



A beautiful mid-valley sunrise at Oak View Ranch, Crawfordsville

What's happening in Linn County, Oregon

September 2022

Staff, volunteers make museum a special place

By Alex Paul

Communications Officer

BROWNSVILLE — How does a third-generation Portlander end up in Brownsville — population 1,600 — and working at the Linn County Historical Museum?

For Barbara Andersen, it involved her love of fabrics and the fact that Brownsville has textiles shops.

“I was planning to move from Portland and stumbled on Brownsville,” Andersen said. “I found fabric and yarn stores in such a little town and fell in love with the community.”

She moved to town eight years ago and a year later, started working at the Linn County Historical Museum. She is one of three part-time staff members including Mandy Cole and Cassi Johnson.

The museum — which focuses on the 1800s to early 1900s — is unique in that it is under the umbrella of the Parks & Recreation Department, which gives it a bit of a financial and infrastructure cushion, a rare thing for a small museum.

Her liaison with the department is Ranger Blake Nightingale.

Andersen brought a broad range of work skills to her job including real estate sales, being a criminal defense investigator and being a location manager for commercials and films.

“The museum is the only place I could imagine myself working,” Andersen said.

“The people who work here and those who volunteer here are great people.” Andersen praised the numerous volunteers who help at both the museum and the nearby historic Moyer House.

“The museum would not exist without our volunteers,” she said.

She added that the Linn County Museum Friends is vital in many ways, including raising funds for projects. Roger Geeting is the group’s president.

“We’ve had several guests tell us we are



Linn County Historical Museum staff member Barbara Andersen talks about the history of the Kalapuya tribe in the Willamette Valley, one of the museum’s many displays.

as good as the Smithsonian Museum in Washington, D.C.,” she said. Andersen said the museum focuses primarily on the migration west in the mid-1800s and into the early 1900s

although there is a “Stand By Me” display that celebrates the community’s involvement in the 1980s film about life in a small town in the

1950s. Numerous scenes were filmed in and around the community.

MUSEUM ... See P. 2



Courthouse field trip ...

You never know who or what is going to show up on the Linn County Courthouse lawn. Monday afternoon August 22, it was two camels owned by Joe and Angie Scavone, owners of Scavone Outpost farm near Crabtree. They brought their two camels to Albany to help socialize them. The family plans to use the camels for Christmas pageants and other events and they need to get used to being around crowds. Pictured are LCSO Lt. Bruce Davis and County Commissioner Sherrie Sprenger (white sweater).

Linn County Museum

From Page 1

Memorabilia includes an original script, signage, photos and even a story board — drawings that depict how scenes should look and be set up.

Other key displays include a large area set aside to tell the history of the Kalapuyya tribe that is indigenous to the Brownsville and Crawfordville area and a refurbished woolen mill display.

Using the Calapooia River, founders of the community created a woolen mill and promoted “cottage” industries in homes throughout the area, Andersen said.

Mandy Cole has been instrumental in developing an exhibit about the black pioneers who played important roles in settling the mid-valley, Andersen said.

“She has worked extensively with the Oregon Black Pioneers,” Andersen said.

Andersen said she feels lucky that the museum is a part of the Parks & Recreation Department and has the full support of Parks Director Brian Carroll.

The museum was closed for 13 months due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Andersen said, so staff and parks crew used the time to install new carpet throughout the main building.



Linn County Museum’s Barbara Andersen with the renovated mill display.

Community interest never wanes, Andersen said.

“We have people bring in historic items all the time,” Andersen said. “A lady recently brought in some arrowheads she found in the attic of a home she had just purchased.”

In addition to the main building, the museum boasts the boxcar theater which operates in a railroad boxcar.

The museum is at 101 Park Avenue. The main building is the community’s former railroad depot, plus six railroad cars.

It is open from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday and from 1-5 p.m. on Sundays from Memorial Day to Labor Day.

In the Fall and winter, the museum is not open on Sundays.

If Andersen could add one thing to the museum she said it would have to be, “more space.”

Call 541-466-3390 or visit <https://linnparks.com/museums/linn-county-historical-museum/>.

Museum history

In 1962, the Linn County Historical Society and the City of Brownsville worked together to create the Linn County Historical Museum. Under the leadership of Floyd Jenks of Tangent and others, many county residents contributed time, talent, funds and artifacts to create the new museum. Frieda and

Ben Fisher of Brownsville and Elaine and Edward Poland of Shedd led the search of the back rooms, barns and attics of Linn County for relics of its past. In only a few months they and others arranged for the June opening of the original store-front museum on Spaulding Avenue in Brownsville. Over the years, the collection grew and expanded into an adjacent building and in 1984 was moved to the current facility at 101 Park Ave in Brownsville. The new facility in the old relocated Brownsville Railroad Depot and 6 Southern Pacific boxcars was dedicated on June 16, 1984. It captures the essence of early Linn County life with replicas of a general store, a bank, a

barber shop and milliner’s shop among others. Visitors are charmed by the “Grandmother’s Attic” feel of the museum with it’s scenes of domestic life and Main Street ambiance. Our exhibits are rich with the artifacts, clothing and turn-of-the-century tools of the trade.

Between Labor Day and Memorial Day the Moyer House is open for tours every Saturday between 11 a.m. and 4 p.m., during the summer months it is also open on Sundays from 1-5 p.m. Admission for adults is \$5 and children under 12 is \$1. There is no admission charge at the museum.

Weekday tours can be arranged by calling the museum at 541-466-3390.

Linn County Board of Commissioners

Roger Nyquist



Sherrie Sprenger



Will Tucker



Call 541-967-3825



The Linn County Reporter is digitally published monthly by the Linn County Board of Commissioners.

Would you like to receive the newsletter?

Please send your email address to Alex Paul, Linn County Communications Officer, apaul@co.linn.or.us or call 541-967-3825.

Highway 20 closure Sept. 9-22



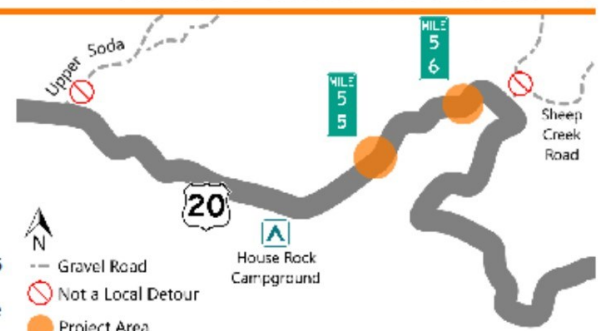
U.S. 20 Landslide Repairs

FULL ROAD CLOSURE SEPTEMBER 9-22

About
We’re working on a construction project to make U.S. 20 safer. We are building a retaining wall, realigning and reconstructing a portion of the road and repairing damage caused by landslides.

Work being done in 2022:

- Fixing the road surface from milepost 55.4 to milepost 55.6 and milepost 56 to milepost 56.2 to create a smoother ride and prevent water from pooling.
- Finish building the retaining wall and changing 1000 feet of road alignment in the slide area between milepost 56 to milepost 56.2.



Traffic & Construction Impacts

Expect daytime single lane closures Monday through Friday from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. through October. Traffic will be controlled by flaggers through the work zone. The travel lane will typically be 15 feet wide.

You can expect:

- Delays from lane closures.
- Construction noise.
- Flaggers between milepost 54 and milepost 57.
- A two week full road closure September 9-22. See the detour routes on the project webpage or the back of this flyer.

The project is expected to be completed by the end of October 2022. Schedules are subject to change and exact dates for closures will be shared when available. It’s wildfire season and that may impact this project – check for road closures at www.fs.usda.gov/willamette/.



Stay connected – sign up to receive project alerts on the project webpage!

For ADA Title II or Civil Rights Title VI accommodations, translation or interpretation services or for additional information call 800-735-2900 or use the statewide Oregon Relay Service: 7-1-1. Si desea obtener información sobre este proyecto traducida al español, sírvase llamar al 800-735-2900. Access for pedestrians and emergency vehicles will be available and identified through or around work zones.

Questions?

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Learn more!

For more information about the project visit the webpage. To do this, visit www.oregon.gov/ODOT/projects and type 20807 into the search field to find the project webpage.

This project is managed by Federal Highway Administration, Western Federal Lands.

Use your camera to scan me to visit the project!





On vacation with the Daudert family



Lily Daudert (IT Network Engineer) and her family had a fun vacation heading to her former stomping grounds in the Windy City of Chicago.

Above: husband Rick, son Gavin and daughter Maia and Lily at the Sky Deck of the Willis Tower (formerly the Sears Tower) in Chicago.

Left: at the Grand Canyon.

Below: Grand Teton National Park.



Marsh is county's new Emergency Management Recovery Coordinator

By Alex Paul
Communications Officer

ALBANY — Emerson Marsh, 31, is the new Linn County Emergency Management Coordinator, based at the Linn County Sheriff's Office.

He will work with Emergency Manager Ric Lentz.

Marsh spent seven years in the Navy, serving as a hospital corpsman at Camp Pendleton, completed two tours of duty in Afghanistan and at a hospital in Spain.

Marsh grew up in Federal Way, Washington, and graduated from Decatur High School in Federal Way in 2009.

"I wasn't sure about a career path and thought I would serve my country and then use the G.I. Bill," Marsh said. "I enjoyed deploying. I liked the pace of it."

He spent his first tour of duty at a field hospital and then helped train Afghans during his second tour. After his military discharge, Marsh earned a Bachelor's Degree in biology and environmental science from Northern Arizona University in Flagstaff and a Master's Degree in environmental policy and management from the University of Denver.

"I think my background and education will be great in this position," Marsh said.

The position is funded by the Linn County Sheriff's Office, Linn County Road Department and by a federal grant. It is a three-year program.



Emerson Marsh

*Emergency Management
Recovery Coordinator*

Marsh said he will focus on emergency communications systems and what was learned during the September 2020 wildfires, emergency planning and the natural hazards mitigation plan.

"I'm completing my FEMA training and trying to make as many connections as possible," Marsh said.

Marsh and his wife, Genevieve, live in Albany.

They enjoy being outdoors and are excited by the many recreational opportunities available in the mid-valley.

"I'm really enjoying my job so far and am excited to see where this opportunity takes me," Marsh said.



About 140 people drove Ferraris, Porsches and Lamborghinis at Portland International Raceway on August 20.



A couple young men get their photo taken with a 650 horsepower Shelby Mustang.



Race day for newsletter editor

It wasn't a vacation, but I had a terrific time driving a \$300,000 Ferrari 488 at Portland International Raceway on August 20. Our kids gave this adventure to me for Father's Day. I was supposed to drive a new Corvette — my favorite car for more than 50 years — but it wasn't online that day and they upgraded me into the Ferrari. Can't describe how much fun it was. I grew up driving muscle cars in the 1970s, but the sound of that 700 horsepower Ferrari engine only inches from my head at full throttle was phenomenal. Had hoped to top 150 mph and came close at 147. One more lap and I think I would have made it. Next time. — Alex Paul

Law enforcement officials warn of new “rainbow” fentanyl

Editor’s Note: We recently published a story about the dangers of fentanyl. We are publishing this story because a new “rainbow” fentanyl — which is even more dangerous than other fentanyl forms — is now in Oregon and it could be confused by children as sidewalk chalk. Amounts as little as a few grains of salt can be deadly. We want Linn County staff to know about this to protect our families. — Alex

During a recent search warrant, Multnomah County Special Investigations Unit (SIU) deputies found a new form of fentanyl that is considered to be more dangerous and potent than pressed pills.

At the suspect’s residence in Northeast Portland, deputies found body armor, \$5,000 in cash, nine guns, some of which were modified and stolen, and drugs including meth, heroin, 800 pills of fentanyl and four grams of multi-colored, powdered fentanyl, often referred to as ‘rainbow fentanyl.’

For investigative reasons, the suspect's name is not being released at this time. We would like to thank the Portland Police Bureau’s North and East Neighborhood Response Teams (NRT) for their assistance in this investigation.

“We are partnering with Multnomah County health departments to sound the alarm,” SIU Sergeant Matt Ferguson said. “The public needs to be aware of the rising use of powdered fentanyl. We believe this is going to be the new trend seen on the streets of Portland.”

Deputies are particularly concerned about rainbow fentanyl getting into the hands of young adults or children, who mistake the drug for something else, such as candy or a toy, or those who may be willing to try the drug due to its playful coloring. The powdered fentanyl found during this investigation resembles the color and consistency of sidewalk chalk.

Rainbow fentanyl warning

The following statement is on behalf of Multnomah County health departments:

It only takes 2 milligrams of fentanyl — about the weight of a few grains of salt — to cause a fatal overdose. Health officials last year began sounding the alarm after cheap, counterfeit opioid pills containing fentanyl began fueling an increase in fatal drug overdoses across the Portland Metro region.

According to the Oregon-Idaho HIDTA 2023 Threat Assessment, non-medical grade fentanyl has overtaken heroin and methamphetamine as the number one threat in our region. And because it is not medical-grade, it is difficult to determine potency and accurate dosing.



“Rainbow” fentanyl looks very much like sidewalk chalk, but is extremely dangerous. A few grains on one’s skin can be deadly.

The rising use of powdered fentanyl and the brightly colored variations is cause for concern. Fentanyl in powder form generally has a higher potency than other forms of fentanyl. The colorful fentanyl powders are new to most law enforcement agencies. Providers in recovery treatment also report being unfamiliar with the new form of fentanyl.

Julie Dodge, interim director of Behavioral Health for Multnomah County said it’s not uncommon for drug forms to shift over time. That’s why the main message always has to be, we take a risk any time we take a substance that we don’t know who made it, and when there’s no quality control,” she said.

Service providers in harm reduc-

tion said they have begun to see colored powder fentanyl circulating locally.

“We are seeing more powdered fentanyl that is dyed in various colors. The strength can vary but is typically stronger than pressed pills,” said Harm Reduction Supervisor Kelsi Junge. “Anyone that intends to use powdered fentanyl should follow principles of harm reduction by going slow, not using when you are alone and ensuring that someone has naran.”

Prevention & Intervention

People who choose to use drugs outside of a care plan developed with a healthcare provider should take steps to reduce the risk of overdose. Don’t use alone, in case you or someone you’re with starts to overdose. Signs of overdose

include:

- Pale or clammy skin
- Bluish or pale lips and fingernails
- Limp body
- Slow or no breathing
- Vomiting or foaming at the mouth
- Difficult to or not able to awaken

Naloxone, a medication that counteracts the effects of opioids, can reverse an overdose. Oregon’s Good Samaritan Law will protect both the person who administers naloxone and the person who is overdosing from prosecution.

Anyone who uses illicit drugs can get free fentanyl test strips and naloxone kits through Multnomah County Harm Reduction. Learn more at multco.us/harm-reduction. A person can test a pill with a fentanyl strip before consuming.

Cascadia County Park transfer ceremony

1 p.m., September 21

Cascadia County Park

Parks and Recreation Commission: Milt Moran, chair; Mellissa Barnard, Ken Bronson, Darryl Dukes, Mike Hurd, Rich Kellum, Rachel Maynard, Paul Timm

OSU Extension — Linn County

Veterans invited to tour mid-valley farms

By Alex Paul
Communications Officer

ALBANY — In her position with the OSU Extension Service Small Farms Program Teagan Moran has spent several years building networks and developing pathways for farm-oriented folks to share information about life on the land.

Summer intern Crystal Kelso is studying horticulture and horticultural therapy at Oregon State.

Together they are spearheading a series of four mid-valley farm tours specifically for veterans who are farmers, or who would like to farm. The first tour was held August 24 at the Jacob Mogler sheep farm near Albany and there is still time to register for the three remaining tours September 2, 9 and 10.

“The goal is to match military veterans — who have a great variety of skills — with farming opportunities and to show them farming can be a viable career path,” Kelso said. “It’s also therapeutic, we call it dirt therapy.”

Moran said the mid-valley is filled with a wide array of farming operations, from large-scale producers such as grass seed or hazelnut farms, to specialty crops that encompass only a quarter-acre of land. There is a place for veterans in all of those operations. “Our program serves everyone, from homesteaders to farm-to-market, connections with local restaurants and Community Supported Agriculture,” Moran said.

“Our farms have this great diversity of farm products from fruits and vegetables, orchards to meat, dairy and eggs.”

Moran’s background includes organic farming and community-based education.

Tour and Small Farm Program goals include:

- Explore what is possible on their land.

- Solve problems and face challenges.

- Connect with other farmers.

“Our communities have resources, we just need to get together,” Moran said.

All of the tours are free and there is time for questions and social gathering. Register at: <https://beav.es/izv>. For more information, call Moran at 541-713-5011.

Kelso comes from a family of veterans, and she has always felt connected to their skills and needs.

“Veterans learn to do a job well and finish it, even when things get tough,” Kelso said.

Her love of plants started in elementary school and has deepened with her horticultural therapy studies.

“We are applying horticultural therapy information to our veterans’ needs,” Kelso said. “For example, with PTSD, anxiety, anger or disabilities.”

Participants are asked to wear closed toed shoes, expect uneven terrain with some hillside walking and dress for the weather.

Remaining tours include:



A tour of the Jacob Mogler farm near Albany kicked off a series of farm tours for veterans in coming weeks.

Photos courtesy Crystal Kelso

September 2: Patrick Fay @ Hentze Family Farm - Junction City

6-8 p.m. Website: hentzefamilyfarm.com or <https://www.facebook.com/hentzefamilyfarm/>.

A networking event on the farm with Patrick sharing about the importance of networking with like-minded individuals who can help you find the right resources, finding a mentor to guide you along the way, and sharing about his role on the farm

and in the Cook Shack. After the tour, there will be an informal networking event and farm product tasting.

Fay is a Navy veteran who is managing part of the land on his in-laws’ family farm in Junction City. He also heads up the Cook Shack on site, serving fresh food made from the farm and their value-added products like blueberry barbeque sauce, as well as choice Pacific Northwest ingredients.

He is active in the agritourism part of the farm, as well as the daily operations of tractor work and irrigation management, and strives to help small farms be fruitful and succeed by “bringing farm to table back to the farm”.

September 9: Ben Martin @ Dauntless Wine Co.

6-8 p.m. Website: <https://dauntlesswine.co/> Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/dauntlesswine>

A walking tour with Ben sharing the process of starting out the vines and managing cover crops using land stewardship practices, as well as talking about the tractor and equipment needs for the farm. After the tour, there will



be wine for sampling and purchase. BYO snacks if you’d like, though not required.

Martin is a Marine Corps Veteran who is in his first year of planting on one acre of the 6.4 acres he owns outside of Forest Grove in Gaston. He started prepping the land for wine grapes in 2020 and crushed the first wine grapes in 2015.

Martin also launched the Dauntless Veterans Foundation in 2020, with the goal of working with the land and grapes to create a space to “train and equip veterans to translate their talents from the field to the farm ... and to help veterans rehabilitate and reintegrate through agriculture.”

September 10: Mark Johnson @ C&C Family Farm - Canby
9-11 a.m. Website: <https://www.facebook.com/pages/category/Farm/CC-Family-Farm-109163571387784/>

A walking tour with Mark sharing his experience with transitioning from the service to becoming a farmer, managing the changing of hands on the farm from his family to him, and the process of funding for restoration of existing infrastructure. There will be time for socializing and networking after the tour. BYO snack and drink if you’d like, though not required.

Johnson is an Army veteran who owns a 40-acre working family farm in Canby. The farm has been in his family for more than 100 years and is transitioning from growing berries to growing oat hay, alfalfa, and cider apples.

He is dedicated to preservation of the 90-year-old structures on the property and is in the process of restoring them with a grant from the American Farmland trust. He also received a grant from Dauntless Wine Co. last year and is looking forward to growing on the farm with his family.



Military Veteran Farm Tour Series
FOR VETERANS WHO ARE CURRENTLY FARMING OR HOPING TO. FARM HOSTS ARE ALL VETERANS CURRENTLY FARMING!





Linn County firefighters help our southern neighbors

Courtesy Sweet Home Fire District

Oregon Task Force 3 from Linn County returned from their deployment to the McKinney Fire in California on August 7. The crews made it safely home with no injuries. We hope they are all getting some much-deserved rest after their 8-day deployment. They worked in exceptionally rugged terrain and high temperatures for 24 hour shifts, working to mop up hot spots. While mop up is not a glorious or exciting job, it can truly make the difference between the fire lines holding, and the fire jumping the containment lines.

As always, we are proud to be a part of any Linn County Task Force!

Oregon Office of State Fire Marshal, Albany Fire Department, Lebanon Fire District, Harrisburg Fire & Rescue Halsey - Shedd Rural Fire Protection District, Station 51 Brownsville Rural Fire District.



Multi-partner Health Fair held August 20

Linn County Healthy Communities Coordinator Diego Nieto gets a dental check up during a Health Fair held August 20 at the Mid-Willamette Family YMCA. Other partners included Casa Latinos, COMP-Northwest Medical School, FISH of Albany, the Greater Albany Public Schools, Linn Benton Food Share, OSU Extension Service, DEV-NW and more.



Serena Stearns-Garland of the Linn County WIC program and her daughter.



Rachel Petersen, Health Promotions Supervisor, blue shirt with OHSU Cancer Team.

Logging for fish: toppling trees to preserve fish on Upper Calapooia

Editor's Note: This project is on the Calapooia River, south of Sweet Home. Upper Calapooia Drive, which is owned and maintained by Linn County, runs alongside much of the river.

Benny Westcott
The New Era

Stream restoration team members, from left, Cris Salazar, Mark Villers and Collin McCandless inspect work done after trees were toppled into the Upper Calapooia River. Below, a truck carries a large winch used to pull trees into the stream.

Many river goers see fallen trees as a nuisance. But for juvenile winter steelhead, toppled timber can be a welcome addition to the aquatic ecosystem.

USDA Forest Service District fish biologist and hydrologist Lance Gatchell knows this. That's why this month he helped spearhead a project to down 10 Douglas fir trees into a half-mile stretch of the Upper Calapooia River.

He's lent his expertise to three similar undertakings over the last decade and a half, in Moose, Canyon and Soda Fork creeks. The purpose of this project, like the others, is to restore the stream ecosystem.

"We, as humans, came in here in the 1970s and cut out all the logs that were through here. It made it so all the gravels that the fish used to spawn washed out," Gatchell said, noting that fallen leaves also washed away. "It becomes a barren area, void of life, and the ecosystem sort of collapses."

"This system evolved with the wood in the stream," he said of the Upper Calapooia. "Once it's back in, the gravel starts to accumulate again, and all of the leaves that fall into the river don't just wash out; they rack up behind."

Without this kind of habitat, Gatchell added, juvenile steelhead have a harder time surviving.

"The baby steelhead that will be born here now and in the future will have a much higher success rate, because they'll have all this habitat," he said.

With the trees in the water, pine material gets trapped and becomes food for insects or fish, followed by bears and other organisms that eat fish. Through this chain reaction, the fallen timber supports the entire ecosystem.

"It helps restore the whole watershed, fish and wildlife, just by restoring the hydrology," Gatchell said.

Planning for the Upper Calapooia Project started in 2016, when Calapooia Watershed Council members met with U.S. Forest Service employees to look at potential steelhead habitat enhancement on the Upper Calapooia River.



Lance Gatchell, USFS biologist, with one of the 10 large trees recently felled into the Upper Calapooia River near Sweet Home.

pooria River.

In those discussions, Gatchell identified a lack of large wood, so the parties began devising plans. Once complete, the project design was brought to the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board, which in 2018 supplied the necessary \$150,000 to fund it.

Then came delays, prompted by both the COVID-19 pandemic and the Holiday Farm Fire in 2020. The latter disaster, which burned more than 170,000 acres in Lane County's McKenzie River valley, went down as one of the largest wildfires in state history. As a result, physical work on the project didn't begin until July 15 of this year, running through July 21.

"It took some time to reassess things after the fire," Calapooia Watershed Council Habitat Restoration Program Manager Cris Salazar said.

"Being on Forest Service property, we had to essentially reevaluate whether the project was still worth doing and whether the trees

were still able to be kept. There was another assessment that was done post-fire and it was deemed still a valuable project and we moved ahead."

In addition to placing timber in the water, the project also included removing remnants of an old bridge, which blew out in 1996. Salazar said removing its remains "opened the floodplain back up."



The trees were pulled down by two chokers, one set 60 to 70 feet up on the trees. Ten trees were enough, Gatchell said.

"We don't really want to take all of the trees. We want to leave some of the bigger trees there. You don't need too many of them," he noted, adding that other foliage falls into the river. "There's a lot of smaller material that normally comes down because it's an intact watershed above here."

"Some people were concerned that we were using old-growth for stream restoration," he continued, pointing out that only 10 of the section's 4,000 trees were removed. "It's a very small amount of all that's here."

Some strategy is involved in determining which trees to topple. According to Gatchell, they have to be big and sound enough to not wash downstream. Location is also important. Gatchell said that to avoid downing trees in steeper areas of the stream, or transport reaches, where no material deposits. Instead, the crew aims for flat areas, or depositional reaches, where it does.

Since the project's taking place after the Holiday Farm Fire, even more materials should reach the river.

"We'll have a lot more dead wood in here," Gatchell said. "We just need the backbone part of it. That's what we're working on. We don't need to bring in all of the finer materials."

Mark Villers, CEO of Coos Bay's Blue Ridge Timber Cutting, one of the project's contractors, said that his team sometimes had to move a quarter of a million pounds of trees.

He noted the difference between the pulling process and logging.

"In logging you don't mess with root wads, you cut them off," he said. "Whereas we want the root wads, because they help hold the log there. So it really adds a lot of weight to it."

Gatchell said the river restoration project as a whole "went really well."

He expressed confidence based on past experience.

"We already know it's effective," he said, "because we know what this kind of project does."

QUOTABLE

"The baby steelhead that will be born here now and in the future will have a much higher success rate, because they'll have all this habitat ..."

Lance Gatchell



Members of the Linn County Public Health team share information about the Family Connect program during the Step Up for Breastfeeding event held in Albany on August 6. Left to right: Monica Boylan, Amanda Wilkerson, Tania Bailey, Laura Jimenez and daughter.



WIC team, left to right: Brandy Tarr, Serena Stearns-Garland, Juana Lopez-Gonzales, and volunteer Emma Stearns-Garland. sharing information about nutrition while breastfeeding.



Caesar the No Drama Llama.



Enjoying lunch on a sunny day

Some of the Linn County Planning & Building staff took advantage of beautiful summer weather — 75 degrees at noon — Thursday to eat lunch in the picnic table area on the west side of the courthouse. From left to right: Kate Bentz, Jaci Cumpiano, Suzanne Hunt, Megan Sharp and Carol Gordon. Not seeing any fried chicken or corn on the cob, but maybe next time.



Softball challenge raises money for ABC House

The Linn County Sheriff's Office once recently faced off against the Benton County Sheriff's Office in a softball game benefitting the ABC House. In the end, the LCSO was once again taken down by the BCSO! Great job everyone that took part! If you could not make it to the game, but would still like to make a donation

to ABC House, please visit <https://buff.ly/3bweO8p> to donate directly to the ABC House, an outstanding local organization that works to provide high-quality child abuse assessments and support services for local children and youth when there are concerns of abuse and neglect.

Congratulations to our new Junior Ranger Haley Huber

Congratulations to Haley Huber of Harrisburg on completing her Linn County Parks Jr. Ranger Passport. Haley traveled with her family to five different Linn County Parks facilities in order to receive completion stamps for each location. Youngsters can pick up a "passport" filled with information about nature and Linn County Parks. They fill in information blanks at each of the county parks to complete their passport and gain new outdoor skills and knowledge.

Haley will receive a special Linn County Parks prize box for her hard work and determination that embodies the Jr. Ranger spirit.

Haley Huber Jr. Ranger graduating class of 2022!



Mad Platter café

8:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. M-F

Courthouse Basement

541-967-3877



Commissioners urge Board of Forestry to make fire management a priority

By Alex Paul
Communications Officer

ALBANY — Linn County Commissioners Roger Nyquist, Sherrie Sprenger and Will Tucker agreed Tuesday morning that the executive summary of the Governor’s Council on Wildfire Response should be sent to the Oregon Department of Forestry, entered into the official record and be considered when developing any forest management plans.

Board Chair Nyquist said the Board of Forestry is developing a Habitat Conservation Plan, which if approved, will be a guiding resource in managing state forest lands for decades. He believes wildland fire prevention should be considered a top priority of the document.

The Governor’s Council proposed four key strategies to reduce wildfires: creating fire-adapted communities, restoring and maintaining resilient landscapes, responding safely and effectively to wildfires and developing a cross-functional support system.

Nyquist responded to comments made in a recent newspaper article by a proponent of the Douglas fir National Monument — that would encompass 530,000 acres primarily in Linn County — that fire is a part of the forest life cycle.

“There appear to be advocates to just let



Roger Nyquist



Sherrie Sprenger



Will Tucker

the forest burn,” Nyquist said. “Two years ago, people lost their lives in the Santiam Canyon wildfires, they lost lifelong family assets. Some lost everything they had.”

Nyquist said that so far, the Oregon Department of

Forestry’s HCP does not

“acknowledge the serious problems Oregon faces in the next few years.”

He said the number one priority of government should be to protect the public and that includes protecting people from wildfires.

His fellow commissioners heartily agreed, with Commissioner Sprenger emphasizing that five lives were lost in the wildfires in the Santiam Canyon on Labor Day weekend 2020.

Almost 1,600 buildings and more than 400,000 acres of public and private timber lands were destroyed.

“Two years ago, people died, that’s the most important issue. That’s the bottom line,” Sprenger said.

QUOTABLE

“Two years ago, people died, that’s the most important issue. That’s the bottom line ... “

Commissioner Sprenger

Commissioner Tucker said the HCP would guide forest management for the next 70 years.

“Fires and community economics are not a part of the HCP at this time,” Tucker said.

He said a draft of the Habitat Conservation Plan is available to the public for review at <https://www.oregon.gov/odf/aboutodf/pages/hcp-initiative.aspx>.

Tucker added that although the proposed Douglas fir National Monument would not delegate timber lands into more wilderness areas only, it would reduce the number of roads maintained within federal forest lands.

Those roads are vital when it comes to fighting wildfires and keeping them contained in designated wilderness areas, Tucker said.

The executive summary of the Governor’s Council on Wildfire Response can be viewed at https://www.oregon.gov/gov/policies/Documents/WFCExecSumm_2019_v2.pdf.

What you need to know about monkeypox

In case you’ve been concerned about “monkeypox”, which has been in the news lately, Shane Sanderson of Environmental Health provided us with this information:

We have had no cases as of August 25.

“Anyone may be infected with monkeypox if they have close contact with the rash of an infected person, regardless of gender identity or sexual orientation.” Shane Sanderson

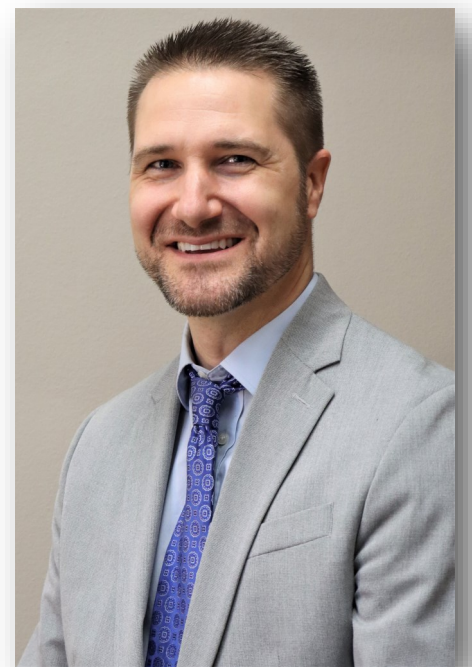
How to spot Monkeypox (hMPXV) and what to do next

Symptoms include: Sore throat, fever, achiness, but may also start with rash or sores

The rash often looks like pimples or blisters at the start.

It may be located on or near your genitals or anus. It could also be on other areas such as your hands, feet, chest, face or mouth.

The rash will eventually get firmer and may be very painful.



Shane Sanderson

Environmental Health

If you’re experiencing any of those symptoms: Avoid close skin-to-skin contact. Talk to a health care provider (or call 211 if you don’t have one).



Thank you, Harold!



Harold Anderson, 65, received a cooler full of potato chips and other goodies from his fellow Planning & Building Department co-workers Tuesday, Aug. 30. They know that Anderson likes to get a daily snack or two. They were celebrating Anderson’s retirement after almost 10 years with the department where he has been a building inspector, plans examiner and code enforcement officer. He isn’t done working completely as he plans to help out one day per week, but the rest of the week the Dallas resident can be found riding bicycles, hiking and camping. The presentation was made by Planning & Building Director Steve Wills.

Don’t forget to send us a photo or two of your summer vacation or fun outing.

Alex Paul, 541-967-3825 or email apaul@co.linn.or.us

Green Peter drawdown for fish project planned in '23

Editor's Note: Linn County has several recreational sites near Green Peter Reservoir east of Sweet Home, including Whitcomb Creek and Thistle Creek boat ramp.

Courtesy The New Era

SWEET HOME — The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers announced last week that, due to unspecified equipment complications, the planned drawdown of Green Peter Reservoir will be delayed, likely until next fall.

That development comes after the Corps released a plan earlier this month, produced by an “expert panel” of scientists and others, that will require Green Peter to be drawn down to 780 feet above sea level, some 220 feet below full pool.

The planned deep drawdown at Green Peter would not only stop hydro power production but it would also impact recreation, as water levels will drop far below the Thistle Creek and Whitcomb Creek boat ramps on the lake.

Initially, the target date for the drawdown was Nov. 15, and the result would be that the dam’s power plant would be unable to produce electricity. Not only does that electricity produce auxiliary power for the surrounding area, but it powers the dam’s own operations. A back-up generator will be required to operate the dam during the drawdown and that’s the rub, said USACE spokesman Tom Conning.

“We won’t be able to draw Green Peter down this year because we won’t have that back-up generator in place,” Conning said, noting that when the report was released that wasn’t clear. “The generator we need for backup power will not be installed this year. I



Anglers fish near the debris boom at Green Peter Reservoir.

don’t know whether it’s supply or placement or whatever. Because that can’t be installed, we won’t be doing that particular drawdown this season.”

The draw-down plan is the result of the expert panel’s response to a September 2021 court order by U.S. District Judge Marco Hernandez that the USACE make changes at its dams in the Willamette Basin so that juvenile salmon and steelhead could pass through them more easily. Its stated goal is “to establish a self-sustaining population of spring Chinook salmon upstream of Green Peter Dam.”

Hernandez ruled that the Corps must change its dam operations in numerous ways to improve fish migration and water quality in

four tributaries of the Willamette River, including the South Fork of the Santiam River, on which Foster Dam is located.

“Deep drawdowns” require the Corps to lower the elevation of the reservoirs to within 25 feet or less of the dams’ regulating outlets, prioritizing water flow over the top of the dam rather than through hydropower turbines, especially during the night when fish have higher rates of migration.

The fish are listed under the Endangered Species Act and, according to environmentalists who have sued the Corps on multiple occasions over the last decade to gain information about dam operations and the health of fish populations,

dams on the Willamette River have blocked access to spawning grounds, which has contributed to population declines.

Hernandez’s injunction is in response to a lawsuit filed in early 2021 by Northwest Environmental Defense Center, Wildearth Guardians and Native Fish Society, arguing that the Corps should be more transparent about its dam operations and their impacts on salmon and steelhead smolts heading out to sea.

Conning said the need for a generator is the biggest obstacle that the Corps must overcome before the drawdown can occur.

“I think we anticipate it to happen next fall, because we will have a little more time,” he said.

Linn County Master Gardeners earn statewide award for BEE Notes

Courtesy Elizabeth Records
OSU Extension-Linn County

Congratulations to Linn County Master Gardener Association for winning the Marje Luce Search for Excellence award from the Oregon Master Gardener Association for their publication Bee Notes.

Bee Notes raises awareness about stewarding native pollinators, including timely tips for care of blue orchard mason bees. Bee Notes is a key component of the outstanding pollinator education initiatives of Linn Master Gardeners, including the BEEvent Pollinator Conference which won this same award in 2019.

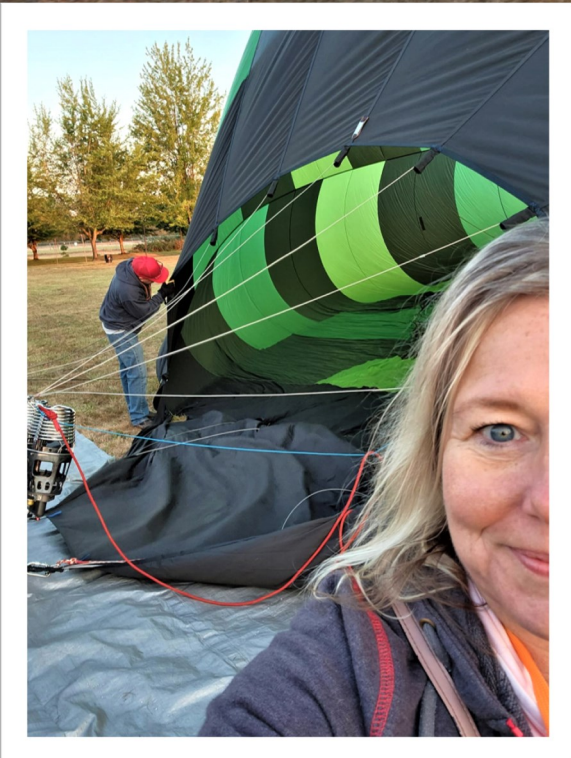
Search for Excellence is the recognition program of Master Gardener volunteer work, both throughout the United States and Canada (at the International level) and across the state of Oregon within the OMGA.

Major contributors to Bee Notes include Rich Little, Nancy Ragghianti and Rane Webb. Please congratulate these dedicated volunteers and all Linn Master Gardeners on their achievement.

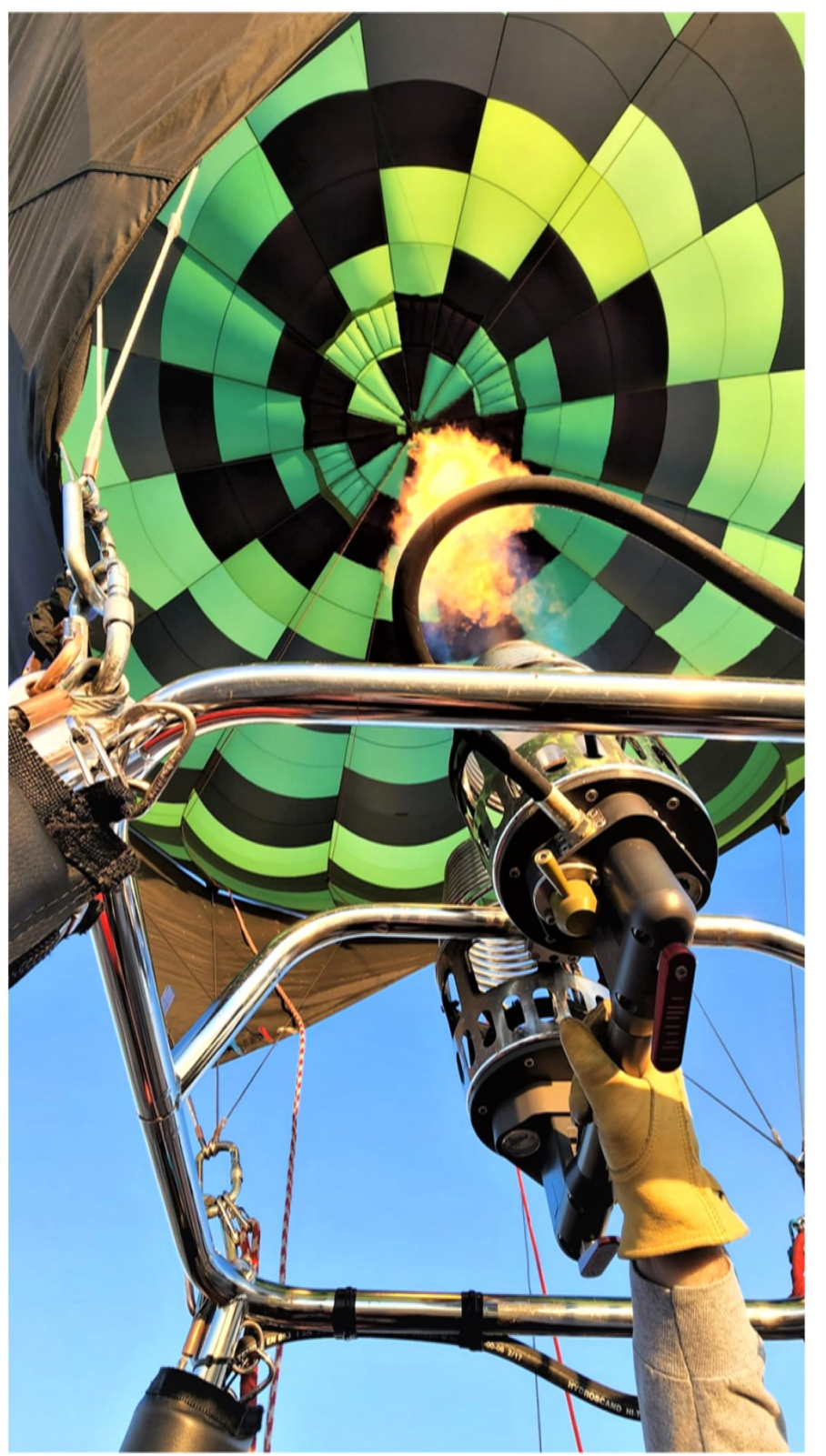


Bee Notes creators
From the left:
Rane Webb, Rich Little,
Susan Morton. Inset:
Nancy Ragghianti

Up, up and away!



Rachel Lytle (Linn County Fair & Expo) and her boyfriend, Kelly Rauscher, enjoyed a hot air balloon ride Aug. 24 during the annual Northwest Art & Air Festival in Albany. Lytle called the adventure an "amazing experience."



Law librarian provides eviction program update

By Amber Boedigheimer

Linn County Law Librarian

Almost a year has passed since the Linn County Law Library received an American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) grant to fund a local eviction prevention program. The program, initiated at the beginning of August 2021, has been working to help curb the large number of tenants who were or still are facing evictions due to nonpayment of rent.



Amber Boedigheimer

The program arose out of the need for tenants residing in Linn, Benton, and Lincoln Counties to have access to bills, laws, and current data about the eviction crises.

Many were at a loss about where to go for help, while others were, or are, reluctant to seek help. While evictions across the country were already high, COVID-19 certainly played a factor in the alarming rise of eviction cases in Oregon.

The Linn County Law Library, in coordination with Legal Aid Services of Oregon, arranged for legal presentations about the eviction process in Oregon to be delivered to small audiences at the Albany Public Library. While some of these legal presentations proved to be popular, others were not, forcing the law library to change how we deliver information to our community members. Thanks to Zoom, the law library sees technology as a better avenue for sharing information with greater audiences.

The Linn County Law Library does not provide funding for rent and/or utility assistance but will help members of the public locate resources that provide finan-



cial or other supportive services for struggling renters. The law library is currently listed as a resource on 211info.org. The library has assisted more than 50 people in Oregon find local resources for avoiding eviction and/or expunging an eviction from their record.

According to the cases I tracked in Oregon's E-court system, it appears that from August 2021 to August 2022, more than 558 eviction cases occurred in the Circuit Courts of Linn, Benton, and Lincoln Counties. Of these cases, 410 of them have been closed, while more than 150 remain open as of August 24.

According to the Oregon Judicial Department, there were over 12,374 eviction cases in Oregon's Circuit Courts between August 2021 and

now. More than 223 resulted in a default judgment and over 1,780 answers were filed in court. Approximately 9,954 people were represented by an attorney and more than 621 parties sought mediation services. Some 233 mediation agreements were established.

The law library supports both tenants and landlords but works more frequently with tenants throughout Oregon. Funds from the ARPA grant are being used to improve our technology, equipment, and resources needed to help serve our patrons. Books and other legal materials are available for reference, which address legal processes and procedures, landlord-tenant laws, and other legal matters in Oregon.

One of the primary issues that tenants

are dealing with right now is that they have not received funds from the Oregon Emergency Rental Assistance Program (OERAP) that they applied for early on but still owe rent after several months of delayed payments. Another problem is that not everyone who applied for financial assistance through OERAP received it due to income caps or other reasons. Landlords are struggling as well, putting even more pressure on tenants to catch up on their late rent payments.

Tenants are also struggling to understand how financial assistance through the Oregon Emergency Rental Assistance Program works. If the tenant is approved for financial assistance, the funds are disbursed to the landlord to cover past-due rent, not the tenant. Frequent legal questions have arisen from tenants who borrowed money from family members while waiting for rent assistance from OERAP. Once they find out their application for rent assistance is approved they often do not know what to do. Those who receive assistance, often need additional assistance later on. This is where the law library can play a significant role in educating the public about rental assistance and the eviction process.

Not knowing whom to go to or where to turn for legal information is OK. Legal information can be difficult to understand in laymen's terms and having a law librarian available to guide you through legal resources can be refreshing. The Linn County Law Library is working hard to make a difference in the local community.

If you need legal information, would like assistance navigating your landlord-tenant issues, or have other general questions, do not hesitate to contact the law library at 541-924-6902 or visit us at 304 Broadalbin Street SW, Albany, OR. 974321.

The law library is open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Thursday and every other Friday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

A presentation pertaining to changes in Oregon's eviction process will be scheduled in early September 2022 and posted on Zoom, so please stay tuned in.



Colorful Morning in Albany

Sara Olson of the Road Department snapped these photos of a hot air balloon during the Northwest Art & Air Festival week, while dropping off her daughter Mackenzie for YMCA for summer camp. Heavy morning winds made launches difficult some days.

