
Samaritan Health Services

EVENTS

From page 2

Many local people count on this food as a primary source of nutrition.

Email to volunteers@ocwcog.org or call Heidi at 541.812.6015. Each volunteer must fill out an application and complete a background check.

Museum needs help from locals

East Linn Museum is seeking volunteers and items that are needed for the operation of the museum.

The museum needs volunteers for its operations to replace retiring volunteers. New volunteers are not required to know anything about the museum or how to operate a computer. The museum operates three days a week from Thursday through Saturday, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Supplies needed by the museum include: copy paper, postage stamps, legal size envelopes, paper towels, toilet paper, glass cleaner, all purpose cleaner and Ajax.

For more information, call the museum at (541) 367-4580.

ODFW wildlife contest seeks arts, photos

The Oregon Dept. of Fish

and Wildlife invites artists to submit their work for the 2026 stamp art competitions.

The winning artists receive a \$2,000 award and their artwork is used to produce collector's stamps and other promotional items with sale proceeds benefiting Oregon's fish, wildlife and their habitats. The three contests are:

Habitat Conservation Stamp - Art entries must feature a Strategy Species identified in the Oregon Conservation Strategy in its appropriate habitat. Not all species in the Strategy are eligible, so check the qualifying list of species.

See the contest rules and entry form for more information and a list of eligible species. www.dfw.state.or.us/conservationstrategy/habitat_conservation_stamp.asp

Waterfowl Stamp Contest - Art entries must feature one of the following species in its natural habitat setting: Blue-winged Teal, Lesser Scaup, or Ruddy Duck.

See contest rules and entry form for more information. www.dfw.state.or.us/resources/hunting/waterfowl/contest/index.asp

Upland Game Bird Stamp Contest - Art entries must feature Ring-necked Pheasant in its natural habitat setting. See contest rules and entry form for more information.

www.dfw.state.or.us/resources/hunting/upland_bird/contest/index.asp

Artists are asked to use the Recommendations for Packaging Artwork on the Contest Rules' final page.

A panel will judge artwork based on artistic composition, anatomical accuracy of the species and general appeal.

Collector's stamps, art prints and other promotional materials are produced from first-place artwork.

Proceeds from product sales are used for habitat improvement, research surveys and conservation projects.

Interested artists are encouraged to visit ODFW's stamp art competition webpage for more information on the contests and to view entries from previous years.

Entries will be accepted from Aug. 29 until 5 p.m. on Sept. 26 at the ODFW headquarters, 4034 Fairview Industrial Dr., SE, Salem, OR 97302.

For more information on contest rules and to order stamps and art prints, visit: https://www.dfw.state.or.us/stamp_contest/index.asp

Entries can be mailed or hand delivered. If you hand-deliver your entry, call ahead to make arrangements at (503) 947-6314.

The New Era

A LOCALLY OWNED NEWSPAPER

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SUBSCRIPTIONS: Monthly: \$6.99 Annual: \$79.99

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Museum visit can bring words of wisdom to mind

By Roberta McKern
For The New Era

Sometimes visiting the East Linn Museum can jar loose memories of adages and tunes from the folk lore years of the past two centuries, especially since the second half of the 20th century saw a revival of folk music many of us can remember.

As an example of this, we will use Norval Rice's patented churn with a fan, which sits in the kitchen display. Thanks to a leather belt, when the churn dasher is operated to make butter, a fan made of wooden slats cools the churner, maybe.

Otherwise it might have something to do with the tune, "Fly in the butter-milk, shoo fly, shoo..." Not a financial success, Norval traded off the patent for pinto ponies from Idaho and as far as we know, the

museum's churn may be the only example.

The kitchen is a natural place of inspiration.

"Too many cooks spoil the broth" goes with the overloaded cast iron range. Then, too, what about that "peas porridge in the pot nine days old served hot or cold"?

Was it fed to an idle young man of whom it could be said, "He's not worth the salt in his bread?" Checking the recipes in Mrs. Grover Cleveland's copy of the "White House Cookbook," we might discover how much salt that could be since a copy of the book endorsed by Frances Cleveland sits on the kitchen table.

We may think of lullabies as we travel past the bedroom next to the kitchen because of a number of cradles reflecting that many

of the area's earlier settlers had sizable families. Large dolls acting as proxies for children are among those frightening young girls because they have, as more than one girl has observed, "such staring eyes."

We are actually on our way to the sewing room, just past the tubs and washers of Monday's wash day. In search of a needle in a haystack we can begin by finding a plethora of needles on display plus needle work.

Here we can pause and wonder how old the phrase, "It's like looking for a needle in a haystack" is. Did the person who coined it know it would be a really big addition to the English language?

The museum has not just a number of needles graded according to size but also examples of needlework. In

the 19th century it wasn't just widows who augmented meager incomes by doing "A stitch in time saves nine."

The treadle sewing machines from the early 20th century show how technology could make a difference while young girls were continually taught handiwork with a needle and thread.

Those of us who failed needlework in the middle of the 20th century, no doubt, will never be fine ladies and if we have what-not shelves in our houses, they are not made of wooden spools which once held sewing machine thread like the one put together in the parlor display composed of spools "threaded" on a network of wire and stained a uniform mahogany color, another one of Norval Rice's projects.

The leg from a chi-

na-headed doll makes a jarring appearance among needles and buttons on display and leads to the toys in the front room where black-haired, blue eyed china headed dolls appear among other dolls with possible examples of stitchery in their dress.

Around areas where older houses once stood, the arms and legs of china headed dolls will occasionally appear with clay marbles. The doll's head, however, being hollow, proved more fragile or wasn't so easily lost.

Other dolls seen running to the middle of the 20th century and are not as much of the past as the china-headed ones, but all appear to have been well loved by little girls singing "Rock-a-bye baby in the treetop" who may have wondered

See Editorial , Page 16

| June 2025 | | | | | |
|--|--|--|--|---|--|
| 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- Quilters 10:00 Meals on Wheels Senior Meals 12:00 | Exercise 8:30 Painters/Paper- crafters 10:00 Lunch 11:30 Ponytail 1:00 SALT 10:00 | Qi Gong 9:00 Jolly Stitchers- Quilters 10:00 Bible Study 10:00 Meals on Wheels 12:00 Pinochle 12:30 | Exercise 8:30 Meals On Wheels Senior Meals 12:00 | June Happenings!! Member's meeting June 11, 10:00 am Senior Center Garage Sale 11th, 12th, 13th!! Senior Excursion to Newport Or.! June 19th!! Details TBA |
| Exercise 8:30 Crafters 10:00 Meals on Wheels Senior Meals 12:00 Bridge 1:00 | Qi Gong 9:00 Jolly Stitchers- Quilters 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- Quilters 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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Photo by Scott Swanson
Medics assist the rider of a motorcycle that crashed on a curve just west of Menear's Bend on Thursday afternoon, May 22.

Motorcyclists injured in separate Hwy. 20 crashes near Menear's Bend

Two separate motorcycle crashes on curves just west of Menear's Bend sent two motorcyclists to area hospitals with serious injuries over the span of four days last week.

The most recent was on Thursday afternoon, May 22, when, according to Oregon State Police, James Arthur Walter II, 58, of Albany, was eastbound on Hwy. 20 on a Honda cruiser when the motorcycle failed to negotiate a curve near Milepost 34 and Walter hit the guardrail.

He was transported to Good Samaritan Regional Medical Center in Corvallis with major injuries. The motorcycle was towed. No other vehicles were involved.

The crash was the second in that area, involving a motorcycle, in four days. Early Sunday afternoon, May 18, motorcyclist Arnold Alex Pirnie, 77, of Caldwell, Idaho, was severely injured when his eastbound Honda Goldwing failed to negotiate a curve also near Milepost 34, just west of Menear's. Rescue personnel at the May 22 crash were unsure if it was the same curve.

Songs for Seniors from SHHS Band



Photo by Scott Swanson
Members of the Sweet Home High School band perform Wednesday, May 14, at the Sweet Home Senior Center during the weekly lunch served there, below. Above, director Lori Tuter leads musicians in a number. The band also performed earlier this month at Wiley Creek Senior Living Community.



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CENTRAL LINN NEWS



Photos by Sarah Brown

From left, Mom Cheyanne Anthony takes a photo of her girls, Isabelle and Davina, at the carnival photo booth.



Central Linn Elementary Principal Joel Sauter, at right, smiles as he prepares smash burgers during the school's annual Spring Carnival fundraiser.



Volunteer Julie Wink, at right, attaches a toy for "fisherman" Owen Leach, center, while his sister, Sloan Leach, at left, waits her turn.

Fun for kids, funds for teachers

By Sarah Brown
Of The New Era

The Central Linn Elementary School Parent Teacher Club held its annual Spring Carnival fundraiser on Saturday, May 17.

PTC volunteers and school staff sold raffle tickets for prizes, served up smash burger meals, auctioned off classroom projects, sold plants and manned a variety of carnival booths.

Children stayed entertained with bounce house slides, ball-tossing games, prize-winning games and a visit from some reptilian guests. Sheriff and fire vehicles were also on-hand to wow the littles.

Central Linn alumna Cassy

Fries brought her son to the annual fundraiser, saying she enjoys watching the kids play.

Students Isabelle and Davina Anthony couldn't agree on who the best teacher at the school was – Isabelle said DeAnna Kildea, who's "super nice," while Davina chose Katti Baney – but they both agreed the bounce houses were the best part of the carnival.

According to PTC Treasurer Jessie Geyer, proceeds from the event help fund classroom activities, supplies and generally whatever the teachers need.

"We have a good community of people who come," Geyer said about the financial support.

Board hears about forestry grants

By Chelly Bouferrache
For The New Era

Teacher Darrelle Parker was recognized for her forestry and natural resources program by the Central Linn School Board at its meeting on May 19.

Board members also heard updates on student achievement, the conversion of an unused locker room into a wrestling practice space, and the fact that there will be no summer school this year.

Parker, who teaches science and forestry/natural resources, received a grant from the Oregon Natural Resources Education fund, presented by ONRE representative Joe Schaefer.

The fund, established in 2001, supports programs that teach students the technical aspects of forest management and highlight career opportunities in the industry.

Parker, who previously used ONRE funds to purchase wildland firefighting equipment, secured this year's grant to acquire three Nikon Pro Forestry rangefinders for measuring trees and distances, along with two Garmin GPS units. These tools enhanced the FFA club's performance at the Envirothon competition and fire school.

"Without these funds, we would not have been able to be as competitive as we were this year," Parker said.

The board also reviewed positive student achievement data. According to graphics presented at the meeting language arts performance

increased by 41% from the 2022-23 to the 2023-24 school year.

Science performance saw an 80% improvement, and graduation rates rose by 17%, reflecting significant academic progress across all students.

ASB representatives reported a leadership transition for next year, announcing new class officers, including the election of a new ASB president and vice president, along with other positions.

The board also celebrated the success of the recent prom, held the previous weekend in Corvallis. Open to all grades, the event drew 100 attendees and served as a fundraiser for the junior class.

Joel Sauter, elementary principal, gave a report highlighting state testing, which is underway for multiple grades, with outdoor school scheduled for sixth-graders the following week.

On May 29, kindergartners will graduate, and early literacy students will be promoted to kindergarten. A senior walk for fifth-graders, allowing them to cheer on graduating seniors, is also planned. Sixth-grade promotion and field day are set for June 10.

The board approved an intergovernmental agreement with the city of Brownsville, represented by City Administrator S. Scott McDowell, for the use of city spaces.

Additionally, the board voted to decommission an unused boys' locker room in the elementary school, converting it into a wrestling practice space for the community's

youth wrestling team. "This will be a safe space for the wrestlers to practice," Interim Supt. Cathy Hurowitz emphasized.

The renovation, led by wrestling coach and contractor Tyler Simmons, will begin after the school year ends and take approximately two weeks.

The board approved a motion to obtain a quote for the remodel, allowing Simmons to claim the work as a tax-deductible donation.

In her superintendent's report, Hurowitz announced that next year's schedule will return to a four-day school week, with a 7.5-hour student day totaling 1,053 instructional hours, exceeding the state's 990-hour requirement.

However, summer school will not be offered due to insufficient staff commitment.

"We were notified that we were eligible for summer school, and we sent out a survey to our staff," Horowitz said.

"Unfortunately, we did not have the staff that was willing to commit to summer school."

Voters reject district's \$34.55 million school bond request

Central Linn School District's request for a five-year \$34.55 million operating bond to make school improvements was receiving a strong "no" from voters in the May 20 election following the most recent count prior to press time, on Thursday afternoon, May 22.

As of Thursday, 74.84% of the votes counted opposed the levy, with 1,441 ballots counted – 32.48% of the district's registered voters.

School Board candidates Stacey Winter (Zone 1), Garrett Leabo (Zone 2), Levi Faris (Zone 3), Suzanne Parker (Zone 4), Steve Irwin (Zone 6) and Donald Fleckenstein (Zone 7) all ran unchal-

lenged. Parker, however, announced before the election that she had withdrawn. As of Thursday, 51 write-in votes had been cast in that race.

For the Brownsville Rural Fire Protection District Board of Directors, Larry Thornton (Position 4) and Kevin Durham (Position 5), both incumbents, were unchallenged.

For the Halsey-Shedd Rural Fire Protection District Board of Directors, Don Smith (Position 4) and Josh Davidson (Position 5), both incumbents, ran unopposed.

More votes are likely in coming days as absentee or mail-in ballots arrive at the County Elections Office.

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Commissioners hear county health report, approve Foster road closures for triathlon

By Alex Paul
Linn County Communications

There were 103 deaths in Linn County and 71 births in April, Health Officer Dr. Adam Brady told the Board of Commissioners Tuesday, May 20. .

Three of the deaths were people who were more than 100 years old.

About 21 of the deaths were tobacco-related, he reported.

There were 38 girls and 33 boys born in May.

There were no COVID outbreaks. According to the Centers for Disease Control, Oregon is one of 14 states in which the number of COVID-19 cases are unchanged and there are 30 states in which the number of cases are dropping.

One suicide was reported in

April, a 94-year-old male.

There were 27 reported animal bites, bringing the total for the year to 113, below the average of 121 animal bites year-to-date.

In other business, the commissioners:

- Approved the closure of North River Drive and Quartzville Road near Sweet Home for the annual Best of the West Triathlon on the following days and times: June 7: North River Drive, 7 a.m. to 4 p.m.; June 8: North River Drive, 7 a.m. to 2 p.m.; June 8: Quartzville Road, 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.
- Were told by Public Health Program Manager Shane Sanderson that his staff completed 68 food ser-

vice inspections in April and 563 year-to-date, compared to 269 inspections the previous year-to-date. There were 12 school kitchen inspections and 103 year-to-date.

- Approved the closure of First Avenue, SW Broadway St., SW Linn Blvd. and Lyons Mill City Drive from 12-noon to 1 p.m. for the annual Mill City Fourth of July parade.
- The commissioners discussed the Goldfish Farm Road bridge project with Roadmaster Wayne Mink, focusing on how the project may affect traffic flow during the Linn County Fair in mid-July. The project is expected to run through mid-September.

PUBLIC SAFETY

From page 3

Circuit Court warrant for FTA, and on two LCJC warrants for FTA and driving while suspended. 3rd Ave./Juniper St. Also cited for failure to drive within lane, driving uninsured, driving without ignition interlock device, and failure to register vehicle. According to LCSO, deputy spotted Binford's vehicle veer into oncoming lane of traffic and initiated traffic stop. Report taken.

11:59 p.m. - Caller reported possible intoxicated driver swerving on road, eastbound on Main St. Officer conducted traffic stop; male showed no signs of impairment but was having medical issues. Refused transport. Stated he would park in nearby lot and have wife pick him up.

May 21

7:48 a.m. - Austin Deeds, 52, of Foster, arrested for domestic assault II, failure to register as sex offender, 48000 block Hwy. 20. Lodged at Linn County Jail.

11:26 a.m. - Armed disturbance reported in 43600 block Wiley Creek Dr. No criminal charges resulted. Two more calls made to LCSO over course of next five hours, complaining of trespassers and a car that caller reported had been parked on private property for three years.

4:16 p.m. - Caller reported fraud in 27700 block Pine View Rd. Caller said charges appeared on credit card after wallet was lost at mall. Investigation ongoing. Report taken.

6:51 p.m. - Crash reported in area of Elm St./Kirk Ave., Brownsville. Vehicle vs. pedestrian. Investigation ongoing. Report taken.

May 20

12:04 a.m. - Sebastian Benson, 52, cited for driving uninsured, 1300 block 42nd Ave.

12:10 a.m. - Dustin Kyle Coughran, 35, arrested on Salem Municipal Court warrant for FTA in failure to carry and present license case, Albany warrant for contempt of court. 4100 block Osage St. Cited and released.

6:58 a.m. - Michael Evan Matthews, 40, arrested by Lebanon police on SHMC warrant for FTA in trespassing case. Cited to appear June 11.

7:46 a.m. - Caller reported juvenile poured paint on Weddle Bridge, 877 14th Ave. Officer responded, report taken for criminal mischief II.

8:04 a.m. - LCSO responded to report of drug overdose, 1000 block Red Baron Lane. Victim alive at time of report. Report taken.

9:31 a.m. - Caller from Sweet Home Junior High reported students were smoking marijuana, drinking alcohol on school bus. Officer responded, information noted.

1:32 p.m. - Denise Rochelle Burrow, 58, arrested on SHMC warrant for FTA in theft case. 600 block Holley Rd. Cited and released.

2:59 pm. - Caller reported fraud in 27700 block Riggs Hill Rd. Caller reported \$30,000 was borrowed against his life insurance policy. Investigation under way. Report taken.

3:02 p.m. - Caller from Sweet Home Library reported that male who had

See Public Safety, Page 19

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-Matthew 18:20

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Huskies move on to playoffs after softball win over Estacada

By Keeghan Gittins
For The New Era

Sweet Home's softball team won a back-and-forth play-in game Thursday, May 22, 8-5 over visiting Estacada to move on to the first round of the OSAA 4A championships tournament, in which it will play at No. 5 Pendleton Tuesday, May 27.

Against Estacada, the Huskies found themselves down a run in the bottom of the first but after a base hit from Addy Vannice, and back-to-back Estacada errors, the Huskies emerged up 2-1 to end the inning.

The Rangers scored a run to even the score as Sweet Home went scoreless in the second, and then Estacada was able to capitalize and take a 3-2 lead.

But then the Huskies got rolling as Kaitlyn Kennedy, in her first playoff appearance, stepped up big for Sweet Home hitting a two-run RBI triple. Kennedy followed that up with another triple in the fourth to take a 5-3 lead after the Rangers evened the score again.

"I feel like I had to step up, I definitely performed better because of the pressure of the playoffs. Hopefully I can



Aubrey Newberry scores for the Huskies ahead of the throw to home against Estacada. See more softball playoff photos at sweethomenews.com.

take this momentum into the next round," Kennedy said.

A two-run RBI single from Hannah Sieminski in the bottom of the fifth inning put the game out of reach for Estacada, leaving the Huskies with a 8-5 lead.

Sieminski and Miley Smith were the only players from Sweet Home to score more than one run. Sieminski led the team with two stolen bases, one of them stealing home.

The Huskies had seven hits, with Katriona "Pea-nut" Harris, Sieminski and

Kennedy, each collecting two. Miley Smith had the final single. Estacada out hit Sweet Home having eight, but Sweet Home forcing six crucial errors made the difference in this game.

Harris was the pitcher of choice this game, throwing 115 pitches and 70 strikes. She faced 35 batters in the seven innings, striking out seven of them.

The Husky defense was able to shut down the high-powered Ranger offense, as Estacada has had 11 games with 10 or more runs.

It looked to be a potential high-scoring slugfest, with Estacada scoring a run in every inning and two in the fourth, and Sweet Home answering with two in the first and three in the third.

But the game actually turned into a strong defensive showing by the Huskies, who did not allow a single run in the final three innings.

"The energy in the dug-out completely flipped in the fifth inning, and that propelled us to get those two runs in the fifth to take the lead. That momentum

definitely helped in shutting Estacada out in those final three innings," Harris said following the game.

The game ended with Newberry making the game-winning catch, sending the Huskies into the first round and extending their season one more week.

Sweet Home entered this week just four wins away from the State Championship.

The Huskies have not made it to the second round since 2019. The last three seasons, Sweet Home has made it to the first round of the playoffs, but have had to face Henley each year in Round 1; the combined score of the games against Henley was 39-1.

This year, though, Sweet Homes' first-round opponent is Pendleton. The Buckaroos are 10-2 in league and 22-3 overall on the season. The game will be played Tuesday, May 27, at 5 p.m. at Pendleton High School.

"In order to make sure we're not just a first round exit again, we need to play together and not overthink," Harris said. "When we have high energy and play together, we're unbeatable."

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- Manage stress:** Learning to manage stress through relaxation techniques, time management, and other coping strategies can help improve mental health and reduce the risk of developing mental health conditions.

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SH qualifies 12 state entries as boys are 2nd in district track

By Scott Swanson
Of The New Era

District track meets are always highly charged, competitive events, but this year's might have been more so, especially for Sweet Home.

The Husky boys finished second to Philomath and

the girls were fourth, but Sweet Home had 10 individual qualifiers for state – nine for the boys – as well as both boys relay teams.

For the Husky girls, junior McKenzie Miller was the lone state qualifier, with a gusty second-place finish in the

3000 to open the track competition on Friday.

In the boys points race, Sweet Home finished with 162 points, well behind Philomath's 190.5. Newport was third with 130.

"The team did great," Coach Nathan Whitfield said. "We had PR's across the board. But we didn't have enough to catch the studs that Philomath had. For instance in the 200, our guys finished third, fourth and fifth, but they took first and second. They scored more points."

On the girls side, Philomath ran away with the title with 210 points, ahead of Cascade (160), Stayton (110) and Sweet Home (83).

Sophomore Nick Larson was an individual district champion in the pole vault, the 110 hurdles and the 300 hurdles, and the boys 4x400 relay team of Ryker Burr, Kasey Kast, Dillan Davis and Kolton Wilmarth finished the competition with a victory in that event to take home the crown.

Larson said he enjoys districts because "you get to know the people in your district if you talk to them. You get to race with family and friends."

After placing third in the high hurdles last year as a freshman, "I promised myself that I would get it this year," Larson said. "It just takes very hard work and a lot of dedication, and you just can't give up."

In addition to Larson's three events and the long relay, the Huskies also got state qualifiers in Davis and Wilmarth in the 400, Ryker Burr and Kasey Kast in the 800; Gavin



Peyton Markell throws the javelin on her way to a third-place finish. See more district photos at sweethomenews.com.

Tyler in the shot, Jack Simmons in the javelin; the boys short relay team of Conner Stevens, Wilmarth, Davis and Chase Cameron.

This will be Cameron's third state relay appearance and the senior said he thinks the Huskies can go faster.

"We were pretty good. We were in a pretty bad lane (three) but we all put our work into it," he said, adding that he thinks this group can make the podium.

"I'm thinking we can do it if we just really try our best, you know, all do our jobs perfectly."

For the girls, junior Loralai Mark came close in the long jump, finishing third with a 1-foot PR of 15-11½, and senior Peyton Markell was third in the javelin.

Simmons, who was seventh in the javelin as a junior,

posted an almost 12-foot PR on his first throw, 160-10, to place second.

"I felt like I was just gonna get a mark, just throw it out there, and then I threw a PR of 11 feet," he said.

"I just kind of expected this might be my last time to ever throw, so I might as well throw big, so that's what I did."

Davis, a junior who came into track after winning a state title in wrestling, said he was happy to break 23 seconds in the 200, just missing state. His 400 time (50.48) was a two-second PR.

"I just want to place in the top five and get it done," he said.

He'll be there with Wilmarth, who moved to Sweet Home this year from a 1A-sized high school in Ari-

See Track , Page 11



Photos by Scott Swanson

Jackson Barringer unleashes the shot during the district competition.

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BUILDINGS & SHEDS

City Hall gallery features art from local elementary students

By Cindi Hamar
For The New Era

Artwork from a selection of local artists – students at Hawthorne Elementary School – is on display through June 5 at the City Hall Art Gallery.

The Hawthorne Elementary School Exhibit is a collage of various student works of all grades, kindergarten through sixth. The art is on display during the city's regular business hours, Monday through Thursday from 7 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

The collage, put together by Pete Saveskie, a sixth-grade teacher at Hawthorne, is a variety of scenes ranging from the Statue of Liberty, to flowers, human hands, geometric designs and rainbows. All of it was done by children attending Hawthorne elementary school this school year.

Viewers will see a clear connection between the art themes and learning from other classes, such as math and science, as there is no direct art instruction at Hawthorne.

"I would love to have an ex-



Photos by Cindi Hamar
Lee Roscoe-Bragg, coordinator for SHOCASE's art exhibits at City Hall, points out students' artwork in the gallery.

hibit from each of the Sweet Home schools," said Lee Roscoe-Bragg, coordinator for SHOCASE's art exhibits at City Hall.

Roscoe-Bragg took on the role in November of 2024 after Diane Gerson retired.

"It is a wonderful service that the City Hall allows these exhibits for artists," Roscoe-Bragg said. "I am so

impressed with the local artistic talent in the community and that people want to see it. So far we have never had a repeat showing."

Anyone interested in exhibiting art can do so on the sweethomeshocase.org website by filling out an application. Currently shows are scheduled through September.



Lilly Black, a kindergarten student at Hawthorne, shows off her work on display at the City Hall Gallery.

TRACK

From page 10

zona. Wilmarth qualified on time with a 50.55, seven-hundredths of a second behind Davis.

Also, the girls long relay team of Sophia Stock, Noelle Helfrich, Miller and Brooke Elder finished third after two other teams were disqualified – Cascade, the favorite, for a false start, and Newport for spiking the baton at the finish line after edging the Huskies

in the final meters of the race.

Near misses for the boys were sophomore senior Chase Cameron, third in the 100; Davis, third in the 200; senior Conner Pace, third in the discus; and sophomore Kaeson Walker, third in the triple jump.

The drama came in the 800, in which Burr challenged defending district champion Noah Larson of Newport, a senior, for the entire race and taking the lead before Larson edged past him in the final

meters.

Then they collided and fell together at the finish line, leaving Larson with a broken collarbone and opening the door for Kast, who was third, to move into the qualifying slot.

"My goal was to stick near Noah and pass him in the last 100," Burr said. "I went for it right before the last 100 and held the lead for about 80 meters, but he got me right at the end."

He said they both collapsed

at the finish line – "we both gave it all we had" – and that was when they collided.

"That was a great race," Burr said. "I'm grateful to have been able to race him as a senior, because I won't be able to race him again."

Kast also placed third in the pole vault, in only the second time he had competed in that event, and only missed a trip to state because he had more misses than Philomath's Blake Hauck, both finishing at 10-4.

Another dramatic finish was Miller's in the 3000.

Miller has had near-misses in her bids to qualify for state in both cross-country and track repeatedly as a freshman and sophomore, and she literally brought tears to the eyes of her supporters Friday when she finally notched a state berth with a gutsy 20-second PR to finish two-tenths of a second ahead of Philomath senior Adele

See Track , Page 13

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SHHS FFA honors top performers, names officers

By Keeghan Gittins
For The New Era

Sweet Home's Future Farmers of America chapter celebrated its annual awards banquet Wednesday, May 21, honoring student achievements, presenting awards, and reflecting on a successful year of agricultural leadership.

The event, the chapter's third since its founding, drew a record-breaking number of attendees, filling up seats in the high school cafeteria and forcing organizers to set up extra tables. The food was provided by Andrea Foley, with help from FFA members and other volunteers.

Outgoing President Anabelle Morris led FFA members in the FFA pledge to start the meeting.

Star Award winners, which honor individuals in each grade who were top performers and heavily involved in activities, competitions and organizational efforts, were: seniors Conner Stevens and Jarron Slaytor, juniors Selah Wright and Ashley Duncan, sophomore Caden Foley and freshman Carlie McQuiston.

The Distinguished Service Award went to Radiator Supply House.

Slaytor and Stevens both spoke about how they were proud to see the program grow since they started as sophomores, nearly quadrupling in size.

They also thanked chapter adviser Scott Jacobsen for his efforts in building the program.

"Over the last three years



Photo by Keeghan Gittins

This year's FFA chapter has nearly quadrupled from the first group, three years ago.

our FFA chapter has grown from 12 members at our first banquet to over 30 at our banquet," Jacobsen said after the event. "Our chapter has roughly 30 active members that regularly compete and attend meetings, but we have over 150 members that have membership nationally."

"We have had some struggles growing over the years, as this is something new to SHHS, but I believe that we have a very solid group of students who are excited to help grow our chapter even more."

Student officers for the upcoming school year were announced, following an election on Monday, May

19: President Selah Wright, Vice President Ashley Duncan, Secretary Kaylie Cooley, Treasurer Kaden Foley, Reporter Ella Forum, Sentinel Natalie Conn, Junior Advisor Ellie Dominy and Historian Carlie Mcquistion.

Jacobson noted that the officer team is a mix of seniors, juniors, and sophomores, the freshmen class, who, he said, have "brought in a lot of energy that I believe we will build upon in the future years to come."

"The foundation has been set, it is now time to build on it."

Wright said the FFA gives participants a chance to learn leadership and com-

munication skills, as well as "courage and responsibility."

"In FFA there is something for everyone. I am so grateful for everything it has taught me and where it's gonna take me in the agricultural community. I am excited to grow more this year with my chapter."

Morris recognized all the teams that competed in districts and state.

Sweet Home competed at the FFA districts in Soils, Conduct of Chapter, Ag Sales, Food Science, Creed, Dairy, Beginning Public Speaking, Co Op Quiz, Poultry, Meats, Crops, Vet Science.

Bannering in three events, Conduct of Chapter

and Meats finished first and Dairy was third in the district.

Keeghan Gittins finished with the third overall high score and Stevens was the top finisher for the second year in a row in the meat competitions.

There are two types of FFA events Sweet Home competes in: CDE's (Career Development events) and LDE's (Leadership Development events).

At state, Sweet Home competed in Meats, Dairy, Poultry, Horse Evaluation and Crops.

Cooley of the Horse Evaluation team was able to get her second top-five finish in a row, winning fourth place this year. The Poultry and Meats team finished within the top 10.


Chapter Degree recipients were Ella Forum, Caden Foley and Stevens. They were recognized for their commitment towards providing for the chapter and always being willing to help.

Honorary Chapter degree winners, volunteers who went above and beyond for the chapter, were Zech Brown and Andrea Foley.

Cooley said she and her fellow participants have grown "in ways that I never could have imagined" as they have worked to build the chapter.

"FFA has grown to be such a huge and important part of my life and I have made more memories, new friends, and experiences than I can count from this chapter," she said.


The *icebox* Performer Of The Week



Robert has been on fire lately—crushing goals, staying late without hesitation, and showing up every single day with dedication and drive.

His work ethic is unmatched, and his humble, team-first attitude makes him an absolute gem to work with.

We see you, Robert — keep shining!



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Get your cat or dog's rabies vaccine for just \$35 and support OSU veterinary students on their mission trip to Honduras this summer!



Faithful Friends ANIMAL CLINIC
"We treat your pets like Family"

TRACK

From page 11

Beckstead, who was competing for her third straight state appearance in the 3000.

Miller spent the first half of the race tucked behind Beckstead and Philomath freshman Cassidy Smart, but Beckstead fell back about 20 meters and Miller managed to stay within striking distance of Smart.

Distance Coach Dave Martin said he had told Miller to stay in third until someone slowed, then move up.

"She ran the race exactly the way I told her to," he said.

Beckstead, though, has qualified for state in the 1500 and 3000 every year she has run track and was second last year in the 1500 at Hayward Field.

With about 300 meters to go Beckstead started closing the gap between second and third and by the time Miller hit the home stretch, Beckstead was closing, taking advantage of her longer stride as they sprinted the last 100 meters.

"I panicked when I saw her foot at the very end," Miller said. "I felt like she was on me the whole time. People told me she was slowing down, but I didn't think she was, like, far, and I knew she was gonna catch me on the



Photos by Scott Swanson

As his fellow teammates yell support, Kasey Topp streaks by in the 4x400 relay, which the Sweet Home boys won.

stretch. Then I just gave it every single thing I had."

Martin said the race was "a tremendous run for a lot of reasons."

"That's the best race she's ever run, in terms of the second half of the race, where she just kept gritting it out and running tough," he said. "She ran a 20-second PR. She's now the second fastest girl in the history of Sweet Home High School.

"It was just, it was such a great race. And obviously she's so well-liked by her teammates, by the coaches, by everybody. We were over-

joyed because this has been a huge goal of hers for a long time. I couldn't be happier."

Reviewing what he considered the high points of the meet, Whitfield said: "It's hard not to mention Dillon Colton in the 400. Then you have McKenzie in the 3000 and Loralai Mark in the long jump. Jack Simmons' 160-foot throw was big.

"Pretty much everybody did great. We had a season's best from our girls 4x100 and it didn't stop on Saturday. All the way around, they did really well."

The Husky boys finished

with 20 personal bests and 14 for the girls, not counting the relays, in which they chopped significant amounts off their season's bests in all four.

Fifteen of Sweet Home's scorers on the boys side were underclassmen – out of 25 scorers in all. For the girls, out of a total of 20 scorers, five were freshmen or sophomores, with eight more finishing ninth – one place out of scoring.

The 4A state championships start at 9 a.m. Friday, May 30, at Hayward Field in Eugene with the girls 4A 3000, followed by preliminaries in all the track events shorter than 1500 meters. The 4A boys pole vault and shot put will be at 11 a.m. and 11:30, respectively.

Track finals events start with the short relay at 12:54 p.m. Saturday. The 4A boys javelin will be at 9:30 a.m.

Whitfield said he just hopes the Huskies can do their best.

"Realistically, I just want them to go out and PR, do best they can, see what happens," he said.

"In just about every event we're in, we're not the top dog but we can score.

"The state meet is kind of a crapshoot. Gavin Tyler is throwing a foot further than Dylan Sharp was last year. I think he's going in seeded ninth and Dylan placed seventh last year.

"There are some really good athletes out there this year."

Burr said qualifying for state has been a dream since he got a chance to watch the state championships as a seventh-grader.

"I just recognized the high atmosphere and all the high achievers there and how legendary and historical the place is," Burr said.

"Ever since that moment, I've been working and that's been one of my main motivations. I'm super grateful to run there. It'll be new and exciting to be able to run on the same track as a lot of my idols."

See results for state qualifiers and Sweet Home finishers at sweethomenews.com.



Fir Lawn roof repairs begin with tear-down

Workers begin tearing off the roof of the former Fir Lawn Lutheran Church building on the corner of 1st Avenue and Holley Road (Hwy. 228) last week. Church member Tami Ainsworth said the church is selling the building to the American Legion for use as a Legion Hall. Ainsworth said that, as a condition of the sale, the church is putting a new roof on the

building, as well as doing some electrical work. GBC Construction is doing the roof, which will be "more of a house roofline," Ainsworth said. To rebuild the original steeply pitched roof would be much more costly and the Legion didn't particularly want the original roof restored, she said. The Legion received a conditional use permit last October to use

the former church as a community space that could be used for weddings, proms, community markets, as well as Legion activities and various veterans services. Post 133 Commander Kat Sanderson-Cox informed city Planning Commission members during that proceeding that the Legion does not intend to install a full-on bar in the building.



Photos by Scott Swanson

McKenna Coonc and Marshall Erickson dance the waltz to "Kiss from a Rose" by Seal. Below, O'rion Jayne and Gracy Graeber show off their tango moves to "Hernando's Hideaway."



Fire district says traditional recruitment pool is dry

By Sarah Brown
Of The New Era

Fire Chief Nick Tyler told the Sweet Home Fire and Ambulance District Board of Directors during its May 20 meeting that they are looking outside the box for recruitment techniques.

According to Tyler, after three weeks seeking applicants for entry level positions, the district received four applications, all of which did not meet minimum qualifications. As such, the district decided to pause the hiring process and look into more productive ideas.

"What I found was I'm getting older, so technology gets a little bit different for younger folks," he said.

One suggestion he received was to create a recruitment video for Instagram and/or Tik Tok. Staff are reaching out to the high school for help on that idea, Tyler said.

He also reported that much of their recruitment is posted on Daily Dispatch – a news and job board site for fire services – but he's finding that younger generations don't frequent the site. An alternative is to post on National Testing Network,



Photo by Sarah Brown

Firefighter Casey Topp, second from left, gets sworn in as SHFAD's newest lieutenant by Deputy Chief George Virtue and Fire Chief Nick Tyler, far right. Topp's son, Malik Topp, far left, waits to pin his father.

a job board and contracting company that tests candidates for public safety jobs. The cost for their service gave Tyler "sticker shock," he said – with quotes between \$2,800 to \$5,500 a year.

"But what we did didn't work," he said. "We're in that environment where we gotta find candidates. So we're regrouping and trying to problem-solve this outside the box and do things that we haven't had to do before."

Other options include lifting residency requirements, pay increases up to 40% and/or adding a fourth shift

– options that other agencies are forced to do.

"It is a problem that's unheard of, and chiefs are forced to make decisions to try to get people," Tyler said. "Ten years ago, the same 40% and adding one more shift to a fire department may have been a non-starter. Now people and city councils are interested, and there's people that are passing it. When we get into this world on people and recruiting and retaining, it gets dark really quick on what the future could hold."

Meanwhile, the district

recently offered two more conditional job offers for SHFAD's new Wildland Fire Division – bringing the total to 25 – and "traditional seasonals" began working this month. According to an intergovernmental agreement with the Oregon Department of Fire, SHFAD can send up to 25 firefighters on an order, or they can hold back a few and send a Type 6, chipper or other service in their place, thus having some of the crew on-hand for other orders.

During the board meeting, Casey Topp was pinned by his son, Malik Topp, as he was promoted as the district's newest lieutenant. After Battalion Chief Randy Whitfield retired this year, Lt. Josh Bondesen was promoted to the position and Josh Starha was promoted to lieutenant. Later, Lt. Mike Severns left for Albany Fire, allowing the district to promote Topp to the open position.

Additionally, Jessica Swenson moved into a full-time position in the front office after Julie Mayfield retired.

In other business:

- The board approved an idea floated by Tyler to do-

nate an old ambulance to Oakridge Fire Department, should they need it. Tyler said OFD recently rolled one of its ambulances and is seeking affordable options to replace it. SHFAD has a vehicle Tyler expects they could surplus for \$3,000 to \$5,000, unless the board prefer to offer it to OFD.

- Tyler reported one of the district's garage door springs recently broke. They're working on getting the springs replaced with more heavy duty ones.

- After hearing reports about Samaritan considering options to close birthing and/or other departments at Samaritan Lebanon Community Hospital, Tyler said SHFAD is working "very closely" with partners and keeping an eye on the matter. If Samaritan makes those cuts, Tyler will be prepared to issue a statement.

- Tyler reported the district was awarded a grant to purchase more life jackets for the life jacket program.

- Tyler reported SHFAD is making more of an effort to be more active on social media by posting current events happening in the district.

SHFAD proposed budget reflects inflation in personnel services

The Sweet Home Fire and Ambulance District Budget Committee approved a \$6,594,143 proposed budget during its May 20 meeting, which will go before the Board of Directors at a future meeting for approval.

In his budget message, Fire Chief Nick Tyler said the 2025-2026 budget reflects an overall increase of \$621,023 from the current fiscal year. Some changes in fund categories include a \$587,800 increase in personnel services and benefits, a \$44,500 increase in materials and services, and a \$50,000 decrease in capital outlay. FireMed/Ambulance revenue is projected to be \$1.7 million.

Tyler reported that some

of the personnel service increases are due to the addition of a full-time administrative firefighter position (formerly the recruitment and retention position), increases of health insurance premiums (40% increase) and retirement (17%), and the increase of the union's contract.

"The cost of insurance and retirement have increased drastically," Tyler said in his report. "These are two areas that will require attention and cost mitigation efforts during this fiscal year."

During the current fiscal year, SHFAD was awarded a \$1.2 million grant for seismic retrofitting at Station 23, two grants totaling \$18,000 for rope rescue gear,

and a \$35,000 grant to up-staff during fire season.

Additional grants the district applied for include \$133,200 for National Fire Protection Association physicals and a \$5.3 million grant for wildfire protection. The latter grant would be a portion of a larger award in partnership with Oregon Dept. of Forestry-South Cascade, Linn County Juvenile Dept., Lebanon Fire District and South Santiam Watershed Council.

Looking back over the current fiscal year, Tyler reported the Ground Emergency Medical Transportation program generated \$314,005, and SHFAD responded to a record number of conflagration calls totaling \$813,555 in expected revenue. The district responded to 11 conflagrations and two immediate response requests. To date, the district received \$417,126 for the Oregon conflagrations and has billed California \$396,429 for responses there.

The bond measure, approved in 2024, allowed the district to purchase new hand-held radios with updated technology that improves communication. It



Photo by Sarah Brown

The Budget Committee for SHFAD reviews the district's proposed budget for fiscal year 2025-2026.

also helped fund the purchase of a house in Cascadia that will be used to house the district's part-time and wildland programs, as well as provide quicker fire and EMS service responses in the Cascadia area. The bond will fund additional items for the district, yet to be purchased.

With the bond providing funds for needed purchases, the proposed budget does not reflect any additional major projects or items, Ty-

ler said.

"Focusing on ways to increase revenue and decreasing costs will be a priority this coming fiscal year," he said. "Across the public safety spectrum, we are seeing many challenges on budget with rising costs on an unsustainable trajectory. The district's challenges are not unique in this, but the way we are continuing to seek out additional revenue streams and more efficient business practices are unique."

We support The New Era!

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Mental Health Awareness Month: Lonely? Support for seniors only phone call away

When Carli Cox picks up the phone, she never knows who will be on the other end, but she knows why she's answering.

As a Crisis Intervention Specialist at Lines for Life, Cox is one of the voices providing support to people facing behavioral health challenges including loneliness.

For Mental Health Awareness Month, Oregon Health Authority is highlighting its partnership with Lines for Life. OHA provides funding for six crisis and support lines, including the Senior Loneliness Line. This service offers older Oregonians connection and emotional support amid growing concerns about social isolation in aging populations.

"The Senior Loneliness Line is unique," Cox said. "It functions both as a warm line for friendly conversation and as a space for crisis support when needed. We get calls from people who just want to start their day with a voice on the other end, to others who are dealing with isolation, loss, aging related issues, and sometimes suicidal thoughts."

About 15% of Oregonians are age 65 years or older, and by 2030 that number will increase to 20%. This age group is experiencing many behavioral health struggles, with one in five individuals experiencing depression at any given time. Males age 75 and older have the highest suicide rate of any age group and gender.

With more than three years of experience and 4,000 crisis calls under her belt, Cox plays a critical role in helping the aging population. Older adults often face stigma seeking mental health support, and Cox wants them to know that no problem is too small.


"Many seniors didn't grow up in a time when talking about mental health was encouraged. We want them to know this line is here for them—it's safe, confidential, and there's no need to be in crisis to call."

The Senior Loneliness Line sees a wide range of callers, from those facing estrangement from family to those who've outlived loved ones. Even a single phone call can bring meaningful change.

"Sometimes, you can hear a shift in someone's voice by the end of a conversation," said Cox. "Making that connection is so rewarding."

If you are a senior or know someone who might benefit from the Senior Loneliness Line, please call 1-800-282-7035 or visit <https://senior-lonelinessline.org/>.

For other mental health needs, call, or text 988 or chat online at 988lifeline.org.





Q: Do I have dry eyes or allergies?

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.

Dr. Michael W. Stoner

Advanced Family Eyecare | Michael W. Stoner, O.D.

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4: National Cheese Day!
Macaroni & cheese, Philly cheesesteak stuffed breadsticks, cucumber salad, cheesecake dessert

11: Celebrating Fathers Day!
Hamburgers grilled fresh right outside our dining room, served with chips, soda or lemonade, and brownies!

18: Chicken Piccata
Chicken breast with a zesty and flavorful lemon butter sauce, served with potatoes, salad, dessert
Dessert provided by Wiley Creek Senior Community


25: Italian Drunken Noodles
A pasta dish combining Italian sausage, peppers and tomatoes with wide noodles, served with veg, salad, dessert

\$5 dine-in \$5.50 take-out


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

Please call at least a day ahead if you plan for 3 or more take-out lunches.


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June 11
Have lunch with us during your visit to the sale



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TRANSPORTATION

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

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



Wolthuis Family Dentistry

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.

1. **SODA.** Two of the most harmful things for our teeth are sugar and acid, and carbonated beverages are full of both! The teeth literally start dissolving under the attack of the acid, leading to cavities.
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.
Drink lots of water, maintain a healthy diet and lifestyle, and see your dentist regularly, to be sure your teeth stay in good shape!

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MUSEUM

From page 5

about the “breaking bough” and falling of spring.

In the meantime, the museum has not lost all of its marbles and some can be found near three banks, a goat, red clown and a building representative perhaps of a genuine bank.

Of cast iron, these banks separate into halves when screws are removed, so we know no pennies have been left behind from “a penny saved is a penny earned.”

Too bad, because an older coin might be worth dollars, which the museum always appreciates. As Benjamin Franklin noted, “Early to bed and early to rise makes a man (or woman) healthy, wealthy and wise,” and putting coins in a cast iron bank helped as long as a screwdriver was not handy.

Adages and musical compositions from days of folk lore don't worry about being sexist. They just are.

But in the past, “man” was meant to apply to all of us, unless other designations were made such as “whistling girls and crowing hens, both will come to no good ends.” As we, of course, now know, crowing hens have a hormone problem due to uncertain genetics. As for whistling girls, in the absence of musical instruments whistling has long served as a substitute.

We are coming to two unrelated objects not far from the toy shelves, an egg scale and a homemade whistle. Yes, the egg scale is only related to crowing hens in a distant sense, but it answered one question, how is it decided which eggs are

small, large and extra large? Some of us who have never worried about it may simply assume that egg size is decided by measuring the eggs somehow, but we did not think of egg scales to determine egg size by weight.

The museum still has unexpected knowledge to share.

Though a volunteer may come forth able to whistle for the dog, the museum lacks having a “whistling girl” on hand.

Still, among various musical instruments set on a shelf like Sam Nothinger and Clarence Cady's harmonicas and a Jew's harp, there is a shriveled willow whistle, a genuine folk instrument. We suspect it is no longer playable in its desiccated state and when new it could only produce one note to call Fido or the cows home.

Decades ago, we watched the manufacture of such a whistle and on Wikipedia we learned how to make one as shown. So calling on memory and Wikipedia, we will give directions.

A willow with green bark is wanted, so this must likely work better in the spring. To start, a willow branch an inch to an inch and a half in diameter is trimmed down to an 8- to 10-inch length. Cut one end to a 45 degree angle and make a shallow V-shaped notch 1 inch down.

About 4 inches from the end of the whistle piece, score the bark to remove it. Gently pound the bark to loosen it so it will slide off. Enlarge the notch to the center of the branch. Whittle off a flat plane in front of the notch on the stick.

Replace the bark and blow. A high pitched note may scare the cats or call the dog.

If this does not work, look under “willow whistle” in Wikipedia where, inspired by the museum, we can find unexpected information.

Even though “A man full of words and not deeds is like a garden full of weeds,” when emulating the folk times of days gone by, do not go down to the river and cut up the willows. We leave that to the beavers except if you are on private property with permission to attack the trees.

We are lucky to have folkways and adages to call up associations with the past at the museum plus a little tune or two, although we have cause to ask what is wrong with “Sweet Adeline”?

Clarence Cady was a school teacher in the Holley area and one piece of information a past volunteer found and posted in the museum's school section states rules for teachers.

One indicates young men must never sing in barber-shop quartets. As bastions of male social life, perhaps barber shops once looked as wicked to some people as saloons where boxers were pictured in tights and girls even worse, were also seen in or out of tights.

But those days likely preceded Clarence Cady's appearance on the scene and he played hymns, anyway, one after another.

So much can be conjectured when not a great deal is known, especially at the East Linn Museum, a good place to visit with an imagination fore-tuned.



DIAL-A-BUS

CURB TO CURB IN SWEET HOME
MON-FRI 7 AM - 4 PM
CALL TO SCHEDULE
OFFICE HOURS 8-4



SWEET HOME SHOPPER

MON-SAT 9 AM - 4 PM
SHOP LOCAL- 4 TRIPS A DAY
THROUGH TOWN

LINN SHUTTLE

MON-FRI 6 AM - 10 PM - 10 ROUTES PER DAY
SAT 7 AM - 7:30 PM - 6 ROUTES PER DAY
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Local Kidco centers re-open, but future remains uncertain

By Jennifer Moody
For The New Era

Kidco Head Start's unexpectedly long spring break finally ended this month, with the release of federal funding allowing the doors to reopen at all 13 of its mid-valley centers.

However one of the centers - Riverside, in Albany - has reopened only for a partial schedule because of staffing issues. And parents, staff and Executive Director Stephany Koehne remain concerned about the overall future of the federally-funded nonprofit.

"We are financially good through December of 2025," Koehne said. "I say that because we don't know what Fiscal Year 2026 is going to look like."

The Trump administration appears to have changed its mind about eliminating funding entirely for Head Start, something an internal budget proposal had mentioned as a possibility last month. The 2026 budget proposal released May 2 no longer included that possibility.

However, layoffs at the Department of Health and Human Services have closed five regional Head Start offices, including the Seattle office, which serves Oregon. National officials say they remain worried about children and parents in their programs.

"While Head Start is grateful that it was not explicitly eliminated in this skinny budget proposal, we are concerned about the significant cuts that threaten access to health services, education, and support for hundreds of thousands of families," the National Head Start Association posted in a May 2 statement on its website.

Koehne said she's concerned, too.

"We are working very hard right now making sure people know that if indeed they are in support of Head Start, that they contact their congress members and let them know that defunding Head Start will be quite impactful," she said.

Head Start is celebrating its 60th birthday this year. The school-readiness and com-



Photo courtesy of Kidco

Kidco's Sweet Home location is at the former Sunnyside School.

prehensive social services program includes Early Head Start, launched in 1996 to provide free services to expectant mothers and to children from birth to age 3. Overall, it serves more than 800,000 children nationwide and employs some 275,000 staffers.

Designed specifically for preschoolers from low-income families, Head Start includes academics, free medical and dental care, meals and parent education.

The Sweet Home School District's program was one of the nation's first 50 original grantees. In 1977, the program expanded to become "Kids & Company," or Kidco, and grew to include centers in Lebanon, Sweet Home, Albany, Corvallis, Harrisburg and Philomath.

Mid-valley parents had a taste of what a Head Start closure feels like when the 13 centers closed for spring break in late March and didn't reopen until May 14.

Kidco serves 366 children and families and employs about 130 people, Koehne said. It receives about \$4.8 million in federal funds, usually distributed in two parts.

The second part of the funding for Fiscal Year 2025, though allocated, was not released on its usual timeline, Koehne said. At the same time, Kidco had begun a new program-wide year-round schedule, and while Koehne had budgeted for a price increase of about 15%, costs spiked to about 35%.

Program policy councils agreed with Koehne on a plan

to consolidate all the closures scheduled throughout the year into one long spring break. This was both to save money and to give the government time to release the remaining funding for the fiscal year.

With the help of U.S. Sen. Ron Wyden, D-OR, Koehne said, those funds have now come through the pipeline. In the meantime, however, Riverside suffered staffing losses because of the uncertainty.

And while the White House isn't currently talking about dismantling Head Start, conflicting executive orders are keeping Koehne on edge.

"We have a lot of executive orders that say we must not do anything involved with diversity, equity and inclusion; basically banning it," she said. "However, our performance standards passed by Congress says we have to provide it."

Head Start agencies risk losing their designations if, among other things, they don't provide "culturally competent services," ensure full accessibility and individual support for children with disabilities, prioritize children who are

homeless, recruit diverse staff members and ensure communication with families who use more than one language.

"So now we have these competing pressures on us," Koehne said. "If we don't do this, we're violating a law."

The American Civil Liberties Union has joined parent groups nationwide in filing a lawsuit against the federal government, calling anti-DEI executive orders "unconstitutionally vague" and asking for protection for Head Start. But the outcome of that suit is far from certain.

"It is a complex situation, and there are lots of rumors out there because there's just so much happening," Koehne said.

One of the myths she'd like to bust is that Head Start is "just preschool," or "just child care," things she hears from time to time.

"We don't just provide preschool. We provide hearing screenings, health screenings, nutritional resources, connections to community resources, help with family goals, connections to GED programs - we're truly a comprehensive social services program," Koehne said.

Kidco in particular is also an economic powerhouse, she added.

"That \$4.8 million? Almost 100 percent goes back into the community," she said. "We use local vendors. We have local staffers who own property and shop here. That money is going into our community, and our community will feel a loss."

Pam Woytt, a home-based educator for Early Head Start in Albany, pointed out the social services Head Start pro-

vides extend far beyond the children in the programs. That's been true for her personally, as well as the families she serves.

Two of Woytt's sons, who are now grown, were in Head Start programs in Lebanon. When the youngest enrolled, a family advocate asked Woytt - then a stay-at-home mom - whether she was interested in going on to college.

"I was raised in poverty, and college was never discussed," she said. "I grew up thinking only rich people went to college."

Woytt said she was interested and decided she, too, wanted to work with families. She started taking classes for herself while her children were in Head Start, got a two-year degree and began working for Kidco in 2003.

That decision was a lifesaver, she said, a few years later when she and her husband divorced.

"Kidco gave me a career. If not for Kidco, I don't know where I'd be," she said. "I would have been left with no job training or degree."

Woytt said she sees that same growth in the families she visits. She might see a parent achieve a degree or a family finally buy a home, but it's also a step forward when she sees a mom battling depression finally opening her curtains for the first time in months.

"We measure success by any step forward. Half a step is still a success," Woytt said.

And, she added, "The true success story is if in one or two generations, those families don't qualify for Head Start anymore."

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Public Notices

ESTATE SALE

Friday, May 30 through Sunday, June 1. 10am - 6pm. Lots of furniture, Lamps, Kitchenware, Refrigerator (Ice maker not working) Painting supplies, Jewelry making supplies, knick knacks, decorative glassware, china , DVD's and CD's. Men's & Women's clothing, Something for everyone! Cash, Credit Cards and Venmo accepted. 1006 Mountain View Road, Sweet Home (May 28)

Summons For Service In the Circuit Court Of The State of Oregon for the County of Linn

James Walters, Plaintiff/Petitioner v. Jennifer Walters, Defendant/Respondent Date of First Publication: May 14, 2025 (response must be filed within 30 days of this date). Case No. 25DR07319. James Walters has filed a Dissolution of Marriage case asking the court to order a divorce. NOTICE TO DEFENDANT Jennifer Walters: READ CAREFULLY! You must "appear" in this case or the other side will win automatically. To "appear," you must file a legal Response, Answer, or Motion. Forms may be available through the court above or online at www.courts.oregon.gov/forms. Talk to a lawyer for information about appearing by motion. Your response must be filed with the court named above within 30 days of the date of first publication (noted above), along with the required filing fee (go to www.courts.oregon.gov for fee information). It must be in proper form. You must show that the other party's lawyer (or the party if they do not have a lawyer) was formally served with a copy of your response according to the service rules. Service rules are in the Oregon Rules of Civil Procedure (ORCP) Rule 9. If you have questions, see a lawyer immediately. If you need help finding a lawyer, you can call the Oregon State Bar's Lawyer Referral Service at 503.684.3763 or toll free in Oregon at 800.452.7636, or go to www.oregonstatebar.org. (May 14 - Jun. 4)

Trustee's Notice of Sale

Reference is made to that certain Trust Deed (the "Trust Deed") made Pathfinder Properties, LLC, an Oregon limited liability company, as grantor (the "Grantor"), to Ticor Title Company, as the trustee, in favor of Honu Bells Whistles and Chimes, LLC, as beneficiary, dated March 19, 2021, and recorded on March 25, 2021, as Instrument No. 2021-07399, in the Official Records of Linn County, Oregon, covering the Grantor's interest in the following described real property situated in the above-mentioned county and state, to-wit: LEGAL DESCRIPTION PARCEL I: Lot, 27, HYLAND ADDITION, IN THE CITY OF LEBANON, COUNTY OF LINN AND STATE OF OREGON. PARCEL II: LOT 28, HYLAND ADDITION, IN THE CITY OF LEBANON, COUNTY OF LINN AND STATE OF OREGON. Commonly known as 630, 636; 660 West B Street, Lebanon, OR 97355. APN: 203600, 503140, 203584, 203592. The current trustee under the Trust Deed is Christopher R. Ambrose (the "Trustee"). The undersigned hereby certifies that no assignments of the Trust Deed by the Trustee or by the Beneficiary and no appointments of a successor trustee have been made, except the foregoing and as are or will be recorded in the Records of the county or counties in which the Property is situated. Further, no

Public Notices

action has been instituted to recover the debt, or any part thereof, now remaining secured by the Trust Deed, or, if such action has been instituted, such action has been dismissed except as permitted by ORS 86.735(4). Both the Beneficiary and the Trustee have elected to sell the Property to satisfy the obligations secured by said Trust Deed and a Notice of Default has been recorded pursuant to Oregon Revised Statutes 86.752(3); the default for which the foreclosure is made is Grantor's failure to pay when due the following sums, together with all subsequent sums advanced by Beneficiary pursuant to the terms and conditions of the Trust Deed and the Security Instruments, or as a result of the following action or inaction: 1. Failing to provide the final payoff by March 1, 2023 in the principal amount of \$650,000.00 plus accrued and unpaid interest; 2. Failing to provide the late charges associated with the late monthly installments. By reason of the default, the Beneficiary has declared all sums owing on the obligation secured by the Trust Deed immediately due and payable, those sums being the following estimated amounts, to-wit: 1. Unpaid Principal: \$650,000.00; 2. Accrued and Unpaid Interest (through and including February 28, 2023): \$33,003.67; 3. Accrued and Unpaid Interest (from and including March 1, 2023 through and including March 6, 2025, and continuing at \$325.00/day): \$239,200.00; 4. Trustee's Sale Guarantee Report (estimate): \$1,500.00; 5. Late Charges: \$24,375.00; 6. Misc. Charges (collection costs, NSF fees): \$320.00; 7. Pre-payment Fee: \$n/a; 8. Foreclosure Legal Fees and Costs: \$2,500.00; 9. Subtotal: \$950,898.67; 10. Plus title expenses, trustee's fees, recording fees, and attorneys' fees incurred herein by reason of said default and any further sums advanced by the Beneficiary for the protection of the Property and its interest therein. WHEREFORE, notice hereby is given that the undersigned Trustee will on July 15, 2025, at the hour of 11:00 o'clock a.m., in accord with the standard of time established by ORS 187.110, at the following place: at the 4th Street Main entrance to the Linn County Courthouse, located at 4th & Broadalbin Streets SW, Albany, OR 97321, sell at public auction to the highest bidder for cash the interest in the Property and which the Grantor had or had power to convey at the time of the execution by Grantor of the said Trust Deed, together with any interest which the Grantor or Grantor's successors in interest acquired after the execution of said Trust Deed, to satisfy the foregoing obligations thereby secured and the costs and expenses of sale, including a reasonable charge by the Trustee. Notice is further given that any person named in ORS 86.778 has the right, at any time prior to five days before the date last set for the sale, to have this foreclosure proceeding dismissed and the Trust Deed reinstated by payment to the Beneficiary of the entire amount then due (other than such portion of the principal as would not then be due had no default occurred) and by curing any other default complained of herein that is capable of being cured by tendering the performance required under the obligation or Trust Deed, and in addition to paying said sums or tendering the performance necessary to cure the default, by paying all costs and expenses actually incurred in enforcing the obligation and Trust Deed, together with Trustee's and attorney's fees not exceeding the amounts

Public Notices

provided by said ORS 86.778, if applicable. In construing this notice, the singular includes the plural, the word "Grantor" includes any successor in interest to the Grantor as well as any other person owing an obligation, the performance of which is secured by the Trust Deed, and the words "trustee" and "beneficiary" include their respective successors in interest, if any. ORS SECTION 86.771(9) Notice: Without limiting the trustee's disclaimer of representations or warranties, Oregon law requires the trustee to state in this notice that some residential property sold at a trustee's sale may have been used in manufacturing methamphetamines, the chemical components of which are known to be toxic. Prospective purchasers of residential property should be aware of this potential danger before deciding to place a bid for this property at the trustee's sale. If the Trustee is unable to convey title for any reason, the successful bidder's sole and exclusive remedy shall be the return of monies paid to the Trustee, and the successful bidder shall have no further recourse. Dated: February 26, 2025. Successor Trustee: /s/ Christopher R. Ambrose. CONTACT INFORMATION FOR TRUSTEE'S COUNSEL: Ambrose Law Group LLC, Attn.: Christopher R. Ambrose, 1133 NW Wall Street, Suite 104, Bend, OR, 97703, Phone: 541.617.0707, Email: crambrose@ambroselaw.com (May 28 - Jun 18)

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE STATE OF OREGON FOR THE COUNTY OF LINN PROBATE DEPARTMENT IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF RoseMarie Puckett, deceased. Case No.: 25PB04522 NOTICE TO INTERESTED PERSONS NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned has been appointed Personal Representative of the above estate. All persons having claims against the estate are required to present them to the undersigned Personal Representative in care of the undersigned attorney at: 319 Sixth Street SW, Albany, OR 97321 within four months after the date of the publication of this notice, as stated below, or such 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 May 28, 2025. Personal Representative MARGIE ANN SWENSON W12033 757th Avenue River Falls, WI 54022 Attorney DAVID B. BECKHAM 319 Sixth Avenue SW Albany, OR 97321 (May 28)

NOTICE TO INTERESTED PERSONS NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that AMANDA C. HANNA has been appointed Personal Representative of the ESTATE OF GEORGE HENRY HARDEN, Deceased, by the Circuit Court of the State of Oregon for Linn County under Case No. 25PB04440 All persons having claims against the estate are required to present them, with vouchers attached, to the said Personal Representative at Stayton Law, 582 E Washington St, PO Box 248, Stayton, OR 97383, within four months after the date of first publication of this notice, or the claims may be barred. All persons whose rights may be affected by the proceedings may

Public Notices

obtain additional information from the records of the court, the Personal Representative, or the attorney for the Personal Representative. Dated and first published May 28, 2025.

Personal Representative:
Amanda C. Hanna
5535 Excaliber Ln.
Eugene OR 97402
Attorney for Personal Representative:
Jennifer L. Tiger, OSB#990890
Stayton Law
582 E Washington St
PO Box 248
Stayton, Oregon 97383
(May 28)

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE STATE OF OREGON FOR THE COUNTY OF LINN IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF Daryl E. Baker, deceased, Case No. 25PB04602

NOTICE TO INTERESTED PERSONS
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned has been appointed personal representative of the above estate. All persons having claims against the estate are required to present the same, with proper vouchers, to said personal representative at the office of Jessica K. Meyer, Jessica K. Meyer Law, 80 E. Maple St., Lebanon, Oregon 97355, within four months of the date of first publication of this notice, or such claims may be barred. All persons whose rights may be affected by the proceedings may obtain additional information from the personal representative or the attorneys for the personal representative at the address stated, or from the records of the Court.

Dated May 28, 2025.
Darwin E. Baker, Personal Representative. Jessica K. Meyer, OSB #053242
Jessica K. Meyer Law LLC, 80 E. Maple St., Lebanon OR 97355.
(May 28)

Public Notices

NOTICE TO INTERESTED PERSONS
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that PHILIP EDWARD PLOESER has been appointed Personal Representative of the ESTATE OF KENNETH WILMARTH PLOESER, Deceased, by the Circuit Court of the State of Oregon for Linn County under Case No. 25PB04251. All persons having claims against the estate are required to present them, with vouchers attached, to the said Personal Representative at Stayton Law, 582 E Washington St, PO Box 248, Stayton, OR 97383, within four months after the date of 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, or the attorney for the Personal Representative. Dated and first published May 28, 2025.

Personal Representative:
Philip Edward Ploeser
1298 Swiss Lane
Deltona, FL 32738
Attorney for Personal Representative:
Jennifer L. Tiger, OSB#990890
Stayton Law
582 E Washington St
PO Box 248
Stayton, Oregon 97383
(May 28)

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CLUES ACROSS

1. Female deer

4. Unfashionable people

8. Entranceway

10. Courteous

11. Level

12. Deli meat

13. Details

15. Stole

16. A genus of bee

17. Expressed as digits

18. Your child's daughter

21. ___ and flow

22. Small amount

23. Revolutions per minute
24. Criticize

25. Snake-like fish

26. Cooling mechanism

27. Inquiry

34. Engage in political activity

35. The lowest adult male singing voice

36. Endings

37. Irises

38. The highest parts

39. Kimono sashes

40. Bewilders

41. Mentally healthy

42. Used to traverse snow

43. Inflamed

CLUES DOWN

1. Adventurous

2. Deliverer of speeches

3. Skin condition

4. Widened

5. James Cameron film

6. The 3rd letter of the Hebrew alphabet

7. Moved along a surface

9. Pharmacological agent

10. Charity

12. Seeing someone famous

14. Not happy

15. Farm animal

17. Give a nickname to

19. Uses up
20. Type of missile (abbr.)

23. Criticizes

24. Midwife

25. Entwined

26. Supervises interstate commerce

27. A way to convert

28. Female sibling

29. TV network

30. Tropical Asian plant

31. Line on a map

32. Denotes songbirds

33. Made publicly known

34. He devised mud cleats for football

36. Trends

SUDOKU

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Level: Advanced

PUBLIC SAFETY

From page 8

been trespassed from location was in the bathroom at library. Officer responded. Matter referred to city attorney. 1101 13th Ave.

5:38 p.m. - Bryanna Sue Harley, 33, arrested on SHMC warrant for FTA in two theft cases. Cited to appear June 11.

6:21 p.m. - Timothy Dean James Morgan, 23, arrested on LCC warrant for probation violation in sex abuse case, 2000 block Main St. Lodged at Linn County Jail.

6:42 p.m. - Dakota Lee Phillips-Newport, 21, arrested on LCCC warrant for probation violation in sex abuse case, 3200 block Main St. Cited and released.

10:02 p.m. - Multiple callers reported that male in parking lot pointed gun at several people in 1200 block 12th Ave. Officer responded and some parties were gone on his arrival, and others remaining at location did not want to pursue charges.

May 19

2:04 a.m. - Nicholas Nathan Nivison, 32, arrested by LCSO on SHMC warrant for FTA in trespass case. Cited to appear June 11.

4:02 a.m. - Mica Deann West, 34, arrested by Wasco County Sheriff's Office on SHMC warrant for FTA in DUII case. Cited to appear June 11.

7:12 a.m. - Deputy warned individual about illegal camping in 37800 block Hwy. 228, Brownsville.

8:28 a.m. - Deputies warned occupant of parked vehicle about camping on county right-of-way, Upper Calapooia Dr./Rice Rd.

10:02 a.m. - Brandon Ryan Freeman, 31, arrested at Linn County Jail for restraining order violation after caller reported male had called her from Linn County Jail. Freeman was already lodged at the jail.

11:48 a.m. - Caller reported that 40-year-old male came to high school to register as student, then left for Boys & Girls Club, 1641 Long St. High school staffers asked that he be trespassed, but by time officer

arrived he was no longer on the property.

1:35 p.m. - Christopher Michael Lindner, 52, arrested on AMC warrant for FTC in contempt of court case. 1800 block Main St. Cited and released.

3:40 p.m. - Sarah Littell, 48, of Sweet Home, arrested for attempted assault I and resisting arrest following investigation into domestic disturbance, 42700 block North River Dr. Report taken.

5:58 p.m. - Caller reported theft of \$98.69 worth of diesel from business in 33100 block Hwy. 228, Halsey. Report taken.

7:51 p.m. - Officer responded to report of fire at Sweet Home Veterans Club, 580 Main St.

7:51 p.m. - Leah Evan Alicata, 41, arrested on SHMC warrant for theft III, 500 block Main St. Cited and released.

8:41 p.m. - Brian Scott Holden arrested on SHMC warrant for FTC in theft case, LMC warrant for FTA in driving while suspended case 2000 block Main St. Cited and released.

State parks offer free camping, day parking and events June 7

Every year Oregon State Parks begins the busier season with a small thank you to its visitors — free camping and day-use parking on State Parks Day.

State Parks Day has been a tradition since 1998 to thank Oregonians for their long-standing support of the state park system. It falls on the first Saturday of June, which is June 7 this year.

“We are honored to steward and share these places with Oregonians and all our visitors. We appreciate their commitment to preserving and maintaining Oregon’s special places. We would not have the park system that we have today without their support,” said OPRD Director Lisa Sumption.

Oregon Parks and Recreation Department (OPRD) will waive day-use parking fees at the 25 parks that charge them and camping fees for all tent, RV and horse campsites on June 7. State Parks Day also includes free events at many state parks.

Park staff have worked hard over the last few months getting parks ready for the busier season and State Parks Day. The list of projects includes everything from clearing storm damage, with as many as 180 downed trees near Nehalem, to moving mountains of muck or sand to re-open camp loops. Now parks are ready to welcome visitors for State Parks Day and the busier season.

State Parks Day Events

- Silver Falls will host an exhibit about the emerald ash borer and its role as a threat to Oregon’s ash trees 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Oregon State Parks and Oregon Department of Forestry staff will be on hand to share information about the importance of ash trees and this destructive invasive beetle.

- The Cove Palisades at Lake Billy Chinook will host a free festival that celebrates the diverse history, food and culture of Central Oregon from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. The Festival of the Land, includes Dutch oven cooking demonstrations, kids’ games and activities, petting zoo, educational displays, mini farmers market and more.

- L.L. Stub Stewart, 33 miles west of Portland, will host a star party in partnership with OMSI and Rose City Astronomers at 9:30 p.m. in the Hilltop Day-Use Area. Visit OMSI’s website on the day of the party for possible weather-related cancellations: <https://omsi.edu/whats-on/>



Carl G. Washburne State Park, near Florence, is one of many Oregon state parks hosting free activities on State Parks Day, June 7.

- Carl G. Washburne near Florence will host a free State Parks Day BBQ from noon to 1 p.m.
- Spring Valley Access, located 10 miles north of Salem along Hwy. 221, will host a trail work party from 9 a.m. to noon. The event includes clearing brush, raking debris and picking up trash.
- Tryon Creek State Natural Area, near Portland, invites visitors to explore its Inter-

pretive Nature Center, navigate its extensive trail system and attend a guided hike.

- Prineville Reservoir will host a free State Parks Day BBQ from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. near the Dark Sky Observatory.

- Collier Memorial State Park, near Klamath Falls, will offer a guided tour through Collier Logging Museum 11 a.m. to noon so visitors can learn about old logging

camps and what machines they used to make life easier.

- Fort Stevens will host disc golf lessons 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Fort Stevens State Park-Historic Area Columbia Shores Disc Golf Course.

- Harris Beach, near Brookings, will have a multi-park scavenger hunt in which visitors can seek natural formations, unique flora and historical locations. Pick up scavenger hunt cards at Har-

ris Beach registration booth or from ranger or host at Alfred Loeb State Park.

For a list of events, visit stateparks.oregon.gov/

For camping availability, please check oregonstateparks.reserveamerica.com or visit first-come-first served sites: <https://stateparks.oregon.gov/index.cfm?do=reserve.first-come>

About State Parks Day

State Parks Day began in 1998 to celebrate the support of visitors around the state. It’s one of three days a year that Oregon State Parks waives the day-use parking fees. Other days include Green Friday the day after Thanksgiving and First Day Hikes on New Year’s Day.

About Oregon Parks and Recreation Department

The mission of Oregon Parks and Recreation Department (OPRD) is to provide and protect outstanding natural, scenic, cultural, historic and recreational sites for the enjoyment and education of present and future generations. The department manages 254 Oregon State Parks comprising more than 100,000 acres. Learn more at stateparks.oregon.gov.

KIDS KONNECTION
JUNE EDITION

CLIP ME OUT AND POST ME ON THE FRIDGE FOR SUMMER FUN IDEAS FOR YOUR KIDS!

The City of Sweet Home presents

MOVIES IN THE PARK

FREE MOVIE & SNACKS!

JUNE 13th
LUCA

JULY 18th
THE GOONIES

AUGUST 15th
MINECRAFT

more details at www.sweethomeor.gov

FUEL UP FOR SUMMER FUN!

HEADING TO THE POOL, LAKE, PARK, OR BASEBALL COMPLEX? GRABBING YOUR BIKE OR SKATEBOARD FOR AN ADVENTURE?

MAKE A QUICK STOP AT YOUR NEAREST SUMMER LUNCH SITE! ENJOY A FREE HEALTHY, TASTY MEAL AVAILABLE TO ALL KIDS AGE 18 AND YOUNGER, BEFORE THE FUN BEGINS.

IT’S A SIMPLE WAY TO KEEP YOUR KIDS ENERGIZED WITH A **FREE BREAKFAST OR LUNCH!**

LUNCH WILL BE PROVIDED M-F AT THESE SITES:

| | |
|--|--------------------------|
| SWEET HOME HIGH SCHOOL 1641 LONG ST. | 11AM - 11:30AM |
| PLEASANT VALLEY LITTLE PROMISES 28028 PLEASANT VALLEY RD. | 11AM - 11:30AM |
| ASHBROOK PARK 2800 JUNIPER ST. | 10:45 - 11:15AM |
| SWEET HOME JUNIOR HIGH 880 22ND AVE. JUNE 30 - JULY 24TH MON. - THURS. | 11:15AM - 12:15AM |

BREAKFAST WILL BE PROVIDED M-F AT THESE SITES:

| | |
|---|----------------------|
| SWEET HOME HIGH SCHOOL 1641 LONG ST. | 9AM - 9:30AM |
| PLEASANT VALLEY LITTLE PROMISES 28028 PLEASANT VALLEY RD. | 8AM - 8:30AM |
| SWEET HOME JUNIOR HIGH 880 22ND AVE. | 7:45 - 8:15AM |

Summer lunch rules include eating your meal at the site you get your lunch from. There is NO grab and go. Our summer lunch will be offering a meat/meat alternate, grain, fruit/vegetable, and fluid milk. You may choose 4 of the 5 options available. Our summer breakfast will be offering a fluid milk, fruit/vegetable and a grain. All 3 components are required.

SWEET HOME SCHOOL DISTRICT

This institution is an equal opportunity provider. For more information, call 541-367-7149 or 541-367-7121