

The New Era

SWEET HOME • LEBANON • AND SURROUNDING COMMUNITIES

Serving East Linn County Since 1929

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 19, 2026

VOL. 96, NO. 32 | \$2.00

Second revived SH Rodeo bigger and better

By Scott Swanson
Of The New Era

The second year of the revived Sweet Home Rodeo outstripped its inaugural predecessor in both size and content.

The event on Saturday night, Aug. 15, at the Rodeo Grounds on Long Street, drew well over 2,000 people and was close to standing room only by the climax, the bull riding event.

"We sold right around 1,800 tickets," said Rodeo Board President McKenzie Reynolds. "We were hoping to get more attendance with more seating and more activities for families and kids, and a little more entertainment during the rodeo itself."

The latter included a game of musical buckets (chairs) that resulted in a couple of wrestling matches in the arena dirt, to the delight of the crowd.

"I'm glad that everyone liked it," Reynolds said.

The rodeo gates opened at noon to give attendees a chance to check out the ven-

See Rodeo, Page 10



Lebanon's Malisa Anderson and her horse cut around a barrel during the Sweet Home Rodeo Saturday night, Aug. 15. The event, the second after the event was revived last year after a 14-year hiatus, drew a capacity crowd to the Sweet Home Rodeo Grounds once again. See more on page 10 and at sweethomenews.com.
- Photo by Scott Swanson

This time, Lebanon fire may ask for less on levy

By Sarah Brown
Of The New Era

In ongoing discussions about a likely levy measure for the Lebanon Fire District, Chief John Tacy gave the LFD Board of Directors numbers needed to sustain the most necessary provision: medic services.

During the board meeting on Tuesday, Aug. 12, he said increased call volume, rising EMS demand and loss of a medic unit from budget shortfalls is causing an "increased strain" on multi-role crews.

"This combination of higher call volume and reduced unit availability has created a measurable service gap that cannot be addressed within the district's current revenue structure," Tacy said.

LFD staff determined a levy of 40 to 50 cents per \$1,000 assessed value could stabilize EMS operations, with

See Lebanon Fire, Page 9

A&W celebrates 65 years in SH



Attendees enjoy Saturday's A&W 65th birthday celebration, showing guests gathered around the restaurant and taking part in the various activities and festivities offered throughout the event. See more on page 11.
- Photo by Brandon Cominsky

HOMETOWN
NEWSPAPER OF
DARLENE
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This Week's Top Stories



Sports Leader With Experience

Tomas Rosa, well known at Sweet Home High since he was a youth, is now the school's athletic director.

Page 12



Football Camps Mark Start of Fall School Sports

Lebanon (Page 20) and Sweet Home (Page 11) started getting in gear for the gridiron season last week with football camp.



Obituaries

Laura Daniel

Aug. 6, 1926 – July 24, 2026
Laura Irene Daniel, 99, of Lebanon, passed away on July 24, 2026.
Born on Aug. 6, 1926, in rural Pope County, Ark., Irene lived a life devoted to her family, her faith, and caring for others. She owned and operated Pleasant Home Care Home for many years after taking over the facility following her mother's passing.
Irene was married to Harbert Daniel for nearly 50 years until his passing in 1992. She was a faithful member of the Lebanon Assembly of God and later the Brownsville Assembly of God, where she worshiped for more than 65 years combined.
She is survived by her daughter, Sue Youngblood of Foster; five grandchildren; 16 great-grandchildren; and five great-great-grandchildren.
A celebration of life memorial service will be held at Brownsville Assembly of God on Saturday, Sept. 19, 2026, at 1 p.m.

Debra Withrow

June 15, 1955 – July 25, 2026
Debra Lynn Withrow (nee Bowman) passed away July 25, 2026.
Born on June 15, 1955, she lived a life rooted in the simple beauty of nature. She was an avid angler who found her greatest peace and joy in the outdoors. Her absolute favorite place to be was on the quiet waters of Clear Lake, waiting for the next big catch.
Her greatest legacy is the family she built and nurtured.



Gerad Romero
Sept. 5, 1999 - Aug. 8, 2026
Gerad Chandler Romero, 26, of Sweet Home, passed away on Saturday, Aug. 8, 2026.
He was born Sept. 5, 1999, to Stella (Jones) Townsend in Bullhead City, Arizona.
He lived in Bullhead City until 2001, then his family relocated to Sweet Home. He attended Sweet Home Schools until 2018. After school he worked for East Linn Roofing until 2025. He was employed at Entek until his passing.
Gerad loved being outdoors – fishing, skate boarding, snowboarding, and mushroom hunting. He enjoyed spending time with family and friends. He adored his dog Droopert.
He is survived by his mother Stella and stepfather Jackson Townsend of Sweet Home; brothers Nicholas Umphress of Mohave Valley, Ariz., and Joseph Umphress of Albany; sisters Ashley Umphress of Sweet Home and Brittany Romero of Sweet Home; sister-in-law Kira Umphress of Albany; nephews Tyson and Kenneth of Albany, Nicholi and Izan of Arizona; and nieces Stella, Stevie Jo, Kaylee, Olivia, Lillian Oaklee of Oregon, and Annalynn of Arizona.
He was preceded in death by his brother, Kenneth "Tate" Umphress; grandparents Earl and Betty Jones; uncles Butch and Kenny Jones; and aunt Elizabeth Jones, all of Oregon.
A celebration of life will be at a later date.
Sweet Home Funeral Chapel is handling the arrangements.



Paid Obituary

She leaves behind her three children and 11 grandchildren, who will forever remember her adventurous spirit and love for life's quiet moments.
In accordance with her wishes, no formal religious services will be held.
Her family will gather privately at Clear Lake to scatter her ashes and celebrate her memory in the place she loved most.

Death Notices
Derek Christopher Hutchison, 54, of Albany, died Aug. 15, 2026.
Sweet Home Funeral Chapel is handling the arrangements.

For updated information, visit www.sweethomefuneral.com.
The New Era believes that reporting deaths is an important part of recording local history and encourages submission of obituaries and death notices. Some local mortuaries do not submit such to us for local residents who pass away, unless requested to do so by the family, so we are working to develop a routine to scour death notices from various sources to keep our readers informed. Below is a list of deceased who were born, grew up, and/or who died this year in Lebanon, whom we've been able to

William Nelson
Sept. 27, 1932 - Aug. 8, 2026
William "Bill" Ernst Nelson, 93, of Lebanon, passed away on Saturday, Aug. 8, 2026.
He was born on Sept. 27, 1932, to Helen E. (Ernst) and Donald James "DJ" Nelson in Portland.
He grew up living in various places in Oregon, spending more time in the Burns area and Lebanon.
Bill married Betty (Elizabeth A. Starr) in December 1952; she was the love of his life. They were married for 64 years.
He joined the Air Force in April 1952 and was discharged in April 1961. He spent four years active service duty and four years reserved. He was an aircraft mechanic. Most of his service time was at Fairchild Air Force Base in Washington.
Bill had various jobs throughout his life, including ranch work, logging, school bus driver and his favorite – journeyman carpenter.
A family project was building the house where he lived for 57 years. All family members had a hammer and learned building skills from their dad.
His favorite hobbies were watching football, gardening, hunting, fishing and spending time with family.
Bill is survived by his children Gale, Teri and John; four grandchildren, Matt, Janna, Gabrielle and Lori; and four great-grandchildren.
He was preceded in death by his wife, Betty; and son Mark.
A memorial service will be at 11 a.m. Saturday, Aug. 22, at the Sodaville Evangelical Church. Private family burial with military honors took place at Odd Fellows Cemetery in Lebanon.
Donations can be made to the Sodaville Evangelical Church.
Sweet Home Funeral Chapel is handling the arrangements.



Paid Obituary

identify. Note: The New Era publishes death notices and news obituaries at no cost (up to 200 words) for families of residents of Lebanon and Sweet Home school districts (our circulation area) who have passed away. For details, contact us at news@sweethomenews.com or call (541) 367-2135.
Earl Eugene Ackland, 89, of Coos Bay, died May 6, 2026.
Robert Adams, 63, of Lebanon, died July 21, 2026.
Evelyn Elaine Anderson, 95, of Lebanon, died May 27, 2026.
Theodore Theirn Basye Jr., 68, of Lebanon, died July 25, 2026.
DeAnna Katheleen Marie Birdsall (Pitts), 65, of Blaine, Wash., died July 27, 2026. A celebration of life will be on Saturday, Aug. 22 at 3 p.m. at the Bellingham Moose Lodge, 150 W. Axton Road #4, Bellingham, Wash.
Janet Elaine (Stovall) Anderson Boyer, 78, of Salem, died July 17, 2026. A celebration of life will be on Saturday, Sept. 26 at 4 p.m. at Salem Elks Lodge, 2336 Turner Rd SE, Salem. In lieu of flowers, consider donating blood, adopting a shelter pet, or giving to a dog rescue organization in your area.
Nelta Joyce Campbell, 78, of Newberg, died July 7, 2026.
Ralph Arlo Coddington, 96, died June 19, 2026.

Sherrill Kay Coleman, 84, of Albany, died June 19, 2026.
Douglas L. Corcoran, 55, of Palmyra, PA, died Aug. 10.
Joanne Faye Cox, 85, of Cape Coral, Fla., died Aug. 3, 2026.
Johannes C. De Jong, 39, of Scio, died April 4, 2026.
Harold Burdette Drew, 82, of Lebanon, died July 24, 2026.
Marvin "Dale" Edwards, 80, died April 23, 2026.
Ronald M. Elliot, 84, of Lebanon, died May 15, 2026.
Wanda May Firman, 87, died June 6, 2026.
David Charles Garber, 75, of Lebanon, died May 16, 2026.
Dolores "Dee" Lorraine Gentry, 88, died Aug. 5, 2026.
Shirley Ann Girard, 91, of Lebanon, died Aug. 8, 2026. A celebration of life will be held at 1 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 12, at the Lebanon First Assembly of God Church. Huston-Jost Funeral Home is handling arrangements.
Linda L. Goodwin, 79, of Lebanon, died June 29, 2026.
Julaine C. Hammond, 89, of Fremont, Neb., died April 21, 2026.
Jaxson Clyde Holmes, 53, died June 23, 2026.
Barbara Larson, 71, died June 8, 2026 at KVH in Ellensburg, Wash.
Katherine "Kathy"
See Obituaries, Page 3

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SH School Board starts process of issuing bonds

By Brandon Cominsky
Of The New Era

On August 10, the Sweet Home School Board unanimously approved two resolutions to help fund upcoming district projects, taking the next step with the voter-approved general obligation bonds that will enable the district to collect \$12.252 million in Oregon School Capital Improvement Matching grant funds.

The board approved Resolution which lets the district issue and sell up to \$40 million in voter-approved general obligation bonds.

In a staff report, Business Manager Kevin Strong said the bonds can be used "to fund student safety improvements, career and technical education facilities, and the replacement of aging high school buildings." The resolution also allows the district's superintendent or business manager to finalize the bond structure and sale, hire needed financial professionals, and take care of tax, disclosure, and compliance tasks.

Strong told the board that the district likely will not issue the general obligation bonds until winter.

"You don't necessarily want to borrow the money sooner than you need it," Strong said, comparing the timing to taking out a mortgage. He said the district is considering "either December or early January" to issue the bonds.

Strong explained that waiting has some benefits, but there are also risks.

"If interest rates go higher, then that would be an additional interest cost," he said. "If interest rates go lower, that would be savings to the district."

A second resolution allows the "Superintendent or Business Manager to execute and deliver the OSCIM grant agreement on behalf of the District, along with any related documents necessary to secure the grant funding."

Earlier in the meeting, Facilities and Maintenance Supervisor Josh Darwood explained the Construction Manager/General Contractor (CM/GC) process to the board. This alternative way of hiring a contractor will be presented to the board in September.

"I wanted to share what this process is so you have time to mull it over and think about it," Darwood said. He added that he wants board members to have time to understand the proposal before making a decision.

The CM/GC process lets the district pick a contractor before design and engineering are finished, so construction experts can help with planning sooner. Darwood said the district will focus on contractors' skills and experience instead of just choosing the lowest bid. Involving contractors earlier can help catch costly design choices,

review materials, and fix construction issues before they become expensive.

"How can we save money? What can we do differently?" he said. "How can we change things to make it the best building for the best price?"

This process will set a guaranteed maximum price (GMP) and give the district a better understanding of subcontractor planning.

"We're looking for a great space for kids to learn and teachers to teach, something warm and inviting, without unnecessary expenses," Darwood said. Strong added that because CM/GC is an alternative way to hire contractors, the board must approve its use.

"We'll have a document that includes the reasons why we're recommending this process," Strong said. He said the board will decide how to move forward when the time comes.

While much of the meeting focused on construction, Board Chairman Dale Keene also brought up an issue with a tighter deadline: the first reading of Policy KNA, called "Immigration Enforcement on District Property."

"This is a late one coming out of Salem," Keene said. "It is required to be in place by the end of September, so it's going to be close." Monday was the first reading of KNA, and the board plans to have a second reading at the next meeting.

According to the pro-

posed KNA policy, "Absent a judicially authorized subpoena, warrant or court order, district staff must not allow federal immigration authorities access to the district's records or facilities not open to the public for immigration enforcement." The policy also says the "superintendent or designee must review and approve any response to a request involving immigration enforcement."

The document explains that the superintendent would be the main point of contact for "coordinating interactions with federal immigration authorities occurring in the district immigration liaison." "The Business manager shall serve as an alternative point of contact during the immigration liaison's absence or unavailability."

However, if federal immigration authorities are confirmed to have entered school property for immigration enforcement, the policy requires that notice be given to students in grades seven and above at the affected school, parents or guardians of students at the impacted school, staff at the school where enforcement is happening, and community-based service providers who have asked for notifications when federal immigration authorities are on school property.

According to the policy, the notice must include "the general location of the federal immigration author-

ity" and "whether classes or school operations were affected." However, the notice must not share personally identifiable or other protected information, and all notifications should be sent "as expediently as possible using Parent Square."

In other action, the board:

- Approved the hiring of Kaley Siewert as a fourth-grade teacher at Oak Heights Elementary School.

- Approved the hiring of Scott Boyer as a science teacher at Sweet Home High School.

- Approved the hiring of Ema Gardner as a social studies teacher at the high school.

- Accepted the resignation of Maricel Rendado, special education teacher at Foster School, effective Aug. 6. In a letter of resignation, Rendado said the revocation of her visa had been a "complete surprise," with no prior notice. She had signed a contract for this year in March, she noted.

- Approved the hires of Summer Anderson (Hawthorne), Liz Konstantin (Oak Heights), Pam Hayes (Foster) and Isabelle Cherrington (Holley) as summer school teachers. Foster's summer school program runs Aug. 10-20, while the other three schools are conducting theirs Aug. 17-27.

OBITUARIES

From page 2

Elaine Lazaro, 79, of Lebanon, died May 29, 2026.

Ronald Elden Malick, 89, of Lebanon, died May 1, 2026.

Viola Edwina Marcks Humphrey, 59, of Lebanon, died July 22, 2026. Huston-Jost Funeral Home is handling the arrangements.

Mary Maristella McAleer, 88, of Lebanon, died May 9, 2026.

Larry Duane McDonald, 83, died May 21, 2026.

Grace L. Miller, 94, died May 3, 2026. She completed eight grades of school between Grand Prairie School in Albany and Stoltz Hill School in Lebanon. She was one of the oldest surviving charter members at Lebanon Mennonite church.

Melea Mithun, 67, of Lebanon, died April 6, 2026.

Joanne (Bertucci) Nandine Moseley, of Lebanon, died Aug. 12, 2026. A memorial service will be held at 11 a.m. on Saturday, Aug. 22, at New Hope Church in Lebanon. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made in

her name to Doernbecher Children Hospital, Portland.

Patricia Davis (Davis) Munk, 85, of Lebanon, died Aug. 11. A memorial service will be held Aug. 29 at St. Martin's Episcopal Church in Lebanon. Huston-Jost Funeral Home is handling arrangements. Memorial contributions may be made to any organization or group dedicated to helping children.

William Ernst "Bill" Nelson, 93, of Lebanon, died Aug. 8, 2026. A memorial service will be 11 a.m. on Saturday, Aug. 22, at the Sodaville Evangelical Church. Private family burial with military honors took place at Odd Fellows Cemetery in Lebanon. Donations can be made to the Sodaville Evangelical Church. Sweet Home Funeral Chapel is handling arrangements. www.sweethomefuneral.com.

Ardyce LaVonne Nylund (Hall), 98, of Lebanon, died June 27, 2026. To view more obituary information, visit www.hustonjost.com.

William Phillips, 43, died June 16, 2026. Weddle

Funeral Service is handling the arrangements.

Vicki Lynn Plinski, 73, of Lebanon, died January 19, 2026.

Paula Ann Pursley, 74, of Kentucky, died May 8, 2026.

Robert "Bob" Lee Schnicker, 85, of Lebanon, died June 1, 2026.

Carl Henry Schubert, Jr., 92, died May 5, 2026.

Debra Lynn Smith, 68, of Calhoun, Ga., died May 19, 2026.

Edgar Norbert Smith, 84, died May 29, 2026.

Craig Lynn Speaks, 72, died May 27, 2026.

Delbert Spiker, 79, of Lebanon, died March 8, 2026.

Robert L. Stager, 63, of Jonestown, PA, died Aug. 8, 2026.

Norma Stepp, 86, of Brownsville, died Aug. 2, 2026. She was buried at Gililand Cemetery in Sweet Home.

Winfield Henry Truax, 85, died June 29, 2026.

Glenda "Kaye" Wilkerson, 84, of Lebanon, died June 25, 2026.

Joyce Marlene Young, 84, died May 23, 2026.

County offering alerts for names in property documents

The Linn County Clerk's Office is offering a new Property Recording Alert Service, which will notify property owners by email when a document that references their name is recorded, according to Linn County Clerk Marcie Richey.

Before this service, property owners may not have learned about recordings that might affect their titles, on documents such as deeds or liens, for weeks or months after an event.

Now, with PRAS, property owners will be notified immediately.

Richey said that subscribers to this free service will receive an alert sent to their email address when a document that contains their name has been recorded in the Linn County Clerk's Office.

Richey noted that subscribing to this service does not guarantee fraud prevention.

How it works:

A customer creates an online account and enters their

name and email address. From that point on, if a recorded document matches the registered name, an automated email is sent.

The email will include the document number, a recording date and time, and a note advising the recipient to contact the Linn County Clerk's Office at (541) 967-3829 for more information. The records are not available online.

To subscribe to the Property Recording Alert Service, visit: <https://www.linncountyor.gov/clerk/page/property-recording-alert-service-pras>

Richey points out that Oregon Revised Statute 9.160 prevents the county from providing legal advice.

"We are unable to explain or provide information regarding the contents of recorded documents," Richey said.

She added that the Property Recording Service information may be subject to public disclosure laws.

From our Files



Frank Johnson, of Danville, Calif., gets some treasure hunting practice in at Sankey Park while his wife, Jean, watches. Johnson, one of a large group of people who've taken up treasure hunting as their number one hobby, was preparing for the Sweet Home Bicentennial Family Treasure Hunt in 1976.

AUG. 23, 1951

The Sweet Home swimming team now has a name. Henceforth, the local splashers will be known as the Sweet Home Dolphins. Members of the team selected Lavonne Shaw as president, Beverly Hall as vice-president, Janice Calvert as secretary and Bill Fallon as treasurer. Delays in the construction of the new community pool have postponed opening to a tentative date of Aug. 27.

The hiring of Sweet Home's first resident school nurse was announced this week. The health nurse, Miss Jean Pipkin, comes to Sweet Home from the Denver, Colo., school system where she served in that city's school health program for two years.

The Sweet Home Chamber of Commerce voted to oppose a proposed development of a highway from Belknap Springs to the Clear Lake junction, fearing it's a scheme to further develop the Springfield-Eugene area by bypassing cities and industries

on Highway 20. The proposal is being pushed by central Oregon chambers and Eugene interests.

Residents of the 7th Avenue district may have to go another year without paved streets because no firm submitted a paving bid for the 12-block project. The City Manager said it was a case of "too few contractors and too much work available."

AUG. 19, 1976

The biggest treasure on the West Coast – and perhaps in the country – took place at Sankey Park when the Sweet Home Bicentennial Family Treasure Hunt, sponsored by the Albany Metal Detectors Club, was held. Despite rainy weather, the hunt attracted 412 entrants from Oregon and other states, bringing in more than \$3,000 in entry fees.

"The Last Medicine Show" will be performed at Sankey Park featuring a number of medicine show acts with a moral to the story. The project comes from the Benton-Linn Council

on Alcohol Inc., highlighting the benefits of the 1906 Pure Food and Drug Act that ended the medicine man's reign. The protagonist fears for his life if he divulges the elixir's secret contents, mainly ethyl alcohol.

AUG. 22, 2001

Linn County and the Corps of Engineers will begin searching for a site on Foster Lake for a new boat ramp. They're currently thinking Caulkins Park at the junction of Quartzville Road and Hwy. 20 would be the best site. Park usage has been very busy. The county has looked for increased lake access for years, but the Corps wasn't as receptive to the ideas as they are now.

Six empty railroad tankers – that had carried chlorine and hydrochloric acid – parked on a siding near Santiam Forest Products caused great concern for firefighters during last week's fire 50 yards away. Although the remaining tanks were empty, residue and gases from within could be a problem.

Editorial: Answer to fires is adapting to reality

By Randal O'Toole

Oregon has entered fire season earlier than usual this year, which means we are hearing repeated litanies from various interest groups.

"If only we had more money to suppress fires," says the Forest Service.

"If only we were allowed to manage the forests" by cutting timber, says the timber industry.

"If only people would stop driving so we could prevent global climate change," say environmentalists.

In reality, wildfires in the West aren't evidence of a lack of funds, forest mismanagement, or climate change. They happen because the West is a fire plain, and, just as a flood plain floods, a fire plain is going to burn. For as long as we've kept records, about one-half to 1 percent of the West burns each year, and nothing we can do is going to stop it.

You may have seen a chart showing far more acres burned each year in the 1930s than in recent decades, which is often cited as evidence that global warming isn't happening. In fact, it is evidence that the For-

est Service was dishonest in its fire reporting.

In 1908, Congress gave the Forest Service a literal blank check for suppressing fires, but no money for prescribed burning. The Forest Service decided that prescribed burning was bad and it spitefully counted all prescribed fires conducted by private landowners as wildfires. This policy faded away in the 1950s, which is why the acres reported burned tapered off in that decade.

You may also have heard that many western states have suffered their largest fires in recorded history in recent years, which is often cited as evidence that climate change is the real problem. In fact, fires have not gotten more severe in recent years; instead, large fires are evidence of a change in firefighting strategies.

Before 1994, the Forest Service and other agencies directly attacked fires by putting firefighters on the fire front to stop fires from growing. In 1994, 14 firefighters who were directly attacking a fire in Colorado were overwhelmed and died. The chief of the Forest Service, Jack Thomas, ordered

the agency to change strategies to protect firefighter lives.

Today, the more common practice is to have firefighters create fire lines well back of the fire front and do large backburns. One result is that fires burn far more acres but a third or more of those acres were lit by the firefighters. Another result, sadly, is that more, not fewer, firefighters are killed each year, but they are killed in ones and twos in aircraft crashes, auto accidents, and similar causes rather than groups of a dozen or more being burned over.

Another story is that we must regularly thin or burn forests to keep them from burning as wildfires. That's true for southern pine forests, which grow so fast that they can become very fire-prone in just a few years.

It is far less true for western forests, most of which are not made more fire-prone by suppression. Even the ones that are require a lot more years of suppression for them to become a fire hazard. A 2001 Forest Service report found that less than 15 percent of western forests are in serious fire danger due to historic fire suppression.

Contrary to timber industry claims, cutting old growth makes forests more suscep-

tible to fire, not less. Young trees are the most likely to burn while older ponderosa pine, Douglas fir, and certain other species have thick bark and have dropped their lower branches, enabling many of them to survive wildfires.

More people than ever (including me) live in western fire plains, and each year we hear about evacuations and homes burning down. Forest Service research has shown that, to protect homes and other structures, it is both necessary and sufficient to treat the land immediately around the structures and the structures themselves to reduce flammability.

This means roofs and eaves must be non-flammable; no firewood or other flammables should be stacked against the buildings; and 100 to 200 feet around each structure must be landscaped to minimize fire: a grassy lawn is fine; a big thick-et of pine trees is not. This is known as defensible space, and a truly defensible home and yard can survive the worst fires, whereas one that isn't defensible is vulnerable to burning down no matter what adjacent landowners do with their land.

If you live in a fire plain, it is up to you to keep your home defensible as you can't rely on

firefighters to keep fires from reaching you. This means the Forest Service's real problem isn't a shortage of funds, but having too much money and spending that money in all the wrong ways, such as expensive aerial tankers that, the agency's own studies show, accomplish very little.

If you live in a city near a fire plain, such as Santa Rosa, Calif., or Boulder, Colo., then zoning codes that prohibit low-density development at the urban fringe are asking for trouble. If a fire reaches the edge of your city, and all the houses are 10 to 20 feet apart, then when one house catches fire they will all catch fire. It is safer to surround the city with a broad zone of homes on one-half to one-acre lots that, if they are made defensible, will act as a fire break for the rest of the city.

We, in the West, live in a fire plain. It is going to burn.

Our goal should not be to prevent the unpreventable but to adapt to it. That means making our homes defensible, maintaining safe evacuation corridors, and strictly limiting firefighting budgets so that agencies won't waste money and firefighter lives on strategies and tactics that are not cost-effective.

– Randal O'Toole is an adjunct scholar at Cascade Policy Institute, Oregon's free market public policy research organization. He is a transportation and land-use policy analyst. O'Toole has a degree in forestry from Oregon State University and has spent several decades studying forest policy. He is the author of "Reforming the Forest Service" and "The Perfect Firestorm: Bringing Forest Service Wildfire Costs Under Control."

THE
NEW ERA
NEWSPAPER CO.
SWEET HOME, OR EST. 1929

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Public Safety

- Information herein is sourced from law enforcement and fire agencies. Details, which may not always be available in time for our weekly publication, are updated on our website as information becomes available. - Addresses noted generally denote the location of the incident or arrest, occasionally indicating the origin of the call. - Our reporting of an individual's arrest or citation for a crime does not imply guilt. Determination of guilt can only be established through legal proceedings in court. We commit significant effort to following through as cases move through the judicial process. A Roman numeral indicates the degree of a charge: theft I (first-degree theft). - Following 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)

AUGUST 16
SWEET HOME POLICE
2:53 a.m. - Cassandra Scott, 35, of Albany, arrested on warrant, 800 block 43rd. Report taken.
9:36 a.m. - Caller from 2200 block Long reported three baseball bats stolen from his fence during previous night. Officer took report for theft III. Value \$30.
11:01 a.m. - James Millard Robertson, 65, arrested on SHMC warrant for FTA in trespassing case. 1400 block Nandina. Also arrested for offensive littering and trespassed from area. Cited and released.
11:17 a.m. - Denise Rochelle Burrow, 59, arrested on SHMC warrants for FTA in two trespassing cases, 1400 block railroad tracks. Cited and released.
2:24 p.m. - SHPD, Sweet Home Fire responded to respiratory arrest in 1800 block Tamarack. Further details unavailable.
4:59 p.m. - Caller from Dutch Bros, 540 Main, reported female sleeping next to shed on property, asked that she

move along. Officer contacted female, who was OK and moved along.
7:18 p.m. - Caller reported he had bomb in house in 1200 block 40th and was going to "kill the mother and rape the daughter" in the home. SHPD responded, determined that incident appeared to be a swatting incident. Report taken.
11:45 p.m. - LPD reported vehicle attempting to elude on Hwy. 20. SHPD responded, assisted. Vehicle located at Wiley Creek Park. Driver taken into custody by LPD.

LEBANON POLICE
Lebanon police had not submitted a log for this date in time for publication. When available, log will be updated at lebanonlocalnews.com.
LCSO/OSP SWEET HOME S. COUNTY
11:19 a.m. - Caller requested advice from LCSO on how to navigate social media issue in which inappropriate communication was taking place. 38600 block Hwy. 228.
3:46 p.m. - Single-vehicle crash into Foster Lake reported in 2600 block Foster Dam Rd. Single occupant uninjured. Report taken. This report will be updated if more information becomes available.

LCSO/OSP LEBANON
4:13 a.m. - Noise disturbance reported in 30600 block S. 5th Rd. Further details unavailable.
3:27 p.m. - Justin Vanepps, 38, of Lebanon, arrested for assault IV after report of domestic disturbance in 38700 block Sodaville Waterloo. Report taken.
5:15 p.m. - Crash reported in 31400 block Waterloo Rd. Minor injuries. Vehicle towed. Report taken.
6:07 p.m. - Tanvi Apte, 22, of Corvallis, cited for speeding, 85/55, Santiam Hwy./Market.

AUGUST 15
SWEET HOME POLICE
4:22 a.m. - Tyler Michael Cain, 27, arrested by LCSO on SHMC warrant for FTC in assault case. Cited to appear Sept. 23.
8:49 a.m. - Caller from 1200 block Clark Mill reported pig on the loose, in the road. Officer responded, but was unable to locate it. At 10:05 a.m. another caller reported a loose pig and this time officer was able to spot it. Pig returned to its residence; owner advised.
9:00 a.m. - Officer located male on railroad property east of 24th. He packed up and moved

on. Report taken for trespass II. Investigation continuing.
11:21 a.m. - Davy Anthony Phillips, 53, arrested for criminal trespass II, 2400 block Main. Cited and released.
3:34 p.m. - Caller reported intoxicated male in vehicle lined up for drift track, 2200 block Tamarack. Officer noted info, but since the event was on private property and premises were not open to public, caller was advised to alert organizers and to alert police if male left property.
3:52 p.m. - SHPD responded to male having psychological issue, 3000 block Main. He was given courtesy transport to SLCH.
6:27 p.m. - Caller from area of 2nd/Hawthorne reported ex used credit card for online purchases without caller's consent. Investigation continuing.
7:45 p.m. - Caller from Truax Towne Pump, 700 block Main, reported male and female camping at location. Officer contacted female, who was advised of the complaint and advised to pick up trash. Investigation continuing.
8:37 p.m. - Multiple callers reported fireworks being shot off in area of 900 blocks of 1st and 2nd avenues. Officer was unable to locate the perpetrators.
10:11 p.m. - Autum Jean Ann Macklin, 24, arrested for disorderly conduct II following multiple reports of a physical disturbance at Dam Bar, 6099 Main. LCSO deputies assisted with crowd control as SHPD investigated. 6000 block Hwy. 20. Macklin cited and released. She was also arrested on Coburg Municipal Court warrants for FTA in DUII and DWS cases. Cited and released.

LEBANON POLICE
3:04 a.m. - Devon Joseph Douglas, 23, cited for DWS.

6:56 a.m. - Two-car crash, Santiam Hwy./Reeves Pkwy. Alec E. Gomez, 31, cited for failure to maintain lane.
2:13 p.m. - Complaints about driver unable to maintain lane, almost hit a car head-on, ran red light, near Walmart. Officer found driver sleeping in his car, no signs of impairment. Wesley Jordan Smith, 42, cited for DWS.
2:35 p.m. - Two-car crash, E Oak/Park Sts. Zoe May Petrait, 21, cited for DWS.
3:01 p.m. - Christopher Jerrell Ensley, 42, arrested for DWS felony. Car impounded.
LCSO/OSP SWEET HOME S. COUNTY
10:23 a.m. - Dog bite reported in 300 block W. Bishop Way, Brownsville. Pit bulls were fighting and female sustained serious injury to hand. Medics responded, transported her to SLCH. Report taken.
4:20 p.m. - Marine deputies wrote a number of tickets on Foster Lake, 43700 block North River. David Hinderlie, 22, of Sweet Home, cited for overloading boat. Bryanna Lewis, 47, of Lebanon, cited for no personal flotation device. Jay Lusby, 45, of Dallas, cited for no PFD. Report taken.
5:15 p.m. - Deputy located illegal camp on BLM land near Yellowbottom Day Use Area. Camp was unoccupied. Deputy left warning tag.
5:38 p.m. - Transient male contacted by deputy at Shea Point, 6300 block Hwy. 20, blocking traffic and panhandling. He was advised to move to safer location.
5:43 p.m. - Deputy investigated illegal camps on CTC and Campbell Global land, 51200 block Quartzville.
6:10 p.m. - Deputy investigated abandoned "dilapidated" truckbed camper on U.S. Army Corps of Engineers land near

See Public Safety, Page 6



TEMPERATURES			
DATE	HIGH	LOW	RAIN
8/12	82	54	0.00
8/13	84	52	0.00
8/14	80	59	0.00
8/15	78	59	0.00
8/16	82	52	0.00
8/17	82	53	0.00
8/18	88	53	0.00

RAIN IN INCHES	
Year to date:	11.20
8/19/25:	19.39

FORECAST		
DATE	WEATHER	HIGH/LOW
8/20	Cloudy	91/55
8/21	Sunny	81/55
8/22	Cloudy	77/53
8/23	Cloudy	83/53
8/24	Sunny	86/54
8/25	Cloudy	83/53
8/26	Sunny	82/51

Foster 634.4

Green Peter 928.5

LOW

MODERATE

HIGH

EXTREME

TODAYS FIRE DANGER IS

HIGH

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

Circuit Court

Judith Cid-Pena, 34, placed in diversion program after pleading no contest to DUII (liquor) with a .11% BAC.
Brenden James Clarke, 20, charged with luring a minor, online sexual corruption of a child I, sodomy III and sexual abuse III x3. Allegations involve a female under 16.
A charge against **Dustin Kyle Coughran, 36**, of assault IV was dismissed with prejudice based upon the fact he has died.
Ethanial E. Delk, 22, placed in diversion program after pleading no contest to DUII (liquor) with a .12% BAC.
Dawsen Duke Jeppsen, 25, sentenced to 90 days suspension of a drivers license, 10 days compensatory service in lieu of jail, 12 mos. bench probation and \$200 in fine after pleading no contest to assault III and recklessly endangering another person. Dismissed: reckless driving.
Jeremy James Jesinghaus, 35, sentenced to one year suspension of a drivers license, 48 hours jail, 10 days compensatory service in lieu of jail, 24 mos. bench probation

and \$1,255 in fines and fees after pleading guilty to DUII (liquor) with a .13% BAC and harassment. Dismissed: attempt to commit Class A misdemeanor, disorderly conduct II.
William Anthony Jewell, 20, charged with unlawful sexual penetration I and sexual abuse I. Allegations involve a physically helpless female.
Chelsea Leanne Ledford, 25, charged with assault II. Bail: \$25,000.
Brian Keith Maxwell, 42, charged with felon in possession of a firearm.
Anthony David Lloyd Stalford, 38, charged with unauthorized use of a vehicle.
Daniel Adam Stjern, 29, sentenced to 96 hours jail and 24 mos. bench probation after pleading guilty to harassment. Dismissed: harassment x2. Dismissed by civil compromise: criminal trespass I, criminal mischief I.
Phillip Gene Williams, 53, charged with robbery III, unlawful entry into a motor vehicle, harassment and criminal mischief II.

Municipal Court

Jason L. Bowen, 49, pleaded no contest to animal abandonment - fine \$401, five days work crew, 12 mos. probation. Dismissed: failure to report as a sex offender.
Barton C. Curry, 68, pleaded no contest to harassment - fine \$401, five days work crew, 12 mos. probation.
Desarae J. Fulbright, 26, pleaded guilty to criminal mischief II - fine \$401, five days work crew, 60 mos. probation.
Jacqueline P. Knowles, 62, pleaded no contest to DU - fine \$215.
Hunter A. Ringheimer, 33,

guilty by default for DWS - fine \$2,015, license suspended.
Casyah T. Thomas, 30, pleaded guilty to theft II x2 - fine \$2,960, 180 days jail suspended, 20 days work crew, 60 mos. probation, no contact orders. Dismissed: theft II, theft III.
Jerrime J. Urban, 47, pleaded no contest to resisting arrest - fine \$501, 10 days work crew, 60 mos. probation. Dismissed: disorderly contact II.
Alexander C. Worrell, 49, guilty by default for DWS, DU - fines \$3,030, license suspended.

CROSSWORD KEY

Puzzle on page 17

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

SUDOKU KEY

Puzzle on page 17

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



By Sarah Brown
Of The New Era

The City of Waterloo held its annual community picnic on Saturday, Aug. 15, inviting its residents to gather together under the canopy of conifer trees at Waterloo County Park for some food, friendship and good times.

The event featured a chili cook-off, where Mike Jung took first place and Justin Sawdon came in second place.

During its regular City Council meeting on Tuesday, Aug. 11:

The council noted junk and RV ordinance violations at 3rd and Gross streets, and a property owner on 4th and Gross trying to alleviate ordinance violations of plant overgrowth.

City Recorder David Reed reported he's been busy preparing the necessary work needed to be able to accept

and use a USDA grant the city has been awarded to install a bathroom and other necessities at City Hall.

Councilor Bill Young reported a resident request to pave Kay Street between 4th Street at the city limits to the west.

Reed updated the council on his research to make City Hall ADA-compliant and plans to install security cameras.

From page 5

Green Peter, 49000 block
Quartzville. Investigation
ongoing. Report taken.

8:35 p.m. - William Jewell,
20, of Sweet Home, arrested
for unlawful penetration I and
criminal mistreatment I, 28600
block Hwy. 20. Lodged at LCJ.
Report taken.

LCSO/OSP LEBANON

4:15 a.m. - Tyler Cain, 27, of Eugene, cited for DWS, DU and and arrested on warrants, Cascade/Crowfoot. Vehicle towed as nuisance. Report taken.

3:26 p.m. - Hit and run reported in 36400 block Rock Hill. Vehicle drove off road into fence, then got back on road and continued. Report taken.

10:46 p.m. - Noise disturbance reported in 000 block Oak Creek Way. Wedding celebration music was getting loud. Music was turned off.

11:24 p.m. - Noise disturbance reported in 400 block Linden. Loud music was turned off.

AUGUST 14

SWEET HOME POLICE

10:34 a.m. - Caller from BiMart, 1980 Main, reported male outside store, yelling obscenities. Officer responded, contacted male who appeared to be having mental health issues and was moving along.

11:03 a.m. - Paul William Kalina, 51, arrested on AMC warrant for contempt of court, LMC warrant for probation violation in theft case. Caller from 4000 block Clark Mill had reported disturbance in which male

was refusing to leave and was "abusive" toward caller's caregiver. Cited and released.

11:21 a.m. - Joshua Kealohanui Ben Leslie, 38, arrested for criminal trespass II after caller from Sweet Home Library, 1101 13th, reported male looking through windows at children who caller believed had been previously trespassed. Cited and released.

11:56 a.m. - Quentin Wyatt Quadros, 28, arrested by Marion County Sheriff's Office on SHMC warrant for FTC in criminal driving case. Cited to appear Sept. 23.

2:28 p.m. - Crash reported in area of Hwy. 228/Long. Operators were Glenn Loyd Gatliff, 72, driving a Pontiac Vibe, and Heather Elizabeth Villines, in a Chevrolet Tahoe. Gatliff cited for DWS. Drivers exchanged info. No injuries. Damage under \$2,500.

4:22 p.m. - Caller reported male yelling at cars, with pipe in his hand in 2200 block Main. Officer contacted male, who denied the reported behavior, but agreed to move along.

5:41 p.m. - Caller reported juveniles on roof of former Santiam Feed building, 1244 Long. Officer responded, but was unable to locate them.

5:48 p.m. - Fire reported on railroad tracks between 24th and Clark Mill. Sweet Home Fire, SHPD responded. Report taken for reckless burning. Investigation continuing.

6:54 p.m. - Caller reported wallet stolen from vehicle parked in undisclosed location

See Public Safety. Page 14

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SH City Council asked to resolve water bill dispute

By Sarah Brown
Of The New Era

The City Council was charged with settling a dispute during its regular meeting on Tuesday, Aug. 11.

City Manager Jason Ogden informed the council about a dispute between a local business and the city concerning water bill charges from an apparent leak.

According to Ogden, the city's public works department informed the owner of Lucky's Deli, John Suh, in May 2025 there appeared to be a leak because the water meter reported a higher than usual consumption of water and a leak code. Suh found a leak in the drink machine and repaired it, but water consumption remained high.

There continued to be a high usage of water, but Suh "repeatedly disputed" the claim, Ogden said. By June 2025, the owner began falling behind on regular water bill payments as he disputed the charges. In September 2025, Suh provided a letter from an unverified plumbing contractor stating there was no leak.

In November and Decem-

ber 2025, the company fixed its toilets, after which time the water usage normalized, Ogden said. In February 2026, Suh asked for a "leak adjustment" on its billing, which the city offers for qualifying leaks, of which this was not qualifying, but the city honored the adjustment for two months (the maximum allowable), totalling approximately \$810.

"The challenge of the problem is the account holder has not kept current with payments on the accounts since June 2025," Ogden said.

Not wanting to disrupt business, the city did not shut off water service at the time, but instead tried working out a payment plan, which Suh declined. The city shut off water service in July 2026 and turned it back on when it received \$500 from Suh within 24 hours.

The business owner continued to dispute the charges following the city's dispute procedure until this point, bringing the dispute for City Council determination. Ogden reported the unpaid charges in July 2026 were approximately \$4,579 plus \$1,037 in late fees.

"We've already been nice about this - two months (charged off) - and a payment plan has been offered," Councilor Ken Bronson said.

Deputy City Manager Cecily Pretty added that the owner believes any leak must have been on the city's side of the water line, which is why he declined a payment plan.

In an official letter continuing to dispute the charges - mainly centered on a complaint about the water being shut off and affecting business operations - Suh demanded a copy of all relevant records and discussion of the matter at the next regularly scheduled City Council meeting, and notification that if the city refuses to resolve the dispute equitably, he intends to pursue legal action.

Pretty said they sent letters to the owner two weeks ago about the upcoming agenda item at City Council, but he did not attend the meeting.

Councilor Angelita Sanchez asked how much a lawsuit could cost the city, to which City Attorney Blair Larsen replied he believes the case could easily be dismissed based on

the evidence they have.

"I've been feeling pretty sympathetic to the situation because it's a huge bill and when you neglect things to that level, it just stacks on top of you and you can't control it," Sanchez said. "I don't want to harm a business in our community, but there's certain responsibilities that you have to take ownership in."

Larsen recommended the city table the topic until the next meeting in order to ensure Suh had enough time to receive the letters in the mail. The council unanimously approved a motion to table the discussion.

In other business:

- The council approved a resolution to officialize the erection of stop signs, per city ordinance. Three subdivisions approved between 2020 and 2024 included street intersections that needed a total of 10 traffic control signs, which were supposed to have been approved by council. This resolution approves those signs, including one of which has not yet been erected at Knotty Pine Court and 45th Avenue.
- An amendment under an

expediency clause to city code which would bring it into compliance with new state law was ultimately shot down after its third reading; three in favor and two in opposition.

- The Oregon State Legislature made changes to several portions of election-related code in its 2024 session, including a requirement that incumbent candidates shall now have a filing deadline seven days sooner than non-incumbent candidates. The city's current code related to the timing of candidate filing was last updated in 1986.

- While Sanchez was the only one to oppose each reading of the updated ordinance, both Sanchez and Councilor Dylan Richards opposed the actual adoption of the ordinance. With Councilor Aaron Hegge not present and the newly revised city charter now requiring four approvals, the ordinance did not pass.

Sanchez explained she voted it down because she "does not appreciate expediency clauses for things that aren't an emergency" and she's "really cautious" about the state meddling in city elections.

LCSD announces electric vehicle policy for schools

Lebanon Community School District has updated its policy regarding electric bicycles (e-bikes), electric scooters (e-scooters), and other wheeled recreational devices on school campuses.

According to a statement from the district, "the updated policy is intended to promote student safety and provide clear, consistent expectations across the district."

As e-bikes and e-scooters have become increasingly popular among students, LCSD has reviewed how these devices are used on and

around school property. Due to their speed, weight, and potential safety risks in areas with high pedestrian traffic, the district has established the following expectations beginning with the 2026-27 school year:

Elementary and Middle Schools: E-bikes and e-scooters are prohibited on school campuses. Students should not bring these devices to school.

Lebanon High School: Students may use e-bikes and e-scooters for transportation to and from school; however,

they may not be ridden on campus. Once students reach school property, they must dismount, walk the device to the designated storage area, and properly secure it.

Skateboards, rollerblades, manual scooters and similar devices: Students may use these devices for transportation to school, but they may not be ridden or used on school campuses. They must be stored in designated areas during the school day.

According to the district, the policy is focused on maintaining safe school environ-

ments, particularly during busy arrival and dismissal times when students, staff, buses, and vehicles are moving throughout campus.

"We recognize that e-bikes and scooters have become a convenient form of transportation for many students and families," said LCSD Supt. Jennifer Meckley. "Our goal is not to discourage students from being active or finding ways to get to school. We simply need to make sure our campuses remain safe for everyone, especially during times when there is a lot of pedes-

trian and vehicle traffic."

Families are encouraged to review these expectations with their students before the start of the school year. Students who ride bicycles or other permitted devices to school should also use appropriate safety equipment, follow traffic laws, and secure their equipment in designated areas.

The updated requirements are reflected in LCSD Policy JHFCa and will be communicated to students and families as the district prepares for the 2026-27 school year.

CHURCH DIRECTORY

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GENESIS

Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are his judgments and how inscrutable his ways! For from him and through him and to him are all things. To him be glory forever. Amen.

Romans 11:33, 36

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 Pastor Machiel Greyling

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HC hope.church sweet home

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www.hope.church/sweethome



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(formerly Sweet Home Mennonite)

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10:30 a.m. Children's Church



Sweet Home Evangelical Church

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Open Minds,
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A Reconciling Congregation

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Free Meal - Wednesdays - 5:00 pm

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Elm Street Baptist Church

Sunday Services:
9:45 am Prayer
11:00 am Worship

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Lebanon council considers noise complaint, surplus property

By Sarah Brown
Of The New Era

During the City of Lebanon's City Council meeting on Wednesday, Aug. 12, the council considered a question concerning surplus property and heard a complaint about a generator allegedly keeping residents awake at night.

Lebanon resident Brian Bradburn asked the City Council for help because he is having trouble sleeping on nights when a generator-run truck is parked and running near his street.

According to Bradburn, who lives on W D Street off of 12th Street, a truck driver parks and leaves the generator to his refrigerated rig running all night long along 12th Street approximately once a month.

The city allows semi-trucks to park along a stretch of 12th Street between W Oak and F streets which, Bradburn said, is not a big deal. It's this particular kind of truck that is at issue.

"A refrigerated truck generator makes quite a bit of noise," he said. "It actually can create a hum inside of a house; it kind of reverbs off the walls."

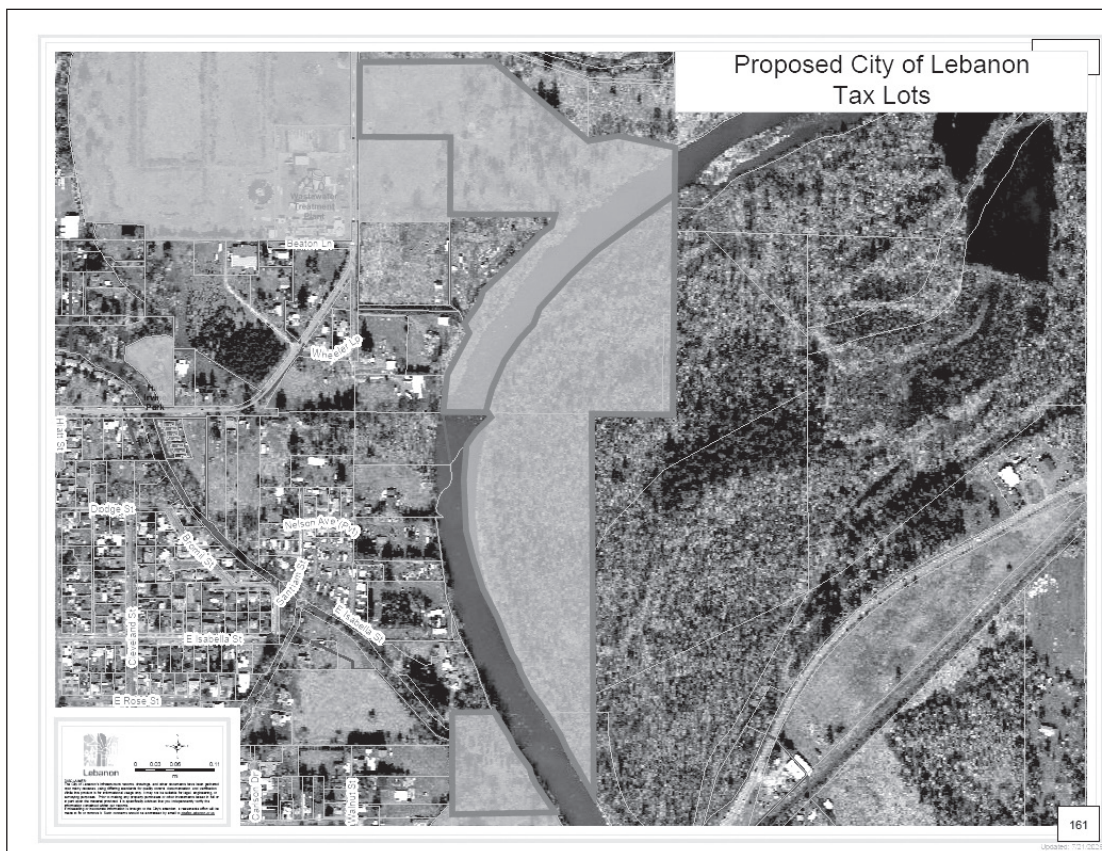
It appears the truck owner lives somewhere in the neighborhood, as he regularly makes stops on the street and does not sleep inside the rig, Bradburn said.

While the generator does not violate city noise ordinances, Bradburn believes there's something different about this type of noise pollution.

"It's not really a decibel issue, it is a frequency issue that causes the walls to basically hum inside the house," he said.

Bradburn provided the city with a record of his history attempting to resolve the issue with the trucking company. According to Bradburn, the truck driver claims to have permission from the city to park his generator-run truck on the street, and Bradburn will be held liable if he turns the generator off (thus destroying any contents inside).

Councilor Dominic Conti said he went inside one of the neighborhood houses while the generator was being run and was struck by how "bizarre" it was that he could feel the noise coming through the house.



This map shows how the city is considering redrawing lot lines to create one parcel out of three owned by the city so it can declare the lot surplus and sell it. The possible surplus lot is the eastern-most piece on the east side of the river. See this in color at lebanonlocalnews.com.

- City of Lebanon image

Police Chief Frank Stevenson said he recalled his department dealt with a similar issue some time ago, but he would have to look into the records to remember if any resolutions came about concerning it.

Councilor David McClain said he would be okay with an ordinance prohibiting motors or generators running within city limits all night, and Mayor Ken Jackola said the city would look into any options that may help with the situation.

City Attorney Tré Kennedy provided a proposal for staff to review based on other municipalities who hold noise ordinances concerning refrigerated trucks. He noted that industry recommendations are to never have those parked the vicinity of a residential neighborhood.

City Surplus

City Manager Ron Whitlatch sought the council's consensus on whether he should pursue further investigation and costs for declaring some city-owned properties along the east side of South Santiam River as surplus.

Staff have been reviewing all city-owned properties to determine which of them are

currently being used, may likely be used later, or are no longer necessary for municipal needs. During this review, they found properties along the river that might be eligible for declaration of surplus, but council consensus was sought before further resources were spent on the matter.

The city is considering moving lot lines in order to make city-owned property on the east side of South Santiam River – roughly from River Park to the south and the wastewater treatment plant to the north – into one or more separate tax lots that could be declared surplus and sold.

With it mostly consisting of wetlands and riparian habitat, the only use it could serve the city is as parks, but the city has received calls in the past from people interested in buying the property, Whitlatch said.

The council unanimously agreed staff could continue pursuing the work.

In other business, the council:

- Approved a 284-lot subdivision proposal off Stoltz Hill Road after the Planning Commission determined to find the application acceptable. Councilors said the subdivision fits with the city's housing production strategy and they are happy to see development of houses rather than apartments.

- Awarded Udel Engineering a \$418,160 engineering services contract to complete roadway and utility design for street and traffic improvements being made at the aforementioned subdivision development, which includes extension of 12th Street,

Airway Road and Walker Road, as well as a traffic signal at Airway Road and 12th Street. The project includes dead-ending Stoltz Hill Road as Wassom Street, making the extended 12th Street the tie-in to southbound Stoltz Hill Road. Funding for this project will be primarily allocated from the Transportation SDC Fund, and a minor portion of the costs will be funded by the Water and Wastewater Utility Funds to accommodate necessary utility extensions associated with the project.

- Approved additional work for the city's street and utility project currently underway on Grant Street in downtown Lebanon, as the contractor's bid allowed extra funding to add in curb, gutter, sidewalk and driveway replacements to the project.

- Approved changes to service fees and charges, mainly for public records.

Council Work Session

During a work session prior to the City Council's regular meeting, the council heard an update on the city's strategic plan – which includes City Council priorities, strategic goals, key projects and more – and legislative priorities.

Concerning the 2025-2029 Strategic Plan, Whitlatch provided the following updates:

- Wastewater treatment plant upgrade – design is underway, city applied for loan funding

- Reopening the municipal jail – the city is prepared to place an operations levy on the November ballot

- Service fee on tax-exempt education organizations – staff is considering ideas

- Champion Mill redevelopment – multiple studies underway

- Funding for library expansion – applying for a grant

- Revitalize downtown – staff is considering ideas, including code changes

- Develop a succession plan – formalizing a plan and process

- Advocacy for state funding and policy reform – monitoring proposed legislation

- Solar projects for the city – on hold due to funding

- Linx expansion – on hold due to funding

- Infrastructure master plan – will be online with new OpenGov system in a year or so

- Facility use and fees – needs staff discussion

- Financial communication – now online for financial transparency

- Parks, recreation, library and senior center partnerships/district formation – not currently feasible

- Hwy. 20 commercial corridor revitalization – not yet started

- Increase business visitations – will reevaluate strategies for improvements

- Employee training and development – regular training and development now available

- Business continuity planning – not yet started

Whitlatch also reported the many city projects that are currently placing a high demand on city staff. They are: reopening the municipal jail, upgrades at the wastewater treatment plant, expanding the children's library room, the Champion Mill brown-field revitalization project, water line replacements and infrastructure improvements, software and asset management operations upgrades, preparation for the 2027 legislative session, upgrades at the senior center, and updates to SDC schedules.

Sean Tate, of Tate Public Affairs, highlighted five priorities he believes the City of Lebanon should ask the Oregon Cascades West Council of Governments (OCWCOG) to pursue during the next legislative session. Member municipalities of the OCWCOG vote on which items they want the organization to advocate for in state government proceedings.

Of the 27 choices up for vote, Tate recommended Lebanon ask OCWCOG to support infrastructure funding, the 2027 transportation package, the Administrative Procedures Act Reform, full funding and streamlining for housing production, and land availability and land use streamlining.

"Those five I think best represent our best chance to influence things, in a round-about way," Tate said.

Councilors will review the list before finalizing their vote.

We support The New Era!

**Electrical
SSystems
Services**
Dan and
Cindy Rice

Commissioners hear county planning statistics from July

By Alex Paul
Linn County Communications

The Linn County Planning and Building Department issued 335 total permits in July director Steve Wills told the Board of Commissioners at their August 11 meeting.

There were 356 permits issued in July 2025.

There were 119 total land use permits issued, compared to 91 in July 2025.

Wills noted there were 32 permits for new homes, including two single family units, six manufactured dwellings, 20 additions/alterations and four accessory buildings. In July 2025, Planning & Building issued permits for seven single family units, eight manufactured homes, 16 additions or alterations and three accessory buildings.

There were 40 total contract city building permits issued in July 2026 compared to 41 in July 2025.

There were 12 new code enforcement cases opened and 15 closed. A year ago, there were eight new cases opened and 14 closed.

Wills told the commissioners that if applications include complete information, permits are usually issued within two weeks.

In other business the commissioners:

- Approved an Intergovernmental Agreement with

the City of Albany regarding the Simpson Property in Millersburg. Sheriff Michelle Duncan said that for about 30 years, the city has had an easement on the property, which is owned by Simpson Timber. It has been used as a city park. The Albany Police Department has provided law enforcement at the site, although it is within the Linn County Sheriff's Office's jurisdiction. LCSO will now take over law enforcement responsibilities at the property, although clean up and maintenance will remain the city's responsibility.

- Approved an amendment to an agreement with BRX for work on the new ADA access on the north side of the courthouse. The change is for \$3,817 and brings the total contract to \$50,328.

- Approved a transfer within the Law Enforcement Levy for the District Attorney's Office, moving \$157,381 from capital to contingency, as part of moving beginning fund balances.

- As previously announced, Commissioners Roger Nyquist and Will Tucker attended a public information session concerning the potential merger of Samaritan Health Services based in Corvallis and MultiCare Health Services based in Tacoma, Washington on Wednesday, Aug. 5, in Corvallis.



A Lebanon firefighter sprays water on an area burned by a fast-moving grass fire off Highway 34. - LFD photo

Lebanon Fire Department medics spot, get help with fast-moving Highway 34 blaze

Lebanon Fire District staff spotted and called in reinforcements to extinguish a fast-moving fire along Highway 34 on Monday evening, Aug. 10, the district reported.

At approximately 4:15 p.m., an LFD medic unit was returning to Lebanon from Albany General Hospital when the crew noticed a small fire burning along Highway 34 near Steckley Road.

They requested an engine from Lebanon Fire District, then attempted to stop the fire with the ambulance's fire extinguisher, but the fire had already grown too large.

At that point, the fire was approximately 30 feet by 30 feet and spreading rapidly.

An LFD battalion chief upgraded the incident to a first alarm, bringing additional engines, brush trucks, and firefighters to the scene.

By the time Engine 31 arrived, the fire had grown to approximately 75 feet by 30 feet and was rapidly moving toward a nearby house. Through the quick actions of the firefighters on Medic 31 and Engine 31, they were able to stop the fire in its tracks within just a few minutes and prevent it from

reaching the residence.

Additional crews assisted with mop up at the fire and ensured it was completely extinguished.

LFD reminds drivers to check trailer chains before hitting the road. Dragging safety chains can strike the pavement and create sparks capable of starting a wildfire. Take a few seconds to make sure your chains are properly secured and not dragging on the roadway. A small spark can become a fast-moving wildfire in a matter of minutes.

LEBANON FIRE

From page 1

Tacy adding that it would be a more palatable number for the public as opposed to an earlier estimation of 75 cents per \$1,000 ask, which was denied by voters two years ago.

The 2024 levy request promised to fund six additional firefighters to improve response times. This proposed levy request would provide four additional firefighters, which is the minimum number of staff "that would be impactful," Tacy said.

"We're asking for something different," he said. "What we're asking for is to sustain the needs of the community for our EMS services. Before, we were looking at up-staffing items, we were looking at purchasing some items, and that's not what we're asking for (today). We're asking for an amount that we need to operate and add a function - a medic unit - that we lost out of our system due to budgetary restraints."

Looking at projected budgets, Tacy believes the district will be "alright" for the next two years, but revenue will not be able to carry the district after that.

He also noted those who are knee-deep in the fire

service tend to "get bogged down in the weeds" because they expect the public to understand a lot of the information fire servicemen are accustomed to already understanding themselves. That's why a strategist is recommended to assist the district in effectively communicating the message of the district's needs and urgencies.

During board business, Division Chief Mark Fitzwater presented data and information concerning call volume, types of calls and staffing structure for calls.

Union representative Jason Carroll appreciated Fitzwater's report - which highlighted the dual roles firefighters play and the nearly-predictable increase in calls on an hourly basis - and added that EMS and fire calls affect the stress, health and family life of the responders.

"That can lead to some burn out, it can lead to recruitment and retention issues," Carroll said. "By adding some more people into our fold here and taking some of that call volume off those peoples' shoulders, that can really have a positive impact on their family lives and their health."

In other business:

- Tacy reported state legislatures are supporting a call for continued funding of the



LFD Division Chief Mark Fitzwater shares staffing numbers for the dual roles the district firefighters play every day. - Photo by Sarah Brown

Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) Ground Emergency Medical Transportation (GEMT) program, which covers the uncompensated gap between a provider's actual allowable costs for Medicaid emergency transports and standard base/mileage reimbursements.

The payments are expected to end in 2029. According to Tacy, LFD receives between \$250,000 to \$850,000 in CMS reimbursements.

- Division Chief Russell Duerr reported some resident volunteers are moving into temporary and full-time, paid positions, so a couple of

RV positions are open. The resident volunteer program was cut in half during the last budget year. LFD is also meeting with Lebanon's incoming WesternU HCOM medical students, from which Duerr usually recruits about five "support academy" volunteers a year.

SCENES FROM SWEET HOME RODEO



Cooper Ives rides to a win in the bullriding event Saturday night. See many more photos at sweethomenews.com.
- Kristine Banker/Jewelz Photography

RODEO From page 1

dors and listen to music by local performer Melody Jordan. Reynolds said organizers were able to provide more tents and more seating this year, which was evident from the crowd around the arena. The rodeo performance itself was put on by the Hell on Hooves

Roughstock Rodeo company, including some local performers from the Lebanon and Sweet Home areas. Afterwards, many attendees stayed for an After Party featuring musician Trevor Tagle. "I think it went so much better than last year," Reynolds said, noting there were less hiccups this time around.

"Last year, the first year, we didn't know what to expect." She said all the participants "were great to work with." So what's next? Reynolds said that as long as the rodeo grounds remain available, the show will go on, with even more community involvement. "As long as we have the property, we're going to do it."



Colton Savri of Sweet Home gets dislodged in the saddle bronc competition.
- Kristine Banker/Jewelz Photography



Trevor Tagle performs during the After Party.
- Photo by Scott Swanson



Clowns attempt to corral a bull after he shed his rider.
- Kristine Banker/Jewelz Photography



Whoops! A mutton bustin' competitor's ride leaves early from the chute.
- Kristine Banker/Jewelz Photography



A capacity crowd watches the Canyon Riders drill team perform during the event.
- Photo by Scott Swanson



Sweet Home's James Cota, 6, hangs on until the bitter end in mutton bustin'.
- Photo by Scott Swanson

Football camp readies Huskies for season

Sweet Home's football players got down to business last week with their annual summer camp, which this year only included the high-schoolers. The Huskies are coming off their best year since 2019, qualifying for the state playoffs and finishing 7-3. At right, Coach Chad Bach instructs linemen prior to a drill, while, lower right, Coach Nate Tyler gives some instruction to senior wideout/defensive back Braydyn McClure. Below left, Kaeson Walker makes a cut during a drill while, below center, Riley Vaughan hauls in a pass. Sweet Home football will continue to compete at the 4A level, with a home opener against Tillamook Friday, Sept. 4, after a warmup Jamboree on Aug. 29 at Sisters.

- Ryker Burr photos



65 years in SH for A&W

Owners Josh and Patty Hankins hosted a celebration of their A&W eatery's 65th year in Sweet Home Saturday, Aug. 15, with hot dogs for the vintage price of 65 cents, games, prizes and lots of memorabilia from the restaurant's history. At left, DeAnna DeBrie, left, and Becky Wilcox pose at one of the giveaway tables during Saturday's celebration, where they helped announce raffle winners and distribute information about prizes throughout the event. Below, Rooty the Bear and Patty Hankins do some announcing during the event. Below left, the Blue Wave Band performing during Saturday's A&W 65th birthday celebration, providing live entertainment for attendees gathered at the Sweet Home restaurant throughout the anniversary festivities. The restaurant was built in 1961 by Pat and Frankie Sullivan. They sold it to Del and Donna Moen in 1964, who added a dining room in the early 1970s. The Moens sold it to Verlin and Evonne Weaver in 1979. The Weavers owned the A&W for 20 years before selling it to the Hankinses, who both worked there, Patty for 10 years since she was in high school. See more photos from the event at sweethomenews.com.

- Photos by Brandon Cominsky



New SHHS athletic director brings wealth of coaching, Leadership

By Scott Swanson
Of The New Era

Tomas Rosa has said many times, publicly, that he's grateful that he grew up in Sweet Home.

A standout athlete at Sweet Home High School, he grew up with an absent father and says he's the product of, well, Husky sports and the people involved in them.

Rosa arrived in Sweet Home as a youngster with his family from California and got plugged into Boys & Girls Club activities by his mother, Brenda, he said.

"I think one of the best decisions my mom ever made was getting me involved in sports at a young age," he said last week, discussing his appointment as Sweet Home's new athletic director.

Rosa takes over for Dan Tow, who took over in 2021, coming out of the COVID shutdown. Tow officially retired at the end of the school year.

Now Rosa is getting a chance to provide the mentoring and leadership that, he says, helped him become a teacher and coach at his alma mater, where he wrestled and played football and baseball.

"Some of the best influences of my life were youth coaches," he said. "They kept me out of trouble, kept me



Tomas Rosa speaks to girls soccer players Monday afternoon, Aug. 17, during the first day of two-a-day practices. — Photo by Scott Swanson

busy, kept me, you know, focused on the things that I need to be focusing on, which was just getting better, being a good young man and helping and being a part of something that's just bigger than myself."

His new job, Rosa says, wasn't really something he had aimed for.

"I didn't really set out to become an athletic director

— I mean, the idea is always kind of intriguing, but this isn't like, this isn't my vision, like I need to do this," he said.

But he's enthusiastic about the opportunity now that he's here.

"I've been kind of encouraged by a lot of people that this would be a good role for me," Rosa said. So we're giving it a shot and it's super exciting."

He takes over in a big transition for Sweet Home, which has multiple sports dropping down to 3A Division competition from the 4A level, as well as some new coaches and at least one vacancy — baseball — to fill. Plus, some of the rules for 3A sports differ from 4A, such as off-season practices and coaching.

Rosa said he recently met with Booster Club board members and coaches "and kind of talked about plans for the year and how to get information and how to get more involvement in the community and raise funds for the gear and equipment and the grant programs that the Booster Club offers."

This is a community with which he is very familiar.

Rosa grew up in the Boys & Girls Club and other youth sports, was a star wrestler at the high school for Steve Thorpe, and, after graduating in 2004, moved on to wrestle at Southern Oregon University, where he was a two-time NAIA National Championship qualifier and a two-time placer at the NAIA Western Regional Championships for the Raiders.

He was planning to do his student teaching, then coach at SOU, when he and his wife Amber got a call. Sweet Home's cheer coach, Crystal Kimball, was planning to leave and the high school needed someone to take over the very successful program she had established.

"They said, 'Hey, I think you'd be a good person for the job. Why don't you apply?'" Tomas Rosa recalled, adding that he was working on a master's degree at the University of Southern California.

"At the time, I wasn't the breadwinner, so Amber was cutting hair to make money and coaching.

They returned to Sweet

Home in 2010 and Amber took over the cheer program while Tomas finished his degree and coached football for the Huskies. Amber is now an elementary school teacher at Hawthorne School. Their four children — Emma, a high school junior-to-be; Ellie, an incoming freshman; Ezra, heading into sixth grade; and Everett, who's entering first grade, all attend Sweet Home schools.

Tomas Rosa joined the Sweet Home High School faculty in 2012 as a language arts teacher, and more recently has taken over the Leadership program, which he plans to continue heading.

When longtime wrestling assistant Tim Boatwright retired in 2012, Rosa stepped into that role and has continued since, most recently heading the girls wrestling program, which he also plans to continue.

In 2017 Rosa was named the Oregon High School Assistant Coach of the Year by the National Wrestling Coaches Association.

"We have a great staff," Rosa said of the wrestling program. "So we delegate a lot of things back and forth. But yeah, I'll still, I'll still be coaching and doing the AD duties."

He has worked the last 12 summers as a forest officer and engine boss with the Oregon Department of Forestry, a job he says he enjoyed, partly because it gave him a break from the classroom.

"As a teacher, you're stuck inside a lot, you're surrounded by hundreds of people all the time," he said. "And then, as soon as summer hit, you got to get in the fire truck and get up high in the mountains and, you and your engine partner, you get to be isolated a little bit and and see some cool territory. And then, when the emergencies happen, you get to save resources, which is super cool, rewarding."

"I'm kind of sad to see that go, but I'll fill up my schedule in a lot of ways."

At the high school, he will continue to head the school's Leadership program, which provides opportunities for students to learn how to organize school assemblies and other events and be leaders in their community.

Rosa took over that program in _____ and has built it, with help from a variety of other staffers,

resurrecting traditions such as the Milli Vanilli lip-synch competition, which fell by the wayside during COVID, and adding or beefing up other activities such as a Lip Dub video production, free hot chocolate during Holiday Week, game nights, homeroom competitions and service projects,

See Tomas Rosa, Page 13



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Linn County CASA expands, available for community questions

By Sarah Brown
Of The New Era

CASA of Linn County's umbrella of care for children recently grew after taking under its wings cases from the recently shut-down CASA of Benton and Lincoln counties. CASA of Linn County Executive Director Shyla Malloy wants the community to know the children have not been disrupted by the change, but there is a place to go to find answers to questions the community might have.

Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) trains volunteers appointed by judges to advocate for children

in the welfare system. They gather information, build relationships with the children they serve, and provide recommendations to the court to help ensure children's needs remain at the center of important decisions.

Until recently, Oregon CASA Network (OCN) oversaw 19 CASA organizations in the state, including the Corvallis-based CASA Voices for Children, which had been advocating for children in Benton County and also took on Lincoln County in 2022.

According to the Corvallis Advocate, the budget for Voices for Children was in the red in November 2025

after federal funding was suspended and state support shrank. But OCN issued a warning to the nonprofit because it hadn't filed its audits for several years, and later terminated the program this past July.

Malloy said CASA of Linn County was asked to take on Benton County cases so the children would have continued advocacy, while CASA of Yamhill County was asked to take on the cases in Lincoln County.

"This was not a decision our Board of Directors took lightly," Malloy said. "We understood that saying yes would require additional vol-

unteers, increased staff capacity, new financial resources and careful planning. We also knew that children could not wait."

But Malloy said she noticed something fairly soon in: Voices for Children didn't inform the community what was happening, and many people started having questions.

For anyone with questions or concerns about the expansion into Benton County, or for Benton County CASA volunteers who have questions, contact Shyla Malloy (CASA of Linn County) at 541-926-2651, or email shyla.malloy@linncasa.org.

For questions, concerns or further information about what happened with Voices for Children, contact Stephanie Brown, State Director of Oregon CASA Network, at sbrown@oregoncasanetwork.org.

"Our priority is, and always will be, the children we serve," Malloy said. "Every child deserves a voice and a dedicated advocate. We are committed to working alongside our community partners to ensure children in Benton County continue to receive the support, advocacy and stability they need while navigating the foster care system."

THOMAS ROSA From page 12

and a continual stream of new games and themes for interclass competitions.

Rosa also launched a lecture series that brings local business and political leaders to campus to talk to students "about what leadership looks like in the real world," he said.

The Leadership program has also increased awareness of school activities among students through social media broadcast reports of assemblies and other events.

Rosa does most of the emceeing at events, something that he said he didn't realize he had a facility for.

"It's crazy, because you couldn't have caught me dead in front of a group of people in high school," he said. "I would have never thought in a million years, I'd be, you know, taking a microphone and talking to more than a couple hundred people or so."

"I figured I'd just be a teacher or coach forever."

Others are getting involved as well, he said.

"I'm getting more staff than I've ever had, which is awesome in the leadership realm of things."

He says he's encouraged by the level of interest he sees from fellow teachers in "community service and assemblies and, you know, spirit and school culture stuff. So that's been really, really cool for me to see that kind of take off."

"It's been really rewarding. I feel like we've done a lot of really good things and people tend to like what we do."

Thorpe said the recruitment of Rosa some 15 years ago wasn't an accident.

"Tomas coming back to Sweet Home had been a plan of mine for a long time," he said, adding that it was his wife Heather who tipped Amber Rosa off about the cheer position.

"You want to fill your community and school with good people," Steve Thorpe said. "The entire time, I kept looking at him, thinking I was

planning for him to be the next head wrestling coach.

"But it was God's plan for him to be overseer of all the coaches. I think it was an incredibly smart move by the school to hire him for that position and I think he'll do a good job."

Tow, also expects his successor to be successful in his new role.

"He went to school here, he's been here for years," Tow said. "Some of the experiences he's already had will serve him well - running assemblies, those kinds of things are helpful in knowing all the little details of running a game and dealing with the things that come up - the clock breaks down, the other team needs something, dealing with the officials."

With his move into the AD role, Rosa said he's aware that the timing, in the midst of the transition to the 3A Division for all sports except football, wrestling, swimming, cheer, dance/drill and girls golf, means there will be adjustments across the board.

"There's a lot of change, but the sports don't change, the coaches don't change," he said. "The volleyball nets are the same height in 3A as they are in 4A. We've still got to compete, so we don't need to worry about things we can't control and just make sure we put the best product out there."

"Effort," he said, is what he's most concerned about - kids being taught correct skills and how to leave it all on the field, qualities that, he noted, "will translate very well into the real world."

Sweet Home's coaching staff is very collaborative, he added, noting that veteran swimming coach Doug Peargin, still an assistant with the program after 52 years, has helped coaches in other sports learn how to train athletes.

"Doug Peargin's got to be one of the best in the nation. And so, if we can get these coaches learning from each other, even though wrestling is very different from swimming, you can still learn how



Tomas Rosa, with mic, emcees Sweet Home High School's May Week Track Meet this past spring. - File photo

to manage different body types, personalities or whatever it may be - how to manage a roster, how to deal with parents, things like that."

"The outcomes will take care of themselves if we're focusing on the fight things."

Thorpe pointed out that Rosa brings coaching experience at every level in youth sports, in multiple sports, to his new job. Also, he has predecessors such as "Dan Tow and Nate Tyler, just down the road, and (longtime AD) Larry Johnson just a phone call away."

"I would hope people allow him to grow in the position, rather than the cowardly keyboard warriors who spew their garbage all over the place," he said. "He's going to make mistakes, but any decision he makes will be best for kids and the community."

"He's going to learn a lot this year, but he's gonna do a good job."

NOTICE OF ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION

Pursuant to Oregon Revised Statutes 305.583 (9) and (10), notice is hereby given that on August 10, 2026, the Sweet Home School District No. 55, Linn County, Oregon (the "District") adopted a resolution (a) classifying the tax levy to be imposed to pay the principal of, premium, if any, and interest on the District's proposed issuance of general obligation bonds in the aggregate principal amount not to exceed \$40,000,000 as not being subject to the limits of section 11 or 11b, Article XI of the Oregon Constitution, and (b) specifying the authorized uses of the proceeds of the general obligation bonds.

Any individual may contact the Business Manger at 1920 Long Street, Sweet Home, OR 97386, telephone 541-367-7122, to obtain a copy of the resolution.

Judicial review of the classification of the taxes or the specification of authorized uses may be sought within 60 days of the date of the resolution.

SWEET HOME SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 55
LINN COUNTY, OREGON

Sarah's Place celebrates 10 years of serving survivors

Sarah's Place observed its 10-year anniversary this month, 10 years of providing care for sexual assault survivors across Benton, Lincoln, Linn and surrounding counties.

After a sexual assault or other violent crime, the hours that follow can be overwhelming. Survivors are often coping with physical injuries, emotional trauma and difficult decisions about what comes next.

Having access to trauma-informed, specialized care during that time can make a lasting difference, helping survivors receive medical attention in an environment that prioritizes their dignity, choice and healing.

Located at Samaritan Albany General Hospital, Sarah's Place offers a private, supportive environment where specially trained Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners, commonly known as SANE, provide medical treatment and forensic examinations for people who have experienced sexual assault, domestic violence and non-fatal strangulation.

Since opening in August 2016, Sarah's Place has cared

for more than 2,346 patients, offering specialized services designed to support healing while empowering patients to make informed decisions about their care.

Unlike a traditional emergency department visit, care at Sarah's Place is provided by nurses who have advanced training in caring for survivors of violence. SANE understands both the medical and emotional effects of trauma and are trained to conduct forensic examinations, document injuries and collect evidence when a patient chooses.

"Our role is about so much more than collecting evidence," said Shelli Dalton, SANE RN at Samaritan Albany General Hospital. "We want patients to feel safe and know they have choices. We explain what we're doing, ask for consent and give them the opportunity to decide what they're comfortable with throughout the exam."

Before Sarah's Place opened, survivors often received care in busy emergency departments. Today, they have access to a dedicated private space designed specifically for their needs where emotional



Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners (SANE) at Sarah's Place provide specialized, trauma-informed care to survivors of sexual assault, domestic violence and non-fatal strangulation. Sarah's Place is celebrating 10 years of serving the community.

safety, privacy and survivor autonomy are central to the care they receive.

That specialized approach can also reduce the number of times survivors need to share their story. Working alongside advocates, law enforcement and other community partners, the Sarah's Place team helps coordinate care so patients can focus on their immediate needs instead of nav-

igating multiple systems on their own.

The impact of Sarah's Place extends far beyond the individual receiving care.

Patients and their loved ones receive guidance and reassurance during an incredibly difficult time, while health-care providers, advocates, law enforcement and prosecutors have a trusted partner with specialized expertise.

"When we can give someone a safe place to receive care and let them remain in control of what happens next, that can be really meaningful," Dalton said. "A community is measured by how it cares for people in their most vulnerable moments. For the past 10 years, Sarah's Place has shown what compassionate, expert care can look like, and that benefits all of us."

Sarah's Place was created through a partnership between Samaritan Health Services, community partners and generous Albany General Hospital Foundation donors who recognized the need for a dedicated response to sexual assault and other forms of interpersonal violence.

As Sarah's Place celebrates 10 years of service, that commitment continues to help make sure survivors across the region have access to specialized care close to home.

For more information, visit samhealth.org/SarahsPlace.

To donate to Sarah's Place, visit the Albany General Hospital Foundation at samhealth.org/AGHF.

PUBLIC SAFETY

From page 6

in Sweet Home area. Loss estimated at \$125. Report taken for theft II.

7:34 p.m. - Caller reported black/white Harley-style motorcycle heading eastbound through Narrows at estimated speed of 100 mph. Officer checked area, but was unable to locate.

10:55 p.m. - Caller from 4400 block Main reported finding fake money. Officer seized items.

11:24 p.m. - Caller from Dam Bar, 6099 Main, reported disturbance at location. Participants departed before

SHPD arrived.

LEBANON POLICE

9:15 a.m. - Fire hydrant knocked out of place, 800 block Village Loop. Stephanie Renee Queener, 35, cited for failure to perform duties of driver.

9:37 a.m. - Callers reported driver going off-road and driving onto curb, S Santiam Hwy./Weldwood Dr. Wayne Gilbert Martinez Jr., 69, taken into custody for DUII (.14% BAC), reckless driving and DWS. Car towed.

10:03 a.m. - Theft of lighters from Dollar Tree.

2:37 p.m. - Report taken for assault III when victim reported his ex and her boyfriend drove past him, got out of the car,

called him derogatory names, and threw "haymakers" all over him.

2:41 p.m. - Matthew Cook, 32, taken into custody on AMC warrant for FTA - resisting arrest.

4:17 p.m. - Father attempted to discipline son for being disrespectful, but other family members tried protecting him, which caused them to get shoved around.

5:12 p.m. - Juveniles drinking at Century Park.

7:12 p.m. - Caller reported house camera showing someone was in his house. Officer located suspect who said he went to meet a friend but was at the wrong house.

Paul Eugene Wall, 68, cited for criminal trespassing I. Report taken.

7:54 p.m. - Dakotah Lane Hodson, 28, cited on LMC warrant for FTA and LCSCA warrant for parole violation.

8:13 p.m. - Complaint of juveniles riding electric scooters or bikes, Cleveland/Dodge Sts.

9:23 p.m. - Caller reported when a deal to trade X Boxes and cash fell through, the other party pulled out an air soft gun (but did not shoot).

10:33 p.m. - Mark Martin Fox, 58, cited on Benton County Circuit Court warrant for FTA - theft II.

LCSO/OSP SWEET HOME

S. COUNTY

8:09 a.m. - Caller reported \$50 of grass seed stolen from 25300 block Powerline. Report taken.

12:56 p.m. - Marine deputies and Water Rescue Team members responded to overturned kayaker in Middle Santiam Arm of Foster Lake, 45600 block Quartzville. Kayak overturned when water levels suddenly rose, turning still water into white water. Deputies were able to rescue kayaker, who was transported to shore and treated by medics.

5:55 p.m. - Male warned for setting up camp on CTC land near Middle Santiam 700 gate,

See Public Safety, Page 15

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Debunking wildfire myths: What Oregon residents should know

By Brandon Cominsky
Of The New Era

With the wildfire season underway in Oregon, some common beliefs about fire danger can leave people unprepared when things change quickly.

In a recent talk about wildfire preparedness, Mad-die Tutton, the Community Wildfire Defense Grant Coordinator for Sweet Home, discussed several wildfire safety myths. She covered whether fires can threaten neighborhoods, if people are safe when they can't see flames, and if rain really gets rid of fire danger.

One of Tutton's first points was debunking the myth that big wildfires only happen in remote forests, not near homes. She explained that fires have repeatedly shown that buildings can be at risk quickly, even if the fire isn't very large. "Vegetation fires can just take off, and with the right conditions, it can threaten homes so quickly that firefighters will need additional resources," Tutton said.

Tutton mentioned several recent fires in Oregon

that caused major damage to buildings. She said people in Oregon, especially in Linn County, should be aware of the wildfire risk in their area.

"I think that we live in a very heavy-timber, high-fire prone area," Tutton said. "But there's a lot we can do to be prepared for fire."

Tutton also talked about the myth that people are safe if they can't see flames. She explained that embers can travel far from the main fire and still pose a danger, even if the fire looks far away.

"Embers can travel well over a mile away from a fire," she said. "So even if you can't see flames, an ember can catch your house on fire from over a mile away."

Weather can also change wildfire conditions quickly. Tutton remembered a July lightning storm that started over 80 new fires in one day. She also explained how wind can make fires grow and move faster.

"Just because you can't see the flame fronts doesn't always mean you're safe," she said.

This leads to another myth: that people don't need to get ready or leave until they see

the fire themselves. Tutton said it's important to prepare before an emergency, not while trying to decide what to take at the last minute.

"When your house actually catches on fire, you have less than 2 minutes to get out," she explained.

Tutton said having a plan means knowing what to take, how your children or dependents will get out, and what to do with pets. She also suggested always having a plan for when you're not at home.

"It's important to have a few different plans in place, especially if you have dependents or pets," she said.

Tutton stressed that wildfire preparedness is important for renters too, not just homeowners. She advised renters to consider renters insurance, since personal items might not be covered if an apartment burns down. She also suggested having an evacuation plan, important documents, and medications ready.

"Although you might not be as concerned about the structure's safety, you should still be very concerned about your own safety," Tutton said.

The biggest myth Tutton

addressed was that a wildfire is completely out once it's called "contained". She explained that containment means firefighters have set up a control line, but the fire may still be burning inside that area.

"If a fire is contained, it can burn for days or even weeks inside the area of the fire," she said. Tutton added that fires can keep burning logs and other fuels within the control lines. Weather changes can also let the fire cross those lines.

After a fire is out, Tutton said people should still be careful around burned areas because dangers can remain.

"Tree hazards, snags, burnt-out roots that you can't see, things like that," Tutton said. "Even a tree that looks healthy in a burn scar can fall over with just a little bit of wind."

Rain can also be confusing during wildfire season. Tutton said a few rainy days don't always get rid of fire danger. Different plants and wood take in and lose moisture at different speeds, and bigger pieces of wood can keep heat and burn for a long time.

"1,000 hour fuels and above is what really can make or break a fire season in Oregon," she said.

Long periods of wet weather can change how fires behave, but Tutton said a few days of rain might not affect bigger fuels much. Sometimes, spring rain can even make things worse by helping fast-burning plants grow without soaking larger fuels.

For wildfire information, Tutton said people should check government websites like the Oregon Department of Forestry and the Oregon State Fire Marshal. She also recommends signing up for emergency alerts through ORAlert.gov. Tutton said she uses Watch Duty, a nonprofit wildfire app. "Highly, highly recommend Watch Duty," Tutton said.

Even with all these risks, Tutton said getting ready for wildfires doesn't have to be overwhelming or scary.

"There are a lot of little things you can do to be in control and be ready for these events," she said. "Oftentimes it doesn't take much time, energy, or money to put yourself in a much better situation when disaster hits."

PUBLIC SAFETY From page 14

47500 block Quartzville.
6:21 p.m. - Deputy assisted Sweet Home Fire in getting male up bank after fall at river in area of Crane Access/Boat Ramp.
6:31 p.m. - Jesse McFarland, 38, of Lebanon, arrested on LMC warrant after deputy investigated illegal camp in 51200 block Quartzville. He and other campers were given directions to legal campsites. Report taken.
6:57 p.m. - Campers warned for setting up camp in site not designated for camping, 51200 block Quartzville.
7:06 p.m. - Deputy warned group setting up camp on BLM property in 51300 block Quartzville.
7:18 p.m. - Deputy warned couple setting up camp on Campbell Global land in 51300 block Quartzville.
8:00 p.m. - Deputy located abandoned camp in 51300 block Quartzville that was left total mess: remnants of broken tent, human waste, food and "lots of other junk and trash." Report taken for littering.
8:07 p.m. - Male warned for setting up illegal camp in non-designated site on BLM land, 51300 Quartzville.
8:08 p.m. - Abisahid Venegas, 35, of Albany, cited for speeding, 28500 block Hwy. 20.
8:16 p.m. - Dominica Carey, 20, of Albany, cited for violation of fire restrictions, 51200 block Quartzville.

LCSO/OSP LEBANON

9:29 a.m. - Deputy helped park rangers issue exclusion notice to owner of vehicle left in Waterloo County Park, 31000 block 1st, Waterloo.

10:10 a.m. - Katy Adeline McIntire, 46, of Lebanon, arrested for disorderly conduct II, 4100 block Spicer. Lodged at LCJ. Report taken.
1:20 p.m. - Leslie Beresford cited for dog as public nuisance, 34600 block Richardson Gap. Report taken.
2:59 p.m. - Deputies responded to report of fight in 100 block Central. Investigation determined that both parties had agreed to fight and neither wished to pursue charges. Report taken for documentation.

AUGUST 13

SWEET HOME POLICE

8:26 a.m. - Elisabeth Ann Freitas cited for no operator's

license, failure to carry proof of insurance, 1500 block Main.
8:37 a.m. - Caller from 1300 block Poplar reported hearing gunshot. Officer determined the noise was probably a bird that flew into a power line.
9:02 a.m. - Bradley Allen Bowman arrested after turning himself in at SHPD, 1950 Main, on SHMC warrants for FTA in theft and criminal mischief cases. Cited and released.
9:15 a.m. - Caller reported camp set up, items left in 3200 block Main. Officer responded, property seized.
12:28 p.m. - Dominic Antoine Wooten cited for DU, 1000 block Main.
2:25 p.m. - Caller reported

someone took over her AT&T account fraudulently. Report taken for identity theft.
6:23 p.m. - Sara Kay King, 34, arrested after she turned herself in at SHPD, 1950 Main, on AMC warrants for FTA in probation violation, failure to appear cases. Cited and released.
10:55 p.m. - Caller from Safeway, 1540 Main, reported adult yelling threats at children at that location. Officer responded, contacted female who was yelling at daughter for not listening, denied making threats. Daughter stated she was fine.

LEBANON POLICE

Lebanon police had not

submitted a log for this date in time for publication. When available, log will be updated at lebanonlocalnews.com.

LCSO/OSP SWEET HOME S. COUNTY

3:27 p.m. - Deputy located ATV parked along side of highway in 47000 block Hwy. 20. Operator was located a short time later, walking, and warned for operating ATV on public road.
4:02 p.m. - Jonathan Reaves, 38, of South Carolina, cited for violation of maximum size limit and warned for failure to maintain lane after deputy stopped overlength tractor-trailer on Highway 20 near Soda Fork. Deputy helped

See Public Safety, Page 16



CLOSED FOR LABOR DAY WEEKEND

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!

541-367-4775 | LINNSHUTTLE.COM |  FIND US ON FACEBOOK



DIAL-A-BUS

CURB TO CURB IN SWEET HOME
MON-FRI 7 AM - 4 PM
CALL TO SCHEDULE
OFFICE HOURS 8-4



SWEET HOME IN TOWN TRANSIT

MON-SAT 9 AM - 4 PM
SHOP LOCAL- 4 TRIPS A DAY
THROUGH TOWN

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.

- Lebanon Parks, Trees & Trails:** Wed., Aug. 19, 2 p.m. at library, 55 Academy St.
- Lebanon Planning Commission:** Wed., Aug. 19, 6 p.m. at library, 55 Academy
- Sweet Home Planning Commission:** Thur., Aug. 20, 6:30 p.m. at City Hall, 3225 Main St.
- Sodaville City Council:** Thur., Aug. 20, 7 p.m. at City Hall, 30723 Sodaville Road.
- Sweet Home City Council:** Tue., Aug. 25, 6:30 p.m. at City Hall, 3225 Main St.
- Brownsville City Council:** Tue., Aug. 25, 7 p.m., at City Hall, 255 N Main St.
- Sweet Home Community Health Committee:** Wed., Aug. 26, 4 p.m., at City Hall, 3225 Main St.
- Sweet Home Planning Commission:** Thur., Sept. 3, 6:30 p.m., at City Hall, 3225 Main St.
- PIE Charter School Board:** Mon., Sept. 7, 6 p.m., at Sand Ridge Charter, 100 Sand Ridge Ct., Lebanon.
- Lebanon Fire District:** Tues., Sept. 8, 5:30 p.m., at 1050 W. Oak St.
- Sweet Home City Council:** Tues., Sept. 8, 6:30 p.m., at City Hall, 3225 Main St.
- Waterloo City Council:** Tues., Sept. 8, 7 p.m., at City Hall, 31140 1st St.
- Halsey City Council:** Tues., Sept. 8, 7 p.m., at City Hall, 100 Halsey St.
- Lebanon City Council:** Wed., Sept. 9, 6 p.m., at library, 55 Academy St.
- Lebanon School Board:** Thur., Sept. 10, 6 p.m., at library, 55 Academy St.
- Brownsvill Parks:** Thur., Sept. 10, TBD
- Central Linn School Board:** Mon., Sept. 14, 6 p.m., at schoof's conference room, 239 W 2nd St., Halsey.
- Sweet Home School Board:** Mon., Sept. 14, 6:30 p.m., at 1920 Long St.
- Sweet Home Park & Tree Committee:** Tue., Sept. 15, 4 p.m. at City Hall, 3225 Main St.
- Sweet Home Fire Board:** Tue., Sept. 15, 6:30 p.m., at 1099 Long St.
- Brownsville Fire Board:** Tue., Sept. 15, 6:30 p.m., at 600 E Blakely.
- Lebanon Parks, Trees & Trails:** Wed., Sept. 16, 2 p.m. at library, 55 Academy St.
- Lebanon Planning Commission:** Wed., Sept. 16, 6 p.m. at library, 55 Academy
- Sweet Home Planning Commission:** Thur., Sept. 17, 6:30 p.m. at City Hall, 3225 Main St.
- Sodaville City Council:** Thur., Sept. 17, 7 p.m. at City Hall, 30723 Sodaville Road.
- Lebanon Aquatic District:** Mon., Sept. 21, 6 p.m., at Lebanon Pool, 1800 S 5th St.
- Sweet Home City Council:** Tue., Sept. 22, 6:30 p.m. at City Hall, 3225 Main St.
- Brownsville City Council:** Tue., Sept. 22, 7 p.m., at City Hall, 255 N Main St.
- Sweet Home Community Health Committee:** Wed.,
- Brownsville City Council:** Tue., Aug. 25, 7 p.m., at City Hall, 255 N Main St.3, 4 p.m., at City Hall, 3225 Main St.

PUBLIC SAFETY
From page 15

driver get turned around, gave him directions to safer route.

LCSO/OSP LEBANON
3:40 p.m. - Crash reported Townsend/Elk Lane. Drivers exchanged info. Non-reportable.
10:33 p.m. - Shawnette Marie, 70, of Lebanon, cited for DU, failure to renew registration, 39400 block Gross, Waterloo.
10:43 p.m. - Shane Wells, 50, of Lebanon, cited for failure to carry proof of insurance, 4100 block Santiam Hwy.
10:51 p.m. - Kirk Miller, 47, of Lebanon, cited and released on warrant for probation violation, 31100 block 1st, Waterloo. Report taken.

**AUGUST 12
SWEET HOME POLICE**
1:46 p.m. - Crash reported in 2000 block Main. Operators were Sophia Lolita Griffith in a 2009 Toyota Camry and Heaven Lee Buchanan in a 2011 Buick Enclave. Damage estimated at over \$2,500. Report taken.
2:02 p.m. - Brandley Allen Bowman, 30, arrested on LMC warrant for FTA in theft case, 1500 block Main. Cited and released.

4:18 p.m. - Caller reported male on probation for weapons offense threatened to shoot a friend "in the face." Officer advised parties to stay separated and will contact probation officer.
4:52 p.m. - Caller reported her Amazon account was hacked and someone purchased \$1,000 worth of items that were sent to her address in 700 block 29th. Officer took report for theft II.
5:32 p.m. - Caller reported possible drug paraphernalia in portable toilet near where youth football players were practicing at Boys & Girls Club, 890 18th. Officer seized items, disposed of them.

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

LCSO/OSP SWEET HOME S. COUNTY
7:33 a.m. - Caller reported strange bags on side of road in area of Marks Ridge/Berlin. Caller looked inside and thought contents may have been deceased puppy. Deputy checked bags, determined contents were dead squirrels.
3:31 p.m. - Deputy investigated trespassing report on CTC property in Scott Mountain/Crawfordsville Dr. area. Deputy and CTC staff working on identifying suspect. Investigation ongoing. Report taken.
4:09 p.m. - Caller reported picnic table from day use area at Crawfordsville Bridge had been dragged into Calapooia River. Table did not appear to be damaged; Linn County Parks staff were to rescue it on April 14.
5:45 p.m. - Caller reported vehicle doing burnouts on private property in area of Gap/Lake Creek, Brownsville. Activity caused gravel to hit passing car, doing estimated \$1,000 worth of damage.

Involved vehicle fled area. Investigation continuing. Report taken.
9:57 p.m. - Hunter Ringheimer, 32, of Sweet Home, arrested for fentanyl possession, two counts of endangering welfare of a minor, felon in possession of restricted weapon and for SHMC warrant for FTA in two cases, one a theft case, following traffic stop in 2500 block Long. Also cited for DWS, DU and failure to renew registration. Lodged at LCJ. Vehicle towed. Report taken.

LCSO/OSP LEBANON
1:44 a.m. - Amily Wilttrout, 32, of Corvallis, arrested for DUII, 1500 block S. Main St. Report taken.
4:18 a.m. - Shai Hersey, 50, of Lebanon, arrested on warrant, 2200 block Porter. Report taken.
9:06 a.m. - Chelsea Ledford, 26, arrested for assault II, 400 block Cascade. Lodged at LCJ.
10:19 a.m. - Mail theft reported in 30500 block West View. Medications, couch pillows stolen. Total value nearly \$900. Report taken.
5:49 p.m. - Deputies responded to incident in 37200 block Gore. Intoxicated male was causing issues at mother's home. Deputies provided courtesy ride to male.

**AUGUST 11
SWEET HOME POLICE**
2:33 a.m. - Motorcyclist eluded attempted traffic stop in 3000 block Main. At 2:40, caller reported motorcycle crashed and left in roadway in 1300 block Pleasant Valley. Orange 2005 Honda CBR impounded by Aerostar Towing. Connection between incidents "possible," according to SHPD log. Report taken.

9:49 a.m. - Sara Kay King, 34, arrested after turning herself in at SHPD, 1950 Main, on LMC warrant for FTA in DWS case. Cited and released.
10:24 a.m. - Joshua Kealohanui Ben Leslie, 38, arrested for criminal trespass II after caller from Sweet Home Library, 1101 13th, reported that male who had been excluded from location was back.
3:55 p.m. - Caller from 1200 block 49th reported that large German shepherd chased her and her husband in that area two days previous. Officer responded, but was unable to contact possible owners.
10:34 p.m. - Jason Allen Caso arrested on LCCC warrant for FTA in two criminal mischief cases, FTA in assault case and resisting arrest, Surrey Lane. Lodged at LCJ.
8:31 p.m. - LCSO dispatch reported open 911 line with "lots of yelling and baby crying" in 1300 block 22nd. Male reported he was assaulted by two females. Officers responded, contacted all involved. Parties separated and one male was trespassed from location.

LEBANON POLICE
Lebanon police had not submitted a log for this date in time for publication. When available, log will be updated at lebanonlocalnews.com.
LCSO/OSP SWEET HOME S. COUNTY
12:49 p.m. - Caller reported theft of cat from 500 block W. 4th, Halsey. LCSO determined it

was civil matter. Report taken.
2:43 p.m. - Caller reported juveniles jumping off footbridge at Lewis Creek Park, 44450 North River. Deputy stopped by, encouraged safety.
3:22 p.m. - Caller reported vehicle burglary at Gedney Creek Boat Ramp, 43700 block North River. Wallet valued at \$20, containing ID and Social Security card, stolen from vehicle. Report taken.
3:28 p.m. - Two vehicles reported broken into while owners were recreating by Bates Bridge, 40800 block McDowell Creek. Reports taken for vehicle burglary.
4:13 p.m. - Caller requested advice concerning identity theft issues, 39000 block Crawfordsville Dr. Deputy made contact, advised proper steps to prevent further issues.
9:08 p.m. - Justin Rettman, 48, of Sweet Home, cited for DWS, 300 block Holley Rd.
11:35 p.m. - Domestic altercation reported in 400 block N. Main, Brownsville. Rides were found to transport intoxicated individuals to their residences. No report.

LCSO/OSP LEBANON
3:06 p.m. - Dustin Phares, 44, of Lebanon, arrested on Oregon State Parole Board warrant and for trespass II, 32800 block Brewster. Lodged at LCJ. Report taken.
4:48 p.m. - Grant Engelhart, 36, of Lebanon, cited for DWS, failure to use ignition interlock device, 40000 block McDowell Creek.
6:26 p.m. - Anthony Victor, 42, of Sweet Home, arrested for conspiracy to commit theft I, attempted theft I, criminal mischief I, criminal impersonation of a public servant, and trespass II, 33200 block Tennessee. This report will be updated if more information becomes available. Report taken.
10:10 p.m. - Deputy responded to report of juvenile who made suicidal statements, 35900 block Gore. Juvenile was interviewed and left in care of concerned parents. Family was provided resources for moving forward.

**AUGUST 10
SWEET HOME POLICE**
7:30 a.m. - Marvin Edward Samson, 48, cited for DWS, DU and dangerous left turn following crash at intersection of Main/Pleasant Valley. Samson, driving 2013 Nissan Pathfinder, collided with Lorrie Anne Pearson, in a 2008 Chevrolet Avalanche, according to police. No injuries. Both vehicles were drivable. Parties exchanged info. Samson also arrested on LCCC warrants in forgery, ID theft and hit and run cases. Cited and released.
2:24 p.m. - Citizen visited SHPD, 1950 Main, to report that someone had stolen her identity, applied for credit cards and emptied her bank account. Officer noted information, provided resources.
2:39 p.m. - Citizen visited SHPD, 1950 Main, to report theft from her vehicle in 1300 block 45th. Officer responded, information noted.
4:59 p.m. - Caller reported female refusing to return car to juvenile who was making

SWEET HOME

FUNERAL CHAPEL

Life deserves celebration!

Call for personal assistance with the funeral and memorial arrangements of your choice.

541-367-2891

Visit SweetHomeFuneral.com

Public Notices

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE STATE OF OREGON FOR THE COUNTY OF LINN IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF JAMES JOSEPH CARLSON, deceased, Case No. 26PB06610

NOTICE TO INTERESTED PERSONS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned has been appointed personal representative of the above estate. All persons having claims against the estate are required to present the same, with proper vouchers, to said personal representative at the office of Hannah F. Silverman, Jessica K. Meyer Law, 80 E. Maple St., Lebanon, Oregon 97355, within four months of the date of first publication of this notice, or such claims may be barred.

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

Dated August 19, 2026.

Bessie Lorenz, Personal Representative. Hannah F. Silverman, OSB #204965 Jessica K. Meyer Law LLC, 80 E. Maple St., Lebanon OR 97355. (8/19)

NOTICE OF LIEN SALE

CONTENTS OF STORAGE ARE MISC HOUSEHOLD ITEMS Unit C1 Joe Lawrence Auction starts September 3rd, 2026 @12pm noon and ends September 7th, 2026 @10am on www.bid13.com AMES CREEK STORAGE 898 MAIN STREET SWEET HOME, 97386 541-367-4727 www.amescreekstorage.com (8/19 - 8/26)

In the Matter of the Intestate Estate of Larry Boyles

NOTICE TO INTERESTED PERSONS

Linn County Case No. 16PB01476

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 Larry Boyles, 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 Miller Castleton & Flinn 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: August 19, 2026.

Cindy Garske

Personal Representative

c/o Sarah Castleton

Miller Castleton & Flinn

317 First Ave W., Suite 302

Albany, OR 97321

(541) 286-5313

scastleton@mcf-legal.net

(8/19) PUBLIC NOTICE Mill Race Storage will hold a public auction on September 4, 2026, under ORS. 87.685-87.695 and sell

Public Notices

property contained within the assigned unit of the parties listed below: Sierra Raymond Bright unit C015, Zach Parker unit J012, Jason Garrmoe unit C006 and units B1, A9, C007, C012. Units will be available on Lockerfox.com on September 4, 2026. Purchases must be paid in full by cash or money order at the time of pickup at: Mill Race Storage 550 NE Laredo Way Lebanon, OR 97355.

(8/19 - 8/26)

Christmas Bazaar

Call for all Artists, Vendors and Crafters: Sweet Home Evangelical Church Christmas Bazaar! Activity Center 1347 Long St., Sweet Home. November 13-14, 2026. Friday, 13th 10am - 5 pm and Saturday, 14th 9am-4pm. This is a two day event. \$20 a day. 8 x 10 Space. Spaces Available. For more information text or email me: 541-990-7627 lindaveach01@gmail.com. Application Deadline November 1, 2026.

(8/12 - 10/21)

2018 Winnebago

2018 Winnebago Vista 29 VE class A motorhome. Outside kitchen and TV 20 foot slide out 2 TV inside lots of extras. \$64500 or best offer very motivated. 503-999-5724

(8/12 - 8/19)

Lawn Mower Snapper

Lawn Mower Snapper, self propelled, 6 H.P, gas, \$400. Acetylene cart full tanks torch gages hoses \$285. Patio Table: Glass, powder coated 56X36 \$90 541-971-2627

(8/19)

Fundraising Yard Sale

Fundraising Yard Sale-- Something for everyone! Multiple families. Tools, furniture, clothing, household goods, fishing poles, books and antiques and much more Friday, August 21 8am - 6 pm 37734 River Drive, Lebanon. (8/19)

Toyota Highlander 2012

Toyota Highlander 2012 Loaded! 144k miles, nonsmoker, garaged, immaculate condition. \$11,500 call 541-971-2627.

(8/19)

Statewide Notices

SERVICES: DIVORCE \$130. Complete preparation. Includes children, custody, support, property and bills division. No court appearances. Divorced in 1-5 weeks possible. 503-772-5295. www.paralegalalternatives.com legalalt@msn.com.

SERVICES: Consumer Cellular - the same reliable, nationwide coverage as the largest carriers. No long-term contract, no hidden fees and activation is free. All plans feature unlimited talk and text, starting at just \$20/month. For more information, call 1-855-504-6496.

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

Huge Yard Sale

Huge Yard Sale - Friday 21st, Saturday 22nd, Sunday 23rd. Lot of miscellaneous stuff, tools, crafts, household goods, and furniture. 43069 N. River Dr. Sweet Home (8/19)

Help Wanted

DO YOU HAVE AN INTEREST IN SWEET HOME HISTORY?

We are looking for volunteers to help scan back issues of The New Era Newspaper for digital archives. This is an interesting local history project that will preserve decades of community news and provide online reading for future generations.

-Flexible Scheduling, we will work around your availability

-Volunteer as little as 1 hour or several hours a week

-Simple push button scanning, seated or standing

-Training provided, no experience required.

If you enjoy local history and want to help preserve it, we would love to have you join us! Give us a call at 541-367-2135 or reach out by email:office@sweethomenews.com (8/12 - 8/26)

Casa of Linn County

CASA of Linn County is now serving Linn and Benton Counties!

More than 100 local children are currently waiting for a CASA volunteer, someone like you to advocate for them and give them a voice.

Not ready to volunteer? You can still make a difference!

Join us for our Back Yard BBQ Battle & Brew at Deluxe Brewing on Sept 12. Enjoy a great community event while supporting children who need an advocate.

Tickets are \$25, and space is limited!

Learn more about volunteering, donating, or attending our events at: www.linncasa.org

Be the voice. Support the mission. Make a difference for local kids.

Thank you!! (8/19 - 9/23)

Prostate Problems?

Prostate Problems? Guided imagery works. Low cost, free consultations 541-327-3513 (8/12 - 9/30)

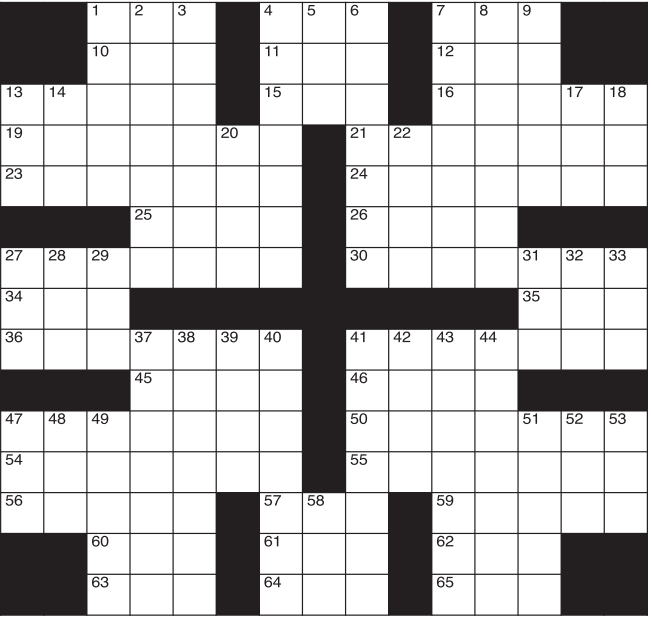
Statewide Notices

SERVICES: Get a break on your taxes! Donate your car, truck, or SUV to assist the blind and visually impaired. Arrange a swift, no-cost vehicle pickup and secure a generous tax credit for 2026. Call Heritage for the Blind Today at 1-844-533-9173 today!

SERVICES: Audien Hearing. The world's first hearing aid with touchscreen controls. No tiny buttons, apps or prescriptions. 45-day risk free trial. Free shipping. Lifetime support. More than 1.5 million happy customers. Call Audien 1-844-387-1163.

SERVICES: Safe Step Stairlifts. Enjoy greater independence and stay in the home you love. Feel safe on every level. \$750 off plus FREE installation. Made in the U.S.A. Call today for a free quote. 1-888-473-1933.

CROSSWORD



CLUES ACROSS

1. Chop or cut

4. Green veggie

7. Bar bill

10. Doctors' group

11. One who buys and sells securities (slang)

12. Be in debt

13. Lively ballroom dance

15. Singer Charles

16. Polish city

19. Former

21. Dismissing from employment

23. Minerals

24. Plotted

25. Consult

26. After a prayer

27. Agents of one's downfall

30. Leaseholders

34. Supervises flying
35. Voodoo god

36. Alfalfa

41. Apply another coat to

45. Witnesses

46. Jai __, sport

47. Ones who proof

50. Recant

54. Small group with shared interests

55. Part of warming headgear

56. Woolen cloth

57. Snag

59. Central American fruit tree

60. Woman (French)

61. The 22nd letter of the Greek alphabet

62. Type of bed

63. Soviet Socialist Republic

64. Consume

65. Japanese freight company (abbr.)

CLUES DOWN

1. Czech monetary unit

2. Able to arouse intense feeling

3. Elk

4. Muscular weaknesses

5. Geological time

6. Depths of the ocean

7. Burns to the ground

8. Becomes cognizant of

9. Cause to shade

13. US political party

14. Refers to some of a thing

17. Single

18. Type of beer

20. Ancient Iranian people

22. Grocery chain

27. Gridiron league

28. English river

29. __ and cheese

31. Peyton's younger brother
32. Long time

33. High schoolers' test

37. Respects

38. Organize anew

39. Filippo __, Saint

40. Intrinsic nature of something

41. Cheese dish

42. Ancient Greek City

43. Patron saint of Ireland

44. Produced by moving aircraft or vehicle

47. Shock treatment

48. __ Jones

49. Things

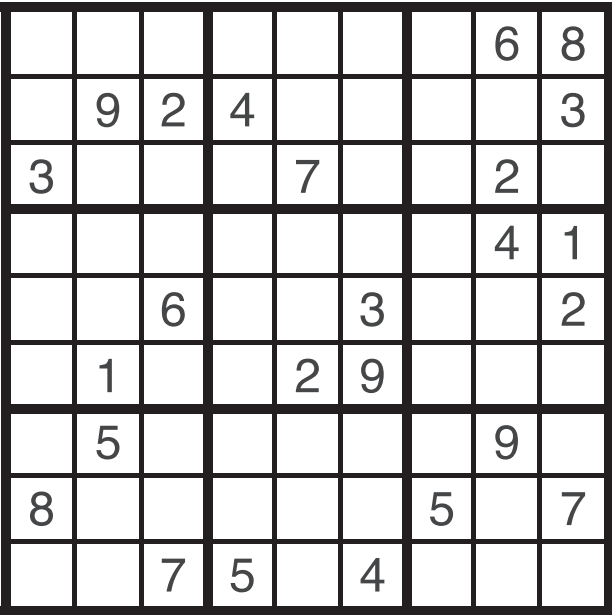
51. Having wings

52. Panthers' QB Newton

53. Third-party access

58. Satisfaction

SUDOKU



Level: Advanced

NEW!
Hand-Breaded CRISPY CHICKEN Sandwich

Crispy

Deluxe

Limited Time!
Nashville Hot

NEW!
CARAMEL CREAM FREEZE & DIRTY ROOT BEER

Caramel Root Beer Cream Freeze

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A&W

Prices and participation may vary. Limited time only. Tax extra. 2017 A&W Restaurants, Inc.

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PUBLIC SAFETY
From page 16

payments on it, 1700 block Grape Ct. Civil matter; officer attempted mediation, which was unsuccessful. Offered Neighbor to Neighbor, options. 5:47 p.m. - Caller reported being scammed out of \$50, 700 block Dogwood. Officer took report for theft III. 7:29 p.m. - Caller reported juvenile riding four-wheeler in street in 4100 block Osage.

Officer contacted parents, advised them of complaint. They will keep juvenile off the road. 7:49 p.m. - Citizen visited SHPD, 1950 Main, to report someone opening several bank accounts in her name. Officer noted information. 10:35 p.m. - SHPD determined vehicle reported stolen in the early hours of Aug. 8 was not stolen. Report taken for initiating false report.

LEBANON POLICE

FREE Medium Fries and Medium Soft Drink
with purchase of a premium sandwich valued at \$3 or more

Valid only at McDonald's in Sweet Home, Lebanon Salem, Keizer, and Stayton locations. Prices may vary. Not Valid with any other offers, discounts or coupons. Cash value 1/20 or 1 cent. Limit one coupon per person per visit. Coupons may not be transferred, auctioned, sold, or duplicated in any way or transmitted via electronic media. Valid when products served. May not be valid for custom orders. Coupons must be presented at time of purchase. Void where prohibited. © 2023 McDonalds

EXPIRES 12/31/2026

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

LCSO/OSP SWEET HOME/S. COUNTY

9:47 a.m. - Deputy responding to report of possible crash in 44700 block Quartzville located possible crash scene, but no vehicles were present. Deputy cleaned up trash left behind.

11:58 a.m. -0 Deputy documented caller's statements regarding ongoing neighborhood dispute over shared driveway and speeding, 35200 block Oakview.

5:23 p.m. - Caller reported driving complaint unspecified in Sheriff's log. Deputy located vehicle parked at owner's residence, counseled elderly female driver and her adult son, 27500 block Fern Ridge.

9:14 p.m. - Deputy patrolling 43400 block Marks Ridge located vehicle, with two subjects inside, blocking MR400 gate. Julianne Phillips, 32, of Madras, cited for probation violation out of LMC. Cited and released. Subjects were warned for blocking gate and requested to leave.

LCSO/OSP LEBANON

3:02 a.m. - James Munyon, 47, of Lebanon, cited for DWS, DU, 1st/Kay.

8:36 a.m. - Caller reported being harassed by ex-boyfriend. Deputy told the ex to cease and advised caller on restraining order process. 38700 block Finndrew Lane.

12:24 p.m. - Caller reported autistic juvenile missing from 30600 block Park. Juvenile was located unharmed and returned home.

8:17 p.m. - Kymara Henry, 31, of Lebanon, cited for DWS, DU and failing to register vehicle, Grant/Walnut.

10:54 p.m. - Edward Brady, 18, of Lebanon, cited for speeding, 58/40, Santiam Hwy./Gore.

See more and updated public safety reports online at sweethomenews.com and lebanonlocalnews.com.

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Warriors kick off football season with end-of-summer camp

Lebanon High School's football team got things rolling last week with their Football Camp. Coming off a league championship in the 2025 season, in which they finished 8-2, 6-0 in Mid-Willamette Valley Conference play and ranked fourth in the 5A Division, Coach Troy Walker's Warriors are looking to reload for another run to the playoffs. At right, Owen Wodtli looks for the ball as Lowin Baldwin defends. (That's Tyler Deckert in the teaser photo on the front page.) See more photos at lebanonlocalnews.com.

Photos by Brandon Cominsky



All Together Now

Lebanon High School graduates from different eras gather for a group photo during the annual LHS Warrior All-Class Reunion held Saturday, Aug. 15, at River Park, hosted by the Lebanon Alumni Association. Approximately 40 people attended the reunion, representing classes from the 1950s, 1960s, 1970s, 1990s and 21st century. The youngest class to attend was the Class of 2011, while the most senior was the Class of 1950.

- Tricia Ingram photo



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Hands on History returns to Brownsville Aug. 22

By Mandy Cole
Linn County
Historical Museum

The fifth “Hands on History” day will be held from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday, Aug. 22, at Library Park, next door to the Linn County Historical Museum at 101 Park Ave., in Brownsville.

The event is planned as a fun day in the park, providing opportunities to experience traditional pioneer and Native American skills, activities and crafts.

It is free, fun and a learning opportunity for the whole family.

Come listen to old-time fiddlers, marvel at the skills of the tinsmith, hear authentic Kalapuyan stories, enjoy wagon rides, or pan for gold.

These are just a few of the traditional hands-on activities inviting children and grown-ups to join in.

Learn how obsidian projectile points are flaked, hear about challenges faced by Black pioneers, or try your hand at spinning wool. Participating in authentic activities by experiencing



them first-hand makes history come alive.

Hands on History includes some of our favorite activities like cornhusk doll making, blacksmithing, washing clothes in an old and galvanized tub on a washboard, which is especially fun on a hot day.

The comment, “Can I try that?” is heard all over the park.

Plan to also visit the mu-

seum right next door to the park, where kids and adults can try on pioneer-style clothes.

Hands on History is sponsored by the Linn County Museum Friends, a non-profit organization dedicated to sharing Linn County’s history with the public.

For more details visit: Linnparks.com or email: lchm@co.linn.or.us.



Hands on History day includes a wide range of opportunities to learn what life was like in past generations, including panning for gold, above, and spinning. – Linn County Museum photos



Firefighters inspect the interior of the shop, which was damaged by fire. See more photos at lebanonlocalnews.com. LFD photo

Lebanon firefighters save burning shop building

Lebanon Fire District firefighters responded to a reported structure fire around the area of River Drive just before 9 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 15.

While crews were responding, the original 911 caller relayed to the dispatch center an updated location in the 38000 block of Lawrence Drive. The arriving battalion chief was directed to a pole barn-type shop that had light smoke showing from the eaves. The BC began his 360 walk around and encountered the property owner trying to extinguish the blaze with a garden hose.

Firefighters arrived and quickly deployed hoses and trained their streams to the interior of the structure, where fire was burning. The fire was under control in moments and firefighters stayed

on scene an additional hour for overhaul and mop-up of the area.

No firefighters were injured but the property owner was evaluated by a fire/medic crew for a minor burn sustained on the hand. Lebanon’s fire investigation deputy fire marshal began investigating the blaze shortly after extinguishment and returned the following day for follow-up.

LFD reminds the community of the high fire danger in the county and across the state. Currently, Linn County has a countywide burn ban, which includes all backyard piles, barrel burning, charcoal fires and recreational fires. These restrictions remain in effect until the Linn County Fire Defense Board and ODF lift restrictions, which may not happen until significant rains.



Learning About Health

Staff and students from WesternU’s medical college in Lebanon talk with attendees during Sweet Home’s Health Fair on Saturday, Aug. 15. The annual event, hosted by the Sweet Home Community Health Committee, brings health-related organizations together in one location in an effort to make Vice Chair Bob Dalton said a lot of people in the community aren’t aware of support services available to them, so the fair is an opportunity to showcase all resources. He added: “It’s about educating and changing the culture with our community about being healthy, having a healthy community.” The event also gives service providers an opportunity to connect for a chance to work together. The fair included booths from the library, city Park and Trails Committee, service clubs, housing services, insurance options, medical providers and the medical college. A backpack giveaway provided by Sweet Home Emergency Ministries (SHEM) and a clothing giveaway provided by Love INC of Linn County. See more photos at sweethomenews.com.

Photo by Sarah Brown