

The New Era

SWEET HOME • LEBANON • AND SURROUNDING COMMUNITIES

Serving East Linn County Since 1929

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 17, 2026

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Fire on Wiley Creek

Blaze burns home, land

By Scott Swanson
Of The New Era

Fire destroyed a home and spread into nearby wildland Sunday evening, June 14, on upper Wiley Creek Drive, according to the Sweet Home Fire and Ambulance District.

According to SHFAD, occupants of the single-family residence discovered the fire in their garage at 44117 Wiley Creek Drive, and called 911 at 7:11 a.m.

Fourteen minutes earlier, a flue fire had been reported in Cascadia, so one engine crew on their way to respond to that incident were diverted to the Wiley Creek fire.

An off-duty SHFAD division chief responded with the engine, arriving first and establishing incident command.

Residents of the triple-wide

manufactured home had evacuated with their pets when firefighters arrived. According to county records, the property is owned by Robert and Kathryn Pettit.

The incident commander found the attached garage fully involved, with fire spreading into the home, two vehicles fully involved and fire spreading into the wildland surrounding the home, SHFAD said.

The 93-degree temperatures and low humidity, coupled with high winds, a lack of immediate water supply, and void spaces in the structure, were all factors in making the fire exceptionally challenging to fight, SHFAD said.

"The biggest challenge was just the weather in general," Chief Nick Tyler said, adding that the heat took its toll on the firefighters, he said.

"It took longer for them to rehab, to be able to re-engage with the fire."

The incident commander
See Wiley Fire, Page 14



Firefighters work to gain access to a fire that destroyed a triple-wide manufactured home on Wiley Creek Drive Sunday evening. See more photos at sweethomenews.com.

— SHFAD photo

Waterloo to get tougher on RV living

By Sarah Brown
Of The New Era

The City of Waterloo is urging residents to take heed of city ordinances concerning yard debris and RV-living.

During its City Council meeting on Tuesday, June 9, the council revisited a common topic: yards filled with trash or old cars, and people living in RVs, both of which violate city ordinances.

In one case, a person who was supposed to be staying only temporarily in an RV on someone's property continues to say he needs a little more time.

City Recorder David Reed recently told the property owner he will begin getting fined for the violation after one more week.

In another case, a groundskeeper living in an RV on someone's property in exchange for the yardwork came into the council's discussion.

The property owner had asked the council during

See Waterloo, Page 15



Tyrell Styhl inspects a culvert on Mouse Creek that is overgrown, undersized, and subject to clogging by trash and debris. A planned replacement is in the works. — Photo by Scott Swanson

Watershed projects improve fish passage, drainage in local streams

By Scott Swanson
Of The New Era

Upper Ames Creek was running a little low for late spring, roughly a foot deep in the main channel, earlier this month as members of the South Santiam Wa-

tershed Council pulled up to a brand new bridge at the AC 400 Line.

They were there to check out one of two projects recently completed with federal funding to improve stream flow and

fish passage by replacing undersized culverts along local creeks.. Watershed Council Executive Director Tyrell Styhl and Alex Shoulders, watershed education coordinator, led

See Watershed, Page 11

HOMETOWN
NEWSPAPER OF
KATHY
HARWOOD

This Week's Top Stories



Last day an epic one at SHJH

Sweet Home Junior High students and teachers let their hair down for the final day of school in their Tiger Olympics.

Page 20



Crash in Lebanon

A rollover crash sent three people to the hospital in Lebanon.

Page 12



Obituaries

Victoria Freeman

Oct. 19, 1950 - April 17, 2026

Victoria "Vicky" Faye (Bliss) Freeman, 75, of Lebanon, passed away April 17, 2026.

She was born Oct. 19, 1950, to Georgia Althea (Dawson) and Jack Frank Bliss in Roseburg.

She moved to Sweet Home in grade school and graduated from Sweet Home High School.

Vicky moved to Lebanon in 1980. She worked for Centurylink in Lebanon for 37 years and later for Linn County Sheriff's 911 dispatch.

She had many accomplishments, including Woman of the Year in 1992. She was a member of the National Professional Women in Business Association; Lebanon Strawberry Festival committee member from 1988 to 1993; Lebanon Boys and Girls Club committees; and a member of Wigwam Wisemen Sports Booster Club Volunteers and fundraisers.

She loved her family, fishing, camping and shopping. Vicky was so loving and a huge contributor to her family, community and friends. She loved the Lord with all her heart and was a member of Sweet Home First Baptist Church.

Vicky retained her sense of humor and wit until her last breath.

She is survived by her grandson, Tanner Freeman of Edmonds, Wash.; granddaughters Ashley Jennings and Alicia Jennings, both of Washington; daughter-in-law Lindsay Freeman of Edmonds,

Wash., and her beloved cats, Rowdy and Ruckus.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Gerald Freeman (2015); daughter Frances Jennings (2023); son Christopher Freeman (2023), and granddaughter Adrianna Freeman (2023).

When asked what would make me happy at the end of my life: "To love God, my family and friends, to have made some little difference and to have given back more than I received - that would make me happy."

A celebration of life and barbecue will be held at 3 p.m. Friday, June 26, at the Sweet Home Evangelical Church activity gym, 1347 Long St.

Sweet Home Funeral Chapel is handling the arrangements.

Wayne McIntosh

Jan. 11, 1949 - May 14, 2026

Wayne McIntosh, 77, passed away peacefully at home on May 14, 2026.

A celebration of life will be held at 1 p.m. Friday, June 19 at Trinity Baptist Church, 72 Elmore St. in Lebanon (beside Primasing motors).

Anita Weatherly

May 5, 1953 - Jan. 29, 2026

Anita Weatherly, 72, of Sweet Home, passed away on Jan. 29, 2026.

Born May 5, 1953, Anita lived a life marked by dedication to

her family, community, and work.

Anita was a devoted wife to her husband, Bruce, and a loving mother to her children

Casie, Kelli and Pete. She cherished her role as grandmother to 10 grandchildren and great-grandmother to six great-grandchildren.

She is also survived by her stepmother, Lillian, and sisters Elaine and Snuffy.

Anita was predeceased by her parents Loyd and Flora and her sisters Carol, Penny, and Marteen.

Throughout her life, Anita demonstrated an unwavering commitment to hard work and service. She helped run a moving company alongside Bruce and later worked for the United States Postal Service in Sweet Home.

Her dedication extended beyond her job as she served as a shop steward for the union. Anita was also deeply involved in her community as a volunteer with the local PTA and as a member of the school board.

Anita found joy in gardening and treasured time spent with her family. Known for her caring nature and ever-present smile, she left an indelible mark on all who knew her.

A memorial service will be held at 2 p.m. Saturday, June 20, at the American Legion, located at 109 W. Holley Road in Sweet Home, where friends and family will gather to celebrate Anita's life.

May Anita's memory bring comfort to those who loved her and inspire others to live with the same warmth and dedication she so effortlessly shared.

Marjorie Wilson

July 29, 1930 - June 12, 2026

Marjorie Louise Wilson, 95, of Sweet Home passed away on Friday, June 12, 2026. Marjorie L. Wilson was born on July 29, 1930, in Beloit, Kan. She was the youngest child of John and Cecilia Freeby. She was raised in Mankato, Kan., and attended school there, graduating in 1948.

She was very involved in high school activities, including cheerleading her senior year. After her high school graduation, she moved to Portland, where she worked until she married Gale R. Wilson. They were married in Boise, Idaho, on Sept. 12, 1949. The two made their home in Sweet Home, where Gale worked at Willamette Industries for 43 years.

Their lives were blessed with a son, Michael, a daughter, Brenda, and a son, Kelly. They have two granddaughters, Kimberly Emmert and Nicole Hyland, and two great-grandchildren, Caden and Jorie Emmert.

Marjorie was a homemaker and enjoyed supporting their children, granddaughters, and great-grandchildren in their activities.

She joined Sweet Home Chapter #164 of the Order of the Eastern Star in 1958 and later became a lifelong member. From 1974 to 1975, she served as Worthy Grand Matron for the State of Oregon. In 1978, she became Supreme Deputy for the State of Oregon in the International Order of the Rainbow for Girls, and after years of service, Marjorie served as Supreme Worthy Advisor for the world organization during the 2000-02 term.

While serving, she was invited by the Masonic Grand Lodges of Bolivia, Brazil, and Aruba to organize and start Rainbow assemblies for the girls in these countries. She and her husband traveled extensively during these years of service to many jurisdictions throughout the United States, Canada, and many other nations, enjoying the friends they made.

She helped shape the lives of many young women in all

walks of life throughout the world through Rainbow.

After her term, Marjorie was invited by the Oregon Masonic Grand Lodge to become the first woman to serve as a director and vice president of the Masonic Charities Foundation of Oregon.

She was a member of the Sweet Home United Methodist Church. Later, she was a resident of Wiley Creek Assisted Living for seven years. She enjoyed the residents, staff, and the wonderful care they provided.

It is with heartfelt gratitude from her family to Angela Clark RN, the med techs, caregivers, staff at Wiley Creek, Lori Boyd RN, and Evergreen Hospice for the loving, caring, compassionate care that was given to Mom and her family. It will always be remembered.

Her family was her greatest pride and joy, and she is survived by her son, Mike (Cheri) Wilson of Gothenburg, Neb., her daughter, Brenda (Larry) Hyland of Sweet Home, and her son Kelly Wilson of Waimea, Hawaii. She is also survived by her granddaughters, Kimberly Emmert of Silverton, and Nicole Hyland of Burien, Wash.; her great-grandchildren, Caden and Jorie Emmert, both of Silverton; and numerous nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her loving husband of 67 years, Gale Wilson (2016); her parents and siblings; and several nieces and nephews.

In lieu of flowers, Marjorie asked that donations be made to Shriners' Children's Portland, Office of Philanthropy, 3101 SW Sam Jackson Rd, Portland OR, 97239-3009, where her husband was a Shriner, and her great-granddaughter is currently receiving treatment.

Viewing will be from 5 to 7 p.m. Tuesday, June 23, at Sweet Home Funeral Chapel. Celebration of life will be at 11:30 a.m. Wednesday, June 24, at Sweet Home United Methodist Church. Private burial will take place at Gilliland Cemetery.

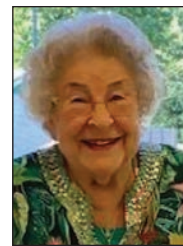
Sweet Home Funeral Chapel is handling the arrangements.

Death Notices

Jason Leland Beedle, 49, of Sweet Home passed away June 14, 2026.

Sweet Home Funeral

See Obituaries, Page 3



THE NEW ERA
on the road...



The New Era went to Colorado Springs with Albert and Karen Niemi for the graduation of their grandson, Eli Jennings, from the United States Air Force Academy. Eli was commissioned as a 2nd Lieutenant in the Air Force. The Niemis' daughter Carissa and her husband Nate are both graduates of the Air Force Academy and are retired. Carissa commissioned Eli as a 2nd lieutenant.

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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.

Corrections

An entry in the Oregon State Police/Sweet Home/South County Sheriff's log reports for June 2 was incorrect, due to an error in the LCSO log. The LCSO log had reported that at 2:37 p.m. a death investigation had been conducted in 38000 block Courtney Creek, Brownsville, but later inquiry into that log entry by The New Era determined that this log entry should have been an incident that occurred in Harrisburg. Apparently, there was no death investigation.

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)

JUNE 14

SWEET HOME POLICE

3:26 a.m. - SHPD performed death investigation in 500 block Oak Terrace. Report taken.
1:58 p.m. - Caller from 1000 block Nandina reported homeless person camping behind caller's house. Officer contacted female, who is moving along.
2:23 p.m. - Caller reported juvenile riding electric dirt bike in traffic, 1000 block Main. Officer located and counseled multiple juveniles on their actions. Bike was returned home.
3:13 p.m. - Brian Lee Lindsay

OBITUARIES

From page 2

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

Harold Blaine Elmore, 79, of Sweet Home passed away June 10, 2026.

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

Donna Jean Hemingway, 82, of Sweet Home passed away June 12, 2026.

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

James Thomas Moffitt, 85, of Sweet Home passed

away April 22, 2026.

A celebration of life will be at 2 p.m. Saturday, June 27, at the Sweet Home VFW.

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

Michelle Denise Pixley, 74, of Sweet Home passed away June 8, 2026.

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

Charles Clarence Rice, 95, of Sweet Home passed away June 13, 2026.

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

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LEBANON POLICE

10:46 a.m. - Cole R. Thompson, 29, cited for DWS; transported to jail. Trenton Michael Anthony Cole, 25, cited on Benton County Circuit Court warrant for DWS; LCSA warrant for reckless driving, failure to perform duties of driver; LJC warrant for PV - DWS, failure to perform duties of driver, reckless driving, disorderly conduct.

12:50 p.m. - Unidentified subject cited for criminal trespass II. Report taken.
12:59 p.m. - William L. Phillips, 43, arrested on LCCC warrant for FTA - criminal mischief I.

1:13 p.m. - Theft of two cases Twisted Tea from Walmart. Juvenile charged with shoplift, theft, minor in possession. Transported to Linn County Juvenile Detention.

5:59 p.m. - Subject upset grandpa wouldn't give him credit card and phone, took about 70 psych pills, threw grandpa to ground when he tried to stop him. Subject taken to hospital.

9:28 p.m. - Stanley Earl Brady, 60, cited for DWS.

LCSO/OSP SWEET HOME/S. COUNTY

9:49 a.m. - Caller from 38700 block Hwy. 228 reported cow

in front yard. Caller was able to contain cow and owner arrived to pick it up.

2:56 p.m. - Caller reported being behind locked gate in 46400 block Quartzville. Deputy arrived and located vehicle in day use area. Caller reported that they had been let out by someone else.

5:02 p.m. - Caller complained about cars parking in boat trailer parking area at Calkins Boat Ramp, Hwy. 20/Quartzville.

7:53 p.m. - Deputy assisted with traffic control for structure fire in 44100 block Wiley Creek.

LCSO/OSP LEBANON

11:32 a.m. - Jose Cardenas, 57, of Lebanon, arrested for trespassing and on warrants, 33200 block Brewster. Lodged at LCJ. Report taken.

4:49 p.m. - Caller reported windows broken on abandoned house, 32800 block Brewster. Information documented.

JUNE 13

SWEET HOME POLICE

12:28 a.m. - Aleece Rochelle Woods, 40, arrested on SHMC warrants for FTA in two trespassing and two theft cases. Hunter Ariel Ringheimer, 32, arrested on LCJC warrant in DWS case. 1200 block Long. Both cited and released.

6:13 a.m. - Citizen visited SHPD to report missing male. Officer responded, report taken. Male listed as missing, then was located the next day in Benton County. He was fine, according to SHPD.

10:32 a.m. - Scooter crash reported in area of 12th/Nandina. Officer responded, male transported by medics to hospital. Further details unavailable.

10:37 a.m. - Caller reported female going through trash at SHHS baseball field on 18th. Officer contacted female, who was advised to stay off the property and move on.

2:11 p.m. - Caller from 1200 block 40th reported unknown male going through neighbor's car. Matthew James Jarvis, 27, arrested for unlawful entry into motor vehicle, theft III and criminal mischief II. Cited and released.

4:52 p.m. - Caller reported suspicious male making "inappropriate gestures" at daughter in area of 12th/railroad tracks. Officer contacted male, who was counseled.

5:52 p.m. - Caller reported grandmother in 1000 block Vista Lane allowing 11-year-olds to drive her car. Officer left voice mail with grandmother advising against such behavior.

LEBANON POLICE

12:33 a.m. - Female arrived home from bars, tried to hit caller, breaking stuff, 800 block W Rose St. Ariel Victoria Gillette, 29, taken into custody for harassment and DV - harassment.

8:00 a.m. - Fire and police respond to transient fire, 32900 block Berlin Rd. Mitchell G. Melby, 46, trespassed from property for life.

8:29 a.m. - Melissa M. Scott, 55, cited on LMC warrant for FTA - no valid license and LCCC warrant for FTA - DUI. Barry William Page, 46, taken into custody on LMC warrant for FTA - theft II, and LCCC warrants

for FTAs - forgery, false info x3, failure to carry/present x2, assault IV and harassment.

6:10 p.m. - Male attacked grandma, threw her to ground. Report taken.

7:20 p.m. - Medics, LCSO, police respond to intentional overdose at River Park.

9:49 p.m. - Patricia Margaret Hankins, 53, cited for FTOTCD.

10:47 p.m. - Danielle Jordan Kunkle, 30, cited for DWS.

11:21 p.m. - Medics respond to intentional overdose. Subject taken to hospital on police officer hold.

LCSO/OSP SWEET HOME/S. COUNTY

9:53 a.m. - Caller complained that gate at Lewis Creek Park was closed. Parks employee arrived to open it. 44400 block North River.

12:39 p.m. - Dog bit stranger on trail. Dog owner served quarantine order. Location was not clear in log, but appeared to be in Cascadia and related to county park. Further details not immediately available, but will be updated when we get them.

1:49 p.m. - Waylon Bias, 39, of Cascadia, cited for DWS, DU and failure to renew vehicle registration, High Deck/Cascadia Dr.

5:33 p.m. - Hit and run reported in 43700 block North River. Offender left scene without providing information. Victim vehicle sustained minor damage. Investigation ongoing. Report taken.

6:02 p.m. - LCSO consulted on fire that burned four travel trailers in 29100 block Potter, Halsey. Halsey-Shedd Fire and LCSO determined cause was non-criminal, likely due to previously used burn pile nearby.

6:24 p.m. - Kind citizen returned found wallet, which was then returned to owner by LCSO. Owner confirmed that all contents, including cash, were still in the wallet. 1900 Main.

8:20 p.m. - Caden Waskom, 25, of Lebanon, arrested on LMC warrant, 43700 block North River. Cited and released. Report taken.

LCSO/OSP LEBANON

3:16 a.m. - Mitchell Melbye, 46, of Salem, arrested on outstanding warrant. 332800 block Berlin. Cited and released. Report taken.

12:27 p.m. - Caller reported two males spotted taking items from property in 39100 block Mt. Hope. Investigation ongoing. Report taken.

1:08 p.m. - Randi Goodwin, 41, of Waterloo, arrested on outstanding warrant after deputies responded to report of disturbance in 39400 block Woodbine. Report taken.

4:04 p.m. - Caller complained to LCSO that city police were running traffic patrols in 2500 block Porter.

5:16 p.m. - Randy Drake, 61, of Sweet Home, cited for DWS, turn signal violation, Primrose/Willow.

7:48 p.m. - Samantha Solis, 31, of Lebanon, cited for speeding, 83/55, 37000 block Hwy. 226.

JUNE 12

SWEET HOME POLICE

12:14 a.m. - Loa Ann Louise
See Public Safety, Page 6

Comfortably Dumb by Bruce Quast



TEMPERATURES

DATE	HIGH	LOW	RAIN
6/9	66	50	0.21
6/10	69	48	0.00
6/11	80	39	0.00
6/12	81	46	0.00
6/13	90	52	0.00
6/14	95	52	0.00
6/15	97	57	0.00

RAIN IN INCHES

Year to date: **10.83**
6/18/26: **19.24**

FORECAST

DATE	WEATHER	HIGH/LOW
6/18	Cloudy	86/53
6/19	Sunny	86/50
6/20	Sunny	82/49
6/21	Sunny	85/53
6/22	Sunny	89/55
6/23	Sunny	90/54
6/24	Sunny	88/52

LAKE LEVELS

Foster **639.9**
Green Peter **960.2**

TODAY'S FIRE DANGER IS LOW

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

CROSSWORD KEY

Puzzle on page 17

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

SUDOKU KEY

Puzzle on page 17

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

From our Files



Two "Cat" operators level off the hill above Sweet Home for the city's new 750,000-gallon water reservoir in 1951. The city water superintendent announced this week one reason there is a water shortage is due to limited storage capacity.

JUNE 21, 1951

The second annual "skeeter" spray will begin soon. The City of Sweet Home and Active Club are sponsoring the anti-mosquito battle involving about 350 gallons of a mixture containing 5% DDT and 2% pyronone sprayed by plane and trucks to completely blanket the city and log ponds.

Drastic steps were promised by the city water superintendent over concerns with a critical water shortage and the public's refusal to comply with requests to go easy on the present supply. Residents were asked to comply with a rotating schedule for irrigation, but because many do not adhere to the schedule, the city council will be asked to pass an ordinance shutting off all water except for domestic and mill use, or cut off water supply to certain sections of the city at specified times. Shortage is due to a 30-day dry spell, extra demand for lawn and garden, and insufficient

storage facilities.

JUNE 17, 1976

The bodies of three Portland-area brothers were recovered after a mine blast took their lives. The men, who ranged in age from 69 to 77, had operated the mine above Sulphide Bridge on Quartzville Road for a number of years. Though it appears the miners were experienced enough to know what they were doing, investigators said it was hard to say what went wrong.

The Spring Restaurant, owned by sisters Joyce Fields and Peggy Rowe, held its grand opening at its new location adjacent to the old structure on Main Street. Forced to move when the old building was obtained as a right-of-way for the proposed Hwy. 20 improvement, the new restaurant is relocated in a remodeled section of the old City Center Motel. The rest of the motel was also removed for the highway project. The

owners operated The Spring Drive-in for seven years.

JUNE 20, 2001

Sweet Home City Council approved a concept of creating a state scenic byway through the city. The scenic byway would start at the junction of Hwy. 228 and I-5, and go through Brownsville and Sweet Home to the junction of Hwy. 20 and Hwy. 126. It would be called the Calapooia/South Santiam Corridor, and would join four other byways in the state, in addition to six state tour routes, five national scenic byways and three all-American roads.

Betty Smith celebrated the completion of her GED program at LBCC at the age of 71. She was recognized with 34 other GED graduates this week, 55 years after she left high school in Missouri to wed a GI from Oregon she'd known only a week. She got her first drivers license last year.

Circuit Court

Nathan Lee Ammon, 34, placed in diversion program and charged a \$440 fine after pleading no contest to DUII (liquor) and reckless driving.

Acea Lee Clark Anderson, 34, charged June 4 with harassment, computer crime, identity theft and two counts of theft I. Charges allege the defendant stole personal items and a puppy.

Jeremy Wesley Babb, 52, sentenced June 3 to a \$100 fine after pleading no contest to failure to report as a sex offender. Second count of same charge dismissed.

Fen Miao Bao, 63, charged June 2 with practice of massage without a license and promoting prostitution.

Jaiden Dutch Basham, 23, sentenced June 12 to five years suspension of drivers license, 15 days jail, 33 mos. prison, five years bench probation, three years post-prison supervision, \$3,500 in fines and \$17,229.02 restitution after pleading guilty to two counts DUII (liquor) with BAC of .19% and .143%, recklessly endangering another person, criminal mischief II, theft I - by receiving, and assault III. Dismissed: reckless driving, criminal mischief II, failure

to perform duties of driver - property damage, assault II, reckless driving. In a separate case, he was sentenced to license suspension and jail concurrent with previously imposed sentences after pleading guilty to fleeing or attempting to elude and recklessly endangering another person. Dismissed: reckless driving, fleeing or attempting to elude, DWS, speeding.

Kevin Lee Cuomo, 30, sentenced June 1 to 30 days jail, 24 mos. supervised probation after pleading guilty to criminal mischief I and menacing. Dismissed: criminal trespass II, two counts menacing. In a separate case he was sentenced to an additional 10 days jail after pleading guilty to criminal mischief I. On June 11, he was charged with aggravated harassment, disorderly conduct II, criminal mischief II and criminal trespass II. Bail: \$10,000.

Aaron Joel Dickson, 35, charged June 1 with DV - unlawful use of a weapon, DV - menacing, DV - assault IV, harassment. Bail: \$10,000.

Ryan Lee Earl, 41, charged June 8 with DV - assault IV, DV - coercion and DV - menacing. Bail: \$15,000.

Kaleb Andres Foster, 25, charged May 26 with assault III, strangulation.

Steven Gary Fultz, 67, charged June 8 with criminal mischief I and criminal trespass II.

Syndelle Grace Nicole Garber, 20, placed in diversion program after pleading no contest to DUII (liquor) with a .15% BAC.

Phillip Sean Groce, 64, sentenced June 5 to three years suspension of a drivers license, 120 hours jail, three days compensatory service in lieu of jail, 24 mos. bench probation and \$4,255 in fines and fees after pleading guilty to two counts of DUII (liquor) with a .20% BAC. Dismissed: two counts reckless driving.

Jared Landon Hamer, 42, charged June 9 with burglary II, theft II and unlawful possession of fentanyl.

Bradford E. Hauser, 63, sentenced June 3 to 90 days suspension of a drivers license, five days compensatory service in lieu of jail, 12 mos. bench probation and a \$100 fine after pleading no contest to reckless driving. Dismissed: fleeing or attempting to elude.

Brian Anthony Johnson, 41, charged June 8 with failure to report as a sex offender.

Brenda Lea Jungwirth, 76, charged June 1 with DUII (liquor) and reckless driving.

Gavin Douglas Lefevre, 31, sentenced June 12 to three years suspension of a drivers license, five days jail, 24 mos. bench probation and \$1,755 in fines and fees after pleading guilty to DUII (liquor) with a .12% BAC.

Emilee Ann Lupo, 33, charged June 4 with four counts of sexual abuse I and four counts of sodomy II. Charges involve a boy under 14 occurring in 2020. Bail: \$150,000.

Kyle Joseph Lynch, 27, sentenced June 5 to 15 days compensatory service in lieu of jail and 24 mos. supervised probation after pleading no contest to theft I.

Andrew Robert Maloney, 45, sentenced to one year suspension of a drivers license, 48 hours jail, 18 mos. bench probation and a \$1,000 fine after a jury verdict of guilty to DUII (liquor) with a .06% BAC.

Laird Patrick McCabe, 46, sentenced May 26 to 15 days jail, 24 mos. supervised probation and a \$100 fine after pleading no contest to DV - menacing. Dismissed: strangulation, unlawful use of a weapon, resisting arrest.

Catherine Loraine Moser, 55, sentenced June 5 to one year suspension of a drivers license, 240 hours jail, 24 mos. bench probation and \$1,000 fine after pleading no contest to DUII (liquor) with a .145% BAC. Dismissed: reckless driving.

Emily Elizabeth Ouellette, 40, sentenced June 3 to 80 mos. prison, 20 years post-prison supervision after pleading no contest to two counts sexual abuse I, two counts encouraging child sexual abuse I, and using a child in a display of sexually explicit conduct. Dismissed: second count of using a child in a display of sexually explicit conduct.

Robert Eugene Peterson, 49, charged May 26 with speeding 108/65.

Travis Earl Pressey, 47, charged June 8 with felon in possession of a firearm, unlawful use of a weapon, criminal mischief II and three counts of menacing. Bail: \$20,000.

MD Moshir Rahman, 32, charged June 11 with DUII (liquor).

A charge against **Kourtney Rivers, 29**, of speeding

116/55 was dismissed with prejudice.

Robert Daniel Rios, 40, charged June 10 with DUII (liquor) and reckless driving.

Zachary Nitschke Sanderson, 26, sentenced May 29 to 150 mos. prison, 10 years post-prison supervision after pleading no contest to rape II, sodomy II, sexual abuse I and encouraging child sexual abuse II. Dismissed: three counts of rape II.

Justin Michael Sears, 21, sentenced May 29 to 30 days jail, 24 mos. bench probation and a \$100 fine after pleading no contest to contributing to the sexual delinquency of a child. Dismissed: sexual abuse II. A charge against **Tanner Jon Shanks, 26**, of strangulation was dismissed based on his inability to aid and assist in his own defense.

Jacob David Siefarth, 30, sentenced June 5 to 32 days jail, 36 mos. supervised probation after pleading guilty to unlawful use of a weapon, menacing and criminal mischief I. Dismissed: pointing a firearm at another, disorderly conduct II.

Joshua Arnold Storms, 51, sentenced June 12 to five years prison and two years post-prison supervision after pleading no contest to unlawful use of a weapon - firearm. Dismissed: assault I, attempt to commit any degree of murder or aggravated murder.

Christopher Jay Webb, 33, charged May 29 with luring a minor.

Cullen-Nicholas Kamaki Wesely, 31, charged June 9 with DUII (liquor), reckless driving, recklessly endangering another person and refusal to take a test for intoxicants.

Franklin Joe Whitton, 46, sentenced June 12 to 240

See Circuit Court, Page 5

THE
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Fire grant supports seasonal Lebanon crew, but overall revenue expected to decrease

By Sarah Brown
Of The New Era

The Lebanon Fire District swore-in new fire members and reported some concerns during its board meeting on Tuesday, June 8.

Training Division Chief Russell Duerr presented yellow helmets to Lebanon's spring academy graduates, and introduced the seasonal wildland crew during the meeting.

The spring fire academy took place during the past two months, which this year included agencies from other jurisdictions, including Brownsville, Halsey and Monroe. Duerr explained the support volunteers and trainees wear a black helmet during the academy, which indicates they cannot go interior to a burning structure.

"Here at Lebanon, all of our firefighters who are cleared to enter a burning building, they receive their yellow helmet," he said. "That way, the incident commander knows that they can enter the building. It's a big deal in the fire service, our tradition and symbolisms."

Lebanon volunteers who accepted their yellow helmets that evening were Frances Crummer-Olson, Bryce Bowers, Arron Davis, Joshua McIntire, Matthew Neilson and Gunner Kometz, as well as Brandon Ramos, who was not present.



Arron Davis, second from left, receives his yellow helmet from Fire Chief John Tacy, third from left, while DC Russell Duerr, far left, introduces each volunteer. From far right, Frances Crummer-Olson and Bryce Bowers stay up front after receiving their helmets.

- Photos by Sarah Brown

Four seasonal wildland crew members were also introduced and sworn-in. They were Darbie "Gracie" Wascher, Daniel LaVigne, Luis Maciel and Jonathan Sherpa.

The newly established seasonal crew is supported by a \$1.2 million CWDG (Community Wildfire Defense Grant) grant over the next five years to train and hire seasonal workers who will do home ignition zone inspections.

"Out in the rural areas where wildfire danger is high, they're going out and assessing people's homes, and they're also working on address markers and community outreach," Duerr

explained.

Financials

Chief Administrative Officer Desiree Barker reported she doesn't expect the district will "hit the mark" with property tax income by the end of the fiscal year, so they will be a little short in that area, but ambulance revenue has already exceeded their budget, "so we're doing very well on ambulance revenue this year."

In Ground Emergency Medical Transportation (GEMT - a federally funded Medicaid program allowing public and nonprofit ambulance and emergency services to receive supplemental payments), LFD



Taking part in a swearing-in ceremony are, from left, Darbie Wascher, Daniel Lavigne, Luis Maciel, Jonathan Sherpa, Frances Crummer-Olson, Arron Davis, Bryce Bowers, Joshua McIntire, Matthew Neilson and Gunner Kometz. Not pictured: Brandon Ramos.

is currently short about \$346,000.

"It's just having a real negative impact on our budget," Barker said.

Fire Chief John Tacy reported he was informed there will be changes to the GEMT funding, essentially that it will gradually decrease until it ends in January 2029. Last year, LFD received about \$250,000 in GEMT supplemental payments.

"It's going to have a huge impact across the whole U.S.," he said. "I think along with that, we're going to be seeing some failures in emergency medical services."

According to Tacy, fol-

lowing a failed levy, Lane Fire Authority recently announced it will be releasing its ambulance service area.

"I think they're going to be an interesting and informative fire district to keep an eye on, on how things go forward," Tacy said.

In other business:

- The board approved a contract renewal with the Lebanon Professional Firefighters Union;

- Tacy updated information concerning a complaint about burn messages not being available on time. He learned delays are due to not being able to get in contact with DEQ.

Municipal Court

Amber D. Barton, 48, guilty by default for DWS, DU - fines \$3,030, license suspended.

Matthew V. Bocca, 37, pleaded guilty to endangering the welfare of a minor - fine \$451, 24 mos. probation.

Brenna R. Candler, 45, pleaded guilty to theft III - fine \$501, 30 days jail - suspended, 12 mos. probation, five days work crew, no contact orders.

Kevin L. Cuomo, 30, pleaded guilty to criminal mischief II, harassment, criminal trespass II, theft II - fine \$4,399, 180 days jail - suspended, 60 mos. probation, no contact orders. Dismissed: disorderly conduct II, criminal mischief II.

Chase L. Davis, 34, pleaded guilty to failure to report as a sex offender - fine \$701, 180 days jail - suspended, 36 mos. probation, 15 days work crew.

Samuel M. De Le Garza, 20, guilty by default for speeding 62/35 - fine \$1,015, license suspended.

Michael D. Ferebee, 47, guilty by default for DWS - fine \$2,015, license suspended.

Matthew O. Mosburg, 50, guilty by default for operating a vehicle without driving

privileges, failure to carry proof of insurance, DU x2, operating a vehicle without driving privileges - fines \$5,075, license suspended.

Joel E. Nieblas, 26, pleaded no contest to DU - fine \$265.

Nicholas N. Niverson, 33, pleaded no contest to criminal trespass II, theft III - fine \$797.92, 30 days jail - suspended, 36 mos. probation, 10 days work crew, no contact orders.

Joshua S. Porter, 42, pleaded no contest to disorderly conduct II - fine \$466, 12 mos. probation, 10 days work crew.

Jeremy A. Quate, 39, pleaded no contest to reckless driving, recklessly endangering - fine \$732, 180 days jail - suspended, 36 mos. probation, 20 days work crew. Dismissed: speeding 98/45.

Ryan M. Rickman, 44, pleaded guilty to criminal trespass II - fine \$401, 12 mos. probation, five days work crew, no contact orders.

Matthew S. Samard, 39, guilty by default for DWS - fine \$2,015, license suspended.

Denise M. Sanders, 60,

pleaded guilty to giving a false report, animal neglect II - fine \$767, 12 mos. probation, 10 days work crew. Dismissed: second count of animal neglect II.

Jessey A. Tenbusch, 32, guilty by default for DU x2, operating a vehicle without driving privileges - fines \$3,045, license suspended.

Erin E. Tracy, 27, pleaded no contest to speeding 63/45 - fine \$165.

Georgia E. Tyler, 38, pleaded guilty to criminal DWS - fine \$1,201, 36 mos. probation, 15 days work crew.

Gaylynn Wagner, 56, pleaded guilty to theft III - fine \$701, 30 days jail - suspended, 24 mos. probation, 10 days work crew, no contact orders.

Braden O. Wasson, 30, pleaded guilty to criminal DWS - fine \$1,201, 36 mos. probation, 15 days work crew.

Jamison P. Weist, 61, pleaded no contest to theft III - fine \$401, 12 mos. probation, 10 days work crew, no contact orders.

Sarah E. Weld, 27, pleaded no contest to speeding 50/35 - fine \$165.

CIRCUIT COURT

From page 4

hours jail and 18 mos. bench probation after pleading guilty to criminal mischief II.

Joshua Alexander Williams, 26, charged June 8 with failure to report as a sex offender.

Andrew Wayne Wilson, 38, charged June 9 with two counts sexual abuse I, sodomy I, unlawful sexual penetration I, incest and endangering the welfare of a child. Allegations involve a female under the age of 12. Bail: \$500,000.

Exzavier Jamar Wright, 26, sentenced June 10 to 38

mos. prison and three years post-prison supervision after pleading no contest to DV - burglary I and DV - assault IV.

A charge against **Jessica Ashley Wynne, 32**, of attempted unlawful delivery of meth was dismissed with prejudice based on lack of evidence.

Alex Michael Yoder, 38, sentenced May 29 to 10 days compensatory service in lieu of jail and 12 mos. bench probation after pleading no contest to failure to report as a sex offender. Second count of same charge dismissed.

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Lebanon adopts \$94.7M budget, includes wastewater plant

By Sarah Brown
Of The New Era

The Lebanon City Council adopted a \$94.7 budget for the 2026-27 fiscal year during its regular meeting on Tuesday, June 10.

Finance Director Brandon Neish pointed out the number is higher this next year than the current fiscal year primarily because of required wastewater treatment plant upgrades “and other cost increases.”

This budget includes \$30 million in capital construction funds, he said.

The council also adopted a resolution levying taxes at the permanent tax rate of \$5.1364 per \$1,000 assessed value and a \$1,917,122 voter approved bond.

“As a reminder to the council, next year is the last payment for the General Obligation Bond that built the justice center and (the library),” he said.

As the Lebanon Urban Renewal Agency, the council board adopted an \$8.6 million budget for the 2026-2027 fiscal year after conducting bud-

get committee meetings and public hearings.

Levy flyer coming

During its meeting, the council also approved an informational flyer about a proposed municipal jail operations levy which is anticipated to appear on the November 2026 ballot.

The flyer provides information on the history of the city's municipal jail, which provides 12 beds for misdemeanor offenses such as theft, assault, trespass, disorderly conduct and certain traffic-related crimes.

The jail was closed in 2023 due to staffing limitations and the inability to meet Oregon statutory and insurance requirements.

After some research, the city determined it would cost nearly \$8.7 million to operate the jail over the next five years. The proposed five-year levy would be for \$1.06 per \$1,000 assessed value (approx. \$297 a year for a home assessed at \$242,000).

The flyer reminds the public that a current bond paying for the construction of both the Justice Center (and jail) and

the library will be paid off this year, with those taxes falling off next year's tax roll.

In other business:

- During a work session prior to the regular meeting, Neish talked about the possibility of updating the city's data and software management systems into one integrated system. After some research, the city settled on requesting a move to OpenGov at \$1.78 million for seven years, plus implementation costs. Despite the price tag, the city and council believe the more organized system would be more efficient and cost-effective.

- The council approved a motion within its bulk Consent Calendar to designate the Lebanon Museum Foundation as primary coordinator and central clearinghouse for the city's 2028 Project 150 sesquicentennial celebration efforts. Councilor Dominic Conti will be the council representative to the Project 150 Committee.

- Resident Melody Wallace brought a complaint to the council about owners bringing their big dogs into the small-dog portion of Gillott

Dog Park. She said this is causing small dog owners to leave. City Manager Ron Whitlatch said the city is in the process of putting up a sign indicating a 25-pound limit for the small-dog area.

- Other resident comments included questioning ordinances about putting in a container and landlords being responsible for former tenant bills with the city.

- The council adopted an annual resolution certifying the city provides services that make it eligible to receive State Shared Revenue. The city's 2027 FY budget expects approximately \$330,589 as non-dedicated revenue in the General Fund from a variety of sources – such as liquor taxes, marijuana taxes and cigarette taxes.

- The council adopted an annual resolution certifying it provides services eligible to receive Marijuana Shared Revenue and that the City elects to receive distributions from the State of Oregon for shared revenues and the city's 3% tax on marijuana sales. Neish estimated the city receives approximately \$150,000 a year.

- The council awarded a \$2,836,147 project to NVG Construction for full street and utility reconstruction on Grant Street (between 5th and Park streets) and Sherman Street (between Second and Main streets). The projects are expected to be completed by next year.

- City Manager Ron Whitlatch asked council to consider whether it would like to use \$514,000 from the Santiam Travel Station sale as a match toward the estimated \$1.6 million library expansion project, which could encourage approval of a Community Development Block Grant. Council President Michelle Steinhebel noted the council used to meet at the travel station but now meets at the library, so it seems wise to use the sale funds for the benefit of the library, which has lost some usable space. Councilor David McClain pointed out another option, that if the council obtained a bigger space for City Hall, then the council could move out of the library. The question will be readdressed at the council's next meeting.

PUBLIC SAFETY

From page 3

Branton, 36, arrested on SHMC warrant for FTA in theft case, 18th/Tamarack. Cited and released.

7:41 a.m. - Earl Ryan Dodge, 32, arrested by Coos Bay police on SHMC warrant for FTA in theft case. Cited to appear July 8.

7:52 a.m. - Crash reported at intersection of Long and Mountain View. Operators were Jesse Gibson, 35, driving a 2018 Ford Focus, and Tawni Lee Rose Banta, 18, driving a Honda HRV. Drivers exchanged information. Further details not immediately available.

8:28 a.m. - Caller reported people on caller's property

while neighbor is having fence installed without notifying caller, 1000 block 43rd. Officer responded, stood by while caller made contact with neighbor, who agreed to stay on their side of the property line.

8:57 a.m. - Billy Wayne Hatch Jr., 49, arrested by Lebanon police on SHMC warrant for FTC in criminal driving case. Cited to appear July 8.

9:01 a.m. - Caller reported that staff at FAC shelter, 1450 24th, will not return his items. Second caller requested that male be escorted off property, that he was “escalated,” and for that reason his belongings were not being returned. Officer responded, items were returned. Parties separated.

9:26 a.m. - Tomas Shelby, AKA Freja Barson Njordsdottir, arrested on Marion County Circuit Court warrant for FTA in theft of services case and Corvallis Municipal Court warrant for FTA in theft of services case. 1400 block 24th. Cited and released.

10:13 a.m. - Caller reported overgrown hedges in neighbor's yard, 1400 block Westwood. Referred to code enforcement.

10:28 a.m. - Hunter Gomez, 43, arrested by Lebanon police on SHMC warrant for FTC in theft case. Cited to appear July 8.

4:44 p.m. - Caller reported getting repeated “prank calls.” Officer contacted parents of juvenile, who was counseled on his behavior.

7:01 p.m. - Caller reported vandalism at Skate Park, 1990 Long St. and that a juvenile female had been threatened by older juveniles. Officer responded, report taken.

9:05 p.m. - Nicolas Ryan Shoulders, 36, arrested by LCSO on SHMC warrant for FTC in theft case. Cited to appear July 8.

9:25 p.m. - Kevin Earl Terwilliger, 63, arrested by Corvallis police on SHMC warrant for FTC in criminal driving case. Cited to appear July 8.

9:35 p.m. - Caller reported male and female posting “rude things” about caller on social media, tampering with caller's vehicle in 1200 block 23rd. Officer responded, contacted

male and female, who were trespassed from location. Caller was advised on options.

11:51 p.m. - Whitney Dawn Denherder, 37, cited for DWS, DU, Main/18th.

LEBANON POLICE

2:13 a.m. - Anthony Jaimes Ball, 29, cited for DWS.

4:30 a.m. - Shawn Michael Burleson, 33, taken into custody on LMC warrant for PV and LCSO warrant for PV - assault III.

8:44 a.m. - Billy Wayne Hatch Jr., 49, cited on LMC warrant for FTA - DWS, AMC warrant for contempt, SHMC warrant for criminal DWS, and Salem Municipal Court warrant for

See Public Safety, Page 9

CHURCH DIRECTORY

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“Be still, and know that I am God. I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth!”
Psalm 46:10

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Pastor
Machiel Greyling

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10:30 a.m. Children's Church

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11:00 am Worship
5:00 pm Prayer Meeting

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SH council explores business support while advancing city interests

By Brandon Cominsky
Of the New Era

The possibility of establishing a city business registry prompted extended discussion and a lot of questions for Sweet Home City Council members at a June 9 work session that preceded their council meeting.

The purpose of the discussion was to give councilors a chance to consider whether the city could play a larger role in helping new and existing business owners understand local requirements, available resources, and overall city services, City Manager Jason Ogden said.

Ogden told councilors that City Hall staff were seeking direction before conducting additional research.

"We're trying to figure out what you guys are thinking regarding a business registry," Ogden said. "Why is it important?"

Mayor Susan Coleman said the conversation for a business registry stemmed from discussions about how business owners can access information that may help them avoid challenges as they establish or expand operations.

Councilors discussed several unique approaches, including informational

materials, resource guides, and other methods of connecting businesses with city departments and regulatory information.

Councilor Joshua Thorstad said having a central place where business owners can obtain information could be valuable, particularly for entrepreneurs unfamiliar with local processes.

"It would be beneficial to anybody wanting to start a business in Sweet Home to be able to go to the city and get help in so many ways," Thorstad said.

As the discussion continued, councilors considered whether the goal was

to create a formal registry or to develop tools that help businesses navigate city requirements. Overall, councilors did not reach a consensus, but the work session provided staff with feedback for future consideration.

During the City Council meeting following the work session, members addressed several items related to public safety, city administration, and land use.

Among the evening's actions, councilors approved a resolution formally acknowledging Sweet Home's participation in Linn County's revised Deadly Physical Force Plan.

According to city staff, the resolution was administrative in nature and intended to ensure city records accurately reflected the county-wide agreement.

The council also approved renewal of the city's workers' compensation insurance coverage through SAIF. City staff reported the annual premium had surpassed the threshold requiring council approval.

Councilors further approved the third reading of an ordinance completing a zoning map amendment and property line adjustment involving property associated with the Sweet Home School District.

Events

The New Era publishes announcements of upcoming events at no charge, as space permits. Free and nonprofit events are prioritized, but free services or events offered by for-profit businesses will also be included as space permits. To submit an event, email information (description, location, date, time and any other necessary details, as well as contact information for questions) to news@sweethomenews.com at least two weeks prior to the event. Questions? Call (541) 367-2135 or send a message to the above email.

ACTIVITIES AT THE HEALING GARDENS

Lebanon Community Hospital Foundation invites people to enjoy the hospital's Japanese healing gardens through several upcoming opportunities.

To register, or for more information, contact Brandy O'Bannon at bobannon@samhealth.org. Or register online at samhealth.org/LebanonHealingGardens.

July 10, Aug. 14 and Sept. 18 at 10 a.m. - Garden Tour: One-hour guided garden tour, starting at the koi pond gazebo, Boulder Falls Event Center. Learn about the garden's history, design and care while

exploring both gardens. No registration required.

June 20 from 1-4 p.m. - Garden Vignettes Textile Class: Spend time in the garden, then learn to use fabric layering and embroidery stitching to create an inspired image in cloth.

June 22, July 13, Aug. 17 and Sept. 24 at 5 p.m. - Stroll for Well-Being: An independent walking and journaling program designed to support mindful reflection. Journals provided during orientation session.

July 18 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. - Family Day: (11-12:30) - Children 6-12 are invited to this "storigami" experience to learn traditional Japanese paper folding while listening to a story read by paper artist Yuki Martin.

1-3) - Parents and children can enjoy a garden bingo activity and art project for glass plant stakes. (1-4) - Bonsai expert Lee Cheate will lead a private bonsai class for adults 18 and over; small fee required for take-home bonsai.

FREE COMMUNITY HEALTH EVENT

Samaritan Community Health Network, Linn County Health Services, and Oregon State University Extension Service bring a free Produce Market and Mobile Health Clinic every last Wednesday of the month through October from 4-6 p.m. at Sweet Home Church of the Nazarene, 415 Holley Road, Sweet Home.

The next event is Wednesday, June 24.

Participants can receive fresh produce and access to services through a mobile health clinic at no cost.

PEO BERRY SALE IN SWEET HOME

Sweet Home's PEO Chapter DD is selling freshly picked, flash-frozen berries to raise money for educational scholarships, loans and grants to women in the community.

Blueberries and thornless Columbia Star blackberries are available in nine-pound buckets for \$30 each.

Order by July 9 by calling or texting Nancy at (541) 912-6579. Pickup will be in the parking lot behind the Rio

Theater in Sweet Home from 9 to 9:30 a.m. on Aug. 22.

LEBANON TRAILS WORK DAY JULY 11

Build Lebanon Trails will have a work day from 9-11 a.m. on Saturday, July 11, at Riverview Park. Volunteers will remove weeds and debris, and sweep the trail. Loaner tools and work gloves are available onsite. Wear appropriate clothing and shoes.

Arrive a little before 9 a.m. for instructions and signing in.

MOVIES AT SANKEY PARK

The Sweet Home Public Library will host Movies in the Park from 7:30-10:30 p.m. on the following days at Sankey Park, 847 14th Ave. Free to the public, snacks included.

July 17 - Hoppers

Aug. 14 - National Treasure

NATIVE AMERICAN ENCAMPMENTS IN PARKS

A Native American Cultural Encampment will be open to the public from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Friday through Sunday, July 24-26, at Waterloo County Park, 39510 Gross St., and Aug. 28-30 at Cascadia County Park, 48241 Cascadia Dr., Cascadia.

Cultural encampment is a group of Native Americans from different parts of the U.S. gathering together and making village-type settings with tipis and tents as they share their individual cultures and traditional information with the community.

Activities include craft classes, Pow Wow style dancing, vendor booths, flute playing, family activities, and a lunchtime feast on Sunday.

For more information, visit naculturalencampment.org.

STORYTIME AT LEBANON LIBRARY

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

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

stories, finger plays, rhyme time and more.

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

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

SQUARE DANCE LESSONS OPEN TO PUBLIC

Lebanon Square Circlers offers square dance lessons Sundays from 5:30 to 7 p.m. at the Lebanon Senior Center, 80 Tangent St.

No experience required. The first class is free and cost thereafter is \$6 per person or \$15 per family. All ages are welcome.

Shaun McKamey will be the caller/instructor.

Square Circlers also hold dances on the first and third Saturday nights of each month at the Lebanon Senior Center.

For more information, call (541) 401-9780 or visit www.lebanonsquarecirclers.com.

LEBANON GARDEN BEDS AVAILABLE

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

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

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

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

Upcoming City Meetings

These are regularly-scheduled meetings. Sometimes the dates or times are changed due to schedule conflicts among members, work session additions, holidays, etc. Last minute changes do occur at times. Please check the governing board's website for updated information and agendas.

Sweet Home Planning Commission: Thur., July 2, 6:30 p.m., at City Hall, 3225 Main St.

PIE Charter School Board: Mon., July 6, 6 p.m., at Sand Ridge Charter School, 100 Sand Ridge Ct., Lebanon.

Lebanon City Council: Wed., July 8, 6 p.m., at Lebanon Library, 55 Academy St.

Lebanon School Board: Thur., July 9, 6 p.m., at Lebanon Library, 55 Academy St.

Lebanon Aquatic District: Mon., July 13, 6 p.m., at Lebanon Pool, 1800 S 5th St.

Sweet Home School Board: Mon., July 13, 6:30 p.m., at 1920 Long St.

Lebanon Fire District: Tues., July 14, 5:30 p.m., at 1050 W. Oak St.

Central Linn School Board: Mon., July 14, 6 p.m., at Conference Room, 239 W 2nd St., Halsey.

Sweet Home City Council: Tues., July 14, 6:30 p.m., at City Hall, 3225 Main St.

Waterloo City Council: Tues., July 14, 7 p.m., at 31140 1st St.

Lebanon Parks, Trees & Trails: Wed., July 15, 2 p.m. at Lebanon Library, 55 Academy St.

Lebanon Planning Commission: Wed., July 15, 6 p.m. at Lebanon Library, 55 Academy

Sweet Home Planning Commission: Thur., July 16, 6:30 p.m. at City Hall, 3225 Main St.

Sodaville City Council: Thur., July 16, 7 p.m. at City Hall, 30723 Sodaville Road.

Sweet Home Park & Tree Committee: Tue., July 21, 4 p.m. at City Hall, 3225 Main St.

Sweet Home Fire Board: Tue., July 21, 6:30 p.m., at 1099 Long St.

Brownsville Fire Board: Tue., July 21, 6:30 p.m., at 600 E Blakely.

Sweet Home City Council: Tue., July 28, 6:30 p.m. at City Hall, 3225 Main St.

Sweet Home Jazz Band performs fundraiser gig



Audience members, above, applaud the Sweet Home High School Jazz Band after a nearly hour-long performance of pieces the members have been working on for the past two years, some of which they were unable to perform last year. The band held a fundraiser concert and spaghetti dinner on June 11, the last day of school. Money raised at the event, which also included a silent auction and a dessert auction, will go towards the Band Council retreat, and the inventory or instruments, which director Lori Tuter has been working to rebuild since she took over the band three years ago. At left, Tristan Young delivers some guitar riffs during the concert. To see more photos and hear the band in action, visit sweethomenews.com.

— Photos by Scott Swanson

Lebanon School Board reviews district's plan to comply with new law

By Brandon Cominsky
Of The New Era

Oregon's new education accountability law, Senate Bill 141, took center stage during the Lebanon Community School District Board of Directors meeting June 11 as district leaders reviewed how the state will measure student growth, monitor district performance and intervene when schools fail to meet expectations.

Supt. Jennifer Meckley presented an overview of the 2025 Education Accountability Act, formerly known as SB 141, which shifts Oregon from what the presentation described as a "reporting-only" model to a "shared accountability" model.

Under the law, districts will

be evaluated using eight student outcome metrics, along with a state-approved local measure, and assigned performance growth targets by the Oregon Department of Education (ODE).

The law also establishes an escalating continuum of support for districts that miss those targets.

Districts missing performance growth targets for one or two years will receive coaching and technical assistance from ODE. If targets are missed for a third consecutive year, the district enters an intensive coaching program that includes direct state-level strategic planning and support.

After four or more years of missing targets, ODE may prescribe the use of up to 25% of a

district's State School Fund or Student Investment Account funding for state-approved academic interventions.

Another major requirement under SB 141 is the use of interim assessments in grades K-8. Districts must administer approved assessments in mathematics and language arts three times annually to measure student growth throughout the school year. Lebanon is already using MAP Growth, one of the assessment tools expected to meet the state's requirements.

The law also requires districts to publicly report progress toward performance targets during school board meetings, making student growth data a recurring topic in future board discussions.

As board members discussed the new accountability system, Board Member Mike Martin asked how growth differs from achievement, a distinction that will play a key role under SB 141.

"So achievement is measured by their ability in the skills," Meckley explained. "Growth is how much they grew from here to here. So it's a different measure. It's individual growth and it's normed."

Following the SB 141 presentation, Meckley reviewed spring MAP Growth results.

Districtwide math growth measured at the 59th percentile nationally, while reading growth measured at the 61st percentile. Reading achievement increased from the 45th percentile in the fall to the

52nd percentile in the spring.

"While achievement remains an area where we want continued improvement, the growth data indicates students are moving forward at a healthy pace," Meckley told the board.

Board members also discussed why middle school growth trends were generally weaker than those seen in elementary grades. Board member Melissa Baurer asked what factors contribute to the difference.

"It's a really good question," Meckley said. "The transition to middle school, well, at least to Seven Oak, there's a difference in how they receive instruction." She noted students move from self-contained classrooms to shorter class periods and often have less instructional time as a direct result.

Looking ahead, Meckley said schedule changes planned for Seven Oak Middle School will create additional intervention and enrichment opportunities for students.

"The schedule is a big deal at middle school when it comes to being able to support the students," she said. "That's a factor that we can control."

Board Action Recap

- Board members unanimously (5-0) approved:
- Adoption of the district's 2026-27 budget totaling \$99,101,936.
- Resolution No. 26-0611A making appropriations for the 2026-27 fiscal year.
- Resolution No. 26-0611B imposing and categorizing district taxes.
- Approval of the district's permanent operating tax rate of \$4.9925 per \$1,000 of assessed value and a bond levy of \$4,716,321.



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MON-SAT 9 AM - 4 PM
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We are currently working on some service changes and have surveys out on the In-Town Transit. If you ride this route, formerly known as The Shopper, please give us your feedback. Thank you!

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PUBLIC SAFETY

From page 6

FTA.
 10:07 a.m. - Hunter Gomez, 43, taken into custody on LMC warrant for FTA - DWS, DU; AMC warrant for theft II; and SHMC warrant for theft III.
 11:00 a.m. - Joshua Welch, 37, taken into custody for DWS.
 1:27 p.m. - Marejke Townsend, 32, cited for cell phone use.
 4:46 p.m. - Cassandra Lewis, 39, cited for theft II, Walmart.
 11:21 p.m. - Kyle Andrew Metzger, 36, detained on LMC warrant for PV.
 11:34 p.m. - Caller reported loud subjects at high school football field. Juveniles were attempting the milk mile.

LCSO/OSP SWEET HOME/S. COUNTY

8:34 a.m. - Caller reported egging of house and vehicle in 700 block Oak, Brownsville. Report taken for criminal mischief.
 11:34 a.m. - Deputy located abandoned vehicle on timber company property, notified company, 24800 block W. Brush Creek.
 1:57 p.m. - Deana Bray, 56, cited for DWS, DU, 27800 block Hwy. 20.

LCSO/OSP LEBANON

2:51 p.m. - Caller reported unsafe living conditions for newborn, 36400 block Gore. Deputies responded with DHS, and found the house safe and the infant healthy.
 3:24 p.m. - Dennis Phillips, 30, of Lebanon, cited for DWS and DU, 000 block Crowfoot.
 3:47 p.m. - Trudy Meier-Keller, 63, of Sweet Home, cited for DWS and arrested on warrants, S. Santiam Hwy./Walker. Report taken.

JUNE 11

SWEET HOME POLICE

12:23 a.m. - Joseph Gene Salley, 53, arrested on LMC warrant for FTA in criminal citation, Mr. Lucky's Deli, 1207 Long. Amber Dawn Barton, 47, arrested on AMC warrant for FTC in probation violation. Both cited and released.
 3:19 a.m. - William Lee Phillips, 43, arrested by Lebanon police

See Public Safety, Page 17

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SHHS alum Cara Pascalar returns for High-Q honor

By Satina Tolman
For The New Era

Although she no longer lives in Sweet Home, Cara Pascalar's roots here remain deep.

The 1990 Sweet Home High School graduate returned to her hometown June 5 to receive the Sweet Home Alumni Foundation's prestigious High-Q Award and deliver the commencement address to the Class of 2026. Through stories, humor and life lessons shaped by agriculture, Pascalar reminded graduates that success often begins with resilience, enthusiasm and a willingness to start before feeling ready.

A Legacy Of Leadership

Presenting the award, Dr. Ivan Wolthuis, a classmate of Pascalar's and a Sweet Home dentist, highlighted her decades of contributions to agriculture, animal science and education.

"She has dedicated her life to agriculture, education and leadership," Wolthuis said. "Through her work in animal science, agricultural education and industry outreach, she has made a lasting impact on countless students, producers and communities."

The High-Q Award, sponsored by the Sweet Home Alumni Foundation, recognizes graduates whose achievements have distinguished them at the local, state and national levels.

Pascalar's connection to Sweet Home extends far beyond her graduation year. She continues to judge livestock projects for local youth through 4-H and county fairs, helping guide and encourage the next generation of agricultural leaders. Community members also noted the role longtime local supporter



Cara Pascalar speaks to graduates during this year's Sweet Home High School commencement ceremony.

- Kristine Banker photo

Alex Paul played in nominating her for the award.

Six Angus Cows And A Dream

During her acceptance speech, Pascalar mixed humor with heartfelt reflections on the community that helped shape her life.

"In the spring of 1980, my family moved from the suburbs of New York City to Sweet Home, Oregon," she told graduates. "We arrived with six Angus cows and a dream."

At age 9, she thought the move was like reenacting the Oregon Trail. Instead, she found a community that became home.

"Sweet Home became home in every sense of the word," Pascalar said. "Beautiful mountains. Clear streams. Rich pastures. And wonderful people who helped shape who I became."

Many of the lessons she shared came from her expe-

riences in agriculture. She told graduates about buying her first heifer, named Sue, and spending nearly two years paying off the loan she borrowed from her father.

"Life is not a sprint; it's a marathon," she said.

Pascalar encouraged graduates to invest in themselves early, whether through college, trade school, apprenticeships or military service. She also spoke about the difference between resilience and resistance, explaining that resilience comes from doing hard things while resistance can sometimes prevent people from pursuing their goals.

"When I first started writing agricultural comedy and creating content for ranchers, I thought, 'Who is going to want to hear this?'" she said. To overcome self-doubt, she adopted a personal mantra: "I'll be brilliant next year."

"It gives me permission to start before I'm ready," she said. "Progress beats perfection."

A Message That Resonated

Her message resonated with local families, particularly those involved in agriculture.

Heather Wright of Wright Family Farm has had her children in 4H for 14 years and FFA for 4 years, and her daughter Selah graduated as salutatorian, said Pascalar's remarks stood out on graduation night.

"When we drove home from the party, Selah was reflecting on the speakers, and she was really excited that a woman was talking about agriculture and that the community could hear more about it and see the influence that women in agriculture have," Wright said.

Wright said her family has also appreciated Pascalar's work as a livestock judge.



Cara Pascalar

- Ivan Wolthuis photo

"We have enjoyed Cara as a judge at the Linn County Fair and the Douglas County Fair," she said. "She is so great working with the kids and inspiring them to do better on their projects and building them up."

Selah Wright, who will be attending Corban University to study Agricultural Science and Kinesiology, said she appreciated hearing agriculture represented alongside Sweet Home's better-known logging heritage.

"It was good that the community heard about livestock because that's just as much a part of Sweet Home as logging is," she said. "Ranching, farming and agriculture are a big part of the Willamette Valley."

She also connected with Pascalar's observation that raising livestock teaches responsibility.

"Even when you have a hard day or a bad day, you still have to get up and do your chores because something is depending on you," Selah said.

Sweet Home High School science teacher Laura Parrish has a small farm with her husband, Rick Parrish, and their four sons have been involved in 4H for 15 years. She said Pascalar's recognition comes at an important time for agricultural education in the community.

"Agriculture is a big part of the Sweet Home community, even if many of our farms are smaller operations," Parrish said. "With the addition of the agriculture program, FFA and ag classes over the past three years, students are seeing more opportunities in that field. Having a High-Q Award winner from the agricultural sector shows that agriculture is not only an important part of society, but also a career where you can make a difference, especially right here in your own community."

Carrying Sweet Home Forward

As she closed her speech, Pascalar reflected on the influence of her parents, Bob and Erma Pascalar, including her mother, a longtime Sweet Home educator who taught literacy to countless students and adults.

Together, she said, they taught her that "a meaningful life isn't measured by what you accumulate. It's measured by how you care for others."

For a community built on hard work, perseverance and helping neighbors, it was a message that felt right at home.

And for one evening, one of Sweet Home's own returned to remind the Class of 2026 that their roots, and the lessons learned here, can carry them anywhere.



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WATERSHED

From page 1

the group of board members Marcia Morse, Scott Bruslind and Brian Rose, along with a reporter.

“There were two culverts here that were no longer functioning,” Styhl explained as the group spread out across the two-laned concrete bridge spanning the creek.

This is Hill Timber land managed by Cascade Timber Consulting, and CTC engineer Daniel Virtue was at the site, where he worked with local contractors to get the bridge built last summer.

The old culverts, which were replaced by the bridge, kept the water flowing but didn’t allow for fish to pass, Styhl said.

This new bridge is designed to withstand a 100-year flood. The gentle stream trickling over the rocks now can turn into a raging torrent after heavy rains, and the old culverts were prone to backups from debris in such conditions.

Styhl said Chinook, at least presently, do not travel this far up Ames Creek, but that steelhead might. He noted that at the construction site watershed personnel used electrofishing to remove the aquatic life in the steam channel where the work was to take place and found 30 cutthroat trout, along with brook trout, sculpin, a brook lamprey, salamanders.

The project is a result of the Private Forest Accord (PFA), a 2021 agreement between conservation and fisheries groups, 11 timber companies and the Oregon Small Woodlands Association, to modify portions of Oregon’s forest practice laws and regulations to expand protections for fish and amphibians while also providing regulatory certainty for timber harvest and forest management.

The agreement requires CTC and other landowners to replace bridges and culverts that don’t meet standards imposed by various government agencies.

The PFA legislation established a multi-million-dollar grant program administered by the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife to improve fish passages and restore aquatic habitats for species overseen by NOAA.

South Santiam Watershed received a little over over \$800,000, according to Styhl, out of a total of \$8.7 million awarded to Mary’s River Watershed Council, a group of five watershed councils including North Santiam, South Santiam, Calapooia, Luckiamute and Marys River.

This funding will restore fish passage to 18 different sites in the Mid-Willamette, opening up access to 43 miles of high quality spawn-



Tyrell Styhl, executive director of the South Santiam Watershed Council, center, leads a tour focusing on improvement projects, such as this new bridge on the Ames Creek 400 Line. **– Photos by Scott Swanson**

ing and rearing habitat for a variety of native fish, including Upper Willamette River spring Chinook salmon and winter steelhead trout, which are both listed under the Endangered Species Act. The funding will also help to develop permit-ready designs for another 6.7 miles of habitat, according to information published by the Mary’s River council.

The goal is to support Upper Willamette River Chinook and steelhead by addressing 18 barriers across multiple watersheds in the Mid-Willamette region, according to Mary’s River.

“Efforts include removing a dam and replacing several culverts to reopen access to more than 40 miles of habitat. This work will also support local communities by reducing the risk of flooding and helping improve response to wildfires.”

A second project where an unnamed creek crosses the South Santiam 500 line, east of Foster Lake, involved installation of a 12-foot-wide culvert to replace three smaller ones, and also shifted the road some 75 feet.

The new culvert made of aluminized steel is expected to hold up better to the elements than the older galvanized steel culverts have. Styhl said that the design is also intended to accommodate the water and debris flow of a 100-year flood.

Rising construction costs and dotting all the bureaucratic i’s and t’s contributed to higher costs for the projects, which consumed the \$800,000 grant, so CTC stepped in with financing and manpower to finish them, Styhl said.

A third, smaller, project is planned at Mouse Creek, just north of Highway 20 in Cascadia east of Short Bridge, but is on hold, pending funding.

“We pushed it off to implementation in 2026 and then the construction costs of these three projects were just a lot more than anticipated, because they were at 2023 prices, so we had to take all the rest of the money from that Mouse Creek project and shift it over to cover these things,” Styhl said.

The Moose Creek site looks like the other two, he



Scott Bruslind, SSWC president, gauges the height of a newly installed culvert on the South Santiam 500 Line.

said, when the group visited it later in the morning. Heavy undergrowth all but clogs three barely-visible 36-inch culverts.

Styhl said required archeological surveys have been completed and design work is “80-percent” complete for the project.

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Lebanon rollover crash sends three to hospital

Three people were taken to the hospital Wednesday, June 10, after a crash in the 32000 block of Berlin Road, Lebanon Fire reported.

Lebanon Fire District personnel reported at 11:21 a.m. to find a single vehicle with heavy damage off the roadway and a female occupant trapped inside. An off-duty volunteer firefighter with Lebanon Fire District had arrived prior to responding units and was providing initial emergency care.

The vehicle's other two occupants, an adult male and a child, had already exited the vehicle.

Engine 31 arrived and immediately began extrication operations using hydraulic rescue tools while Medic 31 personnel provided advanced medical care to the entrapped patient. Medic 34, a second medic unit arrived and began assessment and treatment of the other two occupants.

Firefighters were able to safely extricate the female patient in less than 10 minutes despite significant vehicle damage.

All three occupants, who were not identified by LFD, were transported to Good Samaritan Regional Medical



Center in Corvallis for evaluation and treatment.

Incidents involving entrapment are resource-intensive and require a significant number of personnel and apparatus. This call utilized all available staffed Lebanon Fire District units. During the incident, a first alarm for personnel was initiated to request available off-duty and volunteer firefighters respond either directly to the incident or to staff district stations and maintain emergency coverage for the community.

While crews remained

committed to this incident, another medical emergency occurred within the district and was covered by Lebanon Fire volunteers with an ambulance response from Albany Fire Department.

Berlin Road was closed during the incident to allow emergency operations and ensure responder safety.

Lebanon Police Department and the Linn County Sheriff's Office assisted with traffic control and scene management.

The cause of the crash remains under investigation.



Lebanon Fire personnel work at the scene of the crash on Berlin Road. **- Lebanon Fire photos**

WILEY FIRE

From page 1

er immediately requested a second alarm for personnel, engines, and water tenders, as well as a response from the Oregon Department of Forestry for the wildland exposure.

That rural area on Wiley Creek Drive is well beyond the reach of hydrants, which further complicated the situation, Tyler said.

"We had trouble getting enough water, getting enough firefighters," he said.

Tyler said the way the home was constructed, with "void spaces" in the structure - empty area within the building's design - caused the roof to start collapsing, so firefighters had to get out of the house and battle the blaze from the outside by cutting through the siding.

Firefighters battled the blaze for over an hour; then the Incident Commander requested a third alarm.

The three alarms brought firefighters and apparatus from nearly every agency in Linn County, and one from Lane County.

ODF arrived quickly, Tyler said, just as the fire was beginning to enter standing grass after burning approximately a quarter-acre of mowed area.

"That was a testament to the relationship we have with ODF," he said. "They were already en route. That grass fire had left cut grass and had gotten into standing grass right

when ODF got there with a 1,000-gallon engine and crew.

"It really was a benefit to the local area that ODF was able to get that engine on the scene really fast."

A total of 54 firefighters, seven engines, eight water tenders, two ambulances, two brush trucks, and four chief officers responded to the scene from Sweet Home, Lebanon, Brownsville, Halsey, Harrisburg, Tangent, Albany, and Mohawk Valley fire departments and ODF.

An additional ambulance from Lebanon also provided coverage to the district and transported a firefighter to the hospital during the incident. Firefighters remained on scene throughout the night working to make sure the fire was completely extinguished.

SHFAD was also assisted by the Linn County Sheriff's Office who provided traffic control, as the fire drew many onlookers, and Pacific Power, which removed the utility hazards.

The firefighter who was transported from the scene to a local hospital was in stable condition Monday, SHFAD reported. No other injuries were reported.

The cause of the fire is under investigation by the Oregon State Fire Marshal's Office. Tyler said Monday he had not yet heard results.

"It was a tough one, for sure," Tyler said. "We're lucky to have good relationships, good partners to help. It was definitely warranted; we definitely needed the help."



Lebanon firefighters, above, work to get water into the burning house, which, along with two vehicles, below, was destroyed. See more photos at sweethomenews.com. **- SHFAD photos**



Lebanon Pool may require adult supervision for kids

By Sarah Brown
Of The New Era

The Board of Directors of the Lebanon Aquatic District briefly indicated there will be rate changes at the Lebanon Community Pool during its June 8 meeting.

The proposed rate changes, effective Sept. 1, 2026, were provided to the board, but no further information on what those proposed changes are were given publicly, and they have not responded to a request by The New Era.

Aquatics Director Jill Smith also announced a new state law requiring kids under 14 years old to have a parent in the building when they are using the pool. The law went into effect April 2025.

"It used to be you could drop off a 10-year-old, and now you can't," Smith said. "We're gonna get a lot of grief about it, kids that like to ride their bikes down here in the summer and such, but it is a law."

Board Director Darla Bulmer said it doesn't apply to Swim Club, as kids are under coaches' care at that time.

However, just after the board meeting, news reports

across the state began to surface indicating the Oregon Health Authority is revisiting the new rule and will hold a public process this fall to get more input from public pool operators, lifeguards, regulators and child guardians. Until then, OHA will hold a temporary rule that pools strongly recommend - rather than require - adult supervision.

In other business:

- The board approved its \$1.4 million budget for the 2026-2027 fiscal year.

- Bulmer suggested the board continue working with the school district's project management company to make pool renovation repairs as needed. There currently is no money to do "the big projects," she said, so they will focus on smaller projects.

- Bulmer talked about getting rid of extra, unused equipment throughout the facility.

- Smith said summer rec swims and summer swim lessons begin this month. New staff has been hired to fill in for some of the lessons spots.

- There will be pool closure days in August for maintenance.

WATERLOO

From page 1

their meeting last March to consider providing some sort of hardship clause or similar resolution regarding RV habitation, as she is unable to care for the property herself and needs the groundskeeper there to help her.

The council had agreed at that time to discuss ideas at a future council meeting.

It is the city's understanding that the RV is not hooked up to septic, and it appears electricity is being supplied by an extension cord, both of which present a safety concern.

Reed noted the city gets a lot of complaints about RV tenants, and the council needs to consider that if they allow a variance for one person in this type of situation, they have to give everyone the same opportunity.

Concerns about "junk cars" and other trash sitting on properties were also briefly mentioned.

After some discussion, the council decided to post and hand out letters to every resident informing them of upcoming com-

munity events, along with a reminder about related city ordinances and clean up day that will give them a chance to dump their debris.

The council also voted to enforce the city's ordinance regarding RVs.

In other business:

- Following some discussion on whether the paving of a driveway required a building permit, the council determined that it did not, and they allowed a resident to complete her project without any further delay.

- A resident updated the council on his plans to add a bedroom and bathroom in his basement.

Before the county approves anything, the property owner must work out setback requirements. To do that, he is considering combining his two tax lots into one.

- The council confirmed community dates for the summer. A citywide yard sale will be held July 23-26, a city clean up and dumpster day will be July 27, and the chili cookoff and picnic will be Aug. 15 at noon.

- Reed is scheduling time with Waterloo's former city

recorder Cathy Nelson, to work out kinks in the budget process, as Reed continues learning his new position with the city.

- The council approved a 100-hour cap per month for the city recorder and Nelson for the next six months to catch the city up on older documents that were not filed correctly, other backlogs of city work needed, and training.

- Reed reported he informed a resident on Davis Street about fines they will begin accruing if they don't clean up trash that violates the city ordinance. The property has since been getting cleared up.

- The council learned that a property owner on 2nd Street had built a wall around an easement or public right of way after the city approved them to build only to a certain distance.

- The council considered ways they could tie down the bus shelters throughout the city.

- Councilor Bill Young reported the city is required to have a flagpole with the U.S., Oregon State and POW/MIA flags.

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Public Notices

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF OREGON, COUNTY OF LINN, Case No. 26CV25699, Mark Baumgartner ("Plaintiff") v. S. B. Sawyer, and his successors, heirs, and assigns, and All Other Persons or Parties unknown claiming any right, title lien, or interest in real property described in the Complaint, (together "Defendants"). To Defendants: SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION: You are hereby required to appear and answer the complaint filed against you in the above-entitled cause within thirty (30) days from the date of the first publication of this summons. In case of your failure to do so, Plaintiff will apply for court relief demanded therein. SUMMARY OF CASE THEREIN: This is an action for Quiet Title for real property described as: Beginning at a point which is the intersection of the west line of the tract of land hereafter mentioned with the south line of the county road and from which point the northeast corner of the southeast quarter of the southeast quarter of Section 14, Township 14, South of Range One West of the Willamette Meridian bears North 0° 05' East 19.8 feet and thence South 89° 54' East 164.9 feet to said corner; Thence South 0° 05' West along the west line of the tract of land aforesaid a distance of 100.2 feet to a point that is 20.0 feet southerly from when measured at right angles to the center line of the spur track survey; thence southeasterly parallel with the center line of said spur track survey and distant 20.0 feet southwesterly therefrom along the arc of a curve to the right having a radius of 553.69 feet, a distance of 262.2 feet through an angle of 27° 08' to a point on the southwest line of the Oregon Electric Railway Company's right of way, a tangent to above described curve at its intersection with the west line of the tract of land aforesaid bears South 81° 18' East; thence northwesterly along the southwest line of the Oregon Electric Railway Company's right of way along the arc of a curve to the left having a radius of 2814.9 feet, a distance of 259.4 feet through an angle of 5° 16' to a point on the south line of the county road, a tangent to last above described curve at its point of beginning bears North 39° 58' West; Thence North 89° 19' West along the south line of the county road a distance of 69.0 feet to the point of beginning, and containing an area of 0.41 acres, more or less, in Linn County, Oregon; and being a parcel of land located within that certain tract of land conveyed to Allen G. McQueen by Clara and C. R. Davis by warranty deed dated August 18, 1922, and recorded August 31, 1922 on page 454 of book 124, Deed Records of Linn County, Oregon. Plaintiff claims adverse possession and quieting title in his favor and enjoining Defendants from asserting any estate, title, or interest in the property. Plaintiff is seeking a Judgment declaring him owner in fee simple, and entitled to possession thereof, free of any estate, title, claim, lien or interest of Defendants. NOTICE TO DEFENDANTS: READ THESE PAPERS CAREFULLY: You must "appear" in this case or the

Public Notices

other side will win automatically. To "appear" you must file with the court a legal paper called a "motion", "answer" or "response". The "motion", "answer" or "response" must be given to the court clerk or administrator within 30 days along with the required filing fee. It must be in proper form and have proof of service on the Plaintiff's attorney. This summons is published by order of Linn County Circuit Court made and entered on May 29, 2026, directing publication of this summons once each week for four consecutive weeks in a newspaper published and in general circulation in Linn County, Oregon. Date of first publication June 10, 2026. Date of last publication July 1, 2026. If you need help in finding an attorney, you may contact the Oregon State Bar's Lawyer Referral Service online at www.oregonstatebar.org or by calling (503) 684-3763 (in the Portland metropolitan area) or toll-free elsewhere in Oregon at (800) 452-7636. Joel D. Kalberer, OSB #013120, Plaintiff's Attorney, P.O. Box 667, Albany, Oregon 97321; (541) 926-2255; jdk@wtlegal.com. (6/10, 6/17, 6/24, 7/1)

Notice of sale of personal property under Landlords Possessory lien. Personal property left in the following units have been seized for non-payment of rent and will be sold at The Storage Depot, 111 Davidson St. NE Albany, OR 97321 June 25, 2026 at 10:00am. John Burford A29, Dayton Hoffman-Sanders C128, Gerald Griffith C81, Kristi Griffith C89, Sherman Tagen D14, Angel Soto-Galvan F104. (6/10, 6/17)

NOTICE OF ONLINE AUCTION - A SQUARED STORAGE 1294 44th Ave. Sweet Home, OR 97386 Online bidding at www.storageauctions.com, auction ends 06/25/2026 at 11:00 a.m. Kyle Ganter, unit 210 & Justin Eide, unit 401. (6/10, 6/17)

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IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE STATE OF OREGON FOR THE COUNTY OF LINN
Probate Department
In the Matter of the Estate of ROY LEE GRABEEL, Deceased.
Case No. 26PB05263
NOTICE TO INTERESTED PERSONS
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on June 10, 2026, Travis L. Grabeel, 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,

Public Notices

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:
Travis L. Grabeel
770 28th Ave
Sweet Home, OR 97386
(541) 409-0790
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
(6/17)

**In the Matter of the Intestate Estate of SUSAN G. HASTY
NOTICE TO INTERESTED PERSONS**

Linn County Case No. 26PB04795
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 Susan G. Hasty, 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, 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: July 17, 2026.

Carol Ingram
Personal Representative
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
(6/17)

NOTICE OF SALE OF ABANDONED MANUFACTURED HOME

One (1) 1996 REDMAN manufactured home with Home ID Number 282448, Section Serial Numbers 11822483ABA and 11822483ABB, located at 31919 N Lake Creek Dr., Space 86, Tangent, Oregon 97389 (the "Home"), is abandoned. The former tenant was Elena Antoinette Sanchez. Sara Jean Sanchez is also identified in the Park's abandonment records as personal representative and/or claimant.
Lake Creek MHP, LLC will sell the Home by private sealed-bid sale in AS IS, WHERE IS condition. The landlord is accepting sealed bids. The last date on which bids will be accepted is June 30, 2026 at 5:00 p.m.
The person to contact to inspect the Home is Kelly Bynum, 541-971-2868. Inspections are by

Public Notices

appointment only. No person may enter the Home or the space without prior authorization. The minimum acceptable bid is \$10,631.94. The minimum acceptable bid represents the Park's estimated unpaid rent and reasonable or actual costs of notice, storage, and sale recoverable under ORS 90.675. The Park reserves the right to bid and, if it is the successful bidder, to offset its bid against amounts recoverable by the Park under ORS 90.675. Any bid amount exceeding the Park's recoverable deductions will be treated as sale proceeds and distributed as required by ORS 90.675. Sealed bids must be delivered no later than June 30, 2026 at 5:00 p.m. to Matthew Shepard, Attorney at Law, 685 Church St. NE, Salem, OR 97301. Bids must be enclosed in a sealed envelope marked "Sealed Bid - 1996 Redman Manufactured Home, Space 86." The successful bidder must pay the full purchase price in collected funds within three (3) business days after notice of acceptance. If the successful bidder fails to timely pay, the landlord may accept the next highest qualifying bid or cancel or reschedule the sale. Sale is subject to applicable county tax collector, manufactured-home ownership/title, and MHODS requirements. Sale proceeds will be distributed as required by ORS 90.675. Purchase of the Home does not create a tenancy, storage agreement, or right to occupy the Home or the space. Landlord approval is required before any purchaser may leave the Home in the Park, occupy the Home, enter into a rental agreement, or enter into a storage agreement for the space.
For more information, contact Matthew Shepard at 503-385-0121, Monday through Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
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Lacomb's Community Market

The Lacomb Grange opened its weekly Community Market this weekend, showcasing a variety of items for sale, including plants, handmade wooden furniture, homemade products, food and other items, including baby goats. The market, held from 1-4 p.m. every Sunday until Aug. 31, at 34100 E Lacomb Road, includes an opportunity to not only sell things and meet people, but also grab a meal inside the grange. This first week, the grange sold "walking tacos."

Photo by Sarah Brown

PUBLIC SAFETY

From page 9

on four SHMC warrants in theft cases. Cited to appear July 8.

1:21 p.m. - Caller reported semi truck blocking intersection at Hwy. 20/Holley. Officer responded to find semi had lost its trailer. ODOT responded to assist.

3:46 p.m. - Caller reported that someone has her old phone number and is using it to log into her social media accounts and is sending "aggressive" messages to anyone who tried to contact her old number. Officer advised caller of options.

6:35 p.m. - Caller reported someone stole her dog out of her vehicle in 1200 block Long. Officer reviewed footage and determined it appeared it was caller's husband who took the dog.

9:34 p.m. - Timothy Alan Coonrod, 48, cited for speeding, 12 mph over posted limit, failure to install ignition interlock device. 6000 block Main.

LEBANON POLICE

1:14 a.m. - Two-car crash, N Santiam Hwy./Wheeler St. Harlee Jewel Williams, 31, arrested for DUII with a .012% BAC.

2:44 a.m. - Raymond Lyle Tressel, 30, taken into custody on LCCC warrant for FTA - possession of meth.

3:00 a.m. - Driver almost hit male standing in road, 2400 block S Santiam Hwy. William Lee Phillips, 43, cited on LMC warrant for PV and SHMC warrants for FTAs - theft III.

3:57 a.m. - Abigail Breann Tate, 21, cited for no license and no insurance.

10:19 a.m. - Caller reported subject rocking from one foot another, acting odd. William Lee Phillips, 43, taken to hospital for police officer hold.

1:46 p.m. - Theft of BB and

pellet guns from yard sale, 100 block W Rose St.

2:42 p.m. - Jade Heather Rae Stagg, 27, cited for cell phone use.

5:34 p.m. - Cart push-out theft from Walmart. Loss: \$105.

5:44 p.m. - Juvenile boy on dirtbike almost ran into juvenile girls near Christopher Columbus Park. Male told police a woman ripped him off the bike and hurt him. Police had previously told boy he cannot legally ride on sidewalk.

5:56 p.m. - Nude female behind tractor supply, appears to be doing yoga. Female taken into custody on police officer hold.

8:05 p.m. - Shania Little Sims, 27, taken into custody on LMC warrant for PV, Benton County Circuit Court warrant for FTA - dangerous drugs, and LCJC warrant for giving false info.

8:42 p.m. - Joseph Little Griffith, 63, cited for DWS and DU.

LCSO/OSP SWEET HOME/S. COUNTY

8:27 a.m. - Brownsville citizen reported attempted scam involving fraudulent check, but he never cashed the check. It was turned in to LCSO. 1100 block Jackson. Report taken.

12:27 p.m. - Deputy responded to welfare check in 27700 block Riggs Hill. Sick, agitated male refused medics, but was given courtesy ride to hospital

by deputy.

2:25 p.m. - Trespassing reported on Campbell Global land in 25600 block Timber, Brownsville. Investigation ongoing.

9:18 p.m. - Couple warned for illegal camping on BLM land in 50100 block Quartzville.

11:05 p.m. - Caller reported trespassing in 700 block Puffin, Halsey. Juvenile entered open garage and startled resident. Juvenile left when asked, but resident requested that juvenile be formally trespassed from property.

LCSO/OSP Lebanon 3:25 p.m. - Deputy responded to railroad crossing hazard in area of Hwy. 228/Cold Springs. When deputy arrived, train was passing and one crossing arm was not in down position. Railroad company notified.

9:12 p.m. - Deputies responded to mental health incident in 37600 block Cherry Court, in which male broke caller's fence. However, when LCSO arrived, victim did not cooperate.

JUNE 10

SWEET HOME POLICE

7:00 a.m. - Caller reported tall grass in 1100 block 47th. Referred to code enforcement.

10:05 a.m. - Caller reported that neighbors are selling their house and parked Uhaul in

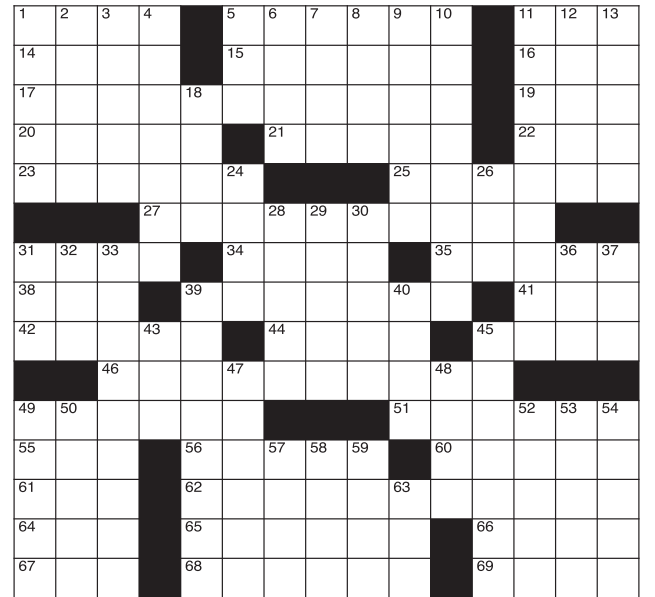
See Public Safety, Page 19

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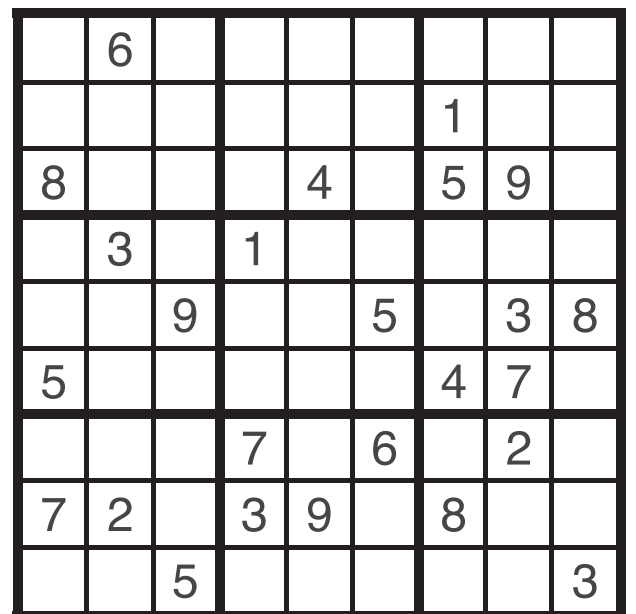
CLUES ACROSS

- | | |
|--|---|
| <p>1. Sharp pain
5. Military hats
11. Software app on a network (abbr.)
14. Genus of freshwater mussels
15. Continent
16. Afghani monetary unit
17. Recovered
19. Ribonucleic acid
20. Refers to end of small intestine
21. Ethiopia's largest lake
22. Hostelry
23. Defunct American automaker
25. Denotes origin by birth or descent
27. Part of a watch
31. Stare with mouth open wide
34. Found in granite
35. Competing
38. Stone film "___ Given Sunday"</p> | <p>39. Junction between two nerve cells
41. Greek goddess of the dawn
42. Fight
44. Thin, narrow piece of wood or metal
45. Ribosomal ribonucleic acid
46. Type of kitchenware
49. Specialty of The Onion
51. Major Mexican river
55. Kilometers per hour
56. Species of mackerel
60. Bones
61. Interest rate
62. New York Mets legend
64. 19th letter of Greek alphabet
65. Shawl
66. Gracefully thin
67. Type of deciduous tree
68. Not classy
69. Taro corm or plant</p> |
|--|---|

CLUES DOWN

- | | |
|--|---|
| <p>1. Jewish festival
2. Anoint
3. More pleasant
4. Type pf painting
5. Witness
6. Harm
7. Builder of Arantea (Greek myth.)
8. City in India
9. Used to unlock cans
10. Induces sleep
11. More bouncy
12. A branch of Islam
13. White (French)
18. Legal term
24. Covered with frost
26. Hengyang Nanyue Airport
28. Wash
29. Disorder of the scalp
30. North American tree
31. Helps cars run</p> | <p>32. Mandela's party
33. Aromatic plant of the daisy family
36. Negative
37. College student educator (abbr.)
39. Most rare
40. Harm with a knife
43. Folk singer DiFranco
45. Return to
47. One who repairs
48. Eastern England river
49. Hockey players need two
50. Dismay
52. Rebuke
53. Plant of the arum family
54. Fish genus
57. Plant of the mallow family
58. Amounts of time
59. 11th letter of the Hebrew alphabet
63. One of Napoleon's generals</p> |
|--|---|

— SUDOKU —



Level: Intermediate

SH School Board approves principal's resignation

By Brandon Cominsky
Of The New Era

The resignation of Oak Heights Elementary Principal Todd Barrett and questions surrounding the district's personnel investigation process drew some major discussion during the Sweet Home School Board's June 8 meeting.

The board unanimously approved Barrett's resignation as part of its consent agenda. Barrett's resignation became effective June 1.

Before the meeting, Supt. Terry Martin had notified Oak Heights families on June 3 through a ParentSquare platform message that Barrett had resigned and that the school district had officially begun the search for a new principal.

"Finding a candidate who aligns with the values and educational goals of our community is a top priority for us," Martin wrote. "We value the input of our families and staff in this important selection process."

At the meeting, Board Member Rachel Maynard said that while she understood personnel matters could not be discussed publicly at open school board meetings, she wanted to better understand the investigation process and whether lessons could be learned from the situation.

Maynard went on to question whether the timeline of the investigation was typical and if several concerns could have been addressed earlier through evaluations, coaching, or professional development, and whether the district incurred additional costs while employees remained on paid leave.

"I am disappointed that

we have reached this outcome," Maynard said. "This staff member served our district for more than 10 years."

Maynard also expressed concern about the overall personal toll the investigation may have taken and asked what role the board plays in personnel investigations.

Her comments prompted responses from both district and board leadership. Martin cautioned against discussing the matter in open session, saying personnel investigations involve legal and confidential matters.

"As Rachel said, she's new to the board, this is highly inappropriate to bring up in an open meeting like this, and it involves legal matters," Martin said.

Board Chairman Mike Adams, who is an attorney, said personnel investigations are a standard administrative process used to determine whether district policies have been violated and noted that such matters fall under the superintendent's authority rather than the board's.

"Really, he's the only employee that works for us," Adams said, referring to the superintendent's role overseeing district personnel matters.

The remainder of the meeting focused on student success and future planning.

In his superintendent's report, Martin told the board that 185 seniors graduated from Sweet Home High School this year, exceeding the district's spring enrollment overall count of 157 seniors.

Martin also reported that local scholarships awarded through the Sweet Home

Alumni Foundation totaled overall \$100,000, while graduating seniors earned nearly \$1 million in scholarships through postsecondary opportunities.

"That was a tremendous showing that reflects a lot of hard work by a lot of people," Martin said.

Martin also shared year-end attendance and enrollment data. District enrollment stood at 2,111 students as of May 31, while Hawthorne Elementary posted the district's highest attendance rate overall for May at 92.57 percent.

The board also heard a presentation from district elementary counselor Stefanie Brown on Wayfinder, a districtwide program designed to help students build skills related to self-awareness, adaptability, empathy, collaboration, agency, and purpose.

"Wayfinder connects classroom learning to future-ready skills that can help us succeed in the real world," Brown said.

According to Brown the curriculum, which the district began using this school year, includes lessons on emotional regulation, bullying prevention, digital citizenship, financial literacy, and attendance, with instruction beginning as early as kindergarten.

"We are so excited about this program," Brown said. "The data that's pouring in, we just started getting that data from this year, and we're so excited to see how it moves forward for next year."

The board later unanimously approved the district's 2026-27 budget following a public hearing that drew no public comments.

Business Manager Kevin Strong reported that district

spending is approximately \$927,000 higher than the same point last year due to increased personnel costs, health insurance expenses, charter school payments, and tuition costs. Despite the increase, Strong said the district remains on track to stay within the budget requirements.

Strong also reported that Linn County is expected to provide the official election abstract between June 15 and July 3.

Board members agreed to hold a special meeting on June 22, to approve election results and begin discussions related to the district's bond process.

During board comments, members highlighted community support efforts, including fundraising for a new ADA-accessible playground at Hawthorne Elementary and improvements to Hawthorne Fields through the Sweet Home Youth Baseball Program.

Board Action Recap

The following items were approved unanimously by an 8-0 vote, with Amanda Carter not present and member Mary Speck participating remotely:

- Approval of Summer School hires: Josh Dargis (administrator); Amber Rosa, Michelle Hatchard, Marci Sullens, Cheryl Jones, Brittany Kauffman, Tori Clark, and Lindsay Janzer (teachers); Ryan Adams, Krista Hart, and Meagan Taylor (substitutes); Katie Adams (summer learning coordinator); and Alyson Ellis (ESY extended school year special education teacher).

- Hire of Kylee Brown as advanced math teacher at Sweet Home High School for the 2026-27 school year.

- Hire of Katlynn Teter as special education teacher at Oak Heights Elementary.

- Hire of Laura Jacobson-Opdahl as Title I teacher at Foster Elementary.

- Hire of Lillyanna Walker as special education LRC teacher at Sweet Home High School.

- Hire of Shelly Nelson as third grade teacher at Oak Heights.

- Transfer of Joan Tolle from Oak Heights Special Education to Sweet Home Junior High School.

- Hire of Hailey Johnson as grades 1/2 blend classroom teacher at Hawthorne Elementary.

- Hire of Hailey Upton as language arts teacher at Sweet Home High School.

Acceptance of the resignation of Todd Barrett as principal of Oak Heights Elementary, effective June 1.

- Hire of Tami McWayne as half-time music teacher at the Junior High/High School.

- Adoption of the district's 2026-27 budget following the public hearing.

As the district moves forward with the search for a new principal at Oak Heights Elementary, board members also looked ahead to the coming school year through investments in student support programs, staffing, and long-term planning.

From celebrating the accomplishments of the Class of 2026 to approving a new budget and key personnel decisions, the meeting reflected both the challenges and opportunities facing Sweet Home schools in the year ahead.

To view a livestream of the meeting on the Sweet Home School District #55 YouTube channel, visit <https://bit.ly/3QA3T1Y>.



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Safety first at Sweet Home's Sankey Park



Safety Fair 1: Young bicyclists work their way through the skills course during Sweet Home's Public Safety Fair Saturday, June 13, at Sankey Park. Multiple agencies and nonprofits participated in the event. Although an official count wasn't taken, dozens of kids showed up to register for the free bike drawing and test their skills on the bike course. Nine bikes were given away, purchased with donations to the Sweet Home Police Department's kids programs, and from Radiator Supply and Sherri Gregory Real Estate, along with Lego sets. Also, Thriftway provided food that was prepared by the Sweet Home Elks. Thirteen volunteers from 44 North credit union showed up to help as well.

- Photos by Scott Swanson



Aili Hammond, 9, sees how slow she can ride, while staying upright, during a straight stretch on the bike course.



Khloe Lindy, 7, gets some instructions before taking off on the bike course.



St. Helen and Hillside Fellowship churches and Camp Koinonia occupy booths advertising summer activities along the midway at the Fair.

PUBLIC SAFETY From page 17

wrong direction in 1100 block Cedar, preventing garbage truck from picking up trash cans. Officer contacted male, who agreed to move the truck.
1:00 p.m. - Ben Kogot, 18, cited for speeding, 50/20, 5900 block Main.
1:47 p.m. - Caller reported drink cart trailer parked on street in 1400 block Sunset "for months." Referred to code enforcement officer, who contacted owner.
2:51 p.m. - Caller from Sweet Home Junior High reported marijuana pen confiscated from juvenile. Officer contacted juvenile and parent; juvenile counseled on behavior.
4:50 p.m. - Caller from area of 4th/Elm reported male going house to house, stating he was

working with power company, gathering information about residences. Officer contacted two individuals who were representing Infinity Solar. They were advised of permit process. According to SHPD, they "possibly have permits" but did not have copies.

8:01 p.m. - Caller reported deceased cat near mailboxes in 2440 block Long. Officer removed animal.

See more and updated Public Safety listings at sweethomenews.com and lebanonlocalnews.com.



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SHJH Field Day

Sweet Home Junior High ended its school year June 11 with its annual Tiger Olympics, which was, well, pretty epic this year. The event pits homeroom classes against each other in various contests, beginning with an early-morning assembly featuring costume and class cheer competitions. The final outcome: Terra Sayers' class was the champion and defending champion Angela Stevens' finished second.



Students check out drawings prizes before distributing their tickets in hopes of winning some fun summer stuff to take home. Below, Jake Clark holds an electric scooter he won in the drawing.



Anchor Brooklyn Payne, right, strains to help her classmates, "Kildea's Kool-Aid Brigade," hailing from science teacher Ryan Kildea to a win in the tug of war event. - Photos by Scott Swanson



Entering the assembly in style are Cathy Brands-Hawken, right, leading her "Coconut Crew" students.



Below, P.E. teacher Tynan Cardwell, center, celebrates with his students after finishing a game. See more photos and video of the grand entries during the assembly at sweethomenews.com.

Students use a blanket to launch a mannequin head to be caught by a teammate. Thanks to Ali Gardner for the two above photos and other assistance with this page.