

The New Era

SWEET HOME • LEBANON • AND SURROUNDING COMMUNITIES

Serving East Linn County Since 1929

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 1, 2026

VOL. 96, NO.13 | \$2.00

Displays 'wow' at Rock and Mineral Show

By Sarah Brown
Of The New Era

Growing up in Sweet Home, Alisha Basham's grandmother used to take her to the Sweet Home Rock & Mineral Show when she was a child. Now Basham's own daughter, Roe, 7, is having the same experiences and memories while her grandmother, Lisa Basham (Alisha's mom), takes her to the same event.

The 76th annual Sweet Home Rock & Mineral Show "Rough to Cut" drew about 2,100 attendees this year at its usual location in the high school gym.

It was a year of firsts in many cases, as in the case of Roe, who attended the event for the first time.

It was also the first year Janice and Joe Van Cura featured their new book, "Oregon Thundereggs: History, Lore and Identification," at the Sweet Home show. It took five years to complete, with its release last fall. The book features more than 650 photographs of thundereggs from their own collection, including information from more than 20 years of collecting history and lore on the spherical specimens.

Cathy Hudgens, of Lebanon, member of the Sweet Home Rock and Mineral Society, brought out her collection at a booth for the first time at



Roe Ulm, 7, of Eugene, center, browses from a colorful selection of rocks with her grandma, Lisa Basham, at right, of Sweet Home. Roe's parents, at left, are Alisha Basham and Brandon Ulm. See more photos of the show at sweethomenews.com.

— Photo by Sarah Brown

the show, which consisted of mineral specimens and a 14-inch copper coral. The rare copper specimen was formed from copper "smoker" vents that precipitated and solidified copper into a flattened, textured disc.

Hudgens' collection includes large, colorful minerals often found embedded in rock forms or bright white crystals unearthed from around the world.

And then there was the

unique fluorescent exhibit on display at the Sweet Home show for its second year.

Also a club member, Ryan Brown, of Springfield, said he hasn't been able to bring his fluorescent collection to the show in the past because it requires enough space to set up a dark room for the full effect.

Walking into a square canopy blocked off on every side by black walls, the observer is immediately drawn to the illuminated display inside. Under

fluorescent lights, large rocks shine brightly in colors of neon green, blue, red, yellow, orange and purple.

Without the special lighting, the rocks may look dull in color to the naked eye.

It was Brown's son who first took an interest in the fluorescent minerals when he was a kid, but now Brown shares the same interest and enjoys sharing his collection to the variety of people who attend the show.

Pool board, ex-director settle out of court

By Sarah Brown
Of The New Era

The Lebanon Aquatic District filled a recently vacated seat on the board and appointed board members as co-budget officers during its last two regular meetings.

More recently, it was revealed funding originally promised by the Lebanon Community School District to assist with pool repairs has been pulled.

And after some delay responding to a public records request, the board recently released a settlement document regarding its former executive director.

The former director, Lorlee Engler, worked for the Lebanon Aquatic District for almost two decades, and as executive director since

See Lebanon Pool, Page 4

Leatham named interim Oak Heights principal

Oak Heights School will have an interim principal for the foreseeable future, the Sweet Home School District announced Friday afternoon, March 27.

A Parent Square message from Supt. Terry Martin, posted at 1:15 p.m. on Friday, stated: "I want you to be aware that Lisa Leatham will be serving as Oak Heights' acting principal following Spring Break while Principal Todd Barrett is away."

"Lisa is an experienced school leader who has successfully guided schools in both the Fern Ridge and Sweet Home School districts.

"I am confident that Lisa's leadership and experience will greatly benefit our students and staff."

In response to a request from The New Era for clarification as to whether Principal Todd Barrett is on administrative leave for some reason, following social media chatter that included unsubstantiated reports on reasons for Barrett's absence as school resumed after Spring Break, Martin issued the following statement Monday afternoon, March 30: "The Sweet Home School District understands that there has been community discus-

sion regarding staff who are currently away from their position.

"When concerns involving an employee come to the district's attention, we follow established procedures, which can include placing an employee on administrative leave while the matter is reviewed.

"Because this involves a personnel matter, state and federal confidentiality laws prohibit the district from sharing specific details.

"Our top priority in every situation is the safety and well-being of our students and staff. We take any concerns seriously and follow appropriate procedures to ensure schools remain safe and supportive learning environments.

"We appreciate the community's understanding and ask that individuals avoid spreading rumors or unverified information."

Leatham served as interim principal at Foster School during much of the 2024-25 school year until the district hired Shelly Nurre to fill that position permanently, beginning this school year. She previously was a principal at Veneta Elementary School in the Fern Ridge district.

HOMETOWN
NEWSPAPER OF

JESSICA
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This Week's Top Stories



Inside: Spring Sports Home & Garden

Our Spring Home and Garden section gives you hints on getting the green stuff growing.

Inside



Protesting Trump

'No Kings' participants line streets in east Linn County to protest Trump Administration's moves.

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Obituaries

Carla Healy

April 9, 1931 - March 22, 2026

Carla Rose Healy, 94, of Sweet Home passed away Sunday, March 22, 2026.

She was born April 9, 1931 to Axel and Lydia "Rose" (Bengtson) Christensen in Whitefish, Mont.



She moved to Sweet Home in the mid forties and graduated from Sweet Home High School in 1949. She married Gene Healy on June 29, 1949. The couple had four children, Pat, Pam, Mike and Teri.

Carla worked several years at White's Electronics, Hewlett-Packard and owned Midway Grocery from 1985 to 1992, retiring after that. She was a charter member of the Sweet Home Genealogy Society.

She was actively involved in bringing the dream of a Genealogy Library to Sweet Home, which opened in 1999. Carla was an active member of the River of Life Fellowship for 25 years.

Genealogy was her favorite hobby for almost 60 years, along with crocheting, baking, camping, hunting, fishing and, of course,

time with her family.

Carla was a member of Royal Neighbors of America since high school and served as an officer for many years. She received the Chamber of Commerce Distinguished Citizen Award in 2000 and was East Linn County Volunteer of the Year in 2012. In 2012 she received a President's Lifetime Achievement Award from the White House for volunteer services. She was a faithful blood donor to the Red Cross giving many gallons over her lifetime.

Carla is survived by her children, Pat Healy and wife Melanie, Pam Miner and husband Dale, and Teri Lowery and husband Allen. She has 14 grandchildren, 21 great-grandchildren and two great-great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her husband Gene in 2005; her son Mike in 2024; parents Axel and Rose; and her three siblings, Gloria, Chuck and Fred.

A Celebration of life will be at 11:30 a.m. Thursday, April 2, at River of Life Fellowship, 1658 Long St. Private burial took place at Gililand Cemetery.

Sweet Home Funeral Chapel is handling the arrangements.

Paid Obituary

Frances Thums

March 23, 1933 - March 21, 2026

Frances Ann Thums, 92, of Sweet Home, passed away peacefully on March 21, 2026, just two days shy of her 93rd birthday.

She lived a full and vibrant life marked by deep faith, strong family ties, a spirit of adventure, and a lifelong love of the outdoors.

Frances was born on March 23, 1933, in Rib Lake, Wisc. In August of 1937, she moved with her family to Oregon, where she would spend much of her life.

She briefly worked in Eugene before relocating to California, where she lived with her sisters in the Bay Area and worked for various insurance companies.

In 1970, Frances returned to Sweet Home to help care for her parents. What began as an act of devotion became a lifelong commitment, as she remained there for the rest of her years.

Her love for her family was at the center of everything she did, and she was a constant source of support, strength, and warmth.

Frances had a deep appreciation for travel and adventure. She explored countries around the world, including many throughout Europe, and took a particularly special trip to China. These journeys were made even more meaningful as she always traveled alongside her beloved sisters, sharing experiences and creating lifelong memories together.

A woman of deep faith, Frances was a devoted Catholic and a longtime parishioner at St. Helen in Sweet Home. Her faith guided her life, shaping her kindness, generosity, and quiet strength.



An active and energetic woman, Frances found joy in many pursuits. She loved playing tennis, skiing, biking along quiet country roads, taking ballet lessons, practicing the piano, and was an avid reader of classic literature.

She also enjoyed gardening, hiking, and walking her dogs.

She played an important role in her family's logging business, often driving parts up into the Cascade Mountains to support operations.

Frances also had a special fondness for Shirley Temple memorabilia. She collected news clippings, photographs, and dolls, and shared how much she admired Shirley Temple and the remarkable career she built.

Frances was preceded in death by her parents, her brother Joe, and her sister Hildegard.

She is survived by her siblings Mary and Herbert, and her nephew Michael and his wife Gail, along with their three children Aidan, Elise and Amalie, who will forever cherish her adventurous spirit, her kindness, and her unwavering love.

Frances had a joyful spirit and a love for life's simple pleasures.

If you happen to enjoy a Mai Tai, please raise a glass in her honor, remembering the joy she brought to so many.

Her life was one of quiet strength, deep loyalty, and joyful exploration, and she will be dearly missed by all who knew her.

A funeral service will be held Saturday, March 28, 2026 at St. Helen Catholic Church in Sweet Home. The rosary service will begin at 11 a.m. Funeral mass will be at 11:30 a.m. Final burial will be at the I.O.O.F Cemetery in Lebanon.

Sweet Home Funeral Chapel is handling the arrangements

Paid Obituary

Wanda Felkins

Sept. 27, 1934 - March 21, 2026

Wanda Sue Felkins, 91, of Sweet Home, passed away March 21, 2026.

She was born Sept. 27, 1934, to Eula Mae (Cress) and Earl Cox in Beggs, Okla.



She graduated from high school in Santa Paula, Calif. She was married to Robert Lee Felkins for 68 years until his passing in 2022.

They moved to Sweet Home in 1986. Wanda worked as an accountant before retiring.

Wanda loved to read books. She enjoyed baking and being with family.

She raised two grandchil-

dren later in life, James and Jamie Felkins.

She was known for her sweet, compassionate nature and her belief in the Lord.

She had a smile for everyone and was a stranger to no one.

She is survived by her sons, Robbie Felkins and Randy Felkins; four grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her husband Robert Felkins (2022); and her son Jim Felkins (2023).

Sweet Home Funeral Chapel is handling the arrangements.

Gerald Shaver

Nov. 28, 1964 - March 12, 2026

Gerald Paul Shaver, 61, of Sweet Home, passed away March 12, 2026.

He was born Nov. 28, 1964 to Anitra Mary (Cornwell) and Elgie Earl Shaver in Orange County, Calif.

He previously lived in Spo-

kane, Wash., Fernwood and Worley, Idaho, Kansas, and California before coming to Sweet Home in 2013.

Gerald was a carpenter. He was a Christian and spent time at the Nazarene Church. He loved to fish and liked to work on old vehicles. He enjoyed spending time with his dog Oreo. He helped cook and deliver food to the homeless.

He is survived by his siblings, Barbara Ross of Albany, Joe Hill of Seattle, Elgie Shaver and Darlene Shaver; stepsons Joe and Jarome; ex-wife Raynetta Hubbard; good friends Cliff and Ginny Cotter; and lots of nieces, nephews and cousins.

He was preceded in death by his parents; twin brother Edward (1981); and brothers Ken, Reuben, Mac and Leander



Shaver; and Jerry Harding.

A memorial will be at 1 p.m. Saturday, April 18, at the Church of Nazarene in Sweet Home.

Sweet Home Funeral Chapel is handling the arrangements.

Death Notices

Larry Dean Bergstrom, 61, of Sweet Home passed away March 23, 2026.

A memorial service will be at 2 p.m. Saturday, April 11, at Full Gospel Church in Sweet Home.

Donations to help with funeral expenses can be sent to Sweet Home Funeral Chapel. Sweet Home Funeral Chapel is handling the arrangements. For updated information, visit www.sweethomefuneral.com.

Darline Louise Byrd, 79, of Lebanon, died March 26, 2026.

Huston Jost Funeral Home is handling the arrangements.

Teddy Lee Dodson Sr., 82, of Sweet Home passed away March 25, 2026.

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

Patricia (Pat) Hendricks, 87, previously of Lebanon, died Feb. 23, 2026.

A celebration of life is planned for April 25 from 2 to 4 p.m. at Santiam Place Event Center in Lebanon.

Musgrove Family Mortuary & West Lawn Memorial Park is handling the arrangements.

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Leonard Sigmund

Nov. 16, 1939 - March 21, 2026

Leonard Dale Sigmund, 86, of Lebanon, passed away March 21, 2026.

He was born in Holton, Kan., on Nov. 16, 1939 at 6 a.m. His father, Walter George Sigmund, was a farmer and his mother, Gwendolyn Esther (Hare), was a housewife.

They bought a farm in rural Circleville, Kan., and Leonard spent most of his younger life there. His earliest memory was fishing in the pond on their farm. He was a farm boy through and through. He hunted rabbits, quail and squirrels. He played in the hay loft and gathered eggs. He helped put up hay on their farm and then helped neighbors put up their hay.



The grange hall organized coyote hunts about once a month to protect their animals. Leonard was usually hunting with them and thought it was a treat to eat lunches (which were usually hot dogs) prepared for them at the grange.

When asked if he had a happy childhood, he would say it was the best. Their lives revolved around the family. On Easter, Christmas, Thanksgiving and other highlights in the family it was common to have parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles and cousins together for food and enjoyment. That was something he enjoyed in his adult life, as well. Having his family and friends come for holiday meals. That was a great joy for him.

In 1963, he was drafted into the Army. He went to Fort Leonard Wood in Missouri for basic training and ended up in Heidelberg, Germany, as a mechanic. He took the opportunity while he was there to visit other countries, like Austria and France, on his leaves. He was discharged in 1965. He returned to Oregon where he had just moved before he was drafted.

Leonard met his wife-to-be when she was working at the Hasty Freeze. He would drive around the lot in circles, buy-

ing something different every round, until he felt he could ask her for a date.

He and Anne were married on May 12, 1967. Three years later, Vicki joined the family, three years after that, Jeff arrived and three years later, Terri brought up the rear. Leonard loved his kids and wanted them to have fun times like he had as a child.

Leonard had already started rock collecting, thanks to his dad. He also loved hunting, fishing, gold panning and estate sales. Now, to these activities, were added camping, picnics and water skiing. Daughter Terri mentioned how she, Vicki and Jeff often got to invite people to these activities so you never knew how many people to expect each time.

Leonard was happy being right in the middle of it. Leonard joined the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, but it took him a while to make that decision. One night, he and the Spirit had a little talk. A day or so later, Leonard came home from work and asked Anne if the coming Saturday would be all right. When she asked him, "All right for what?" He replied, "My baptism."

So 27 years after Anne was baptized, so was he. They were sealed in the temple the next year.

He is survived by his wife, Anne (LaBlue) Sigmund; children: Vicki Hanley, Jeffrey Sigmund and Terri Teichroeb; grandchildren Shelby (Hanley) and her husband John Fink, Maverick Giltamag, Brian Teichroeb, Bradley Teichroeb, Chyanne Hanley, Benjamin Teichroeb; bonus grandchildren Billy Kooistra and Katy Kooistra; great-grandchildren JJ Fink and Fiona Jo Fink; sister Phyllis (Sigmund) Shupe; and many nieces, nephews and cousins.

Leonard was preceded in death by his parents and his granddaughter, Kelsey Hanley (2011).

Services were held Tuesday, March 31, at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in Lebanon. Viewing will be at 10 a.m. The funeral will follow at 11 a.m. Burial, with military honors, will be at Sand Ridge Cemetery in Lebanon.

Sweet Home Funeral Chapel is handling the arrangements.

Paid Obituary

Comfortably Dumb by Bruce Quast



"Aw, that's a shame, honey! I was really looking forward to 'Take Your Daughter to Work' day! I hope you feel better soon!"

TEMPERATURES

DATE	HIGH	LOW	RAIN
3/24	59	45	0.00
3/25	58	38	0.02
3/26	56	29	0.00
3/27	64	31	0.00
3/28	63	35	0.00
3/29	57	38	0.00
3/30	57	40	0.00

RAIN IN INCHES

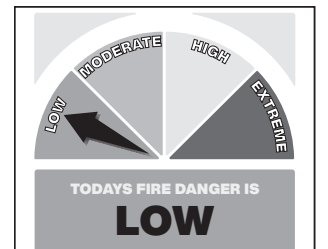
Year to date: **8.44**
4/2/25: **15.78**

FORECAST

DATE	WEATHER	HIGH/LOW
4/2	Showers	53/34
4/3	Cloudy	63/37
4/4	Cloudy	68/42
4/5	Cloudy	71/43
4/6	Cloudy	69/42
4/7	Cloudy	64/40
4/8	Cloudy	63/39

LAKE LEVELS

Foster **619.3**
Green Peter **991.1**



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

CROSSWORD KEY

Puzzle on page 17

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

SUDOKU KEY

Puzzle on page 17

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

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 are 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), **FTOTCD** (Failure to obey traffic control device), **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), **PV** (Probation Violation), **SHMC** (Sweet Home Municipal Court), **SHPD** (Sweet Home Police Department), **SLCH** (Samaritan Lebanon Community Hospital)

MARCH 29

SWEET HOME POLICE

2:06 a.m. - Morgan Jaylene Walker, 28, arrested by Albany police on SHMC warrant in DUII case. Cited to appear April 22.
4:56 p.m. - Caller reported

burn pile with "plastic" smell in 1900 block 19th. Officer responded, contacted male, fire extinguished.

6:12 p.m. - Caller reported large group of juveniles fighting in 1300 block Quince. Second individual reported that she and her friend thought it would be funny to take a little girl's candy and, before they could give it back, other kids started to hit and scratch them. Officers responded, contacted all

juveniles and their guardians. No crimes committed Everyone separated.

LEBANON POLICE

Lebanon police had not submitted a log for this date in time for publication. When available, log will be updated at lebanonlocalnews.com.

LCSO/OSP SWEET HOME/S. COUNTY

2:48 a.m. - Warning issued for illegal camping, 43300 block North River.

LCSO/OSP LEBANON

3:18 a.m. - Jeffery Hazlett, 57, of Turner, cited for DWS, failure to carry proof of insurance, 39500 block Gross.

3:46 a.m. - Deputy issued warning for illegal camping, 32800 block Berlin.

5:25 a.m. - Jesse Knox, 32, of Lebanon, arrested on two Washington County warrants following traffic stop in 34800

See Public Safety, Page 15



Donna & Rob Poirier traveled with longtime friends to New Orleans followed by a Caribbean cruise. This photo was taken at Roatan, Honduras.

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TAKING A TRIP?

Make sure we go with you! Pack along a copy of The New Era, get a picture of yourself with the newspaper in front of a landmark, and send us a photo with appropriate explanatory information to miriam@sweethomenews.com or drop it by our office at 1313 Main St. Sweet Home.

Travel photos selected for print will receive a complimentary gift package courtesy of Memory Making Adventures.

Gift packages are limited to one per person per year. Photos are selected at the editor's discretion. The New Era on the Road photos must be taken at a place of significance, preferably located outside a three-hour radius of Linn County, and our editorial approval.

From our Files



Long-time resident Ed Russell in 1976 stands in front of what was once Sweet Home's high school's first library. The bookcase was saved and restored by Lois Rice.

APRIL 5, 1951

A flurry of activity noted in Sweet Home restaurants and taverns is due to recent anti-gambling raids in Clackamas County. Police Chief John Kinsella said he ordered the removal of all punch boards, slot machines, pinball machines and other devices "which might possibly be considered gambling devices."

Kiwanians are concerned about pool safety, saying civic clubs should help devise a method to provide safe water recreation for youngsters. A club delegate said there is one lifeguard "hampered by lack of equipment" caring for as many as 300 kids in one period. They would like to see the pool equipped with an adequate life guard observation post, more life guards, life guard preservers and swimming pool boundary logs.

APRIL 1, 1976

Sweet Home's City Council approved a taxi service license for Nancy O'Brien, allowing Nancy's Cab Company to open for business immediately. O'Brien said the taxi service is needed in town, mainly due to the elderly population who need help getting around and going grocery shopping.

Senior Ambulance EMT Terry Brooks believes a proposed budget and tax collection takeover of the Sweet Home Ambulance Service by the East Linn Hospital Board would provide many benefits. The hospital board indicated interest in taking responsibility to raise all taxes needed for ambulance service; it has a much wider tax base than the city.

APRIL 4, 2001

State Rep. Jeff Kropf held a town hall meeting in Sweet

Home. Residents told him they'd like to see the state meet its obligation to pay off federal retirees, who recently won a lawsuit against the state, but they didn't want the state to use kicker money to do it. The governor had proposed to use part of the kicker to pay the \$110 million settlement.

Sharon Pryor, Esther Bennett and Peggy Wirth visited Tanzania, bringing with them toothbrushes, postage stamps, clothes and shoes, pens, and medical supplies and vitamins for students of the Maasae Girls Lutheran Secondary School. Sweet Home Evangelical Men provided a \$400 gift to build a small student store where snacks and homemade beadwork could help support the girls, and Fir Lawn Lutheran Church made possible a hydroponics agricultural project.

LEBANON POOL

From page 1

2014. She announced her resignation in August 2025.

Very little is known about the separation, but a publicly available settlement document signed in January 2026 reveals the district settled out of court with Engler for \$96,000 (\$31,680 of which was paid to her attorney), paid by the district's insurance carrier.

The document also reveals that Engler had filed a tort claim against the district in July 2025 arising out of her employment.

Engler told The New Era, "The sport of swimming and the Lebanon Community Pool will always hold a special place in my heart.

"During the nearly 19 years I was employed by the Lebanon Aquatic District, I did my best to provide the highest quality of service to the public. I brought a passion for public service and a strong commitment to stewarding a community resource that means so much to so many.

"As I begin my next chapter, I wish nothing but the best for staff and patrons of the Lebanon Community Pool."

The district has not yet responded with a comment.

Feb. 16

During the board's meeting on Feb. 16, Darla Bulmer, board chair at the time, announced Director Julie Miller's resignation.

With the seat now vacant, Bulmer said she confirmed with former applicant Ross Dewberry whether he would still be interested in joining the board, and moved to appoint him in Miller's seat.

Last August, the board interviewed three candidates to fill outgoing Board Director Mark McAllister's seat, who resigned. They were Elaine Wilder, Robert Waterhouse and Dewberry.

Bulmer explained her decision to select Dewberry because Wilder was appointed to McAllister's seat and Waterhouse had since formed a nonprofit group, Friends of Lebanon Pool.

Waterhouse later told The New Era he would have liked the opportunity to consider removing himself from the nonprofit in order to join the board, stating he would like to see more pool users on the board.

The board expected to hold a public meeting later in the month to start discussions about what repair or renovation projects the pool could proceed with. According to Board Director Kim Kendall, they would be

drawing from a list of maintenance needs prepared some time ago by the former executive director and the school district's COO, William Lewis.

Bulmer said she first wanted to solidify where they were financially before proceeding.

Jim Knoup, of the pool staff, reported a recent maintenance issue that caused the pool to shut down for a night when air bubbles were forming in the main pool, causing reduced visibility. After some investigation, Knoup and others determined the problem may be coming from the gutter system, so they created a "temporary fix" by overfilling the gutter system.

The pump for the main pool also needed repairs after a float on the modulating valve came off, and a broken step in the deep end was epoxied for \$1,000 until new steps can be installed during an upcoming pool renovation.

Knoup also reported the warm pool's ProMinent chemical feeder went out, causing him to have to manually treat the pool every hour until the repair could be made, and new ADA stairs were purchased.

In other business:

- The board approved a resolution authorizing a change of banking institution.

- The board moved to acknowledge the change of their lawyer, Eileen Eakins, to a new law firm, Cable Huston LLP, and agreed to continue retaining her as their lawyer.

- Executive Director Jill Smith, attending via Zoom, reported the pool had more than 100 sign ups for lessons.

- Board Director Jereme Guenther reported he is, as treasurer, adjusting some categories on the budget

income to be more program-specific, which will result in year over year numbers looking different. He also reported the pool has been providing more support for the swim club, resulting in less time/income for lessons and programs.

- Director Kim Kendall reported the local Conservative Alliance (also known as the Candidate Identification and Support Committee, or CISC PAC) donated \$1,000 to the pool.

- Wilder reported she gave beanies to senior swimmers during a recognition event, and presented ideas for how to raise money for the pool through sales. She also reported staff is preparing the outside walls of the building for a mural, which is anticipated to be done during the dry season in partnership with local schools.

March 16

During their March 16 meeting, Kendall proposed that she and Bulmer be appointed as co-directors for the budget this year, which the board approved.

"We both have really busy jobs, and together, for something like this, we make a whole person," Kendall said. "I'm really good at the details and the meeting parts and the timelines... and she has been working with the numbers."

For the past decade and more, it has been the executive director of the pool - hired by the Board of Directors - who was appointed as budget officer.

Looking at other local tax-funded, governmental districts, in the City of Lebanon, the city manager - who is hired by City Council - would be appointed as budget officer. For the Lebanon Community School District, the finance director under the supervision of the superintendent - who is hired by the school board - would

be appointed as budget officer. For the Lebanon Fire District, the fire chief - hired by the board of directors - is usually appointed.

To put it into perspective, the pool board's move to appoint itself as budget officer would be like the mayor proposing he and the city council president act as budget officer, or the school district board chair proposing he and the vice chair act as budget officer.

The board approved the four budget committee members, who are Laura Bloedel, Jan Pedersen, Susan Williamson and Michael Fox, with alternate Terry Cadigan.

Kendall said the board would like to form two committees, which would allow each committee to come back to board meetings with status updates on certain matters.

She said she, Wilder and Smith would form a Public Relations & Communications Committee.

She told Guenther, Dewberry and Smith she'd like them to be on the Technology Committee, which would entail working on website stuff and Internet connection functions in the conference room.

Guenther "counter proposed" that he work under Smith, the executive director of the pool, which would give Smith the authority to make decisions that "should be run through her anyway," and reduce the need to take official minutes from committee meetings.

Kendall said it would not be any official, legal, public committee that would require him to take minutes.

Listening in on the board meeting through Zoom, Smith messaged Dewberry, saying it has already been passed that he would work with Guenther on the web-

See Lebanon Pool, Page 5

THE
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Poll indicates support for Lebanon jail levy

During the Lebanon City Council meeting, held March 25, City Manager Ron Whitlatch announced the city received survey results from a poll intended to determine whether the city should ask voters for a levy supporting the municipal jail.

Pollster JL Wilson said it's normal to receive about 300 responses from about 10,000 polls conducted, and he had to "work just a little extra" to 296 valid responses from the (approx.) 8,600 contacts he had available to reach out to.

He shared his analysis of how respondents responded to the questions, and what it means. The key points centered around how respondents felt about reopening the jail, whether they would support the cost of reopening the jail, and how they responded when they learned their taxes would not increase from the levy due to the fact one of their current taxes will fall off the tax roll.

When asked "How important is it for you to reopen the Lebanon Municipal Jail?" they received a 63.7% positive response.

Of this question, Wilson said he'd be concerned if it was 60% or less.

"In terms of is there a community sentiment that supports, generally, the reopening of the jail, I think you could say yes, and that is not

a hole in the boat for us."

Yet, when presented with the background information on the jail, the plan and the cost, those polled gave a 48.6% supportive response.

"That's not a winning number," Wilson said. "I typically like to see numbers come in 60-plus (percent) in order to feel like it has a reasonable chance for success."

He noted, however, that voters are not going to see on their ballot that the levy request will be offset by the cost of a bond that is coming off the debt roll.

He told the council he would never recommend a city go out for a levy with that 48.6% response rate, "but we know there is more to the story."

When respondents learned they would not see an increase in their taxes because of that paid off debt, the support skyrocketed back up to 66.3%.

"What that tells me is that if you decide to move forward with it, this has to be your top message," Wilson said.

The second most important information he believes the city should educate voters on is the message that reopening the jail would reduce repeat offenses and increase community safety.

To summarize his entire analysis of his poll, Wilson said, "The measure as

it stands I don't believe will pass unless you can absolutely persuade people and your campaign is focused on the message point that it will not increase their property tax rates."

The council will make a decision at the next meeting on whether to move forward with the levy request.

A PDF of the poll results will be available in this story on the newspaper's website.

In other business:

• Dr. Elaine Wilder told the council the Lebanon Aquatic District recently learned it will not receive \$500,000 funding from the school district for pool repairs. She wanted the city to be aware of the circumstances and asked for any advice they could provide.

• The council approved a \$2,187,522 contract with Kennedy Jenks for work on the city's wastewater treatment plant Biosolids Treatment Improvements Project. The work will give the city 30% design plans "so we can better tune-in exactly what we need for funding and cost estimating" for needed upgrades and other pre-engineering work, Public Works Director Jason Williams said.

• The council renewed a 23-month contract and 5% increase (\$27,300 annual) for public defense services at the municipal court.

LEBANON POOL

From page 4

site.

Kendall elaborated to The New Era that "last year, at the director's request, the board voted to have Jereme assist Jill with the website. Ross was a volunteer who helped on an as-needed basis."

Guenther clarified at the meeting that he helps Smith with the current website and is helping figure out how to mesh Square with the website in order to be able to take payments online. Bulmer also noted they are working to comply with the state requirement making the website ADA-compliant, including publishing all documents online.

Addressing "ongoing pool renovations" on the agenda, Kendall only stated, "We have had some conversations with a bank. I don't have any feedback yet from those conversations, but next month, hopefully we will have a plan and we will be able to determine what moving forward with the repairs looks like. We have to decide by the next meeting, mostly the timeline issue is the permits ("and booking the contractors," Bulmer added), so we'll know next month for sure."

Bulmer and Kendall said they are "still sticking with the same April 6" date, but the significance of the date

was never explained, even after The New Era reached out via email. Further, while it appears some discussions are being had about what repairs they're considering, those plans or ideas have not yet been revealed publicly.

Bulmer said they will have a special meeting on the subject, if needed, and "it's been extremely positive," ("It has been very positive," Kendall added), though it was never made clear what "it" is.

Wilder asked Kendall if the shortfall is still \$400,000, which Kendall affirmed as "right now, yeah."

When asking for clarification via email about this agenda item brief, a question about what the "shortfall" means was never answered, as well as other questions regarding how much they had and how much more they needed for repairs.

Kendall only explained, "At the February board meeting, we reported that we were contacting several banks about potential loan options and received positive initial feedback, but nothing that warranted calling a special meeting."

It should be noted that there were no such discussions during that public meeting.

"On the morning of the March board meeting, we had a promising call with

See Lebanon Pool, Page 8



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1:00 PM - 06:00 PM
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Wednesday, June 3, 2026
12:00 PM - 05:00 PM
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Friday, June 26, 2026
12:00 PM - 05:00 PM
Veterans Care Center of Oregon
600 North 5th St, Lebanon

Wednesday, April 8, 2026
10:00 AM - 03:00 PM
Lebanon Community Hospital
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Tuesday, April 28, 2026
9:00 AM - 02:00 PM
Sweet Home High School
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Rep. Cate reports on short session at Chamber Forum Lunch

By Scott Swanson
Of The New Era

Money and power moves were big focuses of conversation among legislators during this year's short legislative session, state Rep. Jami Cate, who represents east Linn County, told attendees Friday, March 27, at the Lebanon Chamber of Commerce's monthly Forum Lunch.

Cate was there to report on the session, which ended March 6.

In addition to reporting on how legislators escaped a budget crunch by taking advantage of a federal tax code change that gave the state more money than it expected, Cate spent most of her time Friday fielding questions from the audience.

She told attendees she wasn't there to talk about her campaign for the District 6 state Senate seat, and she generally steered clear of that topic in a question-and-answer session that lasted a little over half an hour.

She discussed the gas tax referendum, which looks to be on the ballot on May 19, and the effort to get Petition 28 (IP28, known as the "PEACE Act" (People for Elimination of Animal Cruelty Exemptions), on the ballot to ask Oregonians to remove legal exemptions for hunting, fishing, trapping, and animal agriculture.

She also spent quite a bit of her time discussing the increasing polarization of state politics and the bipartisan support she was able to secure for her House Joint Memorial 201, which calls for a permanent federal income tax exemption for wildfire relief, including legal damages.

In response to a request from Chamber Executive Di-



State Rep. Jami Cate speaks at the Forum Lunch.

rector Rebecca Grizzle, Cate recounted her journey to the legislature, saying that she was born and raised in Lebanon, where her family's been farming for generations.

"I fell in love with this town and fell in love with community service and still wanted to do the farming thing," she said. "I loved that and wanted to be a part of my family's legacy there."

She was involved with the Strawberry Festival for more than 15 years, was a founding member of the Lebanon Museum Foundation and was involved with other community outreach and charity efforts.

She said that eventually she came to realize that, despite her initial reluctance, in Salem "it's just service on a different level. It was the same thing that I was doing in my free time."

In the legislature, she said, "I can fight for the things that I value. I can fight for my community. I can fight for a way of life. And I can be of service to even more people with my time than I can just staying

here in Lebanon."

Dodging Budget Bullet

Cate launched into her comments with a review of the short session, stating that although budget woes were a big concern among legislators, a "partial disconnect" in the federal tax code gave Oregon \$320 million for the legislature to apportion.

She said she opposed that because "there's \$320 million in what should have been tax savings to Oregonians that were no longer going to stay in Oregonians' pockets that helped fill that deficit."

"I'm a firm believer that we don't have a revenue problem," Cate said. "We have a budgeting priorities problem, because the state budget has just continued to grow, grow, grow. And it seems like the philosophy is 'it's never enough.' And I don't think that best serves Oregonians or especially our rural communities, but that was definitely at the forefront of what we saw in session again."

She acknowledged that the legislature was able to backfill

the ODOT budget without gas tax money.

"We aren't going to see those cuts in maintenance, which was a huge concern going into the long session last year, and then again this year, when the referendum was successful."

Gas Tax Referendum

In response to another question, Cate said, in a joking tone, that the reason for the move of the referendum from the November election to May 19 "depends whose version of that you believe," then quoted Senate President Peter Wagner as saying, "Is it political? Absolutely."

She explained that Democratic leaders were concerned because "they do not want to share the ballot with their very unpopular gas tax vote (in November)."

She recounted the history of the referendum effort, noting that Gov. Tina Kotek, in particular, wanted it moved because she will be on the ballot in November.

"It's probably not actually political. Not at all. Yeah," Cate concluded, wryly.

'PEACE Act'

In response to what the questioner described as "the anti-fishing hunting" initiative, Cate noted that proponents of the measure to ban the killing of animals have tried several times to get it on the ballot and "each time they've gotten a little closer with signatures" and because the proposal has some 77,000 signatures and "they still have time to get the rest of them, I would say it's a very real threat that we will see this on the ballot."

She observed that similar efforts have "popped up in other states" and multiple efforts to get a similar initiative passed in Colorado have been unsuccessful.

But, Cate warned, as occurs in the legislature, "the same ideas keep coming, and each time they get a little bit more support, and if they can keep coming, eventually that becomes a real threat."

The proposed initiative, she said, would outlaw traditional animal husbandry practices, as well as hunting and fishing.

"We wouldn't be able to raise our own meat here in Oregon, any more," Cate said. "Most of our recreation would be shut down - even a lot of rodent control."

Farmers, like herself, would be unable to kill voles, which ruin crops, she noted.

"When the voles come and want to destroy my whole crop, tough cookies, right?"

The best way to combat such efforts, she said, is not to sign the petition to get it on the ballot.

'Radical Extremism' in Salem


In response to another question about things constit-

See Legislator, Page 7

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Grant will fund new lights in Fair & Expo buildings

New high-efficiency lighting systems funded by a Business Oregon Grant will soon be installed in three buildings at the Linn County Fair & Expo Center.

Linn County Commissioners Roger Nyquist, Sherrie Sprenger and Will Tucker approved the project at their March 24 meeting.

In a written report to the commissioners, Fair & Expo Center Director Kris Barnes said the project will cost about \$174,783.60 supported by a \$277,000 Business Oregon Grant.

The Cooper Lighting System fixtures and controls will come from Solus Lighting and Controls in Portland through a cooperative state procurement system.

Upgrades will be made in the Willamette Expo Center, 6,000 square feet, Santiam Building, 21,000 square feet and Cascade Livestock Pavilion, 42,000 square feet.

"These buildings are in need of lighting upgrades to improve energy efficiency through the use of LED technology," Barnes wrote. "The existing fixtures are fluorescent T-5HO, which are no longer available due to the statewide phase-out of fluorescent lamps."

Barnes added: "The proposed upgrades will enhance overall light levels and quality, improve emergency egress lighting systems and increase the flexibility of these spaces through the addition of dimming capabilities and ad-

vanced fixture controls."

The Linn County Fair & Expo Center opened in 1997.

In other business, the commissioners:

Were informed that 21 young people from Linn County, four from Benton County and two from Lincoln County were housed at the Juvenile Detention Center in February. The average length of stay was about nine days. There were 30 referrals and there are 189 youth in the Probation Unit. The Victim Advocate made 109 contacts.

Approved the following budgetary transfers: \$205,000 within the Road Fund from contingency to Personal Services and Materials and Services; \$115,000 within the General Fund within the

Justice of the Peace Courts; \$161,000 within the General Fund from contingency, Personnel Services, Materials and Services for the offices of County Attorney, Veterans Services, Medical Examiner and General Administration; \$700,000 within the Health Fund from Personal Services and other requirements to Capital Outlay and other requirements – Mental Health, Alcohol & Drug and Environmental Health – for office renovations.

Approved annexation petitions to move properties owned by the following families into the Brownsville Rural Fire Protection District: Thomas and Jamie Griffin, Scott and Renee Williams, Shawn and Tracy Garber, Rex

and Amy Lowther, Zachary and Courtney Lincoln, Douglas and Tawnya Dailey, Randy and Paul Geil and Joe Dooley. A public hearing is scheduled for 10 a.m. on April 7 in the Board Room.

Appointed Jeremiah Barawis and Sophia Adams to the Linn County Compensation Board. The board typically meets annually and as needed to recommend a compensation schedule for county elective officers and review the compensation paid to county employees as compared to state employees and local public bodies and private businesses.

Media contact: Alex Paul, Linn County Communications Officer

LEGISLATOR

From page 6

uents should be watching for, Cate said the "probably biggest" issues she sees in Salem is polarization in society and between the parties, perpetuating "extremism over common-sense solutions."

"As we have continued down this path of seeing really more radical extremism in our politics, our primaries between Democrats and Republicans, it is a race to be furthest right and a race to be the furthest left. So we start seeing more and more radical politicians showing up in Salem."

She noted some Democrats are running on a "socialist party platform."

All that makes it "harder and harder to work together, to really address the issues impacting our communities, when you have such radical idealism that is driving the reasons why people are there."

"When that is their mindset and that is the voters that they have to go home to and ask to be re-elected by, it makes it really hard to have common-sense solutions, have balanced solutions that work for all of Oregon."

Cate went on to say that she has been able to work across the aisle and sometimes the hindrance has been lack of communication more than political entrenchment.

In answer to one question, Cate said she is proud of the bipartisan support for her House Joint Memorial 201, which calls for a permanent federal income tax exemption for wildfire relief, including legal damages.

She noted that, as a Republican, she has to have at least eight Democrats join her, along with all 23 Republicans in the House, to get a bill passed. Plus, presiding officers have to cooperate to even get a bill to the floor for a vote.

"There's a lot of things that require bipartisanship if you want to pass legislation," she said. "I have been able to do that. Yes, the thing I'm probably most proud of is that. We

were able to bring enough Democrats to the table to have conversations around meaningful tax relief for wildfire victims."

Advocacy Counts

Cate said citizens need to understand that legislators listen when constituents, particularly if there are many voicing an opinion, have something to say.

She acknowledged that the number of bills introduced in Salem can be intimidating and constituents wonder if legislators have time to listen to them.

"The best way to start is actually to figure out some key issues that you are passionate about or you're even concerned about, and find an advocacy group that is already doing the hard work of sifting through the bills," she advised.

"They can really be your guide and the chamber has been good about that connecting our business community with some of the kind of more bite-sized information that's coming down the pike: 'Here's some, you know, a handful of

bills that would be radically impactful to our businesses, right? That makes it a lot easier than trying to go find all that on your own."

She said one of her most important bills was the result of a single constituent bringing a problem to her attention.

"And now, a law got passed and fixed that problem for everyone else in the state."

"Your one voice can be meaningful, and it can especially be meaningful when it's not just you, but you are one of thousands who show up on an issue telling your story."

She said even form letters can be effective, not because legislators necessarily read every one, but because legislative staffers keep tabs on numbers of responses received.

Legislators can vote on "dozens" of bills a day during a session, "and most of the time I've heard from zero constituents on a single one of them," Cate said. "That's where I'm having to use my best judgment of knowing where my community is probably going to be at on this issue."

"I love to know where people are, so I'm not guessing. When people actually give meaningful feedback of where they are, how this is going to impact our lives, that gives me ammunition to, like if it's a bad policy, to go and tell those true stories."

She urged the audience to "never underestimate the value of your own voice."

Federal vs. State in Forests

In response to a question about the state's response to increased federal timber harvests, Cate said although Oregon's government "is controlled by a notion that we should just not touch our forests, I think anyone who really has experience with a forest understands that you can't go from having very managed forests to walking away from all of it all at once and not expect these mega fires, because Mother Nature hadn't been taking care of them."

"I don't agree with that logic that we should just leave all of our forests to be this tinder box and threatening our communities. But I will say

this: That philosophy cannot be imposed upon the federal government."

She pointed out that about a third of Oregon lands are federally owned "and the federal government doesn't answer to Oregon. They supersede Oregon."

She said "over a dozen bills" were introduced during the short session to try to counteract federal policies, such as limiting local agencies' cooperation with the federal government, particularly around land sales.

"Basically, a lot of a lot of people in Salem don't like our president, so they want to try to stick it to him," Cate said. "OK, except the practicality is the federal government doesn't answer to the state government. So the federal government can manage those lands and make their own decisions as allowed by the law."

"So, if the state doesn't like it, the federal government's going to do it anyway."



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LEBANON POOL

From page 5

a bank; however, moments before the meeting began, I was informed that the additional funding previously expected from the school was no longer available," Kendall said. "We are actively working on determining the best path forward."

In other business:

• The board swore-in Ross Dewberry as a board director.

• Bulmer resigned her seat as board chair, replaced by Kendall.

• Wilder had informed the board earlier that Stephen Hodges, of BosonHub, would like to build a new website for the pool free of charge.

• Waterhouse delivered a \$1,100 check on behalf of the Friends of Lebanon Pool to be used toward the warm pool steps, donated by Susan Morton and Jennifer Bryant. He also introduced the nonprofit's first fundraising event this year, Splash For Cash, which will run May 3-9. The website is also live now, at FriendsOfLebanonPool.com.

• Peggy Snyder, pool user for 22 years, expressed concern about the deep water jogging class, which she described as "disintegrating" due to lack of a consistent leader for the class. She said the class size used to be "huge," but has declined since class instructor Rose Kress left.

• Bulmer reported on behalf of Smith that warm water class sizes have increased and lessons have been "popular."

• Bulmer said "revenue has been strong in certain categories," but there's been a decline in memberships despite participation being good. "Overall we're doing very well. Expenses are un-

See Lebanon Pool, Page 14

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HOME & GARDEN

Spring 2026

Butterflies need proper room, board to stay in gardens

By Kym Pokorny

Oregon State University Extension

Fragile, beautiful and fascinating, butterflies flutter their way into our gardens and seem to just as quickly wing their way out.

It isn't because they necessarily want to leave, said Heather Stoven, an entomologist with the Oregon State University Extension Service. Rather they don't find what they need to park themselves permanently.

As detailed in Extension's publication "The Wildlife Garden: How to Create a Butterfly Garden," butterflies require specific room and board to have their needs met. As with all wildlife, shelter, water and food are a given, but for butterflies, the range of repast is more limited.

When butterflies change from egg to larvae, or caterpillar, they come out ravenous and with chewing mouthparts, two things that set them up to damage plants, a condition gardeners must tolerate or forgo butterflies except in the most ephemeral way.

Fortunately for the gardener – not at all fortunate for the butterfly – only a few plants qualify as nutrition for the caterpillar, sometimes just one. These host plants must be present, Stoven pointed out, or the caterpillars starve to death. (See below for some common butterflies and their preferences.)

"If you see a weird worm creeping along one of your plants, don't kill it until you have identified it," she said. "It may well be a butterfly caterpillar, maybe a rare one that you didn't expect."

To identify the caterpillar take it to your county Extension office where a master gardener will help. Call first to see if the office is open. Or snap a good photo and submit it along with your question to Ask Extension.

In addition to adding host plants – and tolerating the caterpillars' nibbling – you'll need to plant some of the nectar plants favored by adults. Many of these – zinnias, various daisies, asters, goldenrod and milkweed – may already have a place in the garden. Since butterflies are nearsighted, Stoven said, it's best to plant one color of one species in a swath; a block of blue asters for swallowtails or a yellow moon of goldenrod for red admirals.

Fragrance plays a part, too, so don't forget the sweet smells of lavender, mint, sweet William and honeysuckle. Around the nectar and host plants, it's important to provide taller plants to act as protection from wind. During winter, shelter becomes more important for hibernating adults and caterpillars, who like to live in crevices in trees, walls, under mulch or leaf litter, even in empty sheds.

And somewhere there must be a sunny spot for the butterflies to warm their blood. They rarely take flight when temperatures are below 60 degrees, Stoven said. Water, too, is essential. Design a butterfly puddle by sinking a shallow

dish right up to the lip in the ground and fill it almost to the top with wet sand, which they'll sip from.

And the usual reminder: Using chemicals in the garden is counterproductive when trying to attract wildlife.

Though the focus recently is on the monarch, Stoven noted that not much is known about the western monarch and its migration, which could be why not many are seen on the west side of the Cascades. That doesn't make planting native milkweed, monarchs' only host plant, any less important.

"It certainly doesn't hurt to plant milkweed just in case," she said. "But it makes more sense to plant it for other types of butterflies that are native to this area as well."

Here's a partial list of butterflies seen this time of year and their hosts and nectar plants:

- Western tiger swallowtail. Host plants: big-leaf maple, willow, aspen, cottonwood. Nectar plants: common lilac, rhododendron, honeysuckle, milkweed, mock orange, sweet William, lavender, verbena, asters

- Pale swallowtail. Host plants: buckbrush, cherry, plum, hawthorn, cascara, oceanspray. Nectar plants: oceanspray, columbine, garden mint, thistle, blackberry, penstemon, sweet William, asters

- Pure white. Host plants: pine, Douglas-fir, true fir, hemlock, redcedar. Nectar plants: dusty miller, daisies, coreopsis, lobelia, goldenrod, strawflower

- Red admiral. Host plant: stinging nettle. Nectar plants: daisy, aster, thistle, dandelion, goldenrod, milkweed, fireweed

- Painted lady. Host plants: mostly thistle, sunflower, pearly everlasting, hollyhock. Nectar plants: Oregon grape, rabbitbrush, zinnia, dandelion, aster, cosmos, milkweed, purple coneflower

- Great spangled fritillary. Host plant: violet. Nectar plants: gloriosa daisy, thistle, verbena, milkweed

- Monarch. Host plant: milkweed. Nectar plants: milkweed, lantana, lilac, cosmos, goldenrod, zinnia

- Woodland skipper. Host plant: grasses. Nectar plants: bluebeard, lavender, oxeye daisy, garden sage, pearly everlasting, black-eyed Susan, aster

- *About the OSU Extension Service: The Oregon State University Extension Service shares research-based knowledge with people and communities in Oregon's 36 counties. OSU Extension addresses issues that matter to urban and rural Oregonians. OSU Extension's partnerships and programs contribute to a healthy, prosperous and sustainable future for Oregon.*





Garden enthusiasts scoop soil into tiny cups and add chosen seeds to the element during an opportunity to start a fresh seedling for their garden.

Growing Expert Gardeners

Master Gardeners of OSU Extension Service kicked off its free weekly series of garden lectures on Saturday, March 28. On this particular day, Master Gardener Sheryl Casteen provides a thorough overview and tips on how to grow strong plants.

Casteen, who is hosting this event for free, said her goal in life is to help everyone do better with organic gardening, which not only provides better nutrition, but also exercise.

The series, which so far has drawn in more than 100 registered attendees, continues every Saturday through May 2, from 9:30 a.m. to 12 p.m. at the Lebanon Senior Center, 80 Tangent St. Each class offers free seeds, planting supplies, information and a hands-on planting activity.

Register by emailing casteen@aol.com. Provide your first and last name, and phone number.



The auditorium at the Lebanon Senior Center is filled with guests who came to learn about gardening. - Photos by Sarah Brown

Shrubs with pop can spruce up your yard



Japanese Barberry

- Wiki photo by Opiola Jerzy

It's easy to grab the pretty flowers staring back at you from the nursery shelves but try straying from the usual and plant vibrant shrubs to spice up the garden.

Experts with the Oregon State University Extension Service suggest looking for shrubs with a range of shapes and sizes of foliage to contrast with the plants around them. Also, look at the color of the foliage: golden, gray and variegated leaves add pops of color and draw the eye through the garden.

Recommendations for shrubs with interesting foliage that grow well in Western Oregon:

'Sundance' Mexican orange (*Choisya ternata*): Bright golden yellow foliage and white flowers in the early summer that are scented like orange blossoms. Even the foliage has a citrus-like fragrance when crushed. It needs partial to full sun and well-drained soil and even water. Grows 5 to 6 feet tall. Hardy to Zone 7.

'Goshiki' false holly (*Osmanthus heterophyllus*): It looks like a holly plant, but it's not a holly. New leaves start out reddish-pink, then become light orange and pink, then turn cream, gray-green and gold. This broadleaf evergreen shrub needs partial to full sun and regular watering. Reaches 3 to 5 feet tall, 4 feet wide. Hardy to Zone 6.

'Rose Glow' variegated Japanese barberry (*Berberis thunbergii* f. *atropurpurea* 'Rose Glow'): Dramatic deciduous shrub that unfolds new growth of deep burgundy leaves splashed with pink and cream. The colorful show lasts until fall when the foliage takes on its fall colors of red, orange and golden yellow. Red fruits follow small yellow flowers that hide among the leaves. Bees love it, but deer and rabbits avoid it. Give it full sun to light shade with occasional water. Grows to 6 feet tall and wide. Hardy to Zone 4.

In Western Oregon, plant shrubs any time of year when the ground is not frozen. For more information about planting and caring for shrubs, view the OSU Extension guides below.

- "Gardening with Oregon Native Plants West of the Cascades"
- "Mulching Woody Ornamentals with Organic Materials"

- Oregon State University Extension

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Oregon is ideal for strawberries; now is time to plant

By Kym Pokorny
Oregon State University Extension

Oregon is one of the best places to grow strawberries, and early spring is the time to plant new strawberry plants.

Gardeners in Oregon can choose from several flavorful cultivars, or varieties. If you plan it right, you can pick ripe fruit for your family through most of the growing season.

Strawberries fall into three categories, each with several varieties. June-bearers produce one crop per year, usually during June. Everbearers produce two crops per year, one in June and one in August. Day-neutrals produce an almost continuous crop from May through early fall.

Varieties typically grown in Oregon are June-bearers, which are ideal if large numbers of strawberries are needed at one time, such as for jam or freezing. June-bearers will have better quality and texture than everbearers or day-neutrals. For strawberries throughout the season, plant day-neutrals, which have better fruit quality than everbearers.

Strawberries are self-pollinating, so you don't need to pair them with another variety to increase yield like you do with blueberries. Strawberries have better yield and larger fruit with increased pollination from bees, so keeping a bee-friendly garden is a good idea.

Once you've decided on the type of strawberry to grow, you'll want to choose a variety.

For June-bearing, there's 'Hood,' which gives one good flush of berries in June and July and is the standard bearer for flavor.

But most people will lean toward the day-neutral varieties. 'Albion' has large fruit and stores well for fresh eating. 'Seascape,' which thrives in Oregon, bears smaller fruit throughout the season.

Readily available in the ever-bearing category is the older variety 'Quinault,' but its popularity is not what it was before better varieties arrived on the market.

More varieties are recommended in "Strawberry Cultivars for Western Oregon and Washington." There are a few suggested for colder areas, as well. Charts in the publication indicate when and how much the plant bears; type of berry and flavor; and susceptible diseases.

Plant in full sun for best production. Build a raised bed 12 inches high by tilling in organic material, preferably compost, but anything is better than nothing.

There are two ways to plant strawberries – the matted-row and hill systems. Matted-row is preferred for June-bearers and hill for day-neutral and everbearers. To make a matted-row planting, place berries 12 to 15 inches apart in 2-foot-wide rows with beds 3 to 4 feet apart. The runners, which root and make new plants, will fill in the rest of the space and result in a dense planting. As the runners grow outside of the bed, push them back into the bed where they'll make new plants.

In the hill system keep plants 12 to 15 inches apart alternating in double- or tri-

ple-wide rows. Aisles should be 1½ to 2 feet wide. Cut off all runners every two to three weeks. It's best to wait until runners have formed "daughter" plants but have not rooted. This will give you one large plant in each spot instead of the daughters produced in the matted-row system.

Use a balanced fertilizer with the three numbers (percent nitrogen, phosphorus and potassium) on the front label equal or close to equal – 16-16-16, for example. Check the label and divide the overall amount recommended by the number of applications needed throughout the season. June-bearing strawberries get fertilizer following renovation after the fruit is finished. Everbearers and day-neutrals get several applications throughout the season. Refer to the above publication for more detailed instructions. Use a garden tool or broom to sweep fertilizer off leaves and always water after feeding.

Don't be dismayed if strawberries don't bear much the first year. Plants will produce a full crop the next year and two to four seasons after that before production dwindles. At that point, new plants will need to go in. Start a new patch in the year your existing one is in its last season so you don't skip a year of fruit. Day-neutral strawberries, however, should only be kept for two years in Oregon and will produce a nice crop the first year. Remove the first two flushes of flowers to encourage a well-developed root system.

To get maximum yield, never let plants be stressed by lack of water. Keep newly set strawberries well irrigated with about 1 to 1½ inches of water a week. Don't saturate the soil – strawberries dislike wet feet. Let the soil dry out to the touch (up to the first knuckle) before watering down to 6 to 8 inches. Strawberries don't do well with weeds so if you irrigate properly the plant will grow stronger and outcompete the

them.

Annual renovation is necessary for June-bearers but not day-neutral or ever-bearing. After June-bearers have finished producing berries, use a string trimmer or rotary mower and cut plants to about 2 inches above the crown. Remove the debris, but don't rake vigorously or you'll damage the crowns.

Strawberries are susceptible to verticillium wilt so it's a good idea to rotate beds periodically, especially for day-neutrals. Spotted wing drosophila can be a pest; the best control is to keep your beds clean. Pick berries regularly, try to avoid a wet environment and keep runners pruned. The natural pesticide spinosad, sold under various brands, is one of the best treatments if they do get started on your fruit.

More information on growing strawberries is available in these OSU Extension publications:

- "Growing Strawberries in Your Home Garden"
- "Strawberry Cultivars for Oregon"





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REDUCE:

The best way to discover where you can reduce waste is to actually sort through your trash.

- What does each family member throw away?
- What materials take up the most space?
- Is anything reusable or repairable?
- Can you reduce the amount of disposable products you use?
- Can you substitute products and packaging made of reusable, recyclable, or nonhazardous materials?



RECYCLE:

These items are currently recyclable in our system

Items Accepted for Recycling

All items must be free of food and other contaminants. Please rinse properly.

PAPER: Mixed waste paper • Magazines & catalogues • Newspaper • Telephone books
Junk mail • Cardboard • Cereal & other dry food boxes • Paper bags & sacks

METALS: Clean Aluminum cans
Soda cans • Tin cans

PLASTICS: Plastic bottles #1's and #2's



REUSE:

Making use of your mountain of plastic bags:

- Use them as bin liners.
- Place them in the bottom of plant pots and hanging basket they act as great drainage systems.
- Scrunch them up to surround items when you're packaging as an alternative to bubble wrap.
- Use them in the garden to hold your grass cuttings and hedge trimmings before transfer to a compost bin.
- Use them when packing for a holiday to keep dirty/wet clothes and shoes away from dry clothing.

Making use of your mountain of paper:

- After children's drawings and paintings have been displayed for a while they can be used to wrap presents.
- Old calendars, colorful pictures, etc. can be used to make your own envelopes. You can unstick a used envelope and use it as a template for making envelopes.
- Junk mail can be used as scrap paper, or as bedding for pets.
- Pet shops appreciate old newspapers.
- Old magazines are appreciated by: Doctor and Dentist Offices • Motels • Friends

Making use of household waste in the garden:

- Aluminum trays from pies and cakes make ideal 'drip saucers' to put under potted plants.
- Lawn clippings can be used to cover weeds and keep from growing in the garden through winter.
- Broken crockery can be used as drainage at the bottom of potted plants.
- Old newspapers (including those gathered from your friends) can be used to mulch and weed control the garden. Wet newspaper and place thickly on the garden. Cover with bark or stones.
- Plastic milk bottles can be used to hold snail bait and are pet proof.



COMPOST:

What Do You Need to Home Compost?

All you need is enthusiasm, yard or food waste (except meat or dairy products), and some space. Compost piles don't need to be enclosed, although many people use a bin or similar enclosure. Compost bins can be purchased, or you can easily construct one with common materials such as chicken wire, snow fencing, lumber or used pallets. Other tools that come in handy for composting are a garden hose, wheelbarrow and common garden tools.

Getting Started:

A 4x4x4 foot area out of direct sunlight is ideal for your compost pile. Choose an easily accessible spot on a grass or soil base. Composting can begin any time of year, but many people start in the fall when leaves are abundant. Organic materials should be mixed, adding water as needed so that the materials feel like a moist, wrung-out sponge. The compost pile should be turned after a few weeks so that the outside layers are exchanged with the center of the pile. Turn compost piles about once a month, except in cold winter conditions. Water can be added during turning, if necessary.

Sports Roundup: SH baseball struggles on Spring Break trip

After winning its first two games of the season, Sweet Home's baseball team ran into some tough opponents during Spring Break, losing four games at the Riverhawk Baseball Invitational in The Dalles March 23-26.

Playing with a limited lineup, the Huskies lost 4-3 to The Dalles, 13-2 versus Tillamook, 12-0 to Phoenix, and 16-0 to Gladstone.

"It was definitely a rough week. We played some of the top teams in 4A at this tournament," noted Coach Evan Teter. "I think it was good for us to see. It was helpful to see that while the scores didn't look pretty, if a few things would have ended in our favor we had the ability to compete with every team."

"We lacked a lot of focus and attention to detail this week, but with some small tweaks we can be back to the team we saw in our first two games."

Errors were a large part of the losses; the Huskies totaled 20 in just the four games.

Offensively, Sweet Home struggled as well, finishing with 28 strikeouts and only 21 total hits.

"We had some fear of failure this week," Teter said. "We are still working to develop our mental game. We were pressuring ourselves instead of playing loose and having fun."

"Some of the guys were at the field on Friday, a day we gave the guys off, because they saw there was a lot of room for improvement. I'm excited to see how they respond to the adversity we ran into this week."

In the game versus Tillamook, the Huskies tried a carousel of pitchers to try to slow the Cheesemakers' offense, but nothing sufficed, with various Sweet Home pitchers allowing at least two runs and multiple hits.

"Despite the results, our pitching staff did well," Teter said. "They did a good job of challenging hitters and making them put the ball in play so our defense could get outs; we just struggled executing on the defensive end."

Against Phoenix, JV player Tatum Hoffman was called up to relieve Lynkin Royer after he gave up 11 runs in four innings. Hoffman pitched just over an inning claiming five strikeouts on just 27 pitches. Only six of his pitches were not counted as strikes.

"Tatum had a great outing," Teter said. "I'm excited to see his development over his high school career. He was definitely helpful this week."

"Something we've talked about this season so far is our energy level and not letting results dictate what we are bringing," Teter said, commenting on how the Huskies often nose-dive when they go down early in games. "We have to cultivate it ourselves when it feels nonexistent. We're still learning

how to do that, but once we are able to figure that out I think we will be just fine."

After the trip the Huskies sit at 2-4 and hosted 0-4 Cottage Grove Tuesday, March 31. Then will travel to Molalla, 1-4 coming into this week, on Wednesday, April 1.

"We certainly aren't going into these games thinking they will be a terrible team regardless of what their record says," Teter said. "If we learned anything from this week, it's that a team can look one way when seeing their game results and a completely different way when we see them on the field."

"We have played Cottage Grove the past couple years, so we know some of that they will be bringing to the table, but they also have a new coach this year so we could see a lot of different things."

"We need to stay true to ourselves and be confident in our abilities. We're going to put in the work on Monday to be fully prepared, and hope to have a good day on Tuesday."

- Keaghan Gittins

Warrior baseball faces tough teams in Arizona

Lebanon's baseball team got off to a good start this season with an opening 14-13 win at home over McNary on March 16, followed by a 12-0 win on the road at Centennial Wednesday, March 18.

Against McNary, in what was obviously an offense-heavy game, Cole Gerig and Wyatt Jenkins both went 2-4 at the plate, Jenkins doubling both times and Gerig once. Also recording doubles for Lebanon were Austin Turnidge and Niko Autry.

Trey Enright led the Warriors in runs with three, and also had three RBI's.

Trenton Lewis went four innings for Lebanon, striking out six and walking one, while

giving up two hits and five runs, two of them earned, as the hosts finished with four errors - as did the Celtics.

The offensive onslaught continued against Centennial, as Lebanon finished with 12 hits against the Eagles, who had four but were blanked in the runs column.

Enright scored three times for Lebanon, as Jenkins went 2-3 and Autry 2-4, while Jaidyn Von Ruden also had two hits, in four at-bats. All three had a double each.

Preston Bryan went three innings for the Warriors, striking out six and allowing four hits.

Over Spring Break Lebanon played four games at the Coach Bob National Invitational Tournament in Arizona March 18-26, which included 111 teams from across the West.

The Warriors lost all four, three in shut-outs:

- 10-0 to Pine Creek of Colorado Springs, Colo., despite a 2-3 performance from Autry - Lebanon was not helped by six errors.

- 13-0 to Pueblo West, also of Colorado, in which Jenkins led the team, 2-3 at the plate. Again, Lebanon struggled defensively, with six miscues.

- 5-2 to Pueblo Central, of Colorado, Jenkins going 2-4 and Gerig 2-2. The Warriors were hampered by four errors. Central jumped out to a 2-0 lead in the first two innings, with Lebanon closing the gap in the fifth with a run before Central scored three more in the sixth. Lebanon notched one more run in the seventh but it was too little too late.

- 10-0 to to Dakota Ridge of Littleton, Colo. Lewis was 2-2 for Lebanon.

- Staff

See more of the Sports Roundup at sweethomenews.com/lebanonlocalnews.com.



Volunteers complete Riverview planting

On Sunday, March 22, the Lebanon Garden Club completed its bank restoration planting at Riverview Park by planting 60 red alder seedlings. Volunteers were pleased to see that trees and shrubs they had planted in the fall and winter were leafing out. Volunteers are, from left, Linda Ziedrich, Rachel Herb, Anna Alpers and Wendy Mogstad.

- Wendy Mogstad photo

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The ICEBOX Performer Of The Week

This week's ICEBOX performer of the week goes to Zach, one of our skilled TIG welders.

Zach is a hard worker who takes real pride in his craft, and he's also been a big help to the team. Recently, he stepped up to help train a new welder. While his trainee was at his station, Zach took the initiative to fabricate a kit for the fabricators and didn't hesitate to jump onto another welding bay as soon as one opened up to keep production moving while his welding bay was being used for training.

That kind of initiative and team-first mindset is what keeps our standards high and our builds consistent.

Thank you, Zach, for everything you bring to the team. We appreciate you!

Local students recognized in Dean's Lists, Honor Roll

The following students at Linn-Benton Community College who earned a grade point average of 3.5 or higher for 12 or more graded credits during winter term, January to March 2026. These do not include pass/no pass or incomplete credits.

Lebanon Honor Roll students are: Summer Adams, Dallas Akers, Tim Anderson, Olivia Andra, Peter Baker, Jackie Baldizan, Benjamin Baley, Porter Barnes, Jake Begaye, Adriana Benito Chompa, Ashlyne Bjorklund, Matthew Blount, Mariah Bradley, Kaitlyn Broughton, Sailor Brubaker, Thomas Byler, Valerie Castellano, Quentin Cline, Rachel Costa, Porter Dair, Aidyn Diodato, Evan Diviney, Emily Dowswell, Iain Duncan, Kaz Dunn, Ethan Estrada, Whitney Falwell, Gunner Fenerty, Julie Fischer, Hailey Foss, Patrick Franco, Kristina Gomez, Alivia Griffiths, Matthew Halaj, Lori Haley, Gabriel Hamlet, Becca Hannen, Brooklyn Hashman, Dallas Headley, Cherie Heingartner, Lilly Henderson, Kiera Hollister, Alicia Hunt, Colton Jarman, McKenzie Jayne, Kaydence Jeffreys, Grace Johnson, Joseph Johnson, Sleeper Ledford, Janet Lopez, James Lovell, Shyann Lunski, Trevor Mcguirk, Samantha Millerbis, Gustavo Morales, Sarai Moss, Lindsey Ness, Loretta Newton Mendenhall, Dakota Olivos, Michael Plagmann, Elsy Prado Mendoza, Blake Presley, Jocelyn Ramirez, Alannis Rax, Brittany Rinkin, Brooke Rodriguez, Regan Ross, Gabe Schlabach, Izabel Scott, Sam Scott, Maya Seumalo, Connor Smith, Hope Stanearth, Autumn Suing, Trevor Szczepanek, Noah Taylor, Christian Thomas, Iseabel Thomson, Micheal Timmons, Susanna Tuomi, Mady Vandiver, Emma Veuleman, Josh Vokes, Daje White, Colton Whittier, Xavier Wolf and Christina Young.

Sweet Home Honor Roll students are: Bre Bittner, Misty Cunningham, Mia Davis, Christian Dominy, Kaydence Egner, Carter Hay, Riley Korn, Stacey Nader, Laylend Peterson, Rafael Ramos, Alex Reed, Ellanc Reed, Hunter Ross, Cade Sawyer and Zach Zehner.

Madison Roth, of Lebanon, has been named to Biola University's Dean's List for academic excellence. Roth, a sociology major, was one of approximately 1,700 students named to the Dean's List in fall 2025. Biola's Dean's List honors students with a GPA of 3.6 or higher while enrolled in 12 or more credits and whose cumulative GPA is at least 3.2.

Sadie Dannen, of Lebanon, earned Dean's List honors at Linfield University during the fall 2025 academic term. Linfield's Dean's List identifies undergraduate students who earned a GPA at least equivalent to a cum laude (3.65) while taking at least graded 12 credits. Dannen is a senior at Linfield, majoring in exercise science.

Brookelynn Burke and Amelia Sullens were among students named to the Fall 2025 Dean's List at Pacific University in Forest Grove. The Dean's List recognizes undergraduate students in Pacific's College of Undergraduate Studies who earn a grade-point average of at least 3.70 and complete 12 or more graded hours.

Ivan Ogden, a sophomore majoring in engineering, and **Luka Ogden**, a junior majoring in financial services, were among local students named to the Dean's List at George Fox University for the fall 2025 semester.

Traditional undergraduate students must earn a 3.5 grade point average or above on 12 or more hours of graded work to earn a spot on George Fox's Dean's List.

LEBANON POOL

From page 8

der control, we've had great improvement in expenses, and also our tax revenue was stronger, so that's helping."

• Wilder reported progress on a muralist competition she is organizing for the pool building. Students from elementary all the way up into the medical colleges will be given the opportunity to submit drawings to be judged for a chance to win prizes. She also reported discussion she's had with the fire district about the possibility of holding water safety classes.

Pool funding

Wading in to the question about pool repair funds from the school district, which owns the facility, Kendall told *The New Era* that she and Bulmer have been meeting with school district's COO Lewis, on a week-

ly basis to stay informed on the progress with funding and repairs.

"Because the building is owned by the school district, Will has been coordinating directly with their project management team and provides us with weekly updates," she said. "The original project scope was established between Will and the former director prior to our involvement. The scope has since been adjusted based on available funding and remains fluid as we determine next steps."

During its April 10, 2025 board meeting, the school board agreed to provide half the needed funding for a \$1 million pool repair project which would include replacing the faulty gutter system, pumps and pipes, and repair cracks and resurface the pool.

At the March 25 City Council meeting, Wilder addressed the council, stating

the school district planned to give \$500,000 while the pool district would give \$250,000 toward the "pared down" \$1.2 million cost for repairs. She said there would be a \$400,000 shortfall.

However, the pool board recently learned the school district would be pulling their funding "because of loss of teacher pay."

"This is a real blow to us that worked so hard," Wilder said. "I just wanted to bring it to your attention because right now we're thinking about how to proceed."

She added that she's aware "it would take one slight thing like a small earthquake or a flooding to crack that foundation on the pool. If that happens, I'm not sure we'll have an option."

The *New Era* reached out to Lewis for more details about the matter, but the newspaper went to press before he could respond.

SH School Board, teachers union, finalize 2026-29 contract agreement

By Scott Swanson
Of The New Era

The Sweet Home School District and the Sweet Home Education Association have reached agreement on a new three-year licensed contract covering the period from July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2029.

The agreement includes updates to compensation, benefits, working conditions, and clarification of several contract provisions.

The agreement was unanimously approved by School Board members during a brief virtual meeting on March 20.

Following are the major changes or provisions of the contract, as reported by the district:

Compensation and Benefits

Annual cost-of-living adjustments will be no less than 3% and no more than 5% per year,

depending on the year-to-year change in the Consumer Price Index (CPI), consistent with the index used by the State of Oregon.

The district's insurance contribution will increase by \$65 per month each insurance year of the contract.

The mentor teacher stipend will increase from \$750 to \$1,000 per mentor per year.

The salary schedule was adjusted to add additional steps to the BA and BA+24 columns, allowing affected teachers to continue advancing on the salary schedule for additional years.

Several existing memorandums of understanding were incorporated into the contract, including Teacher of Record, IEP coverage, and junior high extended season agreements.

Work Year and Work Day

The early release Wednes-

day at the end of each semester grading period will be reserved for uninterrupted grading and next-semester preparation unless professional development is scheduled.

Contract language was clarified to specify that life skills and special education class combinations, including unified or inclusive physical education, are not considered combining two full elementary classes for purposes of combined class compensation.

Transfers and Assignments

Teachers who are assigned or transferred to a position requiring a new preparation after Aug. 15 or after the start of the school year will receive additional pay for preparation.

Distance Learning

The agreement clarifies that the district will bargain the impact of distance learning if it results in a material change to working conditions, consistent with state law.

Post-Retirement Employment

Contract language was clarified regarding which contract provisions apply to post-retirement employees who return to work.

Association Rights

Language was added confirming that association rights and access are governed by Oregon public employee labor law (ORS Chapter 243).

Steve Thorpe, president of the district's certified employees union, called the contract "very fair and balanced."

"It shows that the district values its teachers," he said, "and it takes care of people like me who are retired and working back."

"When other districts are going on strike and walking out, we're able to sit down and work out something fair for the teachers.

"I'm pretty proud of what the union did."



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Wolthuis Family Dentistry

Q: What are the worst drinks for my teeth?

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

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

2. Sports Drinks: Like soda, they are often full of sugar and are highly acidic. One study showed that lemon-lime Gatorade dissolved more tooth enamel than any other drink, including Coke.

3. Fruit Juice: After reading to this point, you probably know what this is on the list. Juice has lots of sugar and acid too. While it could be considered a healthy option, most fitness experts will advise you not to drink you calories. Eat the entire fruit instead and enjoy the health benefits of the fiber.

Drink lots of water, maintain a healthy diet and lifestyle and see your dentist regularly, to be sure your teeth stay in good shape.

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Wolthuis Family Dentistry | Ivan H. Wolthuis, DMD, MAGD

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MEMBER OF: American Dental Association, Oregon Dental Association, Southern Willamette Dental Society, Academy of General Dentistry (Master), International Association of Orthodontics



Bodies and signs fill a sidewalk at Academy Square in Lebanon during the third nationwide "No Kings" protest, held March 28. See more photos at sweethomenews.com and lebanonlocalnews.com. - Photo by Sarah Brown

'No Kings' protest draws hundreds

By Sarah Brown
Of The New Era

East Linn Indivisible participated in the third "No Kings" rally, a coordinated nationwide event held this year on Saturday, March 28, at the north end of Lebanon next to Academy Square.

According to attendee Jennifer Moody, as many as 456 were counted in attendance 45 minutes into the start.

Bodies and signs filling up an entire block between Wheeler and Academy streets made their messages clear, protesting President Trump's decisions since the start of his second term of presidency in 2025, including the war in

Iran, ICE, the Epstein files, voting rights, the economy, and the president's general overall character.

Essentially, they say, President Trump is acting like a fascist king.

"We're here to say that our democracy is in peril and that since it's our first amendment right to demonstrate when we disagree with our government, we are doing that today in the hopes that the louder we are the more they'll listen to us," said Ruth Kish, steering committee member for East Linn Indivisible.

"We say we don't want a king, we don't want a fascist and we want our constitution to function as it was meant to.... So

much of our constitution is being trampled and pummeled to death, and we are tired of it."

A similar demonstration in Sweet Home drew some 20 participants and, according to participant Pam Hewitt, "lots of support."

"A lot of people stopped," she said. "We just trying to raise awareness."

It was reported more than 3,000 protests took place across the country, with an estimated 8 million participants.

In addition to the nationwide protests, East Linn Indivisible participates every Friday in a "honk and wave" rally at the same location. Sweet Home participants do the same on Thursdays.

Local candidates forums planned this month

Two local organizations have announced that they will hold forums to allow the public to hear from candidates in the state House District 11 and Senate District 6 races in the May 19 primary election.

Three candidates are vying for the House District 11 seat, which is being vacated by Jami Cate, who is running for the local state Senate seat. The three are Democrat Ivan Maluski of Scio, and Republicans Ken Jackola of Lebanon and Angelita Sanchez of Sweet Home.

Five candidates, including Cate, of Lebanon, a Republican, are running for the District 6 Senate seat. The others are Republicans Nicole De Graff of Marcola and Jack Tibbets of Cottage Grove; and Democrat Sierrah Williams of Sweet Home. Patrick Starnes of Brownsville, an Independent, is also running but will not appear on the primary ballot.

League of Women Voters Forum

The Linn County Unit of the League of Women Voters of Oregon will hold a forum, to which all the above candidates have been invited, at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, April 21, at the Lebanon First United Methodist Church. All are

welcome to attend.

Scott Swanson, editor and publisher of The New Era, will serve as moderator for the forum.

The First United Methodist Church is at 1890 South Second Street, Lebanon, at the corner of Airport Road. The forum will take place in the church's fellowship hall.

For more information about the forum or the League of Women Voters, contact Linda at (503) 707-1539.

Lebanon Chamber of Commerce Forum

The Lebanon Chamber of Commerce will hold a forum for the candidates at 6 p.m. Tuesday, April 28, at the River Center, 3000 S. Santiam Hwy., Lebanon.

Candidates will have an op-

portunity to speak about their vision and their plans for representing the community in Salem. Questions will include how candidates plan to support local businesses.

For more information, call (651) 258-7164.

Citizens must be both registered to vote and affiliated with a party to vote in a primary election. April 28 is the last day to register, choose a party, or change one's party. Those who are eligible to vote but not yet registered, and those who are registered but unaffiliated with a party, will have enough time after the forum to secure their right to vote in the primary.

The mailing of ballots will begin April 29. May 19 is the last day to return ballots.

PUBLIC SAFETY

From page 3

block Hwy. 20. Also cited for speeding, 73/55, DWS. Vehicle towed. Knox lodged at LCJ. Report taken.

7:16 a.m. - Kirk Miller, 46, of Lebanon, arrested on warrant, 39400 block Woodbine. Report taken.

3:42 p.m. - Eric Utley, 54, of Lebanon, cited for DWS, DU, River Dr./Weirich. Report taken.

5:57 p.m. - Shain Hersey, 50, arrested for warrant, 200 block Taylor. Report taken.

7:07 p.m. - Tanise Ebert, 35, of Sweet Home, cited for DU, Airport/2nd.

7:30 p.m. - Steven Crawford, 49, of Lebanon, arrested for violating release agreement, 1700 block S. 7th. Report taken.

10:02 p.m. - Laela Walker, 23, of Lebanon, cited for failure to carry proof of insurance, Hwy. 34/Steckley.

MARCH 28

SWEET HOME POLICE

7:53 a.m. - Paul William Kalina, 50, arrested on SHMC warrant for FTC in theft of services case, LMC warrant for probation violation in theft case, AMC warrant for FTC in contempt of court case, after report of male trespassing in area of BiMart/railroad tracks. Cited to appear April 22. Cited and released.

1:16 p.m. - Crash reported in area of 47th/Nandina. According to SHPD, drivers were Makayla Towry, 27, in 2015 Lexus RX and juvenile, 17, in 2001 Honda Civic. Report taken for non-injury crash, value estimated under \$2,500. Drivers exchanged information.

1:32 p.m. - Caller reported their dog stolen from 200 block Osage. Police responded and shortly thereafter dog returned to its owner.

1:36 p.m. - Caller reported someone camping at Freedom Hill Church property, 2470 Main. Officer responded, contacted female, who was packing up to move along.

1:58 p.m. - Kyle Dawayne Roebuck, 30, arrested on LCCC

warrant for FTA in mail theft case, FTA in meth possession case, FTA in felon in possession of weapon/carrying concealed weapon case, Freedom Hill Church property, 2470 Main. Cited and released.

4:02 p.m. - Several callers reported hit and run in area of Main/15th. According to SHPD, 2014 Ford Escape driven by Carolin Nothiger, 79, was struck by dark blue sedan driven by female. Officer responded, damage over \$2,500, report taken for hit and run. Escape was towed due to damage.

5:39 p.m. - Caller reported crash at Hoys Hardware, 3041 Main. According to SHPD, operators were Jeremy Campbell, 34, of Sweet Home, driving a 2015 Dodge Ram pickup, and Miyasha Hillaire, 51, of Albany, driving a 2019 Subaru Outback. Officers responded. According to SHPD, Campbell was traveling westbound and entered into the center turn lane to turn left into the Hoys parking lot. He told officers the glare of the sun obstructed his view and he did not see the Subaru and he proceeded with his left turn and collided with the Subaru. No citations reported. Report taken for injury crash. Hillaire transported to SLCH. Subaru towed.

6:43 p.m. - Katrina Lynn Gray, 42, arrested by Lebanon police on SHMC warrant for FTA in theft case. Cited to appear April 22.

9:51 p.m. - Brandy Lee Dozier, 40, arrested by Curry County Sheriff's Office on SHMC warrant for FTC in criminal driving case. Cited to appear April 22.

LEBANON POLICE

Lebanon police had not submitted a log for this date in time for publication. When available, log will be updated at lebanonlocalnews.com.

LC/OSP SWEET HOME/S. COUNTY

12:51 a.m. - Zaide Faith Allen, 22, of Halsey, cited for speeding, 60/45, Bishop/Pearl, Brownsville.

See Public Safety, Page 20

Got a plan?

Bob thoughtfully preplanned his funeral. Now he can get on with his life.



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Public Notices

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS ON LAND USE APPLICATIONS NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Sweet Home Planning Commission and City Council will hold public hearings to consider the following request. REQUEST: The Applicant is requesting a Zone Map Amendment for an area of approximately 2,687 square feet. The proposal would change the Sweet Home Zoning Map designation from Residential High Density (R-3) Zone to Public Facility (PF) Zone. This request is being submitted at the same time as a Property Line Adjustment application. If both applications are approved, the Sweet Home School District will acquire the 2,687 square foot portion of Tax Lot 10100 from the applicant. The school district intends to use this area for future career-focused program opportunities or for improvements related to student safety. The proposed zoning change would also bring the zoning into alignment with the Sweet Home School District's existing Comprehensive Plan Map designation. The Planning Commission will hold a public hearing on the proposal and make a recommendation to the City Council. The City Council will then hold a public hearing and make the final decision on the application. Application ZMA26-01 is being filed concurrently with application PLA26-02 and is reliant on its approval. APPLICANT: Cheryl Bartlett. PROPERTY OWNER: Cheryl L Bartlett Rev Living Trust. PROPERTY LOCATION: 1126 18th Avenue, Sweet Home, OR 97386, Identified on the Linn County Assessor's Map as 13S01E31AD Tax Lot 10100. REVIEW AND DECISION CRITERIA: Sweet Home Municipal Code Section(s): 17.14, 17.24, 17.114, 17.120.010, 17.128, OAR 660-012-0060. FILE NUMBER: ZMA26-01. PLANNING COMMISSION PUBLIC HEARING: DATE & TIME: May 7, 2026 at 6:30 PM. LOCATION: City Hall Council Chamber at 3225 Main Street, Sweet Home, Oregon 97386. CITY COUNCIL PUBLIC HEARING: DATE & TIME: May 26, 2026 at 6:30 PM. LOCATION: City Hall Council Chambers, 3225 Main Street, Sweet Home, Oregon 97386. STAFF CONTACT: Angela Clegg, Planning and Building Manager Phone: (541) 818-8029; Email: aclegg@sweethomeor.gov. DATE MAILED: March 30, 2026. You may submit comments or recommendations prior to or at the public hearings. Written comments submitted by 5:00 PM on April 23, 2026, will be included in the staff report that is provided to the Planning Commission and/or City Council. Written comments that are submitted after that time, but prior to the hearings will be presented to the Planning Commission and/or City Council at the public hearing(s) as applicable. Comments may be emailed to aclegg@sweethomeor.gov or mailed or submitted to the Community and Economic Development Department office at City Hall, 3225 Main Street, Sweet Home, Oregon 97386. Please include the file number(s) in the subject line of your comment. The failure of an issue to be raised in a hearing, in person or by letter, or failure to provide sufficient specificity to afford the decision

Public Notices

make an opportunity to respond to the issue precludes appeal to the Land Use Board of Appeals based on that issue. A copy of the application, all documents and evidence relied upon by the applicant and applicable criteria are available for inspection at no cost and a copy will be provided at reasonable cost. A copy of the staff report will be available for inspection at no cost at least seven days prior to the hearings and a copy will be provided at reasonable cost. Please contact the Community and Economic Development Department at 3225 Main Street, Sweet Home, Oregon 97386; Phone: (541) 818-8029. Persons interested in commenting on these issues should submit testimony in writing to the Community and Economic Development Department Office located in City Hall prior to the hearing or attend the meeting and give testimony verbally. Persons who wish to testify will be given the opportunity to do so at both the Planning Commission and City Council hearing. Such testimony should address the criteria in the Sweet Home Municipal Code which are applicable to the request. The location of the meeting is accessible to persons with disabilities. If you have a disability that requires accommodation, please notify the Community and Economic Development Department Office in advance of the meeting by calling (541) 818-8029. (4/1)

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS ON LAND USE APPLICATIONS NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Sweet Home Planning Commission and City Council will hold public hearings to consider the following request. REQUEST: The Applicant is requesting a Property Line Adjustment to acquire approximately 2,667 square feet of an adjacent residential lot (Tax Lot 10100). Subject Property A is approximately 15,980 square feet and zoned Residential Medium Density (R-3), while Subject Property B is approximately 11.87 acres (517,057 square feet) and zoned Public Facility (PF). The adjustment will increase Subject Property B to 11.93 acres (519,670 square feet) and reduce Subject Property A to approximately 13,293 square feet. This request is being submitted concurrently with a Zone Map Amendment application. If both applications are approved, the Sweet Home School District will acquire the 2,687-square-foot portion of Tax Lot 10100 from the applicant, with the intent to use this area for future career-focused program opportunities or for improvements related to student safety. The proposed zoning change would also bring zoning into alignment with the district's existing Comprehensive Plan Map designation. Application PLA26-02 is being filed concurrently with application ZMA26-01 and is reliant upon its approval. Applications for more than one land use action and permit for the same property may, at the applicant's discretion, be heard or reviewed concurrently. Multiple land use requests involving different processing Types shall be heard and decided at the higher processing Type. [SHMC

Public Notices

17.120.010]. Application PLA26-02 shall be heard with Application ZMA26-01 as a Type IV application. APPLICANT: Kevin Strong, Sweet Home School District. PROPERTY OWNER: Cheryl L. Bartlett Rev Living Trust. FILE NUMBERS: PLA26-02. PROPERTY LOCATION: Property A: 1126 18th Ave, Sweet Home, OR 97386; Identified on the Linn County Assessor's Map as 31AD Tax Lot 10100. Property B: 1641 Long St, Sweet Home, OR 97386; Identified on the Linn County Assessor's Map as 31AD Tax Lot 09100. REVIEW AND DECISION CRITERIA: Sweet Home Municipal Code Section(s): 17.14, 17.24, 17.92, 17.20.010, 17.128. STAFF CONTACT: Angela Clegg, Planning and Building Manager. Phone: (541) 818-8029; Email: aclegg@sweethomeor.gov. DATE MAILED: March 30, 2026. You may submit comments or recommendations prior to or at the public hearings. Written comments submitted by 5:00 PM on April 23, 2026, will be included in the staff report that is provided to the Planning Commission and/or City Council. Written comments that are submitted after that time, but prior to the hearings will be presented to the Planning Commission and/or City Council at the public hearing(s) as applicable. Comments may be emailed to aclegg@sweethomeor.gov or mailed or submitted to the Community and Economic Development Department office at City Hall, 3225 Main Street, Sweet Home, Oregon 97386. Please include the file number(s) in the subject line of your comment. The failure of an issue to be raised in a hearing, in person or by letter, or failure to provide sufficient specificity to afford the decision maker an opportunity to respond to the issue precludes appeal to the Land Use Board of Appeals based on that issue. A copy of the application, all documents and evidence relied upon by the applicant and applicable criteria are available for inspection at no cost and a copy will be provided at reasonable cost. A copy of the staff report will be available for inspection at no cost at least seven days prior to the hearings and a copy will be provided at reasonable cost. Please contact the Community and Economic Development Department at 3225 Main Street, Sweet Home, Oregon 97386; Phone: (541) 818-8029. Persons interested in commenting on these issues should submit testimony in writing to the Community and Economic Development Department Office located in City Hall prior to the hearing or attend the meeting and give testimony verbally. Persons who wish to testify will be given the opportunity to do so at both the Planning Commission and City Council hearing. Such testimony should address the criteria in the Sweet Home Municipal Code which are applicable to the request. The location of the meeting is accessible to persons with disabilities. If you have a disability that requires accommodation, please notify the Community and Economic Development Department Office in advance of the meeting by calling (541) 818-8029. (4/1)

Public Notices

**In the Matter of the Estate of Robin Hoef
NOTICE TO INTERESTED PERSONS
Linn County Case
No.26PB02345**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Circuit Court of Linn County, State of Oregon, has appointed the undersigned as Personal Representative of the Estate of Robin Hoef, deceased. All persons having claims against said estate are required to present the same, with proper vouchers, to the personal representative in care of Sarah Castleton, Ivers & Miller Law 317 W. 1st Ave, Suite 302, Albany, OR 97321, within four (4) months after the date of first publication of this notice, or the claims may be barred. All persons whose rights may be affected by the proceedings may obtain additional information from the records of the court, the personal representative or the attorney for the personal representative. DATED and first published: April 1, 2026.
Megan Hoef
c/o Sarah Castleton
Ivers & Miller Law
PO Box 1033
317 First Ave W., Suite 302
Albany, OR 97321
(541) 928-5875
sarah@ivers.law
(4/1)

**In the Matter of the Estate of John F. Kelly
NOTICE TO INTERESTED PERSONS
Linn County Case
No.26PB02333**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Circuit Court of Linn County, State of Oregon, has appointed the undersigned as Personal Representative of the Estate of John F. Kelly, deceased. All persons having claims against said estate are required to present the same, with proper vouchers, to the personal representative in care of Sarah Castleton, Attorney at Law, Ivers & Miller Law at 317 W. 1st Ave, Suite 302, Albany, OR 97321, within four (4) months after the date of first publication of this notice, or the claims may be barred. All persons whose rights may be affected by the proceedings may obtain additional information from the records of the court, the personal representative or the attorney for the personal representative. DATED and first published: April 1, 2026.
Linda Koberstein
c/o Sarah Castleton
Ivers & Miller Law
PO Box 1033
317 First Ave W., Suite 302
Albany, OR 97321
(541) 928-5875
sarah@ivers.law
(4/1)

NOTICE OF BUDGET COMMITTEE MEETING

A public meeting of the Budget Committee of the City of Lebanon and the Lebanon Urban Renewal Agency, Linn County, State of Oregon, to discuss the budget for the fiscal year July 1, 2026, to June 30, 2027, will be held at the Lebanon Public Library, 55 Academy Street, Lebanon, Oregon. The meeting will take place on the 16th day of April, 2026 at 1:00 pm. The purpose of the meeting is to receive the City of Lebanon and Lebanon Urban Re-

Public Notices

newal Agency proposed budgets and receive the annual Budget Message. The Committee will also select a Chairperson, Vice Chairperson, and select dates for future Committee meetings. A copy of the budget document will be available on the City's website on or after April 14, 2026. The budget may also be obtained by contacting Brandon Neish at bneish@lebanonoregon.gov or by phone at (541) 258-4212. This is a public meeting and hearing where deliberation of the Budget Committee will take place. Any person may comment on the budget. If you cannot attend the meeting, but wish to address the Budget Committee electronically, contact the City Recorder's Office at (541) 258-4264 or cityrecorder@lebanonoregon.gov to register in advance for the meeting. If you wish to watch or listen to the meeting, please click this link to do so on YouTube on April 16: <https://www.youtube.com/@CityofLebanonOR/streams>. This notice can be viewed on the City's website at www.lebanonoregon.gov. (4/1)

PUBLIC NOTICE

A public meeting of the Budget Committee of the Lebanon Rural Fire Protection District, Linn County, State of Oregon, to discuss the budget for the fiscal year July 1, 2026 to June 30, 2027 will be held at the Lebanon Fire District Offices located at 1050 W. Oak Street, Lebanon, OR. The meeting will take place on the 14th day of April 2026, at 5:00 P.M. The purpose is to receive the budget message. A copy of the budget document may be inspected or obtained after April 7th, 2026, at the Lebanon Fire District office between the hours 9:00A.M. to 4:00 P.M Monday-Thursday. This is a public meeting where deliberation of the Budget Committee will take place. Listed above is the time and place of the Budget Committee meeting, which will be held to take public comment. Any person may appear at this meeting and discuss the proposed programs with the Budget Committee. Information is also available on the Lebanon Fire District website: <https://www.lebanonfireoregon.gov/>. You may also join the meeting via Zoom. (Instructions below) Live Stream the meeting: <https://www.youtube.com/@lebanonfiredistrict/streams> Join Zoom Meeting: Meeting ID: 862 5563 8389 Passcode: 598282 <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86255638389?pwd=bsLYwet0ly5rz5yl4jFxmHh8WcO.1> Dial by your location • +1 669 444 9171 US (3/18 - 4/1)

**Summons By Publication
To: Axl Lee Gallagher**

You have been sued by Megan Gallagher, the Petitioner, in the District Court in and for Bannack County, Idaho, Case No. CV03-26-00657. The nature of the claim against you is for Divorce with Minor Children. Any time after 21 days following the last publication of this Summons, the court may enter

Public Notices

a judgment against you without further notice, unless prior to that you have filed a written response in the proper form, including case number, and paid any required filing fees to the Clerk of the Court at [mailing address, physical address (if different from mailing address) and telephone number of the district court clerk] 624 E Center St. Pocatello, ID 83204 Phone number 208-915-2604 and served a copy of your response on the other party, whose mailing address and telephone number are: 1624 N. Arthur # 1 Pocatello, ID 83204 phone number 208-915-2604

A copy of the Summons and Petition/Motion can be obtained by contacting either the clerk of the Court or the other party. If you wish legal assistance, you should immediately retain an attorney to advise you in this matter.

Date: 3/17/2026
Clerk, by: Brandy Peck, Deputy Clerk
(3/25 - 4/15)

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

In the Matter of the Estate of KATHLEEN DIANE DUNN, Deceased.

Case No. 26PB02591
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on March 23, 2026, Daniel C. Dunn, was appointed as Personal Representative of the above-referenced estate. All persons having claims against the estate are required to present them, with vouchers attached, to the Personal Representative or to Stacey D. Mealer, Attorney, at the addresses listed below, within four months after the date of first publication of this notice, or the claims may be barred.

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

Personal Representative
Daniel C. Dunn
24481 S. Larkin Rd
Beavercreek, OR 97004
(503) 704-2511

Attorney for Personal Representative
Stacey D. Mealer, Attorney
OSB#023915
PO Box 81 ~ 1195 Main Street Suite 2
Sweet Home, OR 97386
(541) 270-2406 ~ Mealer@actionnet.net
(4/1)

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

In the Matter of the Estate of GARY NORMAN SMITH, Deceased.

Case No. 26PB02428
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on March 17, 2026, Nadra Joy Richey, was appointed as Personal Representative of the above-referenced estate. All persons having claims against the estate are required to present them, with vouchers attached, to the Personal Representative or to Stacey D. Mealer, Attorney, at the addresses listed below, within four months after the date of first publication of this notice, or

Public Notices

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

Personal Representative
Nadra Joy Richey
32521 Richey Ranch Rd.
Lebanon, OR 97355
(541) 990-8993
Attorney for Personal Representative
Stacey D. Mealer, Attorney
OSB#023915
PO Box 81 ~ 1195 Main Street Suite 2
Sweet Home, OR 97386
(541) 270-2406 ~ Mealer@actionnet.net
(4/1)

In the Circuit Court of the State of Oregon for the County of Linn, notice is hereby given that Gary W. Holland has been appointed personal representative of the Estate of Dianna Marie Wood, deceased, Linn County Circuit Court Case No. 26PB02599. All persons having claims against the Estate are required to present them, with vouchers attached, to the undersigned personal representative to Collier Law at 1020 Liberty Street SE, Salem, Oregon 97302, within four months after the date of publication of this notice, or the claims may be barred.

All persons whose rights may be affected by the proceedings may obtain additional information from the records of the court, the personal representative, or the attorneys for the personal representative.

Gary W. Holland
Personal representative
Collier Law
Ryan W. Collier, OSB No. 972385
Attorneys for Personal Representative
1020 Liberty Street SE
Salem, OR 97302
Phone: (503) 485-7224
(4/1)

In the Matter of the Estate of Beverly Ann Steele NOTICE TO INTERESTED PERSONS Linn County Case No. 26PB01144

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Circuit Court of Linn County, State of Oregon, has appointed the undersigned as Personal Representative of the Estate of Beverly Ann Steele, deceased. All persons having claims against said estate are required to present the same, with proper vouchers, to the personal representative in care of Catherine M. Pratt, of Ivers & Miller Law 317 W. 1st Ave, Suite 302, Albany, OR 97321, within four (4) months after the date of first publication of this notice, or the claims may be barred. All persons whose rights may be affected by the proceedings may obtain additional information from the records of the court, the personal representative or the attorney for the personal representative.

DATED and first published: April 1, 2026.
Walter Hammond Harty
Personal Representative
c/o Catherine M. Pratt
Ivers & Miller Law
PO Box 1033
317 First Ave W., Suite 302
Albany, OR 97321

Public Notices

(541) 928-5875
catherine@ivers.law
(4/1)

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

In the Matter of the Estate of LOLA JEAN STEPHENS, Deceased.

Case No. 26PB02588
NOTICE TO INTERESTED PERSONS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on March 23, 2026, Tonya Adams, was appointed as Personal Representative of the above-referenced estate. All persons having claims against the estate are required to present them, with vouchers attached, to the Personal Representative or to Stacey D. Mealer, Attorney, at the addresses listed below, within four months after the date of first publication of this notice, or the claims may be barred.

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

Personal Representative
Tonya Adams
444 E. Vine St.
Lebanon, OR 97355
(541) 451-1885

Attorney for Personal Representative
Stacey D. Mealer, Attorney
OSB#023915
PO Box 81 ~ 1195 Main Street Suite 2
Sweet Home, OR 97386
(541) 270-2406 ~ Mealer@actionnet.net
(4/1)

PURSUANT TO ORS CHAPTER 819

Notice is hereby given that the following vehicle will be sold, for cash to the highest bidder, on 4/16/2026.

The sale will be held at 10:00am by SANTIAM TOWING & RECOVERY 611 MAIN ST LYONS, OR 2019 MAZDA 3 VIN = 3MZB-PAAL9KM109797

Amount due on lien \$8303.00
Reputed owner(s) PEREZ CHAMPOT DE BOJ, MELIDA BOJ GOMEZ, JUAN EMANUEL
(4/1 - 4/8)

Wanted Motorhome

Wanted Motorhome, Travel Trailer or 5th Wheel 2005-2022. If it needs work or doesn't run that's okay. Willing to buy as is. Have cash and willing to pay fair price. I am a private party. 503-269-2947
(3/04- 5/27)

Stop Smoking

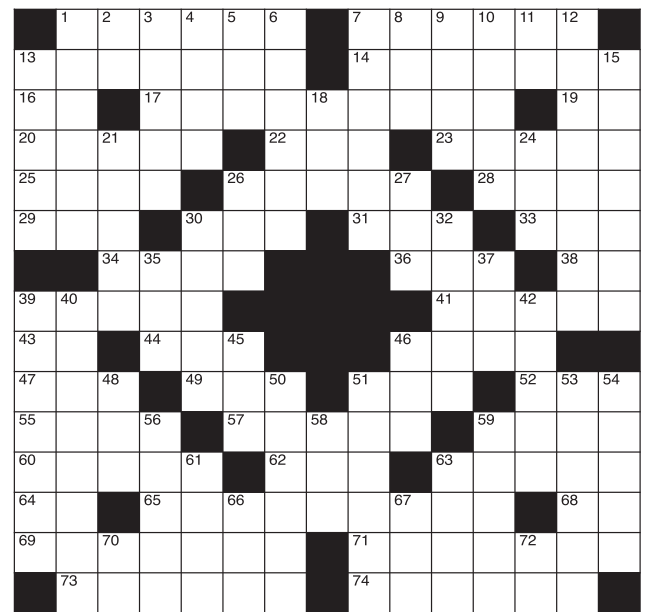
Stop smoking with hypnosis \$75 call 541-327-3513
(3/25-4/15)

1611 King James Bible

Interested in the 1611 King James Holy Bible?

Take a look at kjbm.org. Authentic 1611 facsimile, Gothic font, softcover. Questions or local showing: text/call Lebanon 541-401-5654 / Phoenix: 661-373-5378.

CROSSWORD



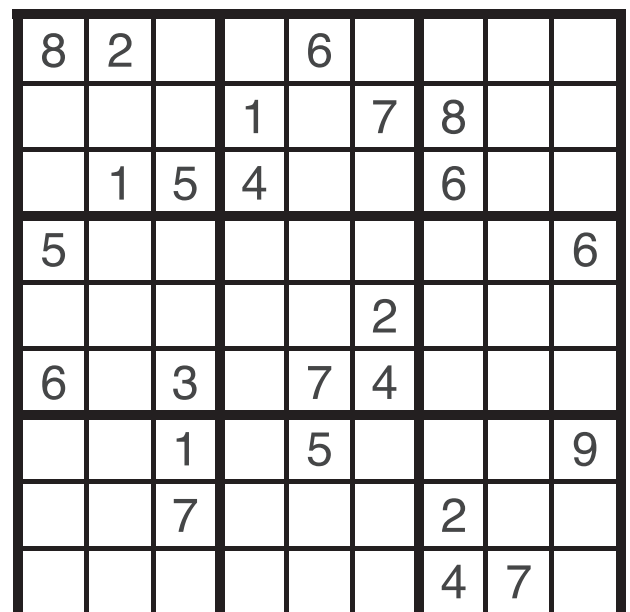
CLUES ACROSS

- 1. S.W. gully
- 7. Japanese polytheism
- 13. N.H. Academy and town
- 14. Most aired
- 16. Prosecuting officer
- 17. Badger State
- 19. Atomic #24
- 20. Moose genus
- 22. Possessed
- 23. Make a smooth transition
- 25. Silly person
- 26. Locations or places
- 28. Rivulet
- 29. The self
- 30. Not good
- 31. Obstruct
- 33. Decalitre
- 34. Space for sitting
- 36. Taxi
- 37. 7th tone
- 39. Ethiopian lake
- 41. Tears down
- 43. Gold
- 44. Angle (abbr.)
- 46. Semitic fertility god
- 47. Beak
- 49. Digital audiotape
- 51. Small child
- 52. 4th caliph of Islam
- 55. 4840 square yards
- 57. Devious trick (Yiddish)
- 59. Overgarments
- 60. Large creature
- 62. Ingest
- 63. Nuisances
- 64. -, denotes past
- 65. Wine waiter
- 68. I, Portuguese
- 69. Compunction
- 71. Overshadow
- 73. Emphasize
- 74. An unsuccessful ending

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Something comparable
- 2. Rural delivery
- 3. "Laugh-In" co-host Dan
- 4. Sheep genus
- 5. Affirmative
- 6. Vanilla's flower family
- 7. Made more smooth
- 8. Belong to he
- 9. Greek rainbow goddess
- 10. S.F. football team player
- 11. Atomic #52
- 12. Kiss
- 13. Proverb
- 15. Lattice support
- 18. Cereal grass
- 21. Rome, GA river
- 24. Disease of cattle
- 26. Seated
- 27. A baglike structure in a plant or animal
- 30. Blatted
- 32. Murdered in his bathtub
- 35. Finish
- 37. Sheep sound
- 39. Scarlett songbird
- 40. Eugenides novel "The Virgin ___"
- 42. Broad, flat pieces of stone
- 45. Auto fuel
- 46. ___ choy
- 48. Woman's undergarment
- 50. Topics of discourse
- 51. Belonging to the peerage
- 53. Most recent
- 54. Point of debate
- 56. Ostend artist James Sydney
- 58. Phonograph inventor's initials
- 59. Eagle's nest
- 61. Ripped a fabric
- 63. Lucre
- 66. Manuscripts (abbr.)
- 67. Frozen water
- 70. 41st state
- 72. Keystone state

SUDOKU



Level: Advanced

Eagles looking to build 'consistency' on baseball diamond

By Scott Swanson
Of The New Era

East Linn baseball, in rebuilding mode since the COVID pandemic, is looking to gain some ground on the basepaths this year under second-year Coach Corey Burns.

Burns, who has assisted the program in various ways over the years, took over last year from Cory Swigert, who remains with the team as an assistant.

Burns said the Eagles, who finished 6-17 last year, 6-15 and sixth in the eight-team 2A Special District 3, have six varsity players returning this year.

"We have a strong core from last year," he said. "And we have a handful of younger players that we're definitely excited about."

The Eagles opened their season March 13 at Eddyville Charter/Siletz Valley, coming away with a 2-1 win. Sophomore Jesse Younger and freshman Nolan Hooper each came away with a hit in a tight defensive game, Hooper's a double.

Burns said he's aiming to build consistency in his

players this year, and the Eddyville game was a chance for them to put that into practice.

"Our first game really showed when things started going south, they composed themselves," he said. "If they had a bad inning or made an error, they didn't let it snowball."

Junior Noah Medellin went the distance for East Linn, striking out 10 and walking three.

Medellin is one of the returnees from last year, along with three seniors, Isaiah Blount, Chase Fenerty and Asher Taylor, junior Blake Burns, and sophomore Casey May.

Of his 14 players, half are moving up from middle school or JV, Corey Burns said.

Rounding out the roster are sophomores Owen King and Marshall Darwood, and freshmen Jordan Gilliam, Blake Ramsdell, Jake Salvage and Issac Taylor.

He said the enthusiasm and commitment he's seeing from both veterans and newcomers "makes my job as a first-year coach easy."

Burns noted that some of his players participated in fall ball, which is relatively new for the Eagles, and East Linn has a strong middle school program, with approximately two dozen participants.

"I'm looking forward to those guys working their way up," he said. "I'm excited to see the experience, the emerging talent."

He said their goal is to establish consistency, regardless of circumstances.

"Do we want to win our games?" he said. "Obviously. Do we want to win the league? That would be great."

"But developing young players, young men is more important for us. We want to win but our focus is being a consistent ball club. At the end of the season we want to be able to beat ourselves - what we were at the beginning of the season."

In district competition, Burns said he expects perennial league powers Monroe and Regis to be the teams to beat once again.

On his team, upperclassmen have set an example this year.

"They're really putting



East Linn Christian baseball team members include, in front from left, Blake Burns, Isaac Taylor, Noah Medellin and Asher Taylor. In the rear, from left, are Isaiah Blount, Chase Fenerty, Owen King, Casey May and Jesse Younger.

in the work to get better at baseball, really taking a leadership role whether they're doing work on the field at practice, or just the way they go about their work. For us, leadership will show in preparation, attitude and the

way they compete."

The New Era plans to continue to publish season previews for Lebanon and remaining East Linn sports over the next two weeks as league play begins.

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ELCA enters track season with lots of state experience

By Scott Swanson
Of The New Era

Once again, East Linn Christian is looking deep into the season in setting its track and field goals.

The Eagle girls finished second last year in the 2A Special Division 2 championships, then went on to take home a third-place trophy at state.

Distance star Daisy Lalonde helped take them there, scoring big points for ELCA in winning both district and state titles in the 1500 and 3000 and placing third at state in the pole vault.

Though Lalonde has graduated and moved on to Colorado Mesa University, the cupboard is certainly not bare for the Eagles, who return eight girls and six boys who have tasted state competition.

"This year's team has 31 kids, a little bit smaller than last year, but we have a lot who are up-and-coming," said Head Coach Kellen Peters. "On the girls side, we got it's more junior- and senior-heavy. And then our boys are really young. We've got a bunch of sophomore boys and three seniors and no juniors."

The boys who return, however, include senior Hank Davidson, who set the school pole vault record of 13-7 and finished the season with a district title and sixth place at state (12-1¼), and sophomore Ryder Howard, who cleared a personal-best 6-2 in the high jump as a freshman and long jumped 19-4½, placing fourth in the state high jump with a leap of 6-0¾.

The Eagles' all-freshman 4x400 Relay team of Howard, Jonah Magness, Gabe Talleur and Cole Pennington finished 10th at state in 3:37.91, two seconds out of the medals, and they're all back as sophomores now.

Davidson also finished 12th in the discus last year with a

throw of 100-2; at the Eagles' opener at Sweet Home two weeks ago he threw 108-4.

Also, junior Josh Rehart returns after qualifying for the 800, but finishing eighth after injuring himself.

"He's one of our top 200, 400 guys," Peters said.

"Cole Pennington, he's one of our kind of key guys," Peters said. "I think, just as far as unknowns, he can pole vault, he can do sprints, he can do hurdles, he just did high jump with 5-6 (at the Sweet Home meet).

"Our boys 4x4 is an area we're really putting an emphasis on this year, instead of our 4x100," he added.

Rounding out the boys roster are seniors Owen Nofziger and Bain Pool, sophomores Zeke Cowart, Jack Johnson, Beckham Kramer and Karter Nofziger; and freshmen Jordan Gilliam, Kyle Nunnery and Henry Yanke-Knurowski.

On the girls side, East Linn is loaded with experience.

June Cowan, now a junior, was second in the 100 hurdles at state (16.00) and senior Lexi Kauffman is back after a fifth-place finish at state in the 200 (25.67 after running 26.39 in the prelims). Kauffman was also eighth in the 100 (13.30/13.12 in the prelims).

The girls 4x100 team of Cowan, now-junior Avery Runyon and Kauffman, together with then-senior Josie Grunerud, were fourth in the 4x100. All but Grunerud are back.

Cowan, sophomore Kaylyn Kauffman, Lexy Kauffman and LaLonde were sixth in the 4x400.

Cowan also placed 13th in the long jump (13-5½).

Also returning is sophomore Maci Modderman, who was seventh in the discus at state (99-4) and just missed qualifying in the shot with a third-place at districts (31-4½).

Lana Manner, now a senior, was 11th in the state javelin



East Linn track and field athletes are, in front, from left, Harry Yanke-Knurowski, Lana Manner, Lexy Kauffman, Bella Albert, Tatiana Manner (captain), Avery Runyon, Madison Kauffman and Hadassah Albert. In the second row, from left, are Head Coach Kellen Peters, Cole Pennington, Zeke Cowart, Josh Rehart, Beckham Kramer, Jonah Magness, Ella Stutzman, Kaylyn Kauffman, Erin Davey, Anna Henry and Morgan Lalonde. In the rear, from left, are Coach Dave Wilkinson, Coach Ken Williams, Jordan Gilliam, Karter Nofziger, Gabe Talleur, Owen Nofziger (captain), Ryder Howard, Bain Pool, June Cowan, Maci Modderman, Allie Presley, Coach Meggan Modderman, Coach Taylor Meek, Coach Rob Cowan and Coach Sierra Carrier. Not pictured are Hank Davidson, Jack Johnson, Kyle Nunnery and Tessa Salvage.

and both she and her sister Tatiana, also a senior, were among the state pole vault qualifiers, though they did not clear the opening height - which is demanding at state.

Also, Peters noted, junior Tessa Salvage returns to track after splitting time with softball last year. She opened her season with a PR of 4-8½ in the high jump.

Other girls on the roster are senior Bella Albert; juniors

Erin Davey, Anna Henry and Allie Presley; sophomores Madison Kauffman and Ella Stutzman; and freshmen Hadassah Albert and Morgan Lalonde.

As far as what the Eagles will face in district action, Peters said he expects competition from Delphian, a newcomer to the district with the departure of Salem Academy, which moved up to the 3A Division.

"Delphian's boys won state

last year, so they've got a good team. Regis always reloads. They're usually pretty solid. But yeah, Delphian is definitely one to beat."

On the girls side, East Linn lost to Salem Academy at districts. But Peters is hoping for a different outcome this May.

"I think we've got a lot of returning experience and if we have enough depth, I think maybe we have a chance of going for a trophy at state."

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PUBLIC SAFETY
From page 15

1:37 a.m. - LCSO assisted Benton County Sheriff's Office with DUII stop at Hwy. 228 offramp on I-5. Pursuit originated in Benton County but BCSO was unable to locate vehicle until Milepost 199 southbound on I-5. Driver arrested for DUII.

12:55 p.m. - LCSO conducted ongoing death investigation, 37900 block Hwy. 228. Report taken.

3:24 p.m. - Caller reported people shooting on private timber property, 46600 block Old Hufford, where no shooting is allowed. Deputy issued warnings to shooters.

4:09 a.m. - Andrea Gale McClintock, 41, of Foster, cited for speeding, 51/35, Bishop/Washburn, Brownsville.

6:26 p.m. - LCSO responded to domestic disturbance in 36300 block Kirk, Brownsville. Upon arrival, deputies determined that long-time married couple were in disagreement over

how to make dinner. Further action/assistance proved unnecessary.

6:48 p.m. - Caller reported finding bones near roadway, Courtney Creek/Timber. Deputy responded, contacted state anthropologists, who determined bones were non-human.

7:42 p.m. - Carlos Gonzales-Ericson, 22, of Sweet Home, cited for driving without privileges, DU, 43200 block Marks Ridge.

9:35 p.m. - LCSO responded to disturbance in area of Mountain Home/Scott Mountain. Investigation ongoing. Report taken.

10:10 p.m. - Denise Doan, 69, of Brownsville, cited for DWS, DU, failure to install ignition interlock device, 100 block N. Main, Brownsville.

LCSO/OSP LEBANON

9:57 a.m. - LCSO spoke with citizen who fell victim to FEMA scam, 41700 block Clark Smith. Report taken.

9:57 a.m. - Joseph Lamoureux, 20 of Lebanon, cited for DWS,

DU, 2600 block Railroad.

10:05 a.m. - Eric Harvey, 53, of Sodaville, arrested for arson II, reckless burning, criminal trespass II, unlawful possession of meth, offensive littering and criminal mischief II, 33700 block Santiam Hwy. Lodged at LCJ. Report taken.

11:30 a.m. - Mindy Lewis, 52, of Lebanon, arrested on warrant, 38600 block Cherokee. Report taken.

11:54 a.m. - Alexis Gomez, 30, of Scio, cited for DU, failure to register vehicle, 36800 block Hwy. 226.

12:07 p.m. - Steven Parker, 75, of Scio, cited for unsafe passing on left, Brewster/Payne. Report taken.

4:29 p.m. - Trailer hitch reported stolen, 30200 block Horseshoe Loop. Investigation ongoing. Report taken.

8:46 p.m. - Crash reported in 33500 block Brewster. Single vehicle struck two cows. Non-injury. Report taken.

11:08 p.m. - Anthony Middleton, 62, of Lebanon, cited on LMC warrant, 2600 block S. Santiam

Hwy., Report taken.

11:54 p.m. - Jackson Ford, 19, of Lebanon, cited for speeding, 70/55, Stoltz Hill/Blueberry Hill.

MARCH 27
SWEET HOME POLICE

8:37 p.m. - William Jewell, 20, cited for no operator's license, DU, 4600 block Main.

9:57 a.m. - Caller reported vehicle was vandalized at Sun Motel, 3026 Main. Officer responded, info noted at caller's request.

10:09 p.m. - Amanda Plaughter, 28, arrested on LCCC warrants in assault, attempt to commit crime, FTA in criminal citation and trespass cases, 600 block Main. Cited and released. License plate seized.

7:19 p.m. - Daniel Eugene

McCarty, 66, arrested on LCSO warrant for FTC in failure to register as sexual offender case, 1500 block Tamarack. Lodged at LCJ.

LEBANON POLICE

Lebanon police had not submitted a log for this date in time for publication. When available, log will be updated at lebanonlocalnews.com.

LCSO/OSP SWEET HOME/S. COUNTY

12:53 p.m. - Deputy checked illegal camp that has exceeded 14-day limit on BLM land in 51100 block Quartzville. Camp remains, but deputy was unable to contact anybody associated with it.

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

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April 4th
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April 3rd, 6:30 p.m.

Easter Worship
April 5, 10 a.m.
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Early Easter for Egg-splorers

Attempting the stacking method, Kayden Pattieshaw, 6, drops a blue Easter egg while his dad, Juan Pattieshaw, at right, offers a basket to hold the prizes. Easter came a little early this year at The Oaks at Lebanon assisted living facility when the Easter bunny stopped in for the annual Easter egg hunt on Saturday, March 28. The courtyard at The Oaks was dotted with colorful plastic egg shells carrying sweet treats. Kids took turns in different age ranges looking for the cached prizes, with the older kids having to work a little harder to locate them. See more photos at sweethomenews.com and lebanonlocalnews.com.

- Photo by Sarah Brown

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9am • Family Scavenger Egg Hunt, Treats, Drinks & Photos

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