

The New Era

SWEET HOME • LEBANON • AND SURROUNDING COMMUNITIES

SERVING EAST LINN COUNTY SINCE 1929

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2026

VOL. 96, NO. 5 | \$2.00

Heath Stadium demolition kicks off

By Jennifer Moody
For The New Era

Lebanon High School's track and turf field will be closed for the rest of February while crews work to demolish the Heath Stadium grandstands.

Demolition began Monday, Feb. 9.

In a press release posted Friday on the Lebanon Community School District's website, district officials said the stadium, track and field are expected to reopen March 1 for spring sports, which the district has said will continue as scheduled. Seating will be available in the visitors' section.

Construction of a new press box also is under way on the opposite side of the stadium.

Structural concerns prompted the district to close the grandstands last spring. Closing the track and turf field to athletes, athletic events and the public during demolition is being done as a



Workers begin laying down prep-work on Monday morning as the first step toward tearing down the Heath Stadium grandstand. – Photo by Sarah Brown

See Heath Stadium, Page 18

Volunteers turn out for wetland restoration project

By Sarah Brown
Of The New Era

In the east shoulder of Sankey Park, a place where few tread and invasive plants thrive, a number of volunteers gathered together to stick twigs in the ground.

It was Thursday and Friday morning, Feb. 5-6, when members of the City of Sweet Home, Park and Tree Committee, South Santiam Watershed Council and Sweet Home High School Forestry class donned clothing suitable for muddy conditions and made their way through the relatively small section of park with the worthy intention of restoring the wet meadow.

According to South Santiam Watershed Council's Ecological Projects Coordinator Tyrell Styhl, that three-acre area on the east side of Ames Creek, situated behind the Sweet Home Senior Center, just last year was covered in Himalayan blackberry, reed canary grass and a smattering of English hawthorne and teasel, all invasive species.

Styhl noted that last spring the reed canary grass was taller than him.

See Sankey, Page 18



Sweet Home High School forestry students and teacher Zech Brown, left, plant native trees and shrubs along the bank of Ames Creek last week. – Photo by Scott Swanson

HOMETOWN
NEWSPAPER OF
BETTY
JAMES

This Week's Top Stories



Water main break
creates bit of buzz

Page 7

Jail conundrum on
table in Lebanon

Lebanon council members will discuss what it will take to re-open the city's jail facility.

Page 18



Husky boys battle,
win over Cascade

Husky boys score long-awaited win over Cascade

Page 19



Obituaries

Clarence Dixon

Oct. 30, 1942 - Feb. 4, 2026

Clarence Arthur "Art" Dixon, 83, of Sweet Home, passed away Feb. 4, 2026, in Lebanon.

He was born on Oct. 30, 1942, in Portland, to Walter O. and Clara E. (Shimmin) Dixon.

He moved to Sweet Home in 1949 when his parents bought the HI-WAY grocery store in Sweet Home, which was later removed when they widened Highway 20 to four lanes. The family moved two defense houses from Sweet Home to their property and later the county wanted names for the roads, so the family named them Dixie Lane and Manx Lane.

Art grew up in Sweet Home, attending Liberty School and Sweet Home High School, graduating in 1960. Art worked for Whites' Furniture, he did flooring with his Uncle Bud and worked at the Santiam Lumber Mill, saving up for his first car, a '51 Chevy, before being drafted in 1965.

Art and Lorretta were

married in January 1964, recently celebrating their 62nd wedding anniversary. Together they raised two sons, Duane and Darin.

Art was drafted into the United States Army as a combat engineer. He attended AIT training in Ft. Belvoir, Va., where he was trained to make dry ice used in hospitals.

He received his orders to deploy to Vietnam, being the first of 12 men to arrive to set up a dry ice plant in Quinhon. He served in Vietnam for a year. For his honorable service Art obtained the National Defense Medal, Vietnam Service Medal, Vietnam Campaign Medal, and a M-14 Marksmanship Badge.

After his service in the military he worked at Willamette Industries for 29 years. He enjoyed going to car shows and working on cars with his sons, rebuilding a '56 Chevy motor and a '69 Camaro motor.

During his time at the Oregon Veterans' Home, Art enjoyed getting together for group activities, reminiscing about his life, and attending country



drives to see how much the area had changed. Loretta visited Art very often and she would bring him cheeseburgers so they could sit and enjoy lunch together.

Art is survived by his wife Loretta; his sons Duane Dixon and Darin Dixon, all of Sweet Home; five grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

Graveside service with military honors will be at 11 a.m. Friday, Feb. 13, at Liberty Cemetery.

Sweet Home Funeral Chapel is handling the arrangements.

Ian Mowry

Sept. 18, 1936 - Jan. 24, 2026

Ian Collier Mowry, 89, of Sweet Home passed away in Lebanon Jan. 24, 2026.



He was born Sept. 18, 1936 to Nina S. (Wiley) and Harold M. Mowry in Boston, Mass..

He served 20 years in the United States Air Force from 1953-1973 and retired as a technical sergeant with honors. He was part of the Korean and Vietnam War working as a communications supply officer, a photographer and a gunsmith.

He received several medals, including medals for Vietnam Service, Republic Vietnam Campaign, Air and Space Longevity, National Defense, Bronze Star and Air Force good conduct.

After the service Ian continued doing photography and took photos for Life Magazine all over the world. He could tell a story about all his photos. He owned a gun shop in Sweet Home.

Ian taught gun safety classes and reloaded his own bullets. He loved riding his Harley Davidson trike.

Ian is survived by his chil-

dren: Elizabeth Ann Griffin of Baker City, Randy Coleman of Ventura, Calif., Rick Coleman of Albany, Robert Coleman of Thousand Oaks, Calif., Tammy Coleman of Hubbard, and Shelly Stuart of Bend; 17 grandchildren; 15 great-grandchildren and four great-great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Barbara Jean Mowry; and son Paul Coleman.

A service with military honors will be at 11 a.m. Friday, Feb. 20, at Willamette National Cemetery in Portland.

Sweet Home Funeral Chapel is handling the arrangements.

Death Notices

Betty Elaine Bagley, 91, of Sweet Home, passed away Feb. 8, 2026. A graveside service will be at 1 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 12, at Gilliland Cemetery.

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

Joe Scott Parkins, 47, of Sweet Home, passed away Feb. 3, 2026.

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



SHHS Talent Show

Photos by
Scott Swanson

Competitors in Sweet Home High School's annual Talent Show display their stuff Wednesday evening, Feb. 4. Above left, The Squires (Thomas Culbertson, Blake DeLeon, Daylon Thompson and Tristan Young) perform "Hollow" by Pantera. They placed third. Above right, Take His Crown (Ezekiel Center, Blake DeLeon and Ivan Pelcher) perform "Welcome to Paradise" by Green Day, which earned them second place. Below left, Blaze Murphy sings "From the Start" by Laufey, which she performed with Red Ramsdell. Below, winner Evan Malabago performs "To You 2000 or 20,000 Years from Now" by Animenz. See more photos at sweethomenews.com.



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. 8

LCSO/OSP LEBANON

4:33 p.m. - Jordan Scott Banke, 32, of Mt. Angel, arrested for failure to carry and present license, Old Santiam/Waterloo. Report taken.

LCSO/OSP SWEET HOME/S. COUNTY

2:48 p.m. - Jason Walter, 50, of Bend, arrested on warrant, for possession of meth, and for DWS. Cited for DU. 5400 block Hwy. 20. Report taken.

7:21 p.m. - Travis Johnson, 41, of Sweet Home, cited for failure to carry proof of insurance., 12th/Osage.

SWEET HOME POLICE

12:08 a.m. - Jeram Joseph

Stucky, 19, cited for failure to register vehicle, 1000 block Main.

10:13 a.m. - Caller reported loud noises in 2200 block Main. Officer responded to event taking place on private property. Coordinator was advised of complaint, informed officer that event would take place until 5 p.m.

12:14 p.m. - Multiple callers reported male acting erratically in 1900 block Main St. Officer contacted male, who had been drinking. He agreed to leave the area and sober up.

5:41 p.m. - Caller from Hoy's Hardware reported theft. Officer responded, took report for theft III. Missing item(s) valued at \$4.

6:03 p.m. - Caller reported vehicle was broken into, medication stolen in 1800 block Ames Creek. Officer responded, took report for vehicle burglary and theft I. Value \$3,380.

6:38 p.m. - Caller from Dollar General, 1937 Main, reported male stole items from store, requested he be trespassed when located.

7:06 p.m. - Kaelynn Cupp, 18, cited for speeding, 40/25, 1000 block Main.

7:11 p.m. - Matthew Mosburg, 49, cited for no valid operator's license, DU, 18th/Long.

8:06 p.m. - Caller reported neighbors playing loud music in 4600 block Main St. Officer responded, contacted residents who agreed to turn it down.

8:39 p.m. - Hanna Connelly, 32, cited for failure to obey traffic control device, 1600 block Long.

LEBANON POLICE

2:09 a.m. - Rhiannon L. Martin, 43, cited for DWS, LMC warrant

for contempt of court.

2:16 a.m. - Caller hears someone in house, 200 block Walker Rd. Michael Rey Giles, 30, detained. Report taken for burglary I, theft III.

3:15 p.m. - Theft of socks reported from Dollar Tree.

4:23 p.m. - Report taken for theft of wallet from counter at Dollar Tree.

5:02 p.m. - Female who'd asked homeowners a few months ago if house was for sale returned and asked again, 000 block W Elmore St. When owners left and came back, door was open and boot prints inside.

7:08 p.m. - Connor Bart Provstgaard, 37, cited on LCJC warrant for theft III.

7:30 p.m. - David Craig Duffield, 69, cited on Benton County Circuit Court warrant for reckless driving, FTA - DUII.

10:00 p.m. - Victoria G. Mejia, 39, cited on LMC warrant for probation violation.

FEB. 7

LCSO/OSP LEBANON

No citations or arrests reported. LCSO/OSP Sweet Home/S. County

9:49 a.m. - Elmer Evert Cleveland, 46, of Albany, cited for DWS, failure to carry proof of insurance, failure to renew vehicle registration and failure to carry and present license, 44400 block North River. Report taken.

10:00 a.m. - Deputy seized lost phone in connection with attempted fraudulent purchases. 44100 block Hwy. 20. Investigation ongoing. Report taken.

1:00 pm.- LCSO contacted two juveniles on three-wheelers in

area closed to motorized vehicles, 46600 block Old Hufford. Referred to Juvenile Dept. Report taken.

2:58 p.m. - Michael Delay, 37, of Sweet Home, cited for outstanding warrant, 44100 block Hwy. 20. Report taken.

7:42 p.m. - Crash reported near Milepost 10, Quartzville Rd. Further details not included in Sheriff's log. Report taken.

Sweet Home Police
11:40 a.m. - Illegal burn pile reported in 800 block Poplar. Officer responded, subject extinguished burn pile.

12:34 p.m. - Caller reported boat, RV and truck stored in 4300 block Main St. all had been significantly damaged. Missing items described as battery from 1994 Chevy C35 pickup, generator and vacuum from 1999 Grage camp trailer. Officer responded, report taken for theft I, criminal mischief I. Value of loss and damage estimated at \$2,000.

1:44 p.m. - Hit and run reported in 1300 block Evergreen. Caller reported that neighbor witnessed white BMW hit his truck and that departing vehicle had left behind part of a tail or marker light. Officer responded, report taken. Damage estimated at \$1,500.

2:39 p.m. - Caller from Dollar Tree, 2414 Main, reported female who had prompted earlier calls reporting theft at the store. Officer contacted female, trespassed her from location.

3:02 p.m. - Stephanie Irene Starkweather, 38, cited on AMC warrant for FTA in theft case, LMC warrant for FTA in theft

See Public Safety, Page 9



TEMPERATURES

DATE	HIGH	LOW	RAIN
2/3	57	31	0.00
2/4	56	34	0.00
2/5	55	32	0.00
2/6	61	29	0.00
2/7	53	39	0.00
2/8	51	44	0.75
2/9	51	33	0.00

RAIN IN INCHES

Year to date: 3.04
2/12/25: 5.33

FORECAST

DATE	WEATHER	HIGH/LOW
2/12	Sunny	57/33
2/13	Showers	53/36
2/14	Showers	51/35
2/15	Showers	54/32
2/16	Showers	48/31
2/17	Showers	48/31
2/18	Rain	48/31

LAKE LEVELS

Foster 615.5
Green Peter 928.3

CROSSWORD KEY

Puzzle on page 17

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

SUDOKU KEY

Puzzle on page 17

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

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, Brandi Lei Libra, Mikel Vincent Lizama, Christopher James Lloyd, Mainor Misael Lucas-Velasquez, Charles James Marvel, 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, Autumn Brooke Pearson, Daniel Austin Phillips, Sean Ever Robinson, Tammy Lavonn Robinson, James Ryan Routon, Daniel Ryan Salo, Rosemary O. Saviour, John Pablo Scott II,

Phillip Stanley Shanklin, Donald Shane Simmons, Joshua Webb, Darnell T. Wells, Franklin Joe Whitton, Joshua Alexander Williams, Isabella Rean Wynn, Jessica Ashley Wynne
Iris Onelia Alvarez-Perez de Arriaga, 45, charged Feb. 3 with criminal mistreatment I and assault IV.
Deanna Marie Brown, 40, sentenced Feb. 3 to 18 mos. supervised probation and a \$200 fine after pleading guilty to identity theft.
Lewis Ralph Brown, 65, charged Feb. 9 with failure to report as a sex offender.
Jennifer Rae Burton, 54, charged Jan. 20 with failure to report as a sex offender.
Cory Blaine Caudle, 51, sentenced Feb. 2 to 225 mos. with the Oregon Dept. of Corrections, 10 years post-prison supervision and \$800 in fines after a jury found him guilty of four counts of sexual abuse I.
Tunisha Ann Coleman, 43, sentenced Jan. 7 to 60 days jail, 20 mos. with the Oregon Dept. of Corrections, 36 mos. post-prison supervision after pleading no contest to arson I and two counts of recklessly endangering another person. Dismissed: criminal mischief II.
 Two charges against August **Brent Collins, 47**, of stalking dismissed without prejudice.
Daniel Edward Cuckler III, 37,

sentenced Feb. 9 to 75 mos. with the Oregon Dept. of Corrections and 10 years post-prison supervision after a jury found him guilty of sexual abuse I.
Kraig James Fox, 39, charged Feb. 9 with two counts of fleeing or attempting to elude police, failure to perform duties of driver to injured persons, failure to perform duties of driver when property is damaged, reckless driving, recklessly endangering another person, criminal mischief II and criminal trespass II.
David Harry Peter Johnson, 49, charged Feb. 4 with criminally negligent homicide of Joe Scott Parkins. Bail: \$40,000.
Brandi Lei Libra, 45, charged Feb. 2 with criminal mischief II and two counts of theft I.
Rockie Eugene William Morse, 52, charged Feb. 6 with assault IV.
Ryan Michael Newton, 31, sentenced Jan. 29 to six months jail after pleading no contest to menacing. Dismissed: criminal trespass II, burglar II and attempt to commit Class A misdemeanor. In a separate case, he was sentenced to one year suspension of a driver's license, 62 days jail, 36 mos. supervised probation and \$1,790 in fines after pleading no contest to DUII (controlled substances), failure to perform duties of driver - property damage, and attempt to commit Class A felony - burglary

I. Dismissed: reckless driving, recklessly endangering another person, criminal mischief II, menacing. In a separate case, he was sentenced to 36 mos. supervised probation after pleading no contest to escape I and unlawful possession of meth. Dismissed: unlawful use of a weapon, disorderly conduct II.
Charge against Cary Nathan Pedigo, 37, of failure to report as a sex offender dismissed without prejudice.
Shavell Ilia Peters, 36, charged Feb. 9 with criminal mistreatment I and assault IV.
Kyle Dawayne Roebuck, 30, sentenced Jan. 29 to 35 days jail, three years supervised probation after pleading no contest to mail theft or receipt of stolen mail, criminal trespass II and FTA. Dismissed: theft III, mail theft or receipt of stolen mail.
 In a separate case he was sentenced to 18 mos. supervised probation after pleading no contest to unlawful possession of meth.
Nicholas Scot Warren, 46, sentenced Feb. 4 to 75 days jail, 36 mos. supervised probation after pleading guilty to criminal trespass II, aggravated harassment and resisting arrest. Dismissed: criminal trespass II, offensive littering, attempt to commit Class C/unclassified felony.

Editorial: State leaders getting this picture?

By Scott Swanson
Publisher

It's been a remarkable sequence of events in Salem in the last six months, particularly since the new year.

When the Gas Tax didn't sail through the Legislature last spring, failing to pass before the Long Session ended in June, eyebrows went up around the state.

Then Gov. Kotek called the Legislature together last fall to ram it through – successfully, it appeared. The Legislature proceeded to pass the \$4.3 billion gas tax package, which slapped a 6-cent tax increase on each gallon of gasoline for state drivers and substantially

raised vehicle registration fees.

Kotek signed it in November, a move widely seen as calculated to make it harder for opponents to gather signatures for a referendum to recall the package approved by her and legislators, ODOT's snowplows went back to work and everything was fine.

Except it wasn't.

In a few short weeks referendum organizers and workers, including those who stood for days under pop-ups in the rain in Lebanon and Sweet Home, gathering signatures, had collected enough names to easily qualify for the ballot – a quarter million, in fact.

Our Democratic leadership is clearly rattled.

Their party has controlled Oregon's three offices of government – executive (the last Republican governor served some 40 years ago), both houses of the legislature and, really, much of the judiciary for decades. They have held a supermajority, at least three-fifths of the seats in both chambers of the legislature, almost continuously since 2018.

It is residents who have paid the price.

A 2024 study by Finance-Buzz.com found Oregonians spend the second-highest amount of their annual income on taxes (approximately 23.37%) in the nation, trailing only Massachusetts. It didn't used to be this way. Oregonians, less than a decade ago, were ranked in the middle, nationally, in terms of their tax burden.

Since 2019, Oregon's total effective state and local business tax rate has risen by close

to 30%. This is heavily driven by the Corporate Activity Tax (CAT) passed in 2019, which created a new tax on gross receipts in addition to existing corporate income taxes.

The Tax Foundation recently ranked Oregon as the 35th-worse state in tax competitiveness.

We're consistently ranked near the bottom in educational achievement. Housing affordability and Oregon's cost of living are both in the bottom 20% of the 50 states, as rated by U.S. News and World Report.

Businesses are leaving. I was just in Grants Pass last week, where the headquarters of Dutch Bros, a nearly \$9.5 billion company born right there in Southern Oregon, is about to become a children's museum after the company moved its corporate operations to Tempe, Ariz.

I drove by. I saw the sign announcing the change.

These things don't happen on whims. Reporting by journalists from the Oregon Journalism Project, Capital Chronicle, the Oregonian and others have uncovered increasing evidences of serious issues with state government – particularly at the bureaucratic level.

The Oregon Department of Transportation debacle, the Oregon Health Authority's failures in implementing Measure 110, problems in the Oregon Department of Corrections, the Department of Human Services, the bungled rollout of Medicaid dollars for rent assistance and failed programs that were supposed to help the homeless and drug users – these are just some of the problems that chafe re-

sponsible, tax-paying Oregon citizens.

The question is whether anybody in power is seeing these problems, actually taking responsibility for them.

Literally every day I get emails from both sides of the aisle in Salem, probably because I'm a newspaper editor. Although I'm busy with local news and can't always actually read all of them, I don't mind getting them because they give me a sense of what's happening in the Capitol.

As might be expected, there's been a lot of crowing about the success of that referendum effort from one side of the aisle.

From the other side I'm hearing about how we need to renovate the Moda Center, how Oregon is gearing up to battle the Trump Administration on immigration, environmental and climate policy, abortion, civil liberties, etc.

I'm seeing finger-pointing and obfuscating.

Just this week one missive arrived trumpeting Senate Bill 1507, introduced to close the "tax loopholes overwhelmingly used by the wealthy and big corporations."

The news release I received blamed the Trump tax package for blowing a "\$900 million hole in Oregon's budget with tax cuts largely going toward the wealthy and big corporations" which, it noted, were automatically adopted into the Oregon tax code.

The proposed bill, the release added, would cut taxes for low-to-moderate income households in the state and protect needed funding for "education, health care and public safety."

My purpose here is not to delve into all of that, but I certainly get the feeling that the powers that be apparently realize that people on the ground are not happy.

Recently, House Majority Leader Ben Bowman announced that the Oregon House will participate in further legislative oversight with "Outcomes Reviews" encouraging "legislative members, agencies and partners" to assess, review and improve the implementation of previously passed laws.

The goal, he said, is to enhance outcomes for Oregonians, further community engagement and make sure Oregon laws are working as intended.

Well, they're right. A lot of things are not working.

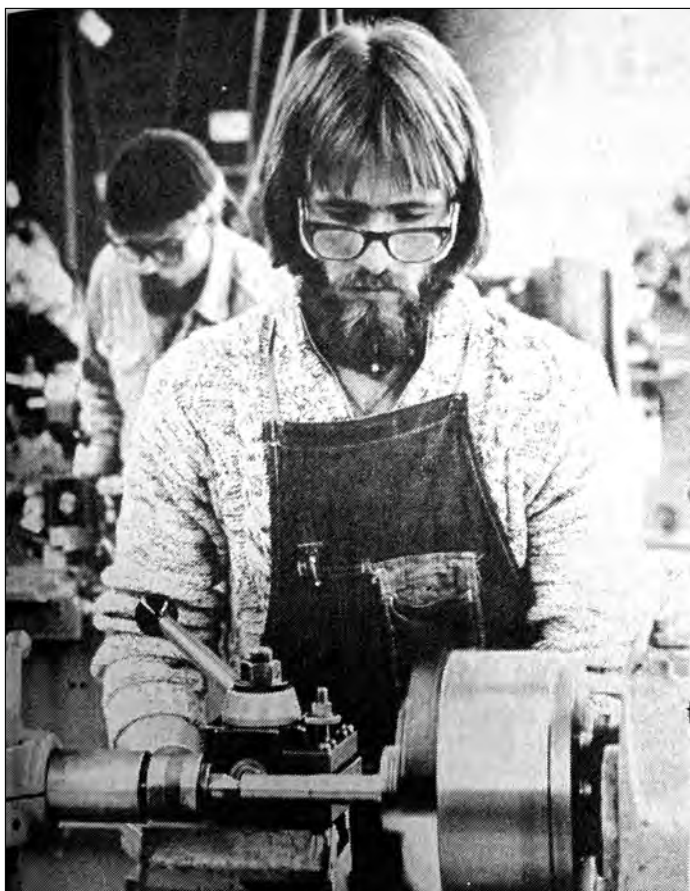
What they apparently don't realize is that a lot of our unhappiness, at least for many rural residents, stems from questionable (to put it kindly) policies that have gotten us to the place described above.

Historically, Oregon has had a spirit of "can do" – particularly in rural populations. It also has a spirit of live and let live. But how long residents eyeing their giant tax bills that ostensibly pay for services and programs that appear to be poorly managed, at best, will allow this to continue, is a good question that the powers should be considering.

But unless leaders arise who can wisely steer our laws, educational system, our bureaucracies toward the goal of collective contribution away from dependence on the state and more individual responsibility that contributes to economic success, nothing's going to change.

Got Thoughts?

The New Era welcomes written opinions from readers about the newspaper and matters of public interest, which contribute tastefully to our mission of providing a marketplace of ideas for our community. Typed letters are preferred. They can be submitted by e-mail, in person or by fax at The New Era's office. Letters can be emailed to news@sweethomenews.com. Please include the words "Letter to the Editor" in the subject line. All submissions MUST include the writer's name (no pseudonyms), address and phone number, in case we need to contact you. Your name and city of residence will be published with your letter. Questions? Contact us at the email above or at (541) 367-2135.



Burl Smith tests his skills on an engine lathe in LBCC's machine technology class in 1976.

Feb. 15, 1951

More than 10% of some 250 people who attended a state senate hearing came from Sweet Home to argue the case for repeal of an unemployment compensation amendment that would deny benefits to jobless workers engaged in seasonal work.

Housewives perturbed over the cent and a half increase in milk prices were not alone in expressing disapproval. Eight local, independent grocers met with representatives of the two milk distributors serving this area in protest to the price increase and its effect. Last week milk prices jumped from 21.5 cents to 23 cents a quart.

Feb. 12, 1976

Spring Drive-In at 658 Main St. got unanimous approval by the Planning Commission to have its remodeled building next to the Main Street right-of-way. They also approved reduced parking and waived an eight-foot setback requirement. A portion of the drive-in is being razed to make way for the four-lane highway.

Ruth Wodtli, third grade teacher at Oak Heights, requested the East Linn Museum

From our Files

Society allow her class to prepare a time capsule for the museum, to be opened in 2076.

Feb. 14, 2001

Artist in residence Russ Fish, of Eugene, taught Hawthorne students the art of telling a story without verbal communication. Each class learned about miming, and fourth through sixth graders developed a mime performance for a school assembly.

Linn County Commissioners turned down a rezoning request by Roger and Cal Emmert, who wanted to rezone property on Old Holley Road from RR 5 to RR 2.5. They proposed making seven lots of a 20.6-acre parcel instead of the four that would be allowed under current zoning. After reviewing laws and historical records about urban zoning in that area, they denied the request 2-1.

The New Era

A LOCALLY OWNED NEWSPAPER

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Couple scores art bench featuring carved eagle during LCSWA's annual meeting

By Larry Mauter
LCSWA member

Peter and Anna Conerly didn't show up at the Linn County Small Woodlands Association (LCSWA) annual meeting looking for a bargain.

But they came away with one.

A chainsaw-carved bench with an eagle perched on one side was their reward in a winning bid during the Jan. 17 potluck gathering.

LCSWA's membership meetings close with a fundraising auction.

"It was in the front of the Grange Hall when Jim Merzenich announced that it was to be auctioned off, so Peter and I went over to take a closer look at it," said Anna Conerly in an e-mail.

"We didn't actually discuss bidding on it. Peter just shot his hand up," she said.

The winning bid was \$190.

The artist and age of the American folk art piece is unknown at this point.

LCSWA board member Jim Cota brought the item for auction. He said Mike Melcher bought the Douglas-fir piece at auction decades ago. "It was in the back shop for 20 years at least," said Cota.

He said Melcher suggested



Peter, Anna and Maya Conerly try out their new bench at the Z Hall in Scio Jan. 17 following the annual meeting of the Linn County Small Woodlands Association. – Mike Barsotti photo

it as an OSWA auction item.

"It probably weighs a couple hundred pounds," said Cota. "They got a pretty good buy for themselves."

"Peter was the one who was nudging the bids upward, and we really feel like we got a steal on it," Anna Conerly said.

She is the conservation manager for the Corvallis-based Greenbelt Land Trust. The trust was formed in 1989 and is among 13 in the state.

"(Peter) and I both knew that it would be perfect for the grove. It's (now) a lovely

seating area right outside our dining room where we often eat meals and relax in the summer," Conerly added. "It's a centerpiece of art in our outdoor entertaining area."

Overall, the auction raised \$460, according to LCSWA Treasurer Christy Tye.

BroomMagic brooms – the hardwood handles come from Linn County tree farms – were also among the auctioned items.

A portion of the auction proceeds is donated to the historic Z Hall in Scio.

Municipal Court

JAN. 28

William W. Anderson Jr., 47, pleaded no contest to DWS, DU – fines \$690.

Scott D. Citro, 49, pleaded no contest to resisting arrest – fine \$1,101, 60 mos. probation, 15 days work crew. Dismissed: reckless driving.

Justin L. Denherder, 39, pleaded guilty to criminal DWS – fine \$616, 60 mos. probation, 15 days work crew. Dismissed: DU.

Franklin Finnell Jr., 25, guilty by default of DU with accident, operating a vehicle without driving privileges with accident – fines \$2,030, suspend license.

Brian A. Fry, 39, guilty by default of DU, DWS – fines \$3,030, suspend license.

Julian Goodfella Jr., 21, pleaded no contest to two counts speeding 62/45 – fines \$330. Dismissed: failure to carry proof of insurance.

Bobby R. Helms, 40, pleaded no contest to hit and run – fine \$701, 48 mos. probation, license suspension three mos.

Jesus Herrera-Roldan, 40, guilty by default of open storage – fine \$500.

Lisa M. Magers, 46, guilty by default of DWS, DU – fines \$3,030, suspend license.

Kirstin M. Mengore, 54, pleaded

no contest to theft III – fine \$401, 24 mos. probation, 15 days work crew, no contact orders.

Richard L. Rees, 59, pleaded no contest to DU, operating a vehicle without driving privileges – fines \$565.

Justin J. Rhoads, 36, pleaded guilty to criminal mischief III – fine \$1,076, 48 mos. probation, five days work crew, no contact orders. Dismissed: criminal mischief II.

Ethan A. Schuster, 21, pleaded no contest to speeding 51/35 – fine \$165.

John P. Scott II, 35, guilty by default of violation limited parking permit parking – fine \$500.

Alicia N. Shaddon, 27, pleaded guilty to criminal DWS, theft of services – fines \$1,254, 60 mos. probation, 15 days work crew, no contact orders.

Skylar J. Thompson, 28, pleaded no contest to DWS – fine \$475.

Andrew L. Wiltberger, 40, pleaded no contest to DU, failure to yield to emergency vehicle or ambulance, speeding 55/25 – fines \$730.

Alexander C. Worrell, 49, pleaded no contest to DU, operating a vehicle without driving privileges – fines \$565.

Events

Be part of emergency response

Linn County residents are invited to step up and make a real difference by joining the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT), sponsored by the Linn County Sheriff's Office.

CERT volunteers help their neighbors when it matters most, which includes supporting emergency operations, sharing preparedness information, and strengthening community resilience. The program offers free training, hands-on skills, and meaningful opportunities to serve.

Learn more and apply at <https://buff.ly/wD04Smh>. Questions can be directed to Meghan Becker at mbecker@linnsheeriff.org or Shari Barrett at cert.shari@hotmail.com.

Free trees for Sweet Home kids

Sweet Home Public Library in partnership with Neighborhood Forest is giving Sweet Home kids a free tree sapling to celebrate Earth Day.

Families can sign up now through March 15 to reserve a tree, which will be available for pickup at the library during Earth Day Week (April 22). There are three easy ways to get involved: register a child for a free tree, purchase a tree if you don't have a child (a "Buy One, Fund One" program), or help sponsor trees for local kids – just \$5 puts a tree in a child's hands. Learn more and sign up at NeighborhoodForest.org/registration-services/?school=156576.

Lunch for seniors

St. Helen Catholic Parish invites the community to a senior

citizen lunch at 11:30 a.m. on Thursday, Feb. 26, at the church, 600 6th Ave., Sweet Home. For more information, call 541-367-2530.

Advanced directives for believers

St. Helen Catholic Parish will host "Life Affirming Advanced Directives," presented by Dr. Ruth Hayes-Barba at 9:15 a.m. on Saturday, Feb. 28, at the church, 600 6th Ave., Sweet Home. For more information, call 541-367-2530.

Lebanon garden beds available

Porter Park Community Garden in Lebanon has 15 raised garden plots available for rent.

The Community Garden was built by the city to give Lebanon residents a place to garden and promote a healthy community through fresh garden-grown produce and enjoy a community of gardeners.

Located at 2240 Porter St., the rental plot includes soil, compost, water, basic gardening tools to use on-site, and support from Master Gardener and Community Garden Coordinator Sheryl Casteen.

Impromptu garden classes or mentoring available upon request. Application documents can be found at LebanonOregon.gov/535/Porter-Park-Community-Garden, or send an email request to parkres@lebanonoregon.gov.

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 engagement and more.

Bake sale Feb. 13 at Willamette Manor

Willamette Manor will host a bake sale from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Friday, Feb. 13, at 176 W. C St. in Lebanon.

Buy red velvet, carrot, chocolate, vanilla or tuxedo cakes and sweetheart cookies. Chocolate-dipped strawberries are also available. Costs range from \$12 to \$24. Proceeds support life enrichment programs and activities for seniors.

Pre-orders are recommended by Feb. 9. Limited quantities will be available the day of the sale.

For information or to pre-order, call (541) 405-4859.

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, yo-

gurt 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.

The seedling sale will offer a limited number of Oregon white oak and dwarf Oregon grape seedlings on the day of the sale, as well as the opportunity for buyers to pick up plants they have pre-ordered.

The Woods Fair will offer a variety of quality local wood work – jewelry, kitchen utensils, bird boxes, walking sticks and even chess sets in past years. Also included are staffed informational booths that can be useful to tree growers. 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 garden-

See Events, Page 6

East Linn ROOFING
541-367-2293
CCB# 110950

See Events, Page 6

Declining student numbers forcing districts to cut staff

By Khushboo Rathore
Oregon Journalism Project

As Oregon public school leaders face reductions in state funding, they turn to their biggest expense to find cuts – about 85% of their budgets go to personnel.

This time around, they have more staff to cut: Over the past five years, the number of full-time employees at the state's 197 school districts has grown by nearly 17%, according to an analysis of Oregon Department of Education data.

At the same time, student enrollment has shrunk nearly 3%.

The staff growth – 11,740 full-time equivalent employees, according to state data – is the product of more than \$1 billion a year in additional funding from 2019's Student Success Act. The landmark legislation is mostly paid for by a corporate activity tax.

Kevin Strong, business manager for Sweet Home

School District, said the district pays close attention to "aligning staffing with student needs and available resources."

He said that, over the past five years, the Sweet Home district has reduced one district office administrative position, held the overall number of teaching positions steady, and increased counseling and instructional assistant staffing to "better support students."

"We are focused on aligning staffing with student needs and available resources," said Strong, who touches on the connection between student numbers and staffing almost monthly at School Board meetings. "Enrollment trends are a key part of our budget planning and long-term decision-making, and we monitor them closely throughout the year."

"Our priority has been maintaining strong classroom instruction, providing

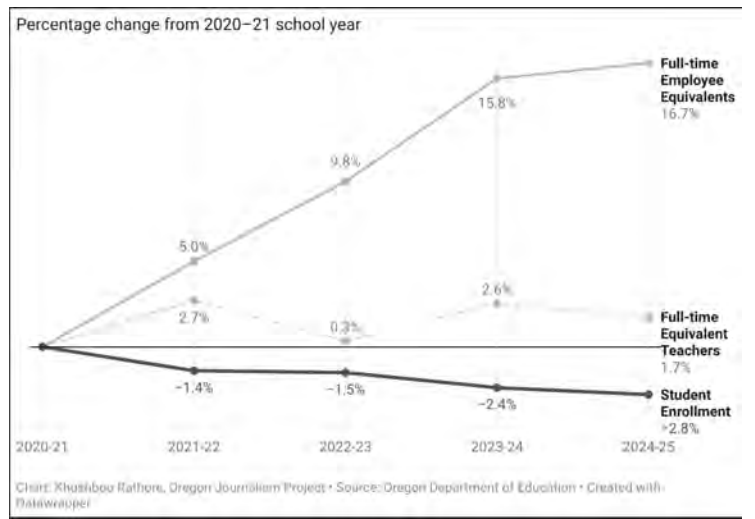
targeted support for students who need additional help, and remaining fiscally responsible."

Since state funding is calculated per student, fewer students, significant federal funding cuts, and a lagging state economy have shrunk the pool of money available for school districts, and some education leaders fear cuts of 2 to 5%.

But if decision makers look at where staff growth took place since 2020-21, they will find increases in instructional assistants, administrative staff, special education and student support roles.

The number of teachers during that period barely budged, increasing 1.7%.

These additional jobs were used to address behavioral and emotional needs of students following the pandemic, says Andrew Dyke, senior economist specializing in education at ECONorthwest, a Portland research



firm.

The investment of the Student Success Act, which in part supported rising salary and pension costs, finally brought the state above the national average for per-pupil K-12 funding. Oregon now ranks 19th in state funding for K-12 education, according to the Education

Data Initiative.

But this didn't slow years-long declines in elementary reading and math scores.

Dyke, however, says it's premature "to expect to see immediate, stunning results after just a couple of years of increased investment."

– The New Era staff contributed to this story

EVENTS

From page 5

ers' 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.

This year's Seedy Tuesday will open with a presentation by Linda Ziedrich on unusual vegetables and how to grow and use them, based on her book "The Curious Kitchen Gardener," which was published last spring by Timber Press. Seeds will be available for most or all of the varieties she discusses.

The event will also include a Master Gardeners' advice table and an information table staffed by the Lebanon Garden Club.

Seedy Tuesday is a project of the Santiam Food Alliance, with co-sponsorship by the Lebanon Public Library, the Lebanon Garden Club, and Linn County Master Gardeners.

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

Republic manager to talk recycling at Forum Lunch

Julie Jackson of Republic Services will speak on Oregon's Recycling Modernization Act during the Lebanon Chamber of Commerce's monthly Forum Lunch Friday, Feb. 27, at Samaritan Lebanon Community Hospital, 525 N. Santiam Hwy.

The event runs from 11:30 to 1

p.m. and includes networking opportunities, drawings and a 50/50 raffle. Cost is \$23 for chamber members, \$30 for future members.

Jackson, the company's municipal manager, will discuss changes in how materials are collected, sorted and paid for under the new state law, passed last year, and how those changes impact local businesses.

To RSVP, visit www.lebanon.chamber.org or call (541) 258-7164.

Woodland management training offered by OSU

Oregon State University is offering Master Woodland Manager training starting March 5 through its Forestry and Natural Resources Extension.

This is a high-level course for private landowners who are in-

terested in an intensive forest management training and sharing the knowledge gained through this training with people in their local communities.

Basic experience or knowledge in entry-level forest ecology and/or management is required.

Each session will be held every other week from March through May and will be outdoors at

various woodland locations throughout Linn, Benton and Polk counties. Instructors will include forestry service agencies and organizations, OSU faculty, and a number of other local professionals.

Advanced registration is required, as capacity is limited. For additional details and cost, and to register, visit <https://beav.es/x2K>, email Crystal Kelso at crystal.kelso@oregonstate.edu or

call (541) 730-3539.

Rural Living Day returns March 7

Oregon State University Extension Small Farms Program will hold its annual Rural Living Day Saturday, March 7, at Junction City High School.

The event provides rural landowners and stewards an opportunity to learn about a variety of subjects such as composting, soils and pastures, hay assessment, weed management, tree identification, septic systems, chainsaw safety, food preservation and more.

Morning refreshments will be provided. Participants should bring their own lunches or plan accordingly.

Advanced registration is required as capacity is limited. For

See Events, Page 8

Church Directory

Trust in the Lord with all your heart and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him and He will make straight your paths. – Proverbs 3:5-6

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www.sweethomecatholicchurch.com

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

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

For Sacramental information call
541-367-2530
Father Scott Baier

Sweet Home United Methodist Church

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A Reconciling Congregation

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

6th & Ironwood
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New Life In Christ Fellowship
(formerly Sweet Home Mennonite)

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

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

Sweet Home Evangelical Church

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1347 Long Street • 541-367-4357

Elm Street Baptist Church

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

1150 Elm St. Sweet Home
541-367-5883

Mystery vibrations stir buzz in Sweet Home block

By Sarah Brown
Of The New Era

Glenda Hopkins walked the perimeter of the East Linn Museum and studied every wall of the interior with her ears, trying to identify the strange noise that seemed to emanate from everywhere.

She was volunteering her time at the museum on Long Street, a rather quiet place when visitors are not present, when she first noticed the persistent sound.

It sounded similar to running water, but she couldn't find anything that could provide a decent answer to the mystery. Even the floor seemed to have a slight vibration to it.

It was afternoon on Thursday, Feb. 5.

Not long later, Shawnee Conley walked toward the museum, saying rust-colored water was coming from her faucets.

Her home is situated across the street and about three houses down from the



Water puddles up at the intersection of Holley Road and Highway 20 after a water main ruptured on Feb. 5.

— Photos by Sarah Brown



Employees with the Sweet Home Public Works Department cut through the pavement to access a water leak.

museum.

"It just started vibrating in the house," Conley said about the first indication that something was wrong.

She turned her electrical breaker off, but that didn't stop the noisy vibrations. Then she noticed the color-

ful water.

In fact, several houses on that block reported experiencing vibrations.

It was easy for city staff to figure out what happened.

By the time they arrived, water appeared to be soaking the curbside of the road

across from the museum and draining toward Holley Road where cars created a whizzing sound as they drove through the water.

Wes Glenn, public works employee, gave the answer in three words: water main break.

It took city staff only a few minutes to identify the location of the leak using sounders (listening devices) across from the museum, and a couple of hours to cut through the road to access the break for a repair.

State bridges in good shape, but Linn's among worst

By Khushboo Rathore
Oregon Journalism Project

As lawmakers search for a funding solution for the Oregon Department of Transportation, an OJP analysis of Oregon bridge data shows that only 6% of the state's bridges are in poor condition.

Of the 7,183 Oregon bridges used by motor vehicles, 425 are classified as "poor," meaning part of the bridge has significant damage or deterioration and needs to be repaired.

Nationally, Oregon ranks 17th in the nation for bridges that are structurally stable, according to a report by the American Road & Transportation Builders Association.

Of the state's 36 counties, Linn County has the highest rate of poor bridges, about 1 in 5 (18.7%). A bridge classified as poor doesn't necessarily mean it's unsafe, according to Amy Ramsdell, Linn County roadmaster.

"A significant portion of our bridges are made from timber versus steel," Ramsdell wrote in an email to OJP. "This component results in a lower score."

According to the ARTBA report, bridges in Linn County that are heavily traveled but are considered structurally deficient, include the Hwy. 20 crossing at Lebanon Ditch (built in 1921, 18,798 daily crossings), and the Salem Avenue crossing over Cox Creek in Albany (built in 1940, 11,330 daily crossings).

Nearly all bridges in the state are maintained by a

mix of local governments and the state. The majority of funding comes from the state's local agency bridge program, which amounts to \$69 million for repairs in the upcoming State Transportation Improvement Program.

About two-thirds of Oregon's state, county and city bridges are in "fair" condition, meaning they are not in imminent need of repairs. Bridge condition is determined by the lowest rating ODOT inspectors assign to a bridge's four key components: deck, superstructure, substructure, and culvert. Condition and cost help ODOT and local agencies decide which bridges need repairs first to keep Oregonians safe.

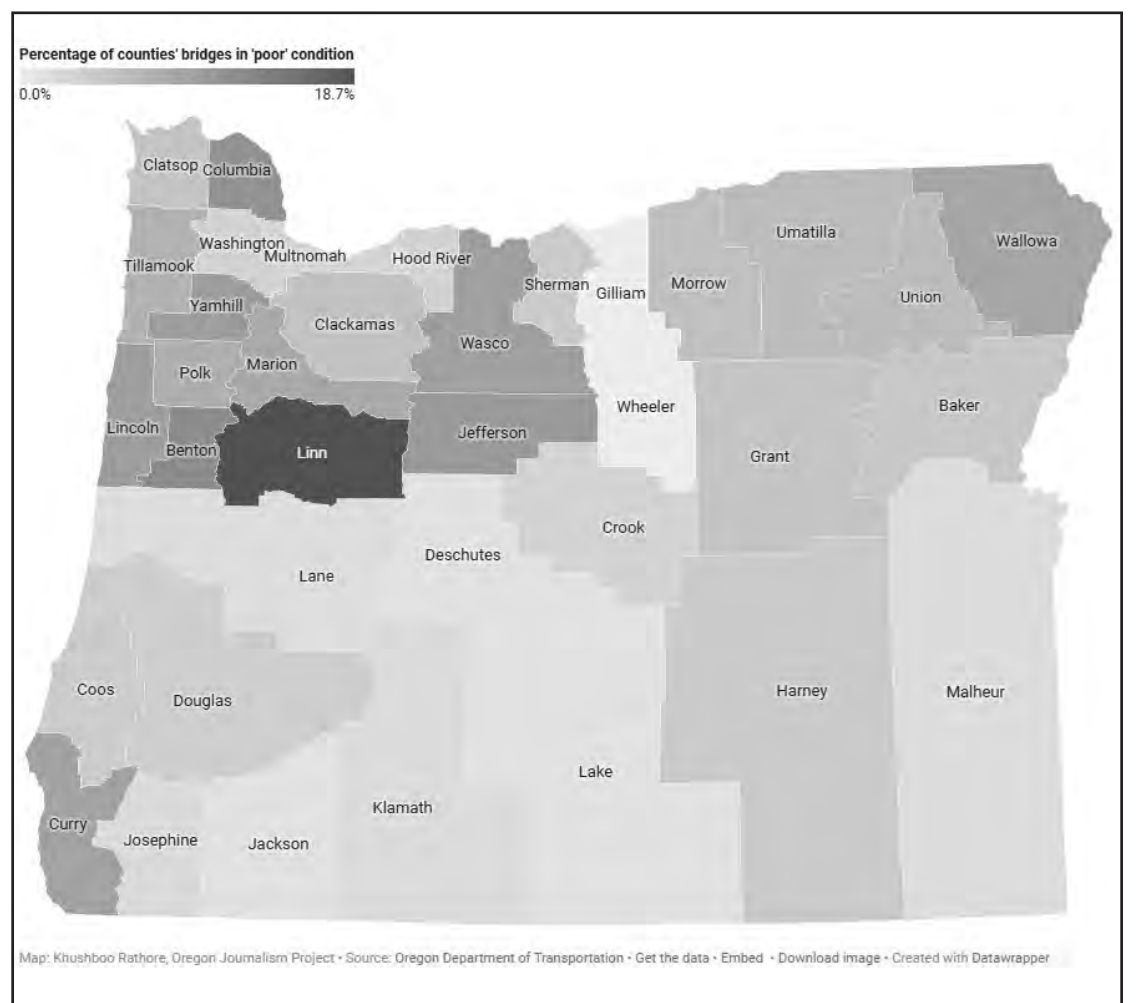
Benton County has the second-highest rate of poor quality bridges, at 12.4%.

Benton County Commissioner Nancy Wyse says the state's local bridge fund doesn't have enough money to fix all 22 of her county's poor condition bridges.

"There either needs to be more money or things just won't get fixed," she adds.

Wyse is co-chair of the Oregon Association of Counties' transportation committee. (Counties are responsible for more bridges than ODOT and Oregon cities combined.)

The past few months have been a "roller coaster," Wyse says. Democratic lawmakers failed to pass an ODOT funding bill, then passed one in an extended special session ordered by Gov. Tina Kotek. Kotek said last



week she prefers to repeal the new law in the February session rather than fight a losing battle to pass it on the November ballot. Legislative leaders have not said what they plan to do about the law.

Wyse thinks the legislative machinations around the ODOT budget have focused too much on politics and not enough on road and bridge safety. "That wasn't really a service for

anybody in Oregon," she says.

People in cities and counties often have to endure years of bridges in rough condition because their jurisdictions can only apply for ODOT funding every three years, but the agency doesn't transmit the money until after the end of the three-year period. This means that a city that applies for money in 2023 won't be given funding until

the 2027-2030 State Transportation Improvement Program.

Meanwhile, for people who live near bridges or farmers who drive heavier trucks, a closed or weight-limited bridge can be a huge impediment.

"Even wildfire response out in forested areas," Wyse says, "if you can't get people through for evacuation, or water tender trucks, that can be an issue."

Sports Roundup

Lebanon girls dominate Woodburn to open second season

Lebanon's girls started the second half of their Mid-Willamette Conference season Friday, Feb. 6, with a commanding 60-39 win on the road at Woodburn.

The Warriors, 6-3 in the MWC and 12-6 overall coming into this week, took charge early and were in complete control the entire game.

Lebanon's pressure defense was unsettling for Woodburn making it difficult for the hosts to get into their offense, and causing numerous turnovers. At times, Woodburn even had problems getting the ball over half court.

The Warriors led 17-6 at the end of the first quarter and 34-17 at half. The second half was much the same and the Warriors led 52-24 going into the final stanza.

Lebanon struggled on offense, shooting just 32.9% (24/73) from the field and 12.5% (3/24) from three. However, they did shoot well from the free throw line at 69.2% (9/13).

The defense was the key to victory on this night. The Warriors had 28 steals and caused another dozen Bulldog turnovers, which allowed many quick and easy baskets. In addition, the Warriors out-rebounded the Bulldogs 31-26.

Contributors for the game included Hazel Pepperling with 24 points, 12 rebounds, two

assists and four steals - her second double-double; Peyton Vorderstrasse with 13 points, three rebounds, two assists and four steals; and Piper Sewell with 10 points, three rebounds, six assists and six steals.

Coming into this week, the Warriors are in fourth place with a chance to move up with several winnable games in the offing. This week they travel to Dallas on Tuesday and Silverton Friday.

Stayton 55, Lebanon 45

Lebanon was left without an opponent on Tuesday, Feb. 3, because McKay has no girls' program.

To fill the void, Stayton was added to the schedule. The Eagles, the second-ranked team in 4A, proved to be a formidable foe, winning 55-45.

Stayton came out like a house afire and completely dominated the Warriors in the first quarter, leading 16-1.

"We came out flat," Coach Andrew Evans said, adding that nothing seemed to go right for Lebanon early on. The Warriors were cold and Stayton was not.

The Warriors righted the ship in the second quarter and competed well going forward, but were still down 30-13 at the half. Even though they trailed by a substantial margin, they never gave up and continued to battle.

They still trailed 46-28 at the

end of the third. The fourth quarter was all Warriors as they outscored Stayton 17-9, but the margin was too big to scale in one period.

The Warriors were their own worst enemies. They had one of their toughest shooting nights this year, at 29.8% from the field (17/57) and 25% from three (7/28). They also shot poorly from the free throw line 44.4% (4/9). In addition, they were out rebounded by the Eagles 30-23.

- Mike Warner

Win at Woodburn gives boys four-game winning streak

Lebanon's boys traveled to Woodburn on Friday, Feb. 6, and recorded a hard-fought 64-55, victory to extend their winning streak to four.

Woodburn proved to be as competitive as ever. The Bulldogs used both zone and man defenses and caused the Warriors difficulty running their offense. Even so, Lebanon was able to establish good offensive flow, and slowly but surely took control of the game.

The game was pretty even at the start. Woodburn had a narrow one-point lead, 19-18, at the end of the first quarter. But the Warriors started to establish themselves in the second quarter and took a 32-27 advantage into the locker room at halftime. Part of this surge was due to an unlikely participant.

Sophomore Finn VandenBos hit three three-pointers and

two other baskets in the quarter to help the Warriors.

VandenBos is a regular starter and contributes every game but this was out of the ordinary. He finished second in scoring with 22 points on nine-for-14 shooting, which included four for six from the three.

"It felt great," VandenBos said. "Those things don't happen very often so I was glad. I was more glad that we won."

The teams continued to battle in the second half and Lebanon held a slim five-point lead, 48-43, going into the final stanza. The fourth quarter saw Lebanon start to edge away and forced Woodburn into the foul/free throw strategy. Lebanon was able to make the necessary free throws and sealed the game.

Contributors for the Warriors were the aforementioned VandenBos and Logan Large, who led the team with 22 points and had four rebounds. Large shot 70% (7/10) from the field, including 100% (2/2) from three. Most importantly, he shot 76.9% (10/13) from the free throw line. Also, Gunner Miller finished with 11 points, six rebounds and two steals.

The season doesn't get any easier as the Warriors, 7-4 in the MWC and 10-7 overall, and fourth in the standings coming into this week. They travel to Dallas on Tuesday and Silverton Friday, Feb. 13. Post-season is still on the horizon if the Warriors continue their current

success.

Lebanon 86, McKay 43

The Warriors hosted McKay from Salem Feb. 3 and earned their third win in a row, 86-43.

Once again, the defense led the way as the Warriors established a 16-point lead in the first quarter.

The Warriors cruised somewhat in the second, but got back after it in the second half leaving nothing to chance. Lebanon forced 14 steals to aid its cause.

Shooting continued to be a strength for the Warriors, as they delivered 57.6% (34/59) from the field and 76.5% (13/17) from the free throw line. Their three-point shooting was only fair, at 25.0% (5/20).

"It was a good win," Coach Casey VandenBos said. "I was happy how we played in the first quarter. We took a step off the gas in the second, so that's a good learning opportunity. There are a lot of things we can learn from. The second half was better."

Four Warriors contributed in great fashion: Miller scored 28 points, grabbed five rebounds and had two assists; Large added 21 points, with five rebounds, seven steals, and three assists; Ryan Robinson scored 14 points and eight rebounds and Finn VandenBos scored 13 points, with two rebounds, two steals and two assists.

- Mike Warner

EVENTS

From page 6

additional details and to RSVP, visit <https://beav.es/RLD>, email Crystal Kelso at crystal.kelso@oregonstate.edu or call (541) 730-3539.

America's anniversary contest for kids

The Santiam Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution encourages students to enter the America 250! contest for a chance to win a field trip across the nation in honor of America's 250th anniversary, July 4, 2026.

The contest invites students in grades 3 thru 12 to share their perspectives on what America

means to them for an opportunity to travel to some of the nation's most iconic historic and cultural landmarks.

The question is: What does America mean to you?

Submit artwork, including physical art through a high-res photo, or a short written response (up to 100 words for grades 3-5, 250 words for 6-8, and 500 words for 9-12). Artwork attachment should not be larger than 30MB and must be in one of the following file formats: PDF, JPG, PHG, or HEIC. See Official Contest Rules for full details.

Submissions will be accepted until 5 p.m. on March 30. Students under age 18 must have a teacher, parent or legal guardian upload the entry through the submission portal.

For more information and to apply, visit America250.org/fieldtrip/application.

Lebanon winter farmers market

Lebanon Downtown Farmers Market will open its Winter Farmers Market on Thursdays from 2-6 p.m. until March 27 at the Santiam Place Event Center, 139 S Main St., Lebanon.

SNAP match up to \$20. To be a vendor, email shldfarmersmarket@gmail.com with your information and, if approved, we will send you an application link.

Saturday Market monthly in SH

Third Saturday Markets are returning this year, starting Saturday, Dec. 20, at the Church of

the Nazarene, 415 Holley Road.

Hours are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The monthly event will run through April, featuring local vendors and all sorts of goodies.

Baby and Preschool Storytime

Lebanon Public Library's storytimes will continue on Wednesdays and Thursdays at 55 Academy St.

Baby and Me StoryTime is held at 10 a.m. every Wednesday. This is designed for ages 0 to 24 months and their caregivers. Those that attend will enjoy interactive time with their child through stories, finger plays, rhyme time and more.

Preschool StoryTime is held at 10 a.m. every Thursday. This allows children 3 years old through kindergarten to explore their world interactively through books, songs, finger plays and crafts.

For more information about storytimes at the Lebanon Library, call 541-258-4926, visit www.ci.lebanon.or.us/library, or follow the library on social media.

Second annual Lebanon Powwow

The second annual Lebanon Powwow will be held on Saturday, May 30, at Lebanon High School, 1700 S 5th St.

This is a family-friendly, drug- and alcohol-free cultural event that is free and open to the pub-

lic.

The powwow is coordinated by Laurie Regalado through the Native American / Alaska Native Education Program. The purpose of the event is to celebrate and share Native culture, honor traditions, uplift Native youth, recognize elders and graduating seniors, and bring the broader community together in a respectful and educational way.

The event will include grand Entry and powwow dancing, drumming and singing, special dances - including tiny tots, cultural and educational components, and Native vendors offering handmade items, art and food.

Vendor applications are currently being accepted. For an application, email naep.lebanonparents@gmail.com.

Additional details, including the full schedule, will be shared closer to the event date.

Square dance lessons open to public

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Scott & Miriam Swanson and The New Era Staff

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DRIVE UP PHARMACY

PUBLIC SAFETY

From page 3

case, 2400 block Main. Cited and released. Spring burn season is expected to begin March 1, according to the Linn County Fire Defense Board.

5:46 p.m. - Caller reported neighbor, who has dementia, wandering away from her residence, 2200 block Main. Officer responded, female transported to SLCH.

9:33 p.m. - David Aaron Grandorff, 45, arrested on Benton County Circuit Court warrant for FTA in identity theft case. Police had responded to report of male walking in roadway. Grandorff was transported by medics to SLCH, where he was cited and released on warrant.

LEBANON POLICE

1:59 a.m. - Timothy James Jones, 21, taken into custody for sobriety test. Car towed.

6:35 a.m. - Subject yelling, trying apartment doors, saying he needs in and is cold, 1800 block Stoltz Hill Rd. Taken to hospital.

1:54 p.m. - Eric Adam Wright, 49, cited on LCCC warrant for FTA - felon in possession of restricted weapon.

2:35 p.m. - Marissa Rose Ross, 34, cited on AMC warrant for FTA - theft II.

9:53 p.m. - Benjamin Philip Hyatt, 47, cited on LMC warrant for FTA.

10:15 p.m. - Swerving car almost hit several cars, 1400 block S Main St. Adam Price White, 42, taken into custody for DUI. Car towed.

10:40 p.m. Report taken for trespasser and theft of bed set at Walmart. Loss: \$45.

FEB. 6

LCSO/OSP LEBANON

12:25 p.m. - Michael Seiber, 45, of Lebanon, arrested for warrants, 2800 block Parkway. Report taken.

1:04 p.m. - Old floor buffer located in area of Gilbert/Railroad.

11:49 p.m. - Driver, whose name was not listed in Sheriff's log, cited for speeding, 75/45, Brewster/Eddings.

LCSO/OSP SWEET HOME

See Public Safety, Page 13

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St. Helen priest followed winding path to Sweet Home

By Scott Swanson
Of The New Era

The Rev. Scott Baier didn't intend to become a priest, though he grew up in a Catholic family.

"I became Catholic, really, because that was the religion of my family," he said.

But things changed as he got older and became interested in finding ways to "interact with people better."

Now he's been the priest serving Holy Trinity-St. Helen Catholic Parish, which includes those churches in Brownsville and Sweet Home, for the past eight months.

He arrived in Sweet Home after a journey that has included a lot of stops, and a lot of interests.

Baier grew up in Washington State, mostly in Vancouver, a shy kid who was a good student but "uncertain in some ways about the world."

His father was a district manager for an architecture, engineering and construction firm and his mom operated an Italian restaurant.

Baier said he studied in an international baccalaureate program in high school, where he wanted to play sports but couldn't due to a back injury.

He moved on to the University of Washington, where he studied math and chemistry – strong subjects for him, he said.

Then, "I really had this epiphany," Baier said. "It was like, 'You know what, I'm really good at math, really good at chemistry, but I don't want to just make a lot of money in life. I wanted to help people. I mean, chemists and engineers, they help people, right? But I wanted to have more of a one-on-one connection, helping people.'"

He switched his academic focus to Russian literature and language, eventually liv-

ing for eight months in Russia, where he was when Vladimir Putin took office, he said. He also studied poetry, but wondered what he was going to do with his degree after he graduated.

"I really got a sense like I have been in academia my whole life and been studying, I really just want to connect with people."

He'd learned to cook from his mother, he said, and got a job as a cook in "a nice Italian restaurant" in Seattle.

"I just really had this sense of maybe searching in my life, really seeking something more important," Baier said.

Continuing to "search for meaning," he moved to Missoula, Mont.

When he entered college he had stopped attending church, he said. In Montana, I "really started to discover God again, both through nature and through the Bible."

"One of the scripture readings that really spoke to me was where Jesus says, 'Take up your cross, deny yourself and follow me,'" Baier said. "I think for a long time it had just been me trying to do life the way I wanted to do it and it wasn't working."

"And then it was like, 'All right, you're going to be in charge, God. Show me the way and I will follow.'"

"That really marked the beginning of my path towards becoming a priest."

He moved back to Vancouver and got a job in the kitchen of a retirement home because he wanted to work with seniors.

"I got to know the residents and was able to really develop a sense of greater respect for our elders, for the wisdom and the stories that they have."

He also started participating heavily in church, including volunteering at the St.

Francis Dining Hall for the homeless in Portland.

Baier said he was interested in joining the priesthood, but he was nervous, partly because, although his social skills had improved over the years, he didn't know if he would be able to stand and preach in front of a crowd.

"My pastor, Father Hans Olson, said, 'You know, you're going through six years of formation at the seminary and you're going to become more of a public person, and you're going to be able to respond and talk to people.'"

He worked for a year in the Madeleine Parish in Portland, under "a very creative pastor, a really strong believer, just very dynamic in a lot of ways with a heart for people on the margins."

Baier then spent six years at Mount Angel Seminary, and was ordained to the priesthood in 2015.

He served as a parochial vicar (assistant priest) at St. Luke's in Woodburn and St. Anthony's in Tigard for a total of six years before moving to St. Paul, "the first Catholic church in Oregon," where he served until he was assigned by the Archdiocese of Portland in Oregon to Sweet Home last year.

St. Helen, which celebrated its 70th anniversary in the fall of 2023, and Sweet Home have been "very welcoming," he said.

The Sunday congregations tend to range about 130 people, though Baier said he sent 170 Christmas cards out to parish families. Brownsville's Holy Trinity averages another 40, he said.

The church conducts daily Mass, which on a recent weekday evening drew 20 people.

"I notice the hunger and an interest," Baier said, noting that at St. Paul "I'd get, maybe,



The Rev. Scott Baier, here at St. Helen Catholic Church, says the local population has been "very welcoming" as he seeks to build the church through various outreach efforts.

– Photo by Scott Swanson

three people."

He said his mission at St. Helen is to "deepen people's faith."

He said he has three main questions: "What's going on in your life and how can I pray for you about it – and then to actually spend time praying with them, and then they can pray with me about what's going on in my life."

Secondly, he said, he wants to know about their "relation-

ship with God, with Jesus."

"It's actually a fascinating conversation to have with people because it is different for every person."

Thirdly, he said, he wants to know what people are doing to share their "beauty, truth and goodness" which is "how God reveals Himself to us."

"We call those the transcendentials."

St. Helen is offering a Senior Lunch at 11:30 a.m. Thursday, Feb. 26, as an outreach, and will follow that up with a seminar on "Life-Affirming Advanced Directives" on Feb. 28, led by Dr. Ruth Hayes-Barba, an adjunct professor at Mt. Angel Seminary.

In Brownsville, the church is offering a nine-week series that includes a meal, a presentation and a discussion, called the "Rescue Project," he said, based on the Alpha Catholic program.

In his free time, Baier likes to walk and he still enjoys cooking, he said. He once was a rock climber, completing an ascent of El Capitan, but he said that's behind him now, at age 48.

He's come a long way from the shy boy, which he's realized from congregants' responses to the homilies he gives during services.

"One of the best compliments is people who say they disagree with me, but they still think I'm interesting," Baier said.

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ELCA boys stay undefeated, girls split in VCL games

East Linn Christian's boys stayed undefeated in the Valley Coast Conference, but the Eagles suffered their first loss in six games Saturday, Feb. 7, with a non-league loss to Oakland.

The Oakers, ranked fifth in the 2A state, finished with a 66-55 win over their ninth-ranked hosts.

Earlier in the week, East Linn beat Toledo at home 57-45 and Central Linn on the road 59-38.

Coach Jonathan Whitehead said the Toledo game turned out to be tough.

"We put together some big stops and scores down the stretch to pull away," he said.

Gavin Wilson led the team with 27 points and nine rebounds, while Grady Knurowski scored 12 points, along with five boards, three steals and three assists.

At Central Linn, the Eagles started strong and had "three impressive quarters," leading 56-21 going into the final period after building a 33-17 halftime lead.

Wilson led all scorers with 25, while Brison Edwards added 13 and four steals. Demetrius Wilke and Gracen Christenson led East Linn with seven rebounds each.

Oakland proved a tough opponent, Whitehead said.

"The Oakers led by as many as 15 points in the first half, before the hosts battled back to trail by nine at the half.

"We had a great third quarter to take a two-point lead into the fourth," Whitehead said.

But the Eagles got too sloppy in the final period and the visitors took advantage.

"We started to turn the ball over too much and take tough shots," Whitehead said.

Wilson led ELCA with 14 points, and sophomore Ryder Howard added 12 and seven



Maya Van Dyke fires from the outside over a Toledo defender. - Cole Harnar photos

rebounds in "an impressive game," the coach said.

The Eagles host Monroe for Senior Night on Feb. 10, then host Waldport this week.

Girls beat Toledo but fall to Central Linn, Oakland

The Lady Eagles had it "really tough" last week against some of the state's top teams, Oakland and Central Linn, both ranked above East Linn in the 2A.

"Having Central Linn and Oakland one after another was a brutal matchup but my girls fought till the last buzzer," Coach Sierra Carrier said.

The week started at home against Toledo Feb. 3, which East Linn took care of easily,

60-36. "We had everyone getting a chance, in different lineups on the floor," Carrier said.

Maya Van Dyke led the team with 18 points, seven rebounds and nine steals, while Abby Garber contributed 12 points and six thefts, Tessa Savage 10 points, four rebounds and three steals and Maci Modderman nine points and four boards.

One the road at Central Linn on Friday, East Linn played well in what Carrier called "the clash of the county," but fell 38-27.

"It was by far our best game for controlling the controllable, but it was our worst shooting game this season," the coach said.



Gavin Wilson puts up a shot for East Linn against Toledo. See more photos at lebanonlocalnews.com.

No Eagles scored in double figures, Garber leading the team with seven points and five rebounds, and Van Dyke, Modderman and Bailey Kramer adding five points each, with five boards from Van Dyke and 10 each from Kramer and Modderman.

Then, one night later, Oakland came to visit in East Linn's final non-league game of the regular season, leaving with a 53-47 win.

"Oakland has a very solid team and it was hard for us to bounce back from a tough game Friday," Carrier said. "It

was an exciting, back-and-forth game up until the end."

Garber again led the team with 14 points and five rebounds, with Audrey Garber adding 11 points and five more boards. Kramer contributed 12 rebounds.

East Linn plays its final week of league this week, hosting Monroe for Senior Night Tuesday, and then hosting Waldport. League playoffs follow. The Eagles will honor seniors Lexy Kauffman, Kramer and Bella Albert.

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Husky swimmers wind up regular season with wins

By Satina Tolman
For The New Era

Sweet Home High School closed out its final home swim meet of the season in dominant fashion Friday, Feb. 6, over Salem Academy and Kennedy.

The Huskies swept both the boys and girls competitions and easily took the combined team title on a night dedicated to honoring its two graduating swimmers.

The Huskies celebrated senior night for team leaders Kylie Melkvik and Andrew Tolman, recognizing their contributions to the program before rolling to a 236-point team victory. Salem Academy finished second with 86 points and Kennedy placed third with 66.

The meet featured only three schools after Riverside withdrew because of a scheduling conflict.

For Sweet Home head coach A.J. Bronson, the evening carried extra emotion as the program said goodbye to its seniors.

"It's always bittersweet with the final home meet," Bronson said. "You never want the seniors to leave, but it's nice to celebrate them and honor their accomplishments and hard work."

The Huskies set the tone early. The boys 200-yard medley relay team of Tolman and juniors Grayson Savri, Henry Jones and Austyn Hogan opened the meet with a commanding win, finishing in 1 minute, 53.74 seconds – nearly 29 seconds ahead of the second-place Kennedy squad.

Sweet Home swimmers continued to control the pool throughout the evening.

Sophomore Khloe Sautel won the girls 200 freestyle in 2:02.74, while Tolman claimed the boys race in 2:08.25. The Huskies also

swept the 200 individual medley, with junior Lexi Rundell winning the girls event in 2:45.18 and Hogan taking the boys in 2:31.07.

Savri added a victory in the boys 50 freestyle (25.52), and Jones won the boys 100 butterfly in 1:14.35.

Melkvik provided one of the more memorable performances of the meet. As the only girl entered in the 100 butterfly, she swam in the boys heat and finished second overall with a time of 1:27.35 – earning first-place points for the Sweet Home girls.

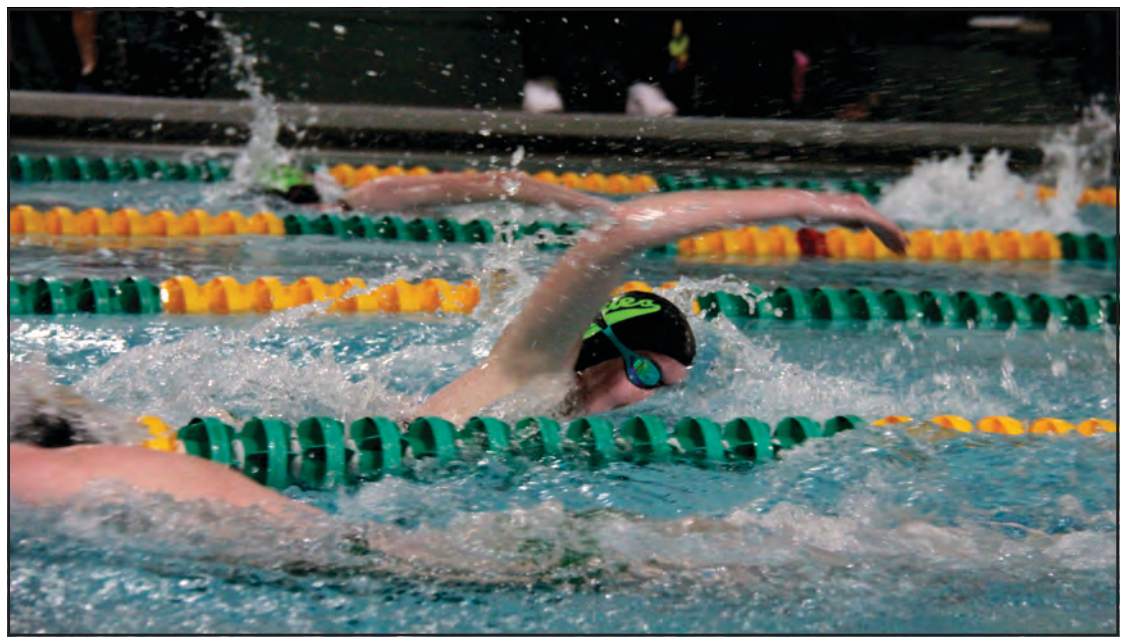
Hogan later won the boys 100 freestyle in 53.90, while Sautel delivered perhaps the most impressive swim of the day. Entered as the lone competitor in the girls 500 freestyle, she swam with the boys and still finished ahead of the entire field with a time of 5:28.89. Sophomore Marshall Van Dijk won the boys 500 for Sweet Home in 6:56.92.

The Huskies' top relay quartet reunited to capture the boys 200 freestyle relay, as Tolman, Hogan, Jones and Savri finished in 1:41.50.

In the 100 backstroke, Tolman again competed in a mixed heat as the only boy entered, posting a time of 1:04.51. Rundell won the girls race in 1:13.52. Savri, the only entrant in the boys 100 breaststroke, swam 1:12.14.

The meet concluded with an intra-squad matchup in the 400 freestyle relay. The experienced girls team of Rundell, junior Ella Haggas, Melkvik and Sautel finished in 4:25.38, edging a boys team of freshman Westin Burns, Van Dijk, sophomore Malakai Walls and junior Ethan Hernandez, who clocked 4:40.29 – nearly five seconds faster than their seed time.

Bronson said the team's



Khloe Sautel swims to victory in the 200 Freestyle. She also won the 500 Freestyle, swimming against an all-boys field. See more photos at sweethomenews.com. – Satina Tolman photos

progress this season has been as much mental as physical.

"I would say mental toughness," he said when asked where the biggest improvements have come. "It's been a building year for sure. With us losing 11 seniors last year, we've had to try and build on our traditions and hard work. The concept of hard work equals accomplishments is what we've been hitting hard."

He also praised several swimmers for standout performances at the meet, highlighting Hernandez and Walls.

"Ethan had PRs in almost every event, so that was impressive," Bronson said. "Malakai swam the 100 fly for the first time and excelled. Very impressive."

Beyond wins and times, Bronson hopes the season's final stretch teaches important lessons as the team heads toward district competition.

"That everyone contributes, and no matter the inherent ability every person



Austyn Hogan, left, and Henry Jones battle each other in the 200 Individual Medley.

can place at district and state," he said. "You just need to have the right mindset and determination."

The supportive atmosphere Friday reflected that team-first mentality. High school cheerleaders and students filled the bleachers – decked out in green and yellow beneath a large "Back the Pack" sign – to encourage the

Huskies in their final appearance at home and to cheer on Melkvik and Tolman during their senior recognition.

Bronson said success at districts will be measured by more than medals.

"I think an understanding of how much they have improved and a hope and desire for us to recruit and expand our team going into next year," he said.

Warriors honor senior wrestlers; crush Corvallis

Lebanon's wrestlers hosted Senior Night on Wednesday, Feb. 4, taking on Corvallis.

Head Coach Michael Cox reported that lineup changes were made to allow all seven seniors to wrestle in their last home meet.

Those seniors are: David Brandt, Cade Weber, Seth Wynn, Zach Halsey, Tregon Haslith, Cael Robinson, and Sophia Ramos. Cox noted that all but one of these wrestlers have been with him for all four years of high school.

"This is one of my favorite classes. They work really hard and they're really good kids. They're leaders."

Lebanon made sure to make Senior Night a victory, as the Warriors lost only four total matches against

the Spartans.

"They all wrestled very well," Cox said.

The boys then headed to Silverton to contest the Jack Berger Invite, a 5A-6A tournament in which the Warriors (who still had six wrestlers out and under the weather) wound up a solid sixth with a total of 184 points.

Crater (354) walked all over the event with 130 more points than second-place Sherwood (224). The hosts finished third with 188 points.

Lebanon tied with Hillsboro and Aloha for second-most first-placers with two (Crater was well ahead in first with five).

Those Lebanon champions were Seth Wynn (157) and Zach Halsey (175).

Wynn pinned the defending 6A runner-up to secure the title.

Grady Cox (165) and Tyson Trast (150) placed second for the Warriors. Cox nearly won his bracket; he fell to the defending state champion from Crater 4-2.

"That was a really close match," his head coach said.

Cade Weber (165) and David Brandt (150) earned third-place honors.

The regular season has been completed for the Warriors. The girls will wrestle districts at West Salem on Friday and Saturday, Feb. 13-14, and the boys will contest districts at Crescent Valley the following weekend.



Zach Halsey works to break an opponent down during an earlier match this season. – Cole Harnar photo

PUBLIC SAFETY

From page 9

/S. COUNTY

2:26 a.m. - Shawn Gali, 47, of Sweet Home cited on LMC warrant, 27300 block Rowell Hill. Report taken.

8:11 p.m. - Ethan Pimm, 21, of Shedd, cited for speeding, 2nd/I, Halsey.

9:18 p.m. - Assault reported in 33100 block Hwy. 228, Halsey. Investigation ongoing. Sweet Home Police

1:42 a.m. - Caller reported neighbor playing loud music in 900 block Long. Officer responded, contacted male who state he would turn down music.

7:17 a.m. - William Curtis Phillips, 19, cited for speeding, 33/20, 5900 block Main.

7:36 a.m. - Christopher J.R. Pierce, 38, arrested on AMC warrant for contempt of court, cited for DWS, 4200 block Main, warned for failure to stop for school bus lights.

9:08 a.m. - Caller reported injured hawk in area of 12th/ railroad tracks. However, officer contacted NW Natural worker who was in area, who said the hawk had been hunting a smaller bird and had departed.

9:44 a.m. - Larry Dean Bergstrom, 61, arrested on SHMC warrant for FTC in theft case, LCCC warrants for FTA in two contempt of court cases, 5000 block Main. Cited and released.

1:24 p.m. - Michael James Runyun, 52, arrested after he turned himself in at SHPD, 1950 Main, on SHMC warrant for FTA in DUII case. Cited and released.

4:50 p.m. - Hit and run reported in 2000 block Main. Officer contacted caller, who did not want to pursue charges, just asked that responsible party be counseled and apologize.

6:47 p.m. - Crash involving pedestrian reported in 1000 block Long. Virlee Suzan Kikel, 65, of Sweet Home, driving 2010 Ford Escape, reported to have struck Michael Eugene Ohmer, 63, of Sweet Home. According to SHPD, Ohmer was crossing street in non-designated crossing and Kikel reported she did not see him. No citations. Ohmer transported by medics.

8:02 p.m. - Caller reported spotting their stolen vehicle at Dollar General, 1937 Main St. 2001 Dodge Durango had been reported stolen from Veneta area and reported to Lane County Sheriff's office on Feb. 2. The suspect was known to the victim. The victim believed it might be in Sweet Home and had been searching for it. The suspect was not with the vehicle when it was recovered. Vehicle returned to owner.

9:15 p.m. - Caller reported juveniles at Taco Bell, 1502 Main, shooting at each other and at passing cars with Airsoft guns. Officer responded, contacted juveniles, who were advised of city ordinance and to move along.

9:52 p.m. - Jeremy Greg Brooks, 37, arrested for disorderly conduct II after officer was flagged down by citizen who reported male in road at 13th/ Main. Cited and released.

LEBANON POLICE

12:59 a.m. - Intoxicated female throwing self into walls and in front of cars, 000 block E Sherman St.

7:07 a.m. - Subject laying in front of motorhome, not moving. He was just working on his vehicle.

8:46 a.m. - Attempted traffic stop, driver Kraig James Fox, 39, took off northbound on Grove St. Officer terminated stop due to heavy traffic.

8:50 a.m. - Three-car crash, Grove/Wheeler Sts. Kraig James Fox, 39, detained at gunpoint. Passenger in Fox's gold Suzuki transported to hospital. Fox charged with attempt to elude, assault II, fail to perform duties of driver x 2, criminal mischief I and elude on foot.

9:06 a.m. - Kraig James Fox, 39, cited on LCCC warrant for FTA - elude.

11:39 a.m. - Semi-truck hit light post in parking lot near Panda Express. Pole and cement base knocked over to 45 degree angle

1:14 p.m. - Callers reported unsafe driver throughout town.

4:40 p.m. - Protesters at Academy Square reported driver "rolling coal" on them.

8:02 p.m. - Robert Chastain, 67, cited on LCCC warrant for possession of fentanyl. Hali Ann Harris, 36, cited on LCCC warrants for FTAs and escape II, and LMC warrant for probation violation - unauthorized departure flight to avoid.

8:04 p.m. - Male subject wearing brown pants with paint stains urinated in bathroom sink at Walmart and stole chips and soda. Report taken.

9:04 p.m. - Male subject wearing brown pants with paint stains approached car at Grocery Outlet and began punching it and yelling.

10:50 p.m. - Trevor Clayton Clark, 38, cited on LMC warrant for FTA.

**FEB. 5
LCSO/OSP LEBANON**

4:47 a.m. - Kaila Clayton, 37, of Lebanon, arrested for improper use of 911. 33100 block Hwy. 34. Report taken.

9:08 a.m. - Single-vehicle crash reported in area of Lacombe/Bellinger Scale. Minor injuries reported. Report taken.

2:47 p.m. - Trevor Barton, 26, of Salem, cited for speeding, 46/20, Berlin/Hidden Valley.

5:20 p.m. - Caller reported roadside memorial missing from area of McDowell Creek/Berlin.

8:40 p.m. - George Eldredge, 68, of Lebanon, arrested for DUII after deputy spotted him allegedly crossing lane lines multiple times in 30600 block Berlin. He was transported to Linn County Jail, where his blood alcohol was measured at 0.00% He consented to a DRE evaluation and provided urine sample for drug test. Further details were not available in LCSO report.

LCSO/OSP SWEET HOME/

See Public Safety, Page 17

S. COUNTY

11:51 a.m. - Jorge Vega Mendoza, 51, of Junction City, cited for DWS, DU, failure to register vehicle, 1000 block 2nd, Halsey.

12:13 p.m. - Natayha Moore, 26, of Albany, cited for trespassing on CTC property in area of Old Hufford/Quartzville. Report taken.

12:13 p.m. - Danny Young, 62, of Halsey, cited for failure to renew vehicle registration (2011), 2nd/O streets, Halsey.

1:19 p.m. - Deputy contacted mechanic shop in 100 block Main, Halsey, about loud noises late at night, early in the morning.

2:27 p.m. - Dylan England, 26, of Eugene, cited for DWS, Hwy. 99/Seefeld, Halsey.

7:32 p.m. - Deputies towed trailer from 24900 block Springer, which was presenting hazard to motorists. Attempts to contact last known owner were unfruitful. Report taken.

8:18 p.m. - Assault reported in 27300 block Rowell Hill. Investigation ongoing. Report taken.

9:03 p.m. - Leo Reece King, 18, of Brownsville, arrested on two counts of assault IV-domestic, 300 block Spaulding, Brownsville. Lodged at Linn County Jail. Report taken. Sweet Home Police

10:33 a.m. - Donald Wayne Ames Jr., 36, arrested after he turned himself in at SHPD, 1950 Main, on SHMC warrant for FTA in criminal driving case. Cited and released.

9:35 a.m. - Caller reported live deer stuck in fence in 1100 block 49th. Officer responded, deer was dispatched due to injuries. Resident in area is completing harvest form.

10:40 a.m. - Riley Evelyn Schmidt, 24, cited for unlawful parking in 1800 block Fir St. after caller reported vehicle parked in disabled parking without sticker.

1:15 p.m. - Matthew Allan Daniels, 39, arrested on LMC warrant for probation violation after traffic stop in 1100 block Main. Meade Howard Wells, 64, cited for DU.

1:43 p.m. - Overdose reported in 1500 block Tamarack. Officer responded, medics transported male.

2:27 p.m. - Caller reported transients possibly living in vacant residence with animals in 4100 block Osage. Officer responded, building resecured.

2:31 p.m. - Caller reported two juvenile males were bullying her daughter and were now circling her vehicle so she could not leave, 7th/Ironwood. Officer responded, contacted all parties involved, juvenile boys counseled.



New urology clinic opens in Lebanon

Samaritan Health Services recently opened a new outpatient urology clinic at the Lebanon Health Center, 675 N 5th St., to expand access to specialty care and improve appointment availability for residents throughout the area.

The clinic provides evaluation and treatments for a wide range of conditions including kidney stones, urinary infections, irregularity of bladder or urinating function, erectile dysfunction and prostate concerns.

"We're excited to bring urology services closer to home for our community," said Daniel Rackham, Samaritan Lebanon Community Hospital administrator.

"This clinic helps us meet growing patient demand, reduce wait times and ensure people can receive high-quality care in a convenient and trusted setting."

The new clinic is part of Samaritan's effort to strengthen access to essential services for the community. Urology services were identified as a priority to help meet increasing patient demand and the need for additional appointment availability across the region.

For more information or to reach the clinic, call 541-451-6282.

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Western med students present research at symposium

By Emily Campbell
*Communications Specialist
Western University of Health
Sciences*

From interdisciplinary partnerships to emerging discoveries, collaboration took center stage at the 11th annual Western University of Health Sciences Oregon Research Symposium. The event, held Friday, Jan. 9, 2026, included more than 45 poster presentations and five oral presentations.

The Research Symposium featured two keynote addresses: Oregon Health and Sciences University Professor David Farrell, PhD, FAHA, who delivered "The Road to a Research Career is Non-Linear," and University of Oregon Associate Professor Ian Greenhouse, PhD, who presented "Why Study Motor Control?"

Both speakers encouraged students to pursue research topics that genuinely interest them and emphasized that nontraditional or winding career paths are a natural part of the research journey.

Three people stood near a table displaying medical models and brochures for LAZARUS 3D, engaged in conversation at an indoor event.

Local entrepreneurs, businesses, faculty, and students connect during the biotech mixer. (Emily Campbell, WesternU)

Prior to the research presentations, Cascades West Innovation Hub sponsored a biotech mixer designed to foster networking and inter-professional teamwork.

Local entrepreneurs and businesses working in biotechnology connected with students and faculty to discuss current advance-

ments in technology and to explore opportunities for future partnerships.

"The mission of the Innovation Hub is to support the launch and scaling of innovation-driven companies in the Cascades West region. We want to support any entrepreneurs whose company has the potential to grow exponentially, bring in jobs and revenue to the region, and really reach beyond Oregon and bring innovation to places all around the country and the globe," said Innovation Hub Director Rachel Jagoda Brunette.

"I think research institutions play an enormous role in supporting innovation. Having an opportunity to see what students are working on and learn about their research could impact what any of these companies are doing and could create some opportunities for collaboration."

Following the mixer, students from the College of Health Sciences-Northwest, and the College of Osteopathic Medicine of the Pacific-Northwest, which is in the process of transitioning to its new name, the Heatherington College of Osteopathic Medicine, presented their research to fellow students, faculty, and other event attendees.

Second-year COMP-Northwest student Mariah Carlson experienced firsthand the importance of collaboration in research.

She presented her research, "Antimicrobial Resistance in Escherichia coli from Fecal and Wastewater Sources in Oregon's Willamette Valley." (Emily Campbell, WesternU)

"My project was part of the One Health program

and it's in collaboration with Oregon State University, so we have an interdisciplinary team of DO students, OSU veterinary medicine students, some PhD candidates in the environmental science realm, and some advanced undergraduates," Carlson said.

"We're working together to figure out and answer questions about One Health, which is the interdisciplinary relationship between the planet, our environment as well as animal and human health. It was really cool to work with people whose brains were so specialized in different areas."

"I think it's easy, especially in medical school, to get only into the medical spheres, so it was refreshing and eye opening to get those different perspectives."

For some students, research feels personal. Third-year CHS-Northwest student Mya Lopez drew from her own experiences as a soccer player recovering from multiple ACL injuries to explore a more holistic approach to injury rehabilitation.

"I suffered three ACL tears, and I understand the psychological aspects of it and how it can impact you physically," Lopez said. "In research there is a big gap in the mental aspects of an athlete's rehabilitation, and we really focus on numbers. We wanted to do a study that would look at both the mental and physical experience."

Lopez worked under the mentorship of CHS-Northwest Associate Professor Christina Gomez, PT, DPT, PhD, who helped her translate personal experience

into a structured research project and introduced her to pathways in research she had not previously considered.

"Dr. G has been my mentor, really from the start, because I also want to be a sport PT, and she works at a residency. Dr. G is absolutely amazing. She is a perfectionist, but I love it because she has really pushed me a lot further than I thought I could have gone," said Lopez.

Lopez's research, "Relationship Between Peak Landing Impulse and Psychological Readiness After ACL Reconstruction: A Retrospective Study," received first place in the oral presentation category.

This event was organized by WesternU Oregon Research Club Co-Presidents Kristen Mittl and Myles Nelson and sponsored by Cascades West Innovation Hub, the Osteopathic Physicians and Surgeons of Oregon (OPSO) and WesternU Office of Research and Biotechnology.

WesternU Oregon celebrated outstanding work across several award categories. The winners are listed below.

Health Equity & Population Health:

First Place: Lucas Tang, Democratizing Disability Studies: Disabled Voices as Ends not Means

Second Place: Cecelia Mans, Mapping Vitamin D Deficiency and Social Determinants of Health in Oregon: A GIS-Based Proposal for Statewide Health Equity Analysis

Innovation & Technology in Healthcare:

First Place: Jack Benninger, Novel GAX-Specimens with Innovative

BriteVu Contrast Provides Lifelike Movement, Cross-Sectional and POCUS Imaging for Medical Training

Second Place: Alexandra Wimberly, Telerehabilitation to Improve Outcomes in Frail and Pre-Frail Adults: A Systematic Review

Function, Performance & Rehabilitation:

First Place: Joshua Clark, Prevalence and Risk of Falls in Rural Oregon Communities

Second Place: Ethan Smith, Preliminary Review of The Inferior Iliopsoas Attachment to Aid in Management of Lower Extremity Pathologies: A Dissection Study

Translational & Precision Medicine:

First Place: Elena Chavez, Layer-by-Layer Assembly of AMP-Enzyme Hybrid Coatings for Preventing Catheter-Associated UTIs

Second Place: Elissa Lyn Apiag, Unfused Transverse Foramina Creating High C4 Vertebral Artery Entry Identified During Cadaveric Dissection

Patient-Centered Care & Quality Outcomes:

First Place: Clarissa Hand, Clinical and Education Importance of Renal Vascular Patterns

Education, Training & Workforce Development:

First Place: Tiana Hess, Advancing Evidence-Based Practice: Outcome measure summaries for Shirley Ryan Ability Lab Rehabilitation Measure Database

Wellness, Prevention & Lifestyle Medicine:

First Place: Rocio Medina-Ovando, Mental Health, Somatic Symptoms, and Perceived Support at an Osteopathic Medical School

Mechanisms of Disease & Recovery:

First Place: Jeremy Chu, Rehabilitating the Post-COVID Heart: A Synthesis of Mechanisms, Diagnostics, and Evidence-Based Interventions

Second place: Kristina Wahagheghe, Severe Cardiomegaly with Superior Displacement of Left Lung: Anatomical Case Study

Oral Presentation Award Recipients:

First Place: Mya Lopez, Relationship Between Peak Landing Impulse and Psychological Readiness After ACL Reconstruction: A Retrospective Study

Second Place: Erich Araujo, Evaluating an Amphipathic Cyclic Peptide [W4R5] for Antischistosomal Activity Against Schistosoma Mansoni

Third Place: Camryn Long, Nicklas Oberg, Princess Jhoy Bonilla, Clinical Assessment of Osteopathic Manipulative Treatment in a Rat Model of Grade II Muscle Injury



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Senators introduce bill to allow 'corner crossing' access

State senators Mike McLane (R-Powell Butte) and Anthony Broadman (D-Bend), working with the Oregon Hunters Association, introduced legislation last month to protect Oregonians' access to public lands through "corner crossing."

But landowners are battling the bill, saying that it conflicts with "long-standing principles of real property law."

Corner crossing, or stepping from public land to public land where adjoining corners of public and private lands meet, has been a legal uncertainty in Oregon law. The senators' legislation provides much-needed clarity to protect public land users from allegations of trespass, as well as landowners from allegations of negligence, according to OHA.

"Legal clarity improves access to public lands and protects landowners," McLane said. "Oregonians deserve common sense from Salem on how and when we can access public resources. Senate Bill 1545 makes Oregonians' access to our lands clearer."

Gary Lewis of the Oregon Hunters Association said hunters have been "conditioned" to avoid crossing

private property because of trespassing concerns.

"It has been drilled into us in hunter education classes," Lewis said. "State police and sheriff's deputies tend to side with the landowner, so the public land user stays away from these situations. But it is not fair and it is not just to bar the public from public land."

Balancing the public's right to access public land with necessary protections for private landowners, the legislation provides protection against negligence lawsuits. This has long been a troublesome issue for Oregonians who utilize public lands, where corner crossings are often necessary. This critical legislation will provide more certainty for all parties going forward.

"Our public lands are part of our heritage and who we are as Oregonians," Broadman said. "Senate Bill 1545 will help preserve access for hunters exercising our rights to access federal lands across our state. We also owe it to the tribes, ranchers, farmers, and timber owners to ensure corner crossing doesn't interfere with working Oregon lands and their stewardship of our state. Our proposal strikes that balance."

Lewis said a Colorado corner crossing case has been working its way through the courts in that state.

"A landowner and a hunter were willing to fight it all the way to the supreme court and now public land users are starting to look at maps again and find those places they have been kept out of," he said.

Matt Smith, president of Bend-based William Smith Properties, Inc. and GI Ranch Corp., which manage more than 200,000 deeded acres and approximately 250,000 acres of leased public land for cattle operations in central and eastern Oregon, said that he believes the issue is still up in the air in the courts.

"SB 1545 appears to be motivated by a recent 10th Circuit decision addressing corner crossing in a single county in Wyoming," he said. "That ruling has not been applied across the entire 10th Circuit, and Oregon is not within that circuit. It is far from settled that the 9th Circuit will reach the same conclusion. Oregon does not need to – and should not – act as a test case or juggernaut on this issue."

Smith said corner cross-

ing is "rarely the clean, theoretical scenario often described," noting that mapping tools generally lack the accuracy necessary to identify a legal corner with certainty.

"As a result, some degree of trespass is inevitable – even for individuals acting in good

faith," he said. "For those acting without good faith, the incentive to knowingly cut corners is obvious."

"This legislation places landowners in an untenable position: either actively police their boundaries at significant cost and conflict, or accept ongoing, unenforceable trespass. The bill's claim of providing "clarity" does exactly the opposite. It introduces ambiguity, increases conflict, and substantially weakens enforceability of private property rights."

The Oregon bill has garnered support from across the political spectrum, the OHA said, including 10 Republican and Democratic legislators from urban and rural districts alike. This diverse support shows that access to public lands is a bipartisan concern that resonates throughout the state.

"Oregon's public lands are incredibly important to

hunters, hikers, bird watchers, anglers, and all Oregonians seeking to enjoy the state's natural beauty," said Amy Patrick, OHA's policy rep in Salem. "Providing some level of legal certainty ensures public land access when such access is vital to everything we do. OHA thanks Senators McLane and Broadman for spearheading this critical effort."

The legislation is broadly supported by the conservation, recreation and outdoor communities including Oregon Wild Sheep Foundation, Oregon Association of Shooting Ranges, Oregon Trappers Association, Oregon United Sporting Dogs Association, and, notably, Backcountry Hunters and Anglers who have long advocated that corner crossing is not a crime.

"I would say that we probably will not find a lot of egregious examples in Linn County, but as we go south of Linn County there are more and more examples of so-called landlocked chunks of BLM (land)," Lewis said.

Lebanon discussions to reopen city jail take next step toward possible levy

By Sarah Brown
Of The New Era

Through work sessions and leadership meetings during the past couple of years, Lebanon City Council and staff have been engaging in discussions regarding strategic goals for the city, and one of them is reaching a pinnacle decision that will result in finding out just how badly the community wants a municipal jail.

On Wednesday, Feb. 11, the City Council will vote whether to move forward with the process of asking voters for a \$1.7 million operational levy to keep the jail open for the next five years. The New Era was published just before this vote was made.

The City Council was faced with this decision during its Jan. 28 meeting, but tabled the discussion until Feb. 11 to give all councilors a chance to vote on the matter, as some were not present in January.

Property owners are still paying on a \$19.97 million bond voted on in 2006 used to build the library as well as the combined police department, jail and courthouse. According to Finance Director Brandon Neish, November 2026 is the last year it will be seen on property tax statements.

The jail was built in 2009 to hold local offenders accountable for misdemeanor-level

crimes (e.g., theft, assault, trespass, harassment, disorderly conduct, criminal mischief, driving offences) committed in Lebanon, Police Chief Frank Stevenson said.

"Since the opening, we have yet to staff the jail properly with correction officers," he said at the Jan. 28 meeting. "This always fell on patrol officers, which limited the resources out on patrol and increased their workload and also, overall, increased their liability."

It came to a head in 2023 when the "difficult decision" was made to close the municipal jail due to low staff numbers and inability to maintain increasing state and insurance requirements, such as provision of medical and mental health care, gender separation, religious accommodations, training and facility standards.

Stevenson told council only three other municipal jails in the state remain open.

Neish determined the \$1.7 million levy would allow the jail to reopen with enough staff and operate under ORS and insurance requirements for five years, amounting to \$1 per \$1,000 assessed value (not market value).

The cost breakdown is: \$317,200 for 24/7 operations, including supplies and maintenance; \$1,310,644 for six cor-

rection officers and one supervisor; \$75,000 for required medical staff; and \$30,132 for liability and insurance. The operating cost per bed per day would be \$396.

On a property with an assessed value of \$385,000, it would amount to \$385 per year. Those same property owners are currently paying about \$450 per year on the current bond that is about to be closed.

Without a municipal jail, criminals committing misdemeanors in the city are issued a date to appear in court. Without the local jail to hold them, there's a chance they won't attend their court date, which creates a cycle of issuing a warrant, then setting a new court date when the suspect is located, then hoping they don't skip again.

"So there's really no accountability piece, there's no teeth to the bite at this particular point in time," Stevenson said.

Should City Council approve a motion at the Feb. 11 meeting to pursue a levy, the city would first consider hiring a professional consultant to help determine through polling whether the community will respond favorably.

City Manager Ron Whitlatch said the cost for that consultation and work would be about \$50,000.



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Public Notices

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.
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 estab-

lished 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
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)
NOTICE TO INTERESTED PERSONS
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned has been appointed and has qualified as the

Public Notices

Personal Representative of the Estate of Dennis Brian McClatchey, deceased, Linn County Probate No. 26PB00849. All persons having claims against the estate are required to present their claims, with proper vouchers, within four months after the date of the publication of this notice, as stated below, to the Personal Representative at 188 West B Street, Bldg. N, Springfield, Oregon 97477, or the claims may be barred.
All persons whose rights may be affected by the proceedings in this Estate may obtain additional information from the records of the Court, the Personal Representative, or the attorney for the Personal Representative.
Charles A. Gilham, Personal Representative
Alex E. Gavriilidis, Attorney for Personal Representative
Leahy Cox, LLP
188 W. B Street, Bldg. N
Springfield, Oregon 97477
(541) 746-9621
(2/11)
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE STATE OF OREGON FOR THE COUNTY OF LINN PROBATE DEPARTMENT
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF EFFIE J. WILKISON, deceased.
Case No.: 26PB00879
NOTICE TO INTERESTED PERSONS
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned has been appointed Personal Representative of the above estate. All persons having claims against the estate are required to present them to the undersigned Personal Representative in care of the undersigned attorney at: 319 Sixth Street SW, Albany, OR 97321 within four months after the date of the publication of this notice, as stated below, or such claims may be barred.
All persons whose rights may be affected by the proceedings in this estate may obtain additional information from the records of the Court, the Personal Representative, or the attorney for the Personal Representative.
DATED and first published February 11, 2026.
Personal Representative
EDDIE L. GIBSON
41704 Clark Smith Road
Lebanon, OR 97355
Attorney
DAVID B. BECKHAM
319 Sixth Avenue SW
Albany, OR 97321
(2/11)
FIRST NOTICE
Persons in possession of TAXABLE BUSINESS PERSONAL PROPERTY located in Linn County as of January 1, 2026, are required by Oregon law to file a CONFIDENTIAL PERSONAL PROPERTY RETURN with the Linn County Assessor's Office by March 17, 2026.
THIS IS A REMINDER TO FILE YOUR BUSINESS PERSONAL PROPERTY INFORMATION. ADDITIONAL PENALTIES ARE INCURRED AFTER MARCH 17, 2026.
EXAMPLES OF PERSONAL PROPERTY TO BE REPORTED BUT NOT LIMITED TO: FURNITURE/FIXTURES/EQUIPMENT/SUPPLIES/HANDTOOLS/ETC, UTILIZED FOR RETAIL/WHOLESALE RESTAURANT/TAVERN PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

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It is the responsibility of persons in possession of taxable personal property to file a return, even though they may not have received a personal property return. Failure to file may subject them to penalties mandated by law. The Linn County Assessor's office is available to assist with the proper filing of the return. Phone (541)967-3808 ext 2561 tsthompson@co.linn.or.us (2/4 - 2/11)
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Commissioners make board appointments

By Alex Paul

Linn County Communications

Linn County Commissioners Roger Nyquist, Sherrie Sprenger and Will Tucker addressed the following agenda items at their Feb. 3 meeting:

- Reappointed Kerry Johnson and Ed Perlenfein to three-year terms on the Fair Board.

- Appointed Anna Alex to the Noxious Weed Control Advisory Committee.

- Reappointed Mitzi Naucler to the Community Services Consortium's Community Action Advisory Council.

- Appointed Courtney Leland to Position 3 of the Linn County Planning Commission.

- Approved refunding \$13,816.23 from Linn County Mental Health to the Oregon Criminal Justice Commission.
- Adopted the 2026 Transportation Title VI (Civil Rights) program in both English and Spanish, with updated information.

A review and update of the program is required every three years. Linn County's document was already reviewed by the Oregon Department of Transportation's Civil

Rights Department and found to meet compliance standards.

- Approved a change order of \$1,721.01 between Linn County and Cascade Civil Corp for the Cox Creek: Goldfish Farm Road bridge replacement project. The change order is for connecting pipe to existing storm structures.

- Approved a plan of action to address procedural items found in the recent audit.

- Approved a conditional use permit requested by Lauren Martinez to establish a farm relative dwelling. The Planning Commission approved the permit in December.

PUBLIC SAFETY

From page 13

5:10 p.m. - Caller reported abandoned trailer in area of 1st/Hawthorne. Officer responded, trailer posted for removal.

7:31 p.m. - Caller reported his dog was hit by vehicle and driver didn't stop in area of 18th/Long. Officer responded, information noted.

10:30 p.m. - Timothy William Roebuck cited for DWS, DU, 4500 block Kalmia.

LEBANON POLICE

8:17 a.m. - Joel Leeland Bird, 22, cited for speeding 35/20 school zone, N 5th/Mary Sts.

8:44 a.m. - Sean Michael O'Farrell II, 36, cited for speeding 43/20 school zone, 500 block Cascade Dr.

9:02 a.m. - Ashlynn Suzanne Bjorklund, 19, cited for speeding 40/20 school zone, 500 block Cascade Dr.

9:13 a.m. - Elaine Marie Robertson, 70, cited for speeding 39/20 school zone, 500 block Cascade Dr.

9:46 a.m. - Christy Lynn Burtner, 52, cited for speeding 43/20 school zone, 500 block Cascade Dr.

10:06 a.m. - Morgan Elisabeth Schutzler, 26, cited for speeding 36/20 school zone, 500 block Cascade Dr.

10:31 a.m. - Justin Taylor Vazquez-Ellis, 29, cited for speeding 42/20 school zone, 500 block Cascade Dr.

11:16 a.m. - Karen Kyanne Morrison, 61, cited for failure to obey traffic control device.

11:26 a.m. - Caller reported someone cut his cat, E Ash/S Main Sts.

11:36 a.m. - Brian Wayne Carter, 62, cited for improper display and DU.

11:54 a.m. - Gwen Colleen Barnes, 64, cited for speeding 40/25.

12:02 p.m. - Caller reported subject messing with garbage cans, utility poles, throwing things, tipping carts. Subject tied board and string to recycle bin to make a musical instrument, 100 block E Vine St. Cleaned up his mess.

12:08 p.m. - Bryant Jordan Davis, 35, cited for no valid license.

12:28 p.m. - Katherine Paige Polte, 26, cited for speeding 36/20 school zone, W Airport Rd./S 7th St.

12:29 p.m. - Subject starting fire in parking lot, his boot was on fire. His boot, cardboard now

smoking, 500 block Park St. 12:41 p.m. - Theft of electric bike reported, 2000 block Cypress Ct.

12:48 p.m. - Kaitlyn Marie Franklin, 19, cited for speeding 41/25.

1:11 p.m. - Brett James Anton, 52, cited for speeding 37/20 school zone, 500 block Cascade Dr.

1:26 p.m. - Gregory Lee Parkerson, 60, cited for speeding 38/20 school zone, 500 block Cascade Dr.

1:42 p.m. - Marci McCleary, 39, cited for speeding 47/20 school zone, 500 block Cascade Dr.

2:45 p.m. - Caller reported theft of 20 Red Bulls and two Dr. Peppers during wrestling meet at high school.

5:40 p.m. - Subject trying to start fire, 1400 block S Main St. 5:50 p.m. - Subject wearing potato sack walking in middle of road, Park/E Rose Sts.

7:19 p.m. - Kimberly Michelle Hopper, 42, cited for DWS.

8:57 p.m. - Shelby Wymetalek, 30, cited on LCCC warrant for FTA - theft I.

11:13 p.m. - Three subjects came into bar and started fight, male punched in face, 600 block S Main St.

FEB. 4

LCSO/OSP LEBANON

1:22 a.m. - Overdose reported in 37100 block Gore. Deputies arrived, determined male was just heavily intoxicated. He refused assistance.

4:28 a.m. - Non-injury crash reported in area of Kowitz/Baptist Church. Non-injury, Report taken.

11:09 a.m. - Michael Van-Atta, 60, of Mill city, cited for careless driving and failure to obey traffic control device after crashing his vehicle in 34600 block Bond. Report taken.

2:28 p.m. - Caller reported male dumping trash in private trash receptacle, 200 block Gilbert.

2:45 p.m. - Paul Herzber, 38, of Lebanon, arrested on multiple warrants from local municipal and justice courts, 30300 block Horseshoe Loop. Cited and released. Report taken.

LCSO/OSP SWEET HOME/ S. COUNTY

7:25 a.m. - Nicole Colvin, 37, of Lebanon, arrested for contempt of court, 27600 block Liberty Rd. Report taken.

12:29 p.m. - Renee Phillips, 29, of Lebanon, cited for failure to register vehicle, 25600 block Hwy. 99, Halsey.

3:57 p.m. - LCSO conducted

death investigation after family reported deceased male in 27100 block Scott Mountain. Report taken.

9:30 p.m. - Juvenile cited in area of Washburn/Washington, Brownsville, for failure to obey traffic control device.

9:42 p.m. - Joshua David Robertson, 34, of Sweet Home, cited for DWS, failure to use ignition interlock device, Bishop/Hume, Brownsville.

SWEET HOME POLICE

7:47 a.m. - Caller reported ongoing issue with dogs barking in 1200 block Linden Court. Referred to code enforcement.

10:01 a.m. - Brian Scott Holden, 49, arrested on LMC warrant for FTA in DWS case, SHMC warrant for FTC in theft case, 1700 block Main. Cited and released.

10:31 a.m. - Caller reported trailer full of trash on street for over two months in 1700 block Fir. Referred to code enforcement.

11:11 a.m. - William Lee Phillips, 43, arrested by Albany police on SHMC warrants for FTA in three theft cases. Cited to appear Feb. 25.

11:14 a.m. - Juvenile, 17, cited for speeding, 45/35 100 block Main.

12:19 p.m. - Code enforcement located trailer full of trash in 1300 block Elm St.

1:18 p.m. - Carol Denise Murphy, 60, cited for DU, 5900 block Main.

4:39 p.m. - Overdose reported in 2200 block Kalmia. Officer responded, male transported by medics.

4:53 p.m. - Kirstin Marie Mengore, 54, cited for DWS, DU, at SHPD, 1950 Main.

5:58 p.m. - Johnny Lee Stone arrested by Albany police on SHMC warrant for FTA in trespass case, FTC in false report case. Cited to appear Feb. 25.

10:26 p.m. - Kirene Sophie Rickelle Leslie, 22, arrested on LCCC warrant for FTA in a probation violation out of an assault case. Also cited for DWS, DU and failure to register vehicle. 2400 block Long. Cited and released.

LEBANON POLICE

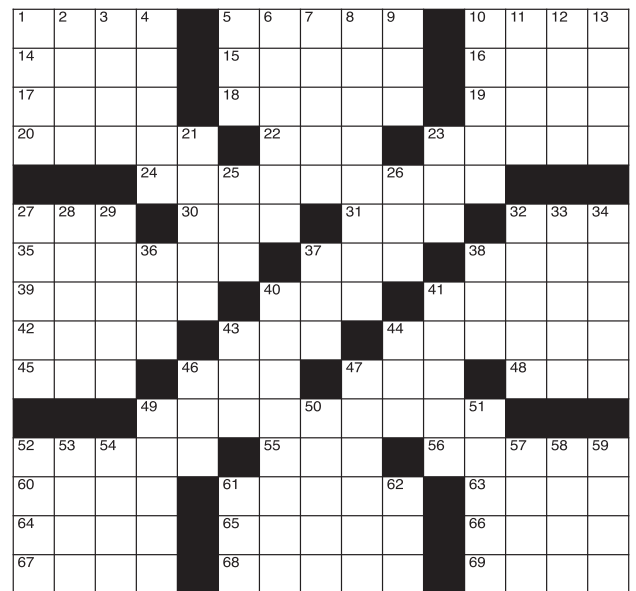
2:57 a.m. - Christina Ann Watts, 37, cited for DWS.

7:54 a.m. - Tecumseh Hugh Thompson, 53, cited for DWS and DU.

8:20 a.m. - Bradley M. Schneidewind, 21, cited for

See Public Safety, Page 20

CROSSWORD



CLUES ACROSS

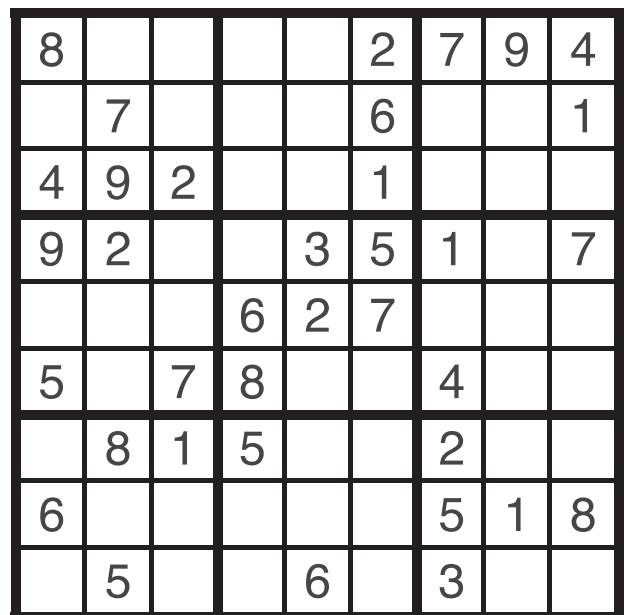
- Type of ion
- ___ N' Bake
- At all times
- ___ Triad: fictional cult
- Spiked revolving disk
- Swiss river
- Bleat
- Finnish lake
- Spanish cubist Juan
- Consumer
- No seats available
- Arrive
- Upstate NY city
- Team's best pitcher
- Follows sigma
- Consume
- Congressman
- Spider's territory
- Conclusion
- Female parent
- Instruments
- ___-bo: exercise

- Jewish spiritual leader
- Oil cartel
- In support of
- More creepy
- Color of blood
- '___ death do us part
- Radio finder (abbr.)
- Promotions
- Songs
- Tony winner Daisy
- Not just "play"
- Affected with rabies
- Formal group of like-minded people
- Hold valuables
- Male admirer
- Actress Lucy
- Prevents the fermentation of
- Furniture
- Long, winding ridge
- Cover with drops
- Major European river

CLUES DOWN

- Greek goddess of youth
- Early kingdom in Syria
- Fortifying ditch
- Walk into
- Island state ___ Lanka
- Japan's most populous island
- Mindful of
- Fuel
- NY Giants' Manning
- Very willing
- Linear unit
- Guitarist Clapton
- Semitic letter
- Habitual repetitions
- Soak
- Taxi
- Small amount
- A theatrical performer
- 2-door car
- ___ and flowed
- Arabic female name
- Implant within
- Groups of two
- College athletic conference
- Body part
- Disfigure
- Accept
- Allude to
- Type of tree
- Doctor of Education
- Pearl Jam's first album
- Flower cluster
- Heavy cavalry sword
- Arabian Peninsula desert
- Marten
- Type of sound
- Expression of grief
- Liberian tribal people
- Wizards' shooting guard Bradley
- Metrical foot
- Mislead knowingly
- Sino-Soviet block (abbr.)
- Midway between south and southwest

SUDOKU



Level: Beginner



Crash on Main Street

Rescue workers work to get the door open on a pickup involved in a three-vehicle crash shortly after noon Tuesday, Feb. 3, in the 2400 block of Main Street in Sweet Home. According to Sweet Home police, Timothy James Pedersen, 61, was driving a 2002 Ford Expedition westbound on Main when he stopped for a pedestrian in the roadway. Kirsten Mengore, 54, driving a 1995 Dodge 1500 pickup, was also westbound and stopped behind Pedersen. Timothy William Roebuck, 43, was driving a 1999 Chevrolet Silverado pickup behind them and did not stop in time, striking the back of Mengore's vehicle, which caused her vehicle to strike the back of Pedersen's vehicle, police said. Sweet Home Fire and Ambulance District respondents had to use extraction equipment to get Mengore out of her vehicle. She was transported by medics to Samaritan Lebanon Community Hospital. Both Roebuck and Mengore were cited for driving while suspended, police said. **Photo by Scott Swanson**



Tyrell Styhl points out how Ames Creek water flowed through the area during a recent flood.

-Photo by Sarah Brown

SANKEY

From page 1

"It completely shades out and out-competes all native grasses and sedges," Styhl said. "Because of how wet this area is, this should have wetland plants in it and native grasses, native wildflowers."

The city started the project in October when it mowed down the grass and placed black silage tarp over one acre of the area to prevent regrowth.

"Reed canary grass is a really invasive weed that is hard to control unless you are just using a lot of herbicides," Styhl said. "To try to

reduce the amount of herbicides we have to use, we put this tarp down."

They also mowed down the blackberry and other unwanted weeds, leaving a relatively open area ready for the introduction of desirable native plants.

And that's what this group of volunteers worked on last week, digging about 2,000 small holes along the creek bank and floodplain forest area. In each hole were placed cuttings of various native plants which the city hopes will out-thrive the unwanted species.

For the next couple of years, the city will maintain the area, carefully spraying

any blackberry growth with herbicide in an effort to give the native cuttings a chance to grow.

Then, said Styhl, "the native plants will come up and shade out the invasive species."

When the tarp is removed next fall, the city will return to fill the bare area with more native seeds and wetland plants.

Once established, the plants will benefit the area by cleaning and cooling Ames Creek, and increasing the habitat area for birds, deer, pollinators and other wildlife.

HEATH STADIUM

From page 1

safety precaution, the district said.

No closures to Airport Road are anticipated, but the sidewalk next to the stadium may be closed temporarily while crews work.

A district project list estimated demolition to cost about \$176,000. The Lebanon Booster Club contributed about \$200,000 for the project, said Michelle Steinhebel, the district's spokesperson. The Rick Franklin Corporation is the contractor.

"We are grateful for the support that made this work possible and appreciate everyone's patience as this work moves forward," Supt. Jennifer Meckley said as part of the written statement.

Heath Stadium was built in 1957 and its roof added in 1962. Multiple independent reports in the past five years have identified significant safety concerns, including concrete deteriorated to the point that it exposed rusted rebar and corroded steel

supports. Safety reviews also found rust and corrosion in portions of the steel support framing, among other structural problems.

Based on a recommendation from school district officials and legal counsel, the district's board of directors closed the stadium's seating area in spring 2025. Graduation took place on the football field.

Asbestos abatement took place and crews disconnected power before the demolition. The Heath Stadium sign has been stored for now, Steinhebel said.

It's not clear when, or whether, the stadium will be replaced. District officials have said building a replacement will depend on available funding. Estimates so far are about \$2.76 million for a stadium, plus another \$1.38 million for restrooms and concessions, plus about \$400,000 for a storage area underneath the stands.

Before 2016, Oregon school districts relied on property taxes and voter-approved bond levies to build schools or make large-scale



Heath Stadium prior to the beginning of demolition.

- LCSD photo

repairs, as no state funding was provided. This changed a decade ago with the Oregon School Capital Improvement Matching Program, which allows districts to receive matching grants of up to \$6 million for major construction or repair work if they also pass a voter-approved bond measure.

Lebanon voters turned down a \$20 million bond request in May 2022. At their January meeting, members

of the school district's Board of Directors said they are philosophically in favor of trying for another bond for construction and repairs, although they did not decide on the cost, timing or whether it would include a new stadium.

The district currently has \$163,518 set aside in a Heath Stadium Fund. Of that, \$130,000 came from Lebanon's second-place finish in a "Friday Night 5G

Lights" competition sponsored by the T-Mobile wireless company last fall. Steinhebel said Dick's Sporting Goods contributed another \$25,000, and the rest came from private donations.

More information on the project, as well as a link to the donation page, can be found on the district's website at <https://www.lebanon.k12.or.us/connect/heath-stadium-grandstands>.

Husky boys battle to basketball win over Cascade

By Keeghan Gittins
For The New Era

Sweet Home picked up a 58-55 win over Cascade on Feb. 3, marking the Huskies' first victory against Cascade since the 2019 season.

The Huskies struggled early, scoring just six points in the first quarter and trailing 32-18 at half-time. Sweet Home appeared out of rhythm on both ends of the floor.

"Yeah, we didn't play very good in the first half," Coach Drew Emmert said. "We played with low energy and looked like we expected to lose."

After a talk with his team about their mentality, the tone shifted coming out of the locker room.

"The message at half time was not an X and O's thing but more of a 'we can and should compete in this game' and we weren't competing like we should," Emmert said.

Sweet Home delivered a dominant third quarter, going on a 24-10 run to erase the visitors' 18-point lead.

Sweet Home didn't slow down in the fourth, scoring another 18 points. Thanks to some intensified defense from the hosts, Cascade was able to score only 23 combined points in the second half.

Mason Tyler, who went 0-for-5 in the first half, found his rhythm after halftime and scored 16 points in the second half to lead the comeback.

"...He carried us offensively... Mason had got into foul trouble in the first half and didn't have a rhythm. Second half, he hit a few shots early and it got him going," Emmert said.

Damon Lawrence added another strong performance, finishing with 14 points on 64% true shooting.

"Damon has been extremely tough all year defensively, but really been huge offensively the last few weeks and Tuesday was no different. He was just solid and consistent all game."

Kellen Hartsook and Bradyn McClure contrib-

uted efficient outings, scoring nine and 10 points respectively.

"The guys did a good job coming out of half-time with a different mentality and it showed. Our energy and intensity defensively was much better," Emmert said.

The Huskies' key to winning was finally being able to limit turnovers having only 13 through the whole game, compared to averting 19 throughout the rest of the season.

Sweet Home sits at, 2-3 in league and 7-11 overall, in fourth place in the Oregon West Conference, entering this week.

They host No. 10 Philomath, on Tuesday, Feb. 10. In their earlier match-up, the Huskies fell 52-49 after being up by eight with three minutes to go. However, the Warriors were missing their leading scorer from last year, Josiah Peters.

Later this week, on Feb. 13, Sweet Home will travel to No. 8 Stayton. In their last matchup the Huskies lost 60-54.



Gavin Tyler, 34, blocks a shot against Cascade late in the Huskies comeback from behind win on Feb. 3. See more game photos at sweethomenews.com.
- Photo by Scott Swanson

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Huskies celebrate seniors in undefeated wrestling week

By Ryker Burr
For The New Era

Sweet Home Wrestling hosted and dominated an eagerly anticipated Senior Night on Wednesday, Feb. 4, against Tillamook.

Seven of Sweet Home's eight seniors wrestled in their last home contest: Bailey Chafin, Tytus Hardee, Dillan Davis, Jackson Knight, Luke Rosa, Jeremiah Steagall and Lynkin Royer.

"What was special about this senior class is that I've had seven of them in the Mat Club since they were 4 or 5 years old... I've traveled all over with them," said Head Coach Steve Thorpe, who went on to note he also coached many of these wrestlers' parents.

"It's a special group, for sure."

The Huskies certainly looked special on the mat too, handling Tillamook 62-18. The Cheesemakers were fifth in the most recent 4A division wrestling rankings, topped by the Huskies.

Nine of Sweet Home's wins

were by fall, and the other two were a major decision.

Hardee, Davis, Rosa, Steagall and Royer all won their final home match.

"Dillan Davis stood out to me by beating a really good kid in (Chance) Fletcher," said Thorpe.

He also pointed out a few other winners: "Macen Rosa is a pretty dangerous wrestler. He got a nice pin," said the veteran coach. "Kyle Zajic is consistently wrestling better and better."

The girls didn't settle either, as they dominated the Cheesemakers 72-12. All of the winning girls did so in pin-fashion, two of them - Raelyn Andrews (120) and Bella Rico (130) - in 34 seconds or quicker.

"Raelyn Andrews wrestled very aggressively and she started a huge momentum for us," Thorpe noted.

Senior Bailey Chafin - who is aiming for her third state title this season - won her match over Haedyn Kirchoff with a pin in 1:51.

As emotional as the evening

was, Sweet Home's week didn't end on Senior Night. The Huskies traveled to Philomath, where they capped off a dual season of dominance against the league-rival.

The Green and Gold - who were without freshmen Cody Sieminski and Macen Rosa (illness) - crushed the Warriors 64-17.

That was the Huskies 34th dual win on the season, a mark that surely made the seven-time state champion coach smile.

"That's pretty special," he said.

The girls managed a convincing 54-17 win as well, perhaps a big reason for their now No. 3 ranking in the state per Mid-Major Media. The boys remain No. 1 as they have all year.

The girls will have one last tune-up before regionals at Oakridge, a strong program among Oregon's smaller schools, on Wednesday, Feb. 11, beginning at 6 p.m.

Girls regionals will be at Cottage Grove on Friday and Saturday, Feb. 13-14, begin-



Dillan Davis works to turn Tillamook's Chance Fletcher during Davis' final appearance in the Main Gym as a Sweet Home wrestler. Davis won a major decision, 11-1. - Ryker Burr photo

ning at noon on Friday. Boys regionals will be in Newport on Saturday, Feb. 14, beginning at 10 a.m.

In both tournaments, a top-four individual finish

punches a state meet ticket to the Veterans Memorial Coliseum Feb. 27-29.

"The last 2½ months was pre-season. Now is what matters," Thorpe told his team.

Despite loss, SH girls progressing

By Keeghan Gittins
For The New Era

The Sweet Home girls basketball team lost, 60-33 to No. 6 Cascade Tuesday, Feb. 3, but showed continued improvement against one of the top teams in the state.

Sweet Home came out strong, opening the game with a 7-0 run and forcing Cascade to keep its starters on the floor. Although the visitors eventually found their rhythm, and their efficient offensive attack kicked in, the final result still marked success for Sweet Home.

The Cougars have beaten two 6A teams this season, as well as multiple 5A schools, and were sitting on top of the Oregon West Conference standings at 4-0 coming into this week after beating now-No. 1 Stayton in the first round of OWC play.

"We were focused on continuing to fight and making Cascade continue to fight back," head coach Erika Evans said.

"Our goal was to get over 30 points and keep them at 60 or under, and we were able to do that."

Aaliyah Brown led the Huskies with 10 points, shooting 5-for-9 from the field. Taylor Gaskey added eight points, and Mailey Brewer went 3-for-4 from the field.

Sweet Home was able to put up a ton of shots, attempting 41 throughout the course of the game.

"We matched Cascade in most statistical categories, with turnovers being the main difference," Evans said.

She also noted the team's defensive progress against strong opponents."



Taylor Gaskey, above, threads the ball between the hands of Cascade's Lainey Klampe to waiting teammate Aaliyah Brown early in their game last week. Below, Brown puts up a shot under pressure. See more photos at sweethomenews.com.

-- Photos by Scott Swanson

Sweet Home had 27 turnovers while forcing only 10 from Cascade. The Huskies actually out-rebounded the Cougars 28-26, despite Cascade having a substantial height advantage. The Huskies had only one less assist than the Cougars.

"Just because the scoreboard doesn't show a win doesn't mean we aren't learning to compete better," Evans said.

The loss was Sweet Home's closest game against Cascade in years as the Huskies continue to focus on growth and consistency moving forward.

Sweet Home starts the second half of league play this week, hosting No. 9 Philomath Tuesday, Feb. 10. They will



travel to Stayton, which beat Lebanon last week (see page 8), three days later.

PUBLIC SAFETY

From page 17

failure to carry proof of insurance.

8:46 a.m. - Rebecca Lynn Breese, 28, cited for DU.

9:10 a.m. - Caller reported his wallet was missing \$100 after he spent time as a patient at Lebanon Community Hospital.

10:19 a.m. - Jessica Lynn Wark, 38, cited for speeding 34/20 school zone, W Airport Rd./S 7th St.

10:31 a.m. - Jennifer R. Flowers, 35, cited for speeding 38/20 school zone, W Airport Rd./S 7th St.

10:42 a.m. - Scott Thomas Burr, 53, cited for speeding 40/20 school zone, W Airport Rd./S 7th St.

12:03 p.m. - Karen K. Cota, 58, cited for speeding 33/20 school zone, W Airport/Stoltz Hill Rds.

12:53 p.m. - Jenna M. Stutsman, 38, cited for speeding 36/20 school zone, 2000 block S Santiam Hwy.

1:04 p.m. - Elizabeth R. Hunt, 24, cited for DU.

1:47 p.m. - Efrain Lopez, 60, cited for DWS and DU.

2:28 p.m. - Steven A. McCarter, 26, cited for no license and DU.

2:49 p.m. - Joshua W. McKinnon, 26, cited for cell phone use.

4:23 p.m. - Ryan K. Shelton, 33, cited for DWS and DU, and taken into custody on LCSA warrant for FTC - theft II and AMC warrant for FTC - theft II.

4:33 p.m. - Breanna N. Keeney, 18, cited for failure to obey traffic control device.

4:45 p.m. - Walmart customer got cash back, forgot to take it, customer after her took it. Loss: \$20.

5:45 p.m. - Group of transients coming and going near bank, 1400 block S Main St. Subjects smashing pills on the ground and snorting them. Trash and

pills left behind.

7:58 p.m. - Justin John Phillips, 45, cited for DWS, LMC warrant for FTA and Marion County Circuit Court warrant for FTA - possession of meth.

9:24 p.m. - Subject "tweaked out," stumbling around, big knife in pocket, walking into road.

FEB. 3

LCSO/OSP LEBANON

2:15 p.m. - Whendy Vincent, 54, of Lebanon, cited for DWS, DU, Santiam Hwy./Russell.

2:23 p.m. - Katherine Crowell, 45, of Lebanon, cited for warrants, DWS, DU. Michael Doyle, 55, cited for warrant. 2900 block S. Santiam Hwy. Report taken.

2:56 p.m. - Robert Missler, 54, of Lebanon, cited for warrant, Santiam Hwy./Russell. Report taken.

10:51 p.m. - Daryn Hill, 32, of Lebanon, arrested on outstanding warrant, 100 block E. Ash. Cited and released. Report taken.

LCSO/OSP SWEET HOME/ S. COUNTY

12:21 p.m. - Caller reported identity theft, 26700 block Powerline, Halsey. Investigation continuing. Report taken.

1:44 p.m. - Citizen reported someone left a rude note for the wrong person on her gate in 34800 block Henshaw, Brownsville. LCSO documented incident.

SWEET HOME POLICE

9:57 a.m. - Charles Edward Smith, 42, cited for DWS, Milepost 26, Hwy. 20.

12:02 p.m. - Caller reported that stepmother is hiding vehicles

2:04 p.m. - Stephen Paul Smith, 69, cited for speeding in school zone, 38/20, 5300 block Main.

See more and updated Public Safety Log entries at sweethomenews.com and lebanonlocalnews.com.