



West Valley Bulletin Board

West Valley Bulletin Board, LLC

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

Adventist Health Announces Clinic Closures in Sheridan, Welches and Lincoln City

Due to long-standing challenges with provider staffing, Adventist Health Tillamook has announced the closure of its medical offices in Sheridan, Welches and Lincoln City. These closures are due to the years-long efforts and difficulty recruiting qualified pro-

viders in these rural communities. "We have faced significant challenges with not only recruiting but retaining providers in these areas, even working with national and renown recruiting firms with a high track record of success have not helped the sit-

uation," said Eric Swanson, President of Adventist Health Tillamook. The clinic in Lincoln City will close on April 12, Hoodland in Welches on April 1, and Sheridan on March 17. This decision comes after implementing solutions such as utilizing temporary (locum) agency providers.

All affected associates and providers have been notified and will be offered to apply for employment opportunities within the Adventist Health system, including positions local to their current locations. Swanson emphasizes, "This decision reflects no shortfall in the dedication or service of our affected associates. We are immensely grateful for their unwavering

commitment to our mission." He also assures that the organization's leadership is focused on navigating these changes with the utmost care and support for everyone involved. Adventist Health Tillamook remains dedicated to its mission and is confident in the resilience of its team to navigate these changes.

The organization will continue to provide high-quality care and support the health and well-being of the communities it serves in Tillamook County, Vernonia and Estacada.

The closure dates and last day for staff at each location are as follows:

- Sheridan clinic will close on March 17, 2024, last day for clinical staff in office April 1, 2024.
- Hoodland clinic (Welches, Oregon) will close on April 1, 2024, last day for clinical staff in office April 15, 2024.
- Lincoln City clinic will close on April 12, 2024, last day for clinical staff in office May 1, 2024.



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Party Time!

**Let's Celebrate
Lucille Cruickshank
Turning 90!**

**1 p.m. on Saturday, March 23
Buell Grange Hall (off Hwy 22)**

Sheridan Chamber of Commerce
Continental Breakfast
8-9:15 am
Friday, March 15

Sheridan Museum of History
142 S. Bridge Street • Sheridan

Join us this Friday to discuss your business and learn about others in our area. This meeting is the perfect way to spread the word on what you have to offer.

All Chamber members and potential Chamber members are invited to join this fun group of business owners, managers, and citizens who want to strengthen our business community by building stronger relationships.

**Breakfast sponsored by
My Hauler with Claw**
Bring your business card to drop in the box for a chance to win a fun prize!

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Announcement

City of Sheridan Announcement:

All Sheridan Task Force Meetings will be held two times a month from 4pm to 6pm, Wednesdays, at Sheridan City Hall. Agendas for these meetings can be found on the City's website under the meetings tab, on the City's Facebook page, or at the bulletin board outside of City Hall.

Employment

River Park Senior Living is now hiring for caregivers, and \$1000 signing bonus for an experienced med-tech. Wage DOE, come in to apply, or email your resume to bailley.west@agingways.com. (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)

Estate Sale

Estate Sale (in storage). Outdoor gear, furniture, antiques, collectibles, military, and lots more high-quality items. Call/text 503-383-6967 for an appointment or information.

Garage Sale

Garage Sale: 10 a.m.-2 p.m., Sat., 232 NE Hill Street, Sheridan. Huge variety. Lots of brand new items, larger sized women's clothing, kitchen items, gifts, home décor, cookbooks, and much more.

For Sale

Solid oak desk, made in the USA. Heavy, solidly built. Use it as an office or hobby bench in the shop. Excellent condition. \$200 OBO. Call/text 503-383-6967.

Lift Chairs - Light Grey, excellent condition, Two available. Call/Text 503-550-6888

Board Vacancy

NOTICE OF VACANCY FOR CITY OF SHERIDAN Planning Commission

The Planning Commission has a vacant seat, and the City of Sheridan is recruiting for an individual with a general knowledge of the City and the services it provides. This is a four-year term volunteer position, and the duties for a Commissioner are to plan and regulate the development of land inside City limits. The Planning Commission recommends ordinances requiring that all land development undertaken in the City must comply with City ordinances and follow the terms of the City's Development Code, Comprehensive Plan, and Public Works Design Standards. The Planning Commission hears a wide range of applications including urban growth boundary expansions, annexations, property partitions, major variances, subdivisions, zone changes, etc. If you have questions, please contact the City Manager or Deputy City Recorder prior to submitting a Planning Commission application by calling 503-843-2347. Position is open until filled. Applications may be returned by email to orodela@cityofsheridanor.com, faxed to 503-843-3661, or to City Hall in person.

NOTICE OF VACANCY FOR CITY OF SHERIDAN Parks and Recreation Committee Assistance

The Parks and Recreation Committee is looking for an enthusiastic individual ready to assist the Committee with improvements on parks and other recreational programs. This is an advisory volunteer position, with a term limit of one year, but with no limit on reapplication. If you are interested, you just need a general knowledge and interest in the City's parks and other recreational programs. If you have questions, please contact the City Manager or Deputy City Recorder prior to submitting a Parks & Recreation Committee application by calling 503-843-2347. Position is open until filled. Applications may be returned by email to orodela@cityofsheridanor.com, faxed to 503-843-3661, or delivered to City Hall in person.

Room For Rent

Room for rent. 12'x12' room, includes high-speed wi-fi, shared bathroom, laundry, no pets, parking on private street. One person only, in Sheridan, \$700. Text 541-543-6030.

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)

Volunteer Needed

NWSDS is seeking a volunteer driver to help deliver meals to homebound seniors here in the Sheridan area. This would be one day a week and take approximately one to one and a half hours, mileage is reimbursed and eligible for a hot meal. Please call the local Sheridan Meals on Wheels at (503) 843-2000 (c)

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)

Classified Ads in the
West Valley Bulletin Board
are only 20¢
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When I moved to Willamina, I commented on how pleasant the weather was, and folks would say to me, "This is Oregon; just wait five minutes, and it will change!"

This has been true, especially these last few weeks. The weather can't seem to make up its mind.

One day, it was snowing. Oh, wait... here comes the slush. Oops! Waiting another few minutes, and we have rain. No, now we have sun!

Trying to decide what to wear? How about a boat on the left foot and a sandal on the right.? If this goofy weather keeps up, it can be the new Oregon fashion. Trying to figure out Mother Nature is "What's up in Willamina."

Fundraiser for Sheridan High School Grad Night

From 10 a.m. to 10:30 p.m. on Friday, March 22, the 2024 Grad Night Committee is holding a fundraiser for a safe all-night party put on by senior parents. They are partnering with Panda Express, located at 2420 NE Hwy 99, McMinnville. Order Panda Express on the app and enter 369267 in the fundraiser code box to participate. You can order ahead or on the day of the event.

Wednesday Pinochle at The American Legion

A new Pinochle group meets at 1 p.m. every Wednesday, at the American Legion Post 75 Hall, located at 125 N. Bridge Street in Sheridan.

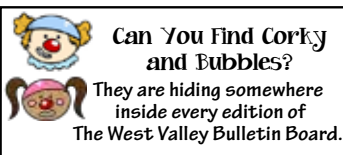
The group is open to all interested in playing Pinochle. The cost is \$3.25 each which covers the winning pot as well as the building rental fee.

The group takes turns bringing in snacks for the group members to enjoy while playing.

For those interested in joining, head down to the American Legion on Wednesdays.

Time and Date Change for Sheridan Municipal Court

Sheridan's Municipal Court is now set for 1:30 p.m. on the first Thursday of each month, at City Hall, 120 SW Mill Street in Sheridan.



Service Notice



Judith Ann Robinson
Dec. 2, 1942 - Feb. 23, 2024

Services for Judith Ann Robinson will be held graveside for immediate family only in Sheridan. A gathering time for all who would like to join will be at 2:30 p.m., on Saturday, March 16, at the Rickreall Event Hall, 305 Nesmith Road in Rickreall.

Sheridan's Mayor Marianne Thomson resigned on Monday, March 11, 2024. The Sheridan City Council will discuss this transition at a future meeting. Information will be published as soon as it is available.



Mother and daughter team Susana and Graciela Lemus stand before their food truck, El Sazón De Doña Susana, in the Forest River parking lot at 888 SE Sheridan Rd. After running a catering service in Southern California for 12 years, they decided to change their scenery for a location with cleaner air, eventually deciding on the Sheridan area. They started up a food truck in the parking lot six years ago. Their truck serves a mix of Mexican and American food, and you can stop by from 8:15 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Friday.

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- Deadline to apply is **Thursday, March 21, 2024 at 5pm**
- 8 week training begins on **Monday, April 1, 2024**
- Class Times Mon-Fri:** 8am-12pm, 10am-2pm or 2pm-6pm
- Table Games Training Room at Spirit Mountain Casino

Weekly gas cards and \$1,500 completion bonus for students!

Fill out an Online Application at:
SpiritMountain.com/careers

For more information or assistance, please email
employmentteam@spiritmtn.com
or call 503-879-3737

NEW LISTING!!!

Traditional style ranch on a large corner lot, just one block from the city park! Amazing home has 3 bd, 2 ba, remodeled kitchen, dining room area, living and family rooms, perfect for entertaining. Established flowers, trees and landscaping in the front and back. Fully fenced back yard also includes RV parking pad behind the fence for added security, tool shed, sprinklers, sauna and a hot tub. 2 car garage w/ new opener, remodeled kitchen with quartz counter tops, SS appliances, upgraded gas range, eating bar and is open to the family room. Family room has a FS electric fireplace and a slider to the covered back patio. Gas FA heat and AC & oak hardwood floors. Master has a vaulted ceiling, private bathroom and double closets. 2nd bedroom has a murphy bed that goes with the sale. Out of Sheridan's flood plain! \$399,900.

NEW LISTINGS WANTED!



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A MESSAGE FROM THE WILLAMINA SCHOOL DISTRICT

Like businesses everywhere, school districts struggle to find staff to fill vacancies and substitute or temporary positions. More often than not the need for substitutes goes unfilled on a daily basis. This impacts programs and creates stress on the staff that try to cover multiple positions in the course of the day.

We rely on qualified substitutes to fill an array of positions; food service, secretarial, maintenance, instructional assistants, and classroom teaching. The Willamina School District uses a third-party service provider Edustaff to fill these positions. Edustaff completes background checks and provides compliance training to ensure those positions are filled with competent and qualified people.

Edustaff is constantly onboarding new hires and we encourage anyone in our local community that is looking for employment that provides a flexible schedule based on individual needs to consider applying. More information can be found at edustaf.org or by calling 877.974.6338. The district is willing to help offset registration fees for local applicants.

Middle School Expansion Update: We are getting closer to occupancy! PGE was onsite last week to connect power to the new building, we are still waiting on a few electrical components to arrive before students and staff can officially move into the building. Our school board members will be taking a tour prior to the March board meeting. The space is beautiful and we are so excited and happy for our middle school students and staff to have an entire building to call their own.

Budget planning is in progress and the district has two budget committee positions vacant. If you are interested in learning more about the school budgeting process and willing to serve please contact April Johnson at the district office at 503.876.1500.

We are entering the second year of the biennium so our state and federal funding is already established. In addition to state and federal funding we rely on local funds (taxes) and a variety of competitive grants to fund programs and special initiatives. We recently applied for the Stronger Connection grant. It is a competitive two-year \$750,000 grant that supports activities which:

- Support health and active lifestyles, including; nutrition, PE, disease management
- Bully and harassment prevention
- Instruction practices for development of relationship building, effective communication and improved recognition of coercion, violence, abuse, dating violence, staking, domestic abuse, and sexual violence
- Improve dropout and reentry programs

Awardees will be notified by the end of March, we are hopeful Willamina will be on the list!

**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**

Irish Soda Bread Makes the Perfect St. Patrick's Day Appetizer



4 tablespoons white sugar
1 teaspoon baking soda
1 tablespoon baking powder
1/2 teaspoon salt
1 cup buttermilk
1 egg

1/4 cup butter, melted
1/4 cup buttermilk

Preheat the oven to 375 degrees F. Lightly grease a large baking sheet.

Mix flour, softened margarine, sugar, baking soda, baking powder, and salt together in a large bowl. Stir in 1 cup of buttermilk and egg. Turn dough out onto a lightly floured surface and knead slightly. Form dough into a round and place on the prepared baking sheet.

Combine melted butter with 1/4 cup buttermilk in a small bowl; brush loaf with this mixture. Use a sharp knife to cut an 'X' into the top of the loaf.

Bake in preheated oven until a toothpick inserted into the center of the loaf comes out clean, 45 to 50 minutes. Check for doneness after 30 minutes. You may continue to brush the loaf with the butter mixture while it bakes.

Irish cuisine may not be as widely recognizable or familiar across North America as Chinese, Italian or Mexican fare. But that doesn't mean Irish food lacks fans and flavor. As the world prepares to celebrate St. Patrick's Day on or around March 17, individuals who want to include some popular Irish fare in their festivities won't want to exclude this recipe for "Irish Soda Bread" from AllRecipes.com.

Irish Soda Bread

Yields 1 1/2 loaf (20 servings)

4 cups all-purpose flour

1/2 cup margarine, softened

A MESSAGE FROM THE WILLAMINA SCHOOL DISTRICT

Willamina School District Announces Finalists for Superintendent Interviews

The Willamina School District Board of Directors is pleased to announce 3 candidates who are being invited to interview for the Willamina Superintendent position:

- Kourtney Ferrua; Director of Curriculum, Instruction, & Assessment; McMinnville School District, McMinnville, Oregon
- Mike Gass; Interim Superintendent; Clear Creek School District, Idaho Springs Colorado
- Sarah Norwood; Elementary Principal; Willamina School District, Willamina, Oregon

Interviews are scheduled to be conducted the week of March 11, 2024. More information on the interview schedule will be sent at a later date. Numerous stakeholder groups will have the opportunity to meet the final candidates and submit input to the board about each of them. The board intends to make their selection by March 18, 2024.

The Willamina School District retained the services of McPherson & Jacobson, L.L.C. to assist in conducting their search. The consultants reviewed, screened, and conducted extensive background checks on 20 completed applicants. On March 4, 2024, the consultants presented 6 qualified applicants to the Board of Directors in Executive Session, where detailed background information on each applicant was reviewed. Prior to applicant reviews, McPherson & Jacobson, L.L.C. held stakeholder meetings and also provided the opportunity for input through an online survey. This information was provided to our School Board to assist them when reviewing applicants.

Willamina School District Superintendant Finalists Biographies



Mike Gass

Education:

- Principal Certification – Colorado State University; Education Leadership – Fort Collins, Colorado – 1995
- Master of Arts – Adams State College; Secondary Education Science – Alamosa, Colorado – 1993
- Bachelor of Arts – University of Northern Colorado; Elementary/Middle School Education – Greeley, Colorado – 1988

Experience:

- Interim Superintendent – Clear Creek School District; Idaho Springs, Colorado; 2023 – Present
- Principal – Lincoln County Schools – Crestview Elementary; Waldport, Oregon; 2020 – 2023
- Superintendent – Telluride Schools; Telluride, Colorado; 2015-2020
- Assistant Superintendent – Eagle County Schools; Eagle, Colorado; 2012 – 2015
- Director of Wayfinder – Colorado; 2011 – 2015
- Executive Director of Student Services – Eagle County Schools; Eagle, Colorado; 2010 – 2012
- Director of Secondary Education – Eagle County Schools; Eagle, Colorado; 2004 – 2010
- Principal – Gypsum Elementary; Gypsum, Colorado; 1999 – 2004
- Principal – Eagle County Charter Academy; Edwards, Colorado; 1996 – 1999
- Administrative Intern – Eagle County Middle School; Eagle, Colorado; 1994 – 1996
- Teacher – Eagle County Schools; Eagle, Colorado; 1992 – 1996
- Teacher – Roaring Fork School District; Carbondale, Colorado; 1989 – 1992
- Teacher – Weld County School District; Greeley, Colorado; 01/1989 – 06/1989



Kourtney Ferrua

Education:

- Doctoral Candidate – University of Oregon; Education Leadership – Eugene, Oregon – anticipated June 2024
- Education Specialist – Concordia University; Education Leadership – Chicago, Illinois – 2021
- Master of Arts – University of Portland; Teaching – Portland, Oregon; 2003
- Bachelor of Arts – University of San Francisco; Psychology – San Francisco, California; 1999

Experience:

- Director of Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment – McMinnville School District; McMinnville, Oregon; 2019 – Present
- Principal - Wascher Elementary School, McMinnville School District; McMinnville, Oregon; 2013 – 2019
- Consultant – Stand for Children and COSA; 2020 – 2022
- Instructional Coach – McMinnville School District; McMinnville, Oregon; 2011 – 2023
- Teacher – McMinnville School District; McMinnville, Oregon; 2007 – 2013
- Teacher – St. Agatha Elementary School; Portland, Oregon; 2003 – 2006



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Sarah Norwood

Education:

- Professional Administrator License – Concordia University – Chicago, Illinois – 2019
- Initial Administrator License – Portland State University – Portland, Oregon – 2013
- Master of Education – Oregon State University – Corvallis, Oregon – 2010
- Bachelor of Science – Linfield College; Elementary Education – McMinnville, Oregon – 2003

Experience:

- Elementary Principal – Willamina School District; Willamina Oregon; 2015 – Present
- Elementary Vice Principal – Willamina School District; Willamina Oregon; 2012 – 2015
- Teacher on Special Assignment – Willamina Elementary School; Willamina Oregon; 2010 – 2012
- 5th Grade Teacher – Willamina Elementary School; Willamina OROregon 2004-201



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~Varik P. - Salem

Bobbi has been such a rockstar. She handled the rather involved process of selling our home and was able to keep our spirits up when things got complicated. She has had great communication every step of the way. Her work ethic and professionalism are outstanding. We are so very thankful for all her hard work!
~Michelle and Paul Ricketts - Sheridan



City Council Met to Discuss Upcoming Projects, Audit Status, Strategic

The Sheridan City Council meeting held on Monday, March 4, 2024, began with changes to the agenda.

Items regarding a YCAP mobile shower unit and the discussion on the city-owned property 127 SW Mill Street (across from City Hall) were moved to a special council session that will be held at 4 p.m. on Tuesday, March 12, at City Hall.

Mayor Marianne Thomson addressed the public, stating, "I want to assure you that no homeless shelters will be built in Sheridan." She wanted to address the rumors again and reiterate the Council's position that they will not support building shelters in Sheridan.

The first public comment period started with Joe Neeley presenting the Council with a survey he

had conducted on five separate Facebook community groups, which asked residents which city-related projects they felt should be prioritized. Options from the survey were street maintenance, skate park resurfacing, more public trees, energy improvements, two-plus dog parks, storm drain improvements, pedestrian crossing lights, sidewalk maintenance, more street lights, an amphitheater, frisbee golf, RC car track, more businesses, more law enforcement, places and things for kids, calisthenic/fitness park, BMX and MTB trails, community centers, and a food court. Joe spoke about the top five results of the survey, which amassed more than 270 votes from the community. According to the community members who participated in the survey, 33.33% want to see street maintenance as the number one priority. Sidewalk maintenance came in second with 11.6% of the vote, followed by skate park resurfacing with 8.79%. Fourth place, with 8.06%, was more law enforcement, and fifth place, with 5.01% of votes, were pedestrian crosslights.

Joe looks forward to doing this again in 2025.

He said, "I just want my community to thrive and feel like they are being heard. There are some people that unfortunately feel like they are not being heard, but I want to make a difference."

Councilor Jim Buckles thanked Joe and acknowledged the work it took to put together.

Jim continued, "More law enforcement is something I think we all wanted, but it is tremendously expensive. I know we tried two years ago to add an assessment onto the water bill for \$13.23 to get more law enforcement and really enhance what we got, and the City turned it down. It is pricey, and I get that, but it is going to be really difficult to get that."

Councilor Lucy Hebert spoke to Joe, saying, "This is what helps

Heidi and helps us be able to focus more; with people like you volunteering to help her, which helps us, and then we really are a community. So thank you, Joe, very much."

Tkeisha Wydro was next. She brought up the topic of homelessness and the funds from Representative Lucetta Elmer that were specifically for a shelter. Tkeisha suggested redirecting the funding to help with a resource center if possible and again bringing up the idea of another town hall for the community.

An auditor from Grove, Mueller, and Swank, PC, presented the results for the June 30, 2023 fiscal year audit, completed in December 2023. The City is required to have annual audits completed. The audit results showed nothing significant that needed to be brought to the Council. Several minor adjustments were addressed. The financial statements were given a clean opinion, and the auditor had no concerns. The audit was signed free from any material misstatements.

Jim Gross with Civil West Engineering presented project statuses for upcoming jobs in Sheridan, including Sheridan Road, the Hebert Plaza Park, the water master plan, crossing improvements focused on Harney and Bridge Street and Monroe and Bridge, and the South Side Park footbridge.

A preliminary design for Sheridan Road was presented, and the plans showed new water lines under the road.

A design for the Hebert Plaza was also furnished, including an ADA-approved sidewalk down to the river.

Civil West will assemble a master package for contractors to quote, which will be returned to the City. The City will review the quotes and the available funding for the project. The project will be sent out to bid if the funds are available.

Civil West is also building a water

model for the City of Sheridan. Once the model is completed, the City will be able to predict where water will be needed and where it is used the most and help pass along costs to developers when building.

Pedestrian crossing improvements are also being worked on. The crossings will improve visibility and be ADA-compliant. This project is currently in the cost estimation phase, and quotes will be submitted soon.

For anyone interested in more detail about these plans, the renderings can be found online at the City's website under Government, Meeting: Agendas, Packets and Minutes, City Council, 2024 City Council and Minutes, March 4, 2024: Engineer presentation.

The Council moved on to discuss the Mayor's and Council's letter to be included in the recently completed Strategic Plan book, which the Council has worked on through goal-setting meetings.

Councilor Roxy Acuff spoke up regarding changes she wanted to be made to the letter. A copy of this letter can also be viewed on the City's website in the Council packet.

Roxy requested some grammar changes in the first paragraph. She noted that the wording "in addition" was inappropriate and requested that it be removed and replaced with "included."

She said, "I think everything we and the staff do should be with stated goals in mind every day."

The letter stated the goals of the Mayor, Council, City Manager, and all associates.

Roxy stated, "In the first letter, paragraph three had almost two lines to cover goals other than code enforcement. The second letter had almost three lines of a choice few goals. Why were the other goals not included? And who gets to choose?"

"These other goals are huge projects that are equally as important. For some of our citizens, it may be the only part they read of

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Plan, and Discussion on Returning State Funds Earmarked for Shelters

this letter.

"So, in the fourth paragraph, we use seven lines to thoroughly explain the justification of code enforcement as a prioritized goal. At the last council meeting, it was discussed that it would not be our most important goal."

Roxy continued by saying that she felt the letter was prioritizing code enforcement. She requested the fourth paragraph be deleted and replaced with all 11 goals. In the fifth paragraph of the letter, Roxy requested that the elected officials and city staff include the statement that they want to do what is best for the City to the best of their knowledge and ability.

Roxy said, "So my point here is we have 11 goals, and they are important. So why do we continue to single out code enforcement as the goal to emphasize and make a big deal of when it isn't more important than the rest of them? This Council never did and did not prioritize code enforcement. So please don't try to infer that we have. That's why we're revising this letter for a third time. If the Mayor continues to disregard the Council's directions and put code enforcement ahead of other goals, I will not sign this letter, and I would encourage the rest of the Council not to either. I hope this Council will join me in cautioning the Mayor for not conducting herself in proper council protocol. You are to accept the decisions of the Council either by vote or consensus without overriding our decisions with your personal agendas."

A revised letter with the changes Roxy requested was distributed. Marianne discussed the letter, noting high praise from Laura, who worked with the Council to form the strategic plan.

Marianne said, "She was very complimentary about the way that we worked on this together as a council, with everybody's suggestions being taken to heart. I completely disagree. I don't have an agenda on this, and I was simply trying to get the work done."

Councilor Liz Hodgins spoke up

and stated she held some of the same feelings.

"I don't like that you are prioritizing code enforcement when we are hiring a code enforcement officer. Part of that goal has already been completed, and I think the residents want to know what the overall picture

looks like. What are the council goals for this City? They live in this City, so I think Roxy is right. We should list the goals so people are familiar with them. We should be as transparent as possible as to what our goals are for the City which they live in," said Liz.

Marianne spoke up, "I was trying to take some direction from our planner as well, who has done this a lot of times before. We did tone down the code enforcement, but what I have heard from this Council in the past is that code enforcement is a high priority. So that is the reason I thought I was taking direction from the Council in emphasizing code enforcement because over the last couple of decades, it has been such a problem for us. That also affects all the other goals. You're going to have economic development, you're going to have people building businesses and homes, we need to get our town cleaned up. I thought everybody agreed with that."

Councilor Jim Buckles spoke up, noting that while the City has hired a code enforcement officer, his understanding was that the position was not a one-hundred percent dedicated position. He disagreed with the statement that the code enforcement problem was taken care of.

"We have a long way to go," said Jim.

Councilor Cale George and Councilor Lucy Hebert agreed with Roxy's letter formatting.

The consensus of the Council was to replace the letter in the Strategic Plan packet.

City Manager Heidi Bell brought additional ideas to the Council to consider. One was a Community Development Plan that would include a downtown revitalization plan.

Heidi also discussed applying for the construction and engineering Safe Routes to School grant and including that in the Strategic Plan. She discussed updating the Charter to support community demand, which will include creating a committee of council volunteers willing to meet to discuss the needed changes. This will tie into reviewing City codes in an effort to bring them up to date. The Council agreed to add Heidi's suggestions.

Councilor Denny McElroy then moved, seconded by Councilor Liz Hodgins, to approve the budget calendar. This was passed unanimously.

Moving down the agenda, the discussion of whether the City wants and is able to employ a full-time code enforcement officer was moved to a future meeting. The Council was asked to say whether they were in favor of employing code enforcement full-time. The overall consensus was yes, but future discussions regarding budgeting have been tabled.

The Council moved to the discussion of the \$225,000 appropriation grant.

Mayor Marianne started, "This can only be used for constructing shelters in Sheridan, and the Council has unanimously said they will not build shelters, so this vote is to release those funds."

Liz said, "Release, meaning, giving it back?"

Marianne responded, "We've never actually taken possession of this cash, but it is being held for us. So what we would be voting to do is let them use that money for other purposes."

Denny moved to release the \$225,000 appropriation grant back to the state, which Jim Buckles seconded.

Denny spoke up in discussion: "I spent quite a bit of time trying to find out if we could use this money for anything other than shelters. The bottom line I got from Mr. Walt Campbell with the state

was no. It has to be for shelters. A shower trailer is not a shelter, period. That's where we stand on that."

Lucy spoke up, questioning any additional ways the funding could be used. Heidi replied that she has not had any conversations with the state, but based on research done, the answer is no. Jim made a motion to table the vote until further investigation could be completed to see if there was any way to keep any of the funds for other resources outside of building the shelter. Denny seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

The next council meeting will be held as a special session at 4 p.m. on Tuesday, March 12, 2024, at City Hall. The next regular council meeting will be held at 7 p.m. on Monday, March 18, 2024, at City Hall, 120 SW Mill Street in Sheridan.



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Party Pointers for St. Patrick's Day Fun



St. Patrick's Day is a beloved holiday, and that popularity is reflected in celebrations that take place across the globe. According to World Population Review, more than 200 countries celebrate St. Patrick's Day.

Russia, Singapore and Japan are among the nations that celebrate St. Patrick's Day each March, proving that proximity to Ireland is not a prerequisite for partying on March 17. With that in mind, anyone in the mood to celebrate St. Patrick's Day need not hesitate to plan a party this March. The following St. Patrick's Day party

pointers can make the festivities even more fun this year.

- **Go green.** It goes without saying that green is the color of St. Patrick's Day. St. Patrick is the primary patron saint of Ireland, a country known for its rolling green hills. Hosts can decorate party spaces in green, hanging green streamers and green balloons. Encourage guests to wear green and keep the theme going with the menu, serving green baked goods and beverages.

- **Curate a St. Patrick's Day playlist.** In addition to its rolling green hills, Ireland is known for music. It's hard to find a pub anywhere on the Emerald Isle without a local musician playing traditional Irish music for a captivated crowd. Hosts can keep that in mind when curating their St. Patrick's Day playlist, which can include music from artists and bands such as Finbar Furey, The Dubliners, The Clancy Brothers, The Chieftains, The Pogues, The High Kings, The Dropkick Murphys, Flogging Molly, and more.

- **Serve traditional Irish fare.** It might take some advanced planning and effort to provide a menu one might find in Ireland. Blood pudding is served in many pubs across the Emerald Isle, but it might be hard, though not necessarily impossible, to find outside the country. Some large chain grocery stores might carry blood pudding in March, and it might be possible to find it in specialty grocery stores around this time of year. Irish soda bread, bacon and cabbage, Irish stew, and boxty are some additional dishes to give a menu some traditional Irish flavor.

- **Cut an Irish rug.** Irish dancing is another of Ireland's many exports, as dancers across the globe have embraced traditional Irish dance. Hosts can learn a dance or two and teach guests a few simple steps during the party. Keep it light and fun and allow even non-dancers to tap their toes.

These are just a few of the ways hosts can make their St. Patrick's Day parties more fun this March.

Horoscopes March 13-19

ARIES - Mar 21/Apr 20

Aries, if you notice you have been running into obstacles as you work to achieve your goals, you may want to step back and try to figure out another course of action.

TAURUS - Apr 21/May 21

Taurus, an offer that notes your efforts and achievements comes your way. Do not let this immediately go to your head, but enjoy the fruits of your labors.

GEMINI - May 22/June 21

Lately your willpower has been weak, Gemini. If diet plans are getting sidelined by your inability to stay on track, you may want to enlist a buddy to keep you motivated.

CANCER - June 22/July 22

Cancer, take a break when you can because there is soon to be a whirlwind of activity coming in your direction. Enjoy down time while it is still available to you.

LEO - July 23/Aug 23

Leo, exercise caution so that your actions are not misinterpreted. You do not want others thinking you are doing things for the wrong reasons. Try to lighten up and be positive this week.

VIRGO - Aug 24/Sept 22

This week you could find yourself being the center of attention at a gathering with friends or family, Virgo. Use the opportunity to get your thoughts out there and heard.

LIBRA - Sept 23/Oct 23

Libra, you will need to pick a course and stick with it, especially over the next few days. There is a lot of temptation out there but if you don't commit you'll never get things done.

SCORPIO - Oct 24/Nov 22

Arguments that have been slowly building up may come to a head this week, Scorpio. Your best bet is to stay out of the fray by keeping your distance and avoiding commentary.

SAGITTARIUS - Nov 23/Dec 21

Sagittarius, it is possible that someone new you will meet this week can become a close friend who sticks with you through thick and thin. Look for this person in the days to come.

CAPRICORN - Dec 22/Jan 20

Capricorn, now might be a time to figure out how to reduce some stress, especially if you find that people are avoiding you as of late. A change in attitude is all it takes.

AQUARIUS - Jan 21/Feb 18

You might be ready to delve into the next chapter of a relationship, Aquarius. Figure out what means the most to you and move those priorities to the forefront.

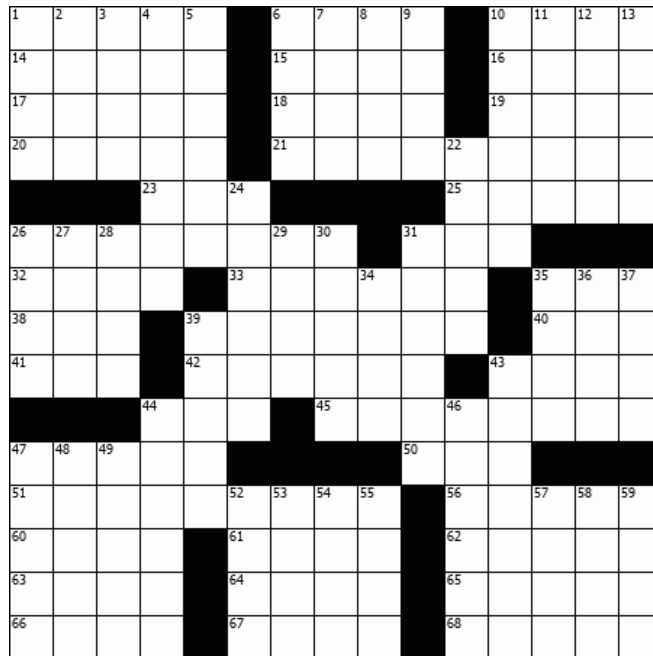
PISCES - Feb 19/Mar 20

Inspiration comes your way this week, Pisces. You will have plenty of time to do anything you want to put your mind to. Start making that running list of ideas.

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

Across

- Olympic award
- Recipe measures (abbr.)
- Alleviate
- Escape
- Butter substitute
- Deeds
- Peruvian animal
- Exits
- Regrets
- Sandwich shops
- Designated one
- TKO caller
- Staggers
- More selfish
- Fishing gear
- Bawdy
- Gridiron number
- Crow's call
- Summer beverage
- Assaults
- Gone by
- ___ and don'ts
- Hi-fi system
- Prod
- Health resort
- Elite police squad (2 wds.)
- Sew temporarily
- Stamping tool
- ___ span
- Make disappear
- Traditional knowledge
- Yearn
- Bus patron
- Lose one's footing
- Hawaiian garlands
- Church official
- Swiss peaks
- God of love
- Students' tables



Down

- Merge
- ___ Macpherson
- Double
- Respected
- Rented
- Dress for Caesar
- Sow's chow
- Quick look
- Mediocre (hyph.)
- Worked for
- Sharp
- Strong metal
- Curved letters
- Shackles
- Spanish party
- Cheerful
- Modernize
- Flock females
- In addition
- Raises children
- Fill again
- Regard
- Dracula's garment
- Water (Sp.)
- Angler's bait
- Type of poplar
- Antiseptic
- Soaks
- Having rows
- Hobby wood
- Lagoon's boundary
- Disrobe
- Saga
- Bakery employee
- Dayton's locale
- Loch ___ monster
- Tacks on
- Hide-and-___
- Miscalculates

New Monthly Support Group Offered at Emmanuel Lutheran Church to All

Aging Wise, Aging Well: Navigating Life for Successful Aging is an informal support group that offers guidance and affirming strategies for the journey of older adulthood. It is facilitated by Jeff Lukehart, Ph.D.

The groups are held from 1:30- 3 p.m. starting Thursday, April 18, and continuing at the same time on the third Thursday of every month at the Emmanuel Lutheran Church, 315 South Main St. Willamina. Parking to attend is behind the church; use the ramp to the side door.

They will discuss common concerns such as caregiving and receiving, loss and grief, spirituality

in later life, building resilience, responding to change, forgiving and forgiveness, change in meaning and purpose, fears and worry, maintaining friendship, and developing gratitude. They will also explore all other relevant topics that emerge in conversation.

What is shared during the meetings is assumed to be strictly confidential.

There is no charge for attending the group meetings. All are welcome to participate. The group is ongoing, and folks can attend any or all of the meetings.

For more information, call 503-876-6844 or email elcawillamina@gmail.com

Submit your event for the Community Calendar Free! Submissions are due before Mar.23 to be published Mar. 27.



DID YOU KNOW?

Snakes play a significant role in the legend of St. Patrick, the primary patron saint of Ireland and the man who inspired a wildly popular mid-March holiday. Though the notion of St. Patrick bravely banishing snakes from Ireland certainly supports his worthiness to be the island's patron saint, historians note this particular portion of the legend of St. Patrick is a myth. A 2012 report in National Geographic News noted that post-glacial Ireland never had snakes, as the most recent ice age made the island too cold for reptiles until the period ended 10,000 years ago. By that point, Ireland was surrounded by seas, which scientists and historians believe kept snakes from colonizing the island. Though the precise dates of St. Patrick's life remain unknown, it's likely he was an active missionary in Ireland during the fifth century, at which time natural history experts in Ireland attest there were no snakes on the Emerald Isle.



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THIS DAY IN HISTORY

MAR

15

44 - BC Julius Caesar is stabbed to death by Brutus, Cassius and several other Roman senators on the Ides of March in Rome.

1493 - Christopher Columbus returns to Spain after his first voyage to the New World.

1887 - 1st salaried fish & game warden (William Alden Smith in Michigan).

1892 - 1st escalator patented by American engineer Jesse Reno - first used at Old Iron Pier, Coney Island, New York City.

1892 - New York State unveils automatic ballot booth (voting machine).

1907 - Finland is 1st European country to give women the right to vote.

1913 - 1st US presidential press conference, held by Woodrow Wilson.

1913 - Cleveland establishes 1st small claims court.

1919 - American Legion forms (Paris).

1930 - 1st streamlined submarine of US navy, USS Nautilus, launched.

1937 - First American blood bank in a hospital is opened at Cook County Hospital in Chicago, Illinois.

1945 - Billboard publishes its 1st album chart (King Cole Trio is #1).

1962 - KATU TV channel 2 in Portland, OR (ABC) begins broadcasting.

1971 - Chatrooms make their debut on ARPANET, the forerunner of the Internet.

1977 - TV comedy "Three's Company" starring John Ritter, Suzanne Somers, and Joyce DeWitt, premieres on ABC in US.

1985 - The first Internet domain name, symbolics.com is registered.

Journey Church Willamina Sunday March 31st

Pre-service Breakfast Potluck

9:00 a.m.

Easter Service

10:30 a.m.

Easter Egg Hunt

Immediately after service





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I	N	T	E	R	E	S	T	E	D		I	R	A	N
A	T	A		A	L	E	S		H	O	N	E	S	T
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"Dogs' Lives Are Too Short. Their Only Fault, Really." - Agnes Sligh Turnbull

Written by Liz Hodgins

Dogs have been human's constant companions for more than 14,000 years, although archaeological evidence suggests dogs were the first animals domesticated by humans more than 30,000 years ago. I am not surprised as they are the most trustworthy, usually intelligent, and loyal companions ever. "Man's [and women's] best friend has provided protection, companionship, and hunting assistance since the days of the earliest settlements...Naturalist Mark Derr says there are two main schools of thought [regarding dogs' evolution]: Some researchers believe that humans domesticated wolves who were scrounging around their villages for trash. Others think that humans were taking care of wolves from the time they were puppies—until enough puppies were tamed and they somehow evolved into dogs." (NPR, How Dogs Evolved Into 'Our Best Friends') Basically, the idea is that humans were better hunters, and dogs started hanging around for the scraps, and a symbiotic relationship developed.

Whatever the evolution, they have become valued members of most American households. According to Forbes, dogs are the most popular pets in the U.S., and 65.1 million U.S. households own a dog. Given the widespread availability of dog food, toys, clothing, and furniture, they are obviously treated as a significant member of many families. In fact, the average family spends over \$1,500 annually on dog supplies. The global pet food market was valued at over 133.9 billion in 2022. "New research shows that despite inflation and price increases on pet food, owners continue to want the best for their pets." (2/1/24 Feed and Additive Magazine)

Yet, despite the best food, daily walks, and lots of love, dogs do not live as long as we do. "Dog's lives are too short. Their only fault, really." ~Agnes Sligh Turnbull. Their only fault, indeed. Losing a beloved pet is heartbreaking. Often, it is a long, drawn-out process. First, your pet slows down, and then it stops eating as much until it is no longer interested in walking and just

wants to sleep most of the time. Occasionally, they will rally and be the puppy you've always known, but those times become rarer as they age. It is then you must face the inevitable and prepare for your dog's demise.

I recently lost my nearly 14-year-old boy, Bernie, after a valiant fight against tumors invading his body. He went from being a hyper-energetic lab mix who loved running and playing in sprinklers to barely being able to walk. He was clearly in pain, so I prolonged his comfort level as long as I could with doggy ibuprofen, but when that no longer worked, I had to make some tough decisions. Given that he was a large dog, I could not bury him at home, so I knew I had to have him cremated.

I called several cremation businesses in the valley; the least expensive and truly the kindest (as it was the most difficult call to make, and I was blubbering like a baby) was Precious Pets Crematory in Amity. (503-435-9256) They were amazingly compassionate, sincere, and caring throughout the entire process. If your beloved pet passes at home, they will come to your home to pick up your pet at any time—weekends included—and then return the remains to you. If you have your pet euthanized, as I did to relieve Bernie from his pain, they will pick up your pet at the vet and then return the remains to the vet for you to pick up. Precious Pets Crematory does not euthanize pets, so you must make arrangements with your vet for that.

The price of cremation is contingent on your pet's weight. You also have the option of having your pet's remains returned in a beautifully carved wooden box with a Certificate of Cremation and a keepsake clay paw print, which you bake yourself. The paw print is returned to you as soft clay, so you can engrave your pet's name, paint it, or decorate it in any way you like prior to baking it into a solid keepsake. We all know ashes and keepsakes can't replace our beloved pets, but they are a special reminder of the incredible bond we share with our fur babies, a bond that hasn't been broken in over 14,000 years.

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Willamina Library Has a New Group to Help Support All the Activities

Announcing the formation of Love Our Library, a Friends of the Library organization. They are a 501c3 organization established in December 2023. Through advocacy, engagement, and support, they assist the Willamina Public Library in strengthening the quality of life for the people in our community. Having a Friends group will expand the library's funding opportunities as many grants and fundraising activities are open only to organizations with non-profit status. It also provides the library with a support team of volunteers dedicated to our wonderful library! Their short-term goals include sponsoring the library's events and activities, holding book

sales, and hosting FUNdraising events. Their long-term goal is to raise funds for a larger, improved library building! They are currently seeking members to join in their mission. An annual membership invites you to their regular meetings, special invites to fundraising events and activities throughout the year, and an annual swag bag of LOL goodies. You can also make a one-time or recurring tax-deductible donation and indicate the area you would like to support to sustain the library programs. If you want to become a member, donate, or volunteer with the group, please visit them at www.lolwillamina.org or stop by the Library Monday through Thursday, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.



Word Scramble

Use the letters and clues below to unscramble the words related to chocolate. Place the letters from the circles on the dashes at the bottom to solve the last remaining word.



C A E L R E



U P R Y S



A W R E F



N P I G P O T

Cocoa, the bean used to make Chocolate is technically this kind of food.



Last weeks answers

Respect - World - Friendly - Better - Brownie

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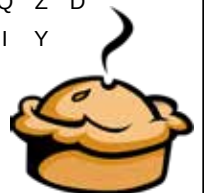
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 OREO
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 PECAN
 PIZZA
 POT
 PUMPKIN
 SHPHERD
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 STRAWBERRYRHUBARB
 SWEET POTATO



3.14159265359



Come Enjoy Some Delightful Celtic Music on St. Patrick's Day



Swan Hall at 242 Main Street in Willamina, will be hosting a traditional 4-piece Irish band. Admission is \$15 with Irish beef stew and soda bread included, \$5 for kids 12 and under. The music will be from 6-9pm. Purchase tickets at <https://www.ubmeevents.com/event/c1ba526f-7d06-4b5b-a0e3-cd-147f05ab1f>.

Lee's Green Frog Brings Ramen Noodles to Town

It started a while back with a sign in a window on Main Street. Then, once the main sign got its face lift back in the middle of February, talk grew in a local Facebook group: "Is the ramen place open now?" The unfortunate answer was no, not yet, anyway.

Tim Lee, owner of Lee's Green Frog, said there were still a few things that needed to be put into place, some training that still needed to be completed, and a few test runs before he would announce an official opening. Just last week, he finally had a date, and now that day is upon us, having been set for this Friday, March 15. But you do not have to wait for Friday, as a full menu soft open started March 12, as they polish the final touches for the Grand Opening.

Ramen & Rice	
#1 Veggie Ramen	Non-seared, wakame, corn, bamboo shoot, herb tofu, broccoli, beanitos, green onion and eggie broth
#2 Tonkotsu Ramen	Non-seared, wakame, corn, bamboo shoot, cashu pork, ramen egg, green onion and rich pork bone broth
#3 Tonkotsu Shoyu Ramen	Non-seared, wakame, corn, bamboo shoot, cashu pork, ramen egg, green onion and rich pork bone broth with soy sauce flavor
#4 Miso Ramen	Non-seared, wakame, corn, bamboo shoot, cashu pork, ramen egg, green onion and rich pork bone broth with miso flavor
#5 Spicy Miso Ramen	Non-seared, wakame, corn, bamboo shoot, cashu pork, ramen egg, green onion and rich pork bone broth with spicy miso flavor
#6 Black Garlic Tonkotsu Shoyu Ramen	Non-seared, wakame, corn, bamboo shoot, cashu pork, ramen egg, green onion, and rich pork bone broth with black garlic soy sauce
#7 Tan Tan Ramen	Non-seared, wakame, corn, bamboo shoot, ground pork, ramen egg, green onion and spicy tan tan sauce
#8 Seafood Ramen	Non-seared, shrimp, squid, scallops, crab, broccoli, green onions, with seafood broth
#9 Mala Spicy Shoyu Ramen	Non-seared, wakame, corn, bamboo shoot, cashu pork, ramen egg, green onion and rich pork bone broth with mala spicy flavor
#10 Shrimp Fried Rice	White rice, eggs, shrimp and green onions
#11 Yakisoba	Yakisoba noodles, cabbage, carrots, green onions, teriyaki sauce and choice of pork or chicken
#12 Chicken Teriyaki Bowl	Non-seared chicken, white rice, seared broccoli, green onion, sesame seeds and teriyaki sauce
#13 Pork Fried Rice	White rice, eggs, pork and green onions

Ramen and rice menu that will be available at Lee's Green Frog



Lee's Green Frog is getting a new sign installed (February 16) for the Ramen Noodles restaurant, which will open this Friday, March 15.

Amity's Annual Daffodil Festival Set For March 30

Amity's Daffodil Festival will be held from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. on Saturday, March 30 at the Amity Community Center, located at 401 S. Trade Street in Amity. Numerous varieties of daffodils showcased by the Oregon Daffodil Society.

If interested in participating, home-grown daffodils can be brought to be judged. The judging will begin at 1 p.m.

Plants can be purchased and vendors with garden themed items and art will be there.

There will be children's art, floral and garden art displayed throughout.

During the day the towns restaurants will be open serving a variety of foods, along with wine tastings at local wineries and tasting rooms.

All are welcome to come and celebrate the small town festival.

For more information call 503-435-8589 or email rainflow-er94@gmail.com.



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Barbara Hofenbredt
Principal Broker/Owner
Cell: 503-910-9261
barbhofenbredt@yahoo.com

NEW LISTING!

Out of town on almost one acre, two bedroom, one bath, new appliances. Living room has new ductless ac/heating unit and woodstove. Two car carport with storage above, one car garage was turned into a storage/workshop. Grand Ronde \$325,000.

SALE PENDING!

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

NEW LISTING!

Enjoy this single level home on .60ac. 4 bed, 1bath, 2car carport. Many updates include propane furnace, propane tank, electrical panel, plumbing, ducting, vapor barrier, septic. Stainless steel appliances including gas range about three years old. New gutters and siding. 36x28 shop/barn, 15x9 shed. Willamina \$435,000.

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.

Churches United for West Valley

Please join us for a stew lunch and

Dessert

AUCTION

March 17, 2024 at Noon

Trinity Lutheran Church, Fellowship Hall
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The stew lunch is FREE. If you would like, you can bring a dessert for the auction, but it is not necessary.

All proceeds go towards helping our West Valley communities.

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 Sunday Morning Worship-10:45 am

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The Yamhill County Cultural Coalition is composing a comprehensive list of all cultural resources and assets in Yamhill County.

musical-culinary-dance-painters-historians writers-animators-theater-jewelers-sculptors photographers-pottery-poets-woodworking

All artists are asked to contact YCCC:
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SHERIDAN CUB SCOUT PACK 215

Our annual Cub Scout Pack 215 Cake Auction is
March 18th from 6pm-8pm.

Each scout will be making a Disney-themed cake to be auctioned off to the highest bidder!

Dinner will be provided, but dessert is on you!

Monday, March 18th, 2024
Sheridan Baptist Church
6PM - 8PM

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Sheridan Soars Higher than eagles to Win Championship

Pendleton – It was winged predator under glass (or in a basket) a la Samples for the Sheridan High School boys basketball team at the OSAA-U.S. Bank class A state championship last week.

Yoncalla Eagles – beheaded Thursday night, 84-55. The Harrisburg Eagles – plucked Friday night, 65-50. When it was their turn to face the Spartans in the championship game Saturday night, the Santiam Christian Eagles should have realized they were a flock of birds whose goose was about to be cooked.

Down 4-0 early in the first quarter, Sheridan head coach Larry Samples called a timeout after his team turned the ball over a second time, the rest was Class A basketball history.

The coach's son, Steve, then teamed up with Mike Sisk and a stingy Spartan defense to give Sheridan a 17-6 lead over Santiam Christian at the end of the first period. The pair would each score 10 points by the end of the half and Samples would make two of his four three-point shots in the game. Sisk led the team in rebounds against Santiam Christian with 14.

Casey Claus, usually outstanding for the Sparts at the boards, was plagued by foul trouble (the same happened the night before) and the coach had no option but to bench his best rebounder.

"Casey didn't have the number of rebounds he would have had. He sat out the entire third quarter of the game," said coach Samples.

Shane Spencer, another key defensive player for the Spartans, had the flu and was not a factor in the first two championship

games. But the coach said Sponder "picked up the team" in the second half of the title game. Just the spark Sheridan needed.

Samples, coining a descriptive phrase he read in an article about his team, categorized his team's play Saturday night as "sizzling." Sheridan maintained an eight to 10-point lead throughout the game – it wasn't even close. The score was 22-14 at the half, 34-24 in the third quarter, and the buzzer signaled trophy time for the Spartans as the scoreboard read 55-38. There was no doubt the Sparts were state champs.

And just so there is no misunderstanding, the team did not feast on roast Eagle after the game, they ordered out for pizza from their hotel room.

Both Samples and Sisk made the all-star team. Samples' 11 three-point shots tied a state record for the number of three pointers scored during a Class A championship tournament. However, as his proud father pointed out, Samples was 11 of 17 from the three-point range while his co-record holder, Bret Witcraft of Chiloquin, was 11 of 38.

The reaction of the team members to their once in a lifetime accomplishment could be summed in one word, "stunned."

"It was basically the greatest experience in my life. I've always dreamed of going to the state championships ever since I went there with my dad. Winning the state title made it platinum," said Stave Samples.

"It was really great. I never played a better game. I was so intense. I think the team played the best three games of their lives.



Champion Spartan basketball team holds up winner's bracket sign after winning the Class A title in Pendleton last Saturday by defeating Santiam Christian in a final that pitted two teams from the tough West Valley League.

We played as a team. When Mike (Sisk) was hot, we'd get the ball to him; and when Casey (Claus) was hot, we'd get it to him. Well, I'll just say we worked to get the ball where it was needed to get it into the hoop. When we won we went crazy. Some players went to the dance. But when we got back to the hotel, we ordered pizza. We went to bed around 3 or 4 a.m." Samples recounted the victory night.

Samples scored a game high 24 points in the title game. Sisk scored 21 points for the Sparts.

"When we came back (to Sheridan) we had a police escort from Bellevue. The town did a great job welcoming us home," Samples said.

"The best feeling of my life came (Monday) at school. The student

body was going crazy and stuff, it was great knowing you were the best in the state," Samples concluded.

Interviewed after the awards were handed out Saturday night, Sisk had this to say about the final game of the championship season.

"The whole thing was waiting. We never felt like we had it, ever."

Claus, who was found on the bench clutching the OSAA trophy and staring at it in disbelief, later said:

"It hit me about 30 seconds before the game ended. We're state champs! Oh God, it's just incredible. I was pretty happy, though, when I saw we had the 10-point lead. Mike and Steve had great games."



Champion Spartan basketball team holds up winner's bracket sign after winning the Class A title in Pendleton last Saturday by defeating Santiam Christian in a final that pitted two teams from the tough West Valley League.



Sheridan's Gary Daniels cheers on guess who? At the Class A championship in Pendleton.

New Artists and Vendors at Local Spring Bazaar

Sheridan Christmas Committee put on a Spring Bazaar last weekend that featured many local artists, vendors, and non-profit organizations. While there was a slew of returning vendors, some newcomers brought their goods for the first time to this event and even their first-ever event.

Harmony New Beginnings Animal Rescue had its first showing, though having been in the area since August 2011. They use the platform to raise awareness and bring in much-needed funding for their Sheridan-based non-profit animal rescue organization that works with multiple counties and individuals with little limitation on the type of animal they rescue. You can visit hnbar.org to learn more about what they do.

Another new vendor doing their first event ever was Deborah Moltzen from Lincoln City, who picked up her wire craft tree hobby two years ago. She started using her talent to give gifts to friends and family until she decided to see if her hobby could support itself by selling them at events like this.



Deborah Moltzen displays her wire craft tree art at the Spring Bazaar.



Volunteers for HNBAR, Cassie Muravez and Outreach Coordinator Jeanette Jones, bring awareness and funding for the animal rescue group.



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