

YOUR FIRST MY LAST

Charter school kindergartner Abby Rowley, left is excited during the Your First My Last celebration at Husky Stadium Thursday morning, Oct. 9. She was there with her classmates from left, River Cozby, Josie Plaep, Ely Williams and Jalae Prescott to receive keycains with their graduation year of 2037 from seniors set to graduate from Sweet Home High School. This is the second year for the event, which is intended to be a tradition for the school district.

Photo by Scott Swanson

See more photos
On page 15



Hometown
Newspaper of
**BRUCE
IRLA**



**HUSKY XC TEAMS
PLACE AT PHILOMATH
MARIMAN MEET
PAGE 7**



**HUSKIES FACE TOUGH
LEAGUE WEEK, FALL
TO CASCADE AND
PHILOMATH
PAGE 10**



**SECOND COMMUNITY
SERVICE OFFICER
HELPS BRIDGE SHPD
AND PUBLIC
PAGE 16**

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Garden Club cultivates more than vegetables

By Satina Tolman
For The New Era

For more than a decade, Holley Elementary School's garden has been a place where students discover more than vegetables sprouting from the soil. They also find patience, cooperation and joy in the process.

First grade teacher Joanna Reisbick has led the Holley Garden Club for the past 12 years, the entire time she has taught at the school. She has been teaching in Sweet Home for 22 years, including 12 years with first-graders at Holley.

Students may join the Garden Club in the spring of their first grade year, and younger children are welcome if they have a parent who volunteers. This fall, 14 students are enrolled, though Reisbick said the club has had as many as 26.

"They plant in the spring and then harvest in the fall," Reisbick said.

The students grow a wide variety of produce, including corn, green beans, spinach, melons, Swiss chard, tomatillos, beets, carrots, cucum-



Photos by Satina Tolman
From left to right, Rebecca Stalheim, Logan Bennett, Didrik Stalheim, Sawyer Billington, Joanna Stalheim, Kai Kem and teacher Joanna Reisbick. Student Garden Club members not in the photo: Beau Jackson, June Sells, Kimber Parker, Killian Callin, Ryker McKamey and Luna Barrera.

bers, pumpkins, strawberries, and more. Everything is grown organically with fertilizer that comes from mushroom compost donated by Central Bark and chicken manure from local families.

For the children, the harvest is the highlight. On a recent afternoon, the students cheered when Reisbick told them they could each pull up

a carrot, carefully choosing ones planted too close together to make room for the others to grow. After rinsing them off with the hose, the children munched on their fresh snack with wide smiles.

Third-grader Sawyer Billington said his favorite part of the club is simple: "When we pick the vegetables, we get to eat them."

Second-grader Logan Bennett said he especially loves carrots "because they don't taste like anything, they don't taste like vegetables." He added that making zucchini muffins was another favorite, even if "they were hard to make because they had like a million ingredients."

See Garden Club, Page 11



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OBITUARIES

Russell Adams

Jan. 24, 1949 - Oct. 7, 2025
Russell Henry Adams, 76, of Sweet Home, passed away Oct. 7, 2025.
He was born Jan. 24, 1949, to Jacqueline Augusta (Forgey) and Clifford Alexander Adams in Monterey Park, Calif. He was raised in California.



He met Debbie when they were teenagers and they got married June 1970 in Pasadena, Calif. After they married they lived in California until 1974 when they moved to Eugene.

They lived in John Day for 15 years and moved to Sweet Home in 2005.

He and Debbie have owned and operated Debbie's Oldies but Goodies in John Day and now in Sweet Home.

Russ liked to fish, go camping and loved to go to antique shops, estate and garage sales.

He is survived by his wife of 55 years, Debbie Adams of Sweet Home; son Elvis Dean Adams; and son-in-law James Adams, both of Eugene.

He was preceded in death by his parents.

No services are planned at this time. Sweet Home Funeral Chapel is handling the arrangements.

Sarah Couch

Dec. 20, 1954 - Oct. 9, 2025
Sarah Bonita Couch, 70, of Foster, passed away Oct. 9, 2025.
She was born Dec. 20, 1954, to Frieda Harriet (Fisher) and Carl Robert David Zastrow in Lebanon. She was raised in Foster.
Sarah married Glen Couch in Corvallis. She lived in Junction City and Monroe before moving back to Foster in 1999.



Sarah loved to go rock-hounding. She was a great artist, crafter and would sell her cards at events and bazaars. She also enjoyed quilting.

She is survived by her daughter, Sabrina Schweitzer of Homer, Alaska; son Robert Couch of Ephrata, Wash.; siblings Sylvia Smith of Foster, Paul Fastrow of Hood River, and Annie Shields of Foster; six grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

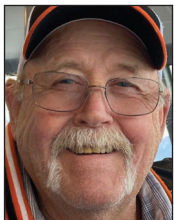
She was preceded in death by her parents, Carl and Frieda Zastrow, husband Glen Darrell Couch (2017), sister Patricia Irby, and brother Benjamin Zastrow.

A memorial service will be at a later date.

Sweet Home Funeral Chapel is handling the arrangements.

Leslie Hunter

Feb. 27, 1955 - Sept. 29, 2025
Leslie "Les" Hunter, 70, of Sweet Home, passed away on Sept. 29, 2025, at Good Samaritan Hospital in Corvallis.
He was born on Feb. 27, 1955, to Wilda J. (Brooks) and Harry L. Hunter in Newport.



He grew up and attended school in Waldport and moved to Sweet Home after graduation.

Les worked in the logging industry at Tomco and then Willamette Industries. He drove log truck with the CB handle "Hammer Head" eventually moving on to logging equipment operator, until his retirement in 2015.

He and his wife Laurie shared many adventures throughout their loving marriage. Les was loving, compassionate and honorable man. He was not afraid to show his love towards his wife, family or friends. If you were one of the lucky ones you got a BIG Les hug. He was witty with a great sense of humor. But had a quiet kindness about him.

Les was an avid outdoors-

man; he loved to hunt, camp and explore. He was quite a successful hunter earning the nickname "Lucky Les." He loved his poker buds and going to visit friends at "the senior center," aka Bohunk Tavern.

He enjoyed life and the promise of a new adventure, traveling in their RV.

He was brave and gracious during his illness, staying positive when hope was fading. His absence has left a huge void in all who loved him.

We will miss the wisdom in your advice, the sound of your voice, your laughter, your stories and just being in your presence.

"The love of one will live in the hearts of many forever."

He is survived by his wife Laurie of 43 years; two adopted grandkids, Wyatt and Dylan; sisters Jackie Lampley, Kathy Dunn, Judy Hunter and Linda Blanchard; many nieces, nephews and lifelong friends.

He was preceded in death by his father, Harry L. Hunter; mother Wilda J. (Brooks) Hunter; brother Ronald Hunter and numerous dear friends.

A celebration of life will be from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 9, at the Sweet Home Elks Lodge.

Sweet Home Funeral Chapel is handling the arrangements.

Paid Obituary

Earl Jones

July 28, 1951 - Oct. 7, 2025
Earl "Butch" Eugene Jones, 74, of Sweet Home, passed away Oct. 7, 2025.
He was born July 28, 1951, to Betty Ruth (Byrd) and Gene Earl Jones in St. Louis, Mo.



He was in the Marine Corps from 1969 to 1972, where he earned a National Defense Service Medal, rifle sharpshooter and good conduct medals during Vietnam.

Butch lived in Missouri, California, and South Carolina before coming to Oregon in 1972. He worked as a warehouse supervisor.

He liked to golf, play softball and enjoyed watching college football.

Butch is survived by his wife, Patricia Ann Jones of Sweet Home; son Earl Eugene Jones Jr. of Sweet Home; daughter Stacy Jones of Asheville, N.C.; brother Ronnie Jones of Quilcene,

Wash.; sisters Ruthie McClain of Bullhead City, Ariz., and Darlene Townsend of Sweet Home; three grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by a brother, Kenny Jones (2022), and sister Beth Jones (2024).

Sweet Home Funeral Chapel is handling the arrangements.

Anne Mehn

Dec. 17, 1934 - Sept. 18, 2025
On Sept. 18, 2025, after 90 years of love here on earth, Anne Virginia (Yeomans) Mehn began a new journey of love in the Kingdom of our Lord.



Anne was born to Leslie and Clara (Shaw) Yeomans of Stamford, Connecticut on Dec. 17, 1934. She completed her four-year nursing degree at the University of St. Joseph in Hartford at age 20, marking the beginning of 55 years of service in hospitals, caring for patients.

In 1956, Anne married James Mehn of Pittsburgh, Pa. In 1961, Jim and Anne moved to Seattle with their two daughters, Kathy and Patty. Anne was an Emergency Room nurse at West Seattle General Hospital and a very busy mom. In 1970, the family moved to The Dalles, where Anne became a Recovery Room nurse at The Dalles General Hospital. Actively embracing country life, she took up horseback riding and square dancing.

Anne moved to Sweet Home in 1980 and continued her work as a Recovery Room nurse at what is now Samaritan Lebanon Community Hospital. She and Jim divorced, and she married Joseph Graybill in 2004.

Anne officially retired from nursing when she was 75.

Continuing her busy life after retirement, Anne was an active member of Sweet Home United Methodist Church, where she did parish nursing, ran fundraising sales, and helped with meal preparation for the Manna program. She also volunteered at the Sweet Home Library.

In her later years, even when mental and physical decline began to take its toll, the joy Anne found in life, in people, and in service never wavered. She was active and happy right up until she left

this world.

She leaves behind a legacy of love for her family: husband Joseph Graybill; daughters Kathleen Shantz and Patricia Avery; grandsons Nathan, Scott, and Joseph; her nieces and nephews; as well her friends and everyone whose lives she touched.

In joyous reunion, she joins her parents Leslie and Clara Yeomans, her brother and sister-in-law Leslie and Nancy Yeomans, and many extended family members and friends who preceded her into God's heavenly kingdom.

With gratitude to God for all the time he gave us with Anne, the family would like to extend special thanks to Pastor Alyssa Baker of Sweet Home United Methodist Church and Fr. Scott Baier of St. Helen Catholic Church for their visits; caregivers Michelle, Shawna, and Theresa for being there for her; the teams at Signature Home Health and Samaritan Palliative Care; the nursing staff at Samaritan Mid-Valley Hospitals; the friends who came to see her, and everyone who prayed for her.

Donations in memory of Anne may be made to Sweet Home United Methodist Church, the Sweet Home Library, or Samaritan Foundations.

A memorial service will be at 11 a.m. Saturday, Oct. 25, at United Methodist Church, 845 6th Ave. Graveside service will be at 11 a.m. Monday, Oct. 27, at Gilliland Cemetery.

Sweet Home Funeral Chapel is handling the arrangements.

Paid Obituary

Sarrah Norsworthy

July 13, 1932 - Oct. 3, 2025
Sarrah Lucia Norsworthy, 93, of Sweet Home, beloved mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother, passed away peacefully Friday, Oct. 3, 2025, in Lebanon.



She was born July 13, 1932, in Chester, Okla., to Earl Ray and Cynthia Annabelle (Covington) Shotwell.

Sarrah lived a full and meaningful life dedicated to caring for others. She worked proudly as a nurse — a career that spanned decades — continuing to serve patients with compassion and skill until she was 76 years old.

See Obituaries, Page 3

CORRECTIONS

Our report on Sweet Home's football win over Marist in the Oct. 8 edition should have stated that Dillan Davis scored three touchdowns in the win — the Huskies' first, third and final scores of the game.

And yeah, if you noticed that Harvest Festival photos were not on page 15 of the Oct. 8 edition weren't there as promised, you're correct. Some space issues forced some changes that didn't get corrected in that caption. But you can find Harvest Festival photos in this issue on page 8.



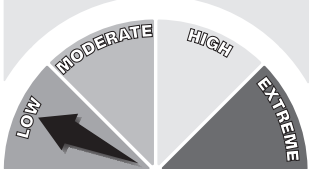
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TEMPERATURES					FORECAST			
DATE		HIGH	LOW	PRECIP	DAY	WEATHER	HIGH	LOW
October	7	83	40	0.00	Thur	Partly Cloudy	63	42
October	8	60	39	0.00	Fri	Partly Cloudy	65	40
October	9	61	36	0.00	Sat	Partly Cloudy	71	50
October	10	61	48	0.11	Sun	Showers	57	42
October	11	59	47	0.03	Mon	AM Showers	60	37
October	12	55	48	0.04	Tues	Partly Cloudy	61	40
October	13	61	42	0.89	Wed	Partly Cloudy	62	42
PRECIPITATION					LAKE LEVELS			
Year to date:		21.49			Foster Reservoir: 618.4			
October 16, 2024:		20.73			Green Peter Res.: 886.3			



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. Addresses provided generally denote the location of the incident or arrest, occasionally indicating the origin of the call. Incident details, which may not always be available from agencies in time for publication in our weekly paper edition, are often updated online at sweethomenews.com as information becomes available. Also, due to space limitations in our paper editions, content may be restricted to the most recent information, and a more extensive version of the Public Safety Report will be available at sweethomenews.com.

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); AMC (Albany 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).

Oct. 12

8:39 a.m. - Deputies responded to report that dog was shot in 41600 block Upper Calapooia Dr. Investigation ongoing. Report taken.

11:12 a.m. - Deputy located vehicle blocking timber gate in 28000 block Scott Mountain Rd. Hunters were returning to vehicle and moved it.

2:16 p.m. - Caller reported that her ex came to her residence in 1200 block Nandina St., threatened to spit in her face and took a cell phone. Officer responded. Report taken.

4:49 p.m. - Kailee Lauren Mason, 25, of Lebanon, cited for speeding, 58/35, 100 block

Depot Ave., Brownsville.

5:07 p.m. - William Curtis Phillips, 19, cited for driving uninsured, Main St./18th Ave.

6:11 p.m. - Caller reported transient camp in 600 block Main St. Officer responded, contacted camper and advised them to move along.

11:50 p.m. - Intoxicated citizen reported her car was stolen, 200 block N. Main St. Deputy determined that the situation was a civil dispute and the vehicle was located. Report taken.

Oct. 11

7:20 a.m. - Chase Lee Davis, 33, arrested on multiple warrants from LMC, Oregon State Parole Board. Arrest came af-

ter caller reported male knocking on front door in 3500 block Juniper St. Lodged at Linn County Jail.

10:00 a.m. - Deputies recovered drugs found at gas station, 33100 block Hwy. 228, Halsey.

11:46 a.m. - Patrick Garrett Wood, 48, cited for speeding, 73/55, Hwy. 99/Lake Creek Dr.

12:08 p.m. - Deputies helped Corvallis police and Benton County Sheriff's Office personnel in search for and arrest of robbery suspect, 1100 block Ash St., Brownsville. Further details unavailable.

12:57 p.m. - Caller reported ID was cut up at location in 1200 block 23rd Ave. Officer responded, report taken for criminal mischief II. Damage estimated at \$60.

4:57 p.m. - Caller reported strange vehicle parked in driveway at Timber Landing Mobilehome Park, 3137 Main St. Officer responded, searched area but was unable to locate vehicle owner. Park manager given private property tow form to post vehicle for removal.

6:48 p.m. - Kyle Dawayne Roebuck, 30, taken into custody for mail theft that was re-

ported on Oct. 2. Cited and released. 3000 block Main St.

7:34 p.m. - Kyle Dawayne Roebuck, 30, arrested on SHMC warrants for FTA in two trespassing cases. Cited and released at SHPD, 1950 Main St.

Oct. 10

4:52 a.m. - Overdose reported in 2500 block Long St. Officer responded. Female transported to hospital by medics.

8:11 a.m. - Kagen Joe Coweart, 22, arrested by Lebanon police on SHMC warrant for FTA in menacing case. Cited to appear Nov. 12

8:47 a.m. - Criminal mischief reported in 40200 block Crawfordsville Dr. Report taken.

9:31 a.m. - Deputies responded to disturbance in 45200 block Wiley Creek Dr. Incident involved "heated argument about hunting." Both parties described the other as the aggressor, but neither could provide evidence of that, according to LCSO. No further action.

10:35 a.m. - Deputies took report of missing female in 37400 block Hwy. 228, Brownsville. Investigation on-

going. Further details not available.

10:46 a.m. - Caller reported someone hit her car in parking lot at Safeway, 1540 Main St. Officer responded, contacted parties, information exchanged. No injuries reported. Damage under \$2,500.

1:25 p.m. - Caller reported someone spray painted her fence in 1900 block 18th Ave. Officer responded, report taken for criminal mischief II.

2:06 p.m. - Caller from Sweet Home Liquor Store reported female had tried to pass fake bill and then had moved to Main Street Market, across the street, 1300 block Main St. Officer responded, contacted female, seized bill. Caller declined to pursue charges.

2:59 p.m. - Caller reported person passed out in white Toyota Corolla with violation sticker on it for past hour, at least, behind Downtown Lounge, 1234 Main St., and that another person had been asleep in a silver four-door car

See Public Safety, Page 13

OBITUARIES

From page 2

Her strength, humor, quick wit and her love for her family inspired everyone who knew her.

For the past 13 years, Sarrah made her home in Sweet Home, where she became a cherished member of the community.

One of her favorite places was The Point Restaurant, where owner Michael lovingly delivered her Saturday evening meals for four years — a simple kindness that brought her great happiness.

Sarrah was the proud mother of five children: Rick Deckard, Gary Deckard, Tammy Tyler, Cyndi Taplin and Darlynn Lantzner.

She was grandmother to Brandon Deckard, Cory Deckard, Lance Deckard, Garrit Enoch, Daniel DaSilva, Briana Deckard, Sabrina Deckard, Nick Tyler, Nate

Tyler, Tana Tyler, Taran Tyler, Cody Taplin, Brian Lantzner, Ricky Lantzner and Aaron Lantzner and great-grandmother to 21.

Her greatest joy in life was her family, as she cherished every moment spent with them. Her days were filled with laughter, love, and the warmth of her quick wit and sharp mind.

Sarrah's legacy of love, laughter, and compassion will continue to live on in the hearts of all who were blessed to know her.

A funeral service was held Oct. 9 at Sweet Home Funeral Chapel, followed by final burial at Gilliland Cemetery and a reception at The Point in Sweet Home, one of her most beloved places.

Sweet Home Funeral Chapel is handling the arrangements.

Paid Obituary

Local woman wonders where her missing seahorses are

Who would steal seahorses? That's what Laurie Horner is wondering as she ponders the loss of a sculpture from her front yard that featured three of the horse-shaped fish.

Horner was leaving her house at 1650 Dogwood St. last week when she noticed that the gray cement sculpture, a gift she received a few years ago that has stood atop a stump in her yard, was missing.

"I noticed a big space in my yard," she said. "It set my house apart."

She was in a hurry, so she called the police the next day, Oct. 9, to report the loss.

Horner, who moved to Sweet Home in 2016 and said she lives in her dad's former house, said it probably wasn't easy to make off with the seahorses.

"It's pretty heavy," she said.



Laurie Horner's missing seahorses are similar to those shown in this photo.

"It's all concrete. I had to call a handyman to put it on the stump."

Anyone who wants to provide a clue can call the Sweet Home police at (541) 367-5181.

"It's more principle than anything," Horner said.

Crossword KEY

Puzzle on page 13

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

SUDOKU KEY

Puzzle on page 13

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

FROM OUR FILES



Active Club members begin construction of the first of what they hope will be many waiting booths for school bus children in 1950. Booths will be financed through benefit dance ticket sales.

Oct. 19, 1950

A Halloween and hard-times party will be held at the high school by the Sweet Home Rock and Mineral Society. Fines will be imposed on all party-goers who arrive in dress clothes. Plans for the party were discussed during the monthly meeting, which also included discussion about raising funds to buy rock-cutting and polishing machinery for club members.

Jacov Rizick, 59, was killed instantly when a falling tree struck him in the head while working 15 miles above Foster on Wiley Creek. Rizick was a powder man for a contracting firm and was dispatched to get more explosives. A lookout man saw the falling tree, loosened by the road building on shale-like ground, but was unable to warn Rizick in time.

Oct. 16, 1975

The Saing Santhon family arrived in their new home in Sweet Home this week. Sponsored by two Lutheran churches, the family fled Cambodia to Arkansas before being able to settle here. Earlier a different family was expected, but now it is Santhon and his family, which includes his pregnant wife, three children, brother, sisters-in-law and brother-in-law.

Business owners expressed frustration at declining patronage due to slow progress on the Main Street widening project. Partially finished street construction between 9th and 12th avenues is making access to businesses difficult. The street has been excavated, but builders have to wait for a few days of dry weather to be able to complete the paving.

Oct. 18, 2000

A proposed ordinance would ban the flying of any model aircraft within city limits. Recently, different individuals have been flying model aircraft at Langmack Airport with the owner's permission, but several neighbors complained about the constant noise.

Students, family and staff at Holley School honored the memory of volunteer Howard Wagner and teacher Doreen Beck. Both have since died in the last couple years. Wagner taught students worm farming, gardening, greenhouse and building a jogging trail. The school planted an Autumn Gray maple tree between the track and garden in his honor, and a hanging silk hydrangea in Beck's memory. The school also plans to install a butterfly garden and park bench dedicated to Wagner.

Husky boys engineer turnaround after bad soccer loss against Stayton

After a disappointing night against No. 1 Stayton, Sweet Home's boys rebounded to tie Cascade in Oregon West Conference soccer.

The Huskies had a bad night at home against the Eagles in a 10-0 loss Tuesday, Oct. 7.

"Every season there is that one game that requires us to step back and do a gut check," Coach Eric Stutzer said. "Stayton was that game for us this season."

He said he didn't know whether it was the fact that they were playing the state's top-ranked 4A team or what, but "we simply under-performed," resulting in one of Sweet Home's worst losses in recent years.

"We spent a considerable amount of time post game talking about perseverance and rising up to face difficult challenges," Stutzer said. "These are life skills that play out in everything from jobs, to

health, to relationships.

"Our challenge to the kids was that we have to change our mentality and not quit despite what life throws at us. How we choose to respond to adversity and difficult challenges is a reflection of character, and as Huskies we have an expectation we respond well to what life throws our way and exhibit strong character at all times."

Apparently, the Huskies got the message.

In a "hostile environment" at Cascade Thursday, they took it to the Cougars and competed, he said.

Felix Lopez and Levi Ayala, both sophomores, scored two early goals to put the hosts on their heels and, although Cascade was able to capitalize on defensive mental errors by the Huskies to even the score before halftime, Sweet Home held the hosts for the second half.

"In the past when we faced adversity and made some mental mistakes, we haven't been able to right the ship," Stutzer said. "This time the boys dug in, held Cascade off the rest of the game in a tough match and walked out with a tie and some league points on the road."

"I'm really proud of our kids. They did a serious gut check and exhibited some strong, character-driven play that really surprised our opponents."

Up next for the Huskies, going into this week, was a Tuesday face-off at Philomath, 7-2, 3-2 and ranked fifth as of Monday, and a home game Thursday, Oct. 16, against No. 8 Newport/Waldport (5-3-1, 2-2-1) which tied Stayton in their first match-up.

"We have some difficult games moving forward and I'm hoping that they continue to respond well," Stutzer said.

Huskies can't get a break in football loss

It was one of those nights when nothing seemed to go Sweet Home's way on the football field.

Weather conditions, mistakes and miscues combined with a stubborn Junction City opponent to leave the Huskies at the short end of a 24-7 score.

"All the credit to Junction City," said Sweet Home Head Coach Ryan Adams. "They were prepared to play. Their kids were fired up and ready to play. And they came out, and they just flat-out punched us in the mouth, just with their effort level."

The loss ended the Huskies' season-opening win streak at 5-0 and dropped them into a four-way tie with Philomath, Crescent Valley and Marist at 1-1 in 4A-SD3 Special District 3 with three games left in the league schedule. Junction City is on top of the stack at 2-0, while Cottage Grove is 0-2.

Friday, Sweet Home struggled all night on offense, coughing the ball up three times and giving up some freebies to the hosts on special teams.

The Tigers returned the opening kickoff to the Sweet Home 30 and, half a dozen plays later, were sitting on a 7-0 lead following a 2-yard run.

The teams spent most of the rest of the first quarter trading three-and-outs until Junction City punted and Dillan Davis fumbled the reception, which the Tigers recovered on Sweet Home's 22 yard line.

After an incomplete pass into the end zone, Landon Van

Hecke kicked a 14-yard field goal to put the hosts up 10-0.

Midway through the second quarter, Junction City Quarterback Kaden Shafer launched a long pass downfield that was picked off by Kyle Zajic.

But the wet conditions bit Sweet Home again as, with 39 seconds left in the half and the ball on the Sweet Home 17, Zajic was tackled from behind by the Tigers' Max Brawner in the backfield as he tried to find an open receiver and lost the ball. It was scooped up by safety Max Waldrop, who scored to give Junction City a 17-0 lead going into the locker room.

"It wasn't that our kids didn't play hard," Adams said. "It's just when things started unraveling for us and not going our way, it was just a little bit too difficult to get out of our own way."

"We kept shooting ourselves in the foot with missed opportunities, turnovers, missed assignments. And that was just left and right from everybody, all phases of the football game that first half."

He said the team talked at halftime about how they were going to respond to adversity: "We are either going to change it in the second half, or we'll have to change it next week, this week in practice," Adams said Monday.

Things got better, but not right away.

Two plays into the second half, sophomore tailback Sam Barringer was upended as he ran the ball up the middle and it squirted out of his hand, giv-

ing the hosts another chance. This time, though, they couldn't capitalize.

Then, with 5:06 in the third quarter, the Huskies marched to 23, where on third and 18, Zajic was picked off again.

But the hosts didn't score this time either and, late in third, they got the ball back and Zajic hit Davis with a 13-yard pass over the middle.

Then, two plays into the fourth quarter, he faked a toss and kept the ball on a 19-yard scramble up the middle to the 27, following that up with a 15-yard pass to Bradyn McClure to the 12.

On the next play he handed off to Kaeson Walker, who slashed his way into the end zone. Keeghan Gittins added the extra point and it was 20-7.

With about 3:30 left in the fourth quarter, Sweet Home was set back to its 26 by a holding call and the Huskies lost the ball on downs.

Three plays later the Tigers scored their final touchdown on a 2-yard run with a little over a minute on the clock.

"I was proud of the way the kids chose to respond," Adams said. "They came out fired up in that second half."

"It was just an absolute battle at that point for the rest of the game."

"I thought our defense, for being on the field as long as they were and in the inopportune times that they were, I think that they played pretty well for what you could expect."

See Football, Page 5

The New Era

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Sweet Home FFA members hold their banner after finishing second in the FFA Soils Judging Contest.

Sweet Home FFA members place in Willamette soils competition

Sweet Home finished with individual and team placewinners in the annual Upper Willamette District FFA Soils Judging Contest, sponsored by the Linn Soil and Water Conservation District, held Oct. 2 at the Burkholder farm on Fry Road near Albany.

Some 115 FFA members competed. Winners are eligible to compete at the state contest to be held Oct. 20 in Prineville.

FFA chapters from Sweet Home, Alsea, Central Linn, Harrisburg, Mohawk, Pleasant Hill, Santiam Christian, and Scio participated.

Santiam Christian was the host school and the Santiam Christian FFA Alumni provided lunch.

Linn County Commissioner Will Tucker presented plaques to the top three winners in individual events.

Placewinners were:

Novice Class: Lia Rodgers, Central Linn, first; Noah Kelly, Sweet Home, second; Bailey

Lester, Central Linn, third; Helen Salvador, Sweet Home, fourth; Faith Smith, Scio, fifth.

Banners: Central Linn, first; Sweet Home, second; Santiam Christian, third.

Advanced Class: Van Nusbaum, Santiam Christian, first; Addi Haase, Santiam Christian, second; Quinn Devenport, Mohawk, third; Juliet Devenport, Mohawk, fourth; Taylen Peterson, Scio, fifth.

Banners: Central Linn, first; Santiam Christian, second; Scio, third.

FOOTBALL

From page 4

Zajic finished six for 12 in the air for 37 yards, while Baringer was the Huskies' top rusher for 24 yards. Trenton Templin had two carries for 14 and Walker carried twice for 26 yards, including the touchdown.

Up next for the Huskies is another road trip, this time to Crescent Valley, which beat Philomath 20-15 on Oct. 3 and

fell 49-21 to Marist on Friday.

Adams said the focus now is to get back on track.

"Friday was just kind of a really weird night for us," Adams said. "It was a perfect example of how, going into opponents with the wrong mindset and then approaching practices with the wrong mindset, that's going to have an impact on the game. And we saw that firsthand Friday.

"Last Friday was not an accurate representation of who

we are, but the guys are really excited to get back to focusing on us, focusing on what we need to do to put ourselves in the right mindset, and then, when we're in the game on Friday, controlling what we can control, focusing on the next play, a lot of things that we were focused on when we were having success, and then just trying to not let one bad experience last Friday turn into two in a row."



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County veterans services sees client increase since move

By Alex Paul
Linn County Communications

Since moving to its new office in July 2024, Linn County Veterans Services has seen an increase in the number of veterans and family members who have filed for benefits, program manager Dee Baley-Hyder told Commissioners Roger Nyquist, Sherrie Sprenger and Will Tucker at their Oct. 7 meeting.

Baley-Hyder said the Veterans Services office at 505 Ellsworth Street SW is more visible than at its former location on 3rd Avenue, resulting in more walk-in inquiries by veterans.

Linn County's Veterans Services program dates back to 1961.

In March 2024, Baley-Hyder reported that Veterans Services had assisted 9,453 veter-

ans and their families. As of Oct. 7, some 9,938 veterans and family members have been assisted in filing claims for benefits.

From July through September 2025, Veterans Services has helped local veterans recover \$453,285.71 in tax-free benefits and from January through September 2025, the total is \$1,999,004.33.

Baley-Hyder said there are about 10,076 veterans living in Linn County.

Veterans Services has received another \$25,000 Medical Transportation Grant from the Oregon Department of Transportation, Baley-Hyder said, which will allow services to continue through Dec. 31. The funds help Linn County provide veterans with transportation to health care services.

Baley-Hyder said Veterans Services is also going to apply for a medical transportation grant from the Oregon Department of Veterans Affairs. If successful, the grant would run from January 2026 through June 2027.

In July, Baley-Hyder and veterans services officer Nate Larsen completed annual national accreditation training. She said it is an opportunity to learn about new laws and effective ways to ensure veterans get the benefits they deserve.

September was a busy month, Baley-Hyder said.

Office specialists Jess Valenzuela and Renee Bush participated in the annual Suicide Prevention Walk in Lebanon. There were 101 people registered. Veterans Services provided refreshments.

Staff participated in the Linn-Benton Veterans Stand Down at the Fair & Expo Center. Some 59 Veterans Services clients attended. Staff members made office appointments for veterans and answered questions about claims.

Baley-Hyder served as a veteran's guardian on the recent South Willamette Valley Honor Flight to Washington, D.C. She said 20 Linn County veterans participated and each was assisted by a guardian. The Linn County veterans were joined by Lane County veterans and their guardians for a total of 107 people on the trip.

"It was a great honor to meet all the veterans and hear their stories," Baley-Hyder noted in her written report to the commissioners. "I will say, the Vietnam War Wall was very emotional and so surreal to see."

In other business, the commissioners:

- Approved an Intergovernmental Agreement with the City of Albany to allow Linn County to conduct Search and Rescue training programs at the Albany airport that involve helicopters with partners such as Life Flight and the National Guard. The agreement was presented by Sheriff Michelle Duncan. In a written report, Ric Lentz, Linn County Emer-

gency Manager and SAR Coordinator, noted that helicopters are playing a larger role in Search and Rescue operations "due to the rise in backcountry injuries and illnesses."

- Approved an Intergovernmental Agreement between Linn County and Greater Albany Public Schools, to transfer an estimated \$101,675 in Title 1D funds from the Oregon Department of Education to GAPS, which in turn contracts with the Linn County Juvenile Department. The funds are used to provide a variety of educational services, including educational transition services for young people at the Linn Benton Juvenile Detention Center and additional educational related services at the Jackson Street Youth Shelter, Albany House.
- Approved Order #2025-353 Supplemental Budget to accept a Beginning Fund Balance of \$1,631,001 into the General Fund and then approved Order # 2025-354 to accept the transfer of those funds out of the General Fund and into a new department in the Internal Service Fund.
- Approved a First-Time Youth Wage Grant Agreement with Grover Cleaning Service.
- Approved a wrecking license for G & R Auto Wreckers.

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-Matthew 18:20



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Husky XC teams place at Philomath Mariman meet

Sweet Home's young cross-country teams continued to progress Saturday, Oct. 11, both the boys and girls placing in the top four at the Mariman Invitational hosted by Philomath.

"I was really pleased with our efforts," Coach Dave Martin said. "We didn't have lot of PRs like the week before at Albany. But the races were close and competitive. When we didn't have PRs we were close."

The girls team finished third in the seven-team field, the Huskies scoring 71 points, behind Philomath, which placed four runners in the top 10 to finish with 37, and Cottage Grove (69).

Philomath sophomore Cassidy Smart won the girls varsity race in a personal best of 18:49.90, well ahead of Sweet Home's Emma Whitton, who was second in 19:28.60 and McKenzie Miller, fourth in 20:06.30.

Cassie Spencer was 11th overall in 21:41.40, followed by Noelle Helfrich (24:16.40), Madison Ciullo (24:30.60), Marian Helfrich (25:07.00) and Pyper Hall (25:36.80).

"On the girls side, I thought Madi had the best race of the girls. She just missed her PR, but she was ahead of other girls who normally would have beaten her," Martin said.

The boys' fourth-place finish was the first time in at least 20 years that the Huskies trophied at the meet, in which top teams and runners get potted conifer trees.

The last Sweet Home girls team to win a tree was the 2009 Huskies, who went on to win the Sky-Em District ti-



Girls varsity runners, from left, McKenzie Miller, Cassie Spencer, Emma Whitton, Madison Ciullo and Pyper Hall hold their trophy tree.

tle and take home a fourth-place state trophy, the first state team trophy ever for Sweet Home's girls.

The girls are currently ranked eighth in the 4A Division and Martin said they delivered on that.

"We supported that ranking very nicely," he said. "We ran like a team that is ranked in the top 10."

Philomath is ranked third, behind La Grande and Klamath Union, and Stayton is 10th.

"Us and Stayton are in a dogfight," Martin noted. "We're getting the program back to where we're getting noticed by other schools."

On the boys side Saturday, Ryker Burr was fifth out of 61 runners in a two-second PR of 17:22.30, followed by Acen Webber in 16th place (18:22.90), Louis Kistner in 22nd (19:04.00, a one-second personal best), Evan Knight, 28th in 19:35.90; Conner Spencer, 40th in 20:13.00, and Hudson Ogden, 55th in 21:12.30.

Sweet Home was fourth

out of eight teams with 101 points, as Cottage Grove placed all five of its scoring runners in the top 11 to win with 42 points, followed by Cascade Christian (54) and Philomath (70).

"Ryker ran the best tactical race he has ever run," Martin said of the junior. "It's as good a race as I've seen him run in high school. We had a race strategy and he carried it out perfectly."

In the boys junior varsity competition, Wes Goff was 12th out of 67 runners, finishing in 20:43.90, followed immediately by Noah Strawn in 20:48.70. Eli Adams (23:21.50, a big season's best) and Sam Strawn (23:44.90, a 30-second PR), running side-by-side for most of the race.

For the girls, Miu Simmons, who was running her second race of the season while doubling with soccer, finished eighth out of 29 runners in 25:56.20, PR by some 50 seconds, with Delanie Pratt clocking 26:38.70, a personal best of nearly two minutes, McKenzie



Huskies, from left, Miu Simmons, McKenzie Ohlheiser, Delanie Pratt and Lexi Lee start their race.



Sam Strawn, left, and Eli Adams run to personal and season bests in the boys junior varsity race.

Ohlheiser (27:08.90) and Lexi Lee (30:58.1), a PR of nearly a minute for her.

"Miu and Delanie both had great races," Martin said. "Those were big-time PRs."

The Huskies, who have had Saturday competitions for six straight weeks, get a 10-

day break and their only non-Saturday meet at the Happy Hustle in Corvallis on Oct. 22.

The Oregon West Conference Championships will be Nov. 1 at Philomath, followed by the state championships on Nov. 8.

24⁹⁹

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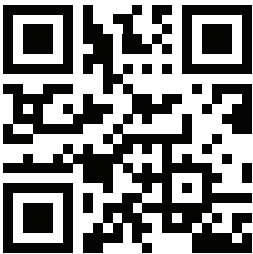
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Harvest Fest

Sweet Home turned out in force, above and below, for the annual Harvest Festival on Oct. 4 at Sankey Park. At left, Caden Foley of the Sweet Home High School FFA introduces kids to Peanut the pony. At right, Lexi Vineyard tastes chili with help from Melissa Stutz. At left, Ryder Meredith gets his face painted by Alex Brunson as his sister, Addy watches. See more photos at sweethomenews.com.

Photos by Scott Swanson



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Sheriff's dive team searches for 18-year-old in North Santiam

Linn County Sheriff's personnel spent the latter part of last week searching the North Santiam River near the Mill City Bridge for a missing male, Karandeep Singh, 18, who is believed to have drowned after jumping into the river Tuesday evening, Oct. 7.

Sheriff Michelle Duncan said Singh was walking with friends near the river around 10 p.m. on Oct. 7. According to the Sheriff's Office, he had been drinking and told friends he was going to get into the river.

Singh did not know how to swim but had been in the shallow waters of the river before. His friends tried to stop him, but he jumped in the river in an area that was much deeper than where he had been previously, Duncan said.

According to witnesses, he

was pulled into the current and has not been seen since. Two of his friends entered the river and tried to save him but were unsuccessful and lost sight of him.

It was not until the next morning, on Oct. 8, that his friends reported the incident to a third person, and it was eventually reported to law enforcement. Part of the delay was due to a language barrier.

Recovery efforts for Singh began the morning of Oct. 9, when Sheriff's Water Rescue Team divers began their search of the river where the male was believed to have entered. The team was unable to get a traditional boat to the area, so three divers on a rescue watercraft searched the area, first with an underwater camera.

Divers then dove areas they could not get to with

the camera. They searched under and around large boulders where the body could have been stuck. The waters in this particular area are running very fast with a large amount of underwater debris and entanglement hazards, so the divers had to use extreme caution while conducting the search. Before and during the search of the area with divers, multiple deputies from Linn and Marion County searched a larger area of the river with drones.

Although Singh had several people on scene that were close to him and were kept updated on search efforts, he was not known to have family in the United States. Deputies worked with the Consulate of India who were able to notify the family abroad.



Photo courtesy of Linn County Sheriff's Office
Sheriff's dive team members search for the missing man.

Trail extension planned for Yellowbottom site

The Bureau of Land Management has announced plans to begin improving a walking trail at Yellowbottom Recreation Site in summer 2026, which will connect to the existing Rhododendron Trail and expand recreation opportunities in the area.

"The Yellowbottom Recreation Site is loved by many for its mature, old forests, and we look forward to opening as much of the area as possible for day use," said Dennis Teitzel, Northwest Oregon District manager. "The new walking path will allow visitors access to the previously shuttered portions of the recre-

ation site, with additional safety precautions in place."

While the day-use portion of the site is currently open, the overnight camping area has been closed since 2022 and will remain closed to camping indefinitely due to hazardous tree conditions and public safety concerns. The trees are decaying naturally and pose a risk to overnight campers.

Visitors will find the Yellowbottom Recreation Site swimming area, the Old Miner's Meadow Group Campground, and dispersed camping currently available within the Quartzville Back Country Byway.

New information signs installed on I-5

Work has been completed on four traffic cameras and message signs on I-5 between Albany and Salem, the Oregon Department of Transportation reported Oct. 3.

In response to unreliable travel times, congestion and delays caused by crashes between Albany and Salem, ODOT implemented recommendations and guidance from the I-5 Optimization Project report to remove older signs and replace them with new variable message board signs and traffic congestion cameras. Cost of the

project was \$4,650,720.

The closest of the message signs is located at Hoefer Drive NE at milepost 240 near Jefferson.

ODOT will add the new traffic camera feeds on TripCheck later this year. The new message boards will help drivers stay in the know, providing real-time updates about possible crashes, upcoming construction or other traffic impacts.

Drivers may still see crews in the area wrapping up remaining construction and clearing the work zone; caution is advised.



ELKS DONATE TO VETERANS

Sweet Home Elks Lodge #1972 welcomed veterans from the Edward C. Allworth Veterans Home in Lebanon who came up for their monthly steak luncheon. The Sweet Home Elks presented the Veterans with a \$1,000 Elks National Foundation Freedom Grant for items that the Activities Department requested for their new residents. They all look forward to coming up to the Sweet Home Elks Lodge to have a wonderful meal and be spoiled a bit on a day out and about!

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Photo courtesy of Ryker Burr
Sweet Home's Morgan Lalonde battles a Cascade player for the ball.

Girls soccer looks improved, but continues to struggle in Oregon West

By Ryker Burr
For The New Era

Sweet Home's girls soccer team continued to struggle last week in league play, losing both of their Week 6 matchups by three or more goals.

The Huskies, who have gone winless in five out of six weeks, were outscored by league rivals Stayton and Cascade by a total of 0-8.

They fell 3-0 to Stayton on Oct. 7 and 5-0 to Cascade.

Head Coach Ramiro Santana continues to hold an optimistic view though: "All our girls are playing better each game so we continue to do our best. We have improved our communication. Last year, Cascade beat us 8-0 both times in the first half. This year we played all 80 minutes and they only scored five goals."

But Santana didn't forget to underline where the Huskies

need to improve: "We need to never give up no matter what the score is and play to the best that we can. We need to be better each game."

He continued, "The message for our team is to continue playing. Don't let the other team mercy-rule us and send us home early. We need to stay in and play all 80 minutes of the game. Our goal for the season is to continue to play to our best ability. Have fun, never give up, and stay strong. We are going to try to play all 80 minutes of each game."

Sweet Home will hope to capture its first league (and second overall) victory of the year in Week 7, taking on Philomath, then Newport. The Green and Gold's matchup against the Warriors this week is at home, 6 p.m., on Tuesday, Oct. 14. They play at Newport on Thursday, Oct. 16.

Huskies face tough league week, fall to Cascade and Philomath in volleyball

By Keeghan Gittins
For The New Era

Sweet Home's volleyball team slipped to fourth place in the Oregon West Conference, tied with Newport, coming into this week, following losses to Cascade and Philomath last week.

The defeats left the Huskies at 2-4 in league, 9-9 overall.

Cascade 3, Sweet Home 0

Sweet Home opened the week with a challenging home matchup on Tuesday, Oct. 7, against No. 17 Cascade, falling in straight sets, 25-14, 25-22, 25-21. Despite the loss, Coach Katie Dargis said she was proud of her team's effort.

"Even with the loss, I'm really happy with how the girls played. They came out and competed very well against a very high-level team," Dargis said. "We worked hard to control what we could control, focusing on serve receive, tip coverage, and keeping our unforced errors to a minimum. I was very happy they were able to come out and compete with that team."

Several players delivered strong performances despite the deficit. Keira Johnson went 13-for-13 from the service line and contributed high-quality passes on serve receive. Karrisa Jewell added three aces, while Aubrey Newberry served 7-for-7 with two aces and recorded four kills. Aaliyah Brown contributed five kills, and Amara Gonzales added key blocks and defensive plays.

Dargis highlighted the team's communication and mental toughness: "Our goal is to communicate well and stay positive with our team-



Photo courtesy of Kristine Banker
Sweet Home's Lexi Rundell, center, sets a ball as Miley Smith supports.

mates," she said. "Those high-pressure games help us grow and prepare for the next challenge. We're proud of how we treated our teammates and how we represented Sweet Home. We just focused on hustling to base and anticipating plays."

Philomath 3, Sweet Home 0

Two days later, on Thursday, Oct. 9, Sweet Home traveled to face No. 3 Philomath, again falling 3-0 in a hard-fought match. (25-17, 25-14, 25-21)

The Huskies started slow but gradually increased their offense, taking multiple swings and challenging the towering Philomath blockers at the net.

"I'm proud of how resilient they were," Dargis said of her team. "We started off kind of slow, but then took off to be more aggressive. We just weren't able to put the ball

away enough and struggled on serve receive quite a bit, but I'm proud of the resilience they showed and how they treated each other while fighting at home against a top team," she said.

Several players stood out: Johnson was perfect on the service line with 13-for-13 serves, Newberry had six kills, Kennedy had six kills, and Gonzales added four kills. The Huskies collectively only missed six serves and took numerous offensive swings, but ultimately couldn't convert enough points against a tough Philomath squad.

The Huskies now face a critical stretch of league matches to remain in playoff contention. Looking forward, Sweet Home will have a road game versus Newport, Oct 14. Then have their Senior Night against North Marion, Thursday Oct. 16.

The ICEBOX Performer Of The Week



This week's ICEBOX Performer of the Week goes to Jamie McKamey.

Jamie is the teammate who constantly goes above and beyond to keep things moving smoothly. Jamie has a knack for stepping up when big tasks come around, taking them on with confidence and ensuring others can take well-deserved time off.

Your reliability, teamwork, and willingness to shoulder the heavy lifts don't go unnoticed. Thank you for being such a strong support to the whole team!



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GARDEN CLUB

From page 1

The club is a family affair for Rebecca Stalheim, the parent volunteer this year, and her fourth grade twins, Joanna and Didrik. Both said they grew up in the garden and feel at home in the dirt.

“My mom is a crazy gardener and I would help her a lot in the garden, so growing up I would pretty much live in the garden,” Joanna said. “I am just one with the garden.”

“My favorite part about gardening club is when I pick the crops,” Didrik said.

Reisbick said it’s that excitement, whether harvesting, watering, or just watching a dragonfly land nearby, that makes the club thrive.

“They are so excited to harvest or water or do anything for the garden,” she said.

The club has also become a community project. The Rotary Club built raised beds, while local gardeners Heather Wright and Sheryl Casteen donated seeds and plants. Wright has even filled in for Reisbick when she was absent.

“She’s awesome.” Reisbick said.

Other volunteers, including Julie Harvey, Dawn Barringer, Jay and Ann Marie Marble, and fellow Holley teacher Deborah Rehart,

have pitched in with donating plants, weeding, watering and fixing the irrigation system. Families take turns caring for the garden in the summer, and the Holley PTC provides a small budget for supplies.

Reisbick said she dreams of partnering with a Master Gardener to expand the club’s greenhouse use. Any Master Gardener who is interested in volunteering and inspiring the young gardeners is encouraged to reach out to Reisbick at the school.

Reisbick said she would also love to join with other gardening clubs in the community to do a student produce stand at the farmers market to teach both gardening and economics.

This fall, Riesbick hopes to have the Garden Club join schools across Oregon in the Oct. 23 “Oregon Crunch at Once” event, when students take a synchronized bite of locally grown produce in celebration of National Farm to School Month. More information is available at oregon-farmtoschool.org.

In the meantime, she makes sure the students get to enjoy the fruits and vegetables of their labor. Over the years, they’ve eaten watermelon, corn, cucumbers, green beans, etc, straight from the vine and cooked to-

gether in the classroom. They have also enjoyed making everything from smoothies and salsa to root vegetable pizza with a protein-rich garbanzo bean pizza sauce.

“It really is tasty and adds extra nutrition, especially when the kids want a cheese-only pizza,” Reisbick said. “It sneaks in a little extra fiber and protein, and they love it.”

They’ve also tried spaghetti squash with homemade marinara sauce, hummus, and eggplant baba ganoush. The kids are often surprised by what they discover that they like, but they haven’t loved it all.

“They were not too sure about the spaghetti squash, but they loved the sauce and ate it up by dipping bread into it,” Riesbick admitted.

For Reisbick, the lessons go far beyond gardening skills. “They learn patience, taking turns, timing, being respectful, how to be safe and responsible, cooperation, and learning what they are capable of, especially when they work together,” she said.

And at the root of it all, she added, is joy. “It’s not just about growing vegetables,” Reisbick said. “It’s about growing kids who believe they can do hard things, and that’s the real harvest.”



FIRE PREVENTION WEEK

Thank you to all our firefighters for your hard work, bravery, and dedication. Your tireless efforts keep our community safe. This month, show your appreciation by learning how to protect yourself, your family, and our firefighters through fire prevention.

"Charge into Fire Safety: Lithium-Ion Batteries in Your Home" is the Theme of Fire Prevention Week 2025

Many of the electronics we use every day — like phones, tablets, laptops, power tools, e-cigarettes, headphones, and toys — run on lithium-ion batteries. These batteries are powerful and convenient, but if they’re damaged or used incorrectly, they can overheat, catch fire, or even explode.

Here are some safety tips when using Lithium-ion Batteries:

1. When buying something that uses a lithium-ion battery, make sure it has a mark from a recognized testing lab on the product or packaging.(Some products sold online or in stores don’t meet safety standards and can increase the risk of fire).
2. Always use the charger and cable that came with your device.
3. Follow the manufacturer’s instructions when charging.
4. If you need a new charger, buy one from the device’s manufacturer or one they approve.
5. Charge on a hard surface, not on a bed, couch, or under a pillow. Soft surfaces can cause overheating and fire.
6. Don’t overcharge — unplug your device or remove the battery when it’s fully charged.

The Point Restaurant & Lounge 6305 Hwy 20, Foster 541-367-1560	Dairy Queen 1364 Main St. 541-367-2622	Sweet Home Funeral Chapel 1443 Long St. 541-367-2891	Rice Logging 25530 Rice Rd. 541-367-4896	A&W 1010 Main St. 541-367-4893
The New Era / Tell & Sell 1313 Main St. 541-367-2135	Wendi Melcher / HomeSmart Realty 1575 Main St. 541-409-4813	Advanced Mechanical, Inc. 34777 Hwy 228, Brownsville 541-466-3939	Cascade Timber Consulting Inc. 3210 Hwy 20 541-367-2111	D&S Logging 541-367-8365

Public Notices

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE STATE OF OREGON IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF LINN, Lakeveiw Loan Servicing, LLC, Plaintiff v. LEANNA MARIE BIGGERSTAFF, an individual; TWANIA LYNN HEROD, an individual; RAY KLEIN, INC., a corporation; THE SECRETARY OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, a government entity; and ALL OTHER PERSONS, PARTIES, OR OCCUPANTS UNKNOWN CLAIMING ANY LEGAL OR EQUITABLE RIGHT, TITLE, ESTATE, LIEN, OR INTEREST IN THE REAL PROPERTY DESCRIBED IN THE COMPLAINT HEREIN, ADVERSE TO PLAINTIFF'S TITLE, OR ANY CLOUD ON PLAINTIFF'S TITLE TO THE PROPERTY, Defendants. Case No. 24CV54074 SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION TO THE DEFENDANT: Leanna Marie Biggerstaff: In the name of the State of Oregon, you are hereby required to appear and defend the complaint filed against you in the above entitled Court within thirty (30) days from the date of the first publication of this summons. The date of first publication in this matter is October 1, 2025. If you fail timely to appear and answer, for want thereof, plaintiff(s) will apply to the court for relief demanded in the complaint. This is a judicial foreclosure of a deed of trust in which the plaintiff requests that the plaintiff be allowed to foreclose your interest in the following described real property: A tract of land being a part of that certain tract of land being described in deed to Fairway Independent Mortgage Corporation, Recorded August 10, 2022 as Instrument No. 2022-14047, Linn County Deed Records. ALL OF THAT TRACT CONVEYED TO MICHAEL J. LEE PER MICROFILM VOLUME 1431, PAGE 823, LINN COUNTY MICROFILM RECORDS, AND A PORTION OF THAT TRACT CONVEYED TO DAVID L. VANDERLIP AND RACHEL L. VANDERLIP PER MICROFILM VOLUME 1391, PAGE 670, SAID RECORDS, LYING BLOCK 111, HACKLEMAN'S ADDITION TO THE CITY OF ALBANY, IN THE SOUTHWEST QUARTER OF SECTION 6, TOWNSHIP 11 SOUTH, RANGE 3 WEST, WILLAMETTE MERIDIAN, IN THE CITY OF ALBANY, COUNTY OF LINN AND STATE OF OREGON, MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS: BEGINNING AT A 5/8" IRON ROD AT THE LEE SOUTHWEST CORNER LYING NORTH 81°45'00" EAST 100.00 FEET FROM THE SOUTHWEST CORNER OF SAID BLOCK 111; THENCE ALONG THE LEE WEST LINE NORTH 8°21'45" WEST 113.33 FEET TO A 5/8" IRON ROD AT THE NORTHWEST CORNER THEREOF; THENCE ALONG THE LEE NORTH LINE AND EXTENSION THEREOF, NORTH 81°46'58" EAST 32.92 FEET TO THE NORTHEAST THEREOF, ALSO BEING THE NORTHWEST CORNER OF SAID VANDERLIP TRACT; THENCE CONTINUING ALONG VANDERLIP NORTH LINE, NORTH 81°46'58" EAST 12.64 FEET TO A POINT LYING NORTH 8°49'28" WEST 0.80 FEET FROM A 5/8" IRON ROD; THENCE LEAVING VANDERLIP NORTH LINE, SOUTH 8°49'28" EAST 29.40 FEET TO A 5/8" IRON ROD; THENCE SOUTH 81°46'58" WEST 3.00 FEET TO A 5/8" IRON ROD; THENCE SOUTH 6°31'45" EAST 83.95 FEET TO A 5/8" IRON ROD ON THE VANDERLIP SOUTH LINE BEING ALSO THE SOUTH LINE OF

Public Notices

SAID BLOCK 111; THENCE ALONG SAID BLOCK LINE AND THE SOUTHERLY LINES OF SAID LEE AND VANDERLIP TRACTS, SOUTH 81°45'00" WEST 40.11 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING. Commonly known as: 521 3RD AVE SE, ALBANY, OREGON 97321. NOTICE TO THE DEFENDANT: READ THESE PAPERS CAREFULLY! You must "appear" to protect your rights in this matter. To "appear" you must file with the court a legal paper called a "motion" or "reply." The "motion" or "reply" must be given to the court clerk or administrator within 30 days along with the required filing fee. It must be in proper form and have proof of service on the defendant's attorney or, if the defendant does not have an attorney, proof of service on the defendant. If you have questions, you should see an attorney immediately. If you need help in finding an attorney, you may call the Oregon State Bar's Lawyer Referral Service at (503) 684-3763 or toll-free in Oregon at (800) 452-7636. The Oregon State Bar's web address is <http://www.osbar.org>. This summons is issued pursuant to ORCP 7. Malcolm Cisneros, A Law Corporation, Nathan F. Smith, OSB #120112, Nathan@mclaw.org Attorneys for Plaintiff 2112 Business Center Drive, Second Floor, Irvine, CA 92612, P: (949) 252-9400, F: (949) 252-1032. (10/1, 10/8, 10/15, 10/22)_____

Notice is given that the 1977 Concord manufactured home located at 2796 South Main Road, Space 28, Lebanon, Oregon 97355, Serial No. 2977334038, Home ID No. 209425, is deemed abandoned. The owner of the manufactured home is believed to be Kay D. Fouts and the occupant of the manufactured home is believed to be: None. The manufactured home will be sold by private bidding on October 17, with sealed bids to be submitted to and accepted by The Law Offices of Brian Cox, 142 West 8th Avenue, Eugene, Oregon 97401, Attn: Brian Cox, through October 15. To inspect the manufactured home, please contact Wade Hanson at (541) 405-4232. (10/8 - 10/15)_____

Notice of sale of personal property under landlord's possessory lien. Personal property left in the following units have been seized for non-payment of rent and will be sold at The Storage Depot- 4199 Main St. Sweet Home, Or 97386 on October 29, 2025. The following units are available for viewing at 10:00am and will be sold to the highest bidder: Jackie Trengove – E182, Jimmy Joe Brown Jr – A583, Nancy L Clifford – A534, Curtis Hughes – RV39, Tony W Jones – B233, Katie King – B146, Travis Lanz – A483, Tamera Lyons – D306, Amber Steinborn – D357, Heather Tressel – A530, Chris Turner – D206 (10/8 - 10/15)_____

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE STATE OF OREGON FOR THE COUNTY OF LINN
JKS HOLDINGS, LLC, Plaintiff, v. UNKNOWN HEIRS OF LAURIE SUSAN WIEBRECHT, Defendants. Case No. 25CV52253 SUMMONS
TO: Unknown Heirs of Laurie Susan Wiebrecht
You are hereby required to appear and defend the complaint filed against you in the above entitled action within 30 days of the date of first publication which is October 8,

Public Notices

2025, along with the required filing fee, and in case of your failure to do so, for want thereof, plaintiff will apply to the court for the relief demanded in the Complaint. NOTICE TO THE DEFENDANT: READ THESE PAPERS CAREFULLY! You must "appear" in this case or the other side will win automatically. To "appear" you must file with the court a legal paper called a "motion" or "answer." Forms may be available through the court above or online at www.courts.oregon.gov/gorms. This must be given to the court clerk or administrator within 30 days along with the required filing fee. It must be in proper form and have proof of service on the Plaintiff's attorney or, if the Plaintiff does not have an attorney, proof of service upon the Plaintiff. Service rules are in the Oregon Rules of Civil Procedure (ORCP) Rule 9. If you have questions, you should see an attorney immediately. If you need help finding a lawyer, you may call the Oregon State Bar's Lawyer Referral Service at (503) 684-3763 or toll free in Oregon at (800) 452-7636. Dated: September 24, 2025 M. Sean Kidd, OSB #091224 Attorney for Plaintiffs 260 Ferry Street SW, Ste 202 Albany, OR 97321 (541) 926-5505 sean@longdel.com

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE STATE OF OREGON FOR THE COUNTY OF LINN
JKS HOLDINGS LLC, an Oregon limited liability company, Plaintiff, v. UNKNOWN HEIRS OF LAURIE SUSAN WIEBRECHT. Defendants. Case No. 25CV52253 COMPLAINT FOR FORECLOSURE NOT SUBJECT TO MANDATORY ARBITRATION
AMOUNT OF CLAIM: \$580,500.00 FILING FEE: \$594
At all times material herein, Plaintiff, JKS HOLDINGS, LLC (Plaintiff) was and is a limited liability company duly organized and existing under the laws of the state of Oregon. Laurie Susan Wiebrecht was and is the record owner of the real property and the improvements thereon commonly known as 3108 28th Avenue, SE, Albany, Linn County, Oregon 97322 ("Property"), more particularly described on the attached Exhibit 1. Ms. Wiebrecht passed away on November 29, 2024. A true copy of the obituary of Laurie Susan Wiebrecht is hereto attached as Exhibit 2. Upon information and belief Plaintiff alleges that no party named herein is engaged in active military duty or naval service of the United States as defined in the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act ("SCRA") as amended. To the best of Plaintiff's ability, Plaintiff has conducted a search of the named Defendants. Upon information and belief Plaintiff alleges that no party named herein is a minor or otherwise incompetent. The City of Albany, Oregon filed a municipal lien ("Lien") against the Property in the records of Linn County, Oregon, to secure payment of the abatement of derelict structure in the sum of \$580,500.00. copy of the lien is attached hereto as Exhibit 3. Subsequent to Ms. Weibrecht's death, Plaintiff purchased the interest of the City of Albany. A copy of the Assignment of Lien from the City to Plaintiffs attached hereto as Exhibit

Public Notices

4. The Lien (and Assignment thereof) is subject to foreclosure. Plaintiff declares that the entire balance of principal and interest is now due and payable. Currently, \$580,500.00 is immediately due and payable and is secured by the Lien on the Property. Defendants may claim some interest in the property. Any such claim is junior to Plaintiffs Lien. No other proceedings are pending for the collection of the debt or the foreclosure of the Lien. Plaintiff has no adequate remedy at law. WHEREFORE, Plaintiff prays for judgment of this court:
(a) Granting judgment to Plaintiff against Defendants in the amount of \$580,500.00;
(b) Declaring that the Lien be foreclosed as a valid lien against the Property described above, and declaring that the Lien is senior to any interest of named Defendants in the Property;
(c) Foreclosing Plaintiff's Lien and ordering the sale of the Property by the sheriff of Linn County in the manner prescribed by law;
(d) Applying the proceeds received from the sale first toward the costs of sale, then toward satisfaction of Plaintiffs judgment, including costs and attorney fees and any surplus to the party or parties who may establish their right thereto;
(e) Declaring that Plaintiff will not be entitled to monetary damages, attorney fees, costs, or disbursements against any defendant who does not contest this action;
(f) Declaring Plaintiff is permitted to become a bidder and purchaser of the Property at the sheriff's sale. If the Plaintiff is the purchaser at the sale and the property is not vacated upon sale, the Plaintiff reserves the right to petition the court for a writ of assistance after the sale based upon the judgment entry and sale upon separate motion of the purchaser after sale.
(g) Ordering that Defendants and all persons claiming through Defendants are forever foreclosed of all interest in the property;
(h) Granting such other and further relief as the court deems equitable. (10/8, 10/15, 10/22, 10/29)_____

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE STATE OF OREGON FOR THE COUNTY OF LINN
Probate Department
In the Matter of the Estate of: David Culhane Rist, Decedent. No. 25PB08128
NOTICE TO INTERESTED PERSONS
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on September 15, 2025, John Patrick Rist was appointed as personal representative of the estate of David Culhane Rist, deceased. All persons having claims against the estate of David Culhane Rist are required to present them, with vouchers attached, to the personal representative at the law offices of Alexander M. Bluestone, 4742 Liberty Rd. S., #550, Salem, Oregon 97302-5037, within four (4) 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 by mailing the Court at 300 SW 4th Ave, Albany, OR 97321, or by phone at (541) 967-3845, or from the personal representative, or the attorney for the personal representative, at the address above. Dated and first published on Octo-

Public Notices

ber 15, 2025. (10/15)_____

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE STATE OF OREGON FOR THE COUNTY OF LINN
Probate Department
Case No. 25PB08809
NOTICE TO INTERESTED PERSONS In the Matter of the ESTATE OF DANNY OREN FOOTE, Deceased. Notice is hereby given that HENRY LEE FOOTE, SR. has been appointed as Personal Representative. All persons having claims against the estate are required to present them to the undersigned attorney for Personal Representative at 5200 Meadows Rd, Ste. 150, Lake Oswego, Oregon 97035 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, Personal Representative or the attorney for Personal Representative. HENRY LEE FOOTE, SR. Personal Representative Michael J. Rose, OSB #144194 Attorney for Personal Representative Rose Elder Law, LLC 5200 Meadows Rd, Ste. 150 Lake Oswego, OR 97035 Publish date: October 15, 2025. (10/15)_____

Notice of sale of personal property under Landlords Possessory lien. Personal property left in the following units have been seized for Non-payment of rent and will be sold at The Storage Depot, 111 Davidson St. NE Albany, OR 97321 October 30, 2025 at 10:00am. Tagen, Sherman #D14; Cordova, Lupe #F39; Cordova, Lupe #A32; Cordova, Lupe #F65; Ingram, Tiffany #C43; Hoffman-Sanders, Cockrell, Gail #F94 (10/8 - 10/15)_____

Notice of sale of personal property under Landlords Possessory Lien. Personal property left in the following units have been seized for Non-payment of rent and will be sold at The Storage Depot, 2887 SW Ferry St Albany, OR 97322 on October 30, 2025 at 12:00pm. The following units are available for viewing and live public sale at 12:00pm: I1057 (Rosaly Battenfield), H0866 (Marcus Pitzer), K3059 (Kristina Robb), I1050 (Camie Sue Romania), B0202 (James Snapp), J2019 (Debra Tilly). (10/8 - 10/15)_____

Notice of sale of personal property under landlord's possessory lien. Personal property left in the following units have been seized for non-payment of rent and will be sold at The Storage Depot - 36666, Hwy 34, Lebanon OR 97355 on October 31st, 2025 at 10:00 am: DeButts, Carol BL5; Goodenough, Tina AL08; Hughes, Laura BL36; Samson, Carrie EL45 & CC55; Reynolds, Rachel F24. (10/8 - 10/15)_____

Vendors Wanted
Vendors Wanted Christmas Bazaar December 6th. 1347 Long Street Activity Building \$25.00 space. For more information call or text Linda 541-990-7627 (10/8, 10/15, 10/22, 10/29)_____

For Rent

Upstairs unit one bedroom condo, furnished, utilities include water, sewer, garbage, electric. Beautiful lake views, off street parking, laundromat on site, seasonal pool. \$1800 per month (month to month tenancy). Call for application and cleaning deposit fees. No pets allowed. For further details 541-367-5629. (9/24 - 10/15)

For Rent: Affordable 3 bedroom house on Birch St. in Lebanon. Large fenced yard with storage shed. Call 541-258-3377 (10/1 - 10/15)

Vendors Wanted

Vendors Wanted Christmas Bazaar December 6th. 1347 Long Street Activity Building \$25.00 space. For more information call or text Linda 541-990-7627 (10/8, 10/15, 10/22, 10/29)

Puppies for Sale

Miniature Schnauzer puppies. Very cute and playful. Shots given. \$800.00 each. Lebanon. 541-451-2054 (10/8 - 10/15)

Help Wanted

Foster Lake RV Resort looking for a part time maintenance person or couple. Light maintenance duties, year round or seasonal, must have their own RV. Call for application, compensation package, and further details 541-367-5629. (9/24 - 10/15)

Lot for Sale

Lot for Sale! 47th Off of Long Street. .4 Acre \$120,000 or best offer 541-367-3017 (10/15)

Free Puppies

FREE PUPPIES Blue Heeler, Rotweiler Mix. 8-10 weeks. Call 541-818-0211 (10/8 - 10/15)

Statewide Notices

SERVICES: DIVORCE \$130. Complete preparation. Includes children, custody, support, property and bills division. No court appearances. Divorced in 1-5 weeks possible. 503-772-5295. www.paralegalalternatives.com legalalt@msn.com.

Statewide Notices

SERVICES: Donate your car, truck, boat, RV and more to support our veterans! Schedule a FAST, FREE vehicle pickup and receive a top tax deduction! Call Veteran Car Donations at 1-866-695-9265 today!

SERVICES: Get a break on your taxes! Donate your car, truck, or SUV to assist the blind and visually impaired. Arrange a swift, no-cost vehicle pickup and secure a generous tax credit for 2025. Call Heritage for the Blind today at 1-844-533-9173!

SERVICES: We Buy Houses for Cash AS IS! No repairs. No fuss. Any condition. Easy three-step process: Call, get cash offer and get paid. Get your fair cash offer today by calling Liz Buys Houses: 1-866-249-8679.

SERVICES: We buy 8,000 cars a week. Sell your old, busted or junk car with no hoops, haggles or headaches. Sell your car to Peddle. Easy three-step process. Instant offer. Free pickup. Fast payment. Call 1-855-980-4382.

PUBLIC SAFETY

From page 3

who moved on.

3:03 p.m. - John Burton Hamacher Jr. arrested by Jackson County Sheriff's Office on SHMC warrant for FTA in theft case. Cited to appear Nov. 12.

6:00 p.m. - Caller from Foster Lake Mall, 5480 Main St., reported shoplifter. Officer responded, report taken for theft III. Loss value approximately \$40.

10:01 p.m. - Hit and run reported in 34300 block Lake Creek Dr., Brownsville. Deputy investigated. Report taken.

10:38 p.m. - Sheri Yvonne Bower, 53, arrested by Jackson County Sheriff's Office on SHMC warrant for FTA in offensive littering case. Cited to appear Nov. 12.

Oct. 9

2:45 a.m. - Caller reported male sprayed in eyes with unknown substance, 3200 block Main St. Officer responded, report taken for assault III, unlawful use of pepper spray and attempted robbery II.

8:20 a.m. - Vehicle reported stolen from 1200 block W. 5th Ave., Halsey. Investigation ongoing. Report taken.

9:51 a.m. - Deputy assisted property owner in getting vehicles removed that were blocking property access gate in 28900 block Santiam Terrace Rd.

10:03 a.m. - Caller reported dog attacked two children in area of 14th Ave./Elm St. Officer responded, contacted dog owner who presented video evidence that no one had been bitten. Owner warned for dog at large.

10:19 a.m. - Brian Lee Lindsay, 37, arrested for hit and run property after crash in 1200 block 46th Ave. Also cited for driving while suspended.

11:18 a.m. - Deputy assisted with car fire in 300 block E. Blakely Ave., Brownsville.

11:49 a.m. - Caller reported being convinced by scammer to buy gift cards, 1100 block 26th Ave. Officer responded, advised caller of options.

12:22 p.m. - Deputy located litter pile on BLM land in 25100 block Little Valley Lane. Report taken.

1:40 p.m. - Stolen vehicle recovered in 200 block W. 2nd St., Halsey. Juvenile, who turned out to be runaway from Washington, arrested for unauthorized use of vehicle, criminal mischief II and was lodged at Juvenile Detention.

6:28 p.m. - Paul Donaldson, 61, cited for driving while suspended, driving uninsured, 1500 block Main St.

8:44 p.m. - Caller reported that male stole soda from Thriftway, 621 Main St. Investigation continuing.

10:21 p.m. - Caller reported people arguing in area of 9th Ave./railroad tracks. Juvenile, 17, referred to Juvenile Dept. for MIP-alcohol, harassment.

Transported to hospital by medics.

10:55 p.m. - Jason Allen Caso, 33, arrested for criminal mischief II after caller reported neighbor threw air conditioning unit on mother's vehicle, 500 block Surrey Lane. Cited and released.

Oct. 8

8:04 a.m. - Jhenna Marie Lynn Lance, 31, arrested by LCSO on SHMC warrants for FTA in two criminal trespassing cases. Cited to appear Nov. 12.

8:29 a.m. - Caller reported theft from 1400 block Strawberry Ridge. Officer did not find any evidence of forced entry. Caller declined to pursue theft charges.

3:23 p.m. - Kyle Zane Overson, 30, arrested by LCSO on SHMC warrant for FTC in criminal driving case. Cited to appear Nov. 12.

5:33 p.m. - Caller reported times stolen from mailbox, 1300 block Elm St. Report taken. Value of missing items \$27.

6:11 p.m. - Belle Anway, 18, of Brownsville, arrested for DUII, reckless driving and minor in possession after she crashed her vehicle on Seven Mile Lane, west of Harrison Rd. Report taken.

CROSSWORD

1	2	3	4	5	6	7		8	9	10	11	12
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CLUES ACROSS

1. Warm-blooded vertebrates

8. Semitic peoples

13. Supervise

14. Historical German territory

15. Sweat

19. The Wolverine State

20. China

21. Violent disturbances

22. A way to commemorate the dead

23. Midway between east and southeast

24. Bird genus

25. Trim

26. Disparaged

30. More coherent

31. Abnormal rattling sounds

32. Healthy appetizers
33. Partner to "shocked"

34. French pianist Pascal

35. Jokes

38. Marks to omit print

39. Tall

40. Coverage

44. "A Death in the Family" author

45. Role of highlights

46. Fixed-radio access

47. Partly digested food

48. "Lamb Chop" puppeteer Lewis

49. In support of

50. Aluminum

51. Reduction in value over time

55. Running events

57. Portuguese region

58. Slovenly women

59. Strongly criticized

CLUES DOWN

1. Wiped up

2. Opposed to

3. Macon, GA, university

4. Wife

5. Small viper

6. Polynesia garland of flowers

7. Saw-like

8. Maltese-Italian composer

9. Moved faster than walking

10. Commercial

11. Covered with mud

12. Marksmen

16. Buenos

17. Tailless amphibian

18. Belonging to a thing

22. Mars crater

25. Most fair

27. Citrus fruit

28. Awkward

29. Brews
30. Beloved late broadcaster Craig

32. All alone

34. Copies

35. Poster

36. Symmetrical

37. Grew older

38. Makes tractors

40. Not the front

41. State as fact

42. Long, narrow cut

43. Worked hard for

45. Indicates position in a box score

48. Tax

51. "Lookout Weekend" singer

52. Unhealthy

53. Imam name

54. A woolen cap of Scottish origin (abbr.)

56. The Golden State

SUDOKU

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Level: Beginner



ECONOMY
DRUGS

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REAL ESTATE SOLD

Following are Lebanon, Sweet Home, and Brownsville area real estate transactions recorded with the county during late September and October 2025. These are not properties for sale, and some transactions may represent a change in ownership within a family or corporation. Properties are listed by address, property/residence size and purchase price:

41601 Beaver Ln., Lebanon; additional details not listed; 2.51 acres; \$230,000.	1252 Linden Ct., Sweet Home; additional details not listed; 0.25 acres; \$525,000.	347 7th Ave., Sweet Home; 1275 sq.ft., One story, three bedroom, one bathroom, built in 1950; 0.17 acres; \$331,700.	647 7th Ave., Sweet Home; 1259 sq.ft., One story, three bedroom, 1 1/2 bathroom, built in 1945; 0.18 acres; \$255,000.	Sweet Home; 2029 sq.ft., One story with attic, four bedroom, two bathroom, built in 1940; 1.69 acres; \$540,350.
2417 Harding St., Sweet Home; 1814 sq.ft., One story, three bedroom, two	1280 Ashwood Ct., Lebanon; 1471 sq.ft., One story, three bedroom, two bathroom, built in 1994; 0.18 acres; \$444,000.	610 8th Ave., Sweet Home; 1056 sq.ft., One story, three bedroom, one bathroom, built in 1968; 0.17 acres; \$335,500.	2381 Mountain River Dr., Lebanon; 2925 sq.ft., Two story, three bedroom, 2 1/2 bathroom, built in 2007; 0.13 acres; \$477,000.	182 Joy St., Lebanon; 1318 sq.ft., One story, three bedroom, two bathroom, built in 2016; 0.15 acres; \$405,000.
	760 Elmore St., Lebanon; 1276 sq.ft., One story, three bedroom, two bathroom, built in 1956; 0.23 acres; \$272,500.	365 Main St., Lebanon; additional details not listed; 0.29 acres; \$410,000.	34198 Lacombe Rd., Lebanon; additional details not listed; 3.53 acres; \$845,750.	2195 Janna Ct., Lebanon; 1298 sq.ft., One story, three bedroom, two bathroom, built in 2004; 0.16 acres; \$385,000.
	31501 Stoltz Hill Rd., Lebanon; 1316 sq.ft., One story, two bedroom, two bathroom, built in 1950;	30651 Spring St., Lebanon; 1300 sq.ft., One story, three bedroom, one bathroom, built in 1957; 0.6 acres; \$200,000.	603 Kirk Ave., Brownsville; 1008 sq.ft., One story, three bedroom, one bathroom, built in 1975; 0.31 acres; \$335,000.	2847 10th St., Lebanon; 1008 sq.ft., One story, three bedroom, one bathroom, built in 1979; 0.18 acres; \$172,000.
			1227 Walker Rd., Lebanon; 1330 sq.ft., One story, three bedroom, two bathroom, built in 1994; 0.2 acres; \$425,000.	4440 Knotty Pine Ct., Sweet Home; additional details not listed; 0.27 acres; \$378,945.
			4003 Clark Mill Rd., Sweet Home; additional details not listed; sq.ft., 1 acre; \$389,000.	43176 North River Dr., Sweet Home; 624 sq.ft., One story, One bedroom, one bathroom, built in 1946; 0.49 acres; \$200,000.
			307 Putman St., Brownsville; 1884 sq.ft., Two story, three bedroom, two bathroom, built in 2005; 0.15 acres; \$440,000.	1043 Northside Rd., Sweet Home; 1160 sq.ft., One story, One bedroom, two bathroom, built in 1939; 1.66 acres; \$455,000.
			2605 Promise Way., Lebanon; additional details not listed; 0.3 acres; \$1,200,000.	36062 Providence School Rd., Lebanon; 1620 sq.ft., three bedroom, two bathroom, built in 2001; 42.5 acres; \$1,440,000.
			2283 Cheadle Lake Ct., Lebanon; 1008 sq.ft., One story, three bedroom, two bathroom, built in 2023; 0.13 acres; \$385,000.	109 Nandina St., Sweet Home; 1356 sq.ft., One story, two bedroom, one bathroom, built in 1951; 0.17 acres; \$250,000.
			28484 Santiam Hwy.,	



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Senior Class hands off at Husky Field

Sweet Home High School seniors and kindergartners got together, above, at Husky Stadium Thursday, Oct. 9, for Your First My Last, a new tradition begun last year in which seniors present kindergartners with keychains bearing the incoming students' graduation year. Below, Oak Heights kindergartners discuss their new keychains as others chat with seniors McKenzie Miller, Levi Ensley and Kayleigh Cutbirth. At right, high-schooler Ashley Duncan checks out Hawthorne kindergartner Jo Rodriguez's keychain while, in rear, from left, seniors Elle Forum, Natalie Spencer, Natalie Conn, Dillon Davis and Alex Bachand chat with kindergartners (front to back) Camila Olsen-Rucker, Lyric Avery, Charlie Pressey and Waylon Brown.

Photos by Scott Swanson



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Second community service officer helps bridge SHPD and public

By Satina Tolman
For The New Era

Jennifer Gaspard has worn many uniforms in her career, but the one she puts on today feels like the perfect fit. After more than two decades in law enforcement, the Sweet Home native has returned to serve her hometown as the Sweet Home Police Department's new community services officer. Gaspard, who joined the department in April, said the role feels like a natural continuation of a lifetime of public service.

"I started out in state corrections, then worked for the Linn County Sheriff's Office for nine years in corrections," she said. "After that, I worked in Deschutes County in both corrections and patrol, then came back to the valley to work with the Oregon Liquor and Cannabis Commission as a regulatory specialist for five years. I retired in March but decided I still wanted to work part-time. This position opened up, and it just fit perfectly."

A 1992 graduate of Sweet Home High School, Gaspard grew up surrounded by law enforcement. Her father served as a deputy sheriff



File Photo
Jennifer Gaspard, left, works with daughter Ava at National Night Out.

and later worked in the state corrections system. He tried to steer her toward a different path, but she said she was drawn to the work she had grown up around. As a community services officer, Gaspard's job looks different every day. The position serves as a bridge between the police department and the public, a role that encompasses everything from assisting individuals in accessing rehabilitation services to organizing local community events. "We're kind of a jack-of-all-trades," Gaspard said. "We help out within our capacity,

and we're pretty open to doing a lot of different things if necessary." Gaspard and her colleague, Sean Morgan, work side by side in the role, sharing responsibilities that range from community outreach to addressing homelessness. "When I met her, she was clearly intelligent and professional," Morgan said. "She's shown herself to be highly confident, a problem solver with a terrific work ethic. She jumps in and gets it done. She likes to stay busy and brings great insight from her experience in law en-



Photo by Capt. Ryan Cummings
Jennifer Gaspard

forcement." Gaspard said she enjoys that her current role allows her to focus on the positive side of police work. "When you're a sworn officer, you deal with a lot of the negativity sometimes," she said. "In this position, I get to have great interactions with the community and do a lot of the fun activities. I get to raffle off bikes to kids and make people happy. I feel like I get the good part of it now." Still, the work can be challenging, especially when it comes to helping those experiencing homelessness. "You want people to get themselves into better situations and help them help themselves, but it's a struggle," Gaspard said. "It's kind of like the 'you can lead a horse to water, but you can't make them drink' situation. You see the struggle, and you just want better for them. Sometimes I don't think they can see that in themselves."

Her compassion and persistence have paid off. Morgan recalled returning from vacation to find that one woman they had both been trying to help had finally agreed to enter treatment — a breakthrough he credited to Gaspard's ability to connect. "She got through to her," Morgan said. "That was a big deal because this person had been at the top of my priority list for a long time." Despite the frustrations that can come with the job, Gaspard said she's learned to focus on the successes. "It's few and far between, but when they make it, they make it," she said. Beyond outreach, Gaspard has quickly become a driving force behind community events. She and Morgan organized this year's National Night Out in downtown Sweet Home — the first one in many years — and were thrilled with the turnout.

"People really seemed to enjoy themselves," she said. "It was a pretty big success." The duo also volunteered at the Oregon Jamboree, something that Morgan has done for years and Gaspard joined this year. They also plan to continue hosting community gatherings, including the upcoming Halloween candy giveaway, the Sharing Tree program for local teens, Shop with a Cop for Christmas, and the department's annual safety fair. "In this time, bringing people together and having them connect is big," Gaspard said. "Divisiveness is so problematic. I like to see events where the community can get to know each other and realize that we need to take care of each other."

Gaspard said the community's response to the new community services program has been overwhelmingly positive. She believes the position plays an essential role in showing the public that law enforcement isn't just about enforcement — it's also about support and prevention. "We're in a unique position," she said. "We're not the enforcement part of the department; we're more of the support. Through education and outreach, we can connect people to services and keep them out of the enforcement side. Not everything has to do with punishment. Our role is also to help people find the resources they need."

That philosophy extends to the department's volunteer efforts. Gaspard encourages residents to get involved wherever they can. "We're short on volunteers," she said. "If you'd like to get involved with the police department or in the community, we're always looking for help. It makes a huge impact."

Morgan said having Gaspard on board has made a noticeable difference — both in the department and in the community. "She's taken so much off my plate," he said. "Now that there are two of us, we can be in two places at once and get twice as much done."

For Gaspard, that teamwork and the chance to serve her hometown make the long days worthwhile. "There's a lot of good being done here," she said. "You might not always see it, but it's happening every day. I think it's hugely important to get involved and do as much as you can. It really does make a difference."



2025 Puzzle For Possibilities

Contest Information

- Date: November 1, 2025
- Time: 9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
- Location: Sweet Home Elks Lodge (440 Osage St, Sweet Home, OR)

Details

- * Teams of 2 will compete together
- * 500-piece puzzle. * 2-hour time limit
- * \$200 Entry Fee Per Team (tax deductible)
- * Cash and Trophies Awarded to winners
- * You get to keep the "Sweet Home" theme puzzle!

Registration Form

Team Contact Name: _____

Contact Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Team Name: _____

Contact Phone: _____ Email: _____

Team Roster

Team Member 1: _____ Team Member 2: _____

Entry Fee: \$200 per team. Please make checks payable to **Sunshine Industries**

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Submit Registration Form with payment to: Sunshine Industries, 1333 Clark Mill Rd, Sweet Home, OR 97386
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Tax receipt issued upon payment. *All entries must be received by Oct 17th.

SWEET HOME ELKS LODGE
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