

North Douglas HERALD

Dedicated to Our Readers & the Residents of North Douglas & South Lane Counties

Ford's Pond Community Park Grand Opening Celebrating Sutherlin's Beautiful View & Amenities



On Friday, September 6, 2024, the long awaited and much anticipated day for the Grand Opening of Ford's Pond had arrived. The morning of, was quiet and still, as preparations began for the celebration. The pond silently reflected the wispy clouds that were floating overhead in the pale, blue sky. A light breeze belied the high temperatures that were expected, as they gently played the chimes, drifting across the playground and reverberating through the air. Scattered clusters of Black-eyed Susan bloomed, adding spots of bright yellow amongst the variegated greens, of the carefully planted vegetation. The flurry of set-up had begun, with the arrival of food trucks, folding chairs being placed under awnings, and tables laden with brochures. A crowd started to slowly gather, the low murmur of voices interspersed with the sound of children's laughter. Everyone was readying themselves for the cutting of the red ribbon, by Mayor Michelle

Sumner, that would signify, the park is now open. In April of this year, Ford's Pond Community Park marked its ten year anniversary, signifying its reclamation from the logging pond to the development of the place "Where Everyone Plays." Since 2014, the Friends of Ford's Pond, in a public/private partnership with the City of Sutherlin, have taken 202 acres on the west side of the city and created a haven for the community as well as a destination for visitors. "We envisioned Ford's Pond as a place for everyone to observe wildlife, exercise, connect, play or enjoy some quiet time. The design was guided by the park master plan which relied on extensive public outreach. We wanted the park design to be inclusive to all ages and abilities using the Universal Design principles, to have a unique playground, amenities and to create educational opportunities. The decision to only develop 5

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Unbeaten ND Warriors Rout Riddle Irish 90 - 6



Highlights, September 26th N.D. Warriors(90) vs Riddle Irish (6). North Douglas is unbeaten for the season at 4-0 and 3-0 in SD1. The Irish are 2-2 overall *Photos by North Douglas Boosters.*

Mason Hilbun of Yoncalla HS Completes his Summer Internship at Sutherlin's Great Northern Trailers

This summer, current Senior Mason Hilbun participated in an internship through Recruit Hippo at Great Northern Trailers in Sutherlin. Mason learned about the possibility of an internship/work experience when he attended an Industry Tour his sophomore year, but it was last year – as a junior – when his Careers teacher, Kristy Westbrook, and UCC Work Based Learning Coordinator Aaron Towne, presented him with the opportunity, that it became a reality. Mr. Towne worked with Mrs. Westbrook to guide Mason through the application and interview process where he was ultimately offered a 200-hour internship with the option of 100 additional hours.

During his internship, Mason learned landscape maintenance, introductory electrical work (wring brake lines and connections to junction boxes), and finish work like decking trailers and putting on tires. In addition to the physical skills learned, Mason also learned soft skills. His biggest take away was that having the skill gets you the job, but your perseverance and dedication is what keeps you there.

Mr. Town noted that "Mason exemplified all of the traits needed to be successful. He was so ambitious and has been working on getting this internship for two years. Once he solidified his position at Great Northern Trailers, he was punctual, committed, detail oriented, hardworking, honest, and humble. The owner of GNT told me that he would take 10 Mason's at his organization. That spoke volumes to his character and quality

of work. We are so proud of Mason and look forward to all the amazing things he accomplishes to come." At the end of his internship, Mason was recognized by Mr. Towne for his work ethic and gifted his own welding hood and jacket. Mr. Towne shared that Mason is a phenomenal young man and that it was an emotional day.

When asked what advice he had for kids looking into internships or going in to the workforce Hilbun said "Apply yourself. Don't be scared to get into the real world. Put in the effort, ask questions, and always know what you are doing. If you do that, you will set yourself up well."



Solar for the Drain Civic Center?

Story by Rusty Savage

The Answer Should Definitely be Yes!



There was recently a proposal to look at the feasibility of implementing a Solar Energy System Project for the Drain City Civic Center and Library. There are a variety of benefits and incentives as well to consider a project like this. First of all it would save countless thousands of dollars of electrical costs for the City and the Civic Center and Library. These costs are already a source of contention with the city administration and the ongoing efforts of the Center to identify and control cost and revenue there.

Additionally, there is an ongoing issue with costs of use vs the projection of needs and intended

expansion of community services the area deserves and is currently devoid of. Of primary concern is the need for an effective and equitable emergency shelter and resource center in times of disaster, extreme weather event or other emergencies that might disable or limit citizens abilities to access electricity, internet, warming or sheltering crises of many types. We all remember Ice-amegeddin earlier this year and most remember Snow-megeddin a few years back. There's the real prospects of natural or other accidental disasters negatively affecting daily lives and in this time of

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October, 2024 Volume 2, Issue #10

The North Douglas Herald Newspaper is published once a month in Drain Oregon. The North Douglas Herald is owned and operated by Oregonians, published and printed in the State of Oregon. It is our mission to bring the news and information that our Readers will find pertinent, useful and with some insight to our common values and sensibilities.

The Herald is currently available at pickup locations across North Douglas and South Lane counties in Oregon.

To submit Photos, Recipes, Jokes, Cartoons, artwork and the like:

send email to editor@ndherald.com

All online submissions can be sent and delivered to the any one of the following departments:

- photos@ndherald.com
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schoolnews@ndherald.com
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www.ndherald.com/locations.html

If you see breaking news or if you have a news report, you can email to news@ndherald.com. Any photo attachments preferred in .jpg or .pdf format.

OUR DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS is the 25th of the month prior to publication

Free Papers can be found, upon availability, in all of the following town's and these fine establishments

- Drain
Rays Food Place, 308 N 1st St.
Country Cabin Coffee & Laundry, 438 W "B" Ave Hwy38
The Rose Bar, 413 Umpqua Hwy 38
Mildred Whipple Library, 205 W. "A" Ave.
Beaver Creek Unique, 416 W "B" Ave.
US Bank, 229 N 1st St
Zolezzi Insurance Agency, 208 W "C" St.
Studio Tattoo, 329 N 1st St

- Yoncalla
Eagle Valley Supply, 2570 Eagle Valley Rd
Food Center & Deli, 2580 Eagle Valley Rd
Why Not Bar and Grill, 164 Main St
Yoncalla Public Library, 194 Birch St

- Elkton
Arlene's Cafe & General Store 14858 State HWY 38
Elkton Station 14940 State HWY 38
Tomaselli's Pastry Mill & Cafe, 14836 OR Hwy 38
Elkton Community Education Center, 15850 HWY 38 W

- Scottsburg
Riverbanks Speedy Mart 32841 State HWY 38

- Reedsport
Jacks Barber Shoppe, 1199 Highway Ave,
TRMF Smokes, 1898 Winchester Ave. US-101
Don's Main Street Family Restaurant, 2115 US-101
Recreation Station, 1575 Winchester Ave US-101 S
Creative Mercantile, 392 Fir Ave.
High Water Cafe, 427 Fir Ave.
Lower Umpqua Library, 395 Winchester Ave.
7-11 Store, 2011 Winchester Ave. US-101
Oregon Coast Restaurant, 2165 Winchester Ave

- Cottage Grove
Old Mill Farm Store, 327 South River Rd.
Kwik Pik Market #2, 925 E Gibbs Ave.
Daves Corner Market, 633 N 9th St.
Crafty Mercantile, 517 E Main St.
The Book Mine, 702 E Main St.
Dari Mart, 1200 E Main St.
Cottage Market, 603 OR HWY-99
Medication Station, 1041 N Pacific HWY-99

- Winchester Bay
Beck's Winchester Bay Market, 245 8th St.
Pelican Market, 75298 Pacific Coast HWY US-101

- Oakland
Bart's Oakland Market, 204 SE 1st St
Tye Landing, 11424 Oregon HWY 138

- Sutherlin
Kwik Pik Market & Deli, 551 W Central Ave.
Smitty's Food Mart & Deli, 1367W Central Ave.
Center Market, 1230 W Central Ave.
Center Market #32, 206 E Central Ave.
S-Mart, 333 E Central Ave.
Central Food Mart, 1021 E Central Ave.
Chevron/S-Mart, 1484 W Central Ave.
DC Precision Lube & Tune, 489 E Central Ave.

- Roseburg
Roseburg Tobacco & Food Mart, 2050 NE Stephens St
1 Am Market, 1931 NE Stephens St
Lil' Pantry, 2611 NW Edenbower Blvd
AM PM, 2530 NE Stephens St

- Springfield
Dari-Mart, 1950 Mohawk Blvd.

- Eugene
Willamette Valley Motoplex, 86441 College View Rd

North Douglas Herald
PO Box 581, Drain OR 97435
Rusty Savage, Editor
541 221-3283 www.ndherald.com

Editorial

By Rusty Savage

I feel the change in season looming and it inspires me to look at the world around me with fresh eyes. It's a subtle change that doesn't scream "lookout, here it comes", it just whispers "pay attention, OK?". Because the experience of life's ongoing cycle is like deja vu all over again. Like when they say, "I can feel it in the air". So my patterns of Summer are transitioning and it's time to change it up a bit. Just like the seasonal change, I feel an internal change that is similar to the former state of being but a little older and wiser. I think that it's fair to say that it's a good thing and that it's a continuation of immeasurable growth. It's internal. It doesn't necessarily show, outwardly - well maybe it does, maybe that's just old age...

Other changes, besides the weather, are forthcoming as well. Like the change or continuation of our governing bodies. Local and otherwise. It's the election cycle, that recurring civic duty and responsibility to participate in the democratic experiment of our founding fathers. I hope, if you are legally eligible, that you are prepared to submit your vote by having already registered. Study the candidates and the platforms that they portray, so that you can vote with your head and intellect as well as your heart and conscience. National elections are important but it is in our towns, counties and cities where the governing is most likely to help, hinder or promote a lifestyle and day to day quality of life.

I am keenly becoming more aware of that since my move to the small town life about 6 years ago. I don't know if any one else is having the problem of exasperation at the municipal doldrums that seem to drone on and languish in minutia, when there are important and maybe ambitious opportunities at hand. Communities living in the 21st century can and should reach for and, with cooperation and thoughtful efforts, have some expectation of achieving them.

Solar Energy for the Drain Civic Center

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uncertainty it's much better to be prepared and think ahead so that we can mitigate potential disruptions and take care of our citizens.

The current status at the Civic Center, a power outage will prevent it's use for any of the needed functions of emergency use in most regards. A Solar Energy System would answer most all of those questions besides the added benefit of saving thousands of dollars in energy costs for electricity.

So, of course, the first thought is, "Well how much is that going to cost, sounds great but surely we can't afford that". Well there is actually a way.

HB 2021 created a \$50 million fund at ODOE to provide grants for planning and developing community renewable energy and energy resilience projects. It's called the Community Renewable Energy Grant Program (C-REP). This is a working grant program that has provided over \$64M in fiscal 2023/2024 and will be open for applications in early 2025. The grant amounts are funded at 100% with provisions for \$100,000 for planning and \$1,000,000 for construction. This is 100% funded for constructing a community energy resilience project.

This information is not unknown to city administrator Jeni Stevens and she has spoken on the possibility to a number of interested people. At the September 9th City Council meeting she brought it up for discussion and it was mostly a dismissive response. The Mayor quickly said she was a definite no. Her first criticism was that it the aesthetics for her and it would be an eyesore. Only 2 council persons were present, one asked who was paying to clean and maintain it and then seemed to focus on the speculation of snow on the roof causing malfunction or loss of power. The City Manager explained the basics of the grant funding that was available and the process but it was not discussed much further after concerns of wether the roof would even hold the weight of the panels. When a councilor suggested looking at a diesel generator, the discussion rallied around the reliability and availability of Diesel fuel, parts, maintenance. It is unclear if that included discussing fuel storage, environmental impact,



Not everyone experiences this. I have learned of communities that are reaching for and achieving great rewards for the citizenry. There is an excitement, in these locale's. It underlies the ideas and goals that reflects the energy projected, implemented and the resulting visions materialized. My observations, upon closer inspection, detects quiet but dedicated folks are almost always there, maybe in the shadows, but always lending a hand and serving their neighbors.

Here in Drain I have learned by research and introduction, how, at least at times, the citizens and residents of the community have a culture of dreaming big and making it happen in really big ways to help the community at large. There were robust citizen led city committees that worked individually and together for a variety of local civic needs and events. What I find in the last few years is a gradual dismantling of meaningful citizen input from the voices of the people. Citizen groups have been dissolved or relegated to a non-entity, often tasked and rarely taken into real consideration.

I have looked into the Civic Center Committees admonishments and there is a documented record of a lack of action on the part of the city for a prolonged period, with a great deal of preparation and research on the part of CCAC, with clear guidelines, budgetary and otherwise. Then the city completely deviates from the process and autonomously makes purchases more expensive, not made in USA or even fitting the requirements for the intended use as determined by the committee. I would have taken that as a slap in the face, certainly it's kind of rude.

I am also really at odds with trying to understand the Council reaction and responses on the subject of the discussion of a Solar Energy System for the Civic Center. I expect that the Council should have more concern for legitimate

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aesthetics, noise, issues with neighbors or other aspects, but it was clear that would be the choice.

Without any real input, just a back pocket reaction, the residents of Drain seems to be denied the option of a significant development possibility for use and needs. The electric consumption from the buildings and property of the Civic Center & Library is significant and in fact the administration seems quite concerned about that fact. Doesn't make much sense to just ignore that without serious inquiry into the very specific data that is available. The citizens, residents and visitors to Drain deserve to avail all the incentives and rewards affording for their use, especially in public places.

It only takes a perfunctory search online or make a few phone calls to get layman's answers to all the questions and concerns offered by the council and it becomes pretty obvious no one has done even that. Starting with maintenance, it turns these modern systems require very little and the industry standard is once to twice a year maintenance schedule. Costs for services vary from \$200 to \$600 on average and is available in our area. According to Solar Protect Org:

"Solar panel cleaning prices can vary depending on several factors. These variables include the size of the panel system, panel location, accessibility, and level of dirt or debris accumulation. On average, you can expect to pay between \$150 and \$500 per cleaning session. To maintain efficiency, it's recommended to clean your panels at least once or twice a year."

Generators do generally have lower up front costs compared to solar power systems, but they incur ongoing expenses for fuel and maintenance. Solar power systems have higher initial investment costs but offer long-term savings on electricity bills and is attainable through existing Grants and incentive programs.

Snow? Have you been to LaPine or Bend, and many other places who have a lot more snow than we do and Solar is part of the landscape. According to energy.gov:

"A dusting of snow has little impact on solar panels

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Government

Know your local Representatives!

Drain

- Mayor: Erin Sparhawk
Council Position #1: Grant Vaughan
Council Position #2: Kevin VanPelt
Council Position #3: Katie Decker
Council Position #5: Aaron Lymath
City Administrator: Jeni Stevens
City Council Meeting: 10/14/24 - 6pm

Yoncalla

- Mayor: Kathleen Wertz
Councilors: Dan Wagoner
Gene Vroman
Harold Gilpin
Bryce Wertz
City Administrator: Jennifer Bragg
Council Meeting: 10/08/24 - 6pm

Elkton

- Mayor: Daniel Burke
Council President: Joan Smith
Council Members:
Kim Moore
Dan Shepherd
Sandra Galli
Public Works Supervisor: Gary Trout
Council Meeting: 10/10/24 - 8:30am

Oakland

- Mayor: Bette Keehley
Counselor: Jan Wier
Counselor: Kent Rochester
Counselor: Sky Ironplow
Counselor: Betty Tamm
Council Meeting: 10/14/24 - 7pm

Sutherlin

- Mayor: Michelle Sumner
Council President: Debbie Hamilton
Councilor: Lisa Woods
Councilor: Joe Grossman
Councilor: Larry Whitaker
Councilor: Shawn Smalley
Councilor: Gary Dagle
City Manager: Jerry Gillham
Council Meeting: 10/14/24 - 7:15pm

Reedsport

- Mayor: Linda McCollum
Council Position #1: Rob Wright
Council Position #2: DeeDee Murphy
Council Position #3: Chuck Miller
Council Position #5: Allen Teitzel
Council Position #5: Rich Patten
Council Position #7: Debby Turner
Council Meeting: 11/04/24 - 7pm

Cottage Grove

- Mayor: Candace Solesbee
Councilor Ward 1: Open Seat
Councilor Ward 2: Jon Stinnett
Councilor Ward 3: Dana Merryday
Councilor Ward 4: Greg Ervin
Councilor: Open Seat
Councilor: Open Seat
Council Meeting: 10/14/24 - 6:55pm
10/28/24 - 6:55pm

County State & Federal

- Douglas County Commissioners:
Tom Kress (Chair) Tim Freeman
Chris Boice Jennifer Miller
Lane County Commissioners:
Dist 1: Ray Ceniga Dist 2: David Lovall
Dist 3: Laurie Trierger Dist 4: Pat Farr
Dist 5: Heather Buch
Oregon House Representative:
District 02: Virgle Osborne
Oregon State Senator:
District 1: David Brock Smith
U.S. Senate Oregon:
Jeff Merkley
Ron Wyden
U.S House of Representatives:
District 4: Val Hoyle
Secretary of State:

- LaVonne Griffin-Valade
Attorney General: Ellen Rosenblum
Governor: Tina Kotek
Vice-President: Kamala Harris
President: Joe Biden

It is important to know your representation in your State, Districts and Municipalities. REMEMBER it is vital to your freedoms to vote. If you would like to have your own towns municipal officers listed please send title & names only to citydesk@ndherald.com



N Douglas & S Lane Community Page

OSP seizes 1/2 million Fentanyl-laced pill

Douglas County, OR - An Oregon State Police trooper recently stopped 100 pounds of fentanyl-laced pills from making it to Portland.

On Sept. 24, 2024, at about 1 p.m., an Oregon State Trooper stopped a vehicle for a traffic violation on Interstate 5 in Douglas County. Upon contact with the operator of the silver Volkswagen SUV, the trooper suspected possible criminal activity and received consent to search the vehicle.

During the search, the trooper discovered and seized 100 pounds of fentanyl-laced pills – approximately 450,000 individual doses – from inside the vehicle. The suspect acknowledged the pills were destined for Portland.

Due to the large quantity of illegal substances seized, the suspect, Gustavo Alonso Franco Valenzuela (32) of Los Angeles (CA), was arrested and federally charged with delivery of a controlled substance.



Drain Civic Center Advisory Committee, Recruiting Members Working on Specific Community Usage Goals

Interested in becoming more involved in the Drain community? Consider joining the Civic Center Advisory Committee (CCAC)! The CCAC has three main goals: 1) Reduce the building's electricity costs, 2) Minimize and/or remove barriers to community usage of the Civic Center space, 3) Increase the building's emergency preparedness for the community, and 4) Create a welcoming, engaging, and usable space for all ages and abilities in our community. The CCAC has multiple projects we are working on, and we'd like to give our community an update on one recent decision by the Drain City Council.

Since March 2024, the CCAC has recommended the Drain City Council begin updating the rental tables in the Civic Center. Our recommendation was to 1) Update the tables over 3 fiscal years, 2) Spend up to \$2,000 on tables this fiscal year, 3) Purchase a mix of Lancaster made in USA 30"x72" rectangular tables, 60" round tables, and 48" round tables, 4) Begin by replacing only 1 cart's worth of tables, and 5) Get community feedback on style and quality of the new tables before replacing all the tables.

At the August Drain City Council meeting, the Council chose to ignore the CCAC's recommendation. Instead, the Council chose to proceed with the City of Drain's staff recommendation of purchasing ten 8' and ten 6' rectangular tables, spending approximately \$2,500, purchasing a brand other than Lancaster (the new tables that have arrived are not made in USA), and surplus all 23 of the existing wood rectangular tables.

The CCAC is disappointed in the Council's decision and would like an explanation as to why the Council chose to make such a decision without explaining why, after months of research and detailed reasoning by the CCAC. We would like to get all community groups on the same page, and have community input on the new style, before more tables are ordered.

The CCAC meets the first Thursday of every month at 6:15 PM in the Drain Civic Center meeting room. Our next meeting is Thursday, November 7. Or, send your suggestions to katrina.johns08@gmail.com. Public involvement is welcome and encouraged at every meeting.

-the Civic Center Advisory Committee

Good News for Yoncalla Beautification Projects

The Yoncalla Beautification Committee recently was notified that its Federal non-profit status has been renewed. This allows tax deductible status for all donations and contributions made to the Committee. Mary Ellen Lasswell, Committee president, received confirmation of how the non-profit status benefits the community when she received a phone call from an anonymous donor pledging matching funds up to \$5000 for community beautification projects. This pledge has the potential to become a \$10,000 donation. Public donations are vital for the completion of Beautification Committee projects as the committee has no base financial support.

At the October 24 meeting, Committee members conducted a brain-storming session to discuss proposed projects for the coming year. A current proposal is to increase the number of hanging flower baskets on Eagle Valley Road and Main Street. Metal posts for the baskets would be built by Yoncalla High School shop students. Another proposal is to update and replace signs listing services within Yoncalla. The Committee encourages attendance by anyone who has ideas for "improving the livability for our community while reflecting the pride of our small town." Beautification Project meetings are regularly held the 24th of each month beginning at 6:00 p.m. at the Community Center.

Continued from Page 2 Solar

because the wind can easily blow it off. Light is able to forward scatter through a sparse coating, reaching the panel to produce electricity. It's a different story when heavy snow accumulates, which prevents PV panels from generating power. Once the snow starts to slide, though, even if it only slightly exposes the panel, power generation is able to occur again."

"The majority of PV panels in the field today have frames, which tend to create localized stresses at the mounting points..... The absence of a frame allows the snow to slide off. With or without frames, though, it's important to note that snow can actually help clean a PV module as it melts away. It's similar to what happens to a car's windshield: if the snow is allowed to

melt off, the windshield is left without a speck of debris. That's because any dirt on the glass will bond with the snow, washing it away when the sun melts it off. The anti-soiling properties of snow inherently make solar panels cleaner and able to reach higher efficiencies."

Part of the design is to determine slope angles needed for contributing to the melt and slide effects of snow and even ice. And as far as weight, there are solar specialist, locally, who can use satellite imaging to zero in and determine the construction needed for installation. It is unlikely that there is any structural problem with the roof integrity and inspections are made in very early stage of design to determine specific installation requirements. As far as aesthetics, it is a plethora of style and characteristics available and the location is on the south side of the building, no

neighbors to not like it.

Compare the advantage to Diesel and it only takes a little scratching the surface to see problems and difficulties. To insure availability of fuel, especially in the case of natural disasters, the ability to store additional diesel fuel on-site means that you can run the diesel generator for longer, in prolonged applications – this can be a major problem. When running a diesel generator for a longer than anticipated period of time, it's important to ensure that the fuel supply is replenished. This means that not only will you need staff on-site to refuel the generator, or they will also have to make sure that diesel fuel deliveries make it on time. It's important to prepare a contingency plan on who will be keeping the diesel generator properly fueled and that a diesel fuel delivery service is able to make it when you need

it. This could be challenging in situations such as forest fire, earthquakes, flood, blizzards, and other bouts of inclement weather. For this sole reason, this is one of the biggest disadvantages when compared to a Solar Energy system. When the Diesel engine quits - no more power. A Solar Energy System with battery storage can continue powering the facility.

With emissions regulations becoming increasingly more stringent, diesel generators are still at a disadvantage. Even though newer diesel generators run much cleaner when compared to the diesel generators of old, they still produce a thick, smoky, strong smelling exhaust. These emissions produced are toxic to both humans and animals and can even be fatal when inhaled in large quantities over

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**Yoncalla
Beautification Project**

GREAT NEWS!

A VERY GENEROUS PERSON IN OUR AREA HAS PLEDGED \$5000 TO OUR YONCALLA BEATIFICATION PROJECT, IF WE CAN MATCH THAT AMOUNT WITH DONATIONS FROM OUR COMMUNITY BY THE 31ST OF DECEMBER!

*Please help us reach this goal.
No donation is too small.
If we all pitch in we can do this.
Imagine what we can accomplish!*

Thank you.

**Yoncalla Beatification
P. O.Box 936
Yoncalla OR 97499**

School is in Session

Douglas County Male Prep Athlete of the Week:



Hunter Vaughn, North Douglas Sport: Football.
Positions: Running back, defensive end.
Age: 17.
Hobbies/Interests: Basketball, hunting, hanging out with friends.
Favorite Athlete: Jeremiah Smith, Ohio State wide receiver.
Performance: Scored seven touchdowns (four kickoff returns and three runs) and added a pair of two-point conversions in the first quarter of last week's 88-38 win over Country Christian, setting an eight-man state record for most points (46) in a quarter. Finished with 450 all-purpose yards, 120 of them rushing.

Yoncalla Elementary Receives Wellness Grant

Yoncalla Elementary School was recently awarded \$35,000 thanks to The Ford Family Foundation Innovation Grant. The grant funds specifically focus on building a "Building a Culture of Wellness" for all staff working with our preschool and elementary students. All staff were invited to share feedback through surveys and questionnaires prior to the grant submission. Staff identified the following activities as priority areas: fitness challenges, after school yoga, alternative health access, nutrition classes and community building events. Helgren said, "I wrote the grant because of the symbiotic relationship between a healthy, well supported staff and their ability to create transformational learning environments -my job as a leader is to thoughtfully care for my staff so they are well prepared to meet the complex needs of our learners."

Over the past 5 years Helgren has written several grants focusing on early childhood education, parent engagement, math and literacy practices and staff wellness. "Erin takes her job as a leader very seriously," stated Yoncalla School District Superintendent Brian Berry.

"Her passion for her students, staff, and community is unmatched. That is just one of the reasons why we have seen a positive culture shift at the elementary school."

When focusing on the benefits of wellness in the workplace, the results tend to be increased productivity and stability, but if you take the time to develop an effective program that regularly supports the health of employees you are creating a culture of wellness that may lead to sustainable and long-term health for Yoncalla Elementary employees.

Letters from the Librarian

"After the keen still days of September, the October sun filled the world with mellow warmth...The maple tree in front of the doorstep burned like a gigantic red torch. The oaks along the roadway glowed yellow and bronze. The fields stretched like a carpet of jewels, emerald and topaz and garnet. Everywhere she walked the color shouted and sang around her."

—Elizabeth George Speare, *The Witch of Blackbird Pond*



Our community greets October and all its autumn goodness. Look for the return of "yarn club" on Wednesdays at 4 pm, where knitting and crocheting and good company are available for all ages. Group leaders can instruct you in a new fiber art or you can bring your existing work in progress.

Honoring and learning about our area's first residents, this month the library hosts a four-week program of Kalapuya cultural fun for students from North Douglas Elementary School. We wrap up that series by inviting the whole community on Saturday October 26 at 1 pm. Hear a Native American flute, see traditional

beadwork and regalia. For our preschool and toddler friends, storytime returns Tuesdays at 11 am beginning November 4. Movies for families are Wednesdays at 5.

Looking to get involved with a club or community volunteer opportunity? Garden club is the second Saturday of each month, Friends of the Library meets the first Tuesday, the board meets the third Wednesday, YonDr book group alternates between Yoncalla and Drain, and the Civic Center volunteer committee meets regularly as well. Call the library at 541-836-2648 for more information about any of these programs or materials. Miriam Sisson, Director Mildred Whipple Library, North Douglas Library District ndld.org 541-836-2648

Yoncalla Public Library Notes

by Fawn Sybrant

Here comes Fall! Join us at The Haunted Library on October 31st from 4-7pm. Wear your best costume and stay for some candy and activities for the kids. Keep an eye on our Facebook page for all the details.

The library is looking for volunteers! We're looking for a few people that are interested in planning events or programs several times a year. If you've ever had an idea of something you'd like to see at the library and would like to become more involved in the Yoncalla

community, this might be a great option for you.

We're also looking for someone who is interested in bringing art to the library by working with local artists and crafters to display their work. If this sounds like you, please reach out by leaving us a comment, sending a message, or giving us a call at (541) 849-2128

Follow us on Facebook for more information and to see what we're up to every week. Our hours are M 1-5, W 10-4, Th 4-7, and Sat 10-2. See you at the library!

Good News

for Yoncalla Beautification Projects

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Editorial

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opportunities that can significantly address some of their own complaints than what I heard in Council. Literally dismissed without going beyond the obvious lack of any informed source information so that hip pocket speculation gave way to embracing an environmentally, un-neighborly, continually costly, dangerous and unreliable, but familiar, alternative that doesn't actually fit the bill.

I want thank all of our readers as we go through a transitional phase. The Herald has suspended our free mailed subscriptions. It's a necessary move to continue expanding and improving the newspaper. The cost of mailing was already draining our resources and the last rate hike just about did us in. Like I said it's a good thing because the Herald is still free to all and it is more feasible to expand our pickup points, increase production and content to give you an even better product, more pages, more color and more news. I am projecting 5000 readers by the first of the year 2025. Along the way we will be adding newspaper racks at our pickup points and a new delivery vehicle to shorten delivery times. Please consider a donation to help us in that important expansion.

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Business Matters *Sponsored By Zolezzi Insurance Agency* *A Better Brand of Insurance Service*

Reports Highlight the Damage to the Economy if Congress lets Section 199A of the Tax Code Lapse

Two reports issued in September, one with state-specific data, highlight the economic damage that will ensue if Congress lets the 20% Small Business Deduction expire next year.

“Both reports should eliminate whatever lingering doubts Congress has about the paramount importance of making the 20% Small Business Deduction permanent and not letting it lapse at the end of 2025,” said Anthony Smith, Oregon state director for NFIB, which last Thursday released its 2024 NFIB Tax Survey and another report in conjunction with EY (Ernst & Young).

“The EY report had some Oregon-

specific numbers on the jobs and GDP to be gained by making the 20% Small Business Deduction permanent,” said Smith, “and our report detailed some of the steps small business owners will take if it is allowed to expire.”

According to EY, “The tax change is estimated to increase US job equivalents at small businesses by approximately 1.2 million jobs, on average, in each of the first ten years and growing over time to 2.4 million each year after that.” On the gross domestic product, “permanently extending the Section 199A deduction is estimated to increase US GDP at small business by \$75 billion annually, over the

first 10 years; and growing over time to \$150 billion annually each year thereafter.”

The Oregon share of those two calculations (Page 7, Page 9) are 18,000 jobs \$986 million each year for the first 10 years and 35,000 jobs \$2 billion each year after 2035.

NFIB’s Tax Survey found that should Small Business Deduction expire, 61% plan to raise prices, 44% will postpone or cancel capital investments, 36% will postpone or cancel hiring additional employees, 16% will freeze wages or reduce employee benefits, 10% will become more productive, more efficient, and the remaining would take a variety of other

actions. (Page 7)

Jeff Brabant, NFIB’s vice president of Federal Government Relations, previously testified before the Senate Committee on Finance, chaired by Oregon Sen. Ron Wyden, and concluded his remarks with, “Members of Congress should ask themselves if they really believe it when they say, ‘small businesses are the backbone of America.’ If they truly believe that statement and value small businesses in their communities, then making the 20% small business deduction permanent should be an easy decision.”



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Continued from Page 1

Sutherlin’s Ford Pond Community Park

acres as a community park allowed for the rest to remain an open space park. Listening to the public’s needs and ideas led to the best result, a great park for everyone. Collaborating with community members on the birding plaza and interpretive panels introduced us to some very talented and generous people. Working with a USFWS grant and partnering with the Sutherlin FFA Chapter students to restore 50 acres of oak savanna has been such a rewarding experience. At the end of the day, the volunteers and the community are the reason we now have Ford’s Pond Community Park.” Beth Houseman, Friends of Ford’s Pond

Prior to the official release, Brandi Medeiros, Community Development Assistant for the City of Sutherlin, provided insight into the myriad of projects completed throughout the summer of 2024. A list of recent work includes, the play safety surfacing installation, the paving of the .9 mile section of the ADA accessible path, the installation of the boardwalk through wetland mitigation areas has been completed, the ping pong table, by Stone Age Concrete Table Tennis, has been installed, the lawn section has been freshly seeded. The benches, picnic tables and trash receptacles have also been put into place. The RV parking area is paved and striped.

All awaited the announcement from the city that the park was open for hiking, fishing, kayaking, bird watching, walking along the path, the all inclusive playground with swings, slides, merry-go-round, musical instruments and picnics with a view of the pond. This one-of-a-kind, 202 acre park is equipped with a completely paved, 1.7 mile path that encircles Ford’s Pond. Interpretive panels highlight what you see as you walk through this nature reserve. The brand new, all inclusive playground welcomes children of all ages to come play, explore, and enjoy this beautiful area. It is fully equipped with natural features, covered pavilions, picnic tables, benches, restroom facilities, and the proudly featured, concrete, ping pong table. Whatever your preference is, this special place is the ‘Jewel in the Crown’ for Sutherlin, Oregon.

As the ceremony progressed, those who were instrumental and invaluable in bringing the project to fruition were acknowledged. Many words of thanks were given to the city staff, volunteers, funding agencies, vendors, contractors and community members. All of whom, with their dedication and countless hours of hard work, brought the vision of the park into a reality for the community.

Continued from Page 3

Solar Energy System for Drain Civic Center

a prolonged period of time. When installing a backup diesel generator, it’s important to either install the unit outside away from the facility within a weatherproof or sound-attenuated enclosure or if installing indoors, then properly set up a designated generator room that is equipped with a sufficient exhaust system that can safely funnel emissions outside without exposing employees and other tenants within the building to these harmful emissions.

Industrial generators produce noise and lots of it. Diesel generators tend to be extra loud. While this may not be a concern if a diesel generator is installed outside in a spacious suburban or rural location, it could definitely pose a problem in an urban location. Diesel generators especially can produce extremely loud noise levels at high decibels that can cause headaches or even damage human eardrums when exposed to it. While installing a sound-attenuated enclosure may help reduce the overall noise, it may still be loud enough to bother those around you. If a diesel generator is installed in a designated generator room, it’s important to pick a location that prevents the noise and vibrations produced by the generator from negatively affecting your employees and tenants within the facility. Pollution – The emission of air pollutants like carbon monoxide and nitrogen oxide is high in diesel-run generators.

High installation cost- Even if the fuel prices were low, the installation costs for diesel generators would be high as it requires high skill and knowledge of all components. Fuel or oil spills around the generator, leakages from the unit’s fuel system and fuel supply lines, and presence of combustible materials around the generator will pose a risk of an explosion.

Simply said, we will pay a lot more for that solar panel type replacement system but you can use it a lot more of the time than a generator might be able to serv. A generator just for emergencies needs to be run periodically to keep it in good order. For day to day use it must have a fuel delivery system that can be relied upon, with its costs. It has parts that wear out faster than a good battery and solar system is likely too. That precludes using lead acid batteries, as was the usual in the past for off grid solar electric systems. LiFePO batteries are much better today, capable of many thousands of full charge/discharge cycles.

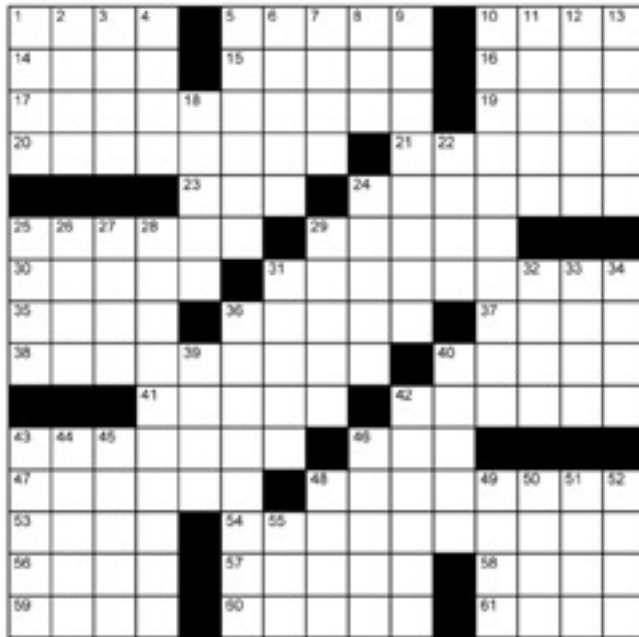
The conversation should be continued. There is every reason for the City of Drain to revisit this issue and if need be, more citizens need to become familiar with the options and learn how this type of progressive city and city management can bring opportunity, progress, citizen amenities and overall betterment for the residents and citizens of the Drain area.

October Crossword Puzzle Sponsored by Studio Tattoo

September Crossword Solution

Across

- 1. Hindu wrap
- 5. Exonerate
- 10. Pack (down)
- 14. Pond croaker
- 15. Part of a roof
- 16. Way, way off
- 17. Ford's first assembly line, e.g.
- 19. Fine-tune, as muscles
- 20. Traffic stopper
- 21. Not the sharpest tool in the shed
- 23. Sensitive subject, to some
- 24. Puffed up, as a sprain
- 25. Hulled corn used in grits
- 29. River craft
- 30. Flip over
- 31. Customer base
- 35. Tip
- 36. Palm leaf
- 37. Mixed in with
- 38. Business law preventing monopolies
- 40. Kind of date
- 41. Got out of bed
- 42. Easy on the eyes
- 43. Renowned
- 46. Family nickname
- 47. Surgical cutter
- 48. Place for new recruits
- 53. Details, briefly
- 54. Fear of heights
- 56. Wedding cake layer
- 57. Wound dressing



- 58. Help for the poor
- 59. Bring in
- 60. Keyboard key
- 61. Majors and Horsley
- Down**
- 1. Recipe direction
- 2. First-rate
- 3. Kentucky senator Paul
- 4. "Eyes Without a Face" singer
- 5. Steep and rocky
- 6. Like a ballerina
- 7. Make revisions
- 8. "Give it ___!"
- 9. Famous
- 10. Playground snitch
- 11. Run ___ of
- 12. Clergyman's house
- 13. Get gussied up
- 18. Delicious dish
- 22. Welcome benefit
- 24. New Orleans player
- 25. Kind of skirt
- 26. Pop the cork
- 27. Butcher's stock
- 28. Fall decoration
- 29. ___ at hand
- 31. Pizza part
- 32. Send forth
- 33. Pocket particles
- 34. Singer Arnold
- 36. Type of road
- 39. Christmas decoration
- 40. Clear soup
- 42. Like some nouns
- 43. Privileged group
- 44. Frenzy
- 45. Surmise
- 46. Part of BYOB
- 48. Like some champagne
- 49. Mine product
- 50. Up to the task
- 51. Street performer
- 52. Packers play, perhaps
- 55. Campbell's container



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Event Calendar on Page 7

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
		75° 46°	66° 44°	69° 45°	70° 48°	70° 49°
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
67° 44°	67° 44°	70° 46°	69° 44°	65° 44°	62° 40°	61° 38°
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
62° 39°	69° 39°	70° 40°	69° 46°	61° 46°	60° 43°	60° 38°
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
63° 38°	65° 38°	66° 39°	66° 40°	61° 39°	62° 40°	66° 42°
27	28	29	30	31	1	2
65° 45°	63° 44°	56° 42°	55° 37°	55° 36°	58° 36°	60° 37°



413 Umpqua HWY38, Drain Oregon

Veterans Corner

Oregon Veterans may Qualify for Home-Modification Grants through the DVA.

Oregon has more than 270,000 veterans, and many of them may not know they're eligible for home modification grants through the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. An AARP survey found 60% of veterans aged 45 and older weren't aware of grants available through the VA.

Juanita Jimenez-Soto, AARP national veterans and military families manager, said her organization analyzed five grants from the VA and developed a guide to help veterans navigate through them.

"They allow you to buy, build or modify a home to meet their long term needs. Now these grants provide eligible veterans with a disability rating of one all the way to 100% up to \$117,000 to pay for renovations," she explained.

Jimenez-Soto noted financial aid for home modifications are free for people who qualify. The VA offers more than \$150 million through these grant programs each year.

programs to apply for them and get them," she said. AARP's survey also found that nearly a quarter of

veterans say they would need financial aid to stay in their current home. Jimenez-Soto added that it's important for people to think not just about their current needs but also what they might need in the future.

"We find that a lot of times, veterans may not need that modification - that handrail in the bathroom or that ramp - but as you age, your body will change sometimes," she continued.

Jimenez-Soto said veterans need to remember they earned these benefits.

"Sometimes, a veteran may not think that they are deserving of those benefits. Maybe someone else who's also served, they think, 'Well they could need it more.' The thing is, there is enough money out there in these programs to apply for them and get them," she said.


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 Church of the Nazarene
 337 C Avenue
 Sunday Sch 9:30am Worship 10:45am

Drain Church of Christ
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 541-836-2315
 SS 9:30am/Svc 10:30am/W&T 6pm

YONCALLA
 Assembly of God
 1008 Hayhurst Rd
 541-849-2800
 Sunday 10:30am Wednesday 5:30pm

Church of Christ
 225 Birch St
 Sunday School 9:55am
 Sunday Worship 10:45am

Seventh-day Adventist Church
 278 Douglas St
 Saturday Worship 10am -12pm

ELKTON
 Elkton Bible Baptist Church
 (541) 584-2808
 420 2nd St
 Sunday Worship 10am

Elkton Christian Church
 344 3rd St.
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If you would like to see your Church listed in the directory, please send email to: churchdirectory@ndherald.com. Or send US Mail to: ChurchDirectory North Douglas Herald PO Box 581 Drain OR 97435 Include: Name, address, phone & worship hours - 4 lines only.

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Obituary

Phyllis A. Clark, age 84, of Roseburg, Oregon, passed away on Friday, September 20, 2024. ARRANGEMENTS PENDING TAYLOR'S FAMILY CHAPEL 541-679-6983



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