

North Douglas

# HERALD

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

## North Douglas 1a Boy's Basketball 1st in Quarterfinals 5th in State

*Photo courtesy of OSAA Photographer Becky Gerrard    Continued on Page 12*



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## Demolition - 70 year old Drain City Hall

*Photos by Rusty Savage*

*Continued on Page 9*



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North Douglas  
**Herald**  
Online Portal



March, 2024  
Volume 2, Issue #3

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

The Herald is currently available by subscription and at pickup locations across North Douglas and South Lane counties in Oregon. Subscriptions are free to Douglas county and Lane county residents. Out of County Subscriptions are \$7.50 for 6 months and \$12.00 per year. Subscriptions can be obtained online at:

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Free Classifieds for Lane and Douglas county residents can be entered at:

[www.ndherald.com/classifieds.html](http://www.ndherald.com/classifieds.html)

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

send email to [editor@ndherald.com](mailto:editor@ndherald.com)

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

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

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

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

**Drain**

- Rays Food Place, 308 N 1st St
- Country Cabin Coffee & Laundry, 438 W "B" Ave Hwy38
- The Rose Bar, 413 Umpqua Hwy 38
- Mildred Whipple Library, 205 W. "A" Ave
- Drain Post Office, 228 W. "C" Ave

**Yoncalla**

- Eagle Valley Supply, 2570 Eagle Valley Rd
- Food Center & Deli, 2580 Eagle Valley Rd

**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

**Scottsburg**

- Riverbanks Speedy Mart 32841 State HWY 38

**Reedsport**

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

**Cottage Grove**

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

**Winchester Bay**

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

**Oakland**

- Bart's Oakland Market, 204 SE 1st St

**Sutherlin**

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

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# Editorial

By Rusty Savage

Finally getting the March issue out, it has been a little tricky getting here this month. Since the Ice Storm and Power outages in January, we have been thrown off of our schedule and it turns out it'll be a while yet till we get back to things as usual. In order to collect stories, talk to advertisers and process the newspaper in a one month time period and still manage to get a spot in the busy printing schedule, well one month barely does it. So trying to cut a few days off to get from mid month publishing to the beginning of the month, it's a chore. It is important to have the North Douglas Herald out in the field of readers for the full month so to ensure that, the Herald will cut off a few days each month and hopefully that will bring us back to 1st of the month publishing by June 1st. That's the goal, don't hold me to it.

We also have a change coming in our subscriptions. It's not a secret that local newspapers have a difficult row to hoe these days - just look at the Eugene Weekly, NY Times and dozens of newspapers that fail every single month.

Just like the dedicated journalists at the Eugene Weekly that you can read about in this issue, the North Douglas Herald has a mission to get, print and disseminate the news to public that motivates us to overcome the many obstacles thrown at us. For us it important to provide that news and information to our readers FOR FREE. Here at the Herald, we think we have a plan to be able to do that with only our advertising dollars. We print monthly, instead of weekly, so that means working to bring you content that keeps the publication relevant and of interest all month long. Also it is the goal to do that with a bright and attractive product that pleases the eye and is handy to retain. Hence bright color on quality paper, trimmed and stapled pages to keep it tidy. We are not getting by on the cheap, it's a premium product that cost us a premium penny to bring it to you. Additionally we have been mailing just under 3000 copies through the US Post Office and so, combined with printing and distribution costs, we are under the gun so to speak.

Thanks to our advertisers, we are able to just about reach all of our initial goals. But the truth is, to date, we are taking in probably just a little over half of our expenses with advertising dollars. I anticipate that as we are growing we will be more and more able to become more solvent as we become more adroit at bringing you this publication in a form that has value to you, the reader, and our advertisers and venders. For now a lot of funds that produces this newspaper still

## Letters to the Editor

*We welcome letters regarding personal, community or business topics, views, observations, complaints, accolades and any other communications from our readers.*

It seems our legal system has declined so far from the time the constitution was written until today, that isn't just anymore. Now it seems that whoever has the most money can just buy it, whether right or wrong. For example, someone of meager income can win the case but still lose because the other side can appeal the decision and in case of city, county or state, use taxpayers money against you. So because of politics the only justice is for the highest bidder. I don't think this is what the founding fathers had in mind and wanted for everyone, rich or poor, to have equality, this is called a monopoly.



comes out of my pocket.

In the coming months we will be implementing a new model in our subscription department. Currently we do not charge for mailed subscriptions within Douglas and Lane counties, although we do charge for out of county and out of state subscriptions, about 200 now. The cost of those subscriptions do not cover the mailing costs. It has taken this last 6 months to realize that it is not sustainable. So I am working on a new model for subscriptions. The North Douglas Herald will transition to a hybrid print and electronic model of publication. Our print newspapers will continue to be freely distributed across Lane and Douglas counties through our distributors, albeit we will be substantially increasing those distributors and bundles.

Subscriptions will become electronic and ALL subscriptions will be free as well, no matter where the reader requests it from. One thing that we don't want to do is change to the e-zine or web based type of internet news broadcast. I will retain the newspaper format and that will be downloadable and viewable from devices from computers and laptops to phones and tablets. The look will remain the same. We are starting this conversion now and are sending emails and links to subscribers and I anticipate being fully converted by the April issue, so please bear with us. Check out our pickup locations, where you can still get a copy and beginning this month we will be loading about double the amount of newspapers to each location.

As I navigate these new waters, I want to renew my commitment to you to provide a quality product and increase the availability by increasing locations and we are working on a newstand shelf that can hold up to 50 or so newspapers for each location. This will help the North Douglas Herald to stand out and make it easier to locate at each distributor. Along the way I have put together a donation page through PayPal for anyone who wishes to assist us in our goal to provide free newspaper services to the public at large. These funds are 100% dedicated to print and distribution, not for payroll or purchases.



(Corporations) These monopolies should not be allowed to push you around. They all lined up for easy money. This will offend some people but I will list some of them anyway. Lawyers, Doctors, Dentists and Churches. Another thing I see that I think is wrong is when Lawyers get more of the settlement than the person that was damaged. You can see that is a problem. It is hard for good things to happen to good people with these practices ongoing. I hope I live long enough to see the changes.

Robert Wykowski  
Yoncalla OR

# 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 #4: **Aaron Lymath**
- City Administrator: **Jeni Stevens**
- City Council Meeting: 03/11/24 6pm

## Yoncalla

- Mayor: **Kathleen Wertz**
- Councilors: **Dan Wagoner**  
**Gene Vroman**  
**Harold Gilpin**  
**Bryce Wertz**
- City Administrator: **Jennifer Bragg**
- Council Meeting: 03/14/24, 6pm

## Elkton

- Mayor: **Daniel Burke**
- Council President: **Joan Smith**
- Council Members:  
**Kim Moore**  
**Dan Shepherd**  
**Sandra Galli**
- Public Works Supervisor: **Gary Trout**
- Council Meeting: 03/08/21/24, 8:30am

## Oakland

- Mayor: **Bette Keehley**
- Counselor: **Jan Wier**
- Counselor: **Kent Rochester**
- Counselor: **Sky Ironplow**
- Counselor: **Betty Tamm**
- Council Meeting: 03/13/24 7pm

## Sutherlin

- Mayor: **Michelle Sumner**
- Council President: **Debbie Hamilton**
- Councilor: **Lisa Woods**
- Councilor: **Joe Groussman**
- Councilor: **Larry Whitaker**
- Councilor: **Shawn Smalley**
- Councilor: **Gary Dagle**
- City Manager: **Jerry Gillham**
- Council Meeting: 03/11/24 7:15pm

## Reedsport

- Mayor: **Linda McCollum**
- Council Position #1: **Rob Wright**
- Council Position #2: **DeeDee Murphy**
- Council Position #3: **Chuck Miller**
- Council Position #4: **Allen Teitzel**
- Council Position #5: **Rich Patten**
- Council Position #6: **Deby Turner**
- Council Meeting: 03/04/24 7:15pm

## Cottage Grove

- Mayor: **Candace Solesbee**
- Councilor Ward 1: **Chalice Savage**
- Councilor Ward 2: **Jon Stinnett**
- Councilor Ward 3: **Dana Merryday**
- Councilor Ward 4: **Greg Ervin**
- Councilor: **Mike Fleck**
- Councilor: **Alex Dreher**
- Council Meeting: 03/06/24 - 6:55pm  
03/20/24 - 6:55pm

## County State & Federal

- Douglas County Commissioners:  
**Tom Kress** (Chair) **Tim Freeman**  
**Chris Boice** **Jennifer Miller**
- Lane County Commissioners:  
Dist 1: **Ray Ceniga** Dist 2: **David Lovall**  
Dist 3: **Laurie 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. REMEMBER it is vital to your freedoms to vote. If you would like to have your own towns municipal officers listed please send title & names only to [citydesk@ndherald.com](mailto:citydesk@ndherald.com)*





## Bipartisan Approval for Housing Package \$376M to ease Oregon housing crisis

**Salem OR** - A legislative housing Bill intended to ease the state's housing crisis and build more homes for teachers, nurses and firefighters passed the statehouse on March 4th and now awaits Governor approval.

The two measures, Senate Bill 1537 and 1530, were Democratic Gov. Tina Kotek's top priority for the 2024 legislative session and they passed both chambers with bipartisan support. Those two measures, along with House Bill 4134, will send a total of \$376 million toward boosting housing production, funding infrastructure like roads and land acquisition and supporting renters.

"Oregonians are struggling under the pressure of an increasingly unaffordable housing market," Kotek said in a statement. "After hearing this concern directly from Oregonians from across our state last year, I knew we had to make major progress on our housing crisis during this year's legislative session."

During her first days in office, she took an aggressive statewide housing production goal of 36,000 new housing units a year — up from the 22,000 or so Oregon builders were creating. The latest funding package builds on a \$200 million package legislators passed in the previous legislative session to help fund housing. This latest package includes a \$75 million dollar revolving loan fund meant to help cities boost affordable housing stock. It will create a program to help local governments offer interest-free loans in an effort to build more moderate and affordable home projects. Local jurisdictions choose the project and can borrow from the state fund to offer a grant to local developments.

Rep. Pam Marsh, D-Ashland, whose district was devastated by the

Alameda Fire in 2020, said the recovery is slow due to the lack of housing in her community.

Marsh states that, "Our desperate lack of housing is inhibiting recovery, undermining our workforce, driving homelessness and despair, and discouraging families from staying or moving to the community".

Rep. Maxine Dexter, D-Portland, worked on the overall housing package and said of the revolving loan portion of the bill was "innovative" and "visionary."

The bills funnel money into a wide range of projects, including \$131 million for housing and homelessness projects such as Project Turnkey, which includes projects like buying hotels to convert into emergency housing. State lawmakers are putting an additional \$123.5 million to support shovel-ready housing production for counties to acquire land and develop properties. Additionally, \$24.5 million will be reserved to provide air conditioners and air filters on an emergency basis, support warming and cooling shelters and help support home improvements to lower energy usage.

One of the initial sticking points of the housing package was the exemption to allow cities a one-time opportunity to sidestep state land-use laws and bring in more than 100 acres for cities with a population greater than 25,000 people and no more than 50 acres for those with fewer than 25,000 people. The bills passed with bipartisan support.

"I believe this package will make meaningful progress in fixing our housing shortage while also preserving our land use system and ensuring strong environmental protections," Governor Kotek said in a statement. "But this is not the finish line."

## Man Sentenced in Eugene Fired on Deputies at Traffic Stop

**Eugene OR** — A man who fired on deputies during a traffic stop has been sentenced, the Lane County Sheriff's Office reports.

In June 2023, Lane County Sheriff's Office deputies and detectives followed an anonymous tip to the 23000 block of Green Creek Road in Elmira. The tip indicated Jason Scott Page was at a residence in the area. Page was wanted by LCSO for several crimes including attempted murder. A sergeant observed Page leaving in a vehicle and conducted a traffic stop. Page fled the stop on foot before shooting at deputies. After a brief exchange of gunfire, Page was taken into custody unharmed.

On February 28, 2024, Page pled guilty to the following charges:

- Attempted Murder
- Assault in the First Degree
- Felon in Possession of a Firearm
- Failure to Perform the Duties of a Driver
- Reckless Driving

Page was sentenced to 10 years in the Oregon Department of Corrections.

## Man Shot in Trailer Suspect Unidentified

**Florence OR** — According to the Lane County Sheriff's Office (LCSO) deputies responded, with Florence Police to the area of the Goose Pasture Staging Area, on South Jetty Road, for a report of a male who had been shot.

According to the Sheriff's Office, deputies responded to the scene at around 10:30 p.m. on Monday, February 26th and found a man had been struck by gunfire while inside his trailer, causing him significant injuries. The man was transported to a local hospital and is in stable condition. Despite an "extensive follow up" on the case, detectives have been unable to locate a suspect.

Lane County Sheriff's Office is asking for the public's help in identifying a suspect involved in a shooting on Monday near Good Pasture Staging Area on South Jetty Road in Florence. The investigation is ongoing, anyone who was in the area at the time of the incident, or has information related to this investigation, is asked by the Lane County Sheriff's Office to contact Detective Hudson at 541-682-4150 option 1, and reference LCSO Case #24-0990.

## UCC Threat - Not Credible Originated Outside of United States

**Roseburg OR** - On Monday, February 26, 2024, the Sheriff's Office was notified by Umpqua Community College staff of a security threat to the campus. In an effort to prioritize the safety of students, staff and faculty, the College elected to cancel all classes, events, and activities until further notice.

The Sheriff's Office is working in partnership with the College regarding the threat. There is an increased law enforcement presence on the campus today.

"The Sheriff's Office takes seriously any threat directed toward the safety of our schools, whether kindergarten or higher education institutions," Sheriff Hanlin said. "The Sheriff's Office, with assistance from the FBI, has determined the source of the email originated from outside the country. At this time the threatening email is not considered credible, and there is no immediate threat to the college."

The specifics of the security threat will not be released by the Sheriff's Office in order to protect the integrity of the investigation.

"We are committed to taking all necessary precautions to ensure safe learning and working environments for everyone. We understand that this closure may cause inconvenience to the academic and personal lives of our community, and we appreciate your cooperation and understanding," said UCC President, Dr. Rachel Pokrandt.

Anyone with information may contact the Douglas County Sheriff's Office at 541-440-4471.

## 3 Roseburg Men Arrested Burglary and Kidnapping

**Riddle OR** - Three Roseburg men were arrested for Burglary, Kidnapping and a number of other crimes.

On Friday, February 16, 2024, around 10:00 a.m., 9-1-1 dispatchers received a report of a disturbance in the 200-block of Maple Street in Riddle. Callers were reporting a physical disturbance where three men were assaulting another. One caller reported that the men were applying zip-ties to the male to restrain him.

Deputies arrived on scene and were able to determine that 25-year-old Justin Daniel Devlaeminck, 53-year-old Daniel Terrance Devlaeminck, and 26-year-old Austin Lee Lyman broke into a residence in an effort to "evict" the 22-year-old victim. Justin Devlaeminck pointed a firearm at the victim and Daniel Devlaeminck broke a window to the residence. All three suspects entered the home and began to assault the male victim who tried to escape, but was pulled back. At one point, the victim was able to break away and flee outside where the three suspects captured him and continued their assault and eventually used zip ties to restrain him.

The victim was transported to Mercy Medical Center by ambulance for treatment of his injuries.

All three suspects were taken into custody and transported to the Douglas County Jail where they were lodged on the following charges:

Daniel Devlaeminck: Burglary I, Kidnapping I, Assault IV, Criminal Mischief II

Justin Devlaeminck: Burglary I, Kidnapping I, Assault IV, Menacing, Pointing a Firearm at Another

Austin Lyman: Burglary I, Kidnapping I, Assault IV

The Sheriff's Office was assisted by the Myrtle Creek Police Department, Umpqua Valley Ambulance and Riddle Fire Department.

## Scammers Posing as DCSO Employees

**Douglas County OR** - Scammers are posing as officials from the Douglas County Sheriff's Office (DCSO) in an effort to scam community members out of money. Deputies have once again begun receiving reports from people contacted by phone by individuals posing as DCSO employees such as Lt. Brad O'Dell and Retired Lt. Mike Root.

The scammer will tell the intended victim they have missed some court appearance, owe fines or have a warrant for their arrest and then demands payment. The victim is often directed to immediately make payment or they face consequences including arrest. These are tactics that are never utilized by legitimate law enforcement agencies.

It is critically important for our community to be aware of these tactics and to share them with their friends and family members, especially those who may be vulnerable to falling victim to the scams, such as the elderly members of the community. However, we also wish to remind the community not to focus too much on specific scam tactics; scammers often change their methods over time.

Scammers can easily obtain new phone numbers and will change them often.

Scammers may use "spoof" programs to make the Caller ID show an agency's actual phone number.

Scammers may use the names of actual DCSO employees to make the call seem legitimate.

Scammers may obtain personal information about a victim online including their name, address, phone number, and the names of others in the home.

Scammers may initially contact victims by mail, email, or through social media.

Due to the technology used in the scam — and the fact that scammers can be located anywhere in the world — it is virtually impossible to track the scammers or to get money back.

"If anyone has any question about a possible scam call, they should call dispatch at (541) 440-4471 and ask to speak to a deputy," said Lieutenant Brad O'Dell. "The most important thing is to not send any money or agree to meet someone to make payment."

## Missing Diver Found

**Gardiner OR** - The body of a Eugene man who went missing after scuba diving in the Umpqua River has been located.

On February 12, 2024, at approximately 8:45 am, 9-1-1 dispatchers received a report of a deceased body on the shore near Sparrow Park Road.

Deputies along with Oregon State Troopers responded to the area and confirmed the deceased person to be 47-year-old Jeffery Scott Harris of



Eugene. Harris had gone scuba diving in the Umpqua River near the mouth of the Pacific Ocean in Winchester Bay at approximately 12:30 p.m. on Sunday, January 28, 2024.

Harris, who had previous diving experience, had not returned prompting a call to emergency personnel. A large-scale search took place to locate any signs of Harris, but revealed no clues.

The Douglas County Medical Examiner's Office responded to the scene to investigate the death. Harris' next of kin has been notified. Foul play is not suspected in this case.

The Sheriff's Office had previously been assisted by the United States Coast Guard, Oregon State SAR Coordinator, CAHOOTS of Eugene, Lane County Search and Rescue, Douglas County Marine Patrol and Douglas County Search and Rescue.

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# Fundraising Event Provides Student Public Library Cards ESD 4J Homeschool and Public Charter School Students

Eugene OR— Last December the ESD 4J district announced a community literacy drive to provide library cards for every student in the district, but that didn't include homeschooled or public charter students. Jenny Jonak, 4J School Board Vice Chair, saw a gap in access for those 4J students, as well as non-4J students living in unincorporated areas of , so she organized the fundraising event at Tsunami Books.

Students who are homeschooled, attend a 4J public charter school or attend another district but live in certain rural Eugene areas outside city limits, are not eligible for the current library card program. One of those charter schools is Title One – a school with a high percentage of low income students.

The annual cost of a Non-Resident Eugene Library card is \$132-- a significant amount for families in poverty. Jenny Jonak partnered with Lane Educational Service District, Lane Eugene Foundation and the Eugene Public Library to close in on these gaps in youth literacy.

In Jenny's words, "I even heard from parents of kids with dyslexia, or learning disabilities who are telling me we really need access to audio books and some of these alternative ways of learning, that are very expensive."

Their goal was to raise \$10,000, which would fund several hundred cards. At the end of the weekend, the estimated total was \$18,900, but the actual number, according to Jonak, including online deposits, may turn out to be higher than \$19,000.

Jenny also said, "I see literacy as very much a social justice issue. If you look at literacy rates, it is highly correlated, not only with financial success later in life but also it's civic engagement with higher health outcomes with crime rates, all sorts of things. Basically everything we want for our community. We want our students to grow and become successful individuals that are involved in their communities."

In the next year, Jenny plans to collect data to come up with permanent solutions to provide

equal access to a library. Carol Dennis, Secretary & Treasure of the Lane Education Foundation, said, "Lane ESD provides services for life skills classes, migrant education, for students that are homeschooled or for families that are unhoused. Reading is a magical thing to be able to do, and I wish it on everyone."

On literacy, Jenny said, "It's not only the way that you learn, but it's also the way that you hear about other perspectives, learn about other cultures, learn about how to see different viewpoints, and that's such a critical thing that we want for all of our students and for members of our society."

The Lane Educational Service District provides services for all school districts within Lane County. Schools and education centers can apply to the Lane Education Foundation for grants ranging from \$200 to \$1,000.

Links to donate:  
<https://tinyurl.com/2sshz9w>



Press Release:  
**OREGON'S OLDTIME FIDDLERS TO CONVERGE ON WINSTON**

The Annual State Convention of the Oregon Oldtime Fiddlers' Association (OOTFA) is scheduled for APRIL 4-6, 2024 at the Winston Assembly of God Church in Winston, Or. With several hundred musicians and fans coming from throughout the region, it will be an ideal place to enjoy stage shows, jamming, dancing, workshops, band scramble, raffle, food and more.

## Letters from the Librarian

"A place where everybody knows your name."



I've been thinking about the third place. If home is the first place, and work or school is your second place, do you have a special third place? A place where

you feel comfortable and at home? You can meet friends or sit quietly. Is it church? Is it a pub like "Cheers" of tv fame?

Well, just maybe, for some of us that third place is the library. This is of course different from gold, silver, and bronze medals. There's no competition implied. People who study human

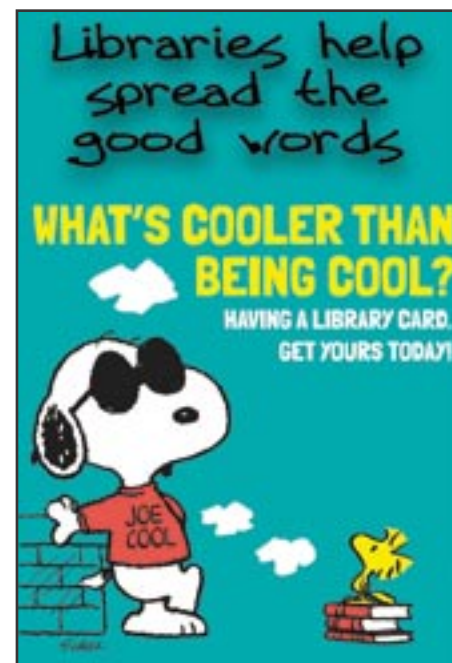
belonging write about this third place. Libraries are more than books inside walls. They are vibrant places of connection to the world and to others.

In case you're not sure: Mildred Whipple Library is truly a place you belong.

Inside the library doors is a place to read the papers, to browse the shelves, to make friends or be comfortably alone. We shed our political views, our differences. We connect with the world and make it a little better one library visit at a time.

Thanks for being part of the community that makes libraries and other public spaces safe and fun for all of us. We are the luckiest. If you've not stopped in, we'd love to meet you.

Miriam Sisson, Director  
Mildred Whipple Library, North Douglas Library District  
ndld.org 541-836-2648



## LULD Library Notes



Lower Umpqua Library District (LULD) has materials available for borrowing in a variety of different formats. The magazine section has substantially expanded recently, due to the addition of new subscriptions about a variety of topics. Some examples of recently added magazine titles include Rock & Gem, Trails Magazine, Freehub, Oregon Historical Quarterly, The Guardian Weekly, Scientific American, Medieval World, and New York Times Magazine. While the normal borrowing limit for library materials (books, DVDs, CDs, etc.) is 25 items at a time, patrons may borrow an unlimited number of magazines. New magazine issues are available for checkout immediately after they are processed.

LULD created new music CD and video games sections last year and while the number of items available in those formats are still relatively small when compared to others, we are continuing to add more. Donations are welcome! If there is a particular title that you would like to borrow that the library does not yet own, please let us know and we may be able to acquire it.

We would like to encourage more people to volunteer at the library. Volunteer work could include tasks such as shelving, inventorying, and processing new items as well as more complicated projects.

Information about any events being hosted at the library can be found on our website, [www.luld.org](http://www.luld.org).

For example, a series of talks about gardening are being given in the library's meeting room. We are open to ideas about other events that could be hosted at the library.

Please contact the library if you have any questions or would like to schedule an event in the meeting

room.  
Alex Kuestner  
Library Director/District Manager  
Lower Umpqua Library District

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# City Desk

## Reedsport Main Street Program

You are invited to join the next Board of Directors meeting on Tuesday, March 19th at 4:30 pm in the City Council Chambers, 451 Winchester Avenue. The community is welcome to attend in person or via Zoom. Public input and involvement are crucial as we work

together to shape the future of our Main Street. This is an excellent opportunity to contribute to the revitalization and enhancement of our downtown area. Zoom link: <http://us02web.zoom.us/j/765213317> Meeting id: 765 213 317 Passcode 161986 Call in via phone: 253-215-8782

## YONCALLA BEAUTIFICATION PROJECT Quarterly Report



### Red and Green Holiday Lights

Did you feel a little extra community holiday spirit this past Christmas here in Yoncalla? Local residents, visitors and everyone passing through our town were treated to wonderful Christmas light display as our local businesses teamed up on a common-themed light show. When entering our town from the south, the red and green light display began at Easy Pick Shavings on Eagle Valley Road and ending at Jim Thorpe Lumber Products on the north side of town. Virtually EVERY local business participated in this community event. THANK YOU to all for your participation. We can't wait to see how our local businesses build upon this display in next year's Christmas holiday celebration!

### Seasonal and Holiday Banners

The Holiday Banners along Eagle Valley Road and on Main Street, we hope, added to your holiday enjoyment. Have you noticed that the "banners" downtown have been changing with the seasons? **Dany Starr** helps to repair and restore the banners with a little TLC as the sun, rain and wind takes its toll upon all things exposed. Please stop and say "Hi" to *Dan Kingery and Ed Mussen* when you see them up on the ladder truck as they keep the banners in their seasonal rotation. Please note that it is Dan who also displays the American flags on Eagle Valley Road and along Main Street during various holiday events. We are also looking to expand our flag display with additional flags on Eagle Valley Road extending out of the north and south sides of town.

### Flowing Flower Baskets

We are rapidly ascending into our flower-basket season. Pass Creek Nursery has been our "go-to" supplier as we enjoy a very successful partnership with them. We currently have enough money in our account to supply the various 16 inch and 12 inch baskets that we will hang up around town (this will nearly drain the funds we have available). Next year,

we will need to find a funding source to purchase the baskets going forward. However, we do not have any funds available for supporting the watering of the baskets through the summer months. We have paid \$300 per month for the watering during the months of June, July, August and September. We are seeking local sponsors of \$100 each (or, perhaps, two or three neighbors or friends combine for a sponsorship) for the flower basket program to support the summer watering. The local community's support is critical as the Yoncalla Beautification Project is entering its second year **without** a regular stable funding source. If you can help sponsor the daily watering campaign for the flower basket program, please send a \$100 check to **Doris Bartlett** (Treasurer) at P. O. Box 936. All sponsors will be recognized during Yoncalla's 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade on the Beautification Project's float entry. Also, we are planning to sell 12 inch baskets in the same color theme as those we hang around town. We are creating these baskets and will sell them for \$40 each. Proceeds from this project will go toward the support our hanging basket program. Please place your order with Doris Bartlett where she can be reached at 541-315-0608. Place your order by March 16<sup>th</sup> and we will have them ready for pickup around Mother's Day weekend.

### Adopt-A-Street

Are you willing to Adopt-A-Street? From First Street to Fifth and from Eagle Valley Road to Douglas, there are ten downtown streets needing a caretaker. Remember how nice our community looked following last spring's community cleanup? Adopting a street will help to ensure that kind of appearance . . . year round! Four streets are already adopted but there are six more needing some help with regular grass and weed abatement and litter pickup. Please consider joining our Adopt-A-Street by calling Terry Duncan at 541-580-1752 for more information.

**Reedsport Main Street Program  
Board Meeting Agenda  
March 19, 2024 – 4:30 pm  
451 Winchester Ave. Reedsport, OR 97467  
City Council Chambers**

Zoom link: <http://us02web.zoom.us/j/765213317>  
Meeting id: 765 213 317  
Passcode 161986  
Call in via phone: 253-215-8782

1. Call to Order
2. Citizen's Comments
3. Approval of the minutes
4. Approval of agenda
5. Financial report
6. General Business
  - a. Introduction of New Board Member – Kell Smith
  - b. Board Resignation
  - c. Treasurer Position Appointment
  - d. Volunteer Tracking Form
  - e. Oregon Main Street Quarterly Report
  - f. Committee Meetings
  - g. Meeting with American Legion Update
  - h. Brick Sales
  - i. Open House
  - j. Vendor Market
  - k. RDI Economic Vitality Upcoming Meeting
    - l. Virtual – March 22<sup>nd</sup> at 10 am – Resiliency
  - l. Questions

#### Announcements

Next meeting - April 16, 2024 at City Council Chambers & Zoom, 4:30 pm

Please Note: There may be a quorum of City Councilors in attendance. No City business items will be discussed nor decisions made.

## Reedsport to Electrify School Bus Fleet

EPA and Oregon Providing Incentives to School Districts Statewide



In a significant step toward sustainability, Reedsport based school transportation service Lewis Transportation demonstrated an electric school bus. The school board was in attendance for the demonstration, and expressed support for the concept. Lewis Transportation provides school bus services to Reedsport, Gardiner, Scottsburg, and Loon Lake for 40 years and is now looking to the future.

"School buses powered by electricity reduce greenhouse gas emissions and other air pollutants, reduce noise pollution, and protect the health of students, drivers, and communities. ODOE's 2022 Biennial Energy Report shared that transportation

is the state's largest single source of greenhouse gas emissions, at 35 percent of all emissions in the state. Electrifying transportation options for Oregonians can significantly reduce emissions, especially as Oregon moves toward its goal of 100 percent clean electricity to power homes, businesses, and electric vehicles by 2040" states an Oregon Department Of Energy press release.

In 2020, the Beaverton School District became the first in Oregon to begin electrifying their fleet. According to the ODOE, Beaverton will be up to 19 fully electric buses, as they look to add 6 more at the start of 2024. Beaverton and Bend LaPine School

Continued on Page 7

**Sole to Soul**  
Reflexology  
by Donita  
541-817-4546  
208 "B" St, Drain Oregon



# Community Pages

## Wine & Brew Industry vs OHA's "Rethink the Drink" Oregon Wine Council - "Dissatisfied with the OHA"

A public service announcement from the Oregon Health Authority that aired across the state about alcohol consumption, is getting pushback from the wine industry. The PSA called "Why?" is part of the OHA's "Rethink the Drink" campaign that launched at the beginning of December.

The advertisement shows a father and his daughter shopping at a grocery store. The father first picks up a case of beer and his daughter says, "Is not on the list." Then they're shown in the wine section where the man picks up a bottle of wine. The daughter asks, "Why I can't drink wine?" The father struggles to give her a good response as she continues to respond with "Why?" The father eventually decides he doesn't need the bottle of wine and puts it back on the shelf.

The executive director of the Oregon Wine Council, Fawn Barrie, said the PSA's message is to not buy Oregon wine.

"I was really disappointed with the ad OHA put out related to wine," Barrie said. "There's support in the industry for moderation and responsible drinking messaging, not a message of put back the bottle of wine you just picked up."

Her organization, along with the Oregon Beverage Alliance and the Oregon Winegrowers Association, all sent letters to Governor Tina Kotek's office and the OHA asking why taxpayer money was used to discourage wine sales and wine consumption. The industry groups argued the state government is contradicting itself by investing more than \$700,000 to promote buying Oregon wine and then investing more than \$800,000 in a PSA that they say discourages it.

Barrie said the campaign is missing its intended goal of helping people who struggle with alcoholism. "They should really be focused on Oregonians who have an alcohol problem and an addiction problem and offering them resources, offering them ways to get help. There's no way people know how to access resources based on the ad they put up." Barrie claims the state's responsibility is to ensure people are socially responsible and support "moderate" drinking. "And to ensure if people have a problem they have access to

resources."

Two Oregon wine groups, the Oregon Wine Council and the Oregon Winegrowers Association. In a Dec. 20 letter to Kotek, the groups expressed support for educating the public on the risks of excessive consumption but took issue with the OHA's messaging.

"The state should be focusing its public health messages on getting help to those who need it, not on vilifying an Oregonian at the grocery store purchasing a bottle of locally grown wine," the groups said in a joint letter.

The Oregon Beverage Alliance, which represents the state's brewers, winemakers, cider makers, distillers and the hospitality industry, shared its concerns in a letter to Governor Kotek on December 21st. "We are disturbed to see the Oregon Health Authority's Rethink the Drink ad campaign pivot from educating Oregonians about responsible, moderate consumption by legal drinking age adults to a neo-prohibitionist agenda."

To get a local perspective I spoke to Ali Rodgers, Executive Director of the Umpqua Valley Winegrowers Association. The UVWA is at the heart of the Oregon Wine Industry, whose roots go back to those initial Umpqua Valley wine vineyards in the 1880's.

"Most of the wineries and vineyards in Douglas County are small, family-owned and family-operated businesses. The recent TV advertisement from OHA feels like a direct attack on our local wine industry. We are disappointed that the OHA would use taxpayer money to create a campaign that would hurt local agriculture, at a time when small family growers continue to struggle, and are still recovering from Covid, wildfires, and recent inflationary pressures."

It appears that the message the OHA appears to be promoting is abstinence as opposed to responsible alcohol consumption. This does not really jive with the States support of local alcohol related industries. Even the OLCC, who commended the Rethink the Drink campaign in 2023, is quick to point out it's support for the wine and alcoholic beverage industry and how it's own efforts, promotes responsible growth and economic success for the industry as well as the general public.

## North Douglas Wine is an Oregon Wine Heritage North Umpqua Valley Region is Thriving

Story by Rusty Savage

The Umpqua Valley has a rich and important history in Oregon Wine growing. The wine-growing history dates back to the 1880s when German immigrants who had worked for the Beringer Bros., the oldest continuously operating vineyard in Napa, planted the first wine grape vineyard in the Valley. Those immigrants established vineyards, a winery and a distillery, and produced an estimated 20,000 gallons of wine in the Umpqua Valley.

Production, at first significant, was slowed as Oregon anticipated Prohibition, which went into effect in 1914, six years before National Prohibition. After repeal it took till 1933 for the Oregon legislature to legalize grape growing and establishing the Farmer's Winery License for production of light wine from privately owned fruit.

Umpqua Valley's first Post-prohibition winery is established by Adolph Doerner as "Old # 7" on Heydon Road near Roseburg in 1934. Ray Doerner, Adolph's son, continued to operate "Old # 7" until 1965 when he paid the last BATF taxes and closed his business.

Richard Sommer, a winemaking pioneer in the Umpqua Valley, planted 36 acres of California Vinifera. He established HillCrest Vineyard near Roseburg in 1961. He was the first to plant and bottle Pinot Noir in Oregon despite being told by his UC Davis cohorts that it was impossible to successfully grow wine grapes in Oregon.

By 1970 the Roseburg area was a hotbed of winegrowing in Oregon and the birthplace of the Oregon Winegrowers Association. Today the Umpqua Valley AVA continues to evolve and now has over 30 wineries making over 40 varieties into some of America's most distinctive wines. Everyday more winemakers discover the area, bringing with them a passion for innovation and world-class wine and the Umpqua Valley AVA became official in 1984.

It was through the Umpqua Valley Winegrowers that I learned about the Elkton AVA. The Elkton Oregon AVA is the coolest and wettest region within the larger Umpqua Valley AVA and produces different varieties and different wine styles than the rest of the larger AVA. The northern area around the town of Elkton enjoys a cool, marine-influenced climate with a cooler, but milder and longer growing season than the rest of the Umpqua Valley AVA and receives much more rain annually, about 50 inches. Pinot noir, Pinot

gris, Gewürztraminer, Riesling and other cool-climate varieties thrive here.

The Elkton Oregon AVA is situated 33 miles inland from the Pacific Ocean. It is wholly within the Umpqua Valley AVA, which in turn lies within the larger Southern Oregon AVA. Elkton Oregon is the northernmost region in the Umpqua Valley. The Umpqua River weaves through the middle of the region, offering a cool afternoon breeze during the growing season.

The Elkton Oregon AVA is an American Viticultural Area that was established in 2013 in and around the town of Elkton, Oregon. The AVA encompasses 74,900 acres. It is the 17th AVA in Oregon and resides completely inside the greater Umpqua Valley AVA and huge Southern Oregon AVA, an area known to be warmer than the northern appellations of Oregon.

The Appellation covers approximately 11 percent of the 689,904 acres. Umpqua Valley AVA and .04 percent of the much larger 1,977,298 acres Southern Oregon AVA. The vineyard soils here are predominantly residual clay, silt loam soil, alluvial deposits and river terraces around the meandering Umpqua River. Clay soils retain water very well, resulting in less of a need to irrigate and lower yields. Elkton Oregon is the northernmost and lowest elevation region in the Umpqua Valley.

In Elkton, you'll find some exquisite vineyards and tasting rooms that are tucked into this particular wine country, including, Bradley Vineyards, Brandborg Winery, Haines Creek Vineyard & Tasting Room, Knoll Vineyards, Lexème, River's Edge Winery. Not within the Elkton AVA but still producing fine wines from North Douglas county in Oakland and Umpqua are the Triple Oak Vineyard, Spire Mountain Cellars, Meadows Estate Vineyard & Winery and Henry Estate Winery. I shouldnt fail to mention winery's just north of county line in south Lane county, the Lorane area King Estate Winery, Chateau Lorane, Alesong Brewing & Blending.

It's definitely worth the adventure, checking out the Vineyards and Tasting rooms in the region. In contrast to the rest of Southern Oregon, wines produced from this region are more often from cool climate varieties made in a lush style, fuller in body with bolder fruit notes than those produced in the Willamette Valley. Photo by Tyler Bradley - Bradley Vineyards





## Electric School Buses

Continued from Page 5

Districts, received a grant from the Public Purpose Charge. The Public Purpose Charge is a state senate initiative to raise funds for improvements to school energy infrastructure. The funds are provided by a 1.5 percent share of Portland General Electric and Pacific Power's revenue. Lewis Transportation however, are applying for a grant through the EPA's Clean School Bus Program.

"With funding from the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, the EPA's Clean School Bus (CSB) Program provides \$5 billion over five years (FY 2022-2026) to replace existing school buses with zero-emission and low-emission models. Under the Program's multiple grant and rebate funding opportunities to date, the EPA has awarded almost \$2 billion to fund approximately 5,000 school bus replacements at over 600 schools" states EPA.gov on the grant program.

Back on Tuesday January 11th, Oregon lawmakers announced that Beaverton, Gresham, Portland, Willamina, Amity, Dayton, and McMinnville school districts will receive federal funds under the Environmental Protection Agency's Clean School Bus Program, which is allocating \$5 billion to schools across the country to help schools make the move towards electric bus fleets.

"Making the switch to cleaner, greener school buses is good for our children's health and good for our environment," Rep. Andrea Salinas said then in a statement. "I'm grateful to the Biden Administration and the EPA for investing in Oregon's future, and I look forward to seeing these dollars put to good use in our communities."

Rep. Earl Blumenauer said the old diesel buses threaten air quality and the health of children, adding, "Our community is well positioned to help accelerate the transition to electrification and today's grants are a reflection of our leadership in this vital effort. I'm hopeful that this is just the beginning of a cleaner, more efficient transportation system."

"Every child," Sen. Jeff Merkley explained, "should be able to travel to and from school without having to be exposed to toxins and dangerous air pollution that drives asthma and other diseases."

Senator Merkley continued, "This historic investment will secure support for several Oregon school districts to purchase electric school buses to keep the air cleaner for our kids and save school districts money. I'll keep fighting for the investments and legislation we need to upgrade school bus fleets around Oregon."

Lewis Transportation has been in a grant application process with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) with the intention of fully electrifying their fleet. The company is hoping to secure funding for a fleet of 10 buses, including a wheelchair accessible model. Currently in their third round of the application process, the bus service is being assisted by Byd, an electric vehicle company based out of Lancaster, California. Byd, who provided Lewis Transportation with the opportunity to demo the bus, are developing a host of zero emission technologies ranging from vehicles such as buses, forklifts, and rail transport, to energy solutions like battery energy storage and solar.

The Type-D school bus they provided is a full 36-foot bus that uses Byd's proprietary lithium iron phosphate batteries and are fully rechargeable. In contrast to dangerous lithium-ion batteries, susceptible to combustion when punctured or warped, lithium iron phosphate is a safer power source. The buses have a capacity of 84 students and are more than capable of serving the local area. School buses are a smart choice for conversion to electric with mostly shorter routes and longer sitting periods.

Concerned citizens have cited worries over the energy grid. Lewis Transportation have done their research on this matter. In applying for the grant, they have partnered with the Central Lincoln Public Utilities District to assess the capacity for an electric fleet and its required charging infrastructure. They found that the area had more than adequate capacity to accommodate. Lewis Transportation will be hopeful their grant applications are successful. Any positive move toward lowering emissions can contribute to preserving our beautiful Oregon environment for generations to come.

Continued from Page 4

## OREGON'S OLDTIME FIDDLERS CONVENTION

For the complete schedule, go to [www.oofa.org](http://www.oofa.org)

Wednesday evening's meet-and-greet potluck and jam will occur in the church foyer from 4 - 10 pm for early arrivals. Public activities happen on Thursday, Friday and Saturday. Educational and fun workshops will be offered all three days, as well as a Thursday evening "Band Scramble," Friday Dance, and Saturday Youth & Fiddle Contest Showcase. The public is welcome, and all events are at Winston Assembly of God Church, 360 SE Darrell Ave., Winston, OR. Bearded Guy Bites food truck will be on-site all three days from 10 am - 6 pm.

Jude Kuether, the 2024 convention's co-chair states, "Our goal for this year's convention is to have fun playing music we love with friends, old and new, and to conduct OOTFA business as quickly and efficiently as possible."

During the 1980s and 90s, OOTFA's state convention was held in Roseburg and attracted large crowds of old-time musicians and music-lovers. For a couple decades, the convention was held in other parts of Oregon. "In 2022, it returned to Roseburg," says Kuether. "We'll be so excited to see everyone at 2024's church venue in Winston. The church is ideal. We'll have plenty of room for shows, jams and workshops. Youth are very much included, with dedicated spaces to help all ages feel welcome. The next generation will keep this music vibrant, relevant and alive." Please pre-register to attend or to reserve a campsite at [www.oofa.org](http://www.oofa.org)

OOTFA is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization, events are free, but a suggested donation at the door will be appreciated but not required. OOTFA is dedicated to perpetuation and promotion of old-time music, loosely defined as music played on traditional instruments dating from the first half of the 20th century and earlier. Oregon Oldtime Fiddlers' Association formed in 1964. They publish and distribute a monthly newsletter, The Hoedowner to all members. Meetings, jams, and performances happen regularly around the State. To become a member, go to [www.oofa.org](http://www.oofa.org)

For more info about the 2024 OOTFA State Convention, contact Jude Kuether at 541-430-2080 or E-mail [jude999s@gmail.com](mailto:jude999s@gmail.com)

## Pet RSV Concerns

Since the summer, the Oregon Department of Agriculture has received more than 200 reports of what is being called an 'atypical canine infectious respiratory disease.' The disease is causing pneumonia- and bronchitis-like symptoms, leading to illness and, in severe cases, even death.

"Nobody really knows where it's coming from. Nobody knows the etiology of it, in other words, what's causing it, and nobody knows what kind of dogs are getting it," said Dr. Teri Sue Wright

While uncertainty swirls around the origin of this virus, what is clear is that certain activities can increase the likelihood of your pet coming in contact with a dog carrying the pathogen.

"Shared spaces and breathing on each other and salivating on each other and coughing at each other's faces."

According to Dr. Wright, finding a way to balance limiting your dog's exposure to the virus and keeping them active is important. Talking to your vet about ways to ensure you limit your pet's risk is a great place to start.

As information continues to come in about this virus, state-level research into the origin and treatment options will come closer to reality. In the meantime, you may want to get creative about how you keep your pet active and healthy.

# Governor will Sign Bill

## Overhauls M110 to include Jailtime & Treatment

Story by Rusty Savage

**Salem OR** - Gov. Tina Kotek announced she plans to sign the new legislation that makes possessing small amounts of hard drugs such as cocaine and fentanyl a criminal offense once again.

House Bill 4002 sped through both the Oregon House and Senate in less than a week. The bill, surprisingly received overwhelming support in bipartisan fashion. It transforms Measure 110, the voter-backed 2020 policy change, that decriminalized drugs and allocated funding to expand services to help people living with addiction, into a system that still prioritizes treatment while making possession of small amounts of drugs a misdemeanor crime punishable by up to 180 days in custody.

There was little question about whether Kotek, a Democrat, would sign the legislation. Still, the governor's office remained tight-lipped throughout the legislative debates, saying only that she would review a bill only after it reached her desk. The governor's announcement offers certainty that Oregon's drug decriminalization experiment is over.

Gov. Kotek said in a statement on (March 7th, "As Governor, my focus is on implementation. House Bill 4002 will require persistent action and commitment from state and local government to uphold the intent that the legislature put forward: to balance treatment for individuals struggling with addiction and accountability."

The governor is particularly focused on estimates from the Oregon Criminal Justice Commission. She said, the state agency "projected disproportionate impacts to communities of color and the accompanying concerns raised by advocates."

Those figures suggest 1,333 new convictions every year for people whose only criminal charge is possessing a small amount of an illicit drug such as methamphetamine, fentanyl, or cocaine, according to the Criminal Justice Commission. The commission also estimates that 533 people per year could receive jail sentences after having their probation for a drug charge revoked. Some of those could also be served in a treatment facility, so far Oregon has not been able to provide treatment to everyone

who wants it.

Lawmakers have stressed the bill prioritizes treatment, but the system is complex. Across the state it will look different depending on whether counties have agreed to deflect people found with drugs from the criminal justice system into treatment following an encounter with law enforcement. The bill would. Lawmakers are also expanding funding for treatment and will make it easier for prosecutors to charge drug dealers.

There has been a resounding criticism of Measure 110's effects on communities across Oregon. In September, a group of political leaders, announced they would push a ballot measure of their own to recriminalize drugs and overhaul Measure 110. Last week, the Coalition to Fix and Improve Ballot Measure 110 said HB 4002 achieved 85% of what it wanted and the group would withdraw its ballot initiatives if the governor would sign it. Governor Kotek signaled she would be open to a bill that recriminalized drug possession at the beginning of the session, but added she was more interested in opportunities to get people treatment.

"I want to see a proposal that answers a set of questions," Kotek said in late January. "One piece will be criminalization, but if we just look at criminalization in isolation, I think it's missing the point. So my question is going to be ... what else are you going to do different to make sure we have better outcomes?"

In her statement on March 7th, Kotek said she would sign the legislation sometime during the next 30 days.



# Bill to Cap cost of Insulin at \$35 passes Oregon Senate

Story by Scooter Brown

**Portland, OR** — On Tuesday, February 13th the Oregon Senate passed a bill that would cap the cost of insulin at \$35 a month for Oregonians.

"No Oregonian should suffer because they can't afford basic, life-saving medication," said Sen. Deb Patterson, D-Salem.

In addition to limiting the cost of insulin, Senate Bill 1508 would also prevent the Health Evidence Review Commission (HERC) and Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee (P&T) from using Quality Adjusted Life Years (QALY) formula to determine coverage for those on Medicaid and Medicare. Patterson said QALY discriminates against people with chronic illnesses and disabilities, making it harder and more expensive for those individuals to get the care they need

"No Oregonian should have to ration their medication or choose

between paying for prescriptions or basic necessities like food or housing," Patterson said. "SB 1508 works to make sure that every Oregonian, regardless of their health or disability status, gets the care they need."

More than 37 million people in the U.S. have diabetes, a chronic illness that affects how a person's body turns food into energy. Insulin is the main medication that many people living with diabetes need to use to survive. However, the price of the 100-year-old drug has more than tripled in the last two decades, forcing people to pay thousand of dollars a year for life-saving medication.

Patterson said this bill would help protect Oregonians on Medicaid, the Oregon Health Plan and those with private insurance from the rising costs on insulin, especially seniors.





**JACKS BARBER**  
EST. 2019  
**SHOPPE COMPANY**

**HOURS**  
Tues-Fri 10am - 6pm  
Sat 10am - 1pm  
1199 Highway Ave.  
Reedsport, Oregon 97467, USA

Jacksbarbershoppe@gmail.com    www.jacksbarbershoppe.com



Wine tastings are held on the patio  
last tasting of the day is 4:30  
Flights of 4 wines for \$15,  
refunded with three  
bottle purchase  
Yes, we are dog  
friendly, friendly dogs!  
Parties of 4 or more  
please call for a  
reservation in order for  
us to accommodate you!!



**Cool Climate  
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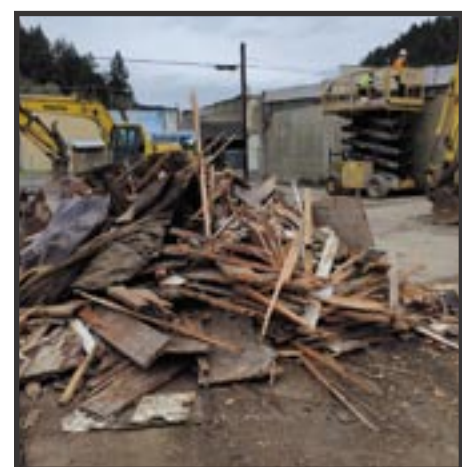
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**OOTFA 2024 SPRING CONVENTION**  
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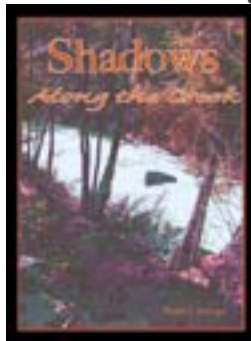
OR  
SCAN HERE FOR SCHEDULE





Photos and Story by Rusty Savage

### Shadows Along the Creek



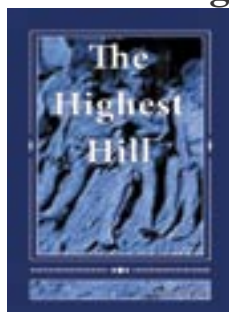
(Paperback) by Rusty L Savage  
2.6 out of 5 stars on Amazon  
**\$14.84**

Judson Ringo has not been dealt an easy hand in life. After losing his father, and nine months later his mother, he is left on his own at seventeen in rural 1890s Kentucky. He goes to Tennessee to live with his uncle, but instead of being treated like family, he is a slave. Judson faces each challenge as it comes, thinking only to survive. After four years in bondage, John Harrington dies and Judson is set free. He returns to his father's farm on a cold winter night, finds it in ruins, is suspected of murder, and begins life all over, finding strength in the midst of struggle and love in remnants of buried dreams. Martha Jane gets her buggy stuck in the mud on a cold winter night. She tries everything, but cannot get the buggy back on the road. She is all but ready to leave the buggy, when a horse and rider approaches. The hopes and dreams Martha Jane believed long dead come to life once more.

**NOW AVAILABLE ON AMAZON**  
<https://a.co/d/9NIFOYc>



### The Highest Hill



(Paperback) by Rusty L Savage  
**\$13.66**

This is the story of two young brothers, Bobby and Jackie Ringo, who struggle to overcome the hardships of an unpropitious home environment in rural western Kentucky in the 1940s and 1950s. Their lives and futures are fraught with pitfalls and roadblocks, both debilitating and deadly. The reader will feel the dreams, aspirations and wonder of the youngest whilst living and growing up in very different time than our own. The boys, left on their own much of the time cope with a drinking and abusive father, barely escape being sent to reform school, struggle to stay in school, graduate and overcome their circumstance and to reach higher and higher to achieve a better life as kids and for their futures. Follow Bobby and Jackie through the early 1950s, starting at ages nine and twelve, through their high school years to a dramatic climax of personal and physical struggle with the "Ringo Streak" and its repercussions. If they survive, it'll be to eventually realize the true lessons of the Highest Hill which continues to reveal its real measure and meaning.

**NOW AVAILABLE ON AMAZON**  
<https://a.co/d/jivKij6>



### A Place to Die (Paperback)



by Rusty L Savage  
4.1 out of 5 stars on Amazon  
**\$15.66**

Johnny Ringo's brother was dead. "I'll get 'em Frank, I swear to you I'll get them". What a place to die, there on the frozen banks of the Rough Creek. The Law wasn't doing anything about it and Johnny had decided he would. It was 1938 and the county was full of Bootleggers. One of them "Shiners" did it. Johnny was gonna find out who and he knew how to do it. Trouble is there are a lot of prime suspects and a good deal of danger from any one of them. Johnny has a plan, if he can keep out of sight of the Sheriff long enough and keep from getting killed himself. He knows the woods and hills and he will find out what he needs to know.

**NOW AVAILABLE ON AMAZON**  
<https://a.co/d/2cOZfG2>



## Drain City Hall

*Continued from Page 1*

Drain started construction of the City Hall in 1953 and it was completed in 1954. The City Hall was dedicated in a ceremony on September 18th 1954. Standing for nearly 70 years, the building has outlasted its use to the community for which it served as a stalwart of City government.

Over the years it has housed, not only city government, but variously, Police, Fire, Library, and many Community programs and events. About 5 years ago it was discovered that black mold had infested the interior walls and it had progressed over some time until it advanced to the point it made some city employees ill and had to be shut down for public safety and the interests of the community.

As it has sat empty these last few years, the impact on the city of Drain has not been insignificant. City Council and various committees have used the Drain Civic Center for meetings and various gatherings during this time.

The city has made practical use of one of the modular buildings on the North Douglas Fire property on Cedar St. during this time that the determinations and considerations for establishing a permanent building have been underway.

Finally there is a historical parcel that has potential for a new City Hall and it should give the city administration some renewed vigor to step up to the task. It is a great opportunity to envision a new and modern building to house a future and potentially innovative structure and base for the community. According to Mayor Sparhawk there are no plans set for any building project yet to announce.

Although there is no existing plan or concept for a new city hall, there is quite a local interest in what is unfolding for the future, as the city administration has not revealed anything yet. It is certain that the burden is on the City to step up and provide some leadership and direction on this regard.



# Rural Report

## The Elk Creek Watershed Council proposes to Dissolve

Story by Rusty Savage

It is a common assumption among Oregonians, especially in our rural areas, that our natural resources are abundant and available for public and private use. Oregonians have proved, over the last 50 or 60 years, that our State values and plans to steward the Oregon environment, wildlife and land use to benefit the public and property owners alike and to preserve our way of life and leisure. I know that our watersheds are a vital resource and can have lasting impacts on the regions of our waterways and runoffs. I was not familiar with the Elk Creek Watershed Council until I talked with Lee Russell, the Executive Director. The ECWC has done some extraordinary work along the Elk Creek region, with numerous grants and projects completed, making significant improvements in the salmon and wildlife ecosystems. According to Lee, the ECWC Chairman, James Mast, has begun the process of dissolving the Council, due to lack of interest in holding Council seats and closing out the funds for a state lawsuit. Below is an open letter Lee appealed to the members, with a history of prior accomplishments.

### History of the Elk Creek Watershed Council

Most of you have not been Board members long enough to know what it has taken to build the Elk Creek Watershed Council into what it is today, and what you will be throwing away by simply dissolving the Council and supporting a futile lawsuit. At this time, the Elk Creek Watershed Council is a “fairly well-respected,” and fully-funded member of the roughly fifty-five (55) watershed councils that the State of Oregon considers to be worthy of the funds they receive. But every bit of that “fairly well-respected and fully funded” was fought for with a great amount of energy and sacrifice.

The history of the Elk Creek Watershed Council really should start with the dwindling populations of salmon species, and the federal government’s listing of endangered species. By the early 1990s, environmental lawsuits claimed that the federal government was not enforcing the provisions of the Endangered Species Act that required them to list salmon species that were declining as threatened or endangered with extinction. A federal listing, and the required Recovery Plan, had the potential to severely impact the timber industry, both in Douglas County, and in the State of Oregon. In response, the State of Oregon began funding efforts to restore habitat for salmon, especially coho salmon. In 1993, the Douglas County Commissioners established the Umpqua Basin Fisheries Restoration Initiative (UBFRI) as a sub-committee of the Douglas County Water Resources Advisory Board. The motto of UBFRI

became, “Leave your politics at the door. We’re here to build partnerships that will get things done ‘one the ground’ that will benefit fish and fisheries.” The original UBFRI Board included high-level representatives of local industrial timber landowners, as well as State and Federal resource management agencies. Between 1993 and 1996, UBFRI secured funding to complete stream surveys on many miles of the County’s fish bearing streams, and the Douglas Soil and Water Conservation District and ODFW began implementing “on the ground” projects to benefit anadromous fish in the Umpqua Basin.

By 1996, through the Governor’s Watershed Enhancement Board (GWEB), Oregon began looking at funding the formation of local groups that would bring together a wide range of persons and groups with interests in the watershed to assess conditions in the watershed and to develop plans for restoration. This was embodied in the Oregon Plan for Salmon and Watersheds (1997). The passage of Ballot Measure 66 (1998) allocated lottery funds to watershed restoration in Oregon, and the Governor’s Watershed Restoration Board became the Oregon Watershed Restoration Board (OWEB).

Since UBFRI was essentially doing watershed restoration in the Umpqua Basin, the core group began to make the changes necessary to transition from a County Advisory Committee to a State-recognized watershed council. The Umpqua Basin Watershed

Council (UBWC) received council support funding in early 1998.

The Elk Creek Watershed was recognized in 2002, when the Douglas County Commissioners “established” the Elk Creek Watershed Council as an independent watershed council, and removed the Elk Creek Watershed from the geographical area served by the Umpqua Basin Watershed Council – which later changed its name to the Partnership for the Umpqua Rivers. ;” it was formed to “improve opportunities to address the goals of sustaining natural resource values and watershed protection and enhancement within the Elk Creek Watershed Basin.” [Douglas County Commissioner’s Order – February 6, 2002.] While the goal of the organizers that petitioned the County to separate, and who established the non-profit status of the Elk Creek Watershed Council, may have been to provide a buffer between the agricultural and small timberland owners in the Watershed, they did begin to sponsor and support local restoration projects and Contrary to some of what has been claimed, the Elk Creek Watershed Council was *not* formed to “support the interests and land rights of landowners. The Elk Creek Watershed Council, Inc. was incorporated in September 2002, as a 501 (c)(3) non-profit corporation.

In spite of objections from the Umpqua Basin Watershed Council and OWEB staff, the OWEB Board awarded a grant of \$42,500 to the Elk Creek and Smith River Councils for the 2003 to 2005 biennium.

By December 2004, neither the Elk Creek nor the Smith River Council had requested or spent any of this money, and applications for OWEB funding for 2005 to 2007, were due. I was asked to write the application, but I made it clear that since the Council had not used any of the money, and had only completed one insignificant project, they should not expect much. I agreed to use the Council’s half of the Elk Creek/Smith River grant to try to get the Elk Creek Council recognized as a functioning watershed council by OWEB. The award for 2005 to 2007, was \$23,010, and *half* was for Smith River.

From 2005, to 2009, I declined to get paid until the Council was financially stable because we needed enough cash to be able to pay the contractors, we used to complete projects. But those projects were all that made the Elk Creek Watershed Council fundable in the eyes of OWEB. Every biennium we were in the “needs improvement” category because OWEB didn’t feel that the Council represented a diverse cross section of the interested people in the Watershed, and that the Council did not engage enough with the local community. The fact that we were getting work done on the ground kept OWEB from cutting off our funding altogether at a time when they were trying hard to fund fewer watershed councils in the State. The Elk Creek Council was not funded to the extent of other “established” watershed councils until the 2017 to 2019, biennium. Even in the current biennium, we had to go through a secondary review process to maintain our full funding.

## Open Letter to Elk Creek Watershed Council Members, from the Executive Director

3 February 2024

Board of Directors - Elk Creek Watershed Council  
PO Box 676, Yoncalla, Oregon 97499

Attention: James Mast, Chairman

Dear Chairman Mast and Council Board,  
Presented below are some comments on the discussions of the Board of Directors of the Elk Creek Watershed Council at last week’s meeting, and a proposal that could potentially address some of the issues discussed.

### Introduction:

After last week’s Board meeting, I feel it’s necessary to expand on some of the comments that were made, both for and against the proposal to dissolve the Elk Creek Watershed Council. I’d also like to offer a compromise solution that seems to address most of the negative aspects of a dissolution, and yet still preserves the organizational structure of the Council, most of the Council’s standing and reputation within the watershed community, and its ability

to continue working with those landowners within our watershed that would like assistance managing the natural resources on their properties.

### Forest Accords:

First, I understand that all of you are frustrated with the implementation of the Forest Accords. I have questions about the implications as well. But we’ve been here before. When there was talk about the listing of the coho, or the Spotted Owl, there was panic because it might “destroy the forest industry in Oregon.” There were some changes to the Forest Practices Act, but the timber companies have managed to survive just fine. When Oregon passed Senate Bill 1010, this caused panic because it “would drive the farmers and ranchers into bankruptcy.” I believe there have been only two or three citations issued for violations in the more than 20 years that the Agricultural Management Plan has been in effect. What really happened, was that most producers were able to get technical assistance from the watershed councils or soil and water districts, and the funding to implement projects, that improved both the natural resources on their lands, but also the efficiency and profits of their operations. There already is funding being attached to the Forest Accords plan. This is exactly what the Elk Creek Watershed Council has been providing to landowners in our watershed for nearly 20 years – technical assistance and grant funding to make improvements. Some of you have personally benefitted from some of the projects and services that the Council has offered.

### Consequences:

As Board members, you should be clearly aware of the consequences of the decision you are being asked to make. This decision will effectively destroy the Elk Creek Watershed Council, and this destruction will be irreversible. The decision to dissolve the Council will effectively eliminate opportunities for any landowners in the Elk Creek Watershed to access the benefits of the technical assistance, or the financial support, that has been provided by the Council. The argument that these services would be picked up by the Douglas Soil and Water District is totally unrealistic. It is merely a weak argument that attempts to try and soften the real impacts that a decision to dissolve the Council would have. The Douglas SWCD simply does not have the capacity to take on projects of the scale that have been implemented by the Elk Creek Watershed Council, and the restrictions imposed by their funding grant agreement are very different. It has taken literally

years of hard work and sacrifice to get the Elk Creek Watershed Council to where it is today. The Douglas SWCD isn’t even close to that.

### Economic Development:

In addition to the elimination of the Council’s assistance to local landowners, the benefits that the Council has provided to both the economy of Douglas County, and to our local economy, has been considerable. As local economies throughout the State have tried to adapt to the changes in forest management operations, and the loss of high paying timber-related jobs, they have tried to bring in outside money by supporting small scale businesses or encouraging tourism. The Elk Creek Watershed Council has brought in nearly \$5,000,000 in grants. Nearly all of this money has gone into the local economy; and the money that has been spent for contracts with local contractors has not only provided jobs, but jobs to people in our own watershed.

### Habitat Improvements:

And we probably ought to consider the improvements that we have made for fish and water quality. True, we haven’t single-handedly restored the salmon runs of the past, or been able to prevent the regulatory agencies from demanding more, but we have made a difference. Last week alone, a local landowner was exclaiming about the amount of gravel that was accumulating behind the log structures that we put into the stream on his property. Sure, this is only a small section of the miles of streams in our watershed, but it is one step in the journey to make a difference. It is unfortunate that between Covid, and the failure of the Council’s outreach plans, that the Board wasn’t able to visit some of our projects first hand.

### Problem:

As I see it, there are several main issues that need to be addressed. There are some Boardmembers that feel that the Council has been ineffective, and want to resign, though there are a few that might decide to stay, but don’t want to take on the responsibility of leadership. And then there is the issue of the money.

I’m proposing a compromise that addresses each of these, and which also addresses many of the issues associated with the plan to simply dissolve the Council. And let’s be clear, the plan to dissolve the Council is not as simple as that. The Board has already agreed to pay the \$400/hour attorney a \$3,000 retainer, and a potential cost of up to \$50,000, for work related to the plan to dissolve the Council. It is still unclear if this is for “advice on the process to dis-

solve the Council,” “advice on what the legal ramifications or liability of individual Board members might be,” or “to actually implement the process of dissolution.” At any rate, it is likely to be expensive. I have to assume that the expectation is that there will be enough left over to support the proposed lawsuit against the State and the Department of Forestry.

### Proposed Solution:

First, any Director that feels that their tenure as a Board member of the Elk Creek Watershed Council has been a waste of their time, can simply resign. But they will need to be replaced by new Board members that feel that the work of the Council is worth continuing. This will allow the Council to continue, and it will avoid having to deal with a default on the Council’s current contractual obligations. Those obligations will remain with the Council and its Board. It will also eliminate the need to pay an attorney to legally dissolve the Council. Though as long as you’ve already paid a \$3,000 retainer, it would be worth getting a legal opinion on what individual Board member’s personal liability might be.

Second, since much of this decision really revolves about the council’s assets, I propose to donate some of the Council’s General Fund to the legal fund that is planning to sue the State. As long as the donation is to a registered 501(c)(3), I think it is legal, though I personally don’t feel it is ethical, considering that all this money came from sources that expected it to be used to further the mission of the Council. This also avoids the need to hire an accountant to figure out what financial obligations the Council will be responsible for before it can legally dissolve. The Oregon Secretary of State’s office is responsible for non-profit corporations, and though there is no statute against dissolving, there are legal statutes concerning the responsibility for satisfying the entity’s financial obligations, and the distribution of its assets. This might also be expensive.

I think this alternative provides benefits to everyone. It allows the Elk Creek Watershed Council to continue providing the services to the landowners in the watershed that it has for the past 20 years. It would also save considerable expense that would effectively reduce the final amount that might be available to support the lawsuit that you are proposing.

Sincerely,  
Lee Russell, Executive Director  
Elk Creek Watershed Council

## Veterans Corner

The first 2024 meeting of the Veterans Advisory Committee to the Oregon Department of Veterans’ Affairs (ODVA) will be held virtually Wednesday, March 6. The meeting begins at 9:30 a.m. and will be followed by a town hall meeting at 11 a.m., which is open to the public.

Established in 1945, the Veteran Advisory Committee holds a distinct and fundamental role in advising the director and staff of ODVA. The nine members of the Veteran Advisory Committee are military veterans from all corners of the state, appointed by the governor to serve and act as advocates for veteran issues and veteran concerns across Oregon.

Following every quarterly business meeting, the committee holds a town hall inviting the public to raise questions or concerns about broad veteran issues or to share information with the committee and agency director.

Members of the community are also invited to submit written public comments to the committee by emailing [odva\\_vaac@odva.oregon.gov](mailto:odva_vaac@odva.oregon.gov). The Advisory Committee meets quarterly on the first Wednesday of March, June, September and December.

Continued on Page 14



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

## All Oregon Businesses Must Offer Retirement Plans OregonSaves Or Another Qualified Retirement Plan To Employees

**Salem OR** - Since July 31st of 2023 All businesses in Oregon with at least one employee must offer a qualified retirement plan or otherwise sign up for OregonSaves.

"Businesses across the state have now been thrust into offering retirement and 401(k) planning. Yet, most have no idea where to begin, even if they are looking to get started with the most basic of offerings, OregonSaves" said the president of GNSA, Katharina Fink.

Back in March of 2023, businesses with at least three employees became required to offer a qualified retirement plan or otherwise sign up for OregonSaves. Now all businesses with at least one employee, as well as those utilizing a Professional Employer Organization (PEO) or Leasing Agency must offer a qualified retirement plan or OregonSaves.

"The biggest issue we find is that all these employers who are new to managing 401(k) and retirement get started with OregonSaves, and then most have trouble manually adminis-

tering their retirement plans as well as keeping the information updated in both their payroll and 401(k) systems, again manually." Said Fink.

To avoid manual 401(k) and retirement plan administration, businesses have the option of turning to an integrated retirement and 401(k) plan, instead of OregonSaves, which eliminates the need for things such as manual deduction and contribution updates through a 360 integration with your payroll software.

With plans starting at just \$120 per month and \$4 per employee, employers who get started with 401(k) retirement planning can satisfy their OregonSaves compliance requirements without forcing themselves to use OregonSaves.

Businesses in Oregon should compare their Oregon Retirement Plan Mandate Options before making a final decision or defaulting to OregonSaves.

## Business Oregon Awards Matching Grants Awarded to 14 Oregon Businesses, 3 in Eugene

Business Oregon and the Oregon Innovation Council (Oregon InC) are thrilled to announce the recipients of the Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR)/Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR) Matching Grant awards. The SBIR and STTR grant programs are federal programs designed to stimulate technological innovation and provide opportunities for small businesses to conduct research and development with commercialization potential. The programs help small businesses explore their technological potential and get their products closer to market.

However, because the SBIR/STTR funding alone leaves gaps in critical areas for early stage companies to scale their business, the Matching Grant program is available to complement the federal program and address these critical gaps. Business Oregon's Matching Grant program can increase a business's chances of success by helping companies advance their technologies and better positioning them for future fundraising and growth after the federal grants are complete. These funds can be applied to expenses that help a company stay and grow in Oregon, such as business plan development, facilities, testing equipment, production equipment, intellectual property protection, product marketing, business consulting, and more.

Grants awarded to 14 Oregon companies, including 3 businesses in Lane county.

KeyBiome (Eugene) is developing a novel microbiome-derived anti-inflammatory protein-based therapeutic to treat IBD.

NemaMetrix (Eugene) is commercializing FishCam Lite, an automated zebrafish drug testing platform used in biomedical research. Northwest Prevention Science (Eugene) is developing digital health technology for improving the mental health of children.

More information on Business Oregon's SBIR/STTR Matching Grant program can be found at [www.oregon.gov/biz](http://www.oregon.gov/biz).

Business Oregon, the state's economic development agency, invests in Oregon businesses, communities, and people to promote a globally competitive, diverse, and inclusive economy. The agency's services span rural community development and infrastructure financing; business retention, expansion and recruitment; export promotion and international trade; investments in industry research and development and entrepreneurship; small business assistance; and support for arts and cultural organizations. Learn more at [biz.oregon.gov](http://biz.oregon.gov). Business Oregon 775 Summer St NE, Suite 200, Salem, OR 97301

## Embezzlement at Eugene Weekly newspaper Forced to lay off entire staff and halt printing

**Eugene OR** — Last December the Eugene Weekly newspaper had to lay off its entire staff and halt print after 40 years because its funds were embezzled by a former employee. This was a devastating blow to a publication that serves as an important source of information in a community that, like many others nationwide, is struggling with growing gaps in local news coverage.

About a week before Christmas, the Eugene Weekly found inaccuracies in its bookkeeping, editor Camilla Mortensen said. It was discovered that a former employee who was "heavily involved" with the paper's finances had used its bank account to pay themselves \$90,000 since at least 2022. The paper then became aware of at least \$100,000 in unpaid vendor bills, including to the paper's printer, stretching back several months.

Additionally, multiple employees, including Mortensen, realized that money from their paychecks that was supposed to be going into retirement accounts were never deposited. When the paper realized it couldn't make the next payroll, it was forced to lay off all of its 10 staff members and stop its print edition. The alternative weekly, founded in 1982, printed 30,000 copies each week to distribute for free in Eugene, the second-largest city in the state and home to the University of Oregon.

"To lay off a whole family's income three days before Christmas is the absolute worst," Mortensen said, expressing her sense of devastation. "It was not on my radar that anything like this could have happened or was happening."

The suspected employee had worked for the paper for about four years and has since been fired. The Eugene police department's financial crimes unit is investigating, and the paper's owners have hired forensic accountants to piece together what happened, she said.

Brent Walth, a journalism professor at the University of Oregon, said he was concerned about the loss of a paper that has had "an outsized impact in filling the widening gaps in news coverage" in Eugene. He described the paper as an independent watchdog and a compassionate voice for the community, citing its obituaries of homeless people as an example of how the paper has helped put a human face on some of the city's biggest issues.

He also noted how the paper has made "an enormous difference" for journalism students

seeking internships or launching their career. He said there were feature and investigative stories that "the community would not have had if not for the weekly's commitment to make sure that journalism students have a place to publish in a professional outlet."

A tidal wave of closures of local news outlets across the country in recent decades has left many Americans without access to vital information about their local governments and communities and has contributed to increasing polarization, said Tim Gleason, the former dean of the University of Oregon's journalism school.

"The loss of local news across the country is profound," he said. "Instead of having the healthy kind of community connections that local journalism helps create, we're losing that and becoming communities of strangers. And the result of that is that we fall into these partisan camps."

An average of 2.5 newspapers closed per week in the U.S. in 2023, according to researchers at Northwestern University. Over 200 counties have no local news outlet at all, they found, and more than half of all U.S. counties have either no local news source or only one remaining outlet, typically a weekly newspaper.

Despite being officially unemployed, Eugene Weekly staff continued to work without pay to help update the website and figure out next steps, said Todd Cooper, the paper's art director. He described his colleagues as dedicated, creative, hardworking people.

"This paper is definitely an integral part of the community, and we really want to bring it back and bounce back bigger and better if we can," he said.

The efforts of staff and supporters rang true on February 8th when EW published a print edition, albeit a diminished version but still a Herculean feat given the odds against them.

Their journalistic fortitude is showing as the weekly publication continues to put out a quality and concise product every week since. Still waiting for an official accounting of the depth, degree and identity of a perpetrator or any clear assay of the events leading to the closure, Law enforcement has only released minimal information that cites a fraud investigation of a "trusted" former employee. In the meantime, Eugene Weekly is doing what it does best, as best it can.

### Amazing Food & Drinks

	Hot	Cold
Latte	4.00 4.50 5.50	Milkshakes 7.00
Mocha	4.50 5.00 6.00	Malts 7.50
Cappuccino	4.00 4.50 5.50	Smoothies 5.50 7.00
Americano	3.00 4.50 5.50	Italian Soda 4.25 5.25
Drip Coffee	2.00 2.50 3.00	Root Beer Float 4.50
Hot Choco	3.00 3.75 4.75	Frappuccino 5.00 6.00
Hot Tea	2.00 2.50 3.00	Blended Chai 5.50 6.00
Hot Chai	4.50 5.00 6.00	Iced Red Bull 5.50 6.50
Breakfast Burrito	8.00	Soft Drink 1.50 2.25
Breakfast Sandwich	6.50	Ice Tea 1.50 2.25
Biscuits & Gravy	5.00 7.50	Orange Juice 3.00
		Bottled Water 1.50



## COUNTRY CABIN

### Laundrymat

#### Desserts

Soft Ice Cream	3.00 4.00
Soft Yogurt	3.00 4.00
Ice Cream Cone	3.00 4.00
Waffle Cone	5.00 6.00
Cookie - Big	3.00
Cookie - Small	.75
Rice Crispy Treat	3.00
Mini Banana Bread	4.00
Mini Pumpkin Bread	4.00
Raised Donut	1.50
Cake Donut	1.00
Danish	2.00
Brownies	3.00
Pies, 5 inch	7.95

### COFFEE & LAUNDRY

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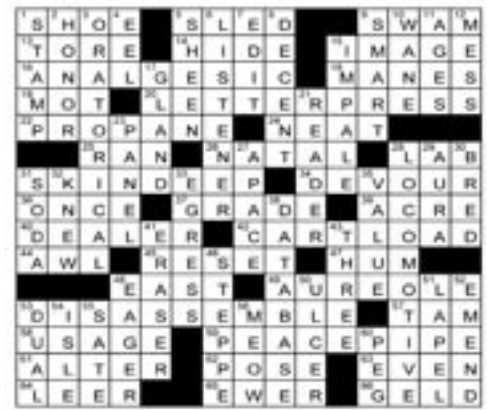
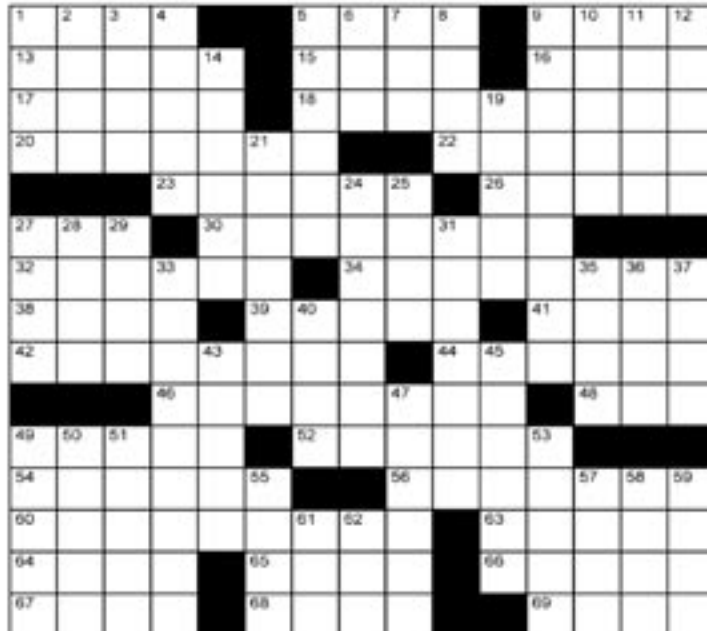


# March Crossword Puzzle Sponsored by Studio Tattoo

## February Crossword Solution

**Across**

- 1. Oscar Madison, e.g.
- 5. D.C. office
- 9. Astrological transition point
- 13. Biblical outcast
- 15. Meditative exercise
- 16. Part of A.M.
- 17. Tequila plant
- 18. Zorro, for one
- 20. Skunk
- 22. Keep in custody
- 23. Of direct descent
- 26. Give and take
- 27. Circle segment
- 30. Biased, in a way
- 32. Water cannon target
- 34. Curtail expenses
- 38. Burrowing animal
- 39. Witchy woman
- 41. Damaged, as a ligament
- 42. Kirk's command
- 44. List of people
- 46. Like drumbeats
- 48. Flock member
- 49. Up and about
- 52. Embroidered hole
- 54. Step-in shoe
- 56. Pleasant-sounding
- 60. Employee-abetted crime
- 63. Ready for use
- 64. Dentist's request
- 65. Computer command



- 66. Mortise's mate
- 67. Like some tea
- 68. Two-at-a-time tow
- 69. Monopoly payment

- Down**
- 1. High-five sound
  - 2. Popular building toy
  - 3. Birthstone after sapphire
  - 4. Cut at an angle
  - 5. Tasty mollusk
  - 6. "I do," for one
  - 7. Bygone days
  - 8. Frying medium
  - 9. Clickers
  - 10. Emasculate

- 11. Composed
- 12. Minimal change
- 14. Cooking directions
- 19. Legally prohibit
- 21. Charlie Hunnam series, "Sons of \_\_\_\_"
- 24. Waste away
- 25. Hold on property
- 27. Kind of race
- 28. Knee-slapper
- 29. Fountain drink
- 31. Like OR instruments
- 33. Scared stiff
- 35. Musical sound
- 36. Ship's staff
- 37. Where Kilroy was?

- 40. Baptism, e.g.
- 43. Cut up
- 45. Spotted animal
- 47. Card carrier
- 49. Accused's need
- 50. \_\_\_\_ boom
- 51. Sample
- 53. Laser printer powder
- 55. Doctor's order
- 57. Wine's partner
- 58. Screen symbol
- 59. Small price to pay
- 61. Boxer's punch
- 62. In vitro items

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# March 2024 Weather Forecast Sponsored by Travis Williams

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
25	26	27	28	29	1	2
54° 39°	50° 36°	49° 35°	49° 33°	54° 37°	48° 34°	48° 33°
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
50° 31°	49° 32°	49° 31°	51° 31°	53° 32°	51° 35°	50° 33°
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
50° 32°	51° 32°	53° 33°	52° 33°	58° 36°	54° 40°	59° 39°
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
58° 36°	51° 34°	51° 32°	53° 40°	55° 37°	60° 40°	60° 41°
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
53° 40°	61° 40°	62° 38°	54° 34°	55° 41°	55° 35°	53° 33°
31	1	2	3	4	5	6
54° 36°	57° 35°	56° 33°	55° 34°	55° 35°	58° 39°	63° 39°

**Great Food Live Music**

*Event Calendar on Page 14*

**The Rose**

**BAR & RESTAURANT**

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# School News

Send your School & Sports news to [schoolnews@ndherald.com](mailto:schoolnews@ndherald.com)

## North Douglas Students of the Month

Wyatt Hoyt, North Douglas Elementary 4th Grade February Student of the Month

Ze'v Fowler, North Douglas Middle School 8th Grade February Student of the Month



1a 2nd Place Team Basketball Quarterfinals Boys - Elkton



All Tournament team Boys L-R - Keegan Stufflebeam - Days Creek, Andrew Allen - Elkton, Jayden Montgomery - North Douglas, Cale Boe - Elkton, Hunter Vaughn - North Douglas, Judah McAfee - Umpqua Valley Christian



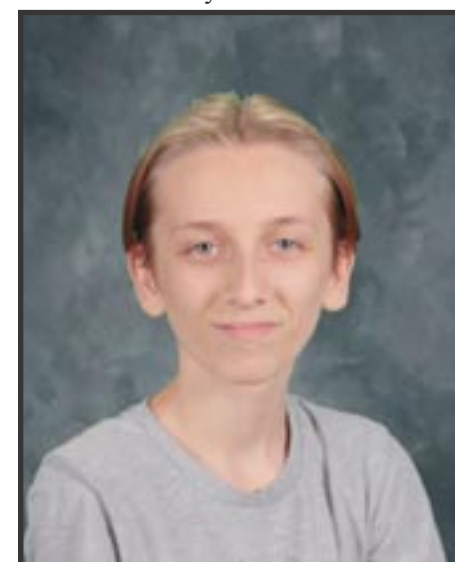
1a Girls Basketball 1st QuarterFinals 1st in State - North Douglas



All Tournament team Girls L-R - Brooklyn Cyr - North Douglas, Brooke McHaffie - North Douglas, Maddy Vaughn - North Douglas, Jordan Zumhofe - New Hope, Ava Barnett - New Hope, Kendyl Elias - Umpqua Valley Christian



Wyatt is a person who wants to learn. He puts so much effort into his work and uses all of his words to try to help others understand what he means. He is organized and consistent.



Ze'v is one of those students I have never heard anything negative from or about. He is easy to be around, liked by his peers, and genuinely kind and positive.

**DODGEBALL**  
March 17, 2024  
**2024 DODGEBALL TOURNAMENT**

<b>When:</b>	March 17, 2024	<b>Divisions:</b> (Estimated Times)
<b>Where:</b>	North Douglas Elementary 100 School Ave. Drain, Oregon	
<b>Who:</b>	3 <sup>rd</sup> - Adult	
<b>Cost:</b>	\$15.00 Per Player	

\*All players guaranteed to receive a team shirt if registered and paid by 3/11/2024.

Create a team with 6-8 players.  
Use this QR code to register your team

or contact  
Gina: 541-784-7760  
or email [ndtravelclub2024@gmail.com](mailto:ndtravelclub2024@gmail.com)  
All proceeds go to help send North Douglas MS students to Washington DC




1a 3rd Place Team Basketball QuarterFinals Girls - New Hope Christian

**North Douglas Herald**  
We need local School and Sports Reporters and Photographers. Show your pride, show off your skills and show us the action...  
[schoolnews@ndherald.com](mailto:schoolnews@ndherald.com)



# North Douglas Travel & Entertainment South Lane



## Event Calendar

March 8 Timberwolf 8pm  
March 22 Karaoke 8pm  
April 5 Karaoke 8pm  
April 12 Timberwolf 8pm

## Great Food

413 Umpqua HWY (38), Drain

SHAMROCK QUEST on SAT MARCH 16, 2024

12-4 pm at Stewart Park, Roseburg

Thundering Water is ecstatic to present the first ever SHAMROCK QUEST! Pre-register at <https://thunderingwater.org/shamrockquest/> -- The first 100 registrants will receive swag bags on the day of this family-friendly, adventure packed funday on Saturday, March 16th in beautiful Stewart Park from 12pm - 4pm! The FREE EVENT will feature:

One-of-a-kind ADVENTURE QUEST with over 15 INTERACTIVE MINI QUESTS hosted by incredible Douglas County community organizations.

COLOR RUN ALLEY as you chase the Leprechaun to the pot of gold!

Inflatable obstacle course and bounce house!

IRISH THEMED FESTIVAL following the quest for all participants - FOOD, LIVE MUSIC, ACTIVITIES, PRIZES!

SUNNY SKY BOYS – Live Music on guitar and mandolin from 3 – 4 pm!

Award-winning guitarist Jerry Ashford & mandolinist Joe Ross will play lively Celtic, Old-Time & Bluegrass. Special invited guests on bass, fiddle or banjo.

FREE SWAG BAGS for the first 100 people to register online!

The Thundering Water Upstream Healthcare team is honored to partner with other local leaders in the health and wellness field to host this event. Partners include Adapt Integrated Health Care, Roseburg YMCA, Umpqua Health,

Thrive Umpqua - A Certified Blue Zones Community, Aviva Health, Cow Creek Band of Umpqua Tribe of Indians, Elkton Community Education Center, Creating Community Resilience, Douglas County Extension Service Oregon State University, Umpqua Valley Farmers' Market, FEATT of South Douglas County, FEATT of North Douglas County, Douglas County Safe Routes to School, FARA-Family Faith and Relationship Advocates

INFO: Email [info@thunderingwater.org](mailto:info@thunderingwater.org) with any questions about the Shamrock Quest. See You in March

47th ANNUAL SPRING FAIR March 22-24, 2024

DOUGLAS COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS

Join the fun at the 47th Annual Spring Fair in Douglas Hall at the Douglas County Fairgrounds in Roseburg (I-5 Exit 123). Lots of eclectic entertainment is planned including clowns and stilt-walkers in costume, Alice DiMiceli, The Sunny Sky Boys, Elizabeth Cable, Marcus Fyr, Jack Fallsrock & Friends Native American Drummers & Dancers, Shoehorn, Paddy O'Furniture, Buckeroo Square Dancers and more. FAIR TIMES: Friday 1-8 pm, Saturday 10am-9pm, Sunday 11am-6pm

"Southern Oregon's premier craft event" features over 100 booths of handmade products of local and regional crafters and artisans. Soaps & Salves, Toys, Pottery, Wind chimes, Tie-dye, Organic Olive Oil, Jewelry, Clothing, Hats, Greeting Cards, Leatherwork, Incense, Feltwork, Beadwork, Artwork, Batique, Picture Frames and more! To be a vendor, send a self-addressed, stamped envelope to Spring Fair 2022, PO Box 22, Dillard, OR 97432 or email [innerspacefamily@gmail.com](mailto:innerspacefamily@gmail.com).

Admission to the Spring Fair is \$3 for adults, \$2.50 for kids 7 to 12, and free for children 6 and under. Clowns in costume and musicians with instruments also can get in free.

## SCHEDULE OF ENTERTAINMENT

### FRIDAY, MARCH 22

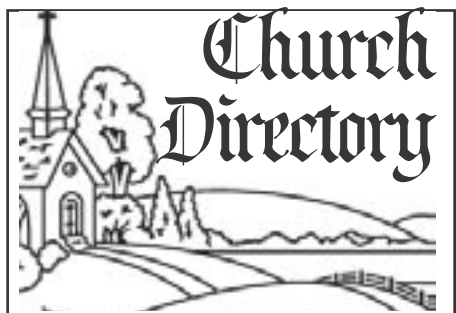
2:00 – Sunny Sky Boys  
3:00 - Jack Fallsrock and Friends - Traditional Native American Dance and Song  
4:00 – Elizabeth Cable  
5:00 – Shoehorn  
6:00 – Marcus Fyr

### SATURDAY, MARCH 23

11:00 – Sunny Sky Boys  
12:00 - Jack Fallsrock and Friends - Traditional Native American Dance  
1:00 – Wildlife Safari Presentation  
2:00 – Shoehorn  
3:00 – Buckeroo Square Dancers  
4:00 – Alice di' Micele  
5:00 - Marcus Fyr  
6:00 – Spring Fair Middle Eastern Dancers

### SUNDAY, March 24

12:00 - Jack Fallsrock and Friends - Traditional Native American Dance  
1:00 – Patty O'Furniture - Celtic  
2:00 – Shoehorn  
3:00 – Marcus Fyr



## 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.

Continued from Page 10

## Veterans Corner

### March 6 ODVA Advisory Council Meeting

#### REGISTER TO ATTEND

Please register at <https://events.gcc.teams.microsoft.com/event/d4f2272d-0623-44a0-92c3-adc68cb9d24e@aa3f6932-fa7c-47b4-a0ce-a598cad161cf> to attend the business or town hall portion of this meeting. Attendees will be allowed to participate during the town hall portion only and will be invited to turn on their camera and unmute mics during a recorded meeting that will be posted online at a later date.

Information about the Veteran Advisory Committee and meeting materials can be found online at [www.oregon.gov/odva/Connect/Pages/Advisory-Committee.aspx](http://www.oregon.gov/odva/Connect/Pages/Advisory-Committee.aspx).

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).

## Vital Statistics

### Robert Bob Lane



Robert J. "Bob" Lane, a cherished pillar of the Yoncalla community, passed away peacefully on February 4, 2024, in Springfield, Oregon, just weeks before his 93rd birthday. Born on February 24, 1931, in Canoga Park, California, Bob was a man of steadfast faith, generous spirit, and old-fashioned demeanor, who dedicated his life to family, work, church and community.

Bob's journey began as the son of Jesse and Merle (Wilson) Lane, and he shared his childhood with his twin sister Roberta Turner and sister Darlene Cox, all of whom predeceased him. His roots ran deep in Yoncalla, where his family moved during his teenage years, and where he would eventually build his own legacy. Bob's formative years were spent at Yoncalla High School, where he graduated before embarking on a lifelong career as a mill worker at Drain Plywood. Over the course of more than four decades, Bob witnessed the

## Obituary

company's evolution through various name changes, remaining a dedicated and hardworking employee until his retirement.

Bob's heart found its match in Rose (Brant) Lane, with whom he shared a loving marriage of 60 years. They were united in matrimony on April 6, 1950, in Sutherlin, Oregon, and together they nurtured a family that included their daughter Sharon Caraway, daughter Diane Lane Millhollin, son Ron Lane, and daughter Lynn Thompson. Bob and Rose worked hard as a team at their ranch on Halo Trail, raising cattle, sheep and hay, as well as produce from the garden.

A man of deep faith, Bob was an active member of the Yoncalla Church of Christ, where he served as an Elder, sang in the choir, participated in and led Bible study groups. His commitment to his church was matched by his dedication to volunteer work. Bob and Rose were known for their compassion and generosity, particularly in their efforts to support their community and church in helping those in need. Together they were honored as Community Citizens of the Year for their volunteer work.

Bob's last few years were spent at a dementia care facility where he was a regular participant in numerous activities provided by the facility. He spent much of his time studying the Bible, and was always there to befriend fellow residents. Bob was known by the staff and medical team at the facility as a "wonderfully kind gentleman with a cheesy sense of humor." The family would like to thank the team at ElderHealth & Living for their kindness in caring for our dad.

Bob is survived by his 4 children, as well as 7

## In Memoriam

grandchildren and 13 great-grandchildren who will carry on his example of kindness and community spirit. He is preceded in death by his wife Rose. No services are planned. Memorial contributions may be made to the Yoncalla Church of Christ Food Pantry. Arrangements in the care of Smith-Lund-Mills Funeral Chapel and Crematorium.

### Michael Wayne Barnes



Michael Barnes, 68, of Drain, OR, passed away on February 21, 2024. Michael was born December 4th, 1955. Arrangements in the care of Smith-Lund-Mills Funeral Chapel and Crematorium.



# North Douglas

# Classified

# South Lane

**Real Estate:**

**For Rent:**

**General For Sale:**

Brand new household overstocks liquidations, custom apparel, tumblers and laser engraved gifts! 407 S. Front Street Unit C Creswell **Open to the public Wed-Fri 11-6**

**Country Moving Sale  
Yoncalla Area**

Lumber, Plywood, Steel, Pipe Building Supplies, welding Supplies 541 849-3487 Call 7am-8pm for directions

**Help Wanted:**

**One Open Position**

Internship (college students only) 10-20 hours per week for Intern Lower Umpqua Library District 395 Winchester Ave Reedsport OR

**Advertising Sales**

Are you a Motivated Self Starter? Commission Display Ad Sales Protected Sales Areas 541 221-3283 sales@ndherald.com

**Seeking Work:**

**Caregiver looking for work**

I can cook, clean and help shop Longer hours pref or live in I have 30 years of exp and CPR cert Clear background check and honest Call Cindy @ (408) 469-9953

**In Search Of:**

**Reliable DONATED Vehicle**

North Douglas Herald is in need of a reliable vehicle for our newspaper delivery route of over 350 miles Rusty at (541) 221-3283

**Looking to buy junk cars**

Condition does not matter Cars will be recycled Free pick up and removal Contact Nathan at (541) 510-2074

**Notices:**

**Family Relief Nursery  
Enrolling 0-5 years old!**

Interested in Free Childcare in your Community? Contact Hanna at 541 600-5312 for more information TECP Classrooms, Respite and MORE!

**Wanted; New Members**

from Elkton, Drain, Yoncalla Elkton Lions serve these areas Why not join us and help! call 541 584-2271

**Yoncalla City Council**

Now on Facebook Monthly Reports City Government Oversight Local Citizen Reporting

## Free Classified Ads

Get your message out to 5000 sets of eyes for FREE. Our readers and subscribers range from Reedsport and Winchester Bay to Sutherlin and Oakland, and from Winston and Roseburg to Cottage Grove and Eugene, drain, Yoncalla and Elkton in between. Free to residents of Lane & Douglas counties. Go to [www.ndherald.com/classifieds.html](http://www.ndherald.com/classifieds.html) and dont forget FREE subscriptions at [www.ndherald.com/subs.html](http://www.ndherald.com/subs.html) - online portal at [www.ndherald.com](http://www.ndherald.com)

## Business Card Directory

**Business Card Ads \$50**  
contact [advertising@ndherald.com](mailto:advertising@ndherald.com)





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