Huskies get treat: trip to playoffs

By Scott Swanson Of The New Era

Sweet Home went home Friday night, Oct. 31, thinking it was out of the 4A Division playoffs after a nightmarish 27-14 Halloween loss on the road at Philomath.

But after the Warriors selfreported that they had violated OSAA rules by using junior varsity players who had played the previous night against Sweet Home in a JV contest, they forfeited the game, giving the Huskies new life – and their first playoff berth since 2019.

Sweet Home (7-2, 3-2), ranked 10th in the final OSAA polls, will play at La Grande Friday night, Nov. 7, in a firstround matchup.

The loss was the third, all in conference play, for the Huskies.

It was the Rocco De La Rosa Show for the Warriors. The senior scored all four of Philomath's touchdowns, grabbing two interceptions, the second leading to Philomath's final score, and amassing 305 allpurpose yards.

"He had his best game of the year," said Sweet Home Coach Ryan Adams.

He said his team was a little



Photo courtesy of Andy Cripe

Sweet Home's Kaeson Walker carries the ball against Philomath Friday night.

slow out of the blocks, and the Warriors took advantage.

"We had a really good practice week," Adams said. "I thought we did a really good job preparing. But it definitely did not translate to the start of the game.

"Give credit to Philomath. They came out hot in terms of

execution."

And, he added, "We were kind of sloppy on our end."

De La Rosa got the scoring going midway through the first quarter, running the ball in on a sweep from the five yard line for a 7-0 lead.

De La Rosa scored again in the second quarter on a 10yard pass from junior quar terback AJ Altishin to give the hosts a 14-0 lead going into the locker room.

"We kind of shot ourselves in the foot a few times and got down in a hole at the half," Adams said. "We had Philo-

See Football, Page 5

Hometown Newspaper of

BRANDI



VETERANS PARADE GRAND MARSHAL MUCH MORE THAN JUST COMP-NW MEDICAL PROFESSOR PAGE 7



YOUNG HUSKIES QUALIFY THREE FOR STATE XC PAGE 11

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Council places lien on Kalmia property for abatement

By Sarah Brown Of The New Era

The City Council approved a motion allowing the city to place a code compliance abatement lien on property located at 1889 Kalmia St. during its Oct. 28 meeting.

After a property is abated by the city, costs incurred are billed to the property owner. If the owner does not pay within 30 days, the council can place a lien on the property. Since February 2024, the city has placed liens on four other properties for abatements: 780 9th Ave., 4143 Osage St., 1435 22nd Ave., and 1333 13th Ave.

City Manager Jason Ogden reported that the Kalmia Street property has had code violations reported since at least 2020. The code enforcement officer had been actively trying to resolve complaints about the property, particularly since October 2024, but little to no im-

See City Council, Page 4

Dishing Out Some Goodies



Photo by Scott Swanson

Paula Newman, left, hands out candy in front of Figaro's Pizza kids as a capacity crowd packs the sidewalk during the Downtown Trick or Treat celebration along Main Street Friday, Oct. 31.

See more photos on page 2 and at sweethomenews.com.



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Enjoying the Downtown Trick or Treat event Friday, Oct. 31, Samantha Spencer, upper left, dances with her granddaughter, Abigail Dixon, 3, to some bouncy music outside Steelhead Strength and Fitness. Above, Shelby Goodwin introduces her 6-month-old son Ezren Valdez, to the art of dressing up. Above right, Adaline Morelos, 3, gets some goodies from Mike Fulton at Sweet Home Tattoo. Below, Karen Steinborn gets a photo of her daughters, Alia, left, and Violet, in front of costumed characters at A&W. The event drew huge crowds, left, who enjoyed some sunny weather. See more photos at sweethomenews.com.

Photos by Scott Swanson















TEMPERATURES							
DATE			HIGH	LOW	PRECIP		
September	30		55	34	0.00		
September	31		66	42	0.00		
November	1		64	44	0.00		
November	2		56	37	0.28		
November	3		55	44	0.00		
November	4		57	39	0.00		
November	5		57	39	0.00		

PRECIPITATION

Year to date: 22.72 November 6, 2024: 21.89

	FORECAS	T	
DAY	WEATHER	HIGH	LOW
Thur	Rain	59	46
Fri	Thunderstorms	57	40
Sat	Rain	63	45
Sun	AM Showers	65	48
Mon	Mostly Cloudy	61	46
Tues	Mostly Cloudy	59	46
Wed	Cloudy	56	46

LAKE LEVELS

Foster Reservoir: 615.8 Green Peter Res.: 854.8



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

OBITUARIES

Monte Allen

Sept. 17, 1954 - Oct. 28, 2025 Monte Kim Allen, 71, of Sweet Home, passed away

Oct. 28, 2025. He was born Sept. 17, 1954, to Dora Della (Baker) and George Alvin Allen in Biloxi, Miss.



He moved to

Sweet Home in 1992. Monte worked as a prep cook at the Buzz Saw Restaurant in Albany for many years.

He liked to collect coins, enjoyed old cars and liked to go fishing. He was a member of the American Legion.

Monte is survived by his brothers: Mike Allen of Palmer, Alaska; Ernie Allen of Corvallis; and Monica Rogers of Albany.

He is preceded in death by his parents: Dora Della Allen (2022); and George Alvin Allen (1989).

Sweet Home Funeral Chapel is handling the arrangements.

Edith Thompson

Feb. 8, 1930 - Oct. 23, 2025

Edith J. Thompson, age 95, of Sweet Home passed away Oct. 23, 2025.

She is survived by sons Harley and Ronald Denning, stepdaughter Colleen Maynard, stepson Dale Thompson, daughter-in-law Diane Jarvi, seven grandchildren, many great-grandchildren, and one great-great-grandchild.

She was preceded in death by husband Harold G. Denning, husband Ivan Thompson, and son Rick Denning.

A celebration of life will be scheduled in the future. For information, visit www.McHenryFuneralHome.com for more details and to share thoughts and memories with the family.

Darlene Wilson

Feb. 5, 1935 - Oct. 24, 2025

Darlene Joyce Wilson, 90, of Sweet Home, passed away Oct. 24, 2025.

She was born Feb. 5, 1935, to Ida Mae (Brummett) and Francis I. Burnside in Tacoma, Wash.

She moved with her husband Donald B. Wilson all over the United States, as he was a blaster in dam construction. They came to Sweet Home in 1979 to retire. Darlene was a happy homemaker.

She attended Church of Christ in Sweet Home.

Darlene liked to cook and make cakes for family occasions including wedding cakes. She did various crafts, and collected items for bazaars. She loved her rose garden and enjoyed playing pinochle at the senior center.

She is survived by her children, LaDonna Chafin of Sweet Home; Barbara Kragness of Sweet Home; and David Wilson of Albany; nine grandchildren and several great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Donald Wilson (1995); and son Michael Wilson.

Donations in memory of Darlene can be made to Sweet Home Senior Center.

Sweet Home Funeral Chapel is handling the arrangements.

Death Notices Pamela Ashland

Dec. 14, 1948 - Nov. 2, 2025 Pamela Anne Ashland, 76,

of Sweet Home, passed away. Sweet Home Funeral Chapel is handling the arrangements. For updated information, visit www.sweethomefuneral.com.

Charlotte Bashaw

\$1500

March 8, 1944 - Oct. 28, 2025 Charlotte Ellen Bashaw, 81, of Sweet Home, passed away Oct. 28, 2025. A celebration of life will be held at 1 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 16, at the Sweet Home Elks Lodge.

Sweet Home Funeral Chapel is handling the arrangements. For updated information, visit www.sweethomefuneral.com.

Clydie Burnette

June 16, 1940 - Nov. 3, 2025

Clydie Louetta Burnette, 85, of McMinnville, formerly of Sweet Home, passed away Nov. 3, 2025.

Sweet Home Funeral Chapel is handling the arrangements. For updated information, visit www.sweethomefuneral.com.

Jerald Kolka

July 19, 1943 - Oct. 26, 2025 Jerald John Kolka, 82, of Sweet Home, passed away Oct. 26,

2025.

Sweet Home Funeral Chapel is handling the arrangements. For updated information, visit www.sweethomefuneral.com.

Terry McElmurry

Aug. 18, 1950 - Oct. 29, 2025

Terry Keith McElmurry, 75, of Corvallis passed away Oct. 29, 2025.

Sweet Home Funeral Chapel is handling the arrangements. For updated information, visit www.sweethomefuneral.com.

Ronald Schrick

Dec. 9, 1950 - Sept. 6, 2025

Ronald Louis Schrick, 74, of Lebanon, passed away Sept. 6, 2025.

A graveside service with military honors will be at 1 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 12, at Miller Cemetery in Scio.

Sweet Home Funeral Chapel is handling the arrangements. For updated information, visit www.sweethomefuneral.com.

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 Sheriffs 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).

Nov. 2

1:44 a.m. - Katherine Berghoffer, 44, arrested by Roseburg police on SHMC warrant for FTA in theft case. Cited to appear Dec. 10.

2:12 a.m. - Caller reported male screaming loudly in 1300 block Quince St. Officer responded, contacted male, who was upset about a friend who used to live in the area. He agreed to calm down and return to his lodging.

3:11 a.m. - Kyelar Michael Rodney Kidd, 22, arrested for strangulation after investiga-

See Public Safety, Page 4

CIRCUIT COURT

Warrants are out on the following individuals: Travis Alexander Ayres, Raymond Paul Binford, Lloyd William Bly, Kristina Larizza Boswell, Hope Marie Connors, Christopher Frances Ciullo, Kelsey Nicole Ciullo, Jacob Scott Fisher, Ashlee Dee Flanagan, Sean Doyle Gay, Nicholas Gregory Godell, Aaron Thomas Halvorson, Scott Kevin Heinz, Hernandez-Reyes, Michael Trevor Hilton, Daniel Henry Johnson, Faron Walter Kennedy, Tyler Bruce Lanz, Charles James Marvel, Bryce William McGowan, Eric Wayne McKnight, Carrie Lynne Miller, Thomas Elbridge Miller, James Keith Mortensen,

Daniel Henry Johnson, 25, charged Oct. 27 with DUII (liquor), reckless driving and recklessly endangering an-

Nicholas Alan Nelson, Daniel

Austin Phillips, Sean Ever

Robinson, Tammy Lavonn Robinson, James Ryan Routon.

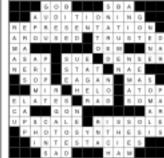
Joshua Alexander Williams

other person.

Kyle Dawayne Roebuck, 30, charged Oct. 30 with unlawful possession of meth. In a separate case, he was charged with two counts of mail theft, theft III and criminal trespass II.

Kasi Lynn Savolt, 62, sentenced Oct. 31 to 20 days compensatory service in lieu of jail, 24 mos. bench probation and \$200 in fines after pleading guilty to assault IV and criminal trespass II.





SUDOKU KEY Puzzle on page 13

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

OR RENT - 4870 48TH LOOP #D, SWEET HOME

Welcome to this inviting Sweet Home townhome featuring 3 bedrooms and 2.5 bathrooms. The modern kitchen comes equipped with a range, refrigerator, and dishwasher, plus washer/dryer hookups for added convenience. The spacious living areas offer plenty of room to relax or entertain, and the one-car garage provides secure parking or extra storage. Located in a friendly neighborhood, this home combines comfort and practicality. Pets are allowed with approval, a \$250 deposit, and \$50 monthly rent per pet.



3

BED

FOR RENT - 1490 42ND AVE., SWEET HOME

Welcome to this charming Sweet Home home featuring 3 bedrooms and 2 bathrooms. The kitchen includes a range, refrigerator, and dishwasher, with washer/ dryer hookups for convenience. A carport provides protected parking, and a storage shed adds extra space. The fenced backyard offers a private outdoor area to enjoy. Located in a quiet, friendly neighborhood, this home combines comfort and practicality. Animals are allowed with approval, a \$250 deposit, and \$50 monthly rent per animal.



BED

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2.5 1266

BATH

SQ.FT.

November 5, 2025 The New Year PAGE 4

FROM OUR FILES



Megan Gosda wins the Homecoming Rowdy 40 contest in 2000.

Nov. 9, 1950

Four of the city's six emergency vehicles are now radio equipped. Latest addition to the radio system was expected next spring, but arrived this week. Two fire trucks and another police car are already equipped with the new radios.

One voter in the Pleasant Valley district "really had Nov. 8, 2000 his mind made up" on how to cast his vote. The unknown voter traveled through drizzling rain to the school house, picked up his ballot and returned it in record time. The only mark on the ballot was a big X marking "no" on a vote against the law seeking to ban the sale of promotively advertised alcohol. The measure got 1,204 no votes and 502 yes votes.

Nov. 6, 1975

Delay in federal funding is temporarily halting construction of a housing project at 23rd and Long streets for senior citizens. The Linnhaven Association will not be ready to begin construction on the 25-unit complex until some time next year.

Efforts to decide the city's position on offering services without annexation to the Foster-Midway area failed when the resolution was tabled again at a special city council meeting. The resolution would reverse a city policy of not extending services without annexation to the city.

The New Era kicked off its first downtown trick or treat promotional event. Several hundred youngsters in colorful costumes solicited downtown businesses for treats, and merchants entered the costume contest. Winners were: State Farm Insurance, first place; John L. Scott Realty, second place; Linn-Co Federal Credit Union, honorable mention.

The Oregon Jamboree repaid Linn County \$30,000, the last of lottery funds that were loaned by the Linn County Board of Commissioners in 1995. Some of the earlier years for repayment were postponed due to revenue loss, but the 2000 event saw a healthy profit that allowed the Jamboree to pay off the debt.

The New Kra A LOCALLY OWNED NEWSPAPER

SWEETHOMENEWS.COM

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

P.E.O. appreciates local support Editor:

We want to extend our sincere thanks to everyone who supported the recent P.E.O. Bunco Party event! Your generosity helped us raise funds for scholarships, grants and

loans that support local women - and we couldn't have done it without you.

A special thank-you goes out to the amazing local businesses who donated prizes,

food, and services. We know they are generous to many local causes, and on behalf of

the community, we want to say thank you.

Your continued support makes a real difference in our community - thank vou!

Cynde Burford, President P.E.O. Chapter DD Sweet Home

Donating to arts has local impact Editor:

Those who donate to good causes at the end of each year should consider the Oregon Cultural Trust. This program, unique to Oregon, lets you double the impact of your donation at no extra cost.

Here's how the Cultural Trust works: Donate to your favorite organization(s) among 1,860 qualified cultural nonprofits. (Thirty-four of them are in Linn County. To find out whether your favorite is included, visit the website at culturaltrust.org.) Donate the same amount to the Cultural Trust. Then take the same amount off your state taxes. Your donation to the Cultural Trust returns to you as a tax credit. Individuals can get a tax credit up to \$500, couples up to \$1,000, and class-C corporation up to \$2,500.

The money given to the Cultural Trust is dispersed

across Oregon to keep cultural organizations thriving throughout the state. Since 2003, donations to the Cultural Trust have generated more than \$40 million in grants to cultural organizations across Oregon.

A portion of Cultural Trust funds are distributed locally by Cultural Coalitions, one for each county and federally recognized tribe in Oregon.

This year, the Linn County Cultural Coalition distributed \$25,000 of these funds among seventeen local organizations. Every Linn County 501(c)(3) organization with a project involving the arts, heritage, or humanities is welcome to apply to the Coalition for funding.

The next deadline for applications is Feb. 1, 2026.

For more information, visit linnculture.org.

Linda Ziedrich, president Linn County Cultural Coalition Lebanon

CITY COUNCIL

From page 1

provements have been made since that time.

Violations included nuisances affecting public health, abandoned iceboxes, appliances and fixtures, open storage, household goods, discarded vehicles, and prohibited structures.

A fire occurred in the residence in March 2025, and Sweet Home Fire & Ambulance District personnel reported "significant difficulty" to access the residence and fight the fire due to the amount of debris on site.

Ogden said multiple site visits and written warnings have been issued. The resident was sent a final notice of abatement in July 2025, followed by abatement of the exterior of the property later that month. According to city documents, property owner Huerta-Fernandez Leslee was billed \$21,906.49 for the abatement.

NEighbors testified to council members about their experience living next to the property, many of whom stated it is already nearly back to its original state of mess. Rodents and backyard burns also concern them.

"These cases are never easy because they involve real people, real challenges," Ogden said. "However, the city does have a responsibility to uphold its codes consistently to protect the public health and safety, and ensure that taxpayer funds are used fairly and responsibly."

In other business: The council held a work session to review proposed changes to the city's charter, as provided by the Charter Review Committee. council requested a copy of the proposal that makes it clear what the changes are before they move forward.

 Frank Gallagher, a resident on 1st Avenue, shared traffic data on his street since installed city speed

humps this summer. He believes the speed humps are "somewhat effective," but have not solved the problem of traffic volume.

 Ogden announced Jennifer Gaspard recently moved into the code enforcement position under the Sweet Home Police Department.

· Library Director Megan Dazey announced there will be a food pantry area in the lobby of the library, in anticipation of upcoming food insecurity issues.

 Councilor Angelita Sanchez expressed her concern about the expected loss of SNAP benefits due to the federal government shutdown. She reported that 46% of Sweet Home residents are receiving SNAP benefits.

"I do want to let the community know that we as a community are gonna take care of our local community, regardless of what politics as usual is doing," she said.

PUBLIC SAFETY From page 3

tion that included Springfield police. According to SHPD, Springfield police responded at approximately 1:44 a.m. on Nov. 2 to a disturbance involving Kidd and Emily Clark, 21. While investigating the disturbance in Springfield, they

learned of an incident that occurred between the two while they were visiting in Sweet Home on or about Sept. 20 at 3137 Main St., Probable cause was developed, and Kidd was taken into custody for domestic violence-strangulation.SHPD took over the investigation and Kidd was lodged at Linn County Jail on the charge of domestic violence-strangulation.

7:27 a.m. - SHPD conducted death investigation at Wiley Creek Community, 5050 Mountain Fir St. Report taken.

9:06 a.m. - Trailer containing trash left in 46600 block Old Hufford Dr. due to trailer malfunction. Responsible party contacted deputy and will be moving trailer.

11:26 a.m. - Neighbor's dog came to visit deputy on patro in 46200 block Old Hufford Dr. Owner arrived to collect dog.

11:58 a.m. - Deputy located vehicle parked in front of gate, partially blocking gate in 44700 block Old Hufford Dr. Deputy left message for owner to move vehicle.

12:49 p.m. - Caller reported theft in 900 block 23rd Ave. Officer responded, report taken for theft I. A Samsung phone

See Public Safety, Page 6

CORRECTIONS

- · Huskies quarterback Macen Rosa should have been listed as a freshman in the story about Sweet Home's win over Cottage Grove in the Oct. 29 issue.
- The story should have reported that the Huskies' last appearance in the 4A Division playoffs was 2019.
- Also, in that report Kellen Hartsook should have been identified as the Husky who corralled two Cottage Grove onside kick attempts in a row.
- The obituary in the Oct. 29 edition for Donna Shortreed should have included Tricia Coulter of Medford among her surviving children.



Photo courtesy of Andy Cripe

Sam Barringer fights for yardage with some help from teammates Gavin Tyler (73) and Kellen Hartsook (55). See many more game photos at sweethomenews.com.

FOOTBALL

From page 1

math in multiple third-andlongs, fourth-and-long opportunities, but we just weren't able to capitalize.

"But we just talked at halftime about 'How are we going to respond?' We had two quarters left. What were we going to do with it? I was really proud with how they responded to that question."

Sweet Home came out firing in the third quarter as Riley Vaughan, filling in at quarter-back for Kyle Zajic for the second straight week, hit Dillan Davis with a 24-yard scoring pass, after Davis stumbled, then recovered and managed to get behind the Warrior defense.

On Philomath's next possession, Kaeson Walker intercepted Altushin at the Sweet Home 40, and six plays later, after driving the Huskies to the Philomath 10, aided by a couple of penalties called on the Warriors, Vaughan added another score, connecting with Walker on a 10-yard scoring strike to even the score.

However, Philomath – er, De La Rosa, wasn't done yet.

On their first play following Sweet Home's score, he swept around the right end and took off on a 72-yard scamper for a touchdown.

"We had all the momentum right there, and then No. 5 (De La Rosa) did what No. 5 does. That was a tough one to swallow," Adams acknowledged."

Late in the quarter he picked Vaughan off at the Philomath 28 and, five plays later, hauled in a 28-yard pass from Altashin for the Warriors' final score, after three failed attempts at a two-point conversion.

Adams said his team never stopped battling, "but it just didn't go our way."

Vaughan finished with 12 completions in 20 attempts for 129 yards, with those two interceptions. The Huskies added 52 yards on the ground.

"Riley really did a good job for us," Adams said. "I was really impressed with how he stepped up and managed the game, especially in that second half. He made some really good throws for us and I think our other guys, just became more consistent in the second half – they made more secure tackles and really just did the things we know how to do."

Altushin was 15 of 22 for 145 yards, with one interception, and Philomath had 203 yards on 27 carries.

Other individual statistics were not available at press time.

The forfeit leaves the Huskies with a 3-2 league record, tied with Marist and Crescent Valley, 7-2 overall. Sweet Home will be seeded 10th going into the playoffs; La Grande will be seeded seventh. The Tigers' four losses have been to Vale (27-14), Tillamook (33-26), Burns (38-6) and Cascade (51-7). They swept their league with wins over Ontario, Baker, The Dalles and Pendleton.

Adams said La Grande has

had a revolving door at quarterback, but one thing is clear from the tape: The Tigers like to run the ball.

"It will definitely be won or lost in the trenches, which is exciting for us because a few of our league games have been decided on the ends, whereas against Cottage Grove we won that one in the trenches.

"We're excited for that opportunity because we think one of our strongest units is our offensive and defensive line, and so we're excited to kind of put those first-round outcomes on their shoulders."

He acknowledged that the Huskies got a break to get into the playoffs and they have everything to gain and nothing

"We're kind of playing on borrowed time," he said. "And so we're going to approach it like that, just practice as best we can this week and then try and put together our best game of the year. They (his players) seem pretty excited about the opportunity, really excited to get after it."

Girls soccer struggled this season, but coach predicts brighter future

By Ryker Burr For The New Era

Girls soccer didn't end the year the way the team wanted, falling 0-7 Oct. 28 at league-rival Cascade.

The Huskies (0-10, 1-14) ended their season on an 11-game losing streak, scoring no goals in 10 of those contests, and being mercyruled in four of them.

Head Coach Ramiro Santana highlighted the team's enhanced play: "The whole team played well this week, especially Miu Simmons, Khloe Sautel, Ziarra [Duncan], Khloe Wood, and Nakia Merino-Jaurez."

The Huskies will suffer a blow with the loss of both team captain Anabelle Morris and Danielle Robertson due to graduation this year, but Santana remains confident his team will be able to improve: "This group of girls, they are fighters, they never give up.

"They have gotten much better. They are a very young team. This league is very tough and very competitive. We'll look to improve next season."

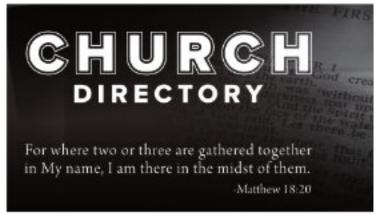
This likely will be Sweet Home's last year competing in 4A, as the OSAA is considering moving the school to 3A, which would move Sweet Home out of an absolute gauntlet of a league (one they're on a 24-game losing streak in), to competitions that may be more their speed.

"We will look to do more work during the summer to get much better," Santana stated





November 5, 2025 The New Year PAGE 6 I





Services: 10 am Sunday

1234 Long St., Sweet Home 541-367-6161

shcornerstonefellowship.org



GATHERING TIME 10:45 A.M.

890 Mountain View Rd. 541-967-HOPE (4673) www.hope.church/sweethome

Mt. Calvary Missionary Baptist Church

Sunday Service Ham Come join us!

Bible Study

1042 Pleasant Valley Rd. 541-818-0022



St. Helen Catholic Church 600 6th Ave, Sweet Hame

www.sweethomecatholicchurch.com

Holy Mass

Sat. at 5:30 pm & Sun. at 9:00 am Tues 5:30 pm & Wed-Fri 8:30 am

Confessions

Before Masses or 1st, 2nd & 3rd Sat. 4:00 - 5:00 pm

For Sacramental information call

541-367-2530

Father Scott Baier



1266 44th Ave. PO Box 515 541-367-2848 • shnlic.org

10:30 a.m. Worship Service 10:30 a.m. Children's Church



11:00 am Worship Free Meal - Tue, Wed & Fri - 5:00 pm

6th & Ironwood • 541-367-3073







Elm Street Baptist Church Sunday Services:

9:45 am Sunday School 11:00 am Worship 5:00 pm Prayer Meeting

1150 Elm St. Sweet Home 541-367-5883

Fire chief: Grant gives SHFAD chance to head off medical issues for staff

By Scott Swanson Of The New Era

Sweet Home Fire and Ambulance District is taking steps to improve safety for its staff and volunteers, Fire Chief Nick Tyler told members of the Board of Directors at their monthly meeting on Oct. 21.

Tyler provided some details of a grant-funded department program that aims to screen firefighters for cancer and other medical conditions related to exposure to hazardous materials while responding to emergencies.

Sweet Home Fire was notified in September that it has been awarded an Assistance to Firefighters Grant award through FEMA.

The \$126,857 grant gives the department funding towards a \$133,200 project.

The project will provide National Fire Protection Association-compliant physicals and cancer screenings for SHFAD's 74 firefighters for two years. The project is an effort to identify potentially life-threatening conditions suffered by firefighters to prevent line-of-duty deaths. The goal of the fire district is to establish long-term funding at the completion of the grant, to continue providing these screenings to firefighters.

The purpose of the NFPA physical is to "reduce the likelihood of suffering a preventable line-of-duty death," according to a guide on the test provided to firefighters, who are not charged for undergoing the mandatory test. The examination includes vital signs, bloodwork, urinalysis, spirometry, hearing and vision tests. an ECG/stress test, and examination by a health care provider designated by the fire department.

This AFG grant was high on my priority list," Tyler told board members, adding that

like a lot of money from a grant," coming up with that money from the department's budget would be challenging.

"As chief, the minimum thing I can do is protect people from cancers, etc.," Tyler said.

According to the International Association of Fire Chiefs, nearly half of all firefighter fatalities occur as a result of medical emergencies, due to the "severe physical nature of firefighting" and harsh environmental conditions firefighters face on the job.

Many of these deaths could potentially be avoided through early detection of underlying medical conditions by participation in an annual routine medical examination, which includes commonplace noninvasive medical testing," the IAFC stated in an administrative guideance for imple menting NFPA 1582, a standard for departments to follow to reduce health risks and improve safety for firefighters.

"The economic costs associated with a firefighter's death far outstrip the costs of ensuring that firefighters receive an annual medical examination," the guide says. "Put simply, firefighters lives are worth far more than the cost of implementing a wellness-fitness program that starts with an annual physical."

Tyler said carcinogen exposure, in particular, is a big risk for firefighters, which is why he wants the department to move quickly.

These days, when a firefighter develops cancer, we assume it's from the job. We don't want to wait until they retire, so we're establishing a baseline with these physicals, catching things early."

LifePack Upgrades

Board members unanimously approved spending up to \$20,000 to acquire used up-

while "\$133,000 doesn't seem dated LifePack 15 defibrillators from Portland Fire. Board President Dawn Mitchell was absent from the meeting.

LifePacks are advanced cardiac monitors and defibrillators used by emergency medical personnel to diagnose and treat cardiac emergencies. The devices can record vital signs, monitor cardiac rhythms and deliver defibrillation therapy to restart the heart.

Tyler told them that Battalion Chief Shannon Pettner had found a "good line" on procuring the equipment, which can range in cost from about \$20,000 to more than \$50,000 each, depending on the model.

The newer models would replace older Model 12's that are becoming obsolete, Tyler told the board.

'They don't service Lifepack 12s any more," he said. "Once the batteries go out, once we have an issue, they're done."

Wildland Fire Defense

In other action, the board voted unanimously to accept an \$8.7 million Community Wildlife Defense Grant from the U.S. Forest Service, \$5.4 million of which is coming directly to SHFAD.

The department was alerted in late September that it had received the grant, which also benefits ODF South Cascade District, Lebanon Fire District, Linn County Juven ile Department, and the South Santiam Calapooia watershed councils, which have combined to form the Linn Wildlife Mitigation Group.

(See www.sweethomenews. com/sh-fire-gets-8-7-milliongrant-for-wildfire-defense)

Tyler said Wildland Supervisor Christian Whitfield with ramrodding the completion of the extensive grant application, with some help from Oregon State University Extension

See Fire Board, Page 13

PUBLIC SAFETY

From page 4

valued at approximately \$1,400 was reported missing.

3:14 p.m. - Deputy responded to call from hiker lost in 49900 block Quartzville Rd. Deputy located hiker, assisted her back.

4:53 p.m. - Aron Van Dijk, 42. of Sweet Home, cited on outstanding warrant, 49700 block Quartzville Rd. Report taken.

5:15 p.m. - Caller reported tney were rear-ended in area of Main St./15th Ave., followed the offending vehicle to Bi-Mart, 1980 Main St. Officer responded, report taken for damage under \$2,500. Parties agreed to have insurance companies handle situation.

6:13 p.m. - LCSO responded to altercation between father and son in 25100 block Little Valley Lane, Brownsville. Alcohol and word choice appeared to have contributed to distur-

bance. Family members indicated they could work the issue out without law enforcement assistance.

Nov. 1

5:36 a.m. - Caller reported ex-boyfriend stole her EBT card, pushed her down and maced her. Second caller reported female came to his house, 100 block Holley Rd., hit him and he had to mace her. Officer responded, parties decided they could handle the matter civilly and declined to pursue charges.

9:40 a.m. - Hunters reported finding clothes in woods on Cascade Timber Consulting property in 45200 block Sunnyside Rd.

10:03 a.m. - Fraud reported in 34800 block Lake Creek Dr., Brownsville. Report taken.

11:30 a.m. - Deputy located male who was illegally camping on BLM property in 49700 block Quartzville Rd. He was warned.

12:39 p.m. - Male hunting on Giustina Resources/Weyerhaeuser property in 42100 block Upper Calapooia Dr., got lost and called for help. Deputy located him and gave him a ride to his vehicle.

1:07 p.m. - Christopher Berrarras, 45, of Sweet Home, cited for driving while suspended, driving uninsured, 600 block Main St.

1:52 p.m. - Caller reported older gray Jeep, with two flat tires, parked in front of Advanced Family Eye Care, 2245 Long St., for weeks and that male was rummaging through vehicle. Officer responded, contacted male, who stated he was trying to get the vehicle operational. He was advised it would be posted after 5 p.m.

3:38 p.m. - Caller reported male trying to break into neighbor's car. When confronted, male said it was his

See Public Safety, Page 14



* ★ ★ ★ ★ HONORING ALL WHO SERVED

VETERANS DAY



Teaching just tip of iceberg for parade grand marshal Dr. Sorweide

By Scott Swanson Of The New Era

If there's such a thing as a typical, ordinary medical school professor, Dr. Derrick Sorweide is probably not it.

That becomes pretty clear pretty fast as Sorweide sits in his office at College of Osteopathic Medicine of the Pacific-Northwest in Lebanon, where he was one of the team who started the school in 2012.

Oh, Sorweide is most assuredly a medical school professor. He teaches family medicine and cardiovascular curriculum, and is the school's director of clinical education.

But he's also an outdoors enthusiast and since 2016. he's been a military man, serving three extended tours around the world. Now a lieutenant colonel in the U.S. Army Reserves, he serves as the medical readiness and training command surgeon for the reserve component.

In recognition of his service, Sorweide has been chosen to serve as grand marshal of this year's Linn County Veterans Parade in Albany. He actually was chosen as the parade's grand marshal last year, but was unable to attend because he was being deployed in the Middle East last fall.

Medicine Came First

Sorweide's path to military service has been a series of steps, not all of them planned.

He spent his early years in Washington, but largely grew up in Las Vegas, Nev., after his



Photo courtesy of Derrick Sorweide Dr. Sorweide on deployment in the Mid-East.

father, an airline pilot who

didn't particularly like rain, decided to move there.

Sorweide initially worked in physical therapy, when "I decided to have a career change and applied to medical

He originally planned to attend medical school on a military scholarship, "however, those plans kind of went sideways when both my parents were diagnosed with cancer."

"My sister, who's a nurse, and I ended up hospiceing them and that was not a good time for me to leave the coun-

He received his doctorate of osteopathic medicine from Kirksville College of Osteopathic Medicine in Missouri before completing his residency in family medicine at the University of North Texas Health Sciences Center and Dallas Southwest Medical Center.

Sorweide said he'd always loved the Northwest, so "as soon as I got done with (the residency), I knew I was going to come out to Oregon. So I came out and established Sorweide Family Medicine in Grants Pass. He continued there for 16 years before joining the team at COMP-North-

"I'm actually one of the founders," Sorweide said.

He had gotten involved in Osteopathic Physicians and Surgeons, an organization that provides continuing education and representation for osteopaths in the state, and got acquainted with Larry Mullins, CEO of Samaritan Lebanon Community Hospital at the time, and Paula Crone, who later became dean of COMP-Northwest.

"That just blossomed, the relationships with a lot of people," he said. "I saw such a good group of folks, some of the best friends I'd ever made in my life, and it was a project that I knew I could put myself behind and that I wasn't, you know, I wasn't going to end up

regretting it."

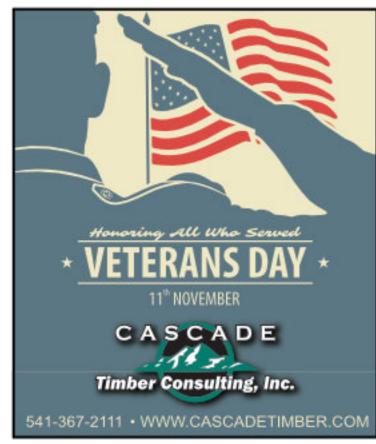
He sold his practice and moved north to help start the school.

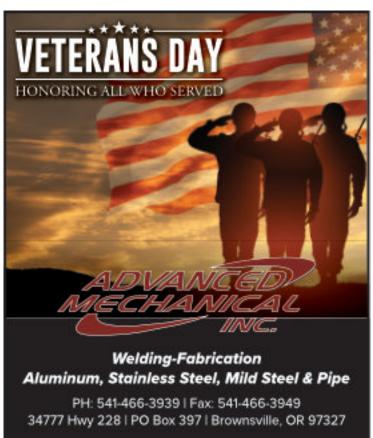
He also met Dr. Leslie Stevens, a graduate of Western University School of Health Sciences in Pomona, Calif., which is now the sister school for COMP-Northwest. They're now married.

Late Arrival to Army

Through it all, Sorweide had never lost interest in military

See Sorweide, Page 8









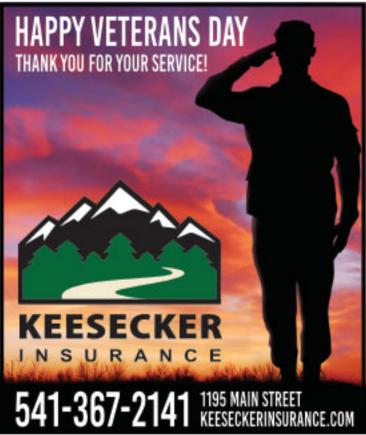




Photo courtesy of COMP-Northwest

Dr. Sorweide, right, and students in COMP-Northwest's Wilderness Medicine Club are pictured on an outing. See more photos at sweethomenews.com.

SORWEIDE

From page 7

"I always wanted to serve in the military," he said. "I thought those days were over with, because I started having kids and started a practice and did all my things, and then I came up here to start working for the school, and suddenly I had a very supportive environment.

"The school has always supported my efforts to go into the military. My wife grew up in an Army family. Actually, her brother was my first commander, and her dad commissioned me.

"So she said, 'Hey, you've always wanted to do this. Why don't you? You're not too old. Go do it."

So he did, joining the Army Reserves in 2016.

"I was a late bloomer in the Army," Sorweide said. "I commissioned at 49."

He started working in a combat support hospital (CSH) as a primary care doctor.

"My job was pretty much to make sure, early on, that all the other soldiers around me were fit to go and do these deployments and assignments that they received. And so we did all the primary care part of that."

In 2018 he got tagged to deploy to the Middle East.

"I got a call and they said, 'Hey, you've done hospitalist work. You've also done some ER work. Would you mind being an ER doctor for this deployment?'

"And I was like, I can do hat."

He said that deployment, in Kuwait and then in Iraq, established his reputation as an ER doctor.

"That kind of let the military know that I can function in that manner," Sorweide said. "And most of my other deployments have been in that regard."

During COVID, he was deployed as an ER doctor to South and Central America, where the Army was carrying out anti-drug and anti-human trafficking efforts.

Thanks to COVID travel restraints, he was deployed for nine months that time - in what was supposed to be a 90day stint that was prolonged due to the pandemic.

Plus, he was forced to stay in the Texas desert "in the middle of nowhere" for three weeks before and after the Central America deployment at an "old World War II tank gunnery range with a Quonset hut – that's where they put us up."

"By the time we left, three weeks later, there were, like, 80,000 people living out there because the entire military couldn't leave the country. There was a travel ban, so they were just sticking us all out there to quarantine us.

"They had taped-off sections, like 100 yards by 100 yards and that was your thing. You couldn't cross over because they didn't want to contaminate groups, right? So, yeah, it was interesting."

Most recently, he worked in eight different countries in the Middle East as part of a command team that focused on humanitarian work. Currently, he holds the position of

See Sorweide, Page 13





Legion needs some help from community to get new post headquarters operational

By Scott Swanson Of The New Era

Kat Cox stands with other officers of Sweet Home's American Legion Post 133 in the spacious basement of what once was Fir Lawn Lutheran Church.

Around them, brand new tables and chairs stand neatly arranged around the sprawling room.

Welcome to the Legion's new hall. But it will be a while before it will be fully functional.

That's because repairs to the building at 109 W. Holley Road, severely damaged by an arson fire before church members decided to sell it to the Legion, still needs finishing touches.

Like insulation, drywall, light fixtures, carpet. And volunteer expertise.

Legion members, who are slowly returning to the organization, are already paying the mortgage, but they're looking to complete the building so they can start renting it for local events, which will help with the financial demands the organization is facing.

"We need to get things going in November, right away," said Tom Cox, one of the post officers. "Birthday parties, Christmas parties, that kind of thing."

Kat Cox, the local post's commander, said that although the downstairs section of the hall is already being used for Legion meetings and is available for other events – meetings and other gatherings, banquets, parties and more.

The community is stepping up with help in getting the post headquarters ready for use, they said.

One anonymous donor, from Lebanon, provided 48



Photo by Scott Swanson

American Legion Post 133 officers, from left, Dale Jenkins, David Busby, Tom Cox and Kat Cox, stand outside their new headquarters at the corner of Holley Road and 1st Avenue.

"brand, spanking new" folding chairs that arrived last week, Cox said.

Columbia (formerly Umpqua) Bank provided more chairs and some tables.

With that furniture in place, the downstairs is functional, members said. They're still working on getting cookware and utensils for the kitchen, as well as a refrigerator.

The building is representative of the Legion's current state - one of rebuilding.

David Busby, one of the post officers, said Sweet Home has nearly 30 members now, but that's a big need: more of them.

"The No. 1 thing that we need is members," he said, as Cox interjected, "absolutely."

They also need help in getting the building finished, Cox said. Legion members are making payments out of their own pockets as they try to get the upper story completed.

The focus of the Legion, Cox and others said, sets it apart from the Veterans of Foreign Wars, which maintains the Sweet Home Veterans Club at 580 Main St.

Cox, who is a 17-year Legion member, expressed appreciation for the way the VFW has accommodated the Legion after the latter lost its building at 1127 Long St. in 2017.

A Vietnam Air Force veteran herself, she is the first woman to serve in the VFW Honor Guard in Sweet Home.

Membership in the VFW is restricted to veterans who have served in a combat zone or have received a campaign medal, whereas the Legion, founded in 1919, focuses on four pillars: Americanism, Children and Youth, National Security, and Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation.

The VFW, founded in 1899, specifically focuses on fostering camaraderie among veterans who have served in overseas conflicts.

"They have been more of a companion group," Cox said, noting that the Legion post

See Legion, Page 10









November 5, 2025 The New Year PAGE 10 |











Photo by Scott Swanson

The interior of the new Legion hall still needs repairs and upgrades following the fire that destroyed the sanctuary of Fir Lawn Lutheran Church.

LEGION

From page 9

will not have a bar or regular alcohol sales, though it will be able to accommodate groups that want to include alcohol in their functions.

'It'll be once in a while when there's a specific need or event," she said. "It won't be a bar.

'We have a lot of programs that we need to be working on, with the children and the youth and the veterans and their families and law enforcement camp."

One example, she and Jenkins said, is the American Legion's National Oratorical Contest, which gives highschoolers a chance to has helped youth deepen their understanding of the Constitution, develop leadership,

earn and scholarships through public speaking about the Constitution.

"There's a lot of scholarship money at the state level and the national level," Busby said.

He said they're working on getting Sweet Home students involved in time to compete in the local competition around the beginning of the new year.

But meanwhile, they are working to get the post in full operation.

The roof of the former church sanctuary on the main floor, which has been restructured completely, replacing the high A-frame peaked roof on the church building, needs to be insulated and sheet-rocked.

A sound system has been donated and will be installed upstairs, Cox said, and the stage, which was damaged during the firefighting operations, needs some repairs and carpet, which must be completed before the sound system is put in.

Once completed, the Legion plans to use the hall as a community center and make it available for rent. Cox and the others emphasized that they are not looking to compete with other organizations on activities such as bingo nights.

'We're not looking to step on anybody's toes," Tom Cox said. .

"What kind of events can we support here?" Busby asked. "We can do all kinds of things. Once we get this energy going, it can build on itself. We can do a lot of good things for the community with this building."

VETERANS DAY ACTIVITIES SCHEDULE

Ongoing Through Wednesday, Nov. 12

Veterans Uniforms on Display **Downtown Albany**

Displays include 19 uniforms from various branches of the military from the Civil War, World War I, World War II, Ko rea and Vietnam, to current campaigns

Find locations at albanydowntown.com/ada-event/veteransuniforms-on-display.

Friday, Nov. 7, 8 to 10 a.m. Friday Morning Veterans Breakfast

tiam Hwy. SE, Albany

Monday, Nov. 10, 6 p.m. Veteran of the Year Banquet YMCA, 3201 Pacific Blvd. SW, Albany

Tickets \$40 per person, available at VFW Post 584 Canteen, 1469 Timber St. SE, Albany, or at www.vfwpost584. org/veteran-of-the-year-proTuesday, Nov. 11, 6:30 to 9:30 a.m

Albany Optimist Club Veterans Day Breakfast West Albany High School, 2100 Elm St. SW, Albany All-you-can eat breakfast of ham, eggs, pancakes, coffee, milk and orange juice rson, \$10 for vetertary, \$7 ans a Proce nefit local ne profit organizations albanyoptimist.org/veteranday-breakfast

rant, 2802 San- Tuesday, Nov. 11, 7 to 10 a Veterans Day Continental Breakfast

American Legion Post 10, 1215 Pacific Blvd., Albany

Tuesday, Nov. 11, 8:30 a.m. Veterans Day Memorial Ser-

Veterans Memorial at Timber Linn Park, 900 Price Rd. SE,

Monday, Nov. 11, 11 a.m. Veterans Day Parade (Flyover by U.S. Coast Guard approx. 11:50 a.m.) Downtown Albany

Tuesday, Nov. 11, Noon to 2 p.m.

Veterans Day Spaghetti Lunch American Legion Post 10, 1215 Pacific Blvd., Albany

Tuesday, Nov. 11, 1 to whenever chili is gone /FW Chili Feed VFW Post 584, 1469 Timber

St., Albany Open to public; Donations Wel-

Saturday, Nov. 15, 5:30 p.m. Stars and Stripes Ball, Knife River Training Center, 35973 Kennel Road SE, Albany Formal event. Guests must be 18 or older. Non-veterans wel-

Dinner, silent and live auctions, games and dancing Tickets are \$125 each. Proceeds benefit Link Up Vets. For tickets, visit linkupvets.org/stars-and-stripes-ball-2025.

Three Huskies qualify for cross-country state championships

Three Sweet Home runners qualified for the state championships Saturday at the district meet, hosted by Philomath.

Senior McKenzie Miller clinched her first-ever slot in the 4A girls championship race, while teammate Emma Whitton finished fourth. Runners who finish in the top seven, who are not already on a team that has qualified for state, qualify as at-large individuals.

The girls finished third as a team, behind Stayton and Philomath, which clinched automatic berths.

On the boys side, junior Ryker Burr finished sixth to qualify as an individual as the boys team placed fourth in a tight varsity race.

"This was the most competitive racing we have done at the district meet in the last four years," Coach Dave Martin said. "We got two girls and one boy to state."

Whitton placed fourth in state last year as a freshman, but Burr is the first boy to qualify for state from Sweet Home since Tanner Sayers did it in 2017.

Martin said he hoped his entire girls team could qualify for the single at-large team berth, but Molalla was chosen to go to state instead of the Huskies, who were lacking their No. 3 runner, Cassie Spencer, who had to sit out with an injury.

"I'm sad for our girls, but it's fair," Martin said. "It looks right."

The Huskies had eight boys and six girls post personal bests, and those who didn't weren't far off on the soaking wet Philomath course. Rain fell during the entire meet.

"When you get people having their best race at the district race - they came and they raced well," Martin said.

Sweet Home's boys finished with 69 points, scored by a junior – Burr, three sophomores and a freshman. Philomath won the district title with 45 points, led by senior Leo Pausch, who led wire to wire in 16:06.41. Newport was second (54), followed closely by Stayton (56). Cascade was fifth with 139 points.

The girls finished with 66 points, scored by a senior – Miller, a junior, two sophomores and a freshman. Philomath won the girls team title with 33 points, led by individual winner Cassidy Smart, a sophomore who finished in 18:14.16, running away from the field at the start. Stayton was second (49) and Newport finished fourth

"In the boys race, we scored as many points as the girls did, but we came in fourth," Martin noted. "That tells you how competitive that race was. We scored less points than we have in the last four years and we were still





Photos by Scott Swanson

Elijah Rodriguez, left, and Miu Simmons, right, compete for the Huskies during the Oregon West Conference district championships Saturday. See more photos at sweethomenews.com.

fourth."

But, he added, "we are getting close to where I want this program to be."

For one thing, Sweet Home's girls were the only ones to have at least five junior varsity runners, which is the number it takes to score in cross-country.

"I was really pleased with that," Martin said. "It shows our depth; our quality is improving."

Miller led the girls, running 19:19.81 for second, one second off her personal best for the 5K distance, followed by Whitton, fourth in 19:35.66 behind Newport junior Alexandra Curtis.

"McKenzie Miller had a phenomenal race, considering the fact she's been battling some injuries and illness," Martin said. "To have her run within one second off her lifetime PR, she just looked phenomenally strong."

Rounding out the Husky finishers was junior Noelle Helfrich who was 21st in 23:38.86, leading a pack of Sweet Home's other runners: sophomore Madison Ciullo, 22nd in 23:48.62 (a 22-second PR), freshman Pyper Hall, 23rd in 24:04.62 (and eight-second PR), who edged fellow freshman Marian Helfrich (24:04.76).

For the boys, Burr ran a PR of some 20 seconds to finish just shy of the 16-minute mark in 17:02.48. Freshman Elijah Rodriguez was ninth in 17:32.14, a three-second PR and 45 seconds ahead of the next freshman finisher, followed by sophomore Evan Knight, 12th in 17:59.32, a six-second personal best and his first time under 18:00.

"That's the first time we've had three guys under 18 minutes in a long time," Martin noted.

Sophomore Acen Webber was 15th in 18:10.09, sophomore Louis Kistner 27th in 18:58.10 after taking a fall midway through the race, junior Conner Spencer was 30th in 19:28.05 and sophomore Noah Strawn was 32nd in 19:35.48, an 11-second PR.

In the girls JV race, junior Miu Simmons placed third for Sweet Home in her third race of the year, after completing her girls soccer season earlier in the week. Her time of 24:58.01 was a personal best by nearly a minute, something she has done in all three of her races this season, her first in cross-country.

"Miu Simmons just had a phenomenal race," Martin said. "She's gotten better every race. She ran well, so well."

Junior McKenzie Ohlheiser was eighth in 26:23.29, a 15second PR, followed by senior Delanie Pratt, ninth in 27:25.65, freshman Lexi Lee in 30:42.30, followed by Zoie Allison in 32:42.99, a roughly 14-minute PR in only her second 5K of an injury-ridden and freshman season. Nevaeh Mize in a six-minute PR of 44:21.32 in her second 5K of the season, in which she also has been hobbled by

The junior varsity boys finished fourth in the team competition with 80 points, behind Stayton (36), Philomath (45), Newport (74) and ahead of Cascade 100.

Sophomore Wes Goff finished 11th in 20:17.74 to lead Sweet Home, followed by freshmen Hudson Ogden, 12th in a one-second PR of 20:21.70, and Bentley Uhlry, 13th in 20:21.71, a 27-second PR.

Close behind was freshman Ryder Farris in 18th, running 21:05.72, sophomore Eli Adams in 21:42.48, a personal best by about half a minute, and junior Sam Strawn in 22:54.05, a PR by nearly a minute.

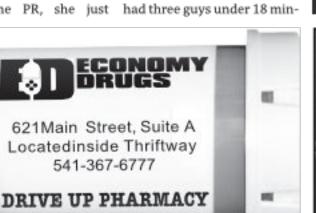
Martin noted that the young Huskies are no longer also-rans on either side.

"They were paying attention to us, to our team in competition," he said. "We've made huge strides in how well we've raced as a team in big meets. I came away very pleased.

"It was a nice way for our kids to finish."

The 4A state championships, held at Lane Community College in Eugene, start Saturday, Nov. 8, with the boys race at 11:45 a.m. The girls will follow at 12:20. There is an admission charge; tickets are available at www. osaa.org/tickets.

CCB# 110950







East Linn

541-367-2293

Public Notices

CITY OF HALSEY PUBLIC NOTICE - Vacation of West A & B Streets

The following matter shall be reviewed by the Halsey City Council at a public meeting on November 18th, 2025, 7:00 p.m. at Halsey City Hall, 100 Halsey St., 97348. The purpose of this notice is to obtain public comments pertaining to the vacation of West A & B Street (between 6th and 7th). Oregon law requires that testimony and evidence must be directed toward the decision criteria. Interested parties may appear in person or give written comments to City Hall prior to 4:00 pm on Monday, November 17th, 2025.

APPLICANT'S NAME: Central Valley Assembly of God

TOPIC OF DISCUSSION: Street vacation of West A & B Street, between 6th and 7th streets. LOCATION OF PROPERTY: Approximate location, lot south of 657 American Dr, Halsey, Ore-

PRESENT PLAN DESIGNA-TION: Residential

PRESENT ZONING: Residen-

SUMMARY OF REQUEST: To access all potential lots for future development, the property owner has requested the

City vacate west A & B Streets right of way from West 6th to West 7th Streets, Halsey, Oregon.

Briana Parra, City Administrator (10/29, 11/5)_____

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE STATE OF OREGON FOR THE COUNTY OF LINN

CITY OF ALBANY, a municipal corporation, Plaintiff, v. SCOTT KEVIN HEINZ, UNKNOWN HEIRS OF MARY J. JENKINS, OLIVIA RENAE MAZONE, CSO FINANCIAL, INC, STATE OF OREGON, SHARLA RAE VALENCIA, and JOHN PATRICK FLICK, Defendants.

Case No. 25CV52256
COMPLAINT FOR FORECLOSURE NOT SUBJECT TO
MANDATORY ARBITRATION
AMOUNT OF CLAIM:
\$570,710.50

FILING FEE: \$594

At all times material herein, Plaintiff the City of Albany ("Plaintiff") was and is a municipal corporation duly organized and existing under the laws of the state of Oregon.

At all times material herein, Defendant, Scott Kevin Heinz was the record owner or reputed owner of the real property and the improvements thereon commonly known as 2205 Front Avenue, NE Albany Linn County, Oregon 97321 ("Property"), more particularly described as follows:

Lot 22, Block 21, BURKHART PARK ADDITION, in the City of Albany, County of Linn and State of Oregon, together with that portion of vacated alley which inured by ordinance, Recorded in Book 193, Page 507, Linn County Records. Also known as 2205 Front Ave NE, Albany, Oregon 97321.

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 Plaintiffs ability, Plaintiff has conducted a search for the named Defendants. Upon information and belief Plaintiff alleges that no party named herein is a minor or otherwise incompetent.

Plaintiff filed a municipal lien ("Lien") against the Property in

Public Notices

the records of Linn County, Oregon, to secure payment of the abatement of a derelict structure in the sum of \$570,710.50. A copy of the lien is attached hereto as Exhibit "1".

The Lien is subject to foreclosure. Plaintiff declares that the entire balance of principal and interest is now due and payable. Currently, \$570,710.50 is immediately due and payable and is secured by the Lien on the Prop-

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.

More than 15 days prior to filing this Complaint, Plaintiff mailed a notice to Defendant stating that Plaintiff intended to commence suit to foreclose its lien unless the lien was paid within 15 days of the notice. A copy of the notice is attached hereto as Exhibit "2" and incorporated by refer-

ence herein. WHEREFORE, plaintiff prays for a judgment of this court:

(A) Granting judgment to Plaintiff against Defendant in the amount of \$570,710.50.

(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 Plaintiffs 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 he 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 junior interest claimants who do not contest this action:

(F) Ordering that Defendant and all persons claiming through Defendant are forever foreclosed of all interest in the property.

(G) Granting such other and further relief as the court deems equitable.

DATED this 5th day of November 2025.

2025. M. Sean Kidd, OSB #091224 Attorney for Plaintiffs 260 Ferry Street SW, Ste 202 Albany, OR 97321 (541) 926-5505 sean@longdel.com (11/5, 11/12, 11/19, 11/26)____

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE STATE OF OREGON FOR THE COUNTY OF LINN

CITY OF ALBANY, a municipal corporation, Plaintiff, v. SCOTT KEVIN HEINZ, UNKNOWN HEIRS OF MARY J. JENKINS, OLIVIA RENAE MAZONE, CSO FINANCIAL, INC., STATE OF OREGON, SHARLA RAE VALENCIA, and JOHN PATRICK FLICK, Defendants.

Case No. 25CV52256 SUMMONS

TO: Unknown Heirs of Mary J. Jenkins

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 November 5, 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:

Public Notices

READ THESE PAPERS CARE-FULLY!

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." may be available Forms 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 ser-vice 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.

452-7636.
Dated: November 5, 2025
M. Sean Kidd, OSB #091224
Attorney for Plaintiffs
260 Ferry Street SW, Ste 202
Albany, OR 97321
(541) 926-5505
sean@longdel.com
(11/5, 11/12, 11/19, 11/26)_____

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE STATE OF OREGON FOR THE COUNTY OF LINN Probate Department Case No. 25PB09426

NOTICE TO INTERESTED PER-SONS In the Matter of the Estate of Glenn D. Packnett

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Chaney Lindsay has been appointed Personal Representative of the Estate. All persons having claims against the Estate are required to present them to the undersigned attorney for the Personal Representative at 6400 SE Lake Road, Suite 440, Portland, Oregon 97222, within four months after date of publication of this Notice, as stated below, or the claims may be barred.

All persons whose rights may be affected by the proceedings in the Estate may obtain additional information from the records of the Court, the Personal Representative or the attorney for the Personal Representative.

Dated and published on November 5, 2025.

Chaney Lindsay Personal Representative Jonathan Bacsalmasi, OSB #170830 Fitzwater Law Of Attorneys for Personal Repre-

sentative 6400 SE Lake Road, Suite 440 Portland, OR 97222 (503) 786-8191 JonathanB@fitzwaterlaw.com

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE STATE OF OREGON FOR THE COUNTY OF LINN Probate Department Case No:

FOR THE COUNTY OF LINN Probate Department Case No: 25PB09467 NOTICE TO INTERESTED PERSONS

In the Matter of the Estate of RICHARD LEE SHOBE, Deceased

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Catherine Ann Shobe has been appointed Personal Representative of the above-named estate. All persons having claims against the estate are required to present them with vouchers attached to the attorney for the Personal Representative at the following address: ATTN: Andrew Bridge, PO Box 5, Dallas, Oregon 97338, 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

Public Notices

may obtain additional information from the records of the Court, the Personal Representative, or the attorneys for the Personal Representative.

Dated and first published on November 5, 2025. Attorney for the Personal Rep-

resentative: Andrew Bridge, OSB No. 194937

Jarvis, Bridge, Halttunen & Weyer, LLC PO Box 5, Dallas, OR 97338 Telephone: (503) 623-6676 Fax: (503) 714-8727

Fax: (503) 714-8727 bridge@jbhwlaw.com (11/5)

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE STATE OF OREGON FOR THE COUNTY OF LINN Probate Department

In the Matter of the Estate of LOIS CAROL HILZER, Deceased.

Case No. 25PB08845 NOTICE TO INTERESTED PER-SONS NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Garrett L. Hilzer has been appointed Personal Representative. All persons having claims against the Estate are required to present them, with vouchers attached, to the attorney for the Personal Representative at Willamette Valley Law Group, 494 State Street, Suite 430, Salem, Ore-gon 97301, within four months after the date of 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, Willamette ValleyLaw Group, 494 State Street, Suite 430, Salem, Oregon 97301.

DATED AND PUBLISHED: November 5, 2025. Stephen E. Montgomery, OSB

Stephen E. Montgomery, OSB No. 153941 Attorney for Personal Repre-

Attorney for Personal Representative (11/5)

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE STATE OF OREGON FOR THE COUNTY OF LINN Probate Department

In the Matter of the Estate of KRIS A. WRIGHT, SR., Deceased.

Case No. 25PB09353 NOTICE TO INTERESTED PER-SONS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on October 27, 2025, Kris Wright, Jr., was appointed as Person al Representative of the above-referenced estate. All persons having claims against the estate are required to present them, with vouchers attached, to the Personal Representative or to Stacey D. Mealer, Attorney, at the addresses listed below, 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.

Personal Representative: Kris Wright Jr. 91029 Marcola Road Springfield, OR 97478 (541) 636-7068

Attorney for Personal Representative: Stacey D. Mealer, Attorney

OSB023915 PO Box 81 ~ 1195 Main Street Suite 2

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FIRE BOARD

From page 6

staff, after another partner backed out late in the process.

The grant will pay for personnel over a five-year period: half of Whitfield's salary, a fulltime CWDG coordinator position, six full-time crew members and 10 seasonal crew members, along with equipment that will include power tools and a trailer or truck to haul an excavator with a mastication head, a truck to transport the chipper the department has already purchased, along with office furnishings and a Starlink communication subscription.

It also will fund staffing for some of the other LWMG agencies.

"The biggest single dollar amount is personnel," Whitfield told the board.

SHFAD will be the umbrella agency, he said. Partner agencies will submit invoices to SHFAD, which will then request the appropriate funding from USFS.

"They go out and do some work, pay employees, and submit an invoice; we are the passthrough agency," Tyler said, adding that SHFAD's "next budgetary cycle is going to be

interesting, a little more com-

The grant will allow partner agencies to work together in a "project pipeline" for more focused and efficient management and collaboration in wildfire defense, accelerate fuels reduction work by increasing fuels mitigation workforce, and education for residents in east Linn County through schools and community outreach, according to the grant application.

Tyler said the effort will include a website with "onestop answers" for people concerned about wildfire preven-

Whitifield said the department anticipates being able to apply for future grants to continue the process.

He and Tyler said the department will hire the CWDG coordinator "ASAP" to manage and administer the paperwork and manage the progress reports that will be necessary for the fuels mitigation efforts, as well as helping to organize six community Chipper Days that will be held twice a year at the Cascadia, Crawfordsville and Sweet Home fire stations, and various educational efforts.

In other action, the board:

· Heard from Tyler that the department has changed its information technology services provider from the Oregon West Council of Governments to Fastech Solutions of Vancouver, Wash.

Tyler said the COG has been unable to meet the department's IT needs in a timely manner and that other departments had recommended Fastech.

"Before we had a contract with them, they came in and fixed my computer in two hours," he said, adding that COG had been unable to provide the solution. "We had been waiting for six months.

Fastech, he said, sent two technicians down from Vancouver before the district had even signed a contract, who took a look around and then fixed his computer.

 Heard from Battalion Chief Josh Bondesen that the seismic project at Station 23 started Sept. 20 and is "going well" despite a few changes due to "discoveries" made along the way.

Also, Bondesen reported, the department was expecting to get the Engine 21 ladder truck back with repairs to its ladder, damaged in July, by the end of last week.

CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Small lump
- 4. Helps little firms
- 7. A way of performing
- Lawyers 15. Stirred up
- 16. Believed in
- 18. The Bay State (abbr.)
- Makes computers
- 20. Sodium
- As fast as can be done (abbr.)
- 24. Institute legal proceedings against
- 27. More compact
- 30. Ethiopian river 31. Quantitative fact
- 33. No (Scottish)
- 34. A concession of no great value 65. Meat from a pig's leg
- 35. Tony-winning actress Daisy

- 37. More (Spanish)
- 39. Russian space station
- 41. Helicopter 42. At the peak
- 44. Makes ecstatically happy
- 47. Excellent
- 48. Material body
- 49. The Golden State (abbr.)
- 50. A unit of plane angle
- 52. Argon
- 53. Fancy
- 56. Fried mixture of meat and spices
- 61. How green plants use sunlight
- 63. Without wills
- 64. Unhappy

SORWEIDE From page 8

command surgeon for the 2nd Medical Brigade of the U.S. Army Reserve, overseeing all medical military personnel in six western states.

'So actually, I saw a few patients, but that wasn't my role. My role was to make sure everybody else was doing their job. So we oversaw eight countries and what the medical teams in those eight countries had to deal with."

Then, last spring, he got diagnosed with cancer, from which, Sorweide said, he's recovered.

Outdoors Orientation

Meanwhile, not only does he run academic programs at the university when he's not deployed, but Sorweide also advises COMP-Northwest's Military Medicine Club and its Wilderness Medicine Club.

Over his years at COMP-Northwest, he also founded Military Medicine Ioint Trauma Training events in Lebanon, a bicycle interest group for students and Crash Cart Talks - informal educational sessions designed to teach medical students and staff how to respond to emergency situations and the use of a medical crash cart, which carries medication and equipment used to save lives in hospital emergencies.

"I love austere medicine," said Sorweide, who also said he enjoys fly fishing, hunting and general outdoors recreation. "I love, you know, going out in the middle of nowhere to do what I do. So I'm having a lot of fun.

When I lived in Grants Pass I was a huge fly fisherman,"

noting that he lived near the junction of the Rogue and Applegate rivers. "I fished all the time, pretty much for my san-

He said he and students will be putting on a winter medicine conference Mount Hood this year.

"All my students are actually participating in that with me.

COMP-Northwest club members compete against teams from half a dozen other medical schools, nursing programs and military groups in Med Wars."

They get together in the Northwest and they compete, and you have to build a fire from scratch. You have to build a shelter from scratch. You have to do these medical scenarios. You have to rescue people out of a ravine, out of the water."

Sorweide said he is waiting to find out how long his military career will continue.

"I turned 60 this year," he said. "So I'll find out this year, if I'm still in the Army or not, whether they can extend me past 60. There's got to be a need for it."

His four children are all out of the house - none pursuing medical careers - and his wife is nearing retirement from Kaiser Permanente in Keizer.

"She's done it all correctly," Sorweide said wryly, adding "Where I did all the stuff that we were told not to do in the '90s but I did it anyway."

The Sorweides have three grandchildren.

He and Leslie enjoy camping, he said, noting that they'd just returned from a longpostponed outing, delayed by his cancer treatments.

"We'd been putting it off

and I wasn't going to put that off any longer," he said. "We went out in the middle of the East Oregon desert and found some hot springs and went up in the Steens Mountains.

"I love Oregon. There's no other state where I can have ocean, mountains, desert whatever I want, all within an hour. Oregon's got everything I'd ever want."

He said he also likes fishing with one of his sons, who's a firefighter for Oregon Department of Forestry.

"The little bugger has become a much better fly fisherman than me," Sorweide observed, adding that being in the woods frequently puts his son at an advantage over his

"He finds streams that we don't know about. So every year we try to do what we call our "trout bomb" trip, where we just go out and we dirt bag it and go fishing. I'm loving getting back to that, especially as I think my Army career is about to come to an end. I'll have more weekends available to me."

One gets the strong sense that Sorweide's found ways to do things he's enjoyed, including teaching, without a lot of regrets.

'I have always felt very fortunate," he said. "I was born with a good mom and dad, and a good family with a decently strong body and a decently strong brain.

"I felt like I owed the world that. My way of giving back has been to go and do things." - Emily Campbell of COMP-Northwest contributed information for this story.

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Mentor
- Lyric poems
- 3. A dry cold north wind in Switzerland
- 4. Trapped
- 5. Used for road surfacing
- Cuckoos
- 7. Prefix "away from"
- 8. Seth McFarlane comedy 9. Not out
- 10. "The Simpsons" bus driver
- Popular HBO drama (abbr.) 12. Acclaimed Indian physicist
- Removes
- 14. One-name NBA player
- 17. Revolutionary women
- 22. Smell
- 23. Ground-dwelling songbird
- 24. Midway between south and southeast
- 25. American state

- 26. Keen
- 28. Khoikhoin peoples
- 29. Int'l defense organization
- 32. Samoan money
- 36. A sign of assent 38. One from Somalia
- 40. Boat race
- 43. Trims
- 44. French coins
- 45. Indigenous Scandinavian 46. Flew alone
- 51. Loch where a "monster" lives
- 54. Japanese title 55. Pros and
- 56. Present in all living cells
- 57. Something to scratch
- 58. Branch of Islam
- 59. Appear 60. Former CIA
- 62. Yukon Territory



Level: Beginner

November 5, 2025 The New Year PAGE 14 |

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.

 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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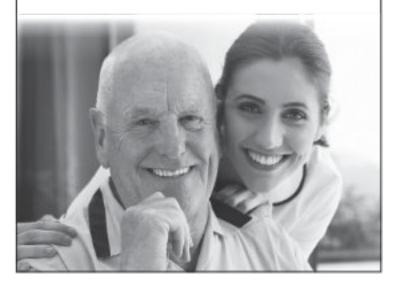
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Q: Do I have dry eyes or allergies?

A: Although allergy season is in full swing some people who have allergy type symptoms may in fact have dry eyes. There are sfic pecieye 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 Dr. Michael W. Stoner 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 conse of sensitive eyes to contact with allergens and other imitating substances. Poller 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, coal compresses, eyewash, oral anti-histomines 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-histomine component, which reduces the effects of histomine but also dry the eye. Using an ocular allergy drop will make a dry eye problem feel worse. If you are unable to find relief you should have your eyes evaluated to determine what condition you have and the best treatment options available to you specifically.

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Duncan: Law enforcement levy needed to support, enhance Sheriff's operations

By Sarah Brown Of The New Era

Sheriff Michelle Duncan, of Linn County Sheriff's Office, indicated they may have to lay people off in three or four years if they are not able to secure the 10-cent raise in a renewed levy - and that's if a second levy measure attempt at the current \$2.98 rate passes.

During a forum lunch by the Lebanon Chamber of Commerce on Oct. 31, Duncan presented an overview of the work they do at LCSO, and explained how the levy on this year's ballot would help them continue that work.

The LCSO budget for the current fiscal year is \$54 million. The General Fund from base county taxes makes up 12% of the budget. Revenue from contracts, grants, fees and other streams makes up 35%. It's the four-year levy that provides 53% of the LCSO working funds.

Duncan said the levy helps fund every aspect at the LCSO, as well as emergency management (disasters, planning), search and rescue with increased medical components, body cameras, the district attorney's office, and the Juvenile Department.

For those living in a municipality with police service, Duncan reminded the audience that not only does the Sheriff's Office provide a jail for all inmates, but it also assists the other agencies as needed.

Four years ago the county approved a levy supporting the LCSO at \$2.98 per \$1,000 of assessed value. It will end in June 2026. Duncan said they are asking for a renewal of that levy for another four years with an increase of 10 cents, at \$3.08 per \$1,000.

Part of the need for the increase relates to the need for

staff who will seek employment at LCSO instead of another agency where pay is bet-

"To get cops to stay at our agency, we've got to be able to pay them at least a competitive wage," Duncan said.

In answer to a question, Duncan pointed out that being able to find new hires is also becoming more difficult as more and more people use marijuana, which is still a violation of federal law. Furthermore, more of the younger generations are growing up believing it's okay to make poor choices, or they soon realize they cannot handle the traumatic experiences they may be faced with in the course of the job.

The levy would also "enhance" the emergency management and search and rescue programs.

If the November 2025 levy request is not approved, Duncan said they would have one more opportunity in May 2026, just one month before the current levy ends, to ask again; they would likely ask to renew at the current \$2.98 rate.

"We will all be super nervous," she said. "I'll be issuing pink slips to our folks."

Duncan said she's looked over the budget for the next four years multiple times and taken into consideration the projected income from new housing and growth.

"We usually project pretty conservatively because the last thing I want to do is be laying off people at the end of the year," she said. "The reality is, we've looked at all the numbers and the projected growth over the next four years, (and) I will be cutting positions in year three and four. We would be about two or three million short of where we believe we would need to be."

Current operations

Unlike some counties, Linn County operates 24-hour patrols and they answer every

"That's getting harder and harder in law enforcement, and there's a lot of agencies that don't," she said.

Many agencies, especially in larger districts, do not have the resources to investigate, for example, instances when cars are broken into. But LCSO still answers all calls. Duncan also finds it important to continue using "a live person to answer your call," as opposed to using a phone tree, which is becoming more commonplace.

In 2024, LCSO answered 35,583 calls for service, took 5,298 reports, made 5,430 arrests, and issued 2,894 traffic citations and 3,606 warnings. They also processed 5,429 protective orders and subpoenas, and more than 16,000 concealed handgun licenses. Dispatch answered about 62,000 911 calls last year.

With the 231 beds available. LCSO processed 4,060 inmates last year - 300 more than in 2023.

"There's a huge mental health crisis, not only in our communities, but in particular, in our jails," Duncan said. "That's one of those things we're trying to manage that is newer in probably the last five to 10 years."

What's more, as cases involving female criminals rise, the limited bedding for females makes it harder to keep all of them off the streets. Duncan expects a restructuring and renovating project to break ground in December that will provide more beds for females.

One other current project LCSO is focusing on is to equip

See Levy, Page 16

SHPD announces Christmas outreach details

Families interested in participating in the 2025 Sweet Home PoliceTeen Sharing Tree program this Christmas may now apply for children in seventh through 12th grades.

The program is based on family income levels and follows SNAP benefit guidelines, with a few exceptions made extenuating circumstances, such as job loss.

Applications are available online at https://www.sweethomeor.gov/police/page/teensharing-tree-application and at Sweet Home Police Department located at 1950 Main St. Applications must be submitted by 5 p.m. on Nov. 24.

Those who wish to shop for teens are asked to visit the Police Department, take a tag from the tree, go shopping and then return wrapped gifts by 5 p.m. on Dec. 8. Depending on whether applications are submitted, tags may be available beginning at 9 a.m. on Nov. 5.

Sweet Home police Department will post to social media periodically with updates about how many tags are on the tree.

Shop With a Cop

Shop with a Cop will continue this year, but it is returning to its roots, serving families experiencing various potential hardships.

It is designed to involve children, ages 4 to 12, in positive interactions with police officers in their community.

Demand has grown to an unsustainable level. This has required the department to decline approximately 50 percent of applicants last year based on income or previous participation. These children are eligible for and typically also participate in the Sweet Home Fire and Ambulance District's children's Sharing Tree.

This year, school counselors have developed a list of children to invite based on their knowledge of their circumstances, which may include law enforcement contact, financial hardship or adversity. Given this, the Police Department will have no application process for Shop with a Cop.

SHPD children's programs, Shop with a Cop and the Teen Sharing Tree, are funded entirely by donations, which may be given 24/7 at the dispatch window inside the Police Department.

SHPD also seeks donations of new stuffed animals, medium or smaller for the Shop with a Cop program. Donations may be dropped off at the Police Department.

For more information call (541) 367-5181 or email smorgan@sweethomor.gov.

Huskies struggle against surging Cascade in final boys soccer match

Sweet Home's boys soccer team finished its season with a 7-0 loss to Cascade at home Tuesday, Oct. 28.

The Huskies finished 2-11-1 overall, 0-9-1 in league with the tie coming against the Cougars at Cascade on Oct. 9.

"We played some really good teams this year, especially during league play," Coach Eric Stutzer said. "Of the nine teams we played this season, four are in the playoffs."

The Huskies held their own against teams like East Linn Christian (2-1 loss), Kennedy (2-1 win) and Junction City (1-0 win), but struggled against the competition in the Oregon West Conference, in which four of the six teams, led by No. 1 and league champion Stayton, finished the regular season ranked in the top 10 of the 4A Division.

Stutzer noted that Cascade, No. 18 in the final 4A rankings, is "very good" and probably would have been "a top-three team in any other league."

He added that two or three more OWC teams likely would have been represented in the playoffs if the OSAA had not eliminated the play-in model.

Philomath "Surprisingly, was No. 9 in the state and didn't make a playoff match



Photo by Scott Swanson

Sweet Home's Keeghan Gittins goes head-to-head for a ball with Cascade's Merek Riffle. See more photos at sweethomenews.com.

due to the new qualifications, even though they were ranked higher than a number of other

Sweet Home lacks the experience that other communities have in the game.

"We will hand out 12 firstyear letters this season; many of those 12 have never played or have very little experience. It is tough to play the talented teams in our league with predominantly first- and secondyear players."

Despite that, he noted, Sweet Home held No. 6 Newport to 4-1 this season and got the tie with Cascade, which lost its first four OWC games before tying Sweet Home, then went 1-2-3 down the stretch.

"We have seen quite a bit of improvement this season and have come a long way from where we started," Stutzer



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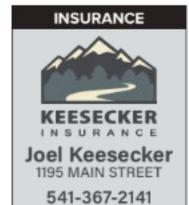


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November 5, 2025 | The New Era PAGE 16 I

on Oct. 7 has been found.

to

According

River in Mill City.

LEVY

From page 14

patrol and corrections officers with body cameras.

'We are currently about the only agency in this county, if not the valley, that doesn't have body cams," Duncan said.

Other obstacles LCSO faces include staffing shortage, mental health and federal funding cuts.

On a side note, Duncan explained that federal revenue streams supporting law enforcement may require the agencies to provide support to ICE, yet the funding is passed through the State of Oregon, which prohibits the support of ICE due to its sanctuary state

As a result of the conflicting requirements, which ultimately means agencies are violating one law or the other, Marion County has filed a declarative relief - asking a judge to decide which law to abide by.

LCSO, alongside other counties, joined Marion County in the quest for an answer.

Duncan shared one of her frustrations with another recent law that makes her job harder. Referring to Oregon's more recent expanded expungement laws, she now sees felons getting multiple convictions expunged. The law also makes background checks for employers questionable.

Duncan gave an example of an unnamed resident who recently had 25 drug and property crime felonies expunged. He has since committed another crime, but the district attorney cannot see his past convictions, which otherwise may have allowed the DA to go for stiffer sentencing.

"Secondly, I had to give him a concealed handgun license," Duncan said. "I shouldn't be giving a multi-felon a license. He can't purchase a gun, but I can give him a license to carry one concealed."

> low up with the investigation and learned last week from the Oregon State Medical Ex-

findings.

aminer's Office that the individual was positively identified as Karandeep Singh, who had been missing since Oct. The medical examiner's office also determined the death was caused by an accidental drowning.

Members of the Linn

County Sheriff's Office Dive

Team and Search and Rescue

responded and recovered the

Deputies continued to fol-

body from the river.

Deputies have been in contact with the Consulate General of India, who have assisted in coordinating with Singh's family abroad to ensure they are updated on all developments.

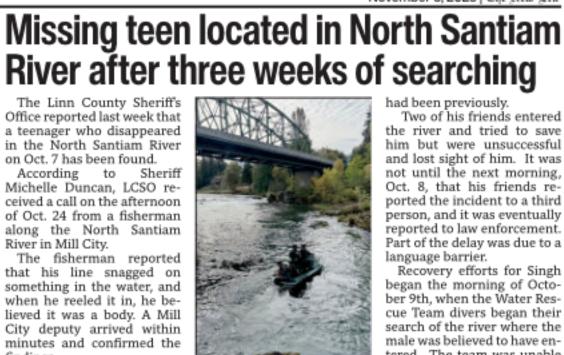


Photo courtesy of Linn County Sheriff's Office Sheriff's deputies scan the North Santiam River for a teen who disappeared in the water on Oct. 7.

Singh was last seen at around 10 p.m. walking with several friends near the North Santiam River. He had been drinking and said he was going to get into the

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.

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, 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 October 9th, when the 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 this 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.

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PUBLIC SAFETY From page 6

sister's car, but car owners denied any relationship. Male then hopped fence and proceeded toward 7-Eleven. Officer located male, determined he may have been experiencing mental health issues. Caller declined to pursue the

matter. Probation officer noti-

5:59 p.m. - Richard Charles Jamison, 70, arrested for hit and run-property damage after multiple callers reported white Subaru hit several vehicles and building at McDonalds, 2000 Main St., then left area. Cited and released.

8:49 p.m. - Caller reported

hearing crash in 600 block Main St. Officer responded, located single vehicle that had struck curb. Operator Bordy Olsen warned for reckless driving. Damage to vehicle determined to be under \$2,500. No damage to curb.

See many more and updated Public Safety reports at sweethomenews.com.

The *melion* Performer Of The Week



This weeks ICEBOX Performer Of The Week goes to Tim Speights!

Tim is a vital part of our fabrication team, and a teammate who is always willing to jump into action and help wherever he's needed.

His work has shone lately when it comes

to assisting with the larger fabrication projects around the shop, but no matter what he's working on, Tim is always happily giving his best effort on whatever projects we have that day.

Congratulations Tim! We are lucky to have you on the Icebox team!



