

Construction under way for new county mental health crisis center

**By Scott Swanson
Of The New Era**

Linn County has begun construction of a new mental health crisis center in Albany that will provide temporary respite for people who need behavioral health assistance.

Work on the new facility began the week of Nov. 17 in a county-owned building directly across from Samaritan Albany General Hospital on 7th Street in Albany.

"Obviously, we have a mental health behavioral health crisis in the state of Oregon and the rest of the United States," said Todd Noble, mental health director for Linn County.

According to a COVID-19 Practitioner Impact Survey of Oregon mental health practitioners conducted by the American Psychological Association in 2022, 79% of psychologists reported seeing an increase in patients with anxiety disorders, 66% saw an increase in demand for treatment of depression, and 47% said they had seen an increase in demand for substance abuse treatment.

Oregon began closing mental health hospitals statewide, reducing the number of inpatient beds, about 20 years ago, which has put more demands on counties to provide help for mental illness.

Noble said that, "a couple of years ago," Gov. Tina Kotek encouraged Oregon's counties to expand crisis services and build crisis centers.

Linn County already provides mental health crisis services during customary business hours and has a crisis van for providing services in rural areas around the clock, Noble said. The crisis receiving center would provide short-term assistance at a brick-and-mortar facility.

Benton, Marion and Polk counties have all recently opened such centers, some with funding from the Oregon Health Authority (OHA). Lane County has a mental health stabilization center in the works that is scheduled to open in late 2027 and Lincoln County is already working on one. Marion County already had a crisis center, but has expanded it with state money.

They provide services such

See Crisis Center, Page 9

Principal Payoff at Hawthorne



Photo by Scott Swanson

Kloe Patricio operates a hair clipper as Hawthorne School Principal Mark Looney offers commentary and Braxton Northern watches on Tuesday, Nov. 24, as Hawthorne celebrated the completion of its annual food drive. Braxton and Kloe were the top collectors of food in the entire student body, so they got to shave Looney's head as the result of a challenge he issued to the students.. See more photos of the event on page 10.

Pearl Harbor Day dinner to honor Albany veteran, 105, one of remaining survivors

**By Jennifer Moody
For The New Era**

Quick action saved David Russell from going down with the USS Oklahoma when the Japanese bombed Pearl Harbor 84 years ago.

Exactly three years later - Dec. 7, 1944 - he escaped death again when kamikaze pilots attacked his second ship, the USS Mahan.

Now, at 105, the Albany man doesn't have an answer to why he was so lucky back then - nor why, with Pearl Harbor Day approaching, he's still around to share his stories. But he's cheerful about having the opportunity.

"I tell people I was on two ships that sank during World War II - they don't believe me," the former gunner's mate said with a hearty chuckle. "But we sank two Japanese ships, too."

The public is invited to meet and honor Russell during a Pearl Harbor Day potluck lunch from 1 to 3 p.m. this Sunday, Dec. 7. The event will be at the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 584 in Albany, 1469 Timber St. SE. Guests will include Russell and State Rep. Shelly Boshart-Davis, R-15.

"We're going to cherish our living Pearl Harbor survivor and remember those who can't be here," Commander Zack Draper said.

Added Mark Lamberty, the previous commander: "We want to just remind people that we still have part of the Greatest Generation still with us, here in Albany."

Historians calculate more than 2,400 Americans in all died in Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, on Dec. 7, 1941, as a result of a sneak attack by the Japanese Imperial Navy.

See David Russell, Page 8



Photo by Jennifer Moody

Former Post 584 Commander Mark Lamberty shows David Russell some photos from this year's Veteran of the Year banquet, at which Russell was an honored guest.

Hometown Newspaper of
JENNA NORTHERN



SHHS NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY INDUCTION
PAGES 12-13, 15



READER FINDS 'CALM JOY' IN UNEXPECTED SOURCE
PAGE 4



BREAKFAST BENEFITS BASEBALL
PAGE 7

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OBITUARIES

Clydie Burnette
June 16, 1940 - Nov. 3, 2025
Clydie Louetta Burnette, 85, of Sweet Home passed away Nov. 3, 2025 in McMinnville. She was born June 16, 1940, to Margie M. (Byrd) and Louis L. Scates in Madison County, Ark. Louetta lived in Huntsville, Ark., attended school in Eagle Creek and Estacada, and also lived in Sandy, Sutherlin, Portland and Talent for 31 years. She moved to Sweet Home in 2010. She worked many years as a bartender and at Bear Creek Corporation (Harry

and David). Louetta loved to garden and tend to her flowers. She is survived by her children: Tina Manley of Columbus, Miss., Terry Pepiot of Sweet Home, Scott Pepiot of Bossier City, La., and Julie Nicholson of Arlington, Wash.; siblings Kathy Ecker of McMinnville, Louis Scates of Lake Oswego, Donnie Scates of Huntsville, Ark., and Harrieta Bollinger, also of



Huntsville; granddaughter Bobi Babbitt of Sweet Home, who lived with her for much of her childhood and teen years; 10 other grandchildren; eight great-grandchildren; and many nieces and nephews and other extended family. She was preceded in death by her husband, Thomas E. Burnette (2010); parents Louis (1992) and Margie (1986); four sisters and a brother. Donations can be made in her honor to St. Jude. Sweet Home Funeral Chapel is handling the arrangements.

Death Notices
Esther Ford
Nov. 13, 1929 - Nov. 28, 2025
Esther Freda Ford, 96, of Sweet Home passed away Nov. 28, 2025. Sweet Home Funeral Chapel is handling the arrangements. For updated information, visit www.sweethomefuneral.com.
Anthony Froemke
Sept. 10, 1977 - Nov. 22, 2025
Anthony Froemke, 48, of Sweet Home, passed away Nov. 22, 2025. Sweet Home Funeral

Chapel is handling the arrangements. For updated information, visit www.sweethomefuneral.com.
Delbert Goss
Sept. 13, 1935 - Nov. 15, 2025
Delbert "Bert" Frances Goss, 90, of Sweet Home passed away Nov. 15, 2025. A memorial service will be at 1 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 6, at Sweet Home Funeral Chapel. Sweet Home Funeral Chapel is handling the arrangements. For updated information, visit www.sweethomefuneral.com.

Holiday activities galore planned in Sweet Home

It's Christmas time in Sweet Home and things kicked off Saturday, Nov. 29, with the city Tree Lighting at City Hall. There's a lot more to come and here are some events to look forward to and participate in:
Let It Glow Holiday Lights
Decorate your home — or nominate a festive favorite — to be included on a Holiday Lights Map produced by the Chamber of Commerce. Each home entered is automatically added to a raffle for a gift card from local Realtor Karla Hogan. A raffle drawing will be held Dec. 20. No judging, just community cheer! Register on the Chamber of Commerce website at www.sweethomechamber.com/events/eventcalendar.

Christmas bell ringers needed
Sweet Home Emergency Ministries is seeking bell ringers to staff Salvation Army donation buckets during the holiday season in Sweet Home. Individuals, businesses,

churches, civic groups or school groups are invited to sponsor a Tuesday or Saturday, through Dec. 20, at the Sweet Home Bi-Mart (west-end exit) from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Four-hour slots can be divided up as sponsors wish, but they must be staffed during that period. Proceeds go to SHEM programs that provide backpacks and supplies to local children in the fall. SHEM staff will deliver and pick up the bell and kettle stand for each stint. Ringers are free to wear holiday attire, sing carols and generally provide festive cheer. Sponsors are welcome to bring a modest sign to display their group or business name. For more information or to reserve a date, contact Cindy Rice at (541) 409-2803 or Julie Dedman at (541) 409-9093.

Singing Christmas Tree
The 43rd Annual Sweet Home Community Singing Christmas Tree will present three concerts this weekend, featuring a wide range of holi-

day favorites. This year's theme is "Let's Celebrate Christmas." Concerts are at 7:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 5, and Saturday, Dec. 6, and at 3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 7, at the Sweet Home High School Auditorium, 1641 Long St. The event also includes a visit from Santa and a variety of fun aimed at youngsters. The event is free but donations will be accepted, with proceeds going to the Sweet Home Pregnancy Center.

Christmas Bazaar
Sweet Home Christian Church will host a Christmas Bazaar from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday, Dec. 5, at 1825 Long St.
Wreaths, Gingerbread Craft Day
The American Legion Timber City Post 133 will host a Wreaths and Gingerbread Craft Day from 11 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 6, at its new post headquarters in the former Fir Lawn Lutheran Church building at 109 W Holley Road.

Create a holiday wreath or decorate your own gingerbread house. Wreaths are \$20 each, and gingerbread houses are \$15 each. Supplies are provided, and families are encouraged to craft together. Hint: Gingerbread houses can be entered in the Sweet Home Chamber of Commerce Gingerbread Competition (see below).
Sweet Home Evangelical Christmas Trees
The Evangelical Church men's group will hold their annual Christmas Tree sale starting after noon Saturday, Dec. 6. Trees generally arrive about 1 p.m. and will be on sale in the parking lot off 14th Avenue and Kalmia Street as long as supplies last. Cost is \$10 per tree.
Jingle Ball Trees for Scholarships Auction
The annual Jingle Ball Trees for Scholarships auction event will be held from 5 to 8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 6, at the Boys & Girls Club Gym, 890 18th Ave.

Hosted by the Sweet Home Alumni Foundation, the event has raised well over half a million dollars to fund scholarships for Sweet Home High School graduates aiming for higher education. General admission doors open at 5 p.m. VIP guests will have an expedited check-in and check-out lane that opens at 4 p.m. Festive cocktail dress attire is requested. At press time, tickets were in short supply. Check on prices and availability at www.sweethomechamber.com/events/eventcalendar and click the "learn more" button. A silent auction will include many items to bid on, and Christmas trees decorated by local artists will be auctioned off. Angila Tack will provide the dinner and Moore Family Vineyards and Nessie Bar Co. will provide beverages. Themed baskets or items for the silent auction can be dropped off at the Chamber Office through Dec. 4 or at the

See Holiday Events, Page 5

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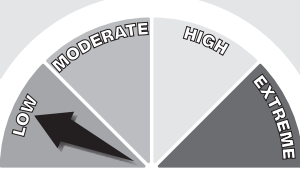
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TEMPERATURES					FORECAST			
DATE		HIGH	LOW	PRECIP	DAY	WEATHER	HIGH	LOW
November 25		49	32	0.01	Thur	Cloudy	48	45
November 26		58	41	0.08	Fri	Rain	55	49
November 27		58	43	0.11	Sat	Rain	55	49
November 28		58	43	0.31	Sun	Showers	56	47
November 29		50	32	0.00	Mon	Showers	57	49
November 30		47	34	0.00	Tues	Showers	58	47
December 1		47	34	0.00	Wed	Showers	55	44
PRECIPITATION					LAKE LEVELS			
Year to date:		24.53			Foster Reservoir: 616.4			
December 4, 2024:		30.42			Green Peter Res.: 782.5			



TODAYS FIRE DANGER IS
LOW

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

PUBLIC SAFETY

Information for the Public Safety report and Courts in The New Era is sourced from local law enforcement and fire agencies. Addresses provided generally denote the location of the incident or arrest, occasionally indicating the origin of the call. Incident details, which may not always be available from agencies in time for publication in our weekly paper edition, are often updated online at sweethomenews.com as information becomes available. Also, due to space limitations in our paper editions, content may be restricted to the most recent information, and a more extensive version of the Public Safety Report will be available at sweethomenews.com. It is crucial to emphasize that our reporting of an individual's arrest or citation for a crime does not imply guilt. Determination of guilt can only be established through legal proceedings in court. We commit significant effort to following through as cases move through the judicial process. Following is a list of abbreviations that may appear in our log reports: LCSO (Linn County Sheriff's Office); SHPD (Sweet Home Police Department); OSP (Oregon State Police); LCCC (Linn County Circuit Court); LCJC (Linn County Justice Court); SHMC (Sweet Home Municipal Court); LMC (Lebanon Municipal Court); AMC (Albany Municipal Court); FTA (failure to appear); FTC (failure to comply). A roman numeral listed after a charge means that the charge is that numbered-degree: theft I (first-degree theft).

Nov. 30
3:40 a.m. - Michael Scott DeLay, 37, arrested on LMC warrant for FTA in driving while suspended case, AMC warrant for FTC in contempt of court case. Also warned for trespassing at high school. 1000 block 18th Ave. Cited and released.
10:49 a.m. - Caller reported her 2005 Chevy Tahoe broken into in 1000 block Long St., unspecified items taken. Officer responded, report taken for unauthorized entry into motor vehicle, theft II.
10:52 a.m. - Caller reported person at truck stop, 33100 block Hwy. 228, Halsey, seeming disoriented and got into customer's vehicle while they were pumping gas. Person left on foot without issue and deputy was unable to locate them.
11:31 a.m. - Scott Fredrick Blomberg, 57, arrested on AMC warrant for contempt of court following traffic stop at Main St./24th Ave. Blomberg also cited for driving while suspended. Cited and released. At 11:57 Blomberg was stopped again by the same officer at Long St./18th Ave. and cited once more for driving while suspended.
2:22 p.m. - Caller reported loose dog killed chicken in area of 900 block 13th Ave. Officer responded, contacted both parties who agreed to handle matter civilly. Dog owner warned for dog at large, quarantine notice issued.
2:54 p.m. - Caller reported gazebo damaged in 800 block 14th Ave. Officer responded, report taken.
3:37 p.m. - Multiple callers reported hearing people screaming and gunfire coming from area of Wiley Creek Park on north end of 53rd Ave. Officer responded but was unable to locate any of the described behavior, other than detecting gunfire coming from north of park.
3:47 p.m. - Motorcycle crash reported in area of Potter Rd./County Road 211. Operator sustained non-life-threatening injuries. Report taken.
4:12 p.m. - Multiple callers reported dog hit by vehicle in 2000 block Main St., and

owner appearing to be unconcerned. Officer responded, contacted male and dog. No apparent injuries to dog. Male advised to keep dog tethered.
9:37 p.m. - Caller reported hearing gunfire in 35400 block Washburn Heights Dr., Brownsville. Deputy determined noise was coming from juveniles intentionally making vehicle backfire. They were contacted and warned.
11:42 p.m. - Destiny Damico, 26, of Salem, arrested on parole violation warrant, 700 block N. Main St., Brownsville. Transported to Linn County Jail. Report taken.
Nov. 29
7:51 a.m. - Caller reported people camping in yard on Steelhead Way and dog being fed canned vegetables. Case referred to code enforcement.
6:51 a.m. - Loa Ann Louise Branton, 35, arrested on SHMC warrant for FTA in theft case, LCJC warrant for theft case, LMC warrant for FTA in criminal citation case, 4200 block Osage St. Cited and released.
2:09 p.m. - Caller reported vehicle in ditch in area of Long St./43rd Ave. Officer responded, contacted operator, who had lost control of vehicle while making turn. No damages. Neighbor assisted with getting vehicle out of ditch.
5:36 p.m. - Caller reported that he filled up his gas tank at local gas station, 300 block W. 2nd St., Halsey, but the pump did not stop. Caller contacted business and requested repayment but was unhappy with amount of money he was provided. LCSO determined case was non-criminal. Case documented.
6:23 p.m. - Deputy assisted driver whose vehicle was in ditch in 34700 block Harrison

Rd., Brownsville.
6:53 p.m. - Dog attack reported in 900 block 15th Ave. According to SHPD, James Rasor, 31, was attempting to break up a fight between his two pit bulls. One of the pit-bulls attacked him. Officer responded, medics evaluated victim, who refused transport.
Nov. 28
7:43 a.m. - William Lee Phillips, 43, arrested after he turned himself in at SHPD,
See Public Safety, Page 7

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, Noe Hernandez-Reyes, Michael Trevor Hilton, Daniel Henry Johnson, Tyler Bruce Lanz, Charles James Marvel, Thomas Junior McCarthey, Bryce William McGowan, Eric Wayne McKnight, Carrie Lynne Miller, Thomas Elbridge Miller, James Keith Mortensen, Nicholas Alan Nelson, Daniel Austin Phillips, Bradley Marion Pugh, Sean

Ever Robinson, Tammy Lavonn Robinson, James Ryan Routon, Joshua Alexander Williams
Buzz Starr Dodson Jr., 28, charged Nov. 28 with strangulation. Bail set at \$25,000.
Brandon Craig Horton, 37, placed in diversion program after pleading guilty to DUII (liquor) with a .10% BAC.
Jason Andrew Scott, 38, charged Nov. 25 with reckless driving, assault IV, criminal mischief I and driving while suspended.
Brandon Scott Thomas, 38, sentenced Nov. 24 to 15 days jail and 18 mos. supervised probation after pleading guilty to unlawful possession of meth.

CORRECTIONS

Thanks to an especially unfortunate typo (that slipped past the editorial staff), Cannon Klumph's name was misspelled in the headline of the Nov. 26 story reporting that he was MVP of the soccer team.



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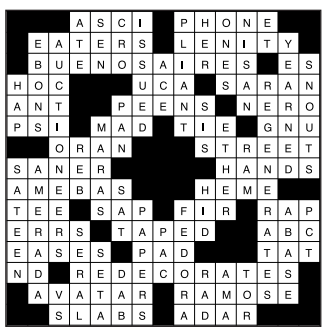
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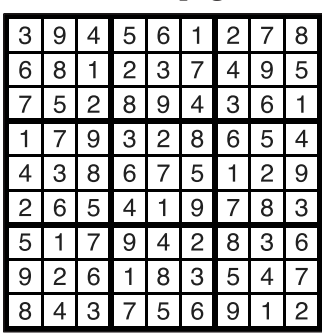
Electrical
SServices

Dan and
Cindy Rice

Crossword KEY
Puzzle on page 14



SUDOKU KEY
Puzzle on page 14



FROM OUR FILES



Little Reid Watts, 13 months, demonstrates some of the enjoyment that can be obtained from items to be sold in the United Methodist Women's Christmas Bazaar in 1975.

Dec. 7, 1950

The Junior Chamber of Commerce dressed the city up for a holiday appearance with tree greenery and colored lights along Main Street. Clusters of brightly colored bells, smiling Santa Claus faces and stars of Bethlehem ornaments also adorned seven blocks downtown.

A demonstration of "how to pick musical notes out of the air" was given to the Kiwanis Club. On display was a theremin, an electrically operated instrument that is played without touching it. Said to be one of 10 instruments of its kind in the world, it produces a unique tone through a combination of the performer's body static and impulses cast out in the electronic field created by the instrument's various tubes and coils.

Dec. 4, 1975

The first Hospital Emergency Ambulance Radio (HEAR) system was installed in a Sweet Home ambulance recently. It was funded by a nearly four month fund drive, which raised \$4,300, about \$2,400 more than what was needed. The extra funds will be saved to purchase a Life Pak coronary care system for the ambulance, but to make that purchase, another \$3,000 is needed.

Sweet Home Genealogical Society was chosen as

the official name for the group of hobbyists who have been meeting at the library. Dues will cost \$1 a year and meetings are weekly. Branching out from, but still closely associated with, the genealogical group is a committee of three people who are members of the East Linn Museum Society. Faye Farrier, Corean Morgan and Sara Johnson will begin interviewing old-timers for the oral history tape library in the museum.

Dec. 6, 2000

State lottery funds will be used to fund an economic development coordinator for Sweet Home. The \$30,000 grant will be awarded to the Sweet Home Economic Development Group with a \$15,000 match to fund the position. The hired person will also help with the Chamber of Commerce, which at this point is operating without paid staff.

High school student Jeff Briggs spent his summer starting his own business, Intrepid Enterprises, to design and sell original computer programs, screen savers and webpage designs. He started his business by trying to figure out how to make money off the Internet. He charges about \$300 to make a website, and \$100 to update the site.

Opinion: Welcome news ends epic trip

By John Marble

I woke up slowly this morning, several hours too early, gradually coming to grips with the knowledge that it was Thanksgiving day.

A hard rain was pounding on the old house, the wind lashing the trees down along the creek, and I began thinking about the idea that while many folks think of this holiday as a celebration of the fall harvest, my personal view is that the final Thursday of November is actually a clear notice that the first day of winter has arrived.

As I lay there listening to the storm I found myself feeling quite content. My woodshed is over-full of dry sticks, both hard and softwood. My freezer and pantry are both filled to the brim. Fall maybe finished for the year, but looking back, it was a spectacular season, at least for me.

My fall season began on Sept. 1, with the opening of dove season. My hunting pals gathered for the often-embarrassing challenge of using scatterguns to try and hit speeding targets the size of poker chips. There was a bit of bragging here and there, but not much.

Next came the much less challenging grouse seasons: three species of fun. In a typical year there would be a bit of a break before the big game hunts began, but not this year.

This September brought a long-awaited safari to northern Canada in search of the mighty and exotic mountain caribou. This turned into two weeks in the bush, hunting in difficult conditions and tough country, accompanied by great people and amazing horses. The days were cold and wet, the ground was too swampy to walk on but too hard to sleep on.

Suffice to say, it was a great hunt.

On my return to the gracious weather and terribly civilized conditions of the Calapooia valley, I found most of the September mail sitting on my dining room table. It was divided into two cardboard boxes, one for the true "mail:" letters, bills and junk, while the other contained newspapers. Lots of them.

Looking at the stack of newsprint it suddenly occurred to me that I hadn't read anything in weeks, as I was pretty deeply engaged in trying to survive under challenging conditions.

As I began reading I was struck by the calm joy that the local news brought me. Not that it was all good news. Goodness, the wealth of news bits about crime and car wrecks, obituaries and crashed dreams was a touch frightening.

But all of that was washed



John Marble finds success on a hunt in Alaska.

away by the news of babies born to happy parents, school children doing their best, athletes honing their skills, workers and business folks and our local governments trying to do their best. And all of this was local news, most of it from Linn County.

I tried to skip over the snippets of national and international news as it had become clear to me that the most important and impactful things that had happened during my absence was, in fact, what had occurred right here in my community, where my neighbors are struggling and thriving.

As most folks know, the American newspaper industry is staggering along, just trying to survive. Even big city papers are folding up and locking their doors. Maybe that shouldn't be too

much of a surprise, as those big-market papers are competing with all kinds of national and international news feeds.

Small town papers are struggling too, of course. But if people in small towns want to know what's up at the school district or the town council, about the only place for reliable news is their local newspaper. Linn County readers are lucky to have three local papers: The New Era, Brownsville Times, and Albany Democrat-Herald.

For me, personally, it was these little papers that welcomed me home and helped me get back into the local groove. World news is great, but reading my local paper feels like the Big News to me.

- John Marble lives, reads, and writes in Crawfordsville.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Kudos to school for recognizing vets Editor:

First off, kudos to The New Era for the great coverage of Veterans Day in the Nov. 19 paper. We are a military family and honoring our veterans and our country means everything to us.

Secondly, I want to thank the Sweet Home Charter School for everything they do for the Veterans. In the seven years that we went to the Sweet Home Charter School we saw more and more involvement for honoring the veterans and the importance of our flag under the great leadership of Monica Isom, the principal.

Several years ago the VFW was invited to teach the students how to fold the flag and how to raise and lower the flag on the pole daily. The Charter School also has all the students meet in the gym every morning for the Pledge of Allegiance, before classes start.

In the last few years the school has honored veterans during the Veteran's Day holiday week. Students in-

vite family members who are active duty or former veterans to be recognized at an assembly. Children prepare a great event with songs, pictures and true patriotism.

Finally, I post a challenge to all the Sweet Home public and private schools to teach and recognize our flag and veterans. I know for a fact that the VFW would be very happy to teach all students flag etiquette and participate in any Veteran's Day ceremony.

What we do need are leaders from the school district board and principals at the schools, to take the lead? There are many parents that are more than willing to help organize and be involved with the task for such events. Our kids are worth being taught how important our country is and acknowledging it with patriotism.

Our flag deserves respect. Our veterans earned the right to be honored. God bless the USA.

My challenge is out.

Nancy Patton
Sweet Home

The New Era

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Girls soccer award winners include, in front from left, Danielle Robinson, Ziarra Duncan, Anabelle Morris and Rylee Mabe. In the rear, from left, are Reece Linder, Morgan Lalonde, Jocelynn Simmons, Hailee Ramsdell, Taylor Sullivan and Khloe Sautel. Below is Lyndie Burkett in action.

Birkett named soccer MVP

By Keeghan Gittins
For The New Era

Sweet Home girls soccer team concluded its season with an awards banquet on Nov. 11.

The Huskies finished sixth in the Oregon West Conference with an 0-10 league record and went 1-14 overall. Despite the challenges, the team looks to build on its experience next year with a young core, as Anabelle Morris and Danielle Robinson were the only seniors on the roster.

Goalkeeper Lyndie Birkett earned the team's MVP

honor. Jocelynn Simmons, Morgan Lalonde, and Taylor Sullivan were all recognized as Rookie of the Year recipients. Ziarra Duncan took home both the Best Midfielder award and the Hustle Award, while Morris and Reece Linder were named Best Forwards.

Hailee Ramsdell received the Coaches Award, Rylee Mabe was voted Most Dependable, and Khloe Sautel was selected as the team's Best Defender.

Coach Ramiro Santana could not be reached for his thoughts on the season.

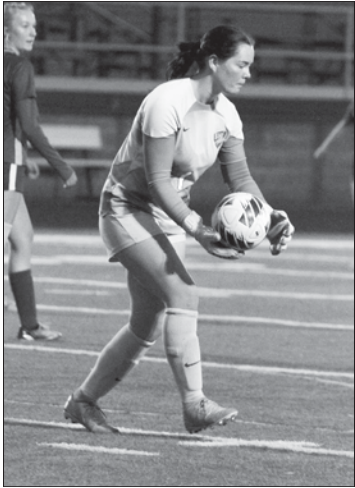


Photo courtesy of Ryker Burr

HOLIDAY EVENTS

From page 2

Boys and Girls Club between 9 a.m. and 6 p.m. on Dec. 5. For more information, contact Lauri at (541) 401-3148 or Sharon at (541) 401-1099.

Holiday Craft Fair and Vendor Event

Sponsored by Bodacious Babes Breast Cancer Committee, this will take place from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 6, and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 7, in the Activity Gym at Sweet Home High School, 1641 Long St.

The event will feature hand-made crafts, baked goods, antiques, a coffee cart and cookies, jewelry, metal work, woodworking items, Christmas décor and much more.

Proceeds will go to a young local woman who is battling breast cancer.

Free Photo with Santa

Heaven's Jewel Photography is offering a free family photo with Santa from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 6, at 610 Main St.

The studio is located inside the former DanDee Sales building, which now also

houses Dad Bod Detailing.

Pizza will be available as well.

Free Christmas Store for Kids

The 11th Annual Sweet Home Kids Free Christmas Store will take place from 9:30 a.m. through 4 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 6, at Sweet Home Charter School on 28721 Liberty Road.

The store is open for Sweet Home kids ages 2 through 17. Kids shop free for the family they live with.

Once participants check in, they will be given a ticket with an opportunity to win a prize. They are then assigned to a personal shopper to take them around to the tables with gifts to select for the family they live with. The gifts are then wrapped while they wait. They are also given a bag of nutritious snacks and given an opportunity to make a craft.

Sweet Home Charter School will offer a concession stand for parents and the public while they wait.

For more information, contact Nancy Patton at (541) 409-4276.

Breakfast with Santa and the Elks

The Sweet Home Elks Lodge will host Breakfast with Santa from 8 to 11 a.m. Sunday, Dec. 7, at 440 Osage St. Cost for the general public is \$9. The menu includes pancakes, biscuits and gravy, eggs, bacon, sausage, coffee, and juice.

Photos with Santa are warmly welcomed.

Pajama collection

The Sweet Home Chamber of Commerce will be a collection site to accept donations of pajamas for youth in Linn County foster care.

All sizes are needed, from newborn to XXXL. This is CASA's annual pajama drive. For more information, visit linncasa.org/pajama-drive.

The chamber is open Tuesday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., located at 1575 Main St. Donations accepted until Dec. 12.

Jesus' Birthday Party

Sweet Home Evangelical Church will host Jesus' Birthday Party from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 13, at the church Activity Center, 1347 Long St. Parking is also available off Kalmia Street at 14th Avenue.

See Holiday Events, Page 16



Dr. Michael W. Stoner

Q: Do I have dry eyes or allergies?

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

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

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Q: What are the worst drinks for my teeth?

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

1. Soda: Two of the most harmful things for our teeth are sugar and acid, and carbonated beverages are full of both! The teeth literally start dissolving under the attack of 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 what 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 you 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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THE FIRST BOOK

CHURCH

DIRECTORY

For where two or three are gathered together in My name, I am there in the midst of them.

-Matthew 18:20

Christmas tree permits available at Sweet Home Ranger Station

Christmas tree permits are available to purchase at Sweet Home Ranger Station, local businesses and online through Recreation.gov.

Permits are \$5 per Christmas tree and each family can cut up to five trees. Information about designated cutting areas, dates, and types of trees that may be cut is included with the permit.

To purchase a Christmas tree permit online, visit Recreation.gov and search for Willamette National Forest Christmas Tree Permits. It is important to carefully read the overview and need-to-know information prior to purchasing the permit. Visitors

will also need to set up or log in to a recreation.gov account to complete the transaction.

Fourth-graders with an Every Kid Outdoors pass are eligible for a free Christmas tree permit and can apply by entering the pass or voucher number when purchasing a permit (note: a \$2.50 service fee will be applied online).

To purchase a Christmas tree permit in-person, contact the Sweet Home Ranger Station for hours of availability as well as a list of local businesses that are offering the permits.

For more information visit <https://www.fs.usda.gov/r06/>

[willamette/forest-products/christmas-tree-permits](https://www.fs.usda.gov/r06/), or check out these online resources:

- Recreation.gov Christmas Tree Permit page with map interface
- Help Center article "How Do I Purchase and Print a Christmas Tree Permit?"
- Cut a Tree for the Holidays from Your National Forest article
- Every Kid Outdoors Fourth Grade Pass program

You can also visit <https://www.fs.usda.gov/r06/> Willamette and follow the Willamette National Forest on Facebook and X @WillametteNF.



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www.hope.church/sweethome

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10:30 a.m. Children's Church



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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
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Father Scott Baier



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Open Doors

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

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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

PUBLIC SAFETY

From page 3

1950 Main St., on SHMC warrant for FTA in theft cases, LMC warrant for probation violation in trespassing case. Cited and released.

8:39 a.m. - Physical disturbance reported between grandmother and teenage grandson, 400 black W. F St., Halsey. Report taken. No further action reported.

12:00 p.m. - LCSO reported civil dispute over land in 28500 block Pleasant Valley Rd.

1:58 p.m. - Caller reported his vehicle missing from 43700 block Wiley Creek Rd. while he was arrested. He believed his significant other had taken it. Officer contacted caller. Female lives outside jurisdiction, so officer counseled caller to contact LCSO.

5:46 p.m. - Caller reported leaking water line in 4900 block Mimosa Circle. Officer responded. Public Works to respond.

8:10 p.m. - Loose donkey reported in 26500 block Fern Ridge Rd. Deputy unable to locate.

8:25 p.m. - Bryn Owen, 22, of Albany, cited for speeding, 85/55, 28600 block Hwy. 20.

10:52 p.m. - Franklin Luster Cutbirth III, 44, arrested by Lebanon police on SHMC warrant for FTA in criminal mischief case. Cited to appear Dec. 10.

11:43 p.m. - Caller from Wiley Creek Senior Living, 5050 Mountain Fir St., reported male with dementia had left location. Officer responded, contacted caller, who said the male had returned. At 12:31 a.m. caller reported that male was now aggressive with staff and flipped furniture. Officer responded, male transported by medics.

11:49 p.m. - Armed disturbance reported near Brownsville in area of Hwy. 228/Courtney Creek Dr. Investigation ongoing. Report taken.

Nov. 27

1:14 a.m. - Caller reported car engine being revved loudly for several minutes in area of Main St./13th Ave. Officer responded, contacted male who was counselled for noise violation, instructed on city ordinance and counseled on safe driving practices.

2:24 a.m. - Christian Michael Rogers, 30, arrested by Albany Police on SHMC warrant for FTA in theft case. Cited to appear Dec. 10.

8:15 a.m. - Mark Simpson, 55, of Sweet Home, arrested for failure to register as sex offender, 4800 block Hwy. 20. Report taken.

4:13 p.m. - Roderick Erickson, 48, of Brownsville, cited for permitting unlawful operation of vehicle after allegedly allowing his 13-year-old son to drive outside of Brownsville, Seven Mile Lane/Harrison Rd.

6:26 p.m. - Caller reported cougar sighting in area of 500 block Mountain View Rd.

9:22 p.m. - Caller reported trash can stolen from 1800 block Vine St.

10:01 p.m. - Deputy assisted in removal of individual from property in 43700 block Wiley Creek Dr. on which they no longer live.

Nov. 26

2:56 a.m. - Jered Douglas Roebuck, 28, arrested on LMC warrant for probation violation in traffic case, Sweet Home Junior High. Cited and released

10:08 a.m. - Meria Lynn Rendon, 35, arrested on LCCC for FTA in assault case, AMC warrant for contempt of court. Also cited for driving while suspended. Foster Dam Road.

11:16 a.m. - Vehicle burglary reported in area of Hwy. 20/Quartzville Rd. Hunter left window of his vehicle cracked and returned to find multiple hunting-related items stolen. Total value about \$659. Report taken.

12:01 p.m. - Desirae Johnson, 33, arrested on SHMC warrant for FTA in criminal driving case, 4300 block Nad-

ina St. Cited and released.

1:58 p.m. - Buzz Starr Dodson, 27, arrested for strangulation and assault IV-Domestic, 3100 block Main St. According to SHPD, Dodson got into an argument with his girlfriend, Amanda Howser, 57, on the afternoon of Nov. 21 and allegedly assaulted her and tried to strangle her. He then drove away prior to an officer's arrival. Howser was transported by medics to Lebanon Community Hospital for treatment of her injuries. Dodson was located by officers on Nov. 26 and arrested. He was lodged at Linn Co Jail.

2:11 p.m. - Jay Boyd Marsh 61, arrested by Lebanon police on SHMC warrant for FTC in theft case. Cited to appear Dec. 10.

4:51 p.m. - Caller reported that male had been in bar all day at Veterans Club, 580 Main St., and was about to leave and was intoxicated. Officer responded, contacted male and provided advice on safe options to get home.

5:07 p.m. - Citizen reported at SHPD, 1950 Main St., that juvenile son had come home intoxicated. Boy referred to Juvenile Dept. for alcohol consumption.

8:22 p.m. - Caller reported three juveniles staying at Sweet Home Police Department parking lot temporary shelter, and that some were girls. Officer responded, contacted juveniles. One had a parent staying in the temporary shelter.

9:32 p.m. - Crash reported in area of Brownsville/Harrison roads, Brownsville. Single-vehicle, non-injury, no property damage reported. Kerkepeshep Daniel Gazzarini Panno, 20, of Lebanon, cited for driving while suspended, driving uninsured. Vehicle towed.

9:46 p.m. - Darrell Gene Mullenix, 51, arrested at Linn County Jail on SHMC warrants for FTA in four trespass cases, one criminal mischief

See Public Safety, Page 7

PUBLIC SAFETY

From page 6

case. Cited to appear Dec. 10. Nov. 25

9:50 a.m. - Male, 17, arrested on LCCC warrant for probation violation in criminal misconduct case, 23000 block Jefferson St. Lodged at Linn Benton Juvenile Detention Center.

10:36 a.m. - Caller reported neighbor drove through his yard, hit vehicle, 3500 block Flannigans St. Officer responded. Report initially taken for hit and run. The Flannigans resident had damage to his taillight. According to SHPD, he later decided it could have happened anywhere and he no longer wished to pursue the matter.

11:33 a.m. - Caller reported seeing cougar in area of Ames Creek Dr./Mountain View Rd.

11:44 a.m. - Caller reported damage to vehicle by people working in area of 1200 block 23rd Ave. According to SHPD, Ronda Cliver reported that her 2017 Toyota Tacoma was parked in the apartment complex parking lot. She explained that a gutter company was working at the complex, and they were walking near her vehicle with the gutters. She examined her vehicle and noticed numerous scratches and dents that she states were not there previously, and she believed the gutter company employees caused them. The officer contacted the gutter company representative, who denied that the damages were caused by his company. Both the Cliver and the gutter company representative were advised that this is a civil issue and not a police matter.

12:18 p.m. - Caller reported fraud in 41100 block Hwy. 228. Victim's bank information used to make fraudulent purchase at Costco in Hillsboro for \$379. Investigation ongoing. Report taken.

12:38 p.m. - Deputy and homeowner cut deer free from fence in 42600 block North River Dr. Deer was unable to walk and severely injured, so it was dispatched.

1:48 p.m. - Hit and run reported in 48200 block Cascadia Dr., Cascadia. Investigation ongoing. Report taken.

2:05 p.m. - Caller reported vehicle theft from 23000 block Brush Creek Rd. Toyota Prius stolen off BLM land between Nov. 20 and Nov. 25. Report taken.

2:27 p.m. - Christopher J R Pierce, 38, arrested following traffic stop in 4100 block Long St. on AMC warrant for FTC in contempt of court case. Also cited for driving while suspended, driving uninsured.

3:17 p.m. - Caller reported issue with neighbor leaving pickup idling "for hours." 1500 block Tamarack St. Referred to code enforcement.

4:07 p.m. - Caller reported camp in tree line at Rodeo Grounds, 4000 block Long St. Officer responded, located camp, which appeared to be unoccupied. Will check back.

4:35 p.m. - Caller reported male mailed cash to scammer, 1400 block Elm St. According to SHPD, an elderly Sweet Home resident sent over \$40,000 in cash in a package via USPS mail to a what is believed to be a scammer. The victim thought he was refinancing his mortgage.



Teacher Serenity Willson, left, delivers the results of Hawthorne School's annual food drive at an assembly on Tuesday, Nov. 25. Students collected a record 1,723 boxes of cereal, below, which were knocked down in a chain reaction, domino-style, as part of an assembly to celebrate the completion of the food drive. It included the shaving of Principal Mark Looney's head (see page 1) and a makeover session, above, that Looney and the students greatly appreciated, as Hannah Humphreys and Stefani Brown, both with eyes closed, worked on Willson and Brittany Kauffman, right. See photos and a video of the cereal boxes falling at sweethomenews.com.

Photos by Scott Swanson



Sweet Home fall athletes named to all-league honors



Sweet Home football players who have been named to All-League honors include, in front, from left, Sam Barringer, second team running back; Eli Cruz, honorable mention, offensive line; Keeghan Gittins, honorable mention kicker; Bode Nichols, second team punter, honorable mention wide receiver, honorable mention outside linebacker; Dillan Davis, first team wide receiver, first team defensive back; and Gabriel Meadors, honorable mention offensive line. In the rear, from left are Gavin Tyler, first team offensive lineman, second team defensive lineman; Luke Rosa, first team inside linebacker; Kellen Hartsook, first team defensive line; Bradyn McClure, honorable mention defensive back; and Lynkin Royer, second team offensive lineman.



Sweet Home's All-League and All-State honorees in fall sports other than football include, in front from left, Anabelle Morris, girls soccer, honorable mention all-league; Ziara Duncan, girls soccer, honorable mention all-league; McKenzie Miller, cross-country, first team all-league; Acen Webber, cross-country, honorable mention all-league; Ryker Burr, cross-country, first team all-league; Karissa Jewell, volleyball, second team all-league; Trinity Victor, volleyball, honorable mention all-league; and Khloe Sautel, girls soccer, honorable mention all-league. In the rear, from left, are Elijah Rodriguez, cross-country, second team all-league; Felix Lopez, boys soccer, honorable mention all-league; Kace Stevens, boys soccer, honorable mention all-league; Evan Knight, cross-country, second team all-league; Kaitlyn Kennedy, volleyball, second team all-league; Aubrey Newberry, volleyball, honorable mention all-league; and Emma Whitton, cross-country, first team all-league. Not pictured are Lyndie Birkett, girls soccer, honorable mention all-league; Noelle Helfrich, honorable mention all-league; and Keeghan Gittins, boys soccer, honorable mention all-league. Note: If OSAA designated all-state honorees in cross-country, Whitton would be a first-team selection and Miller a second-team selection.



Lifting Christmas Spirit

City employees hang wreaths in the medians along Highway 20 on Tuesday, Nov. 25, giving a nearly instant Christmas vibe in the community. The Chamber of Commerce will keep the spirit going with its Gingerbread Competition on Saturday, Dec. 13, followed by the annual Parade of Lights downtown starting at 6 p.m.

Photo by Sarah Brown

DAVID RUSSELL

From page 1

perial Army. The attack was the catalyst for the United States' entry into World War II.

The attack killed 429 crew members on Russell's first ship, the USS Oklahoma. Instant reaction kept the 21-year-old from being one of them.

Through the years, he has shared his story multiple times with multiple media organizations: how the ship's division officer announced the attack over the loudspeaker, how fast the torpedoes came in and how quickly it became clear the Oklahoma was capsizing. He made a desperate leap for a rope trailing from the nearest ship, the USS Maryland, caught it and pulled himself aboard.

Three years later to the day - Dec. 7, 1944 - suicide pilots attacked his second ship, the USS Mahan. Blazing and listing, the ship went down, crews abandoning ship as the USS Walke torpedoed the remains.

Russell survived that attack, too. And yes, he said, he was terrified.

"You betcha," he said. "I had guys tell me they weren't scared, but I knew they were lying."

Through the years, he said, he had times where tried to forget about what happened. "But it's hard to do, especially when you lose so many men," he said. "We lost so many men in World War II. That's what hurts, you know?"

A farm boy from southeastern Nebraska who was the oldest of four children, Russell enlisted in the Navy during the Great Depression. "I was hungry," he explained, laughing. "We never had anything when we were kids."

The Navy was his life for the next 20 years. He traveled "all over the world."

"We were fighting over in Korea. It was so damn cold,



Photo by Jennifer Moody

From left: Former Post 584 Commander Mark Lamberty, current Post 584 Commander Zack Draper and David Russell's great-grandson, Gunter Goble, 24, of Albany, visit with Russell at the Albany VFW.

you couldn't breathe," Russell recalled. "I didn't want to go back to Korea, so I asked for a transfer. They sent me over to England for the coronation (of Queen Elizabeth). How 'bout that, huh?"

Russell retired from the Navy as a Seaman First Class after 20 years of service, but he didn't leave the military entirely. He spent the next 20 years working in transportation at Beale Air Force Base in Southern California. That's where he met his second wife, Violet, who had been widowed with two children.

"We were so compatible, you know," he said.

His traveling didn't end with his Navy days. Violet also loved to travel. She wanted to visit Germany, where her mother had been born, so Russell asked at the Air Force base when the next plane was headed there. "Thursday," he was told. "But she said, I'm not riding in a C5-A. So I had to pay." More

hearty laughter.

As of May 2025, only 14 veterans who survived the Pearl Harbor attack were still alive, according to the Stars and Stripes news organization. Russell is the only one living in the mid-valley.

Russell said he figures the remembrance ceremony won't be around much longer. "After we're all gone, they'll probably eliminate it," he said with a shrug. "War is hell."

Draper, the VFW Post 584 commander; and Lamberty, the previous commander, say they don't want that to happen.

The annual remembrance is critical, Draper said. The people who served during World War II did so because their country called them to arms and they came. If they hadn't, he said, it's important to remember that things could be very different today.

"I just want people to never forget about it, and the sacrifices that were made."



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EXPIRES 12/31/2025

CRISIS CENTER

From page 1

as suicide prevention, safety planning and referrals to longer term behavioral health care. Individuals can also get support for dealing with substance use disorder including referrals to treatment and overdose prevention education.

Anyone in crisis can enter any one of the centers without an appointment and receive services, regardless of their ability to pay. The centers are strictly voluntary.

Upon arrival, patients are evaluated and can stay for up to 23 hours in a calm, therapeutic environment, which will be the case in Albany. Staff can also refer individuals to other providers for ongoing treatment or to the emergency room if necessary.

The Benton County Crisis Center will include a longer-term residential facility, with six rooms and shared living space where people can stay for up to 29 days. Residential services will not be available at the centers in Linn or Lincoln counties.

Linn County's facility will not include beds for long-term care. Noble said there would be chairs for clients and staff would assist them, rather than those people going to local hospital emergency rooms for help.

If a person poses a threat, they would be transported to an emergency care center.

The new facility will provide help for troubled individuals that the county currently can't provide.

"In Linn County, we've always had a crisis team for decades," Noble said. "We're 24 hours a day, seven days a week, 365 days a year, and mostly going to emergency rooms. And so a few years ago, we started with crisis mobile vans. So right now we have a mobile van."

But, he said, the new crisis center will provide "sort of a



Photo by Scott Swanson

Todd Noble and Terri McQueen stand outside the future site of Linn County's planned mental health crisis center across the street from Albany General Hospital, visible in the background.

respite area, where people can kind of relax, calm down, de-escalate.

"It'll be a way to get people into our mental health program, into diversion."

He said the department will work with the District Attorney's Office and law enforcement agencies to get people into alcohol and drug services.

"So it's going to be like a one-stop shop for people that are struggling, with the goal of keeping them out of the most expensive and challenging emergency rooms that are overburdened."

Noble said the Linn County center's location is a big plus.

"The advantage that we have is that we are the only crisis center that will be directly across the street from a hospital in the state of Oregon, and that is a huge advantage," he said, noting that in other areas people are aware that they can go to emergency rooms, which often have long wait times and are expensive.

"It's going to be a tremendous benefit for the hospital,

and it'll be an easy way to access services," Noble said.

In 2023 Noble brought the issue to Linn County commissioners, who approved the use a \$75,000 grant from the Intercommunity Health Network for the study. The IHN is a coordinated care organization that blends services offered by Samaritan Health and other private providers with those delivered by local governments, including Linn County.

Noble said Linn County did not get the OHA funding that other communities have benefited from, because of a shortage of those funds, but it has "braided" funding from a variety of sources to pay for the project.

"None" of the funding for the project is coming from the county, he said. "Mental health is not funded by the county General Fund at all. It's part of our contract that we have with the state. We've been doing (mental health services) for years, so it's not really additional.

"But as far as prioritizing,

some of the biggest priorities of the state is crisis. So when we get our dollars, it's one of our highest priorities."

Noble said that the county decided to move forward with the center, rather than waiting for additional cash infusions from the state.

"We just went ahead and started the process, because the goal is to have one of these in every region, if not every county in Oregon," he said.

The county-owned building, at 1050 7th St. SW, also houses public health services such as Linn County Public Health and its WIC program.

Linn County's center will be based on "the best model, and the first one in the state, which was actually in Deschutes County, which has been running one for a few years," he said.

"All of us - Marion County, Benton County, Clackamas, Washington, we have all looked at the model coming from Holly Harris (longtime program manager at Deschutes County Crisis Services) and Deschutes County."

Terri McQueen, I'm the health services contract and procurement manager, said the new facility is scheduled to open June 1 of next year. She said an open house will be held at that time to introduce the public to the facility.

Noble said the new center won't be operating 24 hours a day immediately, partly because it's challenging to hire behavioral health staff.

"I think we'll probably go right to 8:30 to 8, initially, then it'll creep up to 10 and then midnight."

But when clients walk in, they will get warmth - both physical and personal, and the chance to settle in a calming environment.

"Frankly, we all know, going into every emergency room across the country, you can be there for hours on end, right? So this is a real efficiency.

"The whole idea is it's a way to engage people, to get them into services. It really is like an open door. That's the ultimate plan."

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Husky Baseball Benefit Breakfast



Photos courtesy of Jenna Northern
Jim Hagle, right, with Chris Miner, Joe Rosa and Anthony Hoffman Cooks in the rear, cooks at the second annual Husky Baseball Benefit Breakfast hosted by Rusty Bucket on Nov. 15. The event raised more than \$2,000 for the baseball team, below. See more photos and info at sweethome-news.com.



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Logan Anderson

Logan, 16, is the son of Summer and Steven Anderson. A junior, he is maintaining a 3.50 GPA. Logan is undecided about his future, though he is considering the military. To do well in school, he says, "find a teacher or trusted adult to go to when needing help."



Xander Blom

Xander, 16, is the son of Aaron and Lisa Blom. A junior, he is maintaining a 4.00 GPA. Xander plans to attend college and get a job, but he's not sure what he will pursue. To do well in school, he says, avoid "procrastinating."



Kyler Bondesen

Kyler, 16, is the son of Josh and Janine Bondesen. A sophomore, he is maintaining a 4.00 GPA. Kyler is interested in either attending chiropractic school or becoming a paramedic/firefighter like his dad. To do well in school, he says, "always give your best in everything you do."



Mailey Brewer

Mailey, 16, is the daughter of Cari and Daniel Brewer. A junior, she is maintaining a 4.00 GPA. Mailey plans to attend Linn-Benton Community College initially, but is not sure of what will come next. She says, "I've found that success in school grows from consistent effort and good self-management."



Aaliyah Brown

Aaliyah, 16, is the daughter of Jessalyn Sevier and Charles Brown. A junior, she is maintaining a 3.90 GPA. Aaliyah plans to attend college to become an ultrasound technician. Students, she says, "need to be focused and disciplined when it comes to school so their work doesn't pile up and they don't get behind."



Ryker Burr

Ryker, 17, is the son of Spring and Jason Burr. A junior, he is maintaining a 4.00 GPA. Ryker plans to attend college to compete in cross-country and track and to pursue communication and sports journalism. "The most important thing a student needs to success in school is their true passion and the people around them; one needs to see why they should show up."

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Obadiah Christman
Obadiah, 16, is the son of Jill and Ward Christman. A junior, he is maintaining a 4.00 GPA. Obadiah says he may attend college, "but I'll probably pursue a more immediate job in a tech field. To do well in school, he says, "do your work on time."



Natalie Conn
Natalie, 17, is the daughter of Erin Barstad and Don Conn. A senior, she is maintaining a 3.70 GPA. Natalie plans to attend Linn-Benton Community College to pursue a career as an ultrasound technician. To do well in school, she says, students should find an adult "that they can depend on to help them."



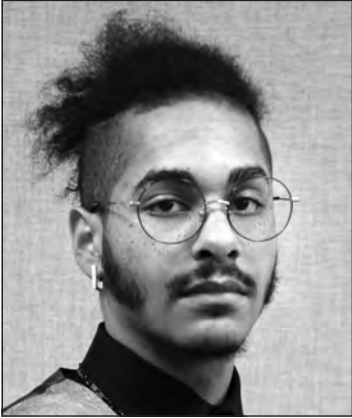
Aivaih Duran
Aivaih, 16, is the daughter of Amber Bell and Michael Duran. A junior, she is maintaining a 3.94 GPA. Aivaih plans to pursue a career as a dental hygienist. To do well in school, she says, students should ask themselves "if not you, then who?"



Ella Forum
Ella, 17, is the daughter of Chris and Kristen Forum. A senior, she is maintaining a 4.00 GPA. Ella plans to first pursue a career in diagnostic imaging, then become an ultrasound technician. To do well in school, she says, "Be willing to ask for help when needed."



Grace Gardner
Grace, 15, is the daughter of Ali and Bryan Gardner. A sophomore, she is maintaining a 3.75 GPA. Grace plans to attend college but isn't sure what she will study. To do well in school, she says, "it's important to communicate with and have a good relationship with your teachers. Also, try to get involved in lots of activities,"



Ayden Goble
Ayden, 17, is the son of Alissa Miles-Russell. A senior, he is maintaining a 3.56 GPA. Ayden plans to "graduate from a college like MIT and then build mechs." To do well in school, he says, "Motivation is the most important. With proper motivation you can do anything."



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Amara Gonzales

Amara, 16, is the daughter of Christina Wiley. A junior, she is maintaining a 3.70 GPA. Amara says she's interested in pursuing real estate or interior design. To do well in school, she says, "Show up. Pay attention and keep up with work."



Ellie Graham

Ellie, 17, is the daughter of Rachel Hillsman and Brent Graham. A senior, she is maintaining a 4.00 GPA. Ellie plans to attend Oregon Institute of Technology to become an ultrasound technician. To do well in school, she says, students need "teachers that can help outside of class time."



Ella Haagas

Ella, 16, is the daughter of Lindsey and Colin Haagas. A junior, she is maintaining a 4.00 GPA. Ella plans to attend a university in Michigan to earn a degree in education. To do well in school, she says, "just do your work. It's impossible to fail, if you do."



Khaira Hall

Khaira, 17, is the daughter of Michael and Mirasol Hall. A senior, she is maintaining a 3.80 GPA. Khaira plans to attend cosmetology school while working at The Point, and then eventually deciding whether to open her own salon or take over the restaurant. To do well in school, she says, "get to know your teachers and form connections with them."



Trent Harvey

Trent, 16, is the son of Julie and Brandon Harvey. A junior, he is maintaining a 3.95 GPA. Trent plans to play golf in college and study psychology, and be a missionary. To do well in school, he says, "discipline" is necessary.



Austyn Hogan

Austyn, 16, is the son of Krista and Ryan Hogan. A junior, he is maintaining a 4.00 GPA. Austyn hopes to attend the U.S. Air Force Academy and train to fly fighter jets. To do well in school, he says, "You need to show up every day and put effort in. Don't slack on your work."

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Delanie Pratt
Delanie, 17, is the daughter of Travis Pratt and Sarah Hale. A senior, she is maintaining a 4.00 GPA. Delanie plans to attend college and study archaeology and anthropology. To do well in school, she says, "if you're struggling, ask for help."



Olivia Saveskie
Olivia, 16, is the daughter of Christina and Peter Saveskie. A junior, she is maintaining a 4.00 GPA. Olivia plans to study archaeology in college, with minors in sociology and music. To do well in school, she says, "plan ahead and organize everything! If you're overwhelmed, write lists."



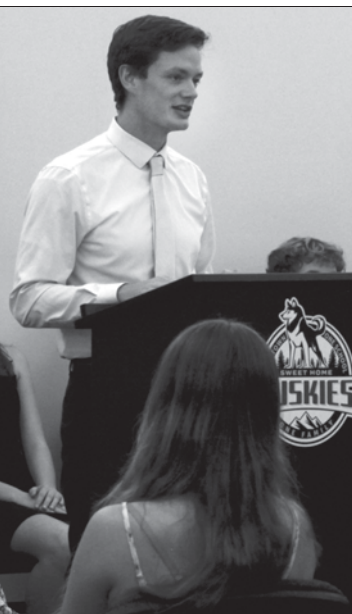
Natalie Smith
Natalie, 17, is the daughter of Bethany and Brent Smith. A senior, she is maintaining a 3.50 GPA. Natalie plans to study special education and become a BLS teacher. To do well in school, she says, "dedication and motivation" are critical.



Andrew Tolman
Andrew, 17, is the son of Satina and Nathan Tolman. A senior, he is maintaining a 4.00 GPA. Andrew plans to attend BYU-Idaho to study mechanical engineering, then work for Lockheed-Martin after college. To do well in school, he says, "the most important thing is to try every assignment; even a 50% is better than a zero."



Sweet Home NHS officer Selah Wright lights a candle symbolizing one of the four "pillars" of the organization: scholarship, responsibility, leadership and service.
Photos courtesy of Satina Toman



Keynote speaker Ryan Adams, above, talks to the initiates. At left, Trinity Victor, left, leads new National Honor Society inductees in the recitation of the Sweet Home High School chapter's membership pledge.

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Public Notices

PUBLIC NOTICE

Mill Race Storage will hold a public auction on Nov. 29, 2025, under ORS. 87.685-87.695 and sell property contained within the assigned unit of the parties listed below:
A. Pagauga unit# B010, E. Wright unit# D014, A. Sater unit# B008, B. Triller unit# G013, The auction will be listed and conducted on: www.lockerfox.com
Purchases must be paid in full by cash or money order at the time of pickup at:
Mill Race Storage
550 NE Laredo Way
Lebanon, OR 97355
(11/26 - 12/3)

TRUSTEE'S NOTICE OF SALE

The Trust Deed to be foreclosed pursuant to Oregon law is referred to as follows (the "Trust Deed"):
Grantors: Scott Heinz
Trustee: First American Title of Oregon
Beneficiary: Oregon Community Credit Union
Date: March 28, 2023
Recording Date: March 28, 2023
Recording Reference: 2023-03213 County of Recording: Linn County The Successor Trustee is Patrick L. Stevens and the mailing address of the Successor Trustee is: Patrick L. Stevens, Successor Trustee, Hutchinson Cox, PO Box 10886, Eugene, OR 97440.
The Trust Deed covers the following described real property in the County of Linn and State of Oregon, ("the Property"):
THE LAND REFERRED TO HEREIN BELOW IS SITUATED IN THE COUNTY OF Linn, STATE OF OR, AND IS DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS:
Beginning at a 1 inch rod, being the intersection of the North line of the Southwest quarter of the Northwest quarter of Section 1, Township 14 South, Range 1 West, of the Willamette Meridian, in Linn County, Oregon, and the Southeasterly right-of-way line of State Hwy. 228, said point being South 89° 21' East 1304 feet from the Northeast corner of the Southwest quarter of the Northwest quarter of said Section 1; thence Southwesterly, along the Southeasterly right-of-way line of said State Hwy. 228, 100 feet to the Northwest corner of Parcel 1, PARTITION PLAT NO. 1995-90, Linn County, Oregon; thence North 89° 20' 53" East (North 89° 21' East by prior record) 436 feet to a 5/8 inch rod; thence North 34° 19' 00" East 107.37 feet (100 feet by prior record) to a 5/8 inch rod; being on the North line of the Southwest quarter of the Northwest quarter of said Section 1; thence South 89° 20' 20" West (South 89° 21' West by prior record) 449.88 feet to the Point of Beginning. Commonly known as: 40972 Highway 228, Sweet Home, OR 97386.
Both the beneficiary and the trustee have elected to sell the said real property to satisfy the obligations secured by said trust deed and a notice of default has been recorded pursuant to Oregon Revised Statutes 86.735(3); the default for which the foreclosure is made is grantor's failure to pay when due the following sums:
The monthly installment payments beginning December 25, 2024 and continuing through the installment due June 12,

Public Notices

2025; plus interest and late charges; real property taxes, plus interest and penalties; and other liens and penalties. Total default as of June 12, 2025 is \$2,763.34.
By reason of said default, the beneficiary has declared all sums owing on the obligation secured by the trust deed immediately due and payable, those sums being the following to wit: \$49,999.64 principal balance, plus unpaid interest through and including June 12, 2025 in the amount of \$3,235.85, together with the sum of \$131.59 which represents late charges, together with interest on the principal sum of \$49,999.64 with interest at the rate of 10.50% per annum from June 13, 2025 until paid, together with insurance paid by the Beneficiary on the property, late charges and penalties, trustee fees, attorney fees, foreclosure costs and any sums advanced by the Beneficiary pursuant to the trust deed. The date, time and place of the sale is:
Date: Wednesday, February 18, 2026
Time: 11:00 o'clock a.m.
Place: Front Entrance, Linn County Courthouse, 300 SW 4th Ave., Albany, OR 97321
RIGHT TO CURE
The right exists under ORS 86.753 to have this foreclosure proceeding dismissed and the Trust Deed reinstated by doing all of the following at any time that is not later than five days before the date last set for the sale:
(1) Paying to the Beneficiary the entire amount then due (other than such portion as would not then be due, had no default occurred);
(2) Curing any other default complained of herein that is capable of being cured by tendering the performance required under the Trust Deed; and
(3) Paying all costs and expenses actually incurred in enforcing the Obligation and Trust Deed, together with Trustee's and attorney's fees not exceeding the amounts provided by ORS 86.753.
We are a debt collector attempting to collect a debt and any information we obtain will be used to collect the debt.
Cashier's checks for the foreclosure sale must be payable to Oregon Community Credit Union.
Dated: November 21, 2025
/s/ Patrick L. Stevens
Patrick L. Stevens, Successor Trustee
Hutchinson Cox
Attorneys at Law
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Eugene, OR 97440
Phone: (541) 686-9160

Annual Bazaar

The Annual Bazaar at Sweet Home Genealogical Society for 2025 will be December 5th & 6th at 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. There will be vendors, raffles, baskets, puzzles, books, and other miscellaneous items for sale. (12-3)

Fall Cleanup

Fall Cleanup: Moss treatment, gutter cleaning, yard cleanups, trimming, pruning, blackberry removal. Jesse's Yards 503-871-7869 (10/23 - 2/9)

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Black Lab Puppies

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Holiday Bazaar

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December 5th-6th 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.
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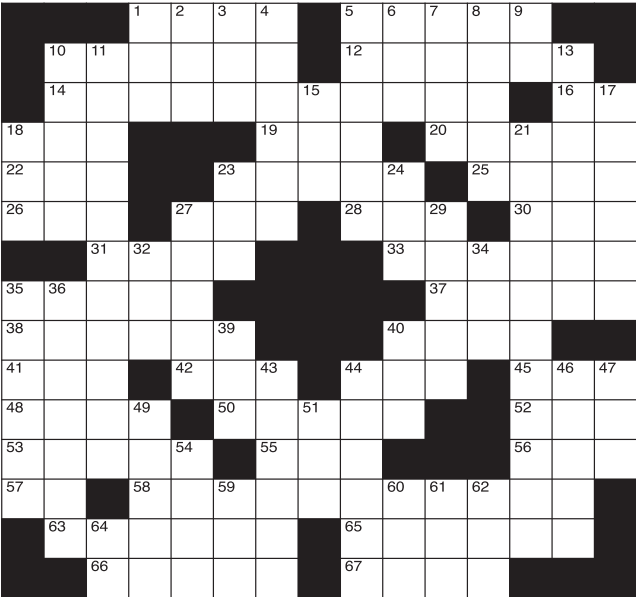
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CLUES ACROSS

1. Sexual cells of fungi

5. Communication device

10. Consumers

12. Kindness

14. Argentina's capital

16. Spanish be

18. Ad __; done for a specific purpose

19. Fiddler crabs

20. Type of wrap

22. Picnic invader

23. Hammer ends

25. One-time Roman emperor

26. Pounds per square inch

27. Not pleased

28. Father's Day gift

30. Wildebeests

31. Algerian coastal city

33. Thoroughfare

35. More lucid
37. "All __ on deck"

38. Singel-celled animals

40. Iron-containing compound

41. Where golfers begin

42. One who is gullible

44. Type of tree

45. Popular form of music

48. Makes a mistake

50. Recorded

52. Basics

53. Facilitates

55. Where a bachelor lives

56. Ink

57. Bibliographical abbreviation

58. Furnishes anew

63. Popular James Cameron film

65. With many branches

66. Flat pieces of stone

67. Sixth month of the Hebrew calendar

CLUES DOWN

1. Had a meal

2. Monetary unit

3. Civil restraint order

4. Distributed

5. Pliable

6. Not him

7. Singles

8. First month of the Assyrian calendar

9. And (Latin)

10. Ingersoll and Moss-Bacharach are two

11. Ones who accept bids

13. Pined for

15. A team's best pitcher

17. Noses

18. Lansdale characters __ and Leonard

21. Replaces lost tissue

23. Peter's last name

24. Female sibling

27. Kate and Rooney are two
29. Flammable, colorless liquid

32. Confederate soldier

34. Popular Dodge truck

35. A cotton fabric with a satiny finish

36. __ Hess, oil company

39. Stopped standing

40. Concealed

43. Documents

44. Man's hat

46. Degrade

47. Amount in each hundred (abbr.)

49. Stage in ecological succession

51. Political action committee

54. Invertebrate structure

59. Touch lightly

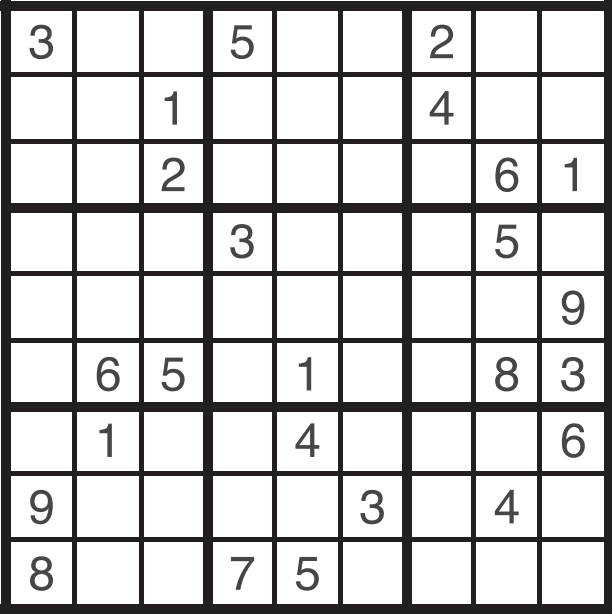
60. Excellent!

61. Doctors' group

62. Hill

64. Against

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HOLIDAY EVENTS
From page 5

The free event is open to all children. The celebration of the first Christmas will include a Shepherd's Pond, face painting, cookie decorating, gift and card making, a prize ball and games.

Gingerbread competition

Got baking skills? Demonstrate them at the seventh annual Gingerbread Competition sponsored by Julegard: The Christmas Farm and the Sweet Home Chamber of Commerce.

Entries will be judged on Saturday, Dec. 13, in the following categories: Child (5-8), Youth (9-12), Teen (13-17), Adult (18-plus), Group/Family and People's Choice.

Entries can be dropped off between 1 and 3 p.m. at the Chamber of Commerce, 1575 Main St. Judging begins at 3:15. Public viewing and Peo-

ple's Choice voting will take place from 4 to 7 p.m.

For more information and to sign up, visit sweethomechamber.com/events/event-calendar.

Parade of Lights

The annual Parade of Lights will start at 6 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 13, in downtown Sweet Home along Main and Long streets.

This year's theme, "Candyland," celebrates the sweetness of Sugar City with gingerbread- and candy-themed floats.

Those interested in participating with their own float may contact the Chamber of Commerce by calling (541) 367-6186, emailing Info@SweetHomeChamber.com, or stopping in at 1575 Main St. during office hours, Tuesday-Friday 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Participants are encouraged to incorporate gingerbread

and candy elements into their floats, such as gingerbread houses, candy canes, gumdrops, lollipops, and candy swirls. Bright, colorful lighting is a must. A minimum of 1,000 lights per float is recommended to ensure that gingerbread and candy designs shine in the nighttime parade. Oversized props and costumes are encouraged.

Carol Service on Elm Street

Elm Street Baptist Church will host its annual Christmas Carol Service at 5 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 14, at 1150 Elm St.

The public is invited. This is a participation event, including the congregational singing of a variety of traditional Christmas carols, Scripture readings and a short message all focused on the celebration and meaning of the advent of Jesus Christ.

Food will be served after the service.

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