

The New Era

SWEET HOME • LEBANON • AND SURROUNDING COMMUNITIES

SERVING EAST LINN COUNTY SINCE 1929

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 2026

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Angellford fills vacant Lebanon Council seat

By Sarah Brown
Of The New Era

Following an interview process, the Lebanon City Council members appointed William Marcellus Paul Angellford as city councilor during their Jan. 28 meeting.

Angellford fills a seat recently vacated by Carl Mann. The term ends December 2026.

Two candidates applied for the position. Shyla Malloy, who currently serves on the Planning Commission, was the other applicant.

Angellford also served on the Planning Commission between 2022 and 2025.

He grew up in rural Polk County and attended Linn-Benton Community College. Angellford built on his education with a focus on engineering, and, after a few moves, landed in Lebanon 2016 with his wife and children. His dad spent his last three years living at the Lebanon Oregon Veterans Home. Angellford currently works at McCarl's Technical Services in Albany as a quality engineer.

During his interview, when asked what he believes are the top three concerns facing Lebanon, Angellford gave a brief explanation on his answer, which includes future growth, maintaining excellence in city functions (i.e., police, fire, schools,

See Council, Page 6

Fire devours home on Port Drive

By Scott Swanson
Of The New Era

A rural home on Port Drive was destroyed in a massive fire that started late Tuesday night, Jan. 27.

According to Sweet Home Fire and Ambulance District, the Linn County Dispatch Center received a call at 11:23 p.m. stating that the home was fully engulfed and everyone had evacuated.

According to SHFAD and family friends, the occupants, Heather and Clint Pollock and their dog Max realized the house was on fire and "literally got out of the house with the clothes on their backs."

The home's rural location, at the end of a long driveway at 41170 Port Drive, created difficulties for firefighters.

The rural location meant that there were no water hydrants and all water needed to be shuttled in by tender. The home's long, narrow driveway presented challenges for access and egress of the water tenders and other apparatus, SHFAD said.

Only one engine could get close enough to the home to pump handlines, while a second engine was set up further down the driveway to relay pump to it from a portable tank kept full by the tender shuttle operations.

The home and all contents were a complete loss, as well as a car in the driveway. The fire also extended into some 100-foot-tall cedar and Douglas fir trees, causing localized damage to limbs above the structure.



Flames devour a home on Port Drive early Wednesday morning, which required a two-alarm response from Sweet Home Fire and other agencies.

— Photo by Scott Swanson

A second alarm was issued, bringing a total of 11 apparatus, including three engines and four water tenders, with 27 total personnel, including

Lebanon Fire and Brownsville Fire. The Linn County Sheriff's Office and Pacific Power also assisted at the scene.

See Port Drive Fire, Page 20

Upward Bound program giving SHHS students leg up

By Scott Swanson
Of The New Era

Jayla Moore and Michelle Slayton knew they were not in Sweet Home any more when, in the middle of the night, they realized that they needed the "rickety heater" inside their hut, even though outside it was broad daylight.

The Sweet Home High School students, along with classmate Louis Scott, were in Toolik, Alaska, in August of 2024, at a small research station located north of the Arctic Circle, 370 miles north of Fairbanks.

The station, operated by the University of Alaska Fairbanks with funding from the National Science Foundation, serves as a year-round facility for a wide variety of scientific research in

the Arctic. Its goal is to promote a greater understanding of Arctic science and its global relevance.

For the Sweet Home students, just getting there was an experience.

"It was, like, a 13-hour drive from Fairbanks," Slayton said, noting that she was particularly impressed by the fact that "there's a tree line once you get to the Arctic Circle. Trees won't grow above that."

"It freaked me out a little bit," she added.

The three, now juniors, were there on a trip provided by Oregon State University's TRIO/Upward Bound program. The program is one of the three original federal TRIO programs enacted in

See Upward Bound, Page 5



Active participants in Sweet Home High School Upward Bound include, from left, Michelle Slayton, Lukiss Grover, Rally Graham, Louis Scott, Jayla Moore and Advisor Ann Knight.

HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER OF ZOEDELL FLEURY

This Week's Top Stories

Man arrested for homicide in SH

A Sweet Home man was arrested early Tuesday for criminally negligent homicide.

Page 8



Puzzle competition raises funds

Local puzzle buffs put pieces together to help fund new school playground.

Page 12



Hoodoo owner recounts journey

Hoodoo owner recounts challenges of running local ski resort.

Page 14



Obituaries

David Story

Aug. 20, 1948 - Jan. 15, 2026

David Walker Story, 77, of Sweet Home passed away Jan. 15, 2026.

He was born Aug. 20, 1948, to Alberta (Hanf) and Joseph Story in Iramaguwa, (Honshu) Japan. His father was stationed in Japan and came back to the United States in 1950.

David grew up in Houston, Texas. In 1967, he married Doryce Stevens and they had a daughter, Jill who was born in 1968. They divorced a few years later and he married Brenda Dove in 1972. They had a daughter Kirstan who was born in 1980. They divorced in 2013 after a move to Texas in 2012.

David moved back to Sweet Home in 2016, where he lived until his passing.

He was employed at Clayton's supermarket and later Dan Lawrence company. In 1982 he started work at MBCI, where he worked until 1993, when he moved his family to Sweet Home. He worked in real estate at Holley Real Estate and later Coldwell Banker Branson and Associates, until his retirement in 2010 due to health reasons.

David is survived by his



daughters, Jill McCloskey, Kirstan Williams and their husbands; sister Judy Neal; seven grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

A celebration of life was held Jan. 31, at Norden Hall (old Wells Fargo building) in Sweet Home.

Sweet Home Funeral Chapel is handling the arrangements.

Death Notices

Margaret "Peggy" Elaine Aldrich, 69, of Sweet Home passed away January 28, 2026. Sweet Home Funeral Chapel is handling the arrangements. For updated information, visit www.sweet-homefuneral.com.

Doris Avonne Bruce, 90, formerly of Sweet Home, passed away Feb. 1, 2026, in Forest Grove.

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

Carla Claasen, 63, of Sweet Home, passed away Jan. 31, 2026.

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

CORRECTIONS

Our caption for the photo in the Jan. 28 issue of a crash that occurred at 3:44 p.m. on Jan. 22, in the 2400 block of Main Street contained some erroneous information. Here are corrected details: According to various Sweet Home police reports, two small dogs ran into the roadway as David Mitchell Horner, 33, of Sweet Home, driving a 2005 Mazda van eastbound on Main, stopped suddenly to avoid hitting the dogs. His vehicle was struck by a 1996 GMC pickup truck driven by Chance Steven Linn, 19, also of Sweet Home, who was unable to stop in time. Linn suffered injuries in the crash and was treated by medics, but was not transported, according to police.



Motorcycle and car collide

Police and medics respond to a collision that occurred early Sunday afternoon at the intersection of Main Street and Pleasant Valley Road in Sweet Home. The crash was reported by multiple callers at 1:36 p.m. According to police reports, Steven Grimm, 55, of Lacombe, who was operating a 2005 Harley Davidson motorcycle, was struck by a 2006 Chevy Cobalt driven by Christopher Jason Williams, 37, of Sweet Home. According to police, Grimm suffered a broken leg and was transported by medics. Williams was cited for driving while suspended and his vehicle was impounded. Damage was estimated at over \$2,500. Further specifics were not available from police at press time.

— Photos by Scott Swanson

Events

Bingo fundraiser for River Center youth

The River Center Youth Student Ministries will hold a Bingo fundraiser Saturday, Feb. 7, at the church, 3000 S. Santiam Hwy., Lebanon.

Proceeds will fund youths going to Winter Camp Feb. 20-22. Bingo event admission is \$20 for four cards. The event, from 5 to 8:30 p.m., will include food

concessions, opportunity tickets to win door prizes, gift baskets and every Bingo winner will win a gift card from Sweet Home and Lebanon businesses. Everyone is invited and all ages can play.

For more details, contact Youth Pastor Brant Rogers at (541) 451-1271 or email brant@therivercenter.net.

'Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde' in Albany

Albany Civic Theater will stage "Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde" Jan. 23 through Feb. 7 at 111 W. 1st Ave., Albany.

Performances are Jan. 23, 24, 25, 30 and 31 and Feb. 1, 5, 6 and 7. Evening performances are at 7 p.m. Sunday performances are matinees, at 2:30 p.m.

For tickets and more information, visit albanycivic.org.

The theater is holding auditions for "Pirates of Penzance" Jan. 26-27. Auditions are open to all. For more information, visit www.albanycivic.org/get-involved.

Galentine's Market Feb. 8 in Lebanon

Nessie Bar Co will host a "Galentine's Market" from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Sunday, Feb. 8, at the Lebanon Boys & Girls Club, 305 S 5th St., Lebanon.

Open to the public, the event features local women-owned businesses. Shop to find unique goods, enjoy refreshments, connect and support these entrepreneurs, makers and bakers.

Square dancers to celebrate, add classes

Lebanon Square Circlers will celebrate 77 years of square

See Events, Page 15

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The New Era

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Public Safety

Information herein is sourced from law enforcement and fire agencies. Details, which may not always be available in time for our weekly publication, are updated on our website as information becomes available. Addresses noted generally denote the location of the incident or arrest, occasionally indicating the origin of the call. 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.

A Roman numeral indicates the degree of a charge: theft I (first-degree theft). Following is a list of abbreviations that may appear in our log reports:

- AMC (Albany Municipal Court)
- DU (Driving uninsured/without insurance)
- DUII (Driving while intoxicated)
- DWS (driving while suspended)
- FTA (failure to appear)
- FTC (failure to comply)
- LCJ (Linn County Jail)
- LCSO (Linn County Sheriff's Office)
- LCCC (Linn County Circuit Court)
- LCJC (Linn County Justice Court)
- LMC (Lebanon Municipal Court)
- MIP (Minor in possession)
- OSP (Oregon State Police)
- SHMC (Sweet Home Municipal Court)
- SHPD (Sweet Home Police Department)
- SLCH (Samaritan Lebanon Community Hospital)

FEB. 1

LCSO/OSP LEBANON

12:08 a.m. - Deputies responded to noise complaint in 31200 block Sodaville Rd. Located birthday party that had just ended.

3:43 a.m. - Matthew Livezey, 32, of Lebanon, cited for speeding, 60/40, 33900 block Santiam Hwy.

1:49 p.m. - Hit and run reported in 38000 block Middle Ridge. According to LCSO, previous tenants used motor home to hit caller's horse trailer, then fled. Investigation continuing. Report taken.

7:12 p.m. - Deputies responded to suicidal juvenile in 38200

block Perkins. Juvenile voluntarily went with medics to hospital.

LCSO/OSP SWEET HOME/ S. COUNTY

10:10 a.m. - Robert Scott McVay Jr. cited for speeding, 61/45, Bishop/Pearl, Brownsville.

10:31 a.m. - Single-vehicle crash reported in area of Hwy. 228/ Courtney Creek. LCSO and OSP responded. Further details unavailable at deadline.

Sweet Home Police

9:35 a.m. - Michael DaShawn Farebee, 46, cited for DWS, DU, Rio Theater parking lot, 1300 block Main.

12:21 p.m. - Paul William Donaldson, 61, cited for DWS, DU, Columbia (Umpqua) Bank parking lot, 1890 Main.

3:26 p.m. - Caller reported multiple sets of keys stolen from her vehicle in 900 block 28th. Officer responded, report taken for unauthorized entry into motor vehicle, theft II. Approximate value \$100.

6:31 p.m. - Caller reported female hit his vehicle during previous night and had not provided insurance information. Officer responded to 3100 block Main, advised caller of options.

LEBANON POLICE

3:55 p.m. - Caller reported subject running at traffic, trying to fight people, near Pioneer Cemetery. Officer located well-known transient, who was wearing cheetah print pants, open coat with no shirt and an American flag "eye patch." He was collecting items and making a guitar.

5:15 p.m. - Callers reported naked subject yelling at Marathon Gas customers,

climbing sign, swinging a board around. Officer found well-known transient without a shirt, advised him to move along.

6:41 p.m. - Caller reported people yelling and shoving each other, transient exposing himself, near Marathon Gas. Officer gave subject a ride elsewhere.

8:52 p.m. - Driver swerved to avoid subject who ran into the road, and hit a parked car, E Grant/Hiatt Sts.

JAN. 31

LCSO/OSP LEBANON

2:32 a.m. - Lisa Evans, 51, of Lebanon, cited for speeding, 60/40, 33900 block Santiam Hwy.

9:15 a.m. - Lola Childress, 47, of Lebanon, cited for speeding, 70/55, 35300 block Spicer.

9:46 a.m. - Amari Coronel Santiago, 29, of Lebanon, cited for speeding, 67/45, DU, and for expired registration. 33200 block Brewster.

10:12 a.m. - Cleo Beloon, 72, of Lebanon, cited for speeding, 74/55, 39100 block Lacombe.

12:04 p.m. - Male walking in 42900 block Green Mountain reportedly bitten by chocolate Labrador retriever. Report taken.

7:43 p.m. - Cynthia Radley, 36, of Sweet Home, cited for failing to carry proof of insurance, driving without privileges, Santiam Hwy./Ingram.

9:54 p.m. - Elijah Vincent, 18, of Sweet Home, cited for DU, failure to renew vehicle registration, 30800 block Santiam Hwy. Report taken.

11:07 p.m. - Crystal Dawson, 38, of Salem, cited for speeding, 64/40, DU, Santiam Hwy./Gore. Report taken.

LCSO/OSP SWEET HOME/ S. COUNTY

11:13 a.m. - Anna House, 41, of Brownsville, arrested on outstanding warrant after deputies responded to report of disturbance in 1000 block Pine, Brownsville. Report taken.

2:24 p.m. - Mail theft reported in 42300 block North River. Amazon packages valued at \$92.47 stolen from driveway. Report taken.

3:13 p.m. -

4:02 p.m. - Deputies investigated littering violation after household items were found in right-of-way in 500 block Hausman, Brownsville.

SWEET HOME POLICE

3:06 a.m. - Melissa Nicole Shreves, 39, arrested on Clackamas County Circuit Court warrant in felon in possession case, 2200 block Main St. Cited and released. Arrest followed officer's checking unsecure buildings at 2231 Main St., where a male and female were trespassed.

7:46 a.m. - Caller from Sunshine Espresso reported male throwing bricks in drive-through. Officer responded, contacted male, who was trespassed.

8:26 a.m. - Jesse Lane Davis, 30, arrested by LCSO on SHMC warrant for FTA in DUII case. Cited to appear Feb. 25.

3:13 p.m. - Caller reported large group of juvenile males who "possibly" stole his dog from his front yard, 3100 block Juniper. Officer responded, report taken for theft I. According to SHPD, the dog later returned on its own, and the case was determined to

See Public Safety, Page 8



TEMPERATURES

DATE	HIGH	LOW	RAIN
1/27	42	28	0.00
1/28	57	35	0.00
1/29	54	37	0.01
1/30	58	38	0.01
1/31	57	31	0.02
2/1	60	42	0.00
2/2	62	35	0.00

RAIN IN INCHES

Year to date: 2.29
2/5/25: 4.67

FORECAST

DATE	WEATHER	HIGH/LOW
2/5	Cloudy	62/35
2/6	Cloudy	60/38
2/7	Showers	57/43
2/8	Rain	51/38
2/9	Showers	51/31
2/10	Showers	50/32
2/11	Showers	50/34

LAKE LEVELS

Foster 618.2
Green Peter 923.0

Circuit Court

Warrants are out on the following individuals: Omar Edgar Arroyo, Travis Alexander Ayres, William Medford Bass, Jonathan Edward Betar, Raymond Paul Binford, Lloyd William Bly, Christina Marie Cash, Brien Keith Cockrell, Austin Shane Conner, Hope Marie Connors, Matthew Timothy Cook, Steven Michael Cooley, Jacob Scott Fisher, Selina Renee Ford-Blackburn, Scotty Lee Foster, Sean Doyle Gay, Nicholas Gregory Godell, Steven Edward Grimm, Aaron Thomas Halvorson, Noe Hernandez-Reyes, Michael Trevor Hilton, Robert Edwin Hoskinson, Daniel Henry Johnson, Bruce Clifton Kelly, Alan Kenneth Kilmer, Brent Jay Klient, Tyler Bruce Lanz, Andrew Donald LeGore, Richard Dean Leland, Mikel Vincent Lizama, Christopher James Lloyd, Mainor Misael Lucas-Velasquez, Charles James Mar-

vel, Thomas Junior McCarthey, Bryce William McGowan, Eric Wayne McKnight, Heather Dawn Meeks, Carrie Lynne Miller, Thomas Elbridge Miller, James Keith Mortensen, Matthew Kincaid Nelson, Nicholas Alan Nelson, Daniel Austin Phillips, Sean Ever Robinson, Tammy Lavonn Robinson, James Ryan Routon, Daniel Ryan Salo, Rosemary O. Saviour, Phillip Stanley Shanklin, Donald Shane Simmons, Joshua Webb, Darnell T. Wells, Joshua Alexander Williams, Isabella Rean Wynn, Jessica Ashley Wynne

Leo Elijah Brawn, 18, charged Feb. 2 with theft I and disorderly conduct II.

Charges against **Nicholas Orval Duncan Jr., 47,** of attempted unlawful delivery of meth and felon in possession of a restricted weapon were dismissed with prejudice because

the State no longer believes it can meet its burden of proof at trial.

Kyle Austin Hanscam, 33, charged Jan. 27 with burglary I, unauthorized use of a vehicle, criminal mischief II and theft I. Bail: \$15,000.

Sarah Beth Moore, 39, sentenced Jan. 28 to one year suspension of a driver's license, 48 hours jail, three days compensatory service, 24 mos. bench probation and a \$2,000 fine after pleading guilty to DUII (liquor) with a .29% BAC. Dismissed: reckless driving, assault IV.

Drexel Sean Aaron Morgan, 39, charged Feb. 2 with DV assault IV.

Andrew Charles Naegeli, 41, charged Feb. 2 with unlawful use of a weapon with a firearm, menacing and pointing firearm at another.

Donald Joe Nave, 54, sentenced Jan. 27 to 28 mos. with

Oregon Dept. of Corrections, two years post-prison supervision and a \$200 fine after pleading guilty to delivery of meth. Dismissed: delivery of meth, two counts unlawful possession of meth, DWS, FTA I.

Jordan Thomas Nixon, 25, charged Jan. 30 with burglary I and theft III.

Izaya Sebastian P-Agosto, 21, charged Jan. 27 with DUII (liquor) and reckless driving. In a separate case, he was charged Jan. 29 with failure to perform duties of driver to injured person, two counts of assault III, reckless driving and recklessly endangering another person.

Scott Alan Watts, 57, sentenced Jan. 28 to 90 days jail, 36 mos. supervised probation and \$800 in fines after pleading no contest to luring a minor and three counts of sexual abuse II. Dismissed: luring a minor, sexual abuse II.

FOR RENT - 1260 NANDINA ST - #J, SWEET HOME

Welcome to this charming 2-bedroom, 1.5-bath townhouse in Sweet Home, OR. This home features a kitchen equipped with a range, fridge, and dishwasher, along with washer/dryer hookups for added convenience. Laminate flooring runs throughout, creating a clean, modern feel. Pets are allowed with a \$250 deposit and \$50 monthly pet rent per animal. Enjoy comfortable living in this inviting townhouse.

\$1300 2 1.5 1232
RENT BED BATH SQFT

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FOR RENT - 4218 LONG ST, SWEET HOME

Welcome to this charming single-level 3-bedroom, 2-bath home in Sweet Home, OR. The kitchen comes equipped with a range, fridge, dishwasher, and microwave, while washer and dryer hookups add everyday convenience. New carpet in the bedrooms and stylish laminate flooring throughout create a comfortable, updated feel. Enjoy a fenced backyard and a double car garage for parking and storage. No pets.

\$1895 3 2 1172
RENT BED BATH SQFT

(541) 367-7368 | KARYN.ELPM@GMAIL.COM | WWW.EASTLINNPROPERTYMANAGEMENT.COM

CROSSWORD KEY

Puzzle on page 17

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

SUDOKU KEY

Puzzle on page 17

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

Letters to the Editor

Be the person God made you

Editor:

The story in the Jan. 21 edition about artist Mike Fulton caught my interest. He always knew he was a bit different, but didn't know he was autistic until he was in his 40s. I can relate to that.

Please note that he is quite verbal. Every individual is different, so don't jump to conclusions about their abilities from rumors you've heard, whether very good or fairly poor. We all have hills and holes, otherwise referred to as strengths and weaknesses.

The reason I identify with Mike is that I was 80 when I discovered I'm an Asperger. I'm no artist, I have another skill, but we focus on detail, not generalizations, doing a good job in our area of expertise. We look for patterns because we don't "get it" socially by osmosis, like most people.

I was so glad to discover I wasn't the only person in the world who didn't understand the world I lived in. Someone understands people like me, which is down the spectrum line from autism, not the same.

Now I don't kick myself for not fitting in... I'll never really fit in... but I can rejoice in what I am able to contribute to my world. I analyzed what I could do well, and what I would never accomplish, and revised my expectations for my life in accord with reality. I just see and evaluate differently than the crowd in the street, whether morals, politics, fashion, traditions, etc. God made me and we understand each other in our own way, which may be different

from your value scale.

Mine was a lonely life, trying to figure out how to be like others. I finally realized I don't have to be like others, just be me. A little self confidence changed the whole scene. Some people even like me this way. I'm not a total reject after all.

Read Temple Grandin's books, from our library. She is a PhD autistic person who changed the "end of life" scene for most domestic animals, from beef to chickens. Don't ignore "different" people, cultivate them.

I encourage everyone to think, evaluate consequences, choose your best path. Don't try to be a mirror of your star, he already has that spot. Dare to accept yourself and find a place for your own star to shine, not necessarily in a public spotlight, but in the bubble of your own world.

Joan Scofield
Sweet Home

Thoughts on Lebanon High's new mascot

Editor:

Regarding the new Strawberry mascot for Lebanon sports (Jan. 21), does it need to appear so grim?

I realize sports fans and participants feel victory is the goal, however friendliness should be important too. You don't want to scare off your fans. After all, strawberries are one of our best treats.

Maybe a show of "We'll pound you into jam," or "When we're on top, you're toast" or "You'll be surprised by the strength of our flavor."

Please make that grimace just a bit softer. You really

don't need to be bullies to win.

Bonnie J. Neal
Sweet Home

Imagination Library benefiting local kids

Editor:

Nine years ago, a number of Rotary clubs in Linn County and the United Way of Linn County (now includes Benton and Lincoln counties) introduced a program called "The Imagination Library" to the children and families in our county.

Dolly Parton started this program over 30 years ago as a way to promote the love of reading in young children.

Since its inception in 1995, over 200 million books have been distributed. During the nine years of operation in Linn County, over 25,000 children have benefited from participation in this program. In this year alone, approximately 3,700 children are enrolled in the Imagination Library.

The Imagination Library has been proven to improve early literacy skills in children aged from birth to 5. It also creates a love for reading that benefits children for the rest of their lives.

The program provides a quality, age-appropriate literature book to registered children once a month until the child enters kindergarten. At the end of each book are questions and activities that promote interaction between parents and their children, thus strongly encouraging parent child bonding.

The books are free to enrolled families, thanks to donations and support from lo-

cal businesses and organizations.

The three Rotary Clubs of Linn County, along with Rotary District 5110, have donated well over \$100,000.

The main organization in charge of the day-to-day operations of the Imagination Library in Linn County is the United Way of Linn, Benton and Lincoln Counties. Several years ago, the program was expanded into Benton and Lincoln counties.

The program has been so successful that the state of Oregon is now helping to cover 50% of the program costs.

Early reading success makes a huge difference in a child's education. Research shows that kindergarten students participating in the "Imagination Library" program outscore non-participating students in their early literacy skills. This in turn, helps them become better readers and better prepares them for a successful school experience.

If you or someone you know would like to register a child, please visit the United Way of Linn, Benton, Lincoln Counties website at www.unitedwaylbl.org. Additional information is also available at the Dolly Parton's imagination Library website, imaginationlibrary.com/usa.

Larry Horton
Sweet Home

Monks' walk alternative to 'frenetic' lifestyle

Editor:

While much of the country scrolls through frenetic content on our phones, a group of Buddhist monks left their monasteries for a long winter

walk from Fort Worth, Texas, to Washington, D.C., in silent meditation, in one long row, with a dog that was once a stray in India named Aloka the Peace Dog.

They call it a Walk for Peace.

In their tradition, they ask for nothing, which means they rely entirely on the goodwill of strangers. Through this, their daily meals were often offered, and shelter came from churches, centers, and a university.

Along the way, people have extended flowers, snacks, tissues, painted posters, and tears of gratitude that someone was walking for their peace. Some walked behind them for miles to their next stop. Others traveled in icy weather to hear the monks' message: live in the present, don't dwell on the past or future, and care for your mind through a daily meditation practice of counting breaths. And write daily, "Today will be my peaceful day."

More recently, a question was added when they spoke. Are you practicing this?

Following their journey online, I noticed my feeds changed too - from frenetic clips to quieter, longer videos about the Walk for Peace. In fact, their page had 1 million likes in a week, another million the next - a quiet reminder that attention, when turned mindfully, can move like a river toward peace.

As the monks remind us: "We walk not to bring you peace, but to remind you it never left... waiting with infinite patience for you to notice it again."

Jennifer Puccio
Sweet Home



Brent Belveal takes a flip during a 1976 match with a South African. The entire team met defeat for the first time since December 1973.

From our Files

Feb. 8, 1951

Brilliant light flashes in the sky were observed in the east and resembled lightning, according to electrical reactions on radios. One argument that the flashes were lightning was offered by some local citizens. Although not exactly scientific, China pheasant roosters were crowing at the time, as they are known to do when there is lightning.

The Jaycees during a meeting committed to publicize this year's Frontier Days by selling swatches, or cloth patches, in hopes they will be worn by many. They also discussed the Lebanon-Sweet Home stag party to be held at Melody Lane. Entertainment, games and refreshments will be offered.

Prospects for settlement of the railroad strike are on the horizon as rail movements in Sweet Home are soon expected. A spokesman on the matter also spiked rumors that local trainmen contracted the "walkoff sickness" and left their jobs. He said no one left, but that "the place seemed deserted because there wasn't much to do."

A special delegation of two dozen parents asked the school board to use a \$1,800 fund allocated last year to finance the

services of a public school nurse. A Linn County school nurse said they are needed for periodic health exams, prevention and correction of physical defects, observation for signs of communicable diseases and other adverse conditions, immediate needed care, improvement of personnel health, re-admittance of kids who had been ill, and teaching the importance of cleanliness.

Feb. 5, 1976

The first annual Winter Arts Festival, sponsored by Business and Professional Women and held at the high school, will be themed "Nostalgia - 200 years." It's being held during the week-end of George Washington's birthday as a salute, in part, to the bicentennial year. It will include a flea mart, performing arts and talent show competition with 21 variety acts, and art and craft exhibits.

Snow play activities such as sledding on inner tubes and sleds will be banned effective immediately at Hoodoo Ski Bowl. That's because "the situation has gotten out of control," with a number of injuries occurring each weekend, which include broken bones, internal injuries and lower back injuries.

Efforts to renovate, reorganize and institute the Sweet Home Teen Community Center, 1256 Main St., continue as new leadership turns it into a non-profit organization, adds more activities, initiates \$1/monthly membership dues, and asks for more volunteers.

Feb. 7, 2001

The Linn County Board of Commissioners approved a two-year mass-gathering permit for the Foster Mud Flat Races' successor, the Santiam Mountain Mud Festival at 41176 Skyline Road. It is expected to draw 3,000 participants this year. Neighbors are concerned about erosion, access, noise pollution, compacted soil, runoff problems, illegal camping and partying, trespassing, "unsavory people," and effect on animals and water.

Honored at this year's Chamber awards are: Glenda Hopkins (BPW Woman of the Year), Todd Gestrin (Jr. First Citizen), Mollie Andrews (First Citizen) and Carla Healy (Distinguished Citizen). The President's Club honored Jesse Barr, Dennis Speck, Sylvia Stock, Richard Lillich, Mary Mansfield and Jim Melcher as "Very Important People."

Sweet Home, Lebanon 2024-25 graduation rates inch up

By Khushboo Rathore
Oregon Journalism Project

Both Sweet Home's and Lebanon's graduation rates for the 2024-25 school year were slightly increased over the previous year, according to Oregon Department of Education's annual graduation report, released last week.

Four-year high school graduation rates in Oregon have inched up, but still remain below the most recent national average.

Data released on Thursday, Jan. 29, by the Oregon Department of Education shows the state reached an 83% graduation rate across the state's 197 school districts. That mark is Oregon's highest in a decade.

Nationally, a recent analysis by U.S. News & World Report says the average 2024 graduation rate was 86.4%.

Oregon's four-year graduation rates increased 1.2 percentage points from last year's senior class and 0.4 points from the 2019-20 graduating class, which had the highest rate until the latest school year.

Lebanon's four-year completion rate for the 2024-25 school year was 87.8%,

which was a slight decrease from the 91.1% reported the year before by ODE. The 2024-25 four-year completion rate, which includes alternatives like the GED, was 88.5%. LHS's five-year completion rate for the 2024-25 school year was 91.8%, which was a slight increase from the 89.2% reported the year before by ODE.

Lebanon's five-year rate for females was 92.5% (149 graduates), while males was 90.1% (128). The rate across various ethnicities in the school district hovered around 90%. Students experiencing poverty graduated at an 85.2% rate (121), while the rate for students with disabilities was 84.4% (38).

This year's five-year completion rate is the percentage of students who began high school in 2020-21 and earned a Regular or Modified Diploma (including Post Graduate Scholars), extended diploma, adult high school diploma, or a GED by the end of 2024-25 (within five years of beginning high school). The rate for talented and gifted students was not specified, but was more than 95%.

Sweet Home's four-year

completion rate for the 2024-25 school year was 87.9%, an increase of nearly 7% from last year's 81.0% for the previous four years.

Sweet Home's five-year rate for females was 86% (80 graduates) while the rate for males was 77% (87). The rate for Latino students (13 graduates) was 92.9%, while the rate for students categorized as "white" was 80.6% (145). Sweet Home's rate for students experiencing poverty was 75% (96), while the rate for students with disabilities was 73.3% (33 completers).

Almost every historically marginalized group that ODE tracks saw improvement in graduation rates. Notably, Oregon's Youth Corrections Education Program had a 22% increase.

"Today's graduation data show what is possible when we stay focused, aligned and committed to student success," said Charlene Williams, director of ODE.

The rise in graduation rates, along with this past school year's lower 2.9% dropout rate, is part of a long series of incremental gains in the state, said Sara Kerr, an Oregon parent and consultant for Results for

America, a research nonprofit for public policymakers.

"Based on data, many students are on track academically, but are still missing too much school," Kerr said. "Graduation gains are real, but they are pretty fragile."

The largest increase and decrease in four-year graduation rates were in Harney and Gilliam counties, respectively.

Harney County saw the biggest overall improvement, 20 percentage points over last year's rate. The increase was largely due to the success of Silvies River Charter School, which had 92% of its cohort graduate, a vast improvement from the previous year's 12.5% graduation rate.

On the other hand, Gilliam County saw its graduation rate drop 28 percentage points, to 72%. But the county also had a larger eligible class this year: 32 students, up from 19 the year before.

Rising graduation rates don't necessarily reflect how well prepared Oregon high school graduates are for post-secondary education. Unlike most states, Oregon, through its State

Board of Education, suspended the requirement that students prove "basic mastery" of reading, writing and math in order to receive a diploma through the class of 2029.

In addition, data indicates that about 40% of high school graduates who enroll in community college have to take remedial courses, Kerr says.

"When you're handing a kid a diploma, they're walking across that stage and being told that the world is their oyster. Are they truly prepared to succeed in community college, a four-year institution, and or civic life?"

Williams said efforts to raise graduation rates must start long before high school. "We know that we have more work to do to support our younger learners, especially when it comes to English language arts," she said. "Gaps in literacy can show up later, sometimes in attendance, course completion, and sometimes whether or not students ultimately graduate."

- The New Era staff contributed to this story

UPWARD BOUND

From page 1

the 1960s to provide outreach and support to help disadvantaged students get to and succeed in college.

Upward Bound provides "fundamental support" for high school students whose parents have not attended college, who meet specific income and academic guidelines, and who demonstrate a need for academic support and the potential to be successful in college.

Sweet Home, which has 57 students enrolled, is one of six high schools included in the OSU program. The others are South Albany, Corvallis, McMinnville, Hillsboro and Hood River.

Current Educational Advisor Ann Knight noted that Sweet Home's is the only one of the OSU schools that has both a math/science and a liberal arts program.

The federally funded program offers academic advising and tutoring, along with field trips and cultural activities, a six-week summer program at OSU that included a two-week stay in the dorms, along with career exploration and assistance with college and financial aid applications, as well as college visits in Oregon, Washington and California.

Sweet Home students have been to Alaska, some of them to both Toolik and Juneau, and more recently, ZooLights at the Oregon Zoo in December, a visit to



Students from Sweet Home, with others from McMinnville, Hood River and Hillsboro high schools participate in Oregon State University's summer residential program, including this visit to a science lab. Jayla Moore is on the left, and Cody Dodd and Rally Graham are in the center. - Upward Bound photo

Southern Oregon University, a two-day trip to OSU Cascades and Central Oregon Community College in January, and the OSU summer residential program.

The students said they enjoyed the OSU Cascades outing, partly it included a day of learning to ski or snowboard at Mt. Bachelor.

Recent or upcoming events for Sweet Home participants include a scholarship workshop and a leadership conference, advisor Ann Knight said.

She and the students credited former program advisor Mustafa Ismail, who recruited most of them, with getting the program started at Sweet Home. He was replaced by Knight, a former Sweet Home math teacher,

who took over in mid-December. She works under OSU staffer Vicky Antunez, one of the OSU managers.

"Mustafa did a great job of building the program up," said Knight, who retired a year ago. She added that she intends to keep the program going through this year and, if funding continues, into next year. "I just know it's a good thing for a lot of these kids."

"They haven't kicked me out yet, so I'm not ready to completely hang it up just yet."

Slayton and Moore said they learned about the program as freshmen when Ismail visited Tomas Rosa's English class.

"I grabbed the paper, not really thinking about it, and

brought it home to my mom," Slayton said. "She read it and she convinced me to join."

Moore said she thought the program "sounded really cool" when Ismail visited and she decided to get involved. Things happened pretty fast after that, she said.

It didn't take long for things to start happening for them.

"I went and I handed in my application, I got in, and then, probably like the very next week, Mustafa sent me an email," Moore said. "He goes, 'Do you want to go to Alaska and OSU?' And I'm like, 'Yeah,' and he goes, 'OK, here you go.'"

Scott said he got into the Toolik trip "literally" at the last minute.

"I had, like, two hours to finish the application, submit it and then 20 minutes after I submitted it, I got an email directly from Vicky saying, 'Oh, you're in, by the way. Just come to this spot on this day.'"

Lukiss Grover, a senior, along with Scott, spent two weeks in the summer of 2024 at the University of Alaska's Juneau Icefield Research Program, where Grover said he got to participate in LIDAR scanning, research activities on the Mendenhall Glacier and fly drones, as well as learning about the school and its technological activities.

"The Mendenhall Glacier was beautiful," he said.

"There was a big waterfall too."

"We got an app that did the LIDAR. It's called Polycam and it lets you take pictures of stuff and makes 3-D model. I still have it."

The program has clearly produced some clear goals for the students who spoke with a reporter recently.

Slayton said she has always been interested in space, but "I'm kind of realizing it's more of a hobby than anything and I don't want to ruin that hobby, so I'm looking more towards mental health now."

She said if she decides to pursue space, she wants to attend Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University in Daytona, Fla. If she goes for a career in mental health, she will likely choose OSU.

Moore said she hopes to attend an in-state college and major in early childhood education with a goal of becoming an elementary school teacher.

Grover said he has always loved cars and had thought about becoming a mechanic but is considering making that a hobby and attending OSU to get into the computer field, in which he is also interested.

Scott said he's been interested in dinosaurs since he was young and plans to become a paleontologist, either by studying anthropology or zoology at OSU or majoring in paleontology at the University of Oregon.

See Upward Bound, Page 19

Commissioners learn county's spending is conservative

By Alex Paul

Linn County Communications

Halfway through the 2025-2026 fiscal year, Linn County's department heads and elected officials are holding a tight rein on spending, Accounting Officer Bill Palmer told Commissioners Roger Nyquist, Sherrie Sprenger and Will Tucker at their Jan. 27 meeting.

Palmer said that as of December 31, most departments have expended less than 50% of their budgets.

Spending for the General Fund is at 45.60%, compared to 41.8% at the same time in 2024.

The Road Fund has expended 24.7% compared to 27.1%; the Law Enforcement Levy is at 34.9% compared to 36.7% and the Health Fund is at 24.6% compared to 25.1%.

In other business, the commissioners:

- Received the annual audit report from Aldrich CPAs + Advisors. CPA Jessica Luther-Haynes said the county received a "clean opinion" which is the "best you can get." In a written report to the commissioners, the audit firm noted, "We received the full cooperation of management and staff throughout the audit and we were kept informed as to developments and plans affecting our audit scope." A copy of the audit report can be viewed at www.linncounty.gov/media/54126.

- Were told by Juvenile Department Director Torri Lynn that 29 young people from Linn, Benton and Lincoln counties were held in December. There were 20

'As of Dec. 31, most departments have expended less than 50% of their budgets'

youth held from Linn County for 193 total days of care; seven youth from Benton County for 73 days and two youth from Lincoln County for 40 days of care. There were no young people from Clackamas or Marion counties held in December. The Juvenile Department received 33 referrals in December and there were 182 young people in the Probation Unit, 31 of which were considered high-risk. The Victim Advocate made 102 contacts.

- Amended three Health Specialist 1, 2 and 3 pay scale classifications upwards based on a salary analysis, within the Environmental Health Department.

- Approved refunds of \$6,759.53 and \$65,846.89 to the Oregon Criminal Justice Commission. These were unexpended funds from a \$1.52 million grant provided by the commission.

- Approved a \$39,814.60 refund to National Carbon Technology, due to a month's lease overpayment at the Millersburg industrial property.

- Approved a conditional use permit application on remand from LUBA (Land Use Board of Appeals). The application was remanded for the commissioners to review additional evidence in the record.

Tree plans branching out through city

By Sarah Brown
Of The New Era

About 140 trees will be moving into the city, thanks to a grant and several volunteers.

Lebanon Parks, Trees and Trails Committee Member Linda Zeidrich reported during the Jan. 21 meeting that American Forest, in partnership with Weyerhaeuser, will host a tree planting party with Weyerhaeuser employees as part of a grant-funded effort to provide trees to the city.

They will plant 36 trees at the vacant lot across from the wastewater treatment plant. The grant will help fund an additional six trees at River Park, 14 trees at Christopher Columbus Park, 53 at Cheadle Lake Park, and 30 at Academy Square.

According to Zeidrich, a cedar of Lebanon tree, gifted by a Lebanese visitor

(see our story at Lebanon-LocalNews.com/genuine-cedar-of-lebanon-finds-home-here/), is also expected to be planted at Academy Square.

"It's an incredible project," Committee Chair Rick Barnett said. "We're really looking at the future because those trees are just little trees now, but when our grandchildren are around, they're gonna be a wonderful asset. Trees are a really long-term investment."

Zeidrich also reported the Lebanon Garden Club, of which she is also a member, planted or is in the process of planting 22 trees on Williams and Sixth streets from grant funds they received.

Jason Rush, maintenance operations manager for the city's Public Works, updated the committee on other city-related matters:

- The city is in its 24th

year designated as a Tree City USA municipality;

- Staff have begun tree trimming throughout the city;

- The city is preparing to install a concrete pad at the square Ralston Park section on the north side of Maple Street, to be used for a flag pole and lighted Christmas "mega trees;"

- Phase I of grant-funded improvements at Cheadle Lake Park is beginning, which includes utility extensions and street improvements. Phase II is expected to start after this year's Strawberry Festival.

- BLT donated funds to the city for boulders at River Park to prevent cars from entering trails, and bollards were also installed. They are also expanding the parking lot near the entrance of the park.

COUNCIL

From page 1

roads, homelessness, etc.), and financial stewardship.

In response to other questions, he expressed he'd like vacant and dilapidated properties to be addressed in a diplomatic way, in an effort to improve them, how they look

"That's something that I think needs to be addressed," he said. "We have to be careful as a city about how we go about that. We don't want to trample on people, tell people what to do with their property, but trying to make sure that we're promoting excellence in our city."

Angellford also said he'd like the city to reexamine its codes to potentially "expand them or make them more flexible" so property owners have more options (such as putting a coffee cart on a tiny plot of land).

"If we can be creative about using the things we've got, I think we've got a lot of things in our town that are underutilized that could be put to a better use, to look more attractive," he said.

As a city councilor, Angellford said his top priorities would include installing a sidewalk on Stoltz Hill Road between Airport and Walker roads, traffic issues on Denny School Road, encour-

aging partnerships with community groups, and attracting business and jobs to the city.

"We need to keep our economy as strong as we can," he said. "As much as we can facilitate that, I think that's important."

Councilor Jeremy Salvage asked Angellford if he had any ideas on how to do that. Angellford suggested taking a look at zoning options or working with potential incoming businesses, while also being careful about offering tax incentives.

To watch the full interview process between both candidates, visit <https://bit.ly/4a1wram>.

Church Directory

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The Lord is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid? - Psalm 27:1

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10:30 a.m. Children's Church

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

1150 Elm St. Sweet Home
541-367-5883



Mary Jane Duty, above, pins a Silverton opponent during their match Jan. 28. At right, Jack Mitchell breaks an opponent down. See more photos at lebanonlocalnews.com.

- Cole Harnar photos



Lebanon wrestlers battle illness; SH defeats 5A defending champ Crater

By Ryker Burr
For The New Era

A Lebanon wrestling team debilitated by illness fell Wednesday, Jan. 28, at home to Mid-Willamette Conference foe Silverton.

"We had about three kids out and lost by about 16," Head Coach Michael Cox reported.

But Cox - who's in the midst of his 20th season as the Warriors' head coach - still saw matches worth celebrating.

"Jack Mitchell at 144 pounds had a huge pin, he wrestled very well. David Brandt at 150 pounds won a big match for us."

The short-handed boys traveled to the Hood River Memorial Tournament on January's final day, finishing 12th out of 16.

Redmond dominated the day and won by nearly 60 points (274.5). Oregon City (217.5) and Molalla (214) were the top runner-ups.

Seth Wynn (165) and Grady Cox (175) took home titles for the Warriors. Wynn was named the meet's outstanding wrestler.

Tyson Trask (157) took second while teammate Cade Weber (165) finished third.

In addition to multiple Lebanon contenders being sick, Cox said he will let Brandt rest this week, as the senior is near the allotted 50-match limit before districts.

The Lebanon girls traveled to the Southridge Smackdown for a tournament on Saturday, but could bring only four girls - Mary Jane Duty, Malerie Yankey, Kenley Mortenson, and Sophia Summerlin - after the aforementioned outbreak.

Duty pinned her way through the 110-pound bracket, besting her first two opponents in 10 seconds or less. She defeated McNary's Kallyn Bollman-Lechner in 1:44 in the championship match.

Lebanon's remaining triplet went winless at the meet.

The depleted Warriors placed 14th out of 16 teams.

Dallas won the meet with 264.5 points; McNary took silver with 252; and Forest Grove brought home bronze after a 190 point effort.

Lebanon's boys will travel to Silverton for an invite on Saturday, Feb. 7.

But before that, both Warrior teams will host Senior Night against Corvallis on Wednesday, Feb. 4. Junior varsity teams will face off at 5 p.m. Varsity will start an hour later.

Lebanon's girls' district meet will be Feb. 13-14 at West Salem. Lebanon's boys will compete for the MWC title Feb. 20-21 at Crescent Valley.

Huskies beat 5A champ Crater

Sweet Home Wrestling traveled 3½ hours for its biggest test of the season: a duel at the home of the defending 5A state-champions - Crater High School.

"This duel has been in the works for years. When you get the opportunity to pit two of Oregon's best teams against each other, you gotta take it," Head Coach Steve Thorpe said.

Crater and Sweet Home are two of the state's most historic and successful wrestling programs. Both have nine state titles and are looking for their tenth this season.

But it was the road underdogs who came out on top, 45-31.

The Huskies were led by lightweight stars Riley Vaughan and Jesse Landtroop, two juniors (and defending state champions) who stood out to Thorpe.

Vaughan pinned last year's 120-pound 5A runner-up and Landtroop pinned the 5A bronze-medalist from the preceding year.

"The boys came in with

the mentality to win and they got the job done," Thorpe stated of his first duel against the Comets since 2007.

The matchup meant nothing in terms of seeding, but as Thorpe explained last week, the contest was all but unimportant: "When you get two of the best teams in the state against each other, it's good for the sport... It gives us somebody we're not going to beat by 70."

In the junior varsity duel, Sweet Home won by a lot tighter score: 24-18.

Five girls went along with the Huskies to wrestle some matches against the Comets.

Eternity Allison and Kass Zajic were winners against Crater's small girls team.

"She wrestled very well," Thorpe said of Zajic, a freshman who is the sister of last year's state runner-up at 157 pounds, Kyle Zajic.

Sweet Home 45, Crater 31

106 - Cody Sieminski (SH) won by tech fall over Mike Diaz-Torres (C) (16-1 3:24);

113 - Keegan Jefferson (SH) won by forfeit. 120: Riley Vaughan (SH) pinned Shane Smoker (C) (1:46); 126 - Jesse Landtroop (SH) pinned Brayden Martinez (C) (2:53); 132 - Jeremiah Oliva (C) dec. Tytus Hardee (SH) (9-2); 138 - Haeden Durighello (C) pinned Jasper Victor (SH) (4:39); 144 - Dillan Davis (SH) pinned Carter Cole (C) (3:54); 150 - Macen Rosa (SH) won by DQ over Asher West (C); 157 - Jaxon Godley (C) pinned Jackson Knight (SH) (0:57); 165 - Kutter Christensen (C) maj. Dec. Kyle Za-

Lebanon mayor announces he's planning to run for State House

Ken Jackola, mayor of Lebanon and Oregon National Guard veteran, announced his intention to campaign for the Republican nomination for Oregon State House District 11.

"I'm announcing my candidacy and stepping up to ensure our local voices are heard in Salem," Jackola said. "I'll fight against new taxes, advocate for living-wage jobs and protect the Second Amendment rights of Oregonians while bringing a local perspective as the mayor of a rural community to government decisions in Salem."

Jackola served as Lebanon's mayor since his election 2022 and is a veteran having served in both the Oregon Army National Guard and the United States Army. He brings years of experience as a business owner and businessman to his campaign for the legislature.

District 11 covers eastern Linn County and a portion of Marion County. The primary election will take place on May 19, 2026.

Learn more at voteken-jackola.com

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The New Era

SH man charged with homicide

A Sweet Home man was arrested for criminally negligent homicide early Tuesday morning, Feb. 3, after an altercation near Foster School.

According to a department statement issued Tuesday, police received a 9-1-1 call at about 1:06 a.m. Tuesday regarding a physical disturbance near the Foster Elementary School building.

The initial report indicated that one of the two subjects involved was being restrained on the ground. As officers were responding, a caller stated that the male being restrained on the ground had gone unconscious and was not breathing.

Officers arrived to find 47-year-old Joe Parkins of Sweet Home not breathing and without a pulse.

Officers performed CPR on Parkins until Sweet Home Fire and Ambulance District medics arrived. Emergency personnel continued life-saving efforts but were unable to revive Parkins.

Additional staff responded to the scene, including the Sweet Home Police Department detective.

An investigation indicated that Parkins had been in a physical altercation with 49-year-old David Johnson of Sweet Home.

Johnson was taken into custody for criminally negligent homicide and lodged at the Linn County Jail. The investigation is continuing, and additional charges may be added.

Anyone with information can contact Detective Sean Potter at (541) 367-5181 or spotter@sweethomeor.gov.

A Sweet Home man was arrested Sunday, Jan. 25, after Linn County Sheriff's deputies found him in a stolen car, Linn County Sheriff Michelle Duncan reported last week.

Duncan said that at 10:39 a.m. on Jan. 25, deputies responded to a call of a stolen vehicle in the 39900 block of Lacombe Drive outside of Lebanon.

It was reported that Travis Pressey, 47, of Sweet Home, was driving a 1990 Green Honda CRX, which he had allegedly stolen earlier in the week from the Sweet Home area.

When the caller, who knew the owner of the Honda, confronted Pressey, he allegedly pointed a gun at the caller. Pressey then took off in the stolen Honda headed toward Lacombe.

Deputies quickly arrived and started searching the Lacombe area for Pressey and the stolen Honda. The Honda was located in a driveway and Pressey attempted to leave in the vehicle, but it was out of gas, Duncan said.

Pressey then fled on foot into a wooded area, she said.

K9 Juice was deployed and tracked Pressey down. K9



Search and Rescue Team members found this gun during a search of the area where Travis Pressey had fled.

- LCSO photo

Juice bit Pressey in the arm while apprehending him. Pressey was taken into custody and found to be in possession of methamphetamine and fentanyl.

Pressey sustained minor injuries to his upper arm and was evaluated by Lebanon Medics on scene. Pressey was then transported to the Linn County Jail where he was booked on the following charges: two counts of felony

attempt to elude, misdemeanor attempt to elude, reckless driving, recklessly endangering another, possession of controlled substance-methamphetamine, possession of controlled substance-fentanyl, felon in possession of firearm, unlawful use of a firearm, menacing, and tampering with physical evidence.

Pressey also had a felony warrant for a weapons offense, and a Lebanon Municipal Court warrant for failure to appear on a failure to perform duties of a driver (hit and run.)

An investigation is continuing and Pressey is facing additional charges related to other cases, Duncan said.

As Pressey was reported to be in possession of a firearm, deputies and K9 Juice searched the area for the gun. As it got dark and the brush was thick, deputies were unable to find the gun that evening. Linn County Sheriff's Office Search and Rescue members did a thorough search the following morning of the area and found a .22 caliber revolver near where Pressey was apprehended, Duncan said.

Waterloo event set

By Sarah Brown
Of The New Era

Waterloo City Council members set community event dates and reviewed progress on business matters during their Jan. 13 meeting.

The council will conduct a city walk-through at noon on Saturday, Feb. 21. It will give them a chance to look for areas in the city that need work, and for residents to approach them with concerns, explained City Recorder Grace Reed.

They scheduled the city-wide yard sale for July 23-

26, and a dumpster day for Monday, July 27. The city-wide picnic is scheduled for noon on Aug. 15.

Reed said Mayor Justin Sawdon, who was not present at the meeting, expressed interest in the city hosting a car show.

"I like the idea of things that bring the community together," Reed said. "Something that gets everyone out and mingling and being neighborly."

They tabled further discussion on the matter for an upcoming council meeting.

PUBLIC SAFETY

From page 3

be "unfounded."

5:31 p.m. - Caller from Safeway, 1540 Main, reported four people who had been parked at location for two days, calling her names. Officer responded, contacted two individuals and trespassed Clifford Stoner, 53, and Christopher Lindner, 53, from the property. All parties moved along.

11:00 p.m. - Kristopher Ray Moak arrested on Oregon State Parole Board warrant for probation violation, 1000 block 14th Ave. Lodged at LCJ.

11:21 p.m. - James Robert Shenk arrested by Salem police on SHMC warrant for FTC in theft case. Cited to appear Feb. 25.

LEBANON POLICE

6:29 a.m. - Tiana Marie Hess, 24, cited for fail to carry proof of insurance.

11:03 a.m. - Theft of cash reported when Walmart shopper got \$60 cashback and forgot to take it. Video shows next female customers take the cash.

11:11 a.m. - Student at Seven Oak receiving threat text messages from student.

6:20 p.m. - Theft of BB gun

reported from Tractor Supply. Loss: \$214.

7:35 p.m. - Cart of items reported stolen from Walmart. Loss: \$107.

JAN. 30

LCSO/OSP LEBANON

3:46 a.m. - Michael Fletcher, 40, of Lebanon, cited for DU, Williams/Ash.

11:40 a.m. - Burglary reported in 2400 block Porter. Items worth more than \$3,000 missing from property. Investigation ongoing. Report taken.

4:30 p.m. - LCSO took report of sexual harassment at care home, 300 block Washington.

LCSO/OSP SWEET HOME/ S. COUNTY

3:26 a.m. - Deputy spotted rope hanging from upper bridge support on Main St., Brownsville. Deputy moved rope out of way as much as he could, but determined it would need to be removed by Public Works or Fire Department.

7:21 a.m. - LCSO took report of missing person, 27300 block Fisher, Brownsville.

12:40 p.m. - Caller reported vehicle burglary in 400 block E. 1st, Halsey. Firearm valued at \$300 and sunglasses valued at \$200 missing from unlocked

vehicle.

5:59 p.m. - Deputies on patrol spotted traffic control device destroyed in school zone, 40400 block Hwy. 228. Information forwarded to OSP/ODOT for repair/investigation.

SWEET HOME POLICE

12:54 a.m. - April Denise Ferebee, 68, arrested by Union County Sheriff's Office on SHMC warrant for FTC in theft case. Cited to appear Feb. 25.

8:56 a.m. - Dog fight reported in 1200 block Nandina St. Neighbors' dogs going at it. Officer responded, report taken.

8:59 a.m. - Caller reported vehicle ran into mailbox, fence in 4300 block Long St. Officer responded, contacted involved parties who exchanged information. Operator identified as Tia Adams. Damage did not appear to be over \$2,500 and car was drivable.

11:04 a.m. - BiMart employee reported theft from store, 1980 Main. According to SHPD, this was a shoplifting incident at BiMart that was reported on Jan. 30 but reportedly took place on Jan. 16. The property reported stolen was cases of ammo and a backpack. Report taken. Loss valued at \$459.

3:56 p.m. - Joseph Gene Salley, 53, arrested on LMC warrant for FTA in criminal citation, 1200 block Long. Cited and released.

3:56 p.m. - Caller reported "large" pack of dogs had tried to attack her in area of Oak Terrace/9th, and were loose again at location. Officer responded, located dog owner, who was warned for dog at large. 4:14 p.m. - Police and medics responded to vehicle fire at 4309 Main. Report taken for unauthorized entry into motor

See Public Safety, Page 9

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From page 8

vehicle, theft II. According to SHPD, a 1991 Ford Explorer had been stored at the location. The owner discovered the battery, valued at \$180, and gasoline valued at \$20 had been stolen from the vehicle. The owner replaced the battery and the fuel and attempted to start the vehicle. The vehicle then ignited into flames. Further investigation indicated that the fuel lines appeared to have been cut. An officer also found where the fence had been cut. Damage to fence estimated at \$500.

7:44 p.m.- James Paul Chapin, 37, arrested by OSP on SHMC warrant for FTA in resisting arrest case. Cited to appear Feb. 25.

7:46 p.m. - Katrina Lynn Gray, 42, arrested on SHMC warrant for FTC in theft case, LCJC warrant in trespass case, AMC warrants in theft and FTA in false report cases, and LMC warrant for FTA in criminal citation case. 4800 block Main St. Cited and released.

8:50 p.m. - Caller from Thriftway reported 13 cars full of juveniles at location, 621 Main. Officer responded, trespassed 19 individuals.

10:34 p.m. - Caller reported male had broken her windshield in 1500 block Tamarack. Officer responded, information noted at caller's request.

LEBANON POLICE

3:54 a.m. - Christina Ann Watts, 37, cited for DWS.

4:01 a.m. - Rylee Jean Watts, 21, arrested on LCCC warrant for probation violation - unauthorized use of a vehicle. Transported to LCJ.

9:04 a.m. - Rodrigo De Jesus Torres Morgado cited for DWS and speeding 36/20 school zone, W Airport Rd./S 7th St.

12:13 p.m. - Joseph Lee Gregg, 48, cited for improper display and fail to carry proof of insurance.

See more and updated Public Safety log reports at sweethomenews.com and lebanonlocalnews.com.

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Wins keep Warriors in MWC playoff berth race

By Mike Warner
For The New Era

Lebanon's boys and girls basketball teams have finished the first half of the Mid-Willamette Conference schedule and started the second half of the league season Tuesday, Feb. 3.

After a win over South Albany, the boys came into this week 5-4 in the MWC, tied for fourth. The girls are 5-3, which put them in sole possession of fourth place entering the second half.

Both teams are eyeing post-season play down the road.

Post-season participation will be determined by their conference record and their Oregon School Activities Association (OSAA) state rankings.

The were ranked 11th coming into this week, while the boys were 20th.

The boys start the second half traveling to McKay, while

the girls have no conference foe this week as McKay has no girls program. However, the Warrior girls will travel to Stayton, last year's 4A state champion, currently ranked second in the state. The game will not be included in the conference record but will be considered in the state rankings.

Lebanon 51, South Albany 34

The Warriors hosted South Albany Friday, Jan. 30, winning in commanding fashion, 51-34.

It was the second consecutive win for the Warriors, who had suffered four tough loses in a row. The victory gave Lebanon 5-4 MWC record, in a tie fourth at the close of the first half of conference play.

Lebanon starts the second half of the conference schedule against McKay on Friday.

The Warriors' tenacious defense took command early and the Warriors led 14-10 at the

end of the first quarter. That lead continued to grow with Lebanon leading 30-16 at the half, then grew to 43-27 by the end of the third quarter.

The Warriors played solid offense, shooting 40% from the field (16-40) and 30% (6-20) from three. Again, free throw shooting was strong as they sank 13 of 16 attempts from the line for 81.3%.

Lebanon was led by Logan Large with 17 points, along with nine rebounds, four steals and four assists. Gunner Miller had a double-double with 14 points and 10 rebounds. He also had five assists. Finn VandenBos added eight points and Ryan Robinson added seven.

Lebanon 68, CV 59

At Crescent Valley on Tuesday, Lebanon had an opportunity to break a fifth-place tie as both teams were sitting at 3-4 in league.



Piper Sewell puts up a layup against South Albany. See more photos at lebanonlocalnews.com.

- Cole Harnar photo



See Public Safety, Page 9

JanKarlos Gonzalez puts the ball up under pressure against South Albany. See more photos at lebanonlocalnews.com.

- Cole Harnar photo

With post-season play looming on the horizon, the Warriors won a tough-fought duel, 68-59.

The game was as close as advertised. Neither team established a sizable lead and the game was tied at the end of the first and second quarters.

Lebanon held a two-point lead at the end of the third quarter. The Warriors were able to take command in the fourth stretching their lead to nine at the end.

Lebanon shot very well from the field 44.9% (22-49). Three-point shooting was not on par at 21.1% (4-19). However, their saving grace was from the free throw line, where the Warriors shot 89% (20-24)!. Their 22 made baskets came from 13 assists.

Leading contributors were Large, who scored 22 points and collected six rebounds, along with three assists. Robinson added 22 points and collected seven rebounds, while Miller added 14 points, pulled down seven boards and dished out five assists. VandenBos added eight points and three assists.

Up next for the Warriors is their endowment game at Stayton Feb. 3, followed by a trip to Woodburn on Friday, Feb. 6.

Girls best CV on road

Lebanon's girls hosted South Albany Friday, Jan. 30, which offered an opportunity for the Warriors to move up in the MWC, as South sat in second place at 7-1 coming into this

See Warriors, Page 20

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Husky girls first, boys third against tough swim teams

By Satina Tolman
For The New Era

The Sweet Home High School swim team made a strong statement Saturday, Jan. 31, winning the combined team title at a home meet against Mountain View, Philomath and Junction City.

The Huskies finished first overall, with the girls team taking first place and the boys placing third.

Mountain View, a 5A school from Bend, provided tough competition and a preview of what Sweet Home could see at the state championships Feb. 20-21.

The Huskies opened the meet on a high note as the girls 200-yard medley relay team of sophomores Khloe Sautel and Emma Whitton, senior Kylie Melkvik and junior Lexi Rundell won in 2 minutes, 17.04 seconds.

Rundell continued her success by winning the girls 200 freestyle in 2:27.46. Junior Henry Jones captured the boys 200 freestyle with a time of 2:11.87.

Melkvik claimed first in the girls 200 individual medley in 2:54.60, edging teammate Ella Haggas, who finished second in 2:57.86.

In the boys 200 IM, junior Grayson Savri placed second in 2:22.50, just 0.39 seconds behind the first-place finisher from Mountain View. Senior Andrew Tolman earned third in 2:26.32.

Sautel won the girls 50 freestyle in 26.41 seconds, while junior Austyn Hoggan placed third in the boys race with a time of 25.01.

Freshman Persephone Brookfield took second in the girls 100 butterfly in 1:42.85, and Tolman added a third-place finish in the boys 100 butterfly in 1:09.44.

Sautel added another vic-

tory in the girls 100 freestyle, winning in 56.73 seconds. Haggas earned second in the girls 500 freestyle with a time of 6:41.27.

The boys 200 freestyle relay team of Hoggan, junior Ethan Hernandez, sophomore Malakai Walls and Jones placed third in 1:52.35.

Rundell won the girls 100 backstroke in 1:13.01, and Melkvik captured first in the girls 100 breaststroke with a time of 1:29.02. Savri earned second in the boys 100 breaststroke in 1:10.58.

The girls closed the meet with a win in the 400 freestyle relay as Whitton, Rundell, Haggas and Sautel touched the wall in 4:25.10. The boys 400 freestyle relay team of Tolman, Hoggan, Jones and Savri placed second in 3:47.65.

Several swimmers achieved personal milestones. Freshman Mack Martineau, Walls and Savri all dropped times to reach personal bests.

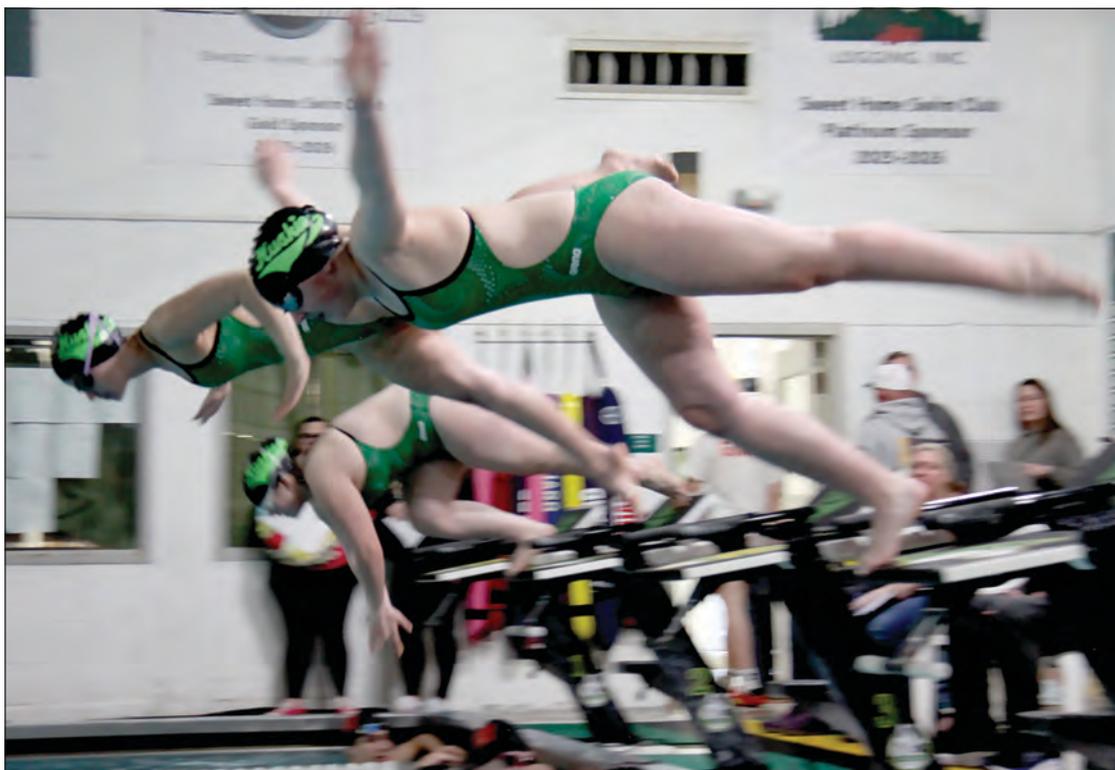
Head Coach A. Jay Bronson praised his team's effort and looked ahead to the postseason.

"We have nine more practices, four of which are taper time heading into districts," Bronson told his swimmers after the meet. "We've done a great job so far, let's see what you can do with the last nine days. Make them count."

Team captain Austyn Hogan said he felt positive about the day's performance.

"It went well," Hogan said. "It was a good swim meet, there are definitely some fast people and it is good to see times relevant to districts."

Hogan admitted the upcoming district meet is ap-



Kylie Melkvik, left, leads Ella Haggas, foreground, and Sadie Dalton off the blocks for Sweet Home in the 200 Individual Medley. Melkvik won the event. - Satina Tolman photos

proaching quickly.

"I think we will have a strong lineup, the coaches will put us in some good stuff, but it's come up really fast, it kinda snuck up," he said.

Hogan is also managing injury to both shoulders. He said he plans to simply "swim through it."

Coach Doug Peargin expects even better results when the Huskies return to the pool for the postseason.

"It was a tough meet," Peargin said. "We are going to do better at districts than we did today, I'll tell you that right now. I'm looking forward to districts."

The Huskies will close out their regular season Friday, Feb. 6, when they host Salem Academy, Riverside and Kennedy. Districts will be Feb. 13-14 at South Albany.



Grayson Savri swims to second place in the 100 Breaststroke. He also placed second for the Huskies in the 200 Individual Medley.

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Puzzle competition raises funds for Hawthorne playground

By Satina Tolman
For The New Era

With Kenny Loggins' "Highway to the Danger Zone" playing in the background, laughter and friendly banter bounced across the gym as 32 people, making up 13 teams, raced the clock Saturday afternoon at Hawthorne Elementary School.

Their mission: to finish a 500-piece puzzle in two hours or less.

The goal behind the friendly competition was much bigger.

The Hawthorne Parent Teacher Committee hosted the puzzle contest Jan. 31 as a fundraiser for a playground renovation. Organizers Carrie Brown, Brandy Duncan and Terri Bates said the current playground is more than 20 years old, worn down by sun and heavy use, and no longer meets the needs of many students.

"We are raising funds to get a new playground at Hawthorne that is ADA-accessible for our students," said Brown, Hawthorne's secretary. "Right now, the playground is just not easily accessible to them. It's a safety concern also."

Hawthorne serves about 270 students, including 10 in two Practical Academic Lifeskills classrooms, known as PALS. Brown said those students in particular struggle to use the aging equipment.

Common complaints focus on the dangers of the playground: the black plastic is breaking down, the metal bars get extremely hot, the steep metal slide is unsafe, and bees and wasps build nests in the hollow pieces. The list goes on.

"We have a lot of injuries, and we are really passionate about trying to get a new playground for our school," Brown said.

Teams of two to three people paid \$20 to compete, and the event drew families,



Proceeds from the puzzle competition are going toward replacing dated and providing ADA-accessible equipment on the Hawthorne School playground. — Satina Tolman photos

school faculty members from across the district, and community members. Some treated it as a date night, others as a family outing, but all shared a love of puzzles and a desire to help local children.

Hawthorne counselor Julie Harvey competed on the "Puzzle Puzzlers" team with Marci Sullens, a Title I teacher at Hawthorne, and Mandy Christiansen.

"I think we've done a really good job using our playground and our resources as long as we possibly can," Harvey said. "But it is time."

Sullens said the need for a new playground has been discussed for years.

"The PTC worked for years and was making progress saving some money," she said. "But when the district said they could no longer give money for field trips and other things, our PTC pivoted and started supporting teachers and students instead. The playground funding stopped. It just sat there and didn't grow."

Duncan, a media assistant at Hawthorne, said the group needs to collect approximately \$65,000 and has raised roughly \$20,000 so far.

Fourth- and fifth-grade teacher Serenity Wilson, who

finished second with her team in just 1 hour and 11 minutes, said the upgrade would make a big difference.

"I think a new playground would drastically increase students' motivation and excitement. I also honestly think they deserve it; they work really hard," she added. "And I absolutely love this puzzle competition and hope we do more of them."

Some competitors brought impressive dedication. Sweet Home High School English and drama teacher Jennifer McIntyre attended with her husband just one day after he underwent emergency appendectomy surgery.

"We love doing puzzles together at home," McIntyre said. "But the competition aspect is surprising. It is intense!"

Hawthorne third-grader Charleigh Dixon competed alongside her grandmother, Angie Dixon. Although she is fine now, Charleigh has experienced firsthand the need for a safer playground.

"I love it, but I was standing on one of the things, and I fell and hit my head on the metal," she said. "It really hurt."

The top prize went to the "Quoxotic Questers," a team made up of Sweet Home High



School librarian Jill Wilson, left, and Secretary Amy Middlemiss of Sweet Home High School put their puzzle together. They were the winners.

School librarian Jill Wilson and main secretary Amy Middlemiss. They completed their puzzle in just 51 minutes.

Wilson said puzzles offer more than entertainment.

"We both have jobs that sometimes have a lot of open ends," she said. "Puzzling helps me remember that things can be solved and completed."

Other winners included "Double V," which finished third, and "The Piece Keepers," a family team of Heather, Richard and sixth-grader Nathan Uhlry, which won the Best Name award.

Velma Canfield, a media assistant at Sweet Home Junior High and former Hawthorne parent, said supporting the cause was an easy decision.

"My kids went to Hawthorne," she said. "Anytime we can do something to help the kids, we are going to do it."

The PTC plans additional fundraisers, including a family-friendly paint night scheduled for Feb. 11. Registration is available through the school office, and participation costs \$10 per canvas.

Donations are also being accepted at the Hawthorne office. Checks can be made out to "Hawthorne PTC" with "playground fundraiser" written in the memo line.

For Brown, the reason behind all the effort is simple.

"Every child deserves a safe place to play," she said. "We're just trying to make that happen for ours."

The **Icebox** Performer Of The Week



This week's ICEBOX Performer Of The Week goes to James Jewett, our extremely talented Press Brake Operator.

While James has been transitioning into welding, he stepped back in to help us catch up on a few projects on the press break—and absolutely delivered. In just four hours, he completed what typically takes a full week of work.

Incredible work, James. We appreciate your flexibility, skill, and willingness to step up when it matters!



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Sports Roundup

Huskies break two-year league drought

Sweet Home's boys earned their first league win in two years, snapping a five-game losing streak with a 62-49 victory over North Marion on Tuesday, Jan. 27.

Mason Tyler scored 13 points and went 11-for-11 from the free throw line in the win, which came after the Huskies lost their previous two games by a combined nine points.

Bradyn McClure led the team with 14 points, while Kellen Hartsook added 12 in a balanced overall team win.

"It was good to get the win versus North Marion, we needed to get that one," said Head Coach Drew Emmert.

"We didn't shoot very well from the field, but defended well and shot great from the free throw line," he added.

"I was proud of our effort for 32 minutes and our composure. They had multiple intentional fouls and techs and we kept our head."

On Friday, the Huskies lost 69-43 on the road at No. 3 Newport.

McClure was unavailable after suffering an ankle sprain in practice, and Daniel McCubbins also did not play.

"Going into the Newport game without two starters in Bradyn McClure and Daniel McCubbins is tough," Emmert said. "We knew we would have to play great to compete, which we did for a half."

In McClure's absence, Damon Lawrence got the start, scoring a personal-best 11 points.

Mason Tyler finished with 15 points, shooting 3-for-7 from three-point range and 2-for-5 from the field.

The game remained close in the first half before Newport pulled away in the second.

"In the second half we got into foul trouble and they put together a big run and we didn't slow them down," Emmert said.

Tyler has been a consistent contributor during league play.

"Mason has been huge for us in league," Emmert said of the sophomore. "He is shooting the ball well and leading us on both ends."

Sweet Home, 1-3 in the Oregon West Conference and 6-11 overall coming into this week, hosts Cascade (1-3, 7-7) Tuesday, Feb. 3, in the Huskies' only action this week. They host this week's league leader Philomath on Tuesday, Feb. 10.

- Keeghan Gittins

Girls even overall record with win over Newport

Sweet Home's girls beat Newport on the road 37-25 on Friday, Jan. 30, to even their season record at 7-7 and take a 1-2 league mark into this week's action.

Newport was the Huskies' only game due to North Marion's dropping its girls varsity team this year.

Sweet Home will also have only game this week, due to the scheduled bye. The Huskies will be at home against league-leading Cascade, ranked No. 7 and 3-0 after completing the first half of the season. Game time is 7 p.m.

Against the Cubs, Aaliyah Brown led Sweet Home with 16 points, going 5-12 from the field and 6-11 from the free throw line.

Addy Vanice and Brooke Elder combined for 11 steals, six of those coming from Vanice.

SH Unified team downs Newport

Sweet Home's Unified basketball team notched its first win of the season Friday, Jan. 30, on the road at Newport, coming away with a 48-39 win.

That game was the mid-point

of the Huskies' 2026 season, in which they are 1-3. Up next is a road game at Sutherlin on Feb. 4, followed by a home game against Philomath at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 10.

East Linn's girls came away with a split last week in Valley Coast Conference action after losing a close game, 49-44, at No. 6-ranked Crosshill Christian Friday, Jan. 30, then recovering at home the next night to down Waldport 59-43.

Crosshill, Coach Sierra Carrier said, "was another very tough game but we took a lot from this one to work on and perfect, these last two weeks of the season."

Lexy Kauffman led the Eagles with 16 points and eight rebounds, along with two steals, while Maya Van Dyke contributed 11 points, six boards and six steals.

Hosting Waldport, East Linn took charge, clearly not happy with the loss the previous night, Carrier said.

"We were all over the boards, running the floor, adjusting," she said. "They showed up hungry and ready to play."

Three Eagles finished with double-doubles: Van Dyke (15 points, 10 rebounds), Maci Modderman (13 points, 10 rebounds) and Bailey Kramer (11 points, 12 rebounds).

Carrier noted that those three have posted double digits in those categories "multiple times" this season.

East Linn, 4-2 in VCC play coming into this week and 10-10 overall, hosts Toledo Tuesday, Feb. 3, and visits Central Linn on Friday, then hosts Oakland in a non-league contest Saturday, Feb. 7.

East Linn boys continue to roll

East Linn's boys edged Crosshill Christian 58-56 on the road Friday, Jan. 30, then walloped Walport in 66-47 at home Saturday.

Game details were not available at press time.

Warriors swamped by West Albany

Lebanon swimmers fell to West Albany Tue sday, Jan. 27, 95-74 on the boys side and 98-68 on the girls.

"West Albany is one of the powerhouses of our league, said Coach Joe Andrews. "They have had a very consistent club program which feeds a steady

stream of high performers into the program along with an extremely well-run high school team."

But his Warriors greatly improved their performance from last year, the girls improving the point spread by 53 and the boys by 47 points from last year's scores, he said.

"Our students showed the work they have put in this year by how much they closed the overall points spread over last year," he said, noting that the Warriors posted a "significant number of personal bests."

"We did a ton of things right at this meet, and still have a lot of potential for continued improvement."

Winners for Lebanon's girls were Brooklyn Davis in the 200 Individual Medley (2:45.24); Orianna Buczko in the 100 Freestyle (59.03); and Molly Basting in the 100 Backstroke (1:13.40). Boys placing first were Boston Borgmann in the 50 (24.03) and the 100 freestyles (54.89), and Grant Basting in the 100 Butterfly (1:03.03).

Also winning were the girls 400 Freestyle Relay team of Buczko, Brooklyn Davis, Samantha Walsh and Basting (4:25.55).

"We had some dynamite swims by Orianna in the 100 Free, and Molly in both her events, which positioned them well to make a bid for qualifying for state in a few weeks," Andrews said. "On the boys side, our distance crew of the Bloedel brothers and Alex Kolling are just killing it and continuing to drop time."

Lebanon swimmers posted 27 personal bests, Andrews reported, as well as several relay-leg PRs.

"We are quite impressed with the amount of personal bests that are coming in," he said. "The bulk of the hard work has been done and now it is down to the final refinements."

This week the Warriors host their last home meet, against Crescent Valley.

"Crescent Valley will be just as tough this week to close out our dual-meet season," Andrews said. "CV has some real firepower at the top end. Our students will have another challenge this week as we narrow down who is going to swim what at the District Championships a week after that dual."



Volunteers are needed to help plant this area of Sankey Park bordering Ames Creek with native species later this week.

Volunteers needed to plant Sankey Park wetland area

Volunteers are needed Thursday and Friday, Feb. 4 and 5, to plant some 2,100 shrubs and trees along Ames Creek at Sankey Park, behind the Boys & Girls Club.

The project will involve planting native species on three acres of wetland along the creek just north of Weddle Bridge. These plants will attract native pollinator species, slowing the rate of erosion along the creek, and provide habitat for local animal life, including invertebrates and aquatic species, in

the area. The project is a joint effort between the city and the South Santiam Watershed Council.

Volunteers should bring gloves, a lunch and water, and a narrow, flat-bladed shovel if available. Work will extend from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. each day.

For more information, contact Tyrell Styhl, ecological projects coordinator, at (541) 735-4987 or email t.styhl@sswc.org.



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Hoodoo owner recounts ups and downs of journey

By Scott Swanson
Of The New Era

Like most of the enterprises Chuck Shepard has thrown himself into, the ins and outs of owning a ski resort were not something he was particularly familiar with, Shepard told Lebanon Chamber of Commerce members last week.

Shepard, the zestful and sometimes self-deprecating founder of an extensive real estate empire that made him a millionaire by age 30, recounted his journey to ownership of the Hoodoo Ski Resort in 1999 during the chamber's monthly Forum Lunch Friday, Jan. 30, at Samaritan Lebanon Community Hospital.

Shepard, now 77, grew up in a suburb of Milwaukee, Wisc., where he attended high school and then moved on to the University of Wisconsin, graduating in 1971 with an accounting degree.

"Shortly after that, my wife Tish and I decided that we wanted to live in the country, on land that had a creek, a pond, lots of trees and that was cheap," he said. "In order to find land like that in Wisconsin, you had to live in northern Wisconsin where there are two seasons, July and the beginning of August, and the cold season."

That wasn't for them, he said, so they decided to move.

"We found Nirvana in Oregon," where they bought 300 acres in 1971 on Mount Tom in the Coburg Hills, south of Brownsville.

He spent \$2,000 to build a 500-square-foot home out of used lumber, with used windows.

"We had an outhouse out front and dammed up the creek that went by above it for a bath," he said. "I was a hippie, living there."

They were happy, he said, but eventually "we were get-

ting a little bored."

So he went back to school in 1975, for a master's degree in agronomy from Oregon State University.

During that time, he said, "I had an epiphany. I finally started to realize that I'd been wasting my time living on the hill. I was familiar with the Bible enough to have heard it said that we're all blessed with gifts or talents."

'Organized' Businessman

One of his, he said, was math – which he loved as a youngster.

"My first job was at the age of 12, mathematical accounting."

He also loved to work, so he started a residential real estate investment business called Umbrella Properties.

He said he laid out principles that he intended to operate by: charity, honesty, integrity and purpose – which, he added, result in "happiness."

"I like to be organized," Shepard said. "I made a perfect businessman. I was good at making money. I wasn't good at other things, like my hippie self. I wasn't good at art, or anything like that."

"But I did what I enjoyed, and consequently, now that I'm 77 and I've worked for 55 years, I've really never had a day of work. I've always enjoyed what I've done and looked forward to it."

Shepard said a conversation with a real estate agent when he was 27 years old prompted him to launch himself into real estate investment.

"She said that if she had started investing in real estate when she was my age, she would be much better off now. She was right, because I did start buying real estate at that time and by the time I was her age, I was able to afford to be able to buy a ski resort."

He said he was able to get loans partly due to his knowl-

edge of accounting, but he also did a lot of hands-on management and maintenance of the rental properties he'd purchased, which was an educational experience in itself.

Shepard said he took some classes in an MBA program at the University of Oregon and read the Wall Street Journal and books about real estate.

The price of commercial real estate skyrocketed in the late 1970s, and Shepard had also invested in gold, which increased exponentially in price.

Helped by his accounting knowledge, he was able to expand his business, he said, particularly during the real estate depression that occurred in the mid-1980s. He said he at one time owned 20 duplexes and a 26-unit apartment complex in Lebanon.

Today, Shepard said, his children and grandchildren are involved in his company, which owns 5,000 units in Lane County, Bend and Phoenix, Ariz.

"I've turned over 60% of the ownership of the company to my children and grandchildren. I'm really retired from Umbrella Properties, except for being on the board of directors," he said.

Customer Friendly

Hoodoo is where he likes to spend time, he said, particularly in the parking lot, where visitors are used to seeing him, greeting them.

"I spend a lot of time in the parking lot," Shepard said, adding that shortly after purchasing the resort – for \$1 million, described by one of the attendees at the chamber meeting as "a dump" at the time.

Shepard said he decided to turn things around in multiple ways, including building a new lodge in 2002 and adding other attractions.

"Also, I decided to make myself totally available to my customers," he said. "That first season I started greeting skiers that came into the parking lot and helping them find a place to park."

His son-in-law Matthew and oldest daughter Tasha manage the resort – they met at Brighton in Utah, where she had gone to learn the ropes of ski resort operation.

Hoodoo's focus is intentionally different from other resorts, Shepard said.

"Early on, we made a decision to aim our marketing toward families, rather than teenage boys. Traditionally, the teenage boys, from, like, 12 to early 20s, that's the group you aim toward. And then they bring their girlfriends and other people. That's just who the ski community goes after."

"I decided I didn't want to do that. I came from a church that was very family-oriented and I decided this was going to be about families."

Also early on, he incorporated a mascot, Harold the



Chuck Shepard speaks at the Lebanon Chamber Forum Lunch about his experience as owner of Hoodoo Ski Resort.

- Photo by Scott Swanson

Hodag, a dinosaur-like critter that hailed from his Wisconsin childhood, into the resort's advertising.

Challenging Business

Running a ski resort is an enterprise with significant ups and downs, Shepard said, noting that if there isn't snow by Jan. 1 – as has been the case this year, the resort stands to lose money – possibly as much as \$2 million this year.

A significant blow has been the loss in 2019 of a five-year contract Hoodoo had held for 15 years to manage 47 local U.S. Forest Service campgrounds during the summer.

Shepard told Woodall's Campground Magazine that year that the extra revenue not only helped even out fluctuations in the winter ski business but provided summer work for his staff, enabling him to keep key managers on payroll throughout the year, as well as provide summer jobs locally.

USFS managers, he said, abruptly gave the contract to Utah-based American Land & Leisure.

"They didn't give us any explanation at all, except that it was a business decision, which usually means that it's not a business decision," Shepard told The Register-Guard.

At the Forum Lunch he said Hoodoo had been rated "outstanding in every category" and that "the Forest Service people, for the most part, liked us."

"We increased their fees that they got by about three-fold and had done very well for them."

He told the chamber audience that the longtime Willamette National Forest supervisor with whom Hoodoo staffers had worked for years had been replaced by a "new person" who was "really kind of jealous."

"When you wanted to talk to somebody about Forest Service campgrounds, you talked

to me, not her," Shepard said of how he now evaluates what played out. "She didn't like that, and we lost the campground concessions – devastating for us. She didn't realize that what she was doing was marking the death of Hoodoo ski area."

He said later that that official had moved on.

A request by the Register-Guard for documentation behind the decision was denied by USFS officials, citing federal contract regulations that prohibited them from disclosing proprietary business information, Woodall's reported.

Uncertain Future

Shepard told Woodall's at the time: "We got into the (campground) business because it really helped the ski area, so this will hurt the ski area quite a bit."

Hoodoo had purchased or established some RV parks to go along with its campground management business – in Camp Sherman, McKenzie Bridge, Willamette Pass and Dexter, and at the ski resort itself and Crescent Lake Resort.

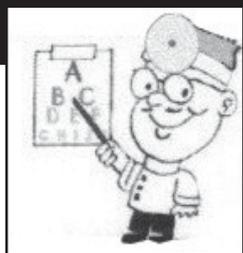
He said other ideas, such as putting a golf course to provide summer income, haven't panned out.

"I, more or less, can stop on that note, because Hoodoo really does need a summer operation, and the campgrounds were essential," he said. "We have not found anything major to take their place."

Hoodoo is all about family, Shepard concluded.

"A lot of happy people," he said, gesturing at a projected photo that showed people enjoying the snow. "So many people say the best thing about Hoodoo is the atmosphere, the culture of how happy everybody is."

"I have six kids, 19 grandchildren. They're up there all the time. Future owners. Hopefully, we have a future."



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 sfc 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 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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Retired public works director returns part-time

By Sarah Brown
Of The New Era

It was just 27 days into his retirement when Greg Springman returned to work at the City of Sweet Home after the City Council approved the move during its Jan. 27 meeting.

Springman officially retired as the public works director at the end of last year, but City Manager Jason Ogden told the council during its Dec. 9 meeting that the city was in talks with him about a part-time contract while they look for his replacement.

Giving credit to Deputy City Manager Cecily Pretty for her research, Ogden explained there is a shortage of qualified candidates for public works directors both regionally and nationally.

Due to the market's competitive nature, the city decided not to recruit for the position just yet, but instead retain Springman's knowledge and skillset during this transitional period.

The council approved a \$25,000 annual contract with Springman that includes assists with medical costs.



City Council and staff look at a city logo celebrating the country's 250th anniversary. — Photo by Sarah Brown

"We will be saving money with this position being vacant," Ogden said.

Pretty clarified there are numerous similar positions in the region currently being offered, so staff would like to wait for those positions to be filled before Sweet Home actively recruits.

In other business, the council:

- Heard from resident Gary Jarvis who apologized for "tilting at windmills" at the previous council meeting when he said the DEQ re-

moved its air quality monitoring from the city. He was given incomplete information which led him to believe the DEQ chose to discontinue the service here, but is happy to hear the system is simply being moved elsewhere.

- Held a work session to review and discuss proposed changes to the city charter.

- Ogden reported the police department's patrol officer had been filling other needed roles in the department, but is getting back to



A temporary logo for the city, designed by Deputy City Manager Cecily Pretty, celebrates the country's 250th anniversary.

— City of Sweet Home image

traffic control this month.

- A new, temporary logo for the City of Sweet Home was revealed to celebrate the country's 250th anniversary since the Declaration of Independence was signed in July 1776.

- Pretty was assigned a seat on the League of Oregon Cities Transportation Policy Committee, which reviews policy decisions and recommends legislative positions and strategies for transportation-related matters.

EVENTS

From page 2

dancing Sunday, Feb. 8, from at the Lebanon Senior Center.

This very special event will feature caller Shaun McKamey and cuer Sandra Pinion. It will run from 2 to 5 p.m. at the Senior Center, 80 Tangent St. in Lebanon.

Lebanon Square Circlers is the second oldest square dance club in Oregon. The public is invited to attend for free to watch the dancing and to have strawberry shortcake with the dancers.

Additionally, Lebanon Square Circlers is starting Sunday classes starting Feb. 15: a square dance class from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. and a two-step from 4 to 5:15 p.m. Partners are not necessary and the first lesson is free. Cost thereafter is \$6 per lesson or \$15 per family. Kids are welcome. For more information call (541) 401-9780 or visit www.lebanonsquarecirclers.com/

Foster Road to be closed Feb. 9-12

The road over Foster Dam will be closed Feb. 9-12 as the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers maintenance workers perform spillway gate inspections.

Vehicles will not be able to pass during that time until completion of the project.

For more information, contact Lisa Maguire at (54) 623-1338.

Nonprofit Summit Feb. 12 in Albany

The annual Willamette Valley Nonprofit Summit returns Thursday, Feb. 12, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at YMCA, 3201 Pacific Blvd SW, Albany.

The one-day summit includes keynote speakers and breakout sessions to fuel nonprofit success. Speakers this year are Marion Clark Jr. and Coach Mary Stade, both of Willamette Valley Jaguars. Breakout sessions include topics on grant writing, nonprofit law, board en-

agement and more.

Cost is \$32 per person if registered by Jan. 31, after which time the price is \$42. Register online at <https://bit.ly/3YUqPA4>

Valentine's Brunch at Sweet Home VFW

Sweet Home VFW will host a Valentine's Brunch fundraiser from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 14, at the Veterans Club, 580 Main St.

Tickets are \$25 for the Brunch Buffet, with an add-on Mimosa Bar for \$10. Also, a VIP ticket including both, plus five raffle tickets, is available for \$30 per person. VIP tickets are limited and must be purchased in advance. Others are available at the door.

In addition to a buffet spread

that includes sweet (pastries, waffles and pancake bites, yogurt and fruit), savory (frittata squares, bacon and sausage, quiche and breakfast potatoes) and "grazers" fare (a charcuterie board and bagels), the event will include raffle basketball and prizes.

Proceeds benefit the Kids Christmas Store. For information, contact the VFW at (541) 972-8556.

Sweetheart Valentine Dance

Riverview PTC and Explosion Dance Team will host a Sweetheart Valentine Dance from 5-7 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 14, at Riverview School, 1011 Mountain River Dr., Lebanon.

There will be music, prizes,

dancing, pizza, concessions and professional photos. Children must be accompanied by an adult. \$5 per person, \$20 max per household.

Seedling Sale, Woods Fair Feb. 14 at Expo Center

Linn County Small Woodlands Association will hold its annual Seedling Sale and Woods Fair from 8 a.m. to noon Saturday, Feb. 14, at the Linn County Expo Center.

To register as a vendor, email petey711@hotmail.com or text (541) 223-3935.

Profits from the sale fund college and 4-H scholarships.

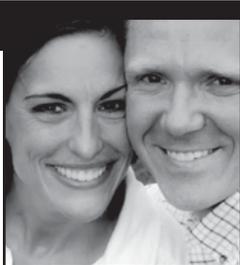
Volunteers are always welcome. Volunteer by emailing seedlingsale@linncountyswa.com.

Seed Swap Feb. 17 at Lebanon Library

The Santiam Food Alliance's annual seed swap and gardeners' gathering will take place at 6 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 17, at the Lebanon Public Library, 55 Academy St.

Admittance is free and all are welcome. Bring seeds to share, if you have some. Tubers and other roots are welcome, too, provided they are wrapped or clean. Be sure to bring envelopes and a pen so you can collect seeds shared by other gardeners.

For more information about the Santiam Food Alliance, visit santiamfood.org or the Santiam Food Alliance Facebook page.



Wolthuis Family Dentistry

Q: What are the worst drinks for my teeth?

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

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

SUMMONS (CITACION JUDICIAL) CASE NUMBER: 23CV008890 NOTICE TO DEFENDANT: (AVISO AL DEMANDADO): Grady Boyd, Stefani Boyd, and DOES 1 to 50; **YOU ARE BEING SUED BY PLAINTIFF: (LO ESTA DEMANDANDO EL DEMANDANTE):** Shoaib Ahmadi

NOTICE! You have been sued. The court may decide against you without your being heard unless you respond within 30 days. Read the information below. You have 30 CALENDAR DAYS after this summons and legal papers are served on you to file a written response at this court and have a copy served on the plaintiff. A letter or phone call will not protect you. Your written response must be in proper legal form if you want the court to hear your case. There may be a court form that you can use for your response. You can find these court forms and more information at the California Courts Online Self-Help Center (www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp), your county law library, or the courthouse nearest you. If you cannot pay the filing fee, ask the court clerk for a fee waiver form. If you do not file your response on time, you may lose the case by default, and your wages, money, and property may be taken without further warning from the court. There are other legal requirements. You may want to call an attorney right away. If you do not know an attorney, you may want to call an attorney referral service. If you cannot afford an attorney, you may be eligible for free legal services from a non-profit legal services program. You can locate these nonprofit groups at the California Legal Services Web site (www.lawhelp-california.org), the California Courts Online Self-Help Center (www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp), or by contacting your local court or county bar association.

NOTE: The court has a statutory lien for waived fees and costs on any settlement or arbitration award of \$10,000 or more in a civil case. The court's lien must be paid before the court will dismiss the case.

¡AVISO! Lo han demandado. Si no responde dentro de 30 días, la corte puede decidir en su contra sin escuchar su versión. Lea la información a continuación. Tiene 30 DÍAS DE CALENDARIO después de que le entreguen esta citación y papeles legales para presentar una respuesta por escrito en esta corte y hacer que se entregue una copia al demandante. Una carta o una llamada telefónica no lo protegen. Su respuesta por escrito tiene que estar en formato legal correcto si desea que procesen su caso en la corte. Es posible que haya un formulario que usted pueda usar para su respuesta. Puede encontrar estos formularios de la corte y más información en el Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes de California (www.sucorte.ca.gov), en la biblioteca de leyes de su condado o en la corte que le quede más cerca. Si no puede pagar la cuota de presentación, pida al secretario de la corte que le dé un formulario de exención de pago de cuotas. Si no presenta su respuesta a tiempo, puede perder el caso por incumplimiento y la corte le podrá quitar su sueldo, dinero y bienes sin más advertencia. Hay otros requisitos legales. Es recomendable que llame a un abogado inmediatamente. Si no conoce a un abogado, puede llamar a un servicio de remisión a abogados. Si no puede pagar a un abogado, es posible que cumpla con los requisitos para obtener servicios legales gratuitos de un programa de servicios legales sin fines de lucro. Puede encontrar estos grupos sin fines de lucro en el sitio web de California Legal Services, (www.lawhelpcalifornia.org), en el Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes de California, (www.sucorte.ca.gov) o poniéndose en contacto con la corte o el colegio de abogados locales. AVISO: Por ley, la corte tiene derecho a reclamar las cuotas y los costos exentos por imponer un gravamen sobre cualquier recuperación de \$10,000 ó más de valor recibida mediante un acuerdo o una concesión de arbitraje en un caso de derecho civil. Tiene que pagar el gravamen de la corte antes de que la corte pueda desechar el caso.

The name and address of the court is: (El nombre y dirección de la corte es): Gordon D Schaber 720 9th Street Sacramento, CA 95814 **The name, address, and telephone number of plaintiff's attorney, or plaintiff without an attorney, is: (El nombre, la dirección y el número de teléfono del abogado del demandante, o del demandante que no tiene abogado, es):** Liam R. Perry; Perry Law, Inc.; 336 Encinitas Blvd. Suite 240, Encinitas, CA 92024; (760) 633-2233

COMPLAINT—Personal Injury, Property Damage, Wrongful Death CASE NUMBER: 23CV008890

MOTOR VEHICLE; OTHER: General Negligence; Property Damage; Personal Injury
Jurisdiction: ACTION IS AN UNLIMITED CIVIL CASE (exceeds \$25,000)

1. Plaintiff: **Shoaib Ahmadi** alleges causes of action against defendant: **Grady Boyd, Stefani Boyd, and DOES 1 TO 50;** **2.** This pleading, including attachments and exhibits, consists of the following number of pages: **6;** **3.** Each plaintiff named; **6.** The true names of defendants sued as Does are unknown to plaintiff. a. Doe defendants: **1-25** were the agents or employees of other named defendants and acted within the scope of that agency or employment. b. Doe defendants: **26-50** are persons whose capacities are unknown to plaintiff; **8.** This court is the proper court because c. injury to person or damage to personal property occurred in its jurisdictional area; **10.** The following causes of action are attached and the statements above apply to each: a. Motor Vehicle b. General Negligence; **11.** Plaintiff has suffered a. wage loss; b. loss of use of property; c. hospital and medical expenses; d. general damage; e. property damage; f. loss of earning capacity; g. other damage; Future Loss of Earnings and Future Medical Expenses. Other damages are unknown at this time which plaintiff will prove at the time of trial; **14.** Plaintiff prays for judgment for costs of suit; for such relief as is fair, just, and equitable; and for a. (1) compensatory damages; The amount of

Public Notices

damages is: (1) according to proof **15.** The paragraphs of this complaint alleged on information and belief are as follows: All. **Dated: September 19, 2023,** /s/ Liam R. Perry, Esq.
STATEMENT OF DAMAGES (Personal Injury or Wrongful Death)
To: **Grady Boyd and Stefani Boyd,** Plaintiff: Shoaib Ahmadi seeks damages in the aboveentitled action, as follows: **1. General damages;** a. Pain, suffering, and inconvenience: **\$10,000,000.00;** b. Emotional distress: **\$10,000,000.00;** **2. Special damages;** a. Medical expenses (to date): **\$3,000,000.00;** b. Future medical expenses (present value): **\$7,000,000.00;** c. Loss of earnings (to date): **\$1,000,000.00;** d. Loss of future earning capacity (present value): **\$7,000,000.00.** Date: **December 29, 2025,** /s/ Aaron M. Sibley, Esq. (1/14 - 2/4)

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

Case No. 26PB00390
NOTICE TO INTERESTED PERSONS

In the matter of the Estate of ROBERT GOULET, Deceased: Notice is hereby given that the undersigned has been appointed and has qualified as the Personal Representative of the estate. All persons having claims against the estate are hereby required to present the same, with proper vouchers, within four months of publication of this notice, as stated below, to the personal representative at: c/o Timothy J. O'Donnell, 11073 SE Main Street, Milwaukie, OR 97222.

All persons whose rights may be affected by the proceedings in this estate may obtain additional information from records of the court, the personal representative, or the attorney for the personal representative.
Dated and published: February 4, 2026

Susan Beghtol
Personal Representative
Timothy J. O'Donnell
Attorney for Personal Representative
11073 SE Main Street
Milwaukie, OR 97222
503-659-3627
tim@odonnell-law-office.com (2/4)

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

In the Matter of the Estate of: Jackie Marie Williams, Deceased
Case No. 25PB10027

NOTICE TO INTERESTED PERSONS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned has been appointed Personal Representative of the above-entitled estate. All persons having claims against the estate are required to present them, with vouchers attached, to the undersigned Personal Representative at the law offices of Melinda M. Brown, 725 Ellsworth Street SW, Albany, Oregon 97321, telephone (541) 967-7776, within four (4) months after the date of the first publication of this notice, or the claims may be barred.

All persons whose rights may be affected by the proceedings may obtain additional information from the records of the court, the Personal Representative, Paul

Public Notices

Schoening, or the attorney for the Personal Representative, Melinda M. Brown.
Personal Representative:
Paul Schoening
1770 Belmont Ave. SW
Albany, OR 97321
(2/4)

NOTICE TO INTERESTED PERSONS

On January 27, 2026, the Linn County Circuit Court of Oregon appointed Heidi K. Anderson as the Personal Representative (PR) in the Estate of Mildred J. McClure Case #25PB11215. Claims against the estate must be presented to the PR, with proper vouchers, within 4 months from the 1st publication date or they may be barred. All persons whose rights may be affected by this proceeding may get add'l info from the court, the PR or the Attorney for the PR.

PR and Attorney for PR:
Heidi K. Anderson
c/o Dean Gibbons Law
205 SE Spokane St. Ste 300
Portland, OR 97202
First published: February 4, 2026.
/s/ Dean J. Gibbons
Dean J. Gibbons OSB# 912835
Attorney for Personal Representative (2/4)

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING AND REQUEST FOR COMMENT.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Sweet Home Planning Commission will hold a public hearing(s) to consider the following request(s).

REQUEST: The applicant is requesting approval of a Variance to allow a 5-foot interior north side yard setback for a proposed residential accessory structure. The applicant poured a concrete slab in compliance with R-1 development standards prior to purchasing the structure and was unaware that the structure's height would require an increased setback. The proposed accessory structure is approximately 17.75 feet in height. Pursuant to Sweet Home Municipal Code (SHMC) 17.70.010(B)(2), the required side yard setback for a structure of this height is 15 feet. The applicant originally applied for an adjustment based on a staff calculation error. Upon discovery of the staff error, it was determined the request exceeds the 10 percent adjustment threshold and requires approval of a Variance pursuant to SHMC 17.106.010: The development standards in this Development Code protect the public health, safety and welfare by establishing standard setbacks, maximum building heights and other development standards that apply to various uses. For lands or uses with unique characteristics the intent and purpose of the development standards may be maintained while allowing for a variance to requirements. A Variance may be approved for those requests resulting in greater than a 10% change in a quantifiable standard. The applicant is therefore requesting a Variance to reduce the required side yard setback from 15 feet to 5 feet. The subject property is zoned Residential Low Density (R-1) and is designated Low Density Residential (R-1) under the Comprehensive Plan.

APPLICANT & PROPERTY

Public Notices

OWNER: Marilyn Nicholson
FILE NUMBERS: VR26-02
PROPERTY LOCATION: 1197 43rd Ave, Sweet Home, OR 97386; Identified on the Linn County Assessor's Map as 13S01E33AC Tax Lot 1702
REVIEW AND DECISION CRITERIA: Sweet Home Municipal Code Section(s) 17.10.060, 17.70.010(B), 17.106, and 17.126.
HEARING DATE & TIME: March 5th, 2026, at 6:30PM
HEARING LOCATION: City Hall Council Chamber at 3225 Main Street, Sweet Home, Oregon 97386
STAFF CONTACT: Ray Grundy, Planning & Building Permit Technician.
Phone: (541) 367-8113;
Email: Rgrundy@sweethomeor.gov
DATE MAILED: February 2, 2026.

You may submit comments or recommendations prior to or at the public hearing. Written comments submitted by 5:00 PM on February 26th, 2026, will be included in the staff report that is provided to the Planning Commission. Written comments that are submitted after that time, but prior to the hearing will be presented to the Planning Commission at their public hearing. Comments may be emailed to rgrundy@sweethomeor.gov or mailed or submitted to the Community and Economic Development Department office at City Hall, 3225 Main Street, Sweet Home, Oregon 97386. Please include the file number(s) in the subject line of your comment. The failure of an issue to be raised in a hearing, in person or by letter, or failure to provide sufficient specificity to afford the decision maker an opportunity to respond to the issue precludes appeal to the Land Use Board of Appeals based on that issue. A copy of the application, all documents and evidence relied upon by the applicant and applicable criteria are available for inspection at no cost and a copy will be provided at reasonable cost. A copy of the staff report will be available for inspection at no cost at least seven days prior to the hearing and a copy will be provided at reasonable cost. Please contact the Community and Economic Development Department at 3225 Main Street, Sweet Home, Oregon 97386; Phone: (541) 818-8029. Persons interested in commenting on this application should submit testimony in writing to the Community and Economic Development Department Office located in City Hall prior to the hearing or attend the meeting and give testimony verbally. Persons who wish to testify will be given the opportunity to do so by the Chair of the Commission at the Planning Commission meeting. Such testimony should address the criteria in the Sweet Home Municipal Code which are applicable to the request. Notice of the decision on this application will be mailed to the applicant, property owner, those who provided written comments on the proposal, and those who requested a copy of the decision. The location of the meeting is accessible to persons with disabilities. If you have a disability that requires accommodation, please notify the Community and

Public Notices

Economic Development Department Office in advance of the meeting by calling (541) 367-8113. (2/4)

TRUSTEE'S NOTICE OF SALE

Reference is made to a certain trust deed ("Trust Deed") made, executed and delivered by Hoomur Investments LLC, an Oregon limited liability company, as grantor, to Tomasi Bragar DuBay PC, as trustee, in favor of Mary Lorraine Douglas-Bailey Family Trust and Le Moyne D Bailey Jr Family Trust, each as to a 50% Interest, as beneficiary, dated April 17, 2025, and recorded on April 18, 2025, as Recording No. 2025-04418, in the mortgage records of Linn County, Oregon.

The Trust Deed covers the following described real property ("Property") situated in said county and state, to-wit: THE LAND REFERRED TO HEREIN BELOW IS SITUATED IN THE COUNTY OF Linn, STATE OF OR, AND IS DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS:

A portion of Lot 20, A.F. BAHRKE'S FRUITDALE ADDITION to Lebanon, Linn County, Oregon, more particularly described as follows:

Beginning on the North line of Grant Street (said point being 60 feet, more or less, North of the South line of said Lot 20), where said North line intersects the West line of Eighth Street; and running thence Westerly along said North line, 58.86 feet per C.S. #15264 (57.47' per prior deeds) to the South East corner of that property described in Warranty Deed recorded June 20, 1995, MF Volume 753, Page 760; thence North along the East line of said parcel, 132.6 feet to the Northeast corner thereof; thence East along the South line of that property described in Warranty Deed recorded March 1, 1988, MF Volume 465, Page 405 to the West line of 8 Street in said Lot 20 (57.47 feet per prior deeds) thence South, along said West line, 132.7 feet to the Place of Beginning.

There are defaults by the grantor or other person owing an obligation, the performance of which is secured by the Trust Deed, with respect to provisions therein which authorize sale in the event of default of such provision; the defaults for which foreclosure is made is grantor's failure to pay when due the following sums:

Arrearage in the sum of \$9,460.00 as of November 1, 2025, plus additional payments, property expenditures, taxes, liens, assessments, insurance, late fees, attorney's and trustee's fees and costs, and interest due at the time of reinstatement or sale.

By reason of said defaults, the beneficiary has declared all sums owing on the obligations secured by said Trust Deed immediately due and payable, said sums being the following, to-wit: Payoff in the sum of \$124,960.00 as of November 1, 2025, plus taxes, liens, assessments, property expenditures, insurance, accruing interest, late fees, attorney's and trustee's fees and costs incurred by beneficiary or its assigns.

Public Notices

WHEREFORE, notice hereby is given that the undersigned trustee will on April 21, 2026, at the hour of 11:00 a.m., in accord with the standard of time established by ORS 187.110, at the following place: North Front Entrance of the Linn County Courthouse, 300 Fourth Avenue S.W., Albany, Oregon, sell at public auction to the highest bidder for cash the interest in the above-described Property, which the grantor had or had power to convey at the time of the execution by grantor of the said Trust Deed, together with any interest which the grantor or grantor's successors in interest acquired after the execution of the Trust Deed, to satisfy the obligations thereby secured and the costs and expenses of sale, including a reasonable charge by the trustee.

Notice is further given that any person named in ORS 86.778 has the right, at any time prior to five days before the date last set for the sale, to have this foreclosure proceeding dismissed and the Trust Deed reinstated by payment to the beneficiary of the entire amount then due (other than such portion of the principal as would not then be due had no default occurred) and by curing any other default complained of herein that is capable of being cured by tendering the performance required under the obligation or Trust Deed, and in addition to paying said sum or tendering the performance necessary to cure the default, by paying all costs and expenses actually incurred in enforcing the obligation and Trust Deed, together with trustee's and attorney's fees not exceeding the amounts provided by said ORS 86.778.

In construing this notice, the singular includes the plural, the word "grantor" includes any successor in interest to the grantor as well as any other person owing an obligation, the performance of which is secured by said Trust Deed, and the words "trustee" and "beneficiary" include their respective successors in interest, if any. Without limiting the trustee's disclaimer of representations or warranties, Oregon law requires the trustee to state in this notice that some residential property sold at a trustee's sale may have been used in manufacturing methamphetamines, the chemical components of which are known to be toxic. Prospective purchasers of residential property should be aware of this potential danger before deciding to place a bid for this property at the trustee's sale.

The NOTICE TO RESIDENTIAL TENANTS, attached hereto as Exhibit A, is incorporated herein by reference. [Exhibit A, NOTICE TO RESIDENTIAL TENANTS, is not published pursuant to ORS 86.774(2)(b).] DATED: November 24, 2025.

/s/ Eleanor A. DuBay, OSB #073755
 Authorized By:
 Tomasi Bragar DuBay PC, Trustee
 121 SW Morrison, Suite 1850
 Portland, OR 97204
 Phone: 503-894-9900; fax: 971-544-7236
 (2/04, 2/11, 2/17, 2/25)

Moving Sale

1196 South 7th St. 10am-6pm Friday, Feb. 6 - Tuesday, Feb. 10. Washer/Dryer, Lawn Mower, Patio Furniture, Dining room Table, and more! (2/4)

For Sale

Seasoned Firewood Fir & Pine mixed. U-haul \$200 a cord. We haul \$220 a cord 541-231-2251, 541-981-4177 (2/4 - 3/25)

Statewide Notices

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

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

SERVICES: YMT Vacations. Over 50 guided tours available. Affordable, social and stress-free travel designed for mature travelers. Our tours include accommodations, transportation, baggage handling, sightseeing, entrance fees, a professional Tour Director and select meals. For a limited time SAVE \$250 on all tours. Call YMT today. 1-866-335-3689.

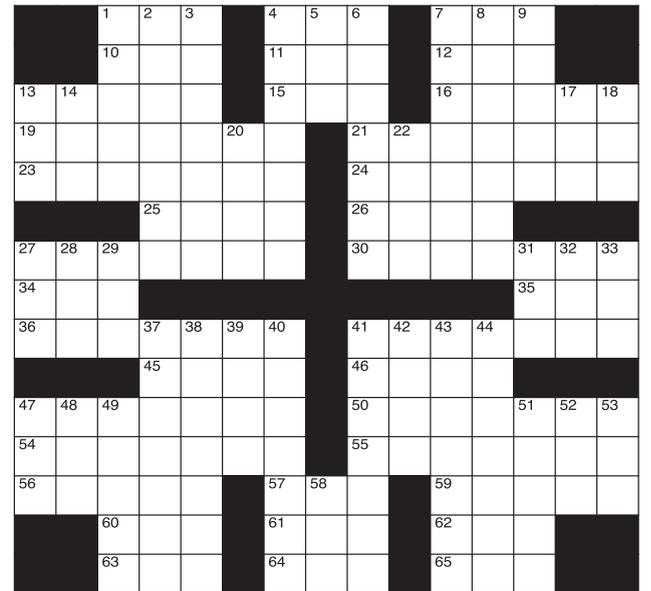
SERVICES: We Buy Houses for Cash AS IS! No repairs. No fuss. Any condition. Easy three step process: Call, get cash offer and get paid. Get your fair cash offer today by calling Liz Buys Houses: 1-866-249-8679.

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

SERVICES: The bathroom of your dreams in as little as 1 day. Limited Time Offer - \$1000 off or No Payments and No Interest for 18 months for customers who qualify. BCI Bath & Shower. Many options available. Quality materials & professional installation. Senior & Military Discounts Available. Call Today! 1-844-847-9778.

SERVICES: Jacuzzi Bath Remodel can install a new, custom bath or shower in as little as one day. For a limited time, waiving ALL installation costs! Additional terms apply. Subject to change and vary by dealer. (Offer ends 12/27/26.) Call 1-855-341-5268.

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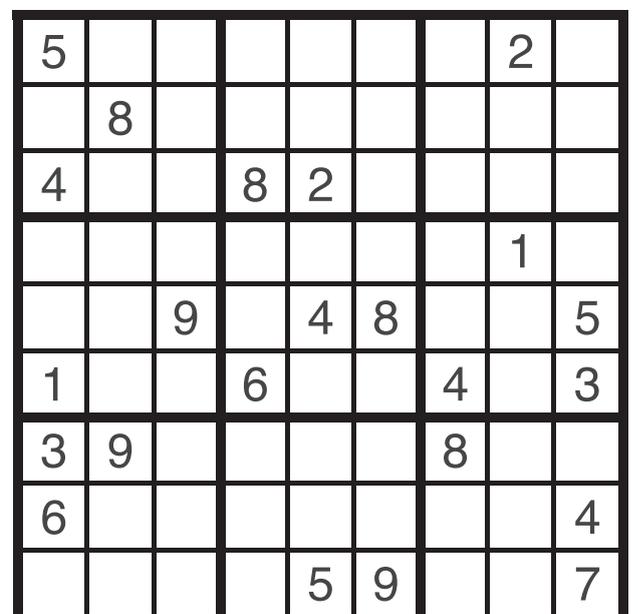
CLUES ACROSS

- 1. __ fi (slang)
- 4. Former CIA
- 7. Parts per billion (abbr.)
- 10. Fermenting vat
- 11. News organization
- 12. Paddle
- 13. Agent in alchemy
- 15. Small amount
- 16. Wholeness
- 19. Suppliers
- 21. Type of head pain
- 23. Canadian province
- 24. Jiminy is one
- 25. Shelf
- 26. Diarist Frank
- 27. Honored
- 30. Boat race
- 34. Cash machine
- 35. Linguistic theory (abbr.)
- 36. Highway material
- 41. Gracefully slender
- 45. Not often found
- 46. Baghdad is its capital
- 47. Deriving from Asia
- 50. Large, veterinary pills
- 54. Boxer
- 55. Give the right to
- 56. Iranian city
- 57. Body part
- 59. A citizen of Iraq
- 60. Australian bird
- 61. Consume
- 62. A basketball hoop has one
- 63. Bar bill
- 64. Not wet
- 65. Midway between east and southeast

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Shorttail weasel
- 2. Type of sword
- 3. A way to acquire
- 4. Peddled more
- 5. Relaxing place
- 6. A small carrier attached to the side of a motorcycle
- 7. Decanting
- 8. For all ills or diseases
- 9. Building material
- 13. "Much __ About Nothing"
- 14. Type of Buddhism
- 17. Refers to something unique
- 18. Thus far
- 20. Make angry
- 22. Greek mythological character
- 27. Used on driveways
- 28. Relating to the ears
- 29. Doctors' group
- 31. Chinese philosophical principle
- 32. Stomach
- 33. A particular period
- 37. Coin of ancient Greece
- 38. Place to clean oneself
- 39. One of the Great Lakes
- 40. Ruled
- 41. State of being free
- 42. Fe
- 43. Soup cracker
- 44. Escorts
- 47. Credit term
- 48. Institute legal proceedings against
- 49. Put within
- 51. New Jersey is one
- 52. Red deer
- 53. Type of whale
- 58. Swiss river

SUDOKU



Level: Advanced

Real Estate Sales

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

2308 Harding St; Sweet Home; one-story residence, 966 sq.ft., three bedroom, one bathroom, built in 1948; 0.18 acres; 294,500.

300 Averill St; Brownsville; one-story residence, 1620 sq.ft., two bedroom, two bathroom, built in 2024; 0.16 acres; 320,000.

40174 Highway 228; Sweet Home; one-story residence, 1152 sq.ft., two bedroom, one bathroom, built in 1947; 0.46 acres; 335,000.

38030 Balm Dr; Lebanon; one-story residence, 1010 sq.ft., two bedroom, one bathroom, built in 1920; 19.7 acres; 400,000.

35 Main St; Lebanon; one-story residence with attic, 1816 sq.ft., four bedroom, two bathroom, built in 1920; 0.22 acres; 425,000.

34 Grace St; Lebanon; one-story residence, 1735 sq.ft., three bedroom, two bathroom, built in 2007; 0.12 acres; 400,000.

38159 Weirich Dr; Lebanon; one-story residence, 1756 sq.ft., three bedroom, one bathroom, built in 1956; 3.9 acres; 445,000.

770 Steelhead Way; Sweet Home; one-story residence, 864 sq.ft., two bedroom, 1 1/2 bathroom, built in 1974; 0.29 acres; 289,000.

184 Main St; Lebanon; additional details not listed; 0.3 acres; 725,000.

1330 Hawthorne St; Sweet Home; one-story residence, 1152 sq.ft., four bedroom, one bathroom, built in 1949; 0.13 acres; 302,500.

128 Holley Rd; Sweet Home; one-story residence with attic, 1152 sq.ft., three bedroom, 1 1/2 bathroom, built in 1930; 0.1 acres; 256,000.

595 Tangent St; Lebanon; one-story residence, 975 sq.ft., three bedroom, 1 1/2 bathroom, built in 1900; 1.2 acres;

530,000.

445 9th St; Lebanon; additional details not listed; 0.27 acres; 750,000.

841 Pebble St; Brownsville; two-story residence, 2143 sq.ft., four bedroom, 2 1/2 bathroom, built in 2021; 0.14 acres; 490,000.

2421 Main St; Sweet Home; additional details not listed; sq.ft., 1.77 acres; 1,250,000.

1431 Sunset Ln; Sweet Home; one-story residence, 1856 sq.ft., three bedroom, two bathroom, built in 1963; 0.17 acres; 370,000.

191 Cedar Dr; Lebanon; one-story residence, 1444 sq.ft., three bedroom, one bathroom, built in 1959; 0.25 acres; 347,000.

28450 Pleasant Valley Rd; Sweet Home; one-story residence with basement, 3276 sq.ft., three bedroom, 2 1/2 bathroom, built in 1987; 37.86 acres; 1,390,000.

28227 Santiam Hwy; Sweet Home; one-story residence, 1012 sq.ft., two bedroom, one bathroom, built in 1951; 1 acres; 349,900.

39229 Plagman Dr; Lebanon; two-story residence, 3704 sq.ft., four bedroom, four bathroom, built in 2024; 4.8 acres; 1,200,000.

610 Washburn St; Brownsville; one-story residence with attic, 1427 sq.ft., four bedroom, one bathroom, built in 1900; 0.17 acres; 160,000.

30464 Ty Valley Rd; Lebanon; one-story residence with basement, 2756 sq.ft., three bedroom, three bathroom, built in 1999; 0.91 acres; 589,000.

4465 Knotty Pine Ct; Sweet Home; additional details not listed; 0.18 acres; 369,000.

371 Lydia Ln; Lebanon; one-story residence, 1615 sq.ft., three bedroom, two bathroom, built in 2008; 0.17 acres; 435,000.

130 Spaulding Ave; Brownsville; additional details not listed; 0.03 acres; 150,000.

225 Main St; Sweet Home; additional details not listed; sq.ft., 0.37 acres; 139,000.

896 29th Ave; Sweet Home; two-story residence, 2111 sq.ft., four bedroom, 2 1/2 bathroom, built in 2004; 0.17 acres; 440,000.

200 Mullins Dr; Lebanon; additional details not listed; 2.84

acres; 10,500,000.

319 Wheeler St; Lebanon; additional details not listed; 3.79 acres; 3,100,000.

64 Vine St; Lebanon; two-story residence, 1512 sq.ft., four bedroom, one bathroom, built in 1940; 0.07 acres; 305,000.

123 Camellia Dr; Lebanon; one-story residence with attic, 1865 sq.ft., three bedroom, two bathroom, built in 2015; 0.14 acres; 400,000.

856 Maple St; Brownsville; two-story residence, 2442 sq.ft., four bedroom, 2 1/2 bathroom, built in 2022; 0.14 acres; 505,000.

72 Weldwood Dr; Lebanon; one-story residence, 1207 sq.ft., four bedroom, two bathroom, built in 2005; 0 acres; 240,000.

1460 Cascade Dr; Lebanon; one-story residence, 1494 sq.ft., three bedroom, two bathroom, built in 1956; 0.4 acres; 270,000.

40384 Hwy 228; Sweet Home; one-story residence, 2468 sq.ft., four bedroom, two bathroom, built in 2024; 3.48 acres; 727,500.

1354 Grape St; Sweet Home; one-story residence, 872 sq.ft., two bedroom, one bathroom, built in 1935; 0.26 acres; 262,000.

5170 Santiam Hwy; Lebanon; one-story residence, 1166 sq.ft., three bedroom, two bathroom, built in 1941; 0.58 acres; 133,000.

1240 Evergreen Ln; Sweet Home; one-story residence, 1120 sq.ft., three bedroom, one bathroom, built in 1976; 0.21 acres; 334,900.

332 Sherman St; Lebanon; additional details not listed; built in 0.2 acres; 340,000.

1070 43rd Ave; Sweet Home; additional details not listed; built in 1.91 acres; 180,000.

1215 46th Ave; Sweet Home; one-story residence, 1429 sq.ft., three bedroom, two bathroom, built in 2006; 0.14 acres; 354,250.

117 Worley Ave; Brownsville; one-story residence, 1348 sq.ft., three bedroom, two bathroom, built in 1973; 0.27 acres; 428,500.

2847 10th St; Lebanon; one-story residence, 1008 sq.ft., three bedroom, one bathroom, built in 1979; 0.18 acres; 335,000.

40972 Highway 228; Sweet Home; additional details not listed; built in 0.92 acres; 120,000.

730 Main St; Brownsville; one-story residence, 1012 sq.ft., two bedroom, one bathroom, built in 1868; 0.18 acres; 321,000.

2645 Birch St; Lebanon; two-story residence, 2280 sq.ft., four bedroom, two bathroom, built in 1950; 0.25 acres; 275,000.

208 Kisling Ave; Brownsville; one-story residence, 1301 sq.ft., three bedroom, two bathroom, built in 1972; 0.23 acres; 384,700.

500 Angelee Ct; Lebanon; one-story residence, 1400 sq.ft., three bedroom, two bathroom, built in 1981; 0.15 acres; 386,000.

29212 Lone Pine Rd; Brownsville; one-story residence, 1560 sq.ft., two bedroom, one bathroom, built in 1974; 6.24 acres; 500,000.

37900 River Dr; Lebanon; one-story residence, 1894 sq.ft., three bedroom, two bathroom, built in 1962; 3.38 acres; 624,500.

131 Jennings St; Lebanon; one-story residence with attic, 1186 sq.ft., four bedroom, one bathroom, built in 1946; 0.15 acres; 300,000.

570 Manor Way; Lebanon; additional details not listed; built in 0.24 acres; 429,500.

37243 Meredith Dr; Lebanon; one-story residence, 1283 sq.ft., three bedroom, one bathroom, built in 1954; 0.59 acres; 310,000.

42201 Jack Creek Ln; Lebanon; triple wide mobile home, 2241 sq.ft., three bedroom, 4 1/2 bathroom, built in 1999; 9.7 acres; 748,000.

940 28th Ave; Sweet Home; one-story residence, 1548 sq.ft., three bedroom, two bathroom, built in 1964; 0.39 acres; 307,550.

1607 Elm St; Sweet Home; one-story residence with attic, 1084 sq.ft., two bedroom, one bathroom, built in 1947; 0.25 acres; 316,000.

31896 Lawrence St; Lebanon; one-story residence with basement, 2598 sq.ft., five bedroom, 2 1/2 bathroom, built in 1961; 0.48 acres; 541,500.

3290 Lupine St; Lebanon; one-story residence, 1103 sq.ft., three bedroom, 1 1/2

bathroom, built in 1977; 0.2 acres; 330,000.

440 Tangent St; Lebanon; two-story residence, 1844 sq.ft., three bedroom, two bathroom, built in 1900; 0.4 acres; 395,000.

42110 Marks Ridge Dr; Sweet Home; two-story residence, 1622 sq.ft., three bedroom, two bathroom, built in 2007; 9.66 acres; 614,000.

619 Oak St; Brownsville; one-story residence with attic, 1360 sq.ft., three bedroom, two bathroom, built in 1909; 0.17 acres; 390,000.

770 16th St; Lebanon; additional details not listed; built in 0.29 acres; 416,000.

1308 42nd Ave; Sweet Home; one-story residence, 1687 sq.ft., three bedroom, two bathroom, built in 1949; 0.75 acres; 430,000.

361 Pine St; Sweet Home; one-story residence, 1284 sq.ft., three bedroom, two bathroom, built in 1975; 0.24 acres; 196,750.

39089 Plagman Dr; Lebanon; one-story residence, 1644 sq.ft., three bedroom, one bathroom, built in 1937; 3.65 acres; 450,000.

850 Oak St; Lebanon; one-story residence, 840 sq.ft., two bedroom, one bathroom, built in 1948; 0.21 acres; 292,695.

35423 Oak View Dr; Brownsville; one-story residence with basement, 1852 sq.ft., four bedroom, 2 1/2 bathroom, built in 1969; 2.42 acres; 480,000.

820 12th St; Lebanon; one-story residence, 1008 sq.ft., three bedroom, one bathroom, built in 1973; 0.18 acres; 135,000.

28860 Brushwood Rd; Sweet Home; additional details not listed; 1.05 acres; 125,000.

30683 Spring St; Lebanon; one-story residence with attic, 1204 sq.ft., additional details not listed; built in 1940; 0.95 acres; 389,000.

2440 2nd St; Lebanon; one-story residence, 1068 sq.ft., three bedroom, one bathroom, built in 1974; 0.18 acres; 161,000.

26919 Old Holley Rd; Sweet Home; one-story residence with attic, 2865 sq.ft., four bedroom, three bathroom, built in 1978; 5.29 acres; 689,000.



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UPWARD BOUND

From page 5

Another senior, Rally Graham, said he's interested in a wide range of fields.

"I've been changing what I want to do, like, my entire life," he said.

"I love cats. I'm gonna start a cat cafe, OK? I like to cook, I like to bake. But then I've always been super passionate about science. I love animals, so I want to study animals. I love space and I want to study space. I love the weather and I want to study that. I want to study everything."

He said he realizes he's going to have to make a choice, so he's thinking about culinary arts or possibly studying marine biology at OSU so he can go into seal research.

The students said they've learned a lot more from their experiences in the program than just what they might want to study in college.

Several, admitting they were introverts before getting involved, said they've learned to expand their circle of friendships from one or two individuals in Sweet Home.

Moore related how she helped create a video during last summer's OSU residen-



These are some of the Sweet Home High School students who participate in Upward Bound. Here they are celebrating Upward Bound TRIO Day. - Sweet Home High School photo

tial experience intended to give students a chance to speak to government officials about why the program is important, due to concerns that funding will be cut.

She said she discovered that she could ad lib in front of the camera, while others had to write their "speeches."

"I just started improvising about (potential cuts), saying all my experiences, and it made them cry," she recalled. "One of my friends came up to me and he's like, 'How can you improvise like that on

the spot?' So I was helping my friends try to improvise what they were going to say."

Scott said he used to be "a big loner guy and didn't have a lot of friends."

That was before he went to Juneau two years ago and "kind of splurged a little bit and just bought a bunch of snacks."

He and a friend realized they had too much food, he said, so "I messaged the entire group chat and was like, 'Y'all bring your own spoons, bowls, cups and plates and y'all grab some snacks.'"

Since then, he said, clearly relishing his new status, "at a lot of the other schools I am not 'Louis,' I am 'The Louis.'"

Moore chimed in: "To this day there's, like, brand new recruits and they see Louis and they go, 'It's that guy!'" whereupon Scott took over the story: "I'll be, like, 'Who are you people?'"

Moore took over again: "Anytime we walked somewhere, people would be, like, 'Louis Scott, do you have any food?'"

Students from other schools had a name for

Scott's reputation, the others said: "They called it BYOB, bring your own bowl," Graham said.

Knight said she is looking to build the program from the ground up, recruiting more freshmen this year to participate. The goal is 80 students, she said. She said OSU is hoping to provide more tutoring in the near future, to add to the other benefits for participants.

"I'm focusing largely on ninth- and 10th-graders," she said, adding that she still has "a few open slots" for older students. "I'd love to get those 11th-grade spots filled as well."

She said the program changes students' outlook on life.

"I see excitement about learning and about going to college for these kids, who didn't think going to college was possible until they learned about what this program can do for them," she said.

"It's just so exciting to see the excitement in their faces, seeing dreams becoming reality that they, a few years ago, thought was impossible. It's just so awesome for them."

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WARRIORS

From page 10

week, one game behind league leader West Albany (8-0).

Unfortunately for Lebanon, it didn't work out, as South exited with a 78-53 win.

The game was close early on, South leading 38-30 at the half.

But the Redhawks took complete control in the third quarter, outscoring their hosts 23-10 to build a 61-40 advantage going into the fourth quarter.

The Warriors were able slow things down in the fourth quarter, but the damage was already done.

The Redhawks out-rebounded Lebanon by 10 and forced 16 turnovers.

However, there were a few bright spots for the Warriors. They shot 35.7% (15-42) from the field, 42.8% (6-14) from three-point land and 80.9% (17-21) from the free throw line.

Coach Andrew Evans said his team "needed to be tougher going forward."

The Warriors were paced by Peyton Vorderstrasse, who scored 14 points, collected three rebounds and had four assists. Piper Sewell added 12 points and two rebounds. Hazel Pepperling led the Warrior scoring with 18 points and collected seven rebounds and had three steals.

Lebanon 54, CV 50

At Crescent Valley on Jan. 27, Lebanon faced a team that had just beaten crosstown ri-

vals Corvallis the previous Friday and were right in the middle of the league standings.

The Warriors escaped with a 54-50 win after a rough-and-tumble contest in which no one had a commanding lead until the end.

Lebanon started fast and led 14-8 at the end of the first quarter.

Crescent Valley came storming back in the second quarter, outscoring the Warriors 20-9 to build a 28-23 halftime lead. The third quarter was even as both teams scored 14 points to allow the Raiders to take a five-point lead into the fourth quarter, 42-37.

But that's when Lebanon took control of the game, outscoring Crescent Valley by nine, 17-8, in the final period to win by four.

"In the fourth quarter we really had to take it to them," Vordrstrasse said. "We picked up our aggression and made our press work."

The Warriors shot well from the field - 36.4% (20-55) - but not from the three-point line, 11.8% (2-17). Their saving grace came from the free throw line where they shot 86.7% (12-14).

Three Warriors shouldered the scoring load as Vorderstrasse had 15 points, five rebounds, four assists, two steals and two blocks. Sewell had 15 points, eight rebounds, four assists and a steal. Pepperling chipped in 12 points, seven rebounds, and five steals.

PORT DRIVE FIRE

From page 1

The Red Cross has been contacted to provide assistance to the displaced family.

According to Linn County, the property is owned by Clint and Heather Pollock.

One firefighter suffered a minor injury but was not transported; no civilian injuries were reported. The Oregon State Fire Marshall's Office is conducting an investigation into the cause of the fire.

Their close friend and neighbor, Angie Moore, started the GoFundMe to help the Pollocks and as of Monday afternoon, a total of \$16,732 had been raised toward a goal of \$20,000.

Plus, Moore said, people had walked into their Moore Family Winery, located near the Pollocks, with "cash and items. Somebody brought them a brand new furniture set."

"One thing that makes me proud about living in Sweet Home is how people step up," she said.

The Pollocks owned the Bohemian tavern in Sweet Home from 2008 to 2024, when they sold the business.

Moore said they stayed with her family during the weekend and then moved into a relative's home, which was available. They were able to return to their jobs Monday, she said.

Fire Chief Nick Tyler said the cause of the fire had not been determined as of Monday, but that the State Fire Marshall's



Firefighters shoot water into the flames as they battle the inferno, which spread into some 100-foot trees around the house. See more photos at sweethomenews.com.

- SHFAD photo

Office was planning to meet with the Pollocks.

He said the residence was "a total loss."

Moore said the Pollocks had returned to the site and had been able to find some items

that had not been destroyed.

"They're doing OK," she said.

To donate to the Pollocks, visit www.gofundme.com/f/coming-together-for-clint-heather-and-max.

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