

**FREE**  
Take One!

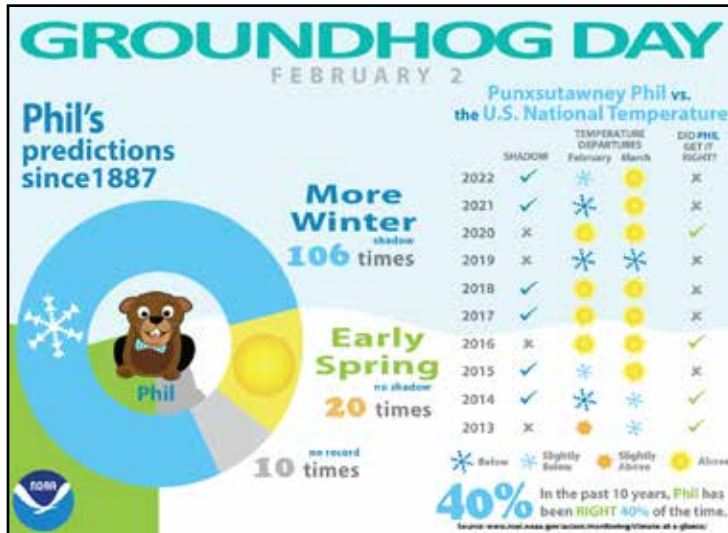
# West Valley Bulletin Board

West Valley Bulletin Board, LLC

January 31, 2024 Weekly Publication Serving Sheridan, Willamina and Grand Ronde Vol. 9, No. 49

Staci Coker & Nicole Pugh • Email: bulletinwestvalley@gmail.com • (503) 687-3000 • 136 E. Main Street, Sheridan, OR 97378

## Groundhog Day February 2, Fun, Facts, History and More



Groundhog Day offers a touch of whimsy during the often bleak midwinter chill. Across the country, eager celebrants await a rascally rodent to de-

termine if there will be six more weeks of winter or if the nation will receive an early reprieve from the cold. It is fun to guess if an early spring

is coming, and even more so to rely on a large ground squirrel to play meteorologist. To further enhance the Groundhog Day experience, burrow into these interesting facts about the holiday and the animal itself.

- The world can thank the Germans for the Groundhog Day tradition. The see-his-shadow concept was adapted from a German Candlemas Day tradition in which clergymen would bless the candles they needed for the cold season. If the candles brought a sunny day, there would be six more weeks of winter. However, clouds and rain signified that winter would end soon. Germans who settled in Pennsylvania in the 1700s brought the custom to America.
- Germans once used a hedgehog as their animal forecaster. When relocating to Pennsylvania, groundhogs were used because they were more common than hedgehogs.

- Phil's full name is Punxsutawney Phil, Seer of Seers, Sage of Sages, Prognosticator of Prognosticators, and Weather-Prophet Extraordinary.

- Groundhogs also are called woodchucks and are a species of rodent known as marmots. They typically weigh between 12 and 15 pounds. Woodchucks really have nothing to do with wood or chucking. The name stems from an Algonquian name wuchak.

- The National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration says Phil has seen his shadow more times than not between 1887 and 2019. Statistically speaking, six more weeks of winter is often the norm.

- Groundhogs prefer to live in open country or at woodland edges. They are never far from a burrow made in well-drained soil. Most have summer and winter dens.

- Groundhogs are adept at predicting the arrival of spring, just not in the way people have come to know from Groundhog Day. Since they hibernate, when groundhogs emerge from their burrows, it's a sure sign spring is on its way.

- Punxsutawney Phil is perhaps most revered for his forecasting abilities. However, more than a dozen states have their own prognosticating groundhogs. These include Buckeye Chuck in Ohio, Birmingham Bill in Alabama and General Beauregard Lee in Georgia.

- Phil has been predicting the weather at Gobblers Knob for more than 130 years. This is quite a feat considering groundhogs typically live between six and eight years. Folklore indicates Phil sips a magical drink that will prolong his life for seven more years.

- The 1993 movie "Groundhog Day" starring Bill Murray helped solidify Punxsutawney Phil as a national hero and household name. Since then, crowds numbering as high as 30,000 have made the pilgrimage to see Phil in person.

Groundhog Day brings some levity to an otherwise uneventful time of year.


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WHAT'S UP  
IN WILLAMINA  
by mary jane

## Employment

### CITY OF SHERIDAN JOB ANNOUNCEMENT

#### Public Works Maintenance Worker I/Parks Maintenance

The City of Sheridan is seeking a qualified individual to serve as a full-time Public Works Maintenance Worker I/Parks Maintenance. The Public Works Maintenance Worker I/Parks Maintenance performs a variety of manual labor associated with the operation, maintenance, and repair on city land and buildings, with a focus on parks and landscaping. For details and a complete Position Description, visit the City's website [www.cityofsheridanor.com](http://www.cityofsheridanor.com). Open until filled.

**River Park Senior Living** is now hiring for caregivers, med-techs, cook, and a housekeeper. Wage DOE, come in to apply, or email your resume to [bailey.west@agingways.com](mailto:bailey.west@agingways.com). (c)

## For Sale

**Fun Valentine's gift:** new in-box chocolate treat-maker. Removable melting pot with Scratch-guard surface has convenient spout for easy pouring into molds. Kit includes cooling rack, 10 small dipping forks, large dipping fork and spoon, spatula, molds and 32 lollipop sticks. Recipes included. \$20. (503) 474-7991.

**Brand new BodyGym Core System:** portable resistance trainer workout system includes high-quality resistance bands, carrying bag, instructional DVD, and more. Original price: \$65. Asking \$25. 503-474-7991.

**NEW Indoor/Outdoor 46" wire weave hanging lantern** with timer: flameless candle sits inside enclosure. 6-hour timer automatically turns the candle on and off. Includes shepherd's hook stand, iron lantern, flameless candle, and U-shaped ground stakes. \$30. 503-474-7991.

## Free

Free Craftsman 12" bandsaw.  
Call (503)876-8980. (31)

## Employment

### West Valley Community Campus Administrative Assistant

The West Valley Community Campus (WVCC) is seeking a qualified, part-time, 20 hour a week, administrative assistant. Must be familiar with Mac computer, Google Suite, Excel, Word and PowerPoint. Examples of job duties (not all inclusive): answering phone and emails, handling correspondence, managing rentals, monitoring security cameras, managing social media and potentially creating an on-line newsletter.

Starting pay: \$18-\$22 an hour, depending on qualifications and experience. Send resume to WVCC, Box 491, Willamina, OR 97396 or email us at [info@westvalleycommunitycampus.org](mailto:info@westvalleycommunitycampus.org). (c)

**Pacific Fir Lumber** has several great mill jobs for people who will come to work every day, on time, and put in a solid day. Great work environment. Apply in person at 355 SW Mill St, Sheridan. (c)

## For Sale

**New Jewelry Box** features rich antique cherry finish with six lockable drawers and antique brass drawer pulls, top-hinged lid opens to built-in mirror and divided compartments, both side doors swing open to offer four hooks each for hanging necklaces, etc., 12" W x 9.25" D x 14.5" H. (Similar items priced at \$150-plus) Asking \$50. 503-474-7991.

**St. Tropez Pro Light Spray Tan Device:** New, salon-quality hand-held spray tan with Pro Light, a flawless streak-free spray tan experience made easy. Natural-looking tan, no matter your skin tone, this machine features Micro-Whirlwind technology that delivers a continuous stream of smooth air. Paid \$192.24, asking \$65. 503-474-7991.

Warm Fuzzies

Jerry George, thank you for all the firewood.

~ Gerorge LaBonte

## Services

**Sheridan Auto Detailing 148 N. Bridge St.**, in Sheridan is now offering full details. Interior details, exterior details, and ceramic coating. We also detail farm equipment including tractors and combines, and we do RVs and boats. Call 971-237-9649. (c)

**Flawless Pressure Washing.** Revitalize your home's appearance with our driveway cleaning and exterior house washing services. Say goodbye to stubborn mold and dirt, and hello to a fresh clean appearance. Contact us today at 503-779-5030. (c)

## Garage Sale

**Garage Sale/Fundraiser** 8am-5pm, Feb. 2 - 3. 850 SW Hill Dr. Willamina. Cedar chest, \$0.25 DVDs, dining room table, lots of free stuff, donations accepted.

## Space For Rent

**Commercial Space Available** Looking for a spacious and versatile commercial space? Look no further. Our property is located in a prime location in downtown Willamina on the West Valley Community Campus. With 4,800 square feet of space, this \$1600 property features three phase electric, water, high trussed ceilings, concrete flooring, sensor LED lighting, 12 x 12 overhead door & man door, loft storage and off street parking. Contact us today to schedule a tour and see for yourself why this property is the perfect fit for your business. West Valley Community Campus, 503-929-4037. (c)

## BINGO • THURSDAYS

DOORS OPEN: 5:30PM  
BINGO: 6:30PM

EVERY  
THURSDAY  
VFW

771 NE MAIN • WILLAMINA

It used to be that you could always tell when you were driving along a road or highway in Oregon that the sides of the roadway were always clear of trash. Sadly, that sure doesn't seem to be the case anymore. Just look at the pile of bags of litter that get stacked up whenever there's a litter crew at work. Horrid and embarrassing.

It's really sad when you see something fall out of a car in a parking lot, and the person who dropped it just leaves it where it fell and goes into the shop. I've seen people step over fallen signs and keep walking. I ask them, "Aren't you going to put it back up?" Their comment was, "What are you talking about?" I'd say, "You just stepped over it, so put it back up." They'd mumble something, put it back up, and walk on.

I think if you bought it (a coffee cup or cigarette pack) and brought it here, then you might just as well take it home. I can't understand people spending 10 cents for a can or bottle deposit and just fling it to the roadside. Talk about "throwing money away." It's really a shame to mess up our countryside with litter when we live in such a pretty state. Keeping Oregon pretty is "What's Up in Willamina."

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# Happy Valentine's Day



## Isn't Romance Ridiculous?

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**Put Your Valentine in the Paper for Only \$5**

You can add a picture with up to 30 words or a no-picture shout out to your loved one using 60 words. Valentines will be published in the Feb. 14 edition, and are available for pickup at the Sheridan Post Office, or Sheridan IGA after 4 p.m. on Feb. 13.

Entries must be received by Feb. 9 at 5 p.m.  
(A 50¢ transaction fee will apply if using a debit or credit card)



## VALENTINE'S DAY

DINNER SPECIAL  
Feb 14, 4pm-8pm

### Main Dish

New York Steak with Seared Scallops

10 oz. New York Steak grilled to perfection and topped with pan seared scallops in garlic butter. Accompanied by fresh steamed veggies and your choice of a loaded baked potato or mashed potatoes with brown gravy.

All dinners include a house salad, dinner roll and dessert.

\$32

### Dessert

Strawberry Shortcake

House made shortcake smothered in fresh strawberries and topped with whipped cream.

Open For Take-Out  
CALL: 503-843-9052

Reservations Not Accepted



# A MESSAGE FROM THE WILLAMINA SCHOOL DISTRICT

## WILLAMINA SCHOOL DISTRICT MAY 2024 BOND PROPOSAL INFORMATION

### What you need to know:

- \$2.5 million in bond funds
- \$2.5 million in matching funds
- \$5 million for Willamina Schools
- New classrooms & programs
- Improved Safety

### By the Numbers:

- \$2.5 million cost to taxpayers
- \$2.5 million to grant funding
- Total \$5 million for WSD
- Lower levy rate...2014 rate was .64 the new rate would be approximately .49

### Good to know.....

#### 2024 Bond Rate Comparisons

Central SD	\$3.69
Amity SD	\$3.00
Dayton SD	\$2.15
McMinnville SD	\$2.43
Nestucca Valley SD	\$1.52
Dallas SD	\$1.58
Perrydale SD	\$1.45
Yamhill-Carlton SD	\$1.08
Tillamook SD	\$0.69
Willamina SD	\$0.49

### Project Proposal

#### New Classrooms:

A five-classroom addition to the existing high school will allow for new programs; Culinary Arts and World Language have been identified as priorities by students.

#### Improved Safety:

Address traffic flow and congestion issues, upgrade security systems, improve exterior walkways, parking, and lighting. Expand covered play space for elementary students.

### WILLAMINA SCHOOL DISTRICT CAPITAL PROJECTS PAST AND FUTURE

2014 Bond Projects  
\$2,000,000 @ \$.64/\$1000

#### Elementary Modular

- Five classrooms; houses three 5th grade classrooms, title one reading program, and a behavior support classroom

#### Career Technical Education Center

- Two classrooms; supports innovation technology and agricultural science courses
- Two "maker spaces" (shops) support metal fabrication, automotive, woodworking, construction, and design courses.
- Industry standard CTE/CNC equipment

#### General & Special Fund Projects

funded through grants, general budget, and emergency relief funds

#### Middle School Expansion

- Six new classrooms, administrative office, staff room, and restrooms
- Full track renovation
- Upgrade water line
- Baseball/Softball field-house/batting cage
- New Football/track stadium seating for 600 with ADA access and lighting
- New gymnasium seating with ADA access
- New HVAC system for multipurpose gym
- Relocation of softball and baseball fields to Oaken Hills Campus
- New elementary playground structures
- New walkways & fencing

2024 Bond Projects \$2,500,000 @ apr. \$0.49/\$1,000  
++ \$2,500,000 matching grant

#### New Classrooms

- Five new classrooms would be added to the existing high school building, allowing for new programs

#### Improved Safety

- Address traffic flow to improve safety at pickup/dropoff times
- Upgrade security systems
- Repair and replace outdoor walkways and lighting
- Expand covered outdoor recreation spaces for all students k-12
- Update existing restrooms & classrooms

Many projects were completed through generous donations of time, money, and equipment by Hampton Lumber, Skyberg Lumber & Hardware, Boise Cascade, Spirit Mountain Community Fund, Scholten Construction, O'Neil Construction, and many many individual community members.

With great Bulldog pride,  
Carrie Zimbrick, Superintendent

Willamina Elementary School 503.876.2374  
Willamina Middle/High School 503.876.2545  
School District Office 503.876.1500

## Sheridan City Council Awards Local Grants

At the Sheridan City Council meeting held on Monday, January 22, five community grants for \$500 each were granted to the following: Sheridan Rotary, Sheridan Hometown Days, Friends of Sheridan Parks, West Valley Cheer, and Sheridan High School Cheer.

## Free Class Offered at the McMinnville Library

Join the Plastic Project for "How to be great doing good, the joy of volunteering," at 6:30 p.m. on Monday, Feb. 5, in the McMinnville Library Carnegie Room. The Plastic Project will discuss how to create a ripple effect in the community with thoughtful activism for non-profits—sponsored by the Zero Waste Monthly Speaker Series. For more information, call 503-207-5482 or email theplasticprojectzwm@gmail.com.



The Bulletin Board  
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## SATURDAY NIGHT BINGO

Doors Open: 5:30pm  
Bingo: 6:30pm

EVERY SATURDAY

Odd Fellows Lodge  
143 SW Monroe St.

## Obituary



### James Henry York Jr.

March 19, 1965 – Jan. 19, 2024

Jim York, a resident of Willamina, Oregon, passed away on Jan. 19, 2024, at 58.

Jim was born in Eureka, Calif., before moving around frequently as an Air Force child to Syracuse, N.Y., Merced, Calif., Beale AFB, and Minot, N.D.

Jim graduated from high school in Pendleton, Ore., before attending college in Seattle.

Jim was known for his love of the Lord, his family, and anyone who knew him. He was a gentle giant who made sure everyone in the room felt included and welcomed.

Jim's biggest strength was his wit and laughter, which made him easy to be around and put everyone at ease. He was highly engaged in the community, participating in the city events, the Chamber of Commerce, and all the local activities to grow the church and help it become more involved in the neighborhood.

Jim is survived by and will forever be in the hearts of his children Conner James, Dylan Thomas, and Ryan William York.

Jim was the middle son of the late Major James Henry York Sr. and is survived by his mother, Diana Jo Porter. His brother Nathan William York II and his

spouse Linda also survived him. Jim will be loved and cherished by his niece, Emma Louise York, and nephew, Aidan James York. He was also preceded in death by his elder brother, Nathan William York.

Jim was a Pastor at Willamina Free Methodist Church after being a minister for churches in Everett, Wash., San Diego, Calif., and Corvallis, Ore.

Jim was an Air Force veteran, proudly serving his country, just like his father. Jim graduated from Northwest Bible College in Kirkland, Wash.

A memorial service will be held at 2 p.m. on Feb. 3, 2024, at Willamina Free Methodist Church, 253 NE D Street, Willamina, Oregon 97396, followed by a reception in the church social hall. Condolences for the church family may be sent to WFMC, P.O. Box 957, Willamina, OR 97396.

For information, message <https://www.facebook.com/willaminafmc>



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## Gardening Class Offered

OSU Extension Service and the Yamhill County Master Gardeners Association will host educational gardening classes from 8:45 a.m.-4 p.m. on Saturday, March 16, 2024, at the Church on the Hill, 700 NW Hill Road in McMinnville.

There is a registration fee of \$25 per person; snacks are included. An optional lunch can also be purchased for \$12. A raffle will also be held.

The classes include keynote speaker Darren Morgan on Grow What You Will Eat, Eat What You Can Grow; Bruce Gavens, Growing Tomatoes and Peppers, Growing Garlic, Onions, Shallots, and Leeks, and Saving Tomato and Pepper Seeds; Carol Walsh, Food Preservation Made Easy; Todd Anderson, Broadening Your Plant Palette; Jeff Cope, Growing Fruits in Small Spaces; Alanna Lambert, Incorporating Edibles in Your Containers; Erica Chernoh, Growing Strawberries in the Home Garden; and Linda Brewer, Easy Backyard Composting – No Turning Required.

Registration can be completed online at [YCMGA.org](http://YCMGA.org).

## Wet Season Music Set To Support Willamina Library

Wet Season Music will support the Willamina Library at the upcoming concert starting at 6 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 20, 2024, at the West Valley Community Campus in Willamina.

The Willamina Library staff will serve food as a fundraiser for ongoing library projects at the concert.

On the menu are pulled pork, made-from-scratch mac and cheese, salad, and various desserts. Dinner will be \$8 per plate.

Food and drinks will be available throughout the evening or until the goods are gone.

The Joanne Broh Band will take the stage at 7 p.m. for an evening of blues and R&B with a splash of funk.

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**NEW LISTING!**



Beautiful 3 bedroom, 2 bath single-level home on five acres. Home built in 2022, kitchen with SS appliances, vaulted ceilings, large island, open concept, large pantry, two car garage, spacious main bedroom with walk-in closet and bathroom. Room for RV/Boat parking and animals. Grand Ronde \$525,000



4.93 acres on a dead end road. Come enjoy the country and the wildlife. 4 bedrooms, 2 full baths, main bed has one large walk-in closet, two sinks, soaking tub and shower. Bonus room could be office/5th bed (no closet). Kitchen with island, walk-in pantry. Family room sliding door that goes out to big backyard. Two storage sheds, large front covered deck, big front yard, two seasonal ponds, fruit trees, and one dog house. Grand Ronde \$385,000.



Beautiful three bed, 2.5 bath home in a great neighborhood. SS appliances in kitchen, wood flooring throughout, granite countertops, pine cabinets, with soft close doors and pull outs, living room with gas fireplace, office/library with lots of shelves, both family room and living room have carpet, a few skylights to let the natural light in, big walk-in closet in MB. Home has forced gas furnace heat and AC last serviced Sept. 7th. Two car garage with garage openers, large back yard with deck and patio. Gresham \$625,000.



Hebo Rd- River front property with a 45x50 shop/barn. House was removed. Water and power on property. Shop/Barn has 200amp power supply. North property line is in the River. Semi secluded surrounded by private timber property. Has new permitted septic. \$300,000.

**PRICE REDUCED!**



## NOW ENROLLING!



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- Over 30 years in business
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# Sheridan Family Chiropractic

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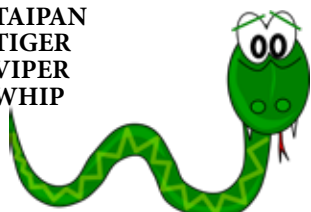
## Relief from migraines

### National Serpant Day Feb. 1

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 O A E N T O U K I S W Q U H G D U I L C  
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ADDER  
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 COTTONMOUTH  
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 LANCEHEAD  
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 PYTHON  
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 RAT  
 RATTLESNAKE  
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 WHIP



Snakes  
 Why did  
 it have to be  
 snakes?

# AMERICAN LEGION

POST 75 SHERIDAN

Submitted by  
 Commander Martin Attebery

On Wednesday, Jan. 24, volunteers gathered at the American Legion, working in shifts, and held a "Point in Time Count" aimed at getting an accurate count of the local homeless people in the Sheridan area. Several people came in and shared ideas on the needs and what could be done to help.

Our Service Officer, Bobbie, is at the American Legion each Tuesday and Thursday to assist Veterans with filing for benefits or any other concerns. She also provides sack lunches for those who need them. Essentials such as socks, some clothing, and sanitary items are also available when in stock. If you have questions about possible benefits or need some helpful advice, come down and speak with her.

Bingo is every Friday evening. Doors open by 5:30 p.m. with goodies from the kitchen, such as baked spuds, sloppy joes, nachos, hot dogs, sodas, coffee, etc. Bingo starts at 6:30 p.m. It's a good opportunity to have some fun and a chance to visit with other players and staff. We always have a fun crowd.

Pinocle has just recently started up at the American Legion. The group meets on Wednesday at 1 p.m. It's just a fun time. Coffee is furnished. The players usually take turns bringing goodies such as donuts.

Our next District #2 meeting will begin with the potluck at noon on Saturday, Feb. 3, 2024, at Post 136 in Salem. The meeting starts at 1 p.m. All Post 75 members are welcome and encouraged to attend. This can be very helpful in getting an insight into the organization and provides a great opportunity to meet members from other posts within the district. It's a good chance to share ideas.

Non-profit organizations in the West Valley area wishing to have a charity bingo at the American Legion can request it in a letter addressed to the American Legion Post 75, P.O. Box 566, Sheridan, OR 97378 or better yet, come by the American Legion on a Friday evening while bingo is going on and discuss it with a staff member. We're all trying to make the area a better place. Let's work together.

I want to thank the many supporters of The American Legion Post 75. By taking part in our bingo program, the once-a-month breakfast, and other fund-raising events, you keep us going and able to reach out to the local veterans and assist in community efforts. You are the greatest, thank you.

## HIRING NOW!

### Pacific Fir Lumber

**\*Signing Bonus\* Attendance Bonus\* Benefits\***

**Millwright:** Do you have a passion for maintaining and repairing machinery? If you are experienced in diagnosing and fixing mechanical issues, we invite you to apply.

**Mill Production:** Seeking dedicated mill employees to join our dynamic team. If you are eager to contribute to the lumber production process, we want to hear from you. No experience necessary - we provide training.

### Sheridan Building Materials

**\*Attendance Bonus\* Benefits\***

Are you passionate about home improvement and construction projects? Seeking dedicated individuals who thrive in a customer-focused environment and are excited to assist customers in finding the perfect materials for their projects.

# February is American Heart Month, Surprising Facts about Heart Health

There are many muscles in the body that people desire to exercise so they can look and feel their best. However, one of the most important muscles may be overlooked in terms of healthy living plans.

The heart is an essential muscle. Without it, life would cease to exist. It is vital to learn all one can about the heart in order to keep it healthy. Consider these facts about the heart and heart health in general.

## Being inactive might be worse than smoking

Johns Hopkins Medicine notes that a sedentary lifestyle marked by sitting for long periods of time each day puts a person at higher heart health risk than smoking. Only about 40 percent of people are getting enough exercise to meet health guidelines. Even those who are exercising regularly should decrease sitting time throughout the day to improve heart health.

## Fast heart rate can indicate age or gender

A newborn's heart rate is around 70 to 190 beats per minute. The average adult has a resting heart rate between 60 and 100 beats per minute. Athletes will have even lower resting heart rates. Women also have faster heart rates on average than men because their hearts are smaller in size and need to beat more to pump the

same amount of blood.

## Heart size

Having a large heart is often equated with being a compassionate person. However, a healthy adult heart is about the size of two hands clasped together. An enlarged heart can be a symptom of an underlying health problem, such as coronary heart disease or high blood pressure.

## Family history matters

Johnston Health says having a male family member under the age of 55 with heart disease or a female family member who is under the age of 65 with heart disease can double a person's risk of developing heart disease.

## Monday, Monday

Research presented at the British Cardiovascular Society Conference found serious heart attacks are more likely to occur on a Monday compared to other days of the week. While it's not fully known why, it may be linked to circadian rhythm disruptions. Mondays also may cause more stress.

## Laughing helps

Laughter certainly may be the best medicine in many situations. Studies have shown that blood vessels relax when a person is laughing, which sends more blood through the body. Also, relaxed blood vessels mean the heart doesn't have to work as hard to pump the blood.



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EID meets at 8 a.m. on the first Wednesday of Every Month  
 Chamber meets at 8 a.m. all other Wednesdays  
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## Last issues crossword solution

S	N	A	G		A	C	H	E		B	A	S	I	C		
P	I	L	E		S	O	I	L		A	B	I	D	E		
R	E	I	N		T	E	R	M		R	O	P	E	D		
I	C	E	R		A	R	E		M	O	U	S	S	E		
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Children's programs!

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**COMMUNITY**

*February 2024*

<b>Thursday</b>	Feb. 1	6pm	Sheridan Revitalization	142 S. Br
<b>Friday</b>	Feb. 2	8-9:15am	Sheridan Chamber Breakfast - First Fed	246 S. Br
<b>Saturday</b>	Feb. 3	7-11am	American Legion Breakfast	125 N. Br
	Feb. 3	4pm	Fendall Hall: Deck Expansion Talk	37515 Tindle
	Feb. 3	6-8pm	Willamina Museum 14th Anniversary	188 N
<b>Monday</b>	Feb. 5	7pm	Sheridan City Council	120 SW
<b>Tuesday</b>	Feb. 6	noon	Kiwanis Club	825 NE M
	Feb. 6	2-4pm	Free pet food (Ruff Life Rescue)	421 N. M
	Feb. 6	6:30pm	Friends of the Lirary Board	382 N
<b>Saturday</b>	Feb. 10	4:30pm	Will. Library: Book Club for Adults	382 NE
<b>Monday</b>	Feb. 12	2-5pm	West Valley Fiber Enthusiasts	382 N
	Feb. 12	6pm	Sheridan Boosters	433 S. Br
	Feb. 12	6:30pm	Art Conspiracy	244 N. Br
	Feb. 12	7pm	American Legion meeting	125 N. Br
	Feb. 12	7-8pm	Willamina School Board	
<b>Tuesday</b>	Feb. 13	10am	Sheridan Municipal Court	120 SW
	Feb. 13	6pm	Sheridan Fire Board	230 SW
	Feb. 13	6pm	Willamina City Council	825 NE M
<b>Wednesday</b>	Feb. 14	6pm	Prime Rib dinner @ Wilamina Christian	200 SE Ba
<b>Thursday</b>	Feb. 15	6pm	West Valley Fire Board	825 NE M
<b>Friday</b>	Feb. 16	8-9:15am	Sheridan Chamber Breakfast - Museum	142 S. Br
	Feb. 16	5pm	Free Fish Dinner - Churches United	SUMC, 244 N. B
<b>Saturday</b>	Feb. 17	11am	Will. Library Story Time Volunteer Training	382 N
	Feb. 17	6pm	Wet Season Music: Joanne Broh Band	
<b>Monday</b>	Feb. 19	7pm	VWF meeting	771 NE M
<b>Tuesday</b>	Feb. 20	noon	Kiwanis Club	825 NE M
	Feb. 20	2-4pm	Free pet food (Ruff Life Rescue)	Bridge & Sh
	Feb. 20	7pm	Sheridan City Council	120 SW
<b>Wednesday</b>	Feb. 21	4-5:30pm	Sheridan Housing Task Force	120 SW
	Feb. 21	6-8pm	Sheridan School Board	District Off
<b>Thursday</b>	Feb. 22	7-8:30pm	Grief Counseling	Swa
<b>Friday</b>	Feb. 23	6pm	Hometown Days Meeting	SUMC, 244 N. Br
<b>Saturday</b>	Feb. 24	5pm	Rotary Free Movie: Super Pets/Ticket to Paradise	S



# CALENDAR

## Weekly

idge St., Sheridan  
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 Creek, Willamina  
 . D St., Willamina  
 Mill St., Sheridan  
 ain St., Willamina  
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 E C St., Willamina  
 C Str., Willamina  
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 ridge St., Sheridan  
 E C St., Willamina  
 WVCC, Willamina  
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 erman, Sheridan  
 Mill St., Sheridan  
 Mill St., Sheridan  
 ice/Web Meeting  
 n Hall, Willamina  
 idge St., Sheridan  
 HS Gym, Sheridan

### Monday:

Scout's Meetings  
 Sheridan All Prep, Sheridan .....7pm

### Tuesday

Willamina Library, Story Time  
 Tina Miller Youth Center, 172 NW 4th, Willamina ..... noon  
 Grand Sheramina Food Bank,  
 Bridge Street, Sheridan ..... 2-4pm

### Wednesday

Willamina Chamber of Commerce  
 235 NE D St., Willamina .....8am  
 Sheridan Rotary Meeting  
 Sheridan School District Office, Sheridan ..... Noon  
 Willamina Food Pantry, Civic Club,  
 340 B Street, Willamina ..... 4-6pm  
 Celebrate Recovery, Sheridan  
 Sheridan Nazarene Church ..... 6:30pm

### Thursday

Bingo  
 VFW Hall, Willamina ..... 5:30pm

### Friday

Grand Ronde Food Bank Distribution  
 9765 Grand Ronde Rd, Grand Ronde ..... 10am-2pm  
 Grand Ronde Community Clothes Closet  
 9765 Grand Ronde Rd, Grand Ronde .....9am-Noon  
 American Legion Bingo  
 125 N Bridge St., Sheridan ..... 5:30pm  
 Celebrate Recovery, Willamina  
 Willamina Free Methodist Church .....6pm

### Saturday

Sheridan Museum of History,  
 142 S. Bridge St, Sheridan ..... 10am-3pm  
 Willamina Museum of History,  
 188 D St, Willamina..... 1-4pm  
 Tina Miller Youth Center  
 172 NW 4th Street, Willamina ..... 3-6pm  
 Odd Fellows Bingo  
 143 SW Monroe Street, Sheridan ..... 5:30pm  
 Narcotics Anonomous (Emmanuel Lutheran)  
 315 W. Main St., Willamina ..... 7-8pm

### Sunday

Tina Miller Youth Center  
 172 NW 4th Street, Willamina ..... 1-4pm  
 Open Mic Night  
 Wildwood Hotel and Lounge .....6pm

**Sheridan Library Story Time!**  
**Make fun crafts after each story**  
 10 a.m. every Friday  
 142 NW Yamhill Street • Sheridan  
**Don't Forget!**

List your events for free in the community calendar.  
 Email [bulletinwestvalley@gmail.com](mailto:bulletinwestvalley@gmail.com) with the event,  
 date, time, and location.



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[0229vich@gmail.com](mailto:0229vich@gmail.com)

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### WILLAMINA COASTAL HILLS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

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 begin at 8 a.m. every Wednesday  
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# Cherries are the Star in this Valentine's Day Treat



Tart, red cherries and Valentine's Day seem to be the perfect pair. Not only do cherries align with a Valentine's Day color scheme, they even resemble little hearts when hanging from their stems. Celebrating Valentine's Day involves many different traditions, and enjoying decadent desserts is among them. Purchasing ready-made treats from a local bakery is one way to indulge in a sugary confection, but crafting a recipe at home is another way to show that special someone how much you care.

"Cherry Pie Bars" are not exactly

a pie, but a pound cake with a cherry pie filling swirl. They can be made for many different occasions, but make for something sweet on Valentine's Day. Whip up this recipe from "Butter, Flour, Sugar, Joy" (Sourcebooks) by Danielle Kartes.

## Cherry Pie Bars

**Yield: One 9-by-13-inch pan**

*2 cups sugar*

*1 cup butter, softened*

*4 eggs*

*2 cups all-purpose flour*

*1 teaspoon baking powder*

*1/2 teaspoon salt*

*1 21-ounce can cherry pie filling*

Preheat oven to 350 F. Line a 9-by-13-inch pan with parchment paper.

In a stand mixer, or with a hand mixer, cream sugar and butter on low. Add the eggs one at a time. Beat until just combined.

Add the flour, baking powder and salt. Spread a little over half the cake batter into the pan. Evenly spread the pie filling over the top, and spoon the rest of the cake batter over the pie fill-

ing. It's fine if the cherries show through.

Bake 35 minutes or until the top has turned slightly golden. Do not overbake. Allow to cool and slice into squares. Enjoy!

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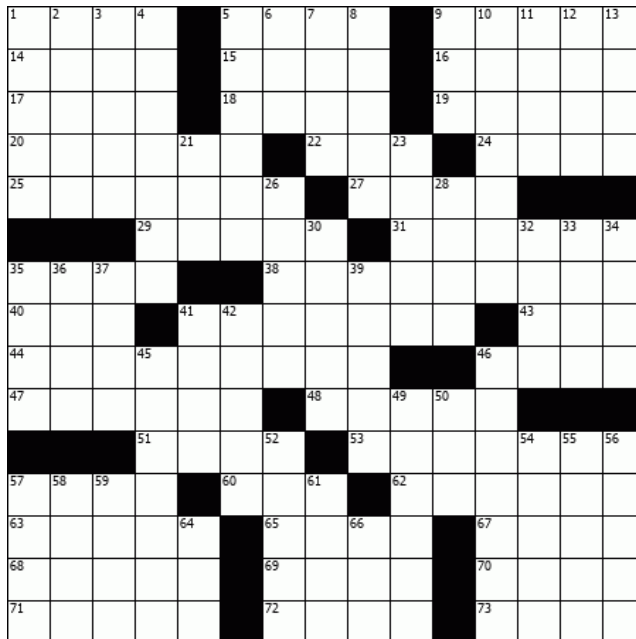
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## CROSSWORD PUZZLE

### Across

1. Relieve
5. Sunbathe
9. Civic group (abbr.)
14. Influence
15. Sign
16. Like old bread
17. Cooking herb
18. Three squared
19. Wall board
20. Rubs out
22. \_\_\_ Moines, Iowa
24. Pause
25. Spanish women
27. Fired a gun
29. Banisters
31. Reluctant
35. Choir gown
38. Count
40. "\_\_\_ Got a Secret"
41. More inexperienced
43. Hair goo
44. Soaked
46. Makes a dress
47. Delighted
48. Transplant
51. Tiny stick
53. Restoration
57. Gentle
60. Rowing tool
62. India's Mother \_\_\_
63. Warn
65. Perjurer
67. Siestas
68. Termite, e.g.
69. Singing voice
70. Nights before holidays
71. Shabby
72. Close securely
73. Nevada town



### Down

1. Curvy letters
2. In the know
3. Astronomer Carl \_\_\_
4. Unpleasant sight
5. Tiny tree
6. French buddy
7. Broadcast
8. Leg joints
9. Nile snake
10. Appetizer
11. Rational
12. Bullring cheers
13. Highland Scot
21. Period of note
23. Dishonor
26. Ice pellets
28. Concluded
30. Disdainful look
32. Frenzy
33. Fret
34. Slippery creatures
35. Move upward
36. The \_\_\_ Office
37. Greek letter
39. Beneath
41. Got bigger
42. AM-FM \_\_\_
45. Spoke
46. Stricter
49. Gasoline, in England
50. \_\_\_ day at a time
52. Festive occasions
54. Manufacture cloth
55. Type of poplar
56. Rodeo rope
57. File labels
58. Lily species
59. Nothing more than
61. Annoy
64. Effort
66. \_\_\_ standstill (2 wds.)

## Horoscopes Jan.31-Feb.6

### ARIES - Mar 21/Apr 20

Something will occur this week that surprises you, Aries. You may even wonder if it is a trick being played on you. It is no trick, so buckle down for an adventure.

### TAURUS - Apr 21/May 21

You have pushed your mind and body quite far over the last several days, Taurus. Now you have to slow down or pay the consequences. Do not add anything else to your list.

### GEMINI - May 22/June 21

Gemini, you may believe you have discovered a good thing and it could be right. But don't wait too long to act since this good thing has an expiration date. The clock is ticking.

### CANCER - June 22/July 22

Cancer, you might not be able to control what is happening this week, but you can control how you react to different situations. Keep your distance if an altercation arises.

### LEO - July 23/Aug 23

Something you discover about a friend this week could leave you reeling, Leo. The signs have been there for awhile and you really should have seen it coming.

### VIRGO - Aug 24/Sept 22

Virgo, if you are on the move this week, there is a chance that you will experience some interesting people along the way. At least one person might be a good networking contact.

### LIBRA - Sept 23/Oct 23

More than anything right now, this week you need to relax and unwind, Libra. Take things at a slow pace, and spend more time at home with family than at work.

### SCORPIO - Oct 24/Nov 22

Try not to take any financial risks right now, Scorpio. If you are planning to invest, then you may want to get all of the facts before gambling too much in the stock market.

### SAGITTARIUS - Nov 23/Dec 21

This week you will be back to your best, Sagittarius. Things will work out, so use your positive attitude to the benefit of yourself and others.

### CAPRICORN - Dec 22/Jan 20

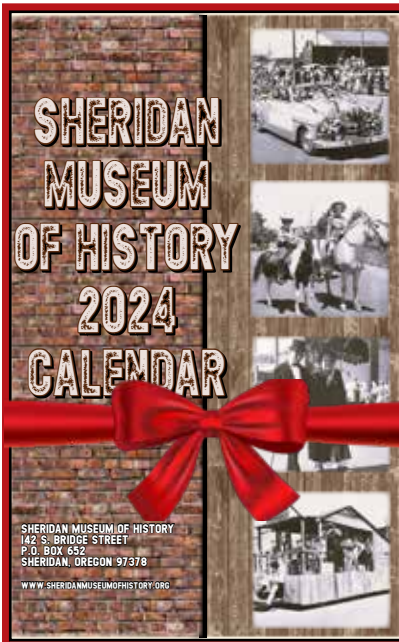
Capricorn, even though you are conservative by nature, this week you are ready to take a chance of some sort. Enjoy the journey even if the efforts do not bring you enormous success.

### AQUARIUS - Jan 21/Feb 18

Aquarius, a kind word from you may be all that is needed to bring a smile to someone's face. Do not underestimate the power of a kind and simple gesture.

### PISCES - Feb 19/Mar 20

You don't usually lack confidence, Pisces. But you may not want to push ahead with a project for fear of failure. You should be more adventurous and not worry too much.



The Sheridan Museum of History's  
**2024 Calendar**  
 a Tribute to  
**Phil Sheridan Days**  
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# THIS DAY IN HISTORY



- 1644** - 1st US livestock branding law passed, by Connecticut.
- 1783** - Sweden recognizes US independence.
- 1846** - "Oregon Spectator" is 1st newspaper to be published on the West Coast.
- 1850** - Adding machine employing depressible keys patented, New Paltz, NY.
- 1870** - 1st motion picture shown to a theater audience, Philadelphia.
- 1897** - 1st showing of a motion picture in Hawaii at the Hawaiian Opera House.
- 1900** - The United States and the United Kingdom sign treaty for Panama Canal.
- 1904** - American occupation of Cuba ends.
- 1918** - 1st US pilot to down an enemy airplane. (Stephen W. Thompson)
- 1921** - Yankees purchase 20 acres in Bronx for Yankee Stadium.
- 1922** - Reader's Digest magazine 1st published.
- 1924** - 1st Winter Olympic Games close at Chamonix, France.
- 1944** - "Captain American" serial film premieres starring Dick Purcell, first appearance of a Marvel superhero outside a comic.
- 1948** - Eighteen year old Dick Button becomes first American men's figure skating Olympic gold medalist at the St. Moritz Winter Games; first to complete a double axel in competition; retains title in 1952.
- 1953** - "Peter Pan", animated film by Walt Disney opens at Roxy Theater, NYC.
- 1958** - Clifton R Wharton confirmed as 1st US African American foreign minister (to Romania).
- 1967** - "The Smothers Brothers Comedy Hour" variety show premieres on CBS TV.
- 1969** - United States population reaches 200 million.
- 1971** - Apollo 14, 3rd US manned Moon expedition, lands near Fra Mauro. Alan Shepard & Edward Mitchell (Apollo 14) walk on Moon for 4 hrs.
- 1972** - Bob Douglas is 1st African American elected to Basketball Hall of Fame.
- 1972** - US airlines begin mandatory inspection of passengers & baggage.
- 1977** - Future 5-division world boxing champion Sugar Ray Leonard makes his professional debut with a 6-round unanimous decision over Luis Vega at Baltimore's Civic Center.
- 1978** - Fred Newman makes 88 consecutive basketball free throws blindfolded.
- 1987** - Dow Jones avg closes above 2,200 for 1st time.
- 1988** - First prime-time wrestling match in 30 yrs, André the Giant defeats Hulk Hogan.
- 1989** - Kareem Abdul-Jabar becomes 1st NBA player to score 38,000 points.
- 1990** - Notre Dame becomes 1st team to sell its game to a major network (NBC).
- 1994** - "Where On Earth Is Carmen San Diego," debuts on Fox TV.
- 2009** - The United States Navy guided missile cruiser Port Royal runs aground off Oahu, Hawaii, damaging the ship as well as a coral reef.
- 2013** - The US Postal Service announces the cessation of Saturday first-class mail delivery from August 2013.
- 2017** - Heavy metal band Black Sabbath play their last concert in their home town Birmingham, England.
- 2018** - American singer-songwriter Paul Simon announces his farewell tour - a retirement from touring, but not necessarily from live performance.
- 2018** - Dow Jones Industrial Average has largest intra-day point swing, dropping over 1,413 points.

## Word Scramble

Use the letters below to unscramble the words related to Postal Couriers (National Thank A Mail Carrier Day, Feb 4). Place the letters from the circles on the dashes above the riddle then unscramble them to solve the question at the bottom.

Last weeks answers:

Cabin - Palace - Fortress - Skyscraper - Library



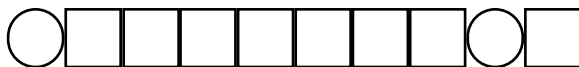
O D T C A S P R



C E L P A R



R N E E D S



O S R E I Y T A T N

Politicians speak it, each house has it, and the Internet is full of them. What am I?



**Happy Groundhog Day**  
**●● Friday, Feb. 2 ●●**

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## Sheridan Lodge #87 IOOF Supporting the West Valley for Over 100 Years

By Liz Hodgins

Have you ever spent a Saturday night at the Sheridan Odd Fellows Lodge playing Bingo? If not, you are missing out. It is a lot of fun, and there is always the possibility of winning the grand money prize, which is a nice bonus after an enjoyable evening. The Sheridan Lodge #87 IOOF (Independent Order of Odd Fellows) has been in Sheridan since before the fire of 1913, which completely destroyed a major part of the business district. The Sheridan Lodge was started in the late 1800s and has survived the fire, flood, and fluctuating membership over the years to stand strong today in its primary purpose of helping community members during "sickness, distress, and death; the lodge even helps with burial costs" according to Tammy Turpin, Sheridan Lodge member. Likewise, the Lodge strives to support other organizations in town, especially youth, through monetary donations and scholarships for members. Every year, the Lodge sends a high school student on a pilgrimage trip to Washington, D.C., and Canada for a week. The scholarship winner must write an essay on a topic the Lodge provides, and if chosen, they are sponsored by the Lodge on their trip. The money for Lodge donations is raised through the year-round Bingo nights. The Sheridan Lodge #87 most recently started what will become an annual event to donate financially to local organizations. Last October, the Lodge sent letters to several organizations inviting them to a dinner at the Lodge; if your organization responded to the letter and attended the event to speak about how your organization serves the West Valley community, your organization received a generous donation. Several organizations from the West Valley were in attendance and grateful for the donation just before the holidays. Some of the organizations that attended were

the Grand Sheramina Food Bank, Grand Ronde Food Bank, Ag-ile, Devin's Helping Hands, VFW holiday food boxes, Henderson House, West Valley Cheer, and Tree of Giving.

Furthermore, the Lodge generously donates its space to house the activities of different organizations in town, such as the Tree of Giving, at Christmas time, when they distribute gifts out of the Lodge to the families who have applied. The Tree of Giving also uses the Lodge to host Bingo fundraisers/silent auctions a couple of times per year. Likewise, Provoking Hope ran a program out of the Lodge in the past. Every summer, the Lodge hosts the all-year school reunion during Sheridan's Hometown Days. The Sheridan Lodge #87 can be rented out for various events as well. If you are interested in renting out the Lodge, you can contact Noble Grand Mary Wolf, Vice Grand Tammy Turpin, Treasurer Patty Freis, or Secretary Kira Sandoval.

Likewise, if you are interested in becoming a Sheridan Lodge #87 IOOF member, you can contact one of the officers to get an application. After the application is received, you will be interviewed and queried about your intent to become a member. Your membership status is then voted on. If you are voted in, yearly dues are \$54. There are perks to becoming a member: scholarships for members and their immediate family, funding to help out in emergencies, and the Lodge even has a campground available for members who attend 50% of meetings in Florence. The Sheridan Lodge #87 has lifetime members who do not attend meetings, with nine active members currently. Meetings are on the second and fourth Tuesday of the month at 6 p.m. Tuesday is always a potluck, and remember Saturday night Bingo at 5:30 p.m. You never know; you might be a \$300 progressive black-out winner!

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# West Valley Bulletin Board



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**ONE MORE TIME** - This 1963 Chevy Corvette was found in Jon Pierson's garage along with (previously seen in earlier WV Bulletin Board issues) a 1970 Chevy Chevelle and a 1932 Ford Roadster. The Corvette is a split-window model Stingray. A 700-horsepower LS engine provides enough power "to set you back in the seat." The stock transmission is strong enough to handle the power and pass it on to the stock rear-ends. Inside is a new interior, custom dash, and a Grant steering wheel. Jon has owned this car for 25 years. It doesn't seem fair that one lucky guy should have three show-winning cars all to himself, but he proudly takes good care of all of them. (Story and photo courtesy of Gary Meyer.)

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**Absolutely adorable home boasts so much charm!** 3 BD, 2 BA, Built in's, creative touches throughout the home, sitting area outside the upstairs bedroom, many renovations over the last 5 years includes, vinyl double paned windows, plumbing, electrical, bathrooms, kitchen, paint in and out, roof & more. Mature landscaping front and back, fully fenced, 17,424sf-nearly half acre lot! 2 tool sheds, fenced garden area plus garden beds, established spring and summer fruit/trees-3 filbert, 3 apple & a pear tree, grapes & mature blueberry bushes, plenty of room for a pool, trampoline or maybe an AUD? Driveway should be long enough for an RV. \$349,900.



**AFFORDABLE RENTAL PROPERTY OR STARTER HOME!** Hard-to-find move-in-ready 4-bedroom, 2-bathroom home. Large galley kitchen with lots of counter space, living room off of the kitchen, small dining area with a slider to the large backyard. Appliances stay, spacious utility room with a sink and tankless gas water heater, gas furnace plus mini split with heat and AC, gas dryer set up, gas range, great covered front porch, partially fenced yard. Many recent updates in most of the house: arc fault breakers in the panel, wiring, electrical, sheetrock, insulation, vinyl windows, pex plumbing and more!



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## Exhibits Scheduled for Science Night

Preparations are well underway at Sheridan High School among students in science courses who are preparing experiments, displays and demonstrations for the school's Science Night on Monday, Feb. 28.

Science teachers at the school urged all parents and townspeople to attend the event to gain an insight into the science program in which all Sheridan students will be involved with during the high school careers.

Student projects, which will be situated throughout the high school building, will represent the type of work the students are doing in general science, biology, physics, chemistry, earth science and advanced mathematics classes.

Science Night at Sheridan High was originated in 1962 by William Treadway, a science teacher

at the school. Purpose of the event is to develop and interest among students in the field of science and to permit them to participate with displays, demonstrations and exhibits.

Examples of biological displays are dissections of a fetal lamb, a snake, a crayfish, a frog and a fish to show the internal anatomy.

Also there are several experiments on types of soil and effects of light, gravity and other factors on plant growth.

Other biological displays include the Cyclops, a tiny water-dwelling animal with only one eye; types of bacteria; the Hydra, a tiny, many-tentacled animal related to the jellyfish; and the effects of various chemicals on the heartbeat rate of Daphnia, a relative of the Cyclops which is the size of a pinhead.

## Alaska Magazine Features Sheridan Captain

A long-time Sheridan resident, who spends about half of each year in Alaska as a barge captain, is featured in an article appearing in the February issue of the Alaska Sportsman magazine.

Allen Brown, who has lived in the community since he was a small youngster, has been working during the spring and summer months in Alaska for the past 25 years. During the winter months, Brown, his wife, Alvina, and sons, Allen and Lanson, live on their Sheridan farm. Allen Jr. is a sophomore at Oregon State University, while Lanson is a sophomore at Sheridan High school. Brown will be leaving for Alaska in mid-April to begin his duties of captain of a barge hauling military freight and winter and summer supplies to the trading posts. He first started on a barge as watchman, before becoming a pilot and then a captain in 1960. Mrs. Brown and the couple's boys fly to the northern state when school is out and return in the fall. Brown generally gets back from his captain's duties late in September. While in Alaska, they make their home in Nenana.

Brown's barge is on call 24 hours a day hauling supplies to trading posts and military bases which are hard to reach any other way. The captain and pilot aboard the Alaskan river barges work six-hour shifts 24 hours a day. Brown was born in Fairbanks,

Alaska. His father was a miner. His family moved to Sheridan when he was a child and he has maintained his residence here since.

## Valley Junction 4-Her Selected To Attend Conference In Capitol

GRAND RONDE —Jim Werth of Valley Junction, was among the four selected Tuesday as to 4-H club members in the state and winner of all-expense paid trip to the annual Washington, D.C. 4-H government conference. Jim is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Werth of Valley Junction. He attends Oregon State university at Corvallis, where he is a freshman. Announcement was made at the concluding luncheon at the Marion Motor Hotel of the annual 4-H conference, "Know Your State Government." Sixty-seven 4-H club members, representing every county in the state, had a busy round of visits to the various departments of the state government. Speaker at the luncheon was

Robert Straub, State Treasurer. Jim was selected to represent Polk County for his leadership qualities and over-all 4-H record. His many projects have included livestock, fisherman and conservation, bachelor sewing, gardening, forestry, geology, electricity, square dancing and entomology. He has spent many years as a junior leader in various projects and is now the leader of the Entomology Club in Grand Ronde.



Dissecting of a wide variety of animals will be among the many displays and exhibits presented in the annual Sheridan High School Science Night, slated Monday. Working on a fetal lamb are Rod Turnidge and Jim Warren.



Getting Started on the annual Girl Scout Cookie Sale in Sheridan was this group of Scouts selling to Ed Cafarelli at Ellingsworth's. The four different flavors. Scouts will be selling cookies door-to-door in the community and booths will be set up at Ellingsworth's and at The Merc. Salesgirls (left to right) are Patti Owens, Junior troop 468; Connie Bride, Senior Scout; Shelley Denton, Cadette Troop 471; and Sue LeRoy, Brownie. Scout Cookie Sale chairman is Margaret Brudnok.



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# Department of Revenue Offers Free Tax Filing Options

All Oregon resident taxpayers preparing their own returns in 2024 can file electronically at no cost using one of Oregon's free file options, the Oregon Department of Revenue announced today.

E-filing is the fastest way for a taxpayer to get their refund. On average, taxpayers who e-file their returns and request their refund via direct deposit receive their refund two weeks sooner than those who file paper returns and request paper refund checks.

## Free fillable forms and Direct File Oregon

Oregon Free Fillable Forms performs basic calculations and is ideal for taxpayers who don't

need help preparing their returns and want the convenience of filing electronically. The IRS offers a similar option for filing federal taxes electronically.

New this year, the department is also offering Direct File Oregon, which allows taxpayers to file their Form OR-40 through Revenue Online. Direct File Oregon is not currently linked with the IRS Direct File. Taxpayers will need to file a separate federal return with the IRS before filing an Oregon return with Direct File Oregon through Revenue Online.

## Free electronic filing options

Free guided tax preparation is available from several companies for taxpayers that meet income

requirements. Using links from the department's website ensures that both taxpayers' federal and state return will be filed for free.

## Free help filing Oregon tax returns

The department also announced the availability of free assistance in filing a return through the IRS Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) and Tax Counseling for the Elderly (TCE) and other community organizations.

The IRS's VITA and TCE programs offer free basic tax return preparation to qualified individuals. Low- to moderate-income taxpayers can also access preparation services through AARP and CASH Oregon. United Way also offers free tax help through their MyFreeTaxes program. More information on these options is available on the department website.

Oregon begins processing e-filed returns today. E-filed returns will be processed in the order they are received. However, as in years past, the department won't be issuing personal income tax refunds until after February 15. A

refund hold is part of the department's tax fraud prevention efforts and allows for confirmation that the amounts claimed on tax returns match what employers report on Forms W-2 and 1099.

To further encourage electronic filing, the department is no longer mailing Forms 1099-G to taxpayers. Form 1099-G reports the amount of refunds, credits, or other offsets of personal income, statewide transit individual, TriMet transit self-employment, or Lane transit self-employment tax during the previous year. Only those who itemized deductions on their tax year 2022 federal income tax return will need a Form 1099-G to file their tax year 2023 return. Those taxpayers can view and download their Form 1099-G through Revenue Online. Taxpayers who received unemployment insurance or Paid Leave Oregon benefits in 2023, will receive a separate 1099-G by January 31 from the Oregon Employment Department.

To check the status of your refund after February 15, or make payments, visit the department's website. You can also call 800-356-4222 toll-free from an Oregon prefix (English or Spanish) or 503-378-4988 in Salem and outside Oregon. For TTY (hearing or speech impaired), we accept all relay calls.