



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

## Introducing the Willamette Valley Motoplex Experience

*Story & Photos by Rusty Savage*

You can't miss the site of the Harley-Davidson and Indian dealerships on the south side of Eugene/Springfield, as you approach on I-5N. The Indian

Dealer is relatively new but the Harley-Davidson store has been there since the '90s and now the dealership includes the, historic, Royal Enfield line of motorcycles. Since it opened at that location,

there have been a number of different owners and I want to introduce you to the newest owner and general manager, Joshua Sklaroff. Josh is not new to motorcycles or Harley-Davidson motorcycles, specifically.

"I've always had a passion for motorcycles since I was a kid ever since seeing my Dad on his Harley when he retired from the military. So I started

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## The Hughes Flying Boat

**Now Latest Oregon Entry in the National Register of Historic Places**

*Story by Milo Banks*



Oregon's State Advisory Committee on Historic Preservation recommended the property's nomination at their October 2023 meeting. The National Park Service, which maintains the National Register, accepted the nomination on October 15, 2024.

The Hughes Flying Boat (H-4

Hercules), often referred to as the "Spruce Goose", is nationally significant for its association with Howard R. Hughes, Jr., one of the most influential figures in American aviation history, and for the seaplane's service as a research and testing platform for innovative mechanically

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## Pass Creek Park Closure Controversy

*Story and Photos by Rusty Savage*

It came as quite a surprise to many people when Douglas County announced the permanent closure of Pass Creek Park last September, citing low occupancy rates and not enough revenue to cover operating costs. The Douglas County Board of Commissioners (BOC) has been accused of not playing fair in its continued efforts to close, sell and privatize the Park in spite of local opposition.

Pass Creek County Park and Campground is located right off of Interstate 5 in Curtin, about 12 miles south of Cottage Grove. 22 acres in size, it has a day-use park, pavilion, playground, a pond, and 30 full hook-up campsites, restrooms, and showers.

"Pass Creek County Park simply does not generate enough revenue to cover the annual costs to operate the park

or to support additional investments," said Mark Wall, director of the Douglas County Parks Department. "The Parks Department is intentionally managed to be financially self-sustaining. Therefore, as a department that operates without any general fund support, it is imperative that we make fiscally responsible, and

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

Submit Photos, Recipes, Jokes, Cartoons, artwork and the like: send email to [editor@ndherald.com](mailto:editor@ndherald.com)

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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.  
Zolezzi Insurance Agency, 208 W C Ave  
CG Market, 333 W B Ave  
US Bank, 229 N 1st St  
Hacienda Viera, 237 West B Ave  
Brothers Cafe, 439 W B Ave

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

Rice Hill

Buy 2 Arco, 614 John Long Rd

Scottsburg

Riverbanks Speedy Mart 32841 State HWY 38  
LULD Library Box at Fire Station, 33237 OR 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  
American Market, 911 E Main St

Eugene

Willamette Valley Motoplex, 86441 College View Rd  
7-11, 190 Hwy 99  
7-11, 701 Polk St  
Market of Choice, 1960 Franklin Blvd  
Classic Smoke Shop, 733 State Hwy 99 N  
The Embers Lounge, 1811 Hwy 99 N

Springfield

Dari-Mart, 1950 Mohawk Blvd #38  
Dari-Mart, 1875 Main St  
Dari-Mart, 1554 M St,  
7-11, 1396 Main St  
Heartless & Hopeless Tattoo, 329 Main St

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  
Tyece Landing, 11424 Oregon HWY 138  
Oakland Tavern, 104 Locust St

Sutherlin

Kwik Pik Market & Deli, 551 W Central Ave.  
Smitty's Food Mart & Deli, 1367W Central Ave.  
Center Market, 1230 W Central Ave.  
Smoke Shop, 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  
Buy 2 Arco, 2530 NE Stephens St  
Mini Pet Mart, 194 Birch St

Albany

7-11, 333 34th Ave SE  
AM PM, 33200 OR-34

North Douglas Herald

PO Box 581, Drain OR 97435

Rusty Savage, Editor

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# Editorial

By Rusty Savage

“Oh what a world, what a world, what a world!” That’s what the Wicked Witch of the West said when she melted away in her watery demise. She didn’t know any better, she was the Wicked Witch of the West. She was destined to her fate. Well that’s the way Frank L Baum wrote it anyway. Looking beyond my immediate community and seeing the ways and means of this entire world, I feel like, ‘Oh what a world’.

The farther you zoom out the more intense it gets, with wars, famines, natural disasters and even pestilence. It’s a rough world out there isn’t it? Then, like using the microscope, we can dial in a little closer and our national landscape looks a little divisive, sometimes dangerous and often a dismissive, mistress that scoffs at our toil and our concerns. But you know what? You can dial it down a little further and you find yourself in your home or neighborhood with those, physically, close to you.

The difference in this aperture and the former is that someone else is writing those stories and at this magnification, you can write your own story. The main protagonist in this story is you and you are also the author. All you have to do is start writing the story. A story has 3 parts. The beginning, middle and the end. In your story, from this day forward, you are in the middle, no matter where you think you are. The reason is that you may rewrite anything you wish beginning today.

It’s easier to stay positive and find the silver linings if we write ourselves into the hero’s role and save our own day. Visit your friends and have a laugh. Walk around the block and stop by a friends house. Talk to your kids about something great that they did. Go to lunch with a co-worker. Put down the phone and turn off the TV. Fix something different for dinner. Spontaneously start dancing with your partner in the quiet night. Find joy in any one thing each day and build on it, at least, a little each day and you will be writing the true story of your life. The world goes on in a never ending story and it doesn’t generally revolve around us and it certainly spins on with or without us. Your story is more important than that.

Oh yea, I did overdo the Thanksgiving festivities, as usual. Giving Thanks by gorging 19 kinds of meats, vegetables and desserts seems a bit incongruous but heh, it’s a tradition. Actually

the food does bring us together but it’s not lost on anyone that the communal and familial love of togetherness is the real treat. And each year we mark another notch in the spiritual belt. What am I thankful for. Being here with all you crazy folk.

This issue ends year 2 of this journey of news and information gathering. The North Douglas Herald continues to expand our coverage. Now there are over 70 locations that you can pick up the Herald each month, check the list on the left column. And it has been a disappointment to us here at the Herald when financial realities forced us to discontinue free mailings, but the upside to it is that it has allowed us to expand coverage through our growing list of pickup points. Additionally, it is with some excitement that I can announce that The Herald is developing a home delivery system that will roll out first in the communities of Drain, Elkton and Yoncalla, beginning in January. In February and March we will extend to all of our service areas. If you are interested in being a newscarrier or if you are interested in home delivery, check out the article on page 6 or send an inquiry to [carrier@ndherald.com](mailto:carrier@ndherald.com)

Well the elections are over and the work must begin. We are all winners if we work together and make it a little better place. My Dad used to always insist that “You always do your work to the best of your ability and finish the task, then do 10% more”. My Dad was a wise man and it was many years until I understood what he meant and what he wanted me to do. Not for him, but for myself. we can use that extra 10% to make our world better, not just for the world but for ourselves.

Thank you for your continued support, both, through your readership but also your financial support in helping us to grow and bring free quality newspapers to all Oregonians across our region. We are working on newsracks, both wire and enclosed, to continue improving our exposure as well as our coverage. Your donations go straight to our delivery fund.

# Letters to the Editor

## This was Interesting

My wife’s Pastor didn’t notice the three armed Jesus he put in his slide show last Sunday. I asked my Chatbot why AI keeps f’ing up the human body. The answer was interesting but scary. Scary to think that we are handing our future the over to AI and “Humans are a tough nut to crack” “We don’t know how things are supposed to look” AI-generated images of human hands, arms, and legs often turn out odd because of the following challenges:

ChatBot wrote the explanation after a prompt of why does A.I. have a problem drawing humans.

### Complex Anatomy:

Human limbs have intricate proportions, musculature, and joint dynamics that require precise understanding to depict accurately. Hands are particularly challenging due to their highly variable shapes, fine details, and range of motion.

### Training Data Limitations:

AI models like DALL-E are trained on datasets of existing images and art. If the training data contains inconsistencies or lacks enough detailed, high-quality examples of human anatomy, the model will struggle to generalize and recreate these features convincingly.

### Ambiguity in Prompts:

AI often misinterprets or overcompensates for vague prompts, leading to anatomically incorrect or extra limbs, fingers, or distorted proportions. It lacks an intuitive grasp of “how things should look.”

### Lack of Contextual Awareness:

AI doesn’t inherently understand human

# 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: 12/09/24 - 6pm

## Yoncalla

Mayor: **Kathleen Wertz**  
Councilors: **Dan Wagoner**  
**Gene Vroman**  
**Harold Gilpin**  
**Bryce Wertz**  
City Administrator: **Jennifer Bragg**  
Council Meeting: 12/10/24 - 6pm

## Elkton

Mayor: **Daniel Burke**  
Council President: **Joan Smith**  
Council Members:  
**Kim Moore**  
**Dan Shepherd**  
**Sandra Galli**  
Public Works Supervisor: **Gary Trout**  
Council Meeting: 12/12/24 - 8:30am

## Oakland

Mayor: **Bette Keechley**  
Counselor: **Jan Wier**  
Counselor: **Kent Rochester**  
Counselor: **Sky Ironplov**  
Counselor: **Betty Tamm**  
Council Meeting: 12/09/24 - 7pm

## Sutherlin

Mayor : **Michelle Sumner**  
Council President **Debbie Hamilton**  
Councilor **Lisa Woods**  
Councilor **Joe Groussman**  
Councilor **Larry Whitaker**  
Councilor **Shawn Smalley**  
Councilor **Gary Dagel**  
City Manager **Jerry Gillham**  
Council Meeting: 12/09/24 - 7:15pm

## Reedsport

Mayor : **Linda McCollum**  
Council Position #1: **Rob Wright**  
Council Position #2: **Cindy Wegner**  
Council Position #3: **Chuck Miller**  
Council Position #5: **Allen Teitzel**  
Council Position #5: **Rich Patten**  
Council Position #7: **Debby Turner**  
Council Meeting: 12/04224 - 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: Not listed

## County State & Federal

Douglas County Commisioners:  
**Tom Kress**(Chair) **Tim Freeman**  
**Chris Boice** **Jennifer Miller**  
Lane County Commissioners:  
Dist 1: **Ray Ceniga** Dist 2: **David Lovall**  
Dist 3: **Laurie Trieger** 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. RE-MEMBER 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](mailto:citydesk@ndherald.com)*



# Douglas & Lane County Public Safety Report

## Sutherlin Woman Rescued from Wilderness Near Reedsport

**Douglas County, OR** — A 43-year-old Sutherlin woman has been rescued from the wilderness area outside of Reedsport. Mandy Greer was picking mushrooms in the vicinity of Camp Creek Road east of Loon Lake on Tuesday afternoon. She and her significant other had only planned to be out for a few hours.

Just before 5 pm Tuesday, October 29th, 9-1-1 dispatchers received a call from her companion advising they had split up while picking mushrooms, and Greer hadn't returned to their shared vehicle as planned.

Deputies and Search and Rescue responded and spent several hours searching for Greer in response to this report. Search efforts included ground, fixed wing aircraft and drone work. A drone operator identified potential heat signatures, but searchers did not locate Greer. Efforts were paused in the early morning hours but resumed Wednesday morning.

On Wednesday, Douglas County Search and Rescue received resources from the Jackson County Sheriff's Office Search and Rescue unit to assist in search efforts which resumed at 7:00 am. At approximately 9:15 am, a deputy was able to make voice contact with Greer who responded to the deputy's siren sound sweep. Searchers learned Greer was injured and would need assistance in extracting from the forest. When rescuers located Greer, it was determined she had suffered a non-life-threatening injury, was cold and wet.

Rescuers provided first aid, food and hot tea before assisting Greer to the roadway where she was transferred to the care of EMS providers. The Douglas County Sheriff's Office was assisted by Douglas County Search and Rescue, Jackson County Sheriff's Office Search and Rescue, Oregon State Police Aircraft Unit, Sutherlin Police, and Umpqua Valley Ambulance.

## Stabbing Investigation

**Roseburg, OR** — On November 12, 2024 at approximately 8:30 PM, the Roseburg Police Department, along with the Douglas County Sheriff's Office, responded to the 200 block of SE Pine Street, an area referred to as "The Point," regarding a reported stabbing. When officers arrived, they found 31-year-old Jesse Otha Thomas lying on the bike path with multiple stab wounds. Thomas was transported to Mercy Medical Center by Umpqua Valley Ambulance, with non-life threatening injuries and later released.

The suspect in this case, 45-year-old Joshua Daniel Saunders, fled the scene but was located along the South Umpqua riverbank with the use of a FLIR thermal imaging device. After a multi-hour standoff, Saunders was tased and taken into custody without further incident. Saunders was lodged at the Douglas County Jail for Assault 1 and Unlawful Use of a Weapon.

The Roseburg Police Department would like to thank the Douglas County Sheriff's Office and Umpqua Valley Ambulance for their assistance. No further details are being released at this time.

## Shooting Investigation

**Roseburg, OR** — On November 9th at 0315 hours, the Roseburg Police Department responded to multiple reports of gunfire in the 1200 block Hamilton Street, in Roseburg. The responding officers located and identified the shooter as 25 year old Austin Adrian Wall. The responding officers also located Ryan Dale Burchell ( 50 years of age), who sustained several gunshot

wounds. The officers on scene began life saving efforts for Burchell until relieved by paramedics. Burchell was transported to Mercy by ambulance, but ultimately succumbed to his injuries at approximately 0921 hours.

The Douglas County Major Crimes team, which includes the Roseburg Police Department, Douglas County Sheriff's Office, Oregon State Police, and the Douglas County District Attorney's Office, has been activated and a comprehensive and ongoing investigation is occurring. Based on the preliminary investigation, Wall was taken into custody for Murder II and was lodged at Douglas County Corrections.

## OSP seizes 10 lb Fentanyl

**Douglas County, OR** — Oregon State police recently seized almost 10 pounds of illegal drugs during a traffic stop. On Wednesday, Nov. 6, 2024, at about 11 a.m., an Oregon State Trooper stopped a vehicle on Interstate 5 northbound in Douglas County for traffic violations. During the stop, the trooper observed signs of possible criminal activity and requested to search the vehicle. The consent search of the vehicle resulted in the discovery of 9.2 pounds of suspected fentanyl powder.

The vehicle operator, Johana Gonzalez Castillo (27) of Oakland (CA), and passenger, Bayron Enamorado Manueles (26) also of Oakland (CA), were arrested for possession and delivery of fentanyl and lodged at the Douglas County Jail. The case is currently under investigation and no additional information is available for release at this time.

## Can you Identify this Person of Interest?

**Eugene, OR** — The Eugene Police Department (EPD) is looking for help in identifying a person of interest in an animal abuse case that happened on November 19, 2024. According to EPD, the abuse case occurred at approximately 11:00 a.m. near E. 20th Avenue and Amazon Parkway.



This is a developing story, and the details of the abuse case have not been



shared yet. We will update as we receive more information.

## MobileSpike Deployed to End Pursuit

**Lane County, OR** — Just before midnight on November 24th, a Lane County Sheriff's deputy observed a gray 2007 Dodge pickup driving south on I-5 from Goshen at a high rate of speed. A deputy assigned to Creswell attempted a traffic stop as the vehicle passed through the area at over 90 miles per hour, and a pursuit ensued. The deputy deployed his patrol car's MobileSpike system, which began a controlled deflation of a tire on the pickup to slow its speed.

The driver, Jack Daniel Bates, 49, of Oregon City, pulled over after exiting the freeway onto Saginaw Road. The deputies observed signs of impairment. After investigating, Bates was arrested and lodged at the Lane County Jail for DUI, Driving While Suspended - Felony, and Attempt to Elude by Vehicle. - LCSO Case #24-6261

## Deputies Arrest Multiple DUIs over 1 Day

**Lane County, OR** — On November 20th, Lane County Sheriff's deputies handled three DUIs throughout the day. Each of these calls prevented the investigating deputies from handling other pending calls for service for several hours, and each call could have ended far more tragically.

About an hour after midnight, deputies responded to the 76200 block of London Rd., Cottage Grove. A driver in an SUV went into the ditch and was unable to free his vehicle. Deputies observed signs of impairment, and the driver was arrested for DUI.

At the same time, a deputy conducted a traffic stop after observing a vehicle driving poorly on I-5 at 30th Ave. The deputy initiated a traffic stop, and observed signs the driver was impaired. After investigating, the driver was arrested and a family member was called to collect a juvenile passenger from the vehicle.

Later that day, at about 5 p.m., a deputy responded to a crash on N. Coburg Rd. near Paiute Ln. after a vehicle left the roadway and damaged a public utility box. The deputy observed signs of impairment, however the driver refused to cooperate and then resisted arrest. After transport to the Lane County Jail, a search warrant blood draw was applied for and granted. The driver was lodged at the jail for DUI, Resisting Arrest, and Felon in Possession of a Restricted Weapon.

As we head into the holiday season, please consider others on the road:

- Plan your safe ride home ahead of time
- If someone you know has been drinking or using drugs, don't let them get behind the wheel
- If you drink or use drugs, do not drive for any reason
- If you're hosting a party where alcohol will be served, make sure all guests leave with a sober driver
- And please, always wear your seatbelt!

## Hunter and Dog Rescued

**Lane County, OR** — On November 11th at about 4 p.m., Lane County Sheriff's Search & Rescue responded to the area above Hills Creek Dam for an overdue hunter with medical issues. After several hours of searching, SAR personnel located the hunter and provided initial medical care. He was hypothermic and transported by ambulance to an area hospital.

The hunter's dog, an older Rhodesian Ridgeback named Sedona, was not initially located but was later found by campers in

the area. Hunter and dog were reunited the next morning.

## Arrests after Shot Fired

**Creswell, OR** — On November 14th at about 4:30 p.m., Lane County Sheriff's deputies responded to the 200 block of S. 10th St., Creswell, for a report of a physical dispute with a shot fired. No one was injured, however during the investigation deputies found evidence a firearm had been used.

Deputies arrested Douglas Glenn Vertrees, 63, of Creswell, for Unlawful Use of a Weapon and Disorderly Conduct in the 2nd Degree. Another person involved in the dispute, Rebecca Leanne Huse, 38, was arrested on a warrants for:

- Failure to Appear — Possession of Methamphetamine, out of Lane County Circuit Court
- Failure to Appear — Criminal Trespass in the 2nd Degree and Giving false Information to a Police Officer, out of Eugene Municipal Court

Both were lodged at the Lane County Jail. The Lane County Sheriff's Office would like to thank Oregon State Police for their assistance with this call. LCSO Case #24-6091

## Theft Suspect Arrested

**Veneta, OR** — On November 13th at about 7 a.m., Lane County Sheriff's deputies assigned to the City of Veneta received information a stolen camper trailer was in the area of the 87700 block of Territorial Highway, Veneta. When deputies arrived, they discovered the trailer was occupied by Travos James Bechtol, 30, and Melissa Renee Pederson, 33, both of Veneta.

Deputies arrested both suspects, and discovered additional stolen property inside the trailer. Both were lodged at the Lane County Jail for Possession of a Stolen Vehicle. Pederson was in possession of drugs, and was charged with Possession of Methamphetamine. The investigation into the stolen property is ongoing. LCSO Case #24-6070

## Stalker Arrested after Home Burglary

**Eugene, OR** — On November 10th at about 8 a.m., Lane County Sheriff's deputies responded to a panic alarm in the 100 block of Oakleigh Lane, Eugene. A neighbor also called in to report a stalker, identified as David Ivan Piccioni, 55, had broken into the victim's house. The victim confirmed Piccioni had broken in while they were sleeping.

Deputies converged on the area as Piccioni ran. They quickly arrested him nearby on River Road, and lodged him at the Lane County Jail on the following charges:

- Violating Court's Stalking Protective Order
- Stalking
- Burglary in the 1st Degree
- Menacing

The Lane County Sheriff's Office would like to thank the watchful neighbors who assisted the victim and deputies in this case. LCSO Case #24-6018

## Elude Suspect Arrested on Territorial Rd

**Veneta, OR** — On Friday, November 8th, a Lane County Sheriff's deputy attempted to conduct a traffic stop of a vehicle driving through Veneta at high speed just after midnight. The driver of the vehicle attempted to elude the deputy. Deputies were

*Continued on Page 10*



## Letters from the Librarian

*"Time doesn't take away friendship, nor does separation" - Tennessee Williams*



Community, connection, friendship. These are words I've heard from many library patrons over the past months. Heading into the holidays, we are all eager to connect with friends and neighbors and loved ones. The holiday season can be a lonely time for some of us, and sometimes isolation makes a vicious cycle of not reaching out and thus not maintaining connections.

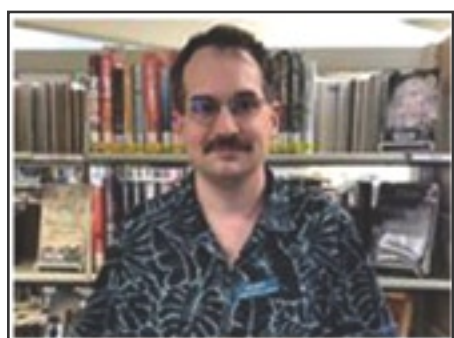
You are so welcome at the library, exactly as you are. Work the puzzle, browse the shelves, use the public

computers or wifi on your own device, join a program or a club.

I know a 14-year-old boy who asks "what are you reading?" as a way to start conversation with someone new, a 20-year-old college student who joined a book club when she was lonely, and a retiree whose service club delivers books (and a visit) to folks who can't get out. Making friends in real life these days can be challenging when so many people live their lives in the car, at work, and on the internet. Making friends through

books is tried and true. Connecting with others is part of what makes a library a special place, and I'm grateful for strong public libraries and the space they give, metaphorical and physical, for friendship. "If there ever comes a day when we can't be together, keep me in your heart. I'll stay there forever." - A.A. Milne  
Miriam Sisson, Director  
Mildred Whipple Library,  
North Douglas Library District  
ndld.org 541-836-2648

## Lower Umpqua Library Announcements



### Lower Umpqua Library News

Art Resources Transfer, a nonprofit organization in New York City, recently donated nearly 40 art books to Lower Umpqua Library District (LULD). These titles are brand

new and cover a variety of specialties. The books in the photo are examples of the materials LULD received from Art Resources Transfer. Earlier this year, the Library of Congress in Washington, D.C. donated approximately 300 titles to LULD. The books and audiobooks from the Library of Congress were also in new condition and cover a wide variety of topics. All of these books may be borrowed from the library by anyone with a library card.

LULD continues to offer traditional library material such as books, DVDs, CDs, and magazines for borrowing, as well as less conventional items

such as WiFi hotspots and extenders, compasses, pedometers, trekking poles (hiking sticks), bicycle locks, computer accessories, and umbrellas. Each item is available for checkout to library card holders for a period of up to three weeks and may be renewed for an additional three weeks unless requested by another patrons. eBooks and eAudiobooks are also available through the Overdrive/Library2Go service that can be accessed through LULD's website.

There are approximately 180 magazine and newspaper subscriptions, which cover a wide

variety of topics and interests.

The library has also developed a World Languages section, which contains titles in non-English languages in a variety of formats, such as books, magazines, and DVDs. Please call, visit, or email the library for more information.

Alex Kuestner, Library Director/  
District Manager  
Lower Umpqua Library District  
395 Winchester Ave  
Reedsport, Oregon 97467  
(541) 271-3500 [www.luld.org](http://www.luld.org)



## Yoncalla Public Library Notes

December is right around the corner and our annual Festive Family Fun Day will be on December 14<sup>th</sup> this year. Join us for crafts, stories, and holiday treats from 10-2. We always have a great turn-out and would love to see everyone again.

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!





# Willamette Valley Motorplex Experience

Continued from Front Page

out as a lot attendant washing vehicles in Washington state when I was in high school”.

After completing high school, Josh eventually worked his way up into the sales department..

“I did that for many years which ignited my passion for sales. After my time selling I again worked my way up to Finance Manager and spent the next several years handling the paperwork for the dealership and working with the banks”.

In 2012, Joshua moved to Idaho, where he started a family and took a position as the General Sales Manager of High Desert Harley-Davidson in Boise, which is now Willamette Valley Harley-Davidson’s sister store. At the beginning of 2023, he got the opportunity to become a partner/owner at the dealership in Eugene.

“My family and I moved to the greater Eugene area and became part of the Willamette Valley Motorplex community. I love this dealership and am here from open to close, five days a week. The other two days you can usually find me riding motorcycles with my kids or fishing on a local river.”

I was curious about the subtle changes I was seeing there on College Ave over the last couple of years. First the addition of the Indian Dealership and now the introduction of Royal Enfield and, now, the unveiling of the Willamette Valley Motorplex as a one stop motorcycle mall with every rider in mind. I picked up the phone and found myself talking with Josh. I could tell that he was a very busy guy but he took time to chat with me about motorcycles and his background in the industry. I could tell he was a ‘people person’. I told him I would like to hear more, would he mind giving me a little tour and maybe a little interview.

Without any advance warning and I didn’t have an appointment, I randomly decided to stop in the other day. I’ve been called brash and unpredictable, ‘sorry Josh’. When I walked in, I could see that he was busy with sales staff and customers so I wandered around looking at the bikes and parts, accessories and apparel.

The first thing I noticed was the display with a brand new Harley paired with a Stratocaster guitar, with matching paint. It’s a Limited Edition Lowrider ST Tobacco Fade and a matching Squire Stratocaster in Tobacco Sunburst. That’s some pairing there. Quite an impressive display of all of the above and throughout the store, folks were browsing, picking up items and talking to sales staff. Everywhere the staff were busy and friendly with customers or busy working with other workers around the place. I could tell that there was a culture of customer care and



professional work ethic. I casually strolled around taking pictures and soon I saw Josh nod towards me and came to greet me with a big smile and handshake.

Josh was surprised to see me but it didn’t slow his smile or demeanor. He told me he only had a minute as things were busy at that moment. As we talked about all the motorcycles and brands he mentioned that one of the directions of focus is the sale of pre-owned motorcycles. They are concentrating on a quality supply of used motorcycles to bring into the market. After a few minutes, I mentioned that being as I was there, maybe I could get a quick interview. With the same focus that I saw with customers and staff, he smiled at me and took me, first, on a quick tour through the service department. Introducing me to various co workers along the way, he called a few over and we snapped a few more pictures.

## The Interview:

*What’s your business philosophy and what trends do you see for the future and what are your plans for leading the Willamette Valley Motorplex into that future.*

Josh- “We are here to serve and contribute to our community. This is a people business first. As a local, family run business, we want to provide an environment where people feel valued. Whether they are a customer, employee, vendor, etc. We go out of our way to provide the best experience possible. We love to see our motorcycling community grow more and more every year. And now offer all Harley-Davidson, Royal Enfield, and Indian Motorcycles.”

*As to your part, towards the growth of that community, what market (demographic) are you reaching for with Harley-Davidson, Indian Motorcycle and Royal Enfield?*

Josh - “Current riders, past riders, future riders, as well as non riders. We have a lot to offer beyond Motorcycles including amazing apparel and merchandise. Everyone is welcome, please stop by and say Hi. I always love to meet new people in the community.”

*Describe your staff and the company culture and how it relates to the customer base that you are developing and serving.*

Josh - “Our staff is a big family, our moto is “Oregon’s Friendliest Dealership”, and we live by that every day. We are a melting pot that come from

all walks of life. We are also very family oriented here and often times you’ll see kiddos here picking out their very first Harley-Davidson electric bike or Indian Motorcycle electric bike. Our goal is to help build and nurture our motorcycling community. The more people that discover motorcycling, the more smiles there will be in the world. The fun, freedom, wind therapy, and community is what it’s all about.”

*I can see that you have folks are needing you and I appreciate taking your time, Josh, are there any last words to leave us with.*

Josh - “I would encourage anyone to come over and check us out. We are open Tuesday- Sunday and are known as ‘Oregon’s Friendliest Dealership’ for a reason.”

And with that he was back in the fray, talking and taking time with a customer, genuinely engaged with them while attending to matters brought to him by other staff members and not missing a beat.

I decided to grab a few pictures from the Indian dealership next door and then meandered around to the adjacent building on the south side of the dealership. As I snapped a picture I recalled Josh had just responded to my inquiry about the building

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# Community Pages

## OHCS Invests \$5 Million to Help Homeless Youth in Rural Oregon

**Salem OR** — Oregon Housing and Community Services (OHCS) is investing \$5 million to combat rural homelessness through the Youth Emergency Housing Assistance Program (YEHA). The \$5 million will be disbursed to five different organizations in Coos, Klamath, Lincoln, Douglas, and Josephine Counties that help youth and their families who are experiencing homelessness or at risk of becoming homeless.

“We are committed to ensuring every young person in Oregon has a safe place to call home,” said OHCS Executive Director Andrea Bell. “By investing in real solutions to address youth homelessness, we aim to bridge the funding and service gaps that rural communities often face. This investment will help create sustainable pathways to housing stability and increase opportunities for our youth to thrive.”

The YEHA project team analyzed data from both Oregon’s Emergency Homelessness Response and the Department of Education to identify which communities had the highest rate of youth experiencing homelessness to ensure these funds make the biggest possible impact. The YEHA project team chose the Coos County Office of Homelessness Response, Integral Youth Services in Klamath County, the Lincoln County Housing Authority, Family Faith and Relationship Advocates (FARA) in Douglas County, and the Maslow Project in Josephine County to receive funding.

“This funding will empower us to

expand our outreach, enhance our support services, and build sustainable solutions for the unique challenges faced by our Josephine County community,” said Maslow Project Founder and Executive Director Mary Ferrell. “It’s a vital step toward ensuring that youth and families in our county can access safe and stable housing. We know that when stabilized, youth are far more likely to finish high school, improve their long-term outcomes, and end the cycle of homelessness.”

YEHA aims to provide housing-focused services to school-age children and their families to enhance family stability and school success. The organizations in these counties will establish and promote intentional collaboration between schools and housing providers to extend a reliable family support network and optimize the funding’s impact. These resources will help cover expenses such as rent, utilities, work and educational support, moving costs, transportation, furniture, household goods, and more.

OHCS is Oregon’s housing finance agency. The state agency provides financial and program support to create and preserve opportunities for quality, affordable housing for Oregonians of low and moderate income. OHCS administers programs that provide housing stabilization. OHCS delivers these programs primarily through grants, contracts, and loan agreements with local partners and community-based providers. For more information, please visit: [oregon.gov/ohcs](http://oregon.gov/ohcs).

sometimes difficult, decisions like this one. The closure and eventual sale of the park will free up capital and staff resources that will be used elsewhere in the park system to address deferred maintenance needs, add new amenities, and provide an overall improved experience for its users.”

The county parks department has claimed they have plans to sell the property before the end of the year, while county leaders say they regret letting the facility go, a private owner could reopen and help the affordable housing situation in the area by converting it to a mobile home park or long-term RV park. Proceeds from the sale would be matched with previously approved grant funding and reinvested into Charles V. Stanton Park and Whistlers Bend County Park was their position stated at the time.

Passcreek Park consists of 2 tax lots, which is on record of being purchased by Douglas County in 1962 for \$10,000 and \$16,000. This has been verified by the Counties paperwork but is no additional or corroborating documentation and there has been some contention that the record is incorrect and various sources claim the property was donated to the County expressly for public park services. Additional investigation into these allegations would seem prudent.

The only details of the early years of the park are the anecdotal memories of those who were familiar with it. But, beginning in 2015 the county included the Park as it developed its Masterplan, which, after public input was approved by the county Commissioners in December 2016. It was very controversial, as it sacrificed many of the parks throughout the County due to the claim of lack

## Yoncalla Beautification Anticipates Good Year

Mary Ellen Laswell, chairman of the Yoncalla Beautification Committee, announced at its November meeting that it has received a donation of \$3,000 from the VanLoon Foundation. This amount brings a total of \$3,700 to be applied toward a matching fund donation of \$5,000 made by an anonymous donor. If additional donations totaling \$1,300 are received by the end of 2024, the committee will have \$10,000 to spend on Yoncalla improvement projects. A total of 15 possible projects scheduled for 2025 were discussed and prioritized at the meeting.

A current project sponsored by YBC is assisting local businesses and residents in placing strings of red and green Christmas lights throughout town during the holiday season. Other projects chosen as priorities for 2025 include: updating the civic sign on Eagle Valley Road, town cleanup day, increasing the number of hanging flower baskets throughout town, giving welcome kits to new residents, sidewalk maintenance, and replacing wornout U.S. flags that are displayed during holidays. Funds for these projects depend on tax deductible donations made out and sent before the end of 2024 to the Yoncalla Beautification Project, Doris Bartlett, treasurer, P.O. Box 936, Yoncalla, OR 97499.

Yoncalla area citizens are invited and encouraged to join YBC to contribute ideas for keeping our town a comfortable place to live. Meetings are held the fourth Thursday each month beginning at 6 p.m., at the Community Center. There will not be a December meeting; the next meeting will be January 23.

## New Exhibit “Quilts & Christmas”

Story by Scooter Brown

**Roseburg, OR** – Douglas County Commissioners, in conjunction with staff at the Douglas County Museum of History and Natural History are pleased to announce that a new limited time exhibit at the Douglas County Museum festively titled “Quilts & Christmas,” is now open and encourage all our citizens, young and old alike to visit. The exhibition will feature quilts, Christmas ornaments and toys from the museum’s extensive collection. The temporary exhibit is slated to run through February 2025.

The “quilt” portion of the exhibit will showcase a diverse collection of hand-stitched family quilts, each with its own unique story and craftsmanship. These quilts date back to the mid-1800s, with several having traveled along the Oregon Trail, a testament to their role in preserving warmth and comfort during one of the most significant migrations in American history. The “stars of the show” are four crazy quilts from the 1890’s to early 1900’s. The exhibit will also highlight a stunning contrast with a modern “Graffiti” quilt from 2002, blending traditional quilting techniques with contemporary artistic expression. Hand-stitched quilts represent a rich legacy of ingenuity and provide interesting historical documentation from the earliest days of our country to the present. These quilts, often passed down through generations, not only serve as functional items but also carry the stories and culture of the people who made them. In the earliest days of our country, quilts were essential for warmth, using available materials, often scraps of fabric, to create something both practical and beautiful. As an art form, quilting evolved significantly over time. Early American quilts were typically made with simple designs, sometimes in traditional patterns

like “Log Cabin” or “Nine-Patch,” reflecting the practical needs of pioneer life. In contrast, modern hand stitched quilts may showcase intricate designs, personalized embroidery, and a broader array of materials. Each quilt tells a story—whether it’s the history of a particular family, a cultural expression, or an artist’s personal narrative. These quilts can also serve as historical documentation, reflecting the socioeconomic conditions of their time, the evolution of textile production, and the influence of changing fashion trends. Today, both quilt makers and the public find inspiration in quilts, whether for their craftsmanship, their use of color, or their historical significance. Museums, exhibitions, and quilting communities continue to preserve and celebrate this form of artistic expression, ensuring that it remains an important part of our cultural heritage.

The “Christmas” portion of the exhibit will display a curated selection of antique and noteworthy Christmas ornaments and toys from the museum’s extensive collection. Visitors will be transported through time with delicate glass ornaments, handcrafted decorations, and vintage toys that capture the holiday spirit of past eras. These cherished items, some dating back to the early 20th century, offer a glimpse into the traditions and joys of Christmas celebrations through the years, showcasing the evolution of festive decor and the sentimental value placed on holiday treasures. The exhibit will also showcase a selection of the 6,000 handmade ornaments created for the 2002 U.S. Capitol Christmas Tree. In addition, the exhibit will feature photographs capturing the journey of the tree, commemorating the year when Douglas County was chosen to provide the annual Christmas tree to the White House in Washington, D.C. This significant event in our history will be beautifully illustrated,

### Open at the Douglas County Museum

offering visitors a glimpse into the pride and tradition behind this remarkable contribution to the nation’s holiday celebrations.

For more than 50 years, curators of the Douglas County Museum have been collecting, preserving and exhibiting natural and cultural history items. Historically our local communities have relied on the mining, fishing, farming, transportation and timber harvesting to thrive in Douglas County. Our museum links the connections between natural resources and these industries in their exhibits and cultural events to make history come to life. From the snowcapped peak of Mt. Thielsen nestled in the Cascades Mountain Range, through the Umpqua River Valley, to the Coastal Mountain Range to the crashing surf of the Pacific Ocean at Winchester Bay, Douglas County traverses an amazingly wide range of elevations and environments. It is Douglas County’s ecological diversity that is showcased in Oregon’s largest natural history exhibition – “The Land of the Umpqua’s”.

The Douglas County Museum of History and Natural History is located at 123 Museum Drive in Roseburg, Oregon (conveniently located off I-5 Exit 123 and adjacent to the Douglas County Fairgrounds). It is open seven days a week from 10:00 am to 5:00 pm. It can take 1-3 hours to tour the museum depending on your pace. The Lavola Bakken Research Library is open Tuesday through Saturday 1:00 pm – 4:30 pm. Admission is free for members, ages 0-4 are free, students 5-17 are \$2.00, adults are \$8.00, seniors and veterans are \$5.00. The “Museum Mercantile,” the museum gift shop, offers the area’s leading source of books on Douglas County’s natural and cultural history, as well as a wide range of Oregon souvenirs and other great gift items including educational and historic toys.

## Are You Interested in Home Delivery?

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North Douglas Herald is pleased to announce a new home delivery option coming soon. We are first rolling out in the communities of Drain, Elkton and Yoncalla, in town for now, with rural delivery coming at a later date. The Herald will remain free with a \$2 delivery fee, paid directly to the news carrier monthly. Newspapers will arrive at your home or place of business the following day from delivery by the printer and will be the earliest editions available. Delivery subscribers can contact [newscarrriers@ndherald.com](mailto:newscarrriers@ndherald.com), mail to Newscarriers, ND Herald, PO Box 581, Drain OR 97435, or through your neighborhood newscarrier.

If you are interested in becoming a newscarrier and are at least 14 years old (parental permission required for those under 18), reliable and currently live in Drain, Elkton or Yoncalla and can operate a neighborhood timely delivery service please contact us for more information.

For those of you outside of those 3 communities, we are still planning on setting up home delivery in all of our coverage areas. We are looking for interested home delivery recipients as well as those who are interested in a home business of newspaper deliveries. Currently, the North Douglas Herald is working on home delivery in the following communities; Roseburg, Sutherlin, Oakland, Cottage Grove, Reedsport, Florence, Eugene, Springfield, Juntion City, Brownsville and Albany. Contact [carrier@ndherald.com](mailto:carrier@ndherald.com) or mail to Newscarriers, ND Herald, PO Box 581, Drain OR 97435.



# Hercules H4 Named an Oregon Registered Historic Place

*Continued from Front Page*

engineered systems that became standard in large aircraft after the Second World War. As a one-of-a-kind prototype, the Hughes Flying Boat flew only one time, on November 2, 1947. From 1947 until 1953, the aircraft served as a testbed for a variety of aviation innovations, including the application of Duramold wood composite in large aircraft construction, redundant fire suppression and flight control systems. The Hughes Flying Boat is also the largest seaplane, largest wooden aircraft, and largest propeller-driven plane ever built.

After its flight, the Hughes Flying Boat was housed in Long Beach, California, where it remained until 1992. The plane was then disassembled and moved to McMinnville. In 1980, the plane was listed in the National Register, but because it was moved to Oregon without prior NPS approval, it was automatically delisted. In 2001, the aircraft was reassembled and today it is the centerpiece of the Evergreen Aviation & Space Museum.

The Hughes Flying Boat (H-4 Hercules) is the only individually listed aircraft in Oregon. The National Register

is maintained by the National Park Service under the authority of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966. Properties listed in the National Register are:

Recognized as significant to the nation, state, or community;

Considered in the planning of federal or federally-assisted projects;

Eligible for federal and state tax benefits; Qualify for historic preservation grants when funds are available;

Eligible for leniency in meeting certain building code requirements;

Subject to local laws pertaining to the

conservation and protection of historic resources.

State law in Oregon requires local governments to offer a minimal level of protection for properties listed in the National Register of Historic Places; the decisions about how to accomplish that goal reside with local governments, which also have the authority to create and regulate local historic districts and landmarks. More information about the National Register and recent Oregon listings are online at [oregonheritage.org](http://oregonheritage.org) (under the heading "Designate").

## The Legend of The Silver Ghost



During World War II, one American defied convention to build the largest aircraft in the world. The H-4 Hercules, the iconic flying boat of the 1940s. Famously known as the 'Spruce Goose', the vast silver ship is as legendary as its inventor Howard Hughes.

In 1942 the United States and her Allies battled against the Axis powers. Nazi U-boats patrolled the oceans, sinking Allied vessels and threatening vital supply lines. By mid summer nearly 700 ships had been lost to the submarine peril.

American industrialist Henry Kaiser began ship building in 1940 and he revolutionised the industry with his 'Liberty Ships'. He reduced the build time of a 10,000-ton freighter from 355 to just 48 days, but in 1942 this was not enough. The submarines torpedoed vessels faster than they could be launched.

Eccentric Hollywood moviemaker with a talent for aviation, Howard Hughes was born in Texas in 1905. A huge success in the oil business, he later directed a series of successful films and then his focus turned to aviation. A talented engineer, Hughes was also a skilled test pilot. In 1932, he set up the Hughes Aircraft Company at Culver City, CA, to manufacture his unique designs.

The prospect of building the world's largest aircraft intrigued Hughes. The two men agreed that if Hughes designed and built the prototypes, Kaiser would offer his shipyards to build a fleet. They won a government contract for \$18M to produce three prototype aircraft.

The contract allowed only 24 months and Kaiser was boasting they would do it in ten. Due to war efforts they were not allowed to use materials deemed scarce, such as aluminium. The great flying boat would have to be constructed from wood, a feat that many considered impossible. To counter the problems of using wood, Hughes developed a technique

called Duramold. Criss-cross layers of wafer thin birch veneers were bonded together with resins to create a strong and beautiful skin that required no rivets. The entire surface was sanded down by hand and finished with layers of rice paper and silver aluminium paint.

The Hercules was more than double the size of any contemporary aircraft. Its wingspan was 320 feet, longer than the Statue of Liberty. The wings carried eight Pratt & Whitney R4360 28-cylinder radial engines. They produced 24,000 horsepower to lift the 400,000lb fully loaded airframe. With a 3,000-mile range and cruise speed of 200 mph, the Hercules was designed to carry 400 troops or two Sherman tanks safely across the ocean.

The sheer scale of the aircraft presented unique challenges that Hughes solved with innovative solutions. During construction, normal workbenches were far too small to be useful. So the moviemaker used film projectors to display plans onto the factory floor, allowing his engineers to manufacture parts to size.

The Hercules pioneered advances in control and power systems that paved the way for future large aircraft types. To overcome sheer size and weight problems, Hughes designed the first hydraulically actuated control system.

Hughes pioneered a 120v DC electrical system, which enabled the use of smaller cables, saving 75% of the weight of miles of electrical cables. A series of intercom radio points were used to enable immediate communication with engineers on board and counter the distances inside the aircraft.

The interior featured two decks connected by an elegant spiral staircase. The cockpit had large windows and reclining padded chairs for the pilot and flight crew. Two generators bolted to the floor of the flight deck provided air, but being less than fresh, Hughes had a

pipe installed to pump fresh air directly over the left hand side pilot's seat, where he would be seated.

Amongst Hughes' many aviation feats was a record-setting global circumnavigation in 1938. Concerned about ditching at sea, he prepared his aircraft with 80lbs of ping-pong balls positioned in the wings and fuselage to keep the aircraft afloat. For the Hercules, he scaled this idea up and used nets of inflatable beach balls stowed in the fuselage and wings.

Progress was slow. Hughes was a legendary perfectionist and he involved himself in every decision, no matter how small. The Hercules was not his only project. As 24 months came and went, Kaiser withdrew in frustration. The airframe was not ready for testing until June 1946 and that required moving from Culver City to the ocean, which was a major operation. Crews went ahead to prepare the route by taking down over 2,000 telephone and power cables. The hull, wings, tail and control surfaces were positioned on enormous trailers. Crawling along at 2mph, the convoy took two days to complete the 28 mile journey to Terminal Island, Long Beach.

The Hercules was nearing completion, but the urgency had waned. The Allies had long since turned the tide and won the war. Hughes was being questioned and criticism grew. In the summer of 1947, he was called to a Senate hearing and accused of wasting government funds.

Although contracted to produce three aircraft, Hughes had not completed even one. He conceded that the process was slow but argued that building an aircraft on this scale had pushed the boundaries of aviation design. He had made discoveries that would prove vital in future aircraft manufacture.

"If I made any mistake on this airplane it was not through neglect. It was through supervising each portion of it in too much

detail... I am by nature a perfectionist, and I seem to have trouble allowing anything to go through in a half-perfect condition. So if I made any mistake it was in working too hard and in doing too much of it with my own two hands."

Hughes reputation was on the line and he argued his case. The Hercules had cost \$25M so far, which included \$7M of Hughes own money.

"I put the sweat of my life into this thing. I have my reputation rolled up in it, and I have stated that if it was a failure I probably will leave this country and never come back, and I mean it."

Hughes organised the taxi trials like a Hollywood premiere. VIPs, starlets, photographers and the media were all in attendance. On 2 November 1947, crowds of onlookers lined the shores watching the Hercules taxi out into the harbour in blustery conditions.

Closely watching for debris in the water, Hughes completed one low speed taxi run, before turning into wind for a second faster run. The Hercules rose up on to the step, slicing across the wave tops. Above the rumble of the engines, those on board could hear the water slapping off the hull.

When the second run was safely completed, a correspondent asked Howard if he intended to fly that day. 'Of course not' he replied. The reporter asked to go ashore to file his copy. He and others looking for a "Scoop", grabbed a quick boat ride to shore.

A radio newsman remained on board recording a broadcast: 'This is James McNamara speaking to you from aboard the Howard Hughes two hundred-ton flying boat, the world's largest aircraft. At this moment we speak to you from the spacious flight deck. This mighty monster of the skies is slowly

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# Public Safety Report Douglas, Lane Counties & Statewide

Continued from Page 3

able to deploy spike strips, deflating one of the vehicle's tires and slowing it down. A deputy then conducted a Pursuit Intervention Technique (PIT) to stop the vehicle in the 80900 block of Territorial Road. Two occupants were initially detained.

The driver, Timothy Robert Graham, 43, of Junction City, was cited for multiple traffic violations and arrested on the following charges and warrants:

- Attempt to Elude by Vehicle
- Reckless Driving
- Reckless Endangering
- Felon in Possession of a Restricted Weapon
- Warrant for Failure to Appear - Unlawful Use of a Vehicle, out of Klamath County.

The passenger was released and provided with a ride from the scene. The Lane County Sheriff's Office would like to thank Oregon State Police for their assistance with this incident. LCSO Case #24-5977

## DUI Injury Crash on Bob Straub PKWY

**Springfield, OR** — On Friday, November 8th at about 4 a.m., Lane County Sheriff's deputies and fire personnel responded to a two-vehicle crash in the area of Bob Straub Parkway and S. 57th Street. The

crash involved a 2023 semi-truck and a 2023 Jeep Gladiator. Initial investigation revealed the semi was driving south on Bob Straub Parkway when the Jeep entered the intersection without braking for the stop sign and struck the side of the semi.

Both drivers were injured. A light pole was knocked down in the crash, and the roadway was closed for about an hour as a tow company worked to tow away the semi.

The driver of the Jeep, identified as Johan Xiomara Gergen Suarez, 45, of Springfield, was transported to an area hospital by ambulance. After investigating, deputies cited Suarez in lieu of custody for Driving Under the Influence. LCSO Case #24-5978

## Thief Arrested, Recovered Stolen Property in Fall Creek

**Fall Creek, OR** — On Monday, November 4th, a Lane County Sheriff's deputy discovered stolen property for sale online from a recent trailer theft. The seller, Joshua Adam Hemion, 46, agreed to meet with a deputy posing as a potential buyer in the Fall Creek area.

Hemion arrived late, but was met by a deputy and trooper as soon as he stepped out of his car. Hemion was detained without

incident, and was found to be in possession of stolen property. He additionally had multiple warrants for his arrest. Hemion was arrested and transported to the Lane County Jail where he was lodged on the following warrants:

- Failure to Appear – Theft in the 3rd Degree, out of Oregon City Police Department
- Failure to Appear – Theft in the 2nd Degree, out of Springfield Police Department
- Failure to Appear – Assault 4 APA, Harassment, False Information to Police, out of Multnomah County Sheriff's Office
- Failure to Appear – Criminal Mischief in the 1st Degree, Unlawful Use of a Motor Vehicle, Unlawful Entry into a Motor Vehicle, out of Washington County Sheriff's Office

The investigation regarding the stolen trailer is ongoing. LCSO Case #24-5907

## Registered Sex Offender Arrested

**Lane County, OR** — On Tuesday, October 22, 2024, at about 8 a.m., detectives with the Lane County Sheriff's Office served a search warrant at a residence in the 43000 block of McKenzie Hwy. The search

warrant was the result of a months-long investigation by the Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) Task Force, focusing on child exploitation.

The suspect, William Harold Berry III, was a registered sex offender on post-prison supervision for a prior felony conviction of Unlawful Penetration in the First Degree. Berry was arrested during the service of the warrant. During the search, detectives seized several electronic storage devices, multiple firearms, and body armor. Berry was transported to the Lane County Jail without incident and lodged on the following charges:

- 10 counts of Encouraging Child Sex Abuse in the 1st Degree
- 10 counts of Encouraging Child Sex Abuse in the 2nd Degree

The Lane County Sheriff's Office received critical assistance during this investigation from Homeland Security Investigations (HSI) Special Agents, Eugene Police Department ICAC Detectives, the Oregon Department of Justice, and Lane County Parole & Probation.

This arrest is part of an ongoing effort by local and federal law enforcement agencies to combat child exploitation and protect vulnerable members of our community. The investigation is ongoing, and no further details are available at this time. LCSO Case #24-1435

# Events and Entertainment

## FOURTH SATURDAYS

Old-Time Fiddle Jam Year-Round) ....  
NEXT ONE WILL BE DEC 28th

## FOURTH SATURDAYS

Noon – 3 pm at Sutherlin Senior Center, 202 East Central Avenue, Sutherlin, OR.  
Please come to the Oregon Old-Time Fiddlers District Finger Foods Potluck and Jam on the Fourth Saturday, Year-Round. The Jam runs from Noon til 3 pm at Sutherlin Senior Center, 202 East Central Avenue, Sutherlin, OR. Open to fiddlers, listeners, pickers & dancers alike. Coffee....cookies...Do nations kindly accepted. Sponsored by District 10 of the Oregon Oldtime Fiddlers' Assn. Ample paved parking in the back. Handicapped parking accessible. INFO: 541-430-2080 or jude999s@gmail.com

## SUNDAY DECEMBER 8 from 1 - 3 PM

Guitarist Joe Ross plays Latin and Smooth Jazz at SPIRE MOUNTAIN CELLARS 1 – 3 pm at SPIRE MOUNTAIN CELLARS during the Winery Club's Pick-Up Party! Spire Mountain Cellars is at the foothill of Tyee Mountain in Oakland at 774 Hidden Meadows Ln, Oakland, OR 97462. INFO: 541-670-9120 or 541-580-1999

## FRIDAY DECEMBER 13 from 6 - 8 pm

Accordianist Rey Wanamaker & Guitarist Joe Ross at the TOYS FOR TOTS SPAGHETTI FEED FUNDRAISER at Callahan Village, 1801 NW Garden Valley Blvd, Roseburg, OR 97471  
Support the Toys for Tots Program by coming to the Spaghetti Feed

Fundraiser at Callahan Village! Open to the public. Call 673-4500 to RSVP. Live holiday music will be provided by Rey Wanamaker & Joe Ross.

## SAT DECEMBER 14

Sunny Sky Boys at the Umpqua Valley Farmer's Market  
Always on SECOND SATURDAYS from 10:30 am-12:30 pm (unless otherwise indicated)  
500 Block of SE Jackson Street, Downtown Roseburg, Or 97471  
<http://www.uvfarmersmarket.com/>  
<https://www.facebook.com/UmpquaValleyFarmersMarket>  
(541) 530-6200  
uvfmmanager@gmail.com  
The Sunny Sky Boys will be jammin' on guitar and mandolin from 10:30 am – 12:30 pm at the Umpqua Valley Farmer's Market! Award-winning guitarist Jerry Ashford & mandolinist Joe Ross play a lively variety of Hillbilly Jazz, Classic Country, Bluegrass Hoedown, and Western Swing music. Special guests often sit in with them on bass, fiddle, banjo and/or vocals. Open every Saturday, year-round, 9 am - 1 pm. Produce, plants, artisan crafts, soaps, jams, hummus, kombucha, handmade pottery, local honey, jewelry, food, baked goods, woodworking, candles, soaps, spices, flowers, all produced in & around Douglas County. Local producers come together every Saturday at this family event that promotes thinking locally and supporting your neighbors.

## DOUGLAS COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS CHRISTMAS CRAFTS FAIR

Guitarist Joe Ross will present his "Have Yourself a Jazzy Little

Christmas!" show at the Douglas County Fair's Christmas Crafts Fair! 5 – 7 pm on Friday 12/6/24 in the Douglas Hall foyer  
INFO about the jazzy guitar holiday show, call/text Joe (670-9120) or email [rossjoe@hotmail.com](mailto:rossjoe@hotmail.com). The event is sponsored by Douglas Community Credit Union. For more info on the Fairground's Christmas Crafts Fair, pls go to <http://www.douglasfairgrounds.com>

## Accordion Club of Roseburg

Perform on three occasions at the Douglas County Fair's Christmas Crafts Fair!  
11 - 1 on Friday 12/6/24 in the Douglas Hall foyer  
10 - 12 on Sat 12/7/24 in the Douglas Hall foyer  
11 - 1 on Sunday 12/8/24 in the Douglas Hall foyer  
INFO about the Accordion Club, call Rey (680-0516) or Karen (784-1911). The event is sponsored by Douglas Community Credit Union. For more info on the Fairground's Christmas Crafts Fair, pls go to <http://www.douglasfairgrounds.com>

## Oregon Oldtime Fiddlers' Association

Performs at the Douglas County Fair's Christmas Crafts Fair! 1:30 – 4:30 pm on Friday 12/6/24 in the Conference Hall foyer. For INFO about the Oregon Oldtime Fiddlers, call Jude (430-2080) or Chris (391-3021)). The event is sponsored by Douglas Community Credit Union. For more info on the Fairground's Christmas Crafts Fair, pls go to <http://www.douglasfairgrounds.com>

## The Sunny Sky Boys

(Jerry Ashford & Joe Ross) will perform on guitar and mandolin at the Douglas County Fair's Christmas Crafts Fair! Expect a lot of holiday classics with bluegrass, western swingy and hillbilly jazzy flavorings. 11 - 1 on Sat 12/7/24 in the Conference Hall foyer. FOR INFO about the Sunny Sky Boys, call/text Joe (670-9120) or email [rossjoe@hotmail.com](mailto:rossjoe@hotmail.com). The event is sponsored by Douglas Community Credit Union. For more info on the Fairground's Christmas Crafts Fair, pls go to <http://www.douglasfairgrounds.com>

## THIRD SUNDAY BLUEGRASS JAM (Year-Round)

NEXT ONE WILL BE DEC 15th  
Sutherlin Senior Center, (202 East Central Ave., Sutherlin, OR 1 – 4 PM  
Third Sunday Jam from 1 – 4 p.m at the Sutherlin Senior Center (202 East Central Ave., Sutherlin. Come to the THIRD SUNDAY Bluegrass Jam - 1 PM till 4 PM. You'll know you are there when you hear the music! Open to listeners and pickers alike. All levels encouraged. Refreshments - Donations kindly accepted. Sponsored by the Oregon Bluegrass Association - Roseburg Chapter (a 501c3 non-profit organization). DIRECTIONS TO SUTHERLIN SENIOR CENTER (202 E. Central Ave., Sutherlin, OR. 97479). Take Exit 136 off I-5. Go east for 1.4 miles. Turn right on Umpqua St. (at City Hall) and immediately left into the parking lot. Enter the Senior Center from the parking lot - up the concrete wheelchair ramp. More information, please call LIZ at 541-679-0553 or [lizcraign2@gmail.com](mailto:lizcraign2@gmail.com). <http://www.oregonbluegrass.org/>



# The Oregon Rural Report

## Governor Uses New Land Use Law to Propose Rural Land for Semiconductor Facility

**Salem, OR** — Oregon Gov. Tina Kotek is using a new land use law to propose a rural area for a semiconductor facility, as officials seek to lure more of the multibillion-dollar semiconductor industry to the state. Oregon, which has been a center of semiconductor research and production for decades, is competing against other states to host multibillion-dollar microchip factories. The CHIPS and Science Act passed by Congress in 2022 provided \$39 billion for companies building or expanding facilities that will manufacture semiconductors and those that will assemble, test and package the chips. A state law passed last year allowed the governor to designate up to eight sites where city boundaries could be expanded to provide land for microchip companies. The law created

an exemption to the state's hallmark land use policy, which was passed in the 1970s to prevent urban sprawl and protect nature and agriculture.

A group that supports Oregon's landmark land use policy, Friends of Smart Growth, said in a news release that it would oppose Kotek's proposal, OPB reported.

"While the governor hopes this will prove a quick and relatively painless way to subvert the planning and community engagement that Oregon's land use system is famous for," the release said, "local and statewide watchdog groups promise a long and difficult fight to preserve the zoning protections that have allowed walkable cities, farmland close to cities, and the outdoor recreation Oregon is famous for."



Under the 2023 state law, Kotek must hold a public hearing on proposed expansions of so-called "urban growth boundaries" and allow a 20-day period for public comment before issuing an executive order to formally expand such boundaries. This executive power

expires at the end of the year.

The public hearing on the proposed expansion will be held in three weeks at the Hillsboro Civic Center, according to Business Oregon, the state's economic development agency.

## Silver Ghost

*Continued from Page 7*



cruising along a northwest course in the outer Los Angeles harbour."

"Howard, do you have time at the moment to explain for our radio listeners exactly what you're doing, the operation?"

"Yeah," said Hughes, "We're taxiing downwind very slowly to get into position for a run between the entrance to Long Beach Harbor and Myrtle Beach and San Pedro. It's about a three mile stretch there and we're gonna make a high-speed run in that direction. The wind is changeable — it's been changing all day — but it's not too serious."

"Howard, I didn't hear you," said McNamara, "There's so much noise here. But did you tell our listeners the speed you achieved on the last run?"

"That was right around ninety miles an hour. We were well up on the step and the airplane could have lifted off easily if I'd just pulled back on the control, I'm sure. But we have so many mechanical devices in this ship right now that I wanta check a few of 'em out a little bit before we try anything like that."

Hughes then ordered his flight engineer to "lower fifteen degrees of flaps". This was actually the take off setting for the giant flying boat. As he pushed all eight throttle levers forward, McNamara called out the building speeds: "It's fifty. It's fifty over a choppy sea. It's fifty-five... More throttle... It's sixty."

It's about sixty-five. It's seventy'. The water rushed against the hull. As McNamara called 'Seventy-five' the noise ceased and then the Hercules airborne.

The silver behemoth lifted up above the waves and the crowds on shore began to cheer. Hughes flew the ship low level for a little under a mile and a little less than a minute before gently executing a classy smooth landing. The Hercules had flown and the critics were silenced. McNamara asked him, "Howard, did you expect that?" Hughes' response was cryptic: "I like to make surprises".

It was the first and the last flight of the Hercules. For the remainder of his lifetime, Hughes never admitted whether he intended to fly. He spent millions of dollars keeping the aircraft in airworthy condition until his death in 1976. The Hercules was exhibited at Long Beach, before making one final journey in 1993 to its current home in Oregon.

The Hercules reined as the world's largest aircraft for over seventy years and it is still the largest flying boat ever built. Howard Hughes wanted to be remembered for his contribution to aviation. Today the aircraft is expertly cared for by the Evergreen Aviation & Space Museum and visitors to their McMinnville site, near Portland, can climb aboard the Hercules, a lasting legacy to the vision and then the determination of its inventor.

## Veterans Corner

### Grants available for Veterans and War Memorials

Oregon Heritage of Oregon Parks and Recreation Department is offering grants for the construction or restoration of veterans and war memorials throughout Oregon. The grant application period is open now and closes January 31, 2025.

Local and regional governments and federally recognized Tribes are eligible to apply for funding for monuments placed on publicly owned properties. Grants may fund up to 80 percent of projects and require a 10 percent match from grant recipients.

New monuments should acknowledge

veterans and/or wars not already recognized in the community. Restoration projects may address broken monuments, missing elements, and/or additions to existing monuments. Proposals must demonstrate active participation of a veteran organization and community support. A free online workshop about the grant program will be held December 3, 2024; 10-11 a.m. via Zoom. Registration is required. For more information about the Veterans and War Memorials grant and other grant programs, visit [www.oregonheritage.org](http://www.oregonheritage.org).

### Oregon Vet's Educational Bridge Grant Eligibility Expanded For Veterans Pursuing Educational Or Vocational Training

Since January 2024, the Oregon Department of Veterans' Affairs has expanded the Oregon Veterans Educational Bridge Grant (VEBG) Program, greatly broadening financial assistance eligibility for veterans completing their educational or vocational training.

The VEBG was established by the Oregon Legislature in 2019 to provide financial assistance grants up to \$5,000 to eligible veterans to alleviate the financial stress during a gap period when required courses or training hours are unavailable, allowing them to remain enrolled in school or their apprenticeship training.

With the passage of House Bill 2271 in 2023, the Legislature expanded the program's eligibility to include veterans not eligible to receive federal GI Bill® benefits, meaning any veteran who is an Oregon resident and meets the definition of "veteran" defined in ORS 408.225, may now qualify for financial assistance using the Veterans Educational Bridge Grant.

Legislators also expanded the grant eligibility to include any career school licensed by Higher Education and Coordinating Commission (HECC), any apprenticeship registered with BOLI, and any On-The-Job Training (OTJ) program offered by a public employer.

The final and most significant addition was the option for eligible veterans to use Bridge Grant funds to pay off debt on a student account that is preventing them from registering for future terms.

"This grant is an empowering option for veterans actively pursuing education or training after military service. Whether you are eligible to receive federal GI Bill® benefits or not,

Oregon's VEBG funds can now help ensure the continuation of training and remove significant barriers to completing educational goals," said ODVA Director Dr. Nakeia Council Daniels.

"These eligibility expansions reflect our state's collective dedication to providing comprehensive support to veterans in their pursuit of education and vocational training, recognizing and addressing the distinct challenges they may encounter on their paths to success."

Veterans may also be eligible for retroactive funding (i.e., funding for a past term or training period) in certain circumstances. Any veteran who believes they may meet the new eligibility requirements is encouraged to apply.

For more information about the Veterans Educational Bridge Grant Program or to apply, visit the ODVA website at <https://www.oregon.gov/odva/agency-programs/grants/Pages/Educational-Bridge-Grant.aspx> or email the program coordinator at [ebg@odva.oregon.gov](mailto:ebg@odva.oregon.gov).

Established in 1945, the Oregon Department of Veterans' Affairs is dedicated to serving Oregon's diverse veteran community that spans five eras of service members. ODVA administers programs and provides special advocacy and assistance in accessing earned veteran benefits across the state. Learn about veteran benefits and services, or locate a local county or tribal veteran service office online at [oregon.gov/odva](http://oregon.gov/odva).

GI Bill® is a registered trademark of the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. More information about education benefits offered by VA is available at the official U.S. government website at [www.benefits.va.gov/gibill](http://www.benefits.va.gov/gibill)



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

## OBDP Announces \$133 Million Award

### Bringing High-Speed Internet to Thousands by 2026

This initial tranche of funding aims to enhance internet access in 12,182 locations, 10,755 of which are unserved (lacking 25/3 Mbps service) or lack sufficient broadband service. A total of 16 projects are slated for funding across 17 counties.

The Oregon Broadband Office is excited to announce it has issued Notices of Intent to Award \$132,917,084 through the Office's Broadband Deployment Program (BDP), part of the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Coronavirus Capital Projects Fund (CPF). This initial tranche of funding will support the construction and deployment of high-speed, reliable wired broadband internet at speeds of 100/100 Mbps to unserved and underserved locations across the state.

"High-speed, reliable internet is a modern essential," Governor Kotek said. "Our broadband infrastructure is the lifeblood of Oregon businesses and communities, and these grants will help ensure that we're not leaving communities behind."

Sophorn Cheang, Director of Business Oregon, emphasized the program's commitment to equity and collaboration: "Equity and strategic collaboration are the core values of our Oregon Broadband Office's work. This process will ultimately provide thousands of unserved and underserved Oregonians with high-speed, reliable broadband internet. Access to the internet is essential for education, healthcare, remote work,

and social connection. This award will ensure that Oregonians have every opportunity to succeed in the digital realm."

Nick Batz, Director of the Oregon Broadband Office, thanked all applicants and highlighted the program's competitive nature: "I want to thank all the applicants for their interest in this program, and I give special thanks to the Oregon Broadband Advisory Council for their guidance. The Oregon Broadband Office received 62 applications requesting approximately \$445 million for broadband infrastructure projects around the state. The total program allocation is \$156,795,418, so we expected a highly competitive process. This oversubscription shows the demand to bring reliable broadband to all Oregonians. Our goal is within reach between the Broadband Deployment Program and our upcoming Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment program."

Awardees were ranked based on a composite score that prioritizes outcomes:

**Social Vulnerability Index** - Applicants receive a 5% score bonus if 80% or more of their proposed project service locations are located within areas designated as "Moderate to High" or "High" on the state of Oregon's Social Vulnerability Index.

**Unserved Locations**— 5 points for other eligible locations where wired 25/3 service already exists).

**Affordability** - Applicants with projects that can offer service at \$30/month or less

receive an additional 5 points per location. Applicants with projects that can provide service at \$50/month or less receive two additional points per location.

The Broadband Deployment Program Handbook is available on the Program's website and outlines the selection process and criteria used to determine awardees.

Eligible applicants included municipalities, private and for-profit entities, electric utilities, co-operatives, municipal affiliates (economic development corporations, regional planning and development councils, and councils of government), nonprofit organizations, and partnerships between eligible applicants. All awarded funds must be utilized, and projects must be operational by December 2026.

Some of our nearby applicants with award amount, counties served and number of locations.

Douglas Services, Inc.	\$8,505,531.98
Douglas, Lane 1937 locations	
Douglas Services, Inc.	\$2,458,593.34
Coos, 483 locations	
Casco Communications, Inc	\$10,227,750.86
Linn, 1006 locations	

Awards are subject to meeting all conditions of the Award and coming to terms with OBO to timely execute a Grant Agreement. The conditions of the award will be sent out to each Awardee via email to the contact provided in the application. For more information about the Oregon Broadband Office, visit [www.broadband.oregon.gov](http://www.broadband.oregon.gov).

## Willamette Valley Harley

*Continued from Page 5*

having some activity. He got a twinkle in his eye and told me to watch for major developments that are coming to that corner of the Motoplex.

Joshua Sklaroff is certainly building an impressive motorcycle complex with Willamette Valley Indian and Willamette Valley Harley-Davidson and Royal Enfield motorcycles. It's evident that, his drive, experience, standards in work culture and vision, that he is a force to be reckon with. I expect big things to come.

So my own experience as a motorcycle enthusiast and Harley rider reminds me that there has been a tradition of Harley dealers going back to the mid 70's for me and even longer as a historic legacy. Working backward, there was the dealership that was a partner to the Latus HD in Gladstone Oregon. Before that is Doyle's HD who broke ground in the current location. Before DoYLES there was Frank in downtown Springfield with Eastside HD, who added the dealership to his Kawasaki dealership.

An HD dealer has been, traditionally, in the Eugene/Springfield area for quite some time, but there was a time in the mid 70's when there were two dealers here. I got ahold of a flathead trike in 1975 and I rebuilt it with HD parts from Lane County Cycles. Located just a couple of hundred yards up the present location about where the Shell station is now. Howard Bash was who owned it and he was grumpy old fella but he helped me get my motor rebuilt. I don't know how long he had been there but it seemed then to have been a lifetime. At least at 21 years old, I thought it was. Then on Franklin near Romania Chevrolet there was Hardisty's Harley-Davidson with Jim Hardisty. Jim was much younger than Howard but I was a youngster compared to Jim but he was patient with a kid who was just a Harley novice.

But that is ancient history now. Willamette Valley Motoplex is the place to shop Harley, Indian, Royal Enfield. Whether it's new or used motorcycles, parts, apparel or service, check them out and tell them that Rusty sent ya...



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Pass Creek Park

Continued from Front Page

of funds. It did turn out that revenues from liquidated parks were diverted to a project at Winchester Bay. Resulting in Town hall meetings and the planners were met with opposition. The County leaned on their Parks Advisory Board (PAB) and Parks Department to push their plan. Many concerned citizens were denied vacancies on the PAB, even after the PAB devised a test for applicants, and the concerned citizens scored the highest and the County went ahead with their plans.

The controversy between the County and Park closures does not seem a new development and not for all of the same issues or intentions. Well if the loss of public resources to the enrichment of certain parties, then maybe they are. Mildred Kanipe Park, Stanton Park, Busenbark Park and now Pass Creek Park all seem to lend their story to a trend in the dismantling of public resources , not for the betterment but for the profit.

The rezoning of Pass Creek Park was approved by the Planning Commission at their SEPT 19th meeting. There was a scheduled Parks Advisory Committee meeting for October 17th and it was the target of a large contingent of opposition until it was cancelled. In turn, the BOC cancelled it's own October 21st meeting. It is not clear if meetings were convened in private but the next scheduled meeting was then said to be November 17th.

The current commissioners have been accused of ignoring almost all public input. Critics of the County claim that the Parks Advisory Board (PAB) was hand picked by the Commissioners, who exclude anyone who may object to them. They once gave applicants a test, but still excluded those who scored highest because they didn't want them on the PAB. The main problem is the advisory board actually has no power or authority. They just rubber stamp & sign off on what the parks director and commissioners are presenting, and then walk the county to gathering public input and provided opportunities for comments.

The DC Board of Commissioners is currently scheduled for it's next meeting on December 4th. It is to be seen as to what outcome or revelations are to be presented but there is certainly a concerted effort of citizens to be at that meeting to voice concern, opposition and even some outrage. The PAC, seemingly bowing out of the line of fire, is also tabling a meeting, but not until March 20th, 2025.

It is mindboggling to try to follow the logic of the County, through it's commissioners, on the reasons to deny the public of a needed and valuable public resource. The county is selling

the park because they claim that there's not enough revenue generated for many years. If you look at the corner of the freeway exit and entrance to the park you are assaulted by the delapidated structure previously known as the Coach House. Since it's abandonment and subsequent destruction and blight, it has been nothing but an eyesore and empediment to the Pass Creek Park visitors coming there and wanting to stay there. They see that building there and they're not staying there or coming back.

Supposedly, the only reason given by the county for Pass Creek Park to be sold is that it operates at a loss. Alternatives have never been brainstormed with the general public. And if the County truly valued the interest and concerns of the county residents and projected visitors they would have long ago addressed some answers to a property so distressed that it so negatively impacts the entrance to Pass Creek Park. With that kind of effort on the part of the County they might more readily find partners in the community, that can work towards rejuvenating, reviving and even elevating the space in so many ways. There are many good and even really great ideas that deserve being at the table regarding what really should be done and what should'nt be done regarding the Park.

Besides the dissatisfaction and opposition to the loss of the resource and the benefit it can and should bring to North douglas County and Curtain residents, is the notion of who benefits financially from the privatization and sale of the property and, according to a source who says there are already finalized plans to use those funds from the sale to fund the expansion and development of the Winchester Dunes, who or why are they profiting from that.

It has been challenging to understand the process and to determine if fairness and transparency are part of the County system. I, personally, know of numerous, in the dozens, of folks who are actively trying to exercise their rights to voice concerns and elicit answers regarding legitimacy, fairness and accountability of officials of Douglas County. It would, bt any account, amount to 'Stonewalling'.

I have come into possession of a letter sent by one group of, I believe, dozens of individuals to all or most of the commissioners and other officials. The letter seems concise, pertinent and incitefull. Certainly containing points that seem like they should be at least part of the conversation. The single Commissioners response I could find seems to bear that in mind. It portends a continued rocky road ahead.

More to report after the Decem-ber 4th meeting.

School Days

North Douglas Elementary School  
Student of the Month



1st Grade: Everett Lindsey

Everett exemplifies gratitude as he is always the first to use his manners when asking for help and reminds others to do the same. Everett can find the good in every situation and never complains about what he has or is able to do. He celebrates his own wins without shaming others and the wins of others without complaints. Keep up the good work Everett!

North Douglas Middle School  
Student of the Month



7th Grade: James Hoyt

James is a positive, cheerful guy. He is always appreciative of help and the little things people do for him. His outlook on life makes it so other students enjoy being around him.

North Douglas Herald is pleased to feature Students and their achievements. Please submit to schoolnews@ndherald.com

North Douglas Warriors finish 2nd in Finals  
2024 1A-8 State Championship

Story by Rusty Savage



The 1A-8 Championship finals were held at Summit High School in Bend on November 30th. The no. 3 ranked Warriors were defeated by the Adrian Antelopes to 66-12. The Antelopes finished with 509 yards total offense, 481 yards rushing and 28 passing.

"We knew we had to keep No. 4 (Hunter Vaughn) inside the box," Antelope Coach Bill Wortman said. "Our defensive ends executed well, turning the running back into our linebackers and defensive linemen."

Hunter Vaughn finished with a team-high 269 all-purpose yards, 19 yards rushing, 111 yards receiving, and 139 yards in kick returns. North

Douglas went into the game missing 2 senior Linemen and had to rely on several freshmen and sophomore players.

"Hunter had no room tonight and he got beat up pretty good," according to Coach Mast. "He's as explosive a football player as there is out there. He kept fighting and took a lot of shots, but he never gave up and . . . sometimes that's the way it goes."

"Our boys should be really proud. They put together a great season. It just didn't happen for us tonight. We'll try our best to get back and see if we can come up with one in the future here."

North Douglas High School Warriors football team finished the 2024 season with an 11-1 record.

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December Crossword Puzzle Sponsored by Studio Tattoo

November Crossword Solution

Across

1. Get cracked
5. "Have some"
8. Indy entrant
13. Overdue
14. Not up
16. "Dreams from My Father" author
17. Old-time outburst
18. Mysterious character
19. Hand-dyed fabric
20. Bond villain Goldfinger
22. Smother
24. Stable sound
25. Mistake in print
26. Conference site
28. Sprawling story
31. Enter the picture

34. Sandy hill
36. Like sushi
37. Climbing plant
39. Hopeless feeling
41. Sun follower?
42. Symphony member
44. Lean
45. Flock members
47. Go-between
49. Becomes fond of
51. "Laugh-In" co-host
55. Brought in, as crops
57. Cashless deal
58. Studio sign
59. "National Velvet" author Bagnold

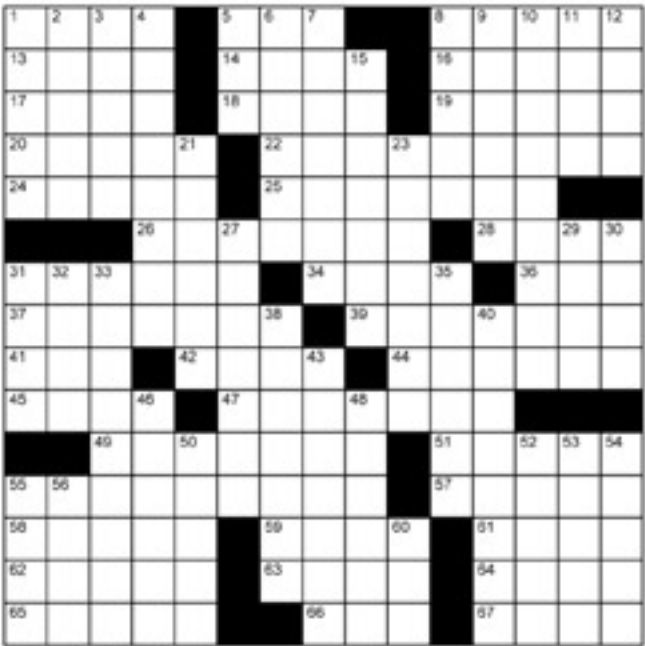
61. Malarial fever
62. Determined
63. "How \_\_\_!"
64. Pinochle play
65. Decorative jugs
66. Con's confines
67. Culturally showy

Down

1. Fresh from the shower
2. World Court city, with "The"
3. Video game pioneer
4. Family tree
5. Something to lend
6. Problem drinker, e.g.

7. Like some professors
8. Sci-fi droid
9. Computing device
10. Boat with two hulls
11. Radiate
12. Autumn tool
15. Rip off
21. Penny pincher
23. Obesity
27. High-pitched voices
29. Horse's stride
30. Out of whack
31. Top spot
32. Ship's front
33. Get through

35. Accompany to a party
38. Revel noisily
40. Scenic view
43. Totally gone
46. Jesus, for some
48. Chemical salt
50. Joanna of "Growing Pains"
52. Make a bet
53. Legally of age
54. Down-and-out
55. Nozzle site
56. From scratch
60. Place to hole up



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December 2024 Weather Forecast Sponsored by Travis Williams

Great Food Live Music

Event Calendar on Page 15



413 Umpqua HWY38, Drain Oregon

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
						
					54° 42°	57° 40°
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
						
55° 41°	57° 39°	58° 37°	55° 38°	59° 41°	60° 43°	56° 44°
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
						
55° 37°	50° 37°	50° 35°	51° 41°	53° 43°	57° 42°	56° 42°
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
						
55° 43°	53° 38°	49° 34°	50° 35°	49° 39°	48° 34°	47° 34°
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
						
50° 33°	52° 33°	48° 34°	46° 31°	45° 31°	45° 32°	48° 34°



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*Event Calendar*  
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is looking for **Motivated Advertising Sales and Regional Directors**  
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### Shadows Along the Creek

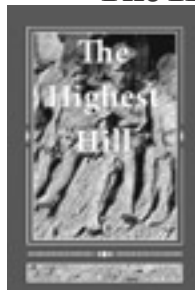


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**DRAIN**  
Assembly of God Church  
975 Drain Section Rd  
541-836-2369  
Sunday Service 10:30am

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

Drain Church of Christ  
2nd and D street  
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.  
[elktonchristian@gmail.com](mailto:elktonchristian@gmail.com)  
Bible study 9:45 Worship 10:45

If you would like to see your Church listed in the directory, please send email to:  
[churchdirectory@ndherald.com](mailto: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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**Business Card Ads \$50**

[contact.advertising@ndherald.com](mailto:contact.advertising@ndherald.com)





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North Douglas Herald

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