

FREE
Take One!

West Valley Bulletin Board

February 25, 2026 Weekly Publication Serving Sheridan, Willamina, and Grand Ronde Vol. 12, No. 3

Nicole Pugh and Matthew Huegli Owners • bulletinwestvalley@gmail.com • (503) 687-3000 • 136 E. Main Street, Sheridan

Treedemption Gardens Hits Milestone With 200th Tree

Treedemption Gardens, located just east of Sheridan, by the Chevron gas station and Dairy Queen, hit a milestone in their fourth year of existence.

“Natty” Dave Stearns, owner of the garden with a work-to-live attitude, brings that same energy to the six-acre farm that he originally opened in 2022.

The farm has a unique focus on

permaculture gardening, a holistic, regenerative approach to agriculture that mimics natural ecosystems, where plants work together to thrive, versus competing for nutrients and real-estate as they grow.

Treedemption held a grand reopening in September 2024, when Natty Dave ushered in a new indoor plant section to

boost their already diverse line of outdoor, indigenous to the Pacific Northwest plant selection. “The nursery here has over a hundred different varieties of edible and medicinal plants now. We’re doing pollinators, common cooking herbs, sage, native flowers, and a lot of different perennial foods like sun-chokes,” Dave reported.

The garden took little time to gain momentum towards its goal of 500 trees, hitting the 100th-tree mark three years after opening. “We had a little mini-party, it just kind of hap-

pened,” Dave said of getting 1/5th of the way to their end goal.

The garden, with its growing tribe of friends and other gardening enthusiasts, worked in that time to clear out brush, blackberries, and other natural and unnatural boundaries that blocked the path of the growing garden.

With that extra work clearing the ground, it took just six months after the 100th tree to double that number. With a group of over 20 there to celebrate the event, Treedemption planted its 200th tree in the ground, choosing a peach tree for the milestone. While Dave was off getting the soil to fill the hole of tree 200, one eager member of the group, not wanting to slow the momentum and figuring one more towards the goal was warranted, picked up the pick mattock, and got to work on making a hole for tree number 201.

After the trees were planted, members gathered for snacks and refreshments to help celebrate the day.



The “tribe” collects around the 200th tree planted on Sunday to celebrate the milestone. It took three years to plant tree number 100, but only six months to get to tree 200 of their 500 tree goal.



“Natty” Dave Stearns (left), along with a young helper, pulls a peach tree out of its pot before planting it into the ground. This tree marks the 200th tree planted at Treedemption Gardens just east of Sheridan.



FREE
COMMUNITY
DINNER

Please join us for spaghetti, rolls, salad, and dessert!

📍 Sheridan United Methodist Church
234 N Bridge St.
Sheridan, OR 97378

🕒 **Saturday, February 28th**
5:00pm to 7:00pm

Everyone is welcome!



FREE!
CHILI FEED
&
BASKET AUCTION

@ Willamina Free Methodist Church

Music
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SAT
MARCH 14TH
5PM TO 7PM

BULLETIN BOARD CLASSIFIEDS

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CITY OF WILLAMINA Employment Opportunity (open until filled)

Job Title: Community Support and Code Enforcement Officer

Starting Salary: \$22.54/hour

Department: City Hall

Reports to: City Manager FLSA

Status: 40 hours/week, Non-Exempt

Remote work: Not eligible for remote work

Bargaining Unit: LiUNA Local 737

SUMMARY: The Community Support and Code Enforcement Officer generally performs the following duties:

Conducts investigations to determine compliance with City Ordinances and the City's Development Code and responds to complaints from community members regarding non-compliance.

They act as the liaison between the City and the Yamhill County Sheriff's Office Deputies on contract with the City in regard to active cases; attend and testify on behalf of the City at the Willamina Municipal Court; and assist citizens, community members, and visitors to the City of Willamina as needed.

Coordinates security matters for the City of Willamina. Assists with emergency operations liaison tasks, supporting coordination between City departments and emergency response partners as needed.

Serves as the Internal Safety Committee Lead for the City, promoting workplace safety initiatives and facilitating safety compliance efforts across departments.

They will perform a variety of administrative, clerical, and technical duties.

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School Board

The Willamina School District is seeking candidates to fill the following positions: 1 - School Board position (#3) until 6/30/2029. Three Budget Committee volunteer positions. If interested in any position or would like more information, please contact the District Office 503-876-1500. Information also available on our website www.willamina.k12.or.us.

Venue Bid Wanted

Sheridan Chamber of Commerce Bid Request for Gala Venue

The Sheridan Chamber of Commerce is seeking bid requests for its annual Gala, to be held at the end of May.

Venue requirements consist of:

- 2,500-3,500 square feet at least to accommodate approximately 150 guests.
- Parking for roughly 75-100 vehicles.
- No limitations on serving alcohol at the event.
- Power is available to at least one area of the event.
- Available placement for 4-5 portable bathrooms.
- Terrain suitable for those with mobility issues.
- Preferably in or around the City of Sheridan.

The Sheridan Chamber will be responsible for providing all other equipment, personnel, and necessities, such as bathroom rentals, needed for the event; the bidder will provide the space and electricity.

Send information about location and bids to sheridanchamberofcommerce@gmail.com or mail bid offer to Sheridan Chamber of Commerce, 136 E Main St., Sheridan, OR, 97378.

Volunteers Needed

Northwest Senior and Disability Services is seeking volunteer help at our Sheridan location to deliver meals to home bound seniors and help in our kitchen. We deliver meals three days a week and would like additional help at least one day a week. Our volunteers are eligible for a hot meal on the days they work and mileage is reimbursed. Please feel free to call (503) 843-2000 and learn more.

Services

Three Feathers General Labor - Property cleanup, junk removal, pressure washing, landscaping, painting, retaining walls, tree removal, gutter cleaning, and more. Call/Text 503-857-9176. (p 3/25)

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

Shaun Wagler offers many services, including: house/pet sitting, personal mover, lawn care, car detailing, pressure washing, designated driver, scrap removal, wood/brush cutting, gutter cleaning, trash removal, and more. Call 971-241-4860 or email shaunwagler1@yahoo.com to discuss your needs today. (12/30)

For Sale

You're pretty darn awesome for supporting small business. Thank you! Main Street Books Revisited, 142 E. Main St., Sheridan. Open 11 a.m. - 6 p.m., Thursday through Saturday.

Farm fresh eggs in Willamina \$5 per dozen. Text Tim at 503-560-7418

Fresh daffodils, 15 stems per bunch for \$3. Stand located at 23550 SW Loganberry Ln, Sheridan

Wanted

Infant/Toddler Car Seat Wanted. Call 971-506-8450 to donate.

Estate Sales

McMinnville Sale - organized by The Rusty Trunk LLC, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m., Friday and Saturday, February 27-28, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m., Sunday, March 1, 19700 OR-18 Hwy, McMinnville. More info and photos at www.estatesales.org or call 503-407-6615. (f2/23)

Garage Sale 11 a.m. to 6 p.m., Feb.27- March 2. 102 NE Cherry Hill Rd. Furniture, collectibles, outdoor garden and more. Fundraiser for the surviving daughter.

Employment

Willamina School District Employment Opening

Custodian: Needed ASAP for the swing shift 3 PM - 11:30 PM. M-F 12-month position. Previous custodial experience preferred.

A full job description is available by contacting the District Office at 503-876-1500. Applications are available on our website or at the District Office and can be emailed to craig.johnson@willamina.k12.or.us and april.johnson@willamina.k12.or.us.

If you are interested in this position or would like further information, please contact Craig Johnson, Maintenance Supervisor 503-437-1620.

River Park Senior Living is now hiring caregivers, housekeepers, and a maintenance worker. Wage DOE. Come in to apply or email your resume to patty.angus@ag-ingways.com. (c)

Help wanted Sheridan IGA deli, experience preferred but not required. Please bring resume to Megan at Sheridan IGA to apply.

For Rent

Office Space for Rent, Two rooms, & Restroom Utilities included \$600/month 971-241-0283

Large commercial space for lease downtown Sheridan. Includes separate office space, kitchen and ADA bathrooms. Call 503-480-5121 for more info.

Sheridan, two bedroom, one bath, double wide mobile home in small park, new, carport, includes appliances. Rent is \$1465. You need excellent non smoker references please. Text only 971-237-7745



West Valley Bulletin Board
503-687-3000
Post Your FREE Garage Sale Ad

Sheridan Museum Hosts Chamber Meeting

The Sheridan Chamber of Commerce held its second meeting for the month of February this last Friday at the Sheridan Museum of History.

The host for this meeting was the Sheridan Museum of History itself. The organization that graciously opens its doors every third Friday of the month to allow the chamber to meet when businesses or organizations do not have the space to host themselves, or are not from the Sheridan area.

Joining the chamber at this meeting was Steven Quick of SQ Merchant Services in Tigard. Steven, who was invited to the chamber after meeting Chamber President John Stanislaw at an event in Wilsonville, was given some extra time to let the chamber know what his business does and how it can help with other businesses and organizations in the community.

SQ Merchant Services specializes in merchant services and card processing, working to lower, if not remove, the processing fees associated with accepting card payments at a business. The company won the 2018 Oregon Better Business Bureau (BBB) Torch Award for Ethics, sits on the board of the BBB, as well as the Sherwood Chamber of Commerce, and has ten chambers as clients of his business.

Sheridan Chamber President John Stanislaw announced the host of the meeting with his special way of introducing each host, jokingly stating, "As many of you know, one of the great benefits of sponsoring one of these meetings is now we bar the doors, and you're all locked in for the last 15 minutes, a captive audience for the host."

Sheridan Museum volunteers and board members Marilyn Levy and Marianne Thomson were hosting on behalf of the museum. Marianne opened the presentation, stating that the main mission of the museum is to keep Sheridan's history engaging and accessible to everyone. "We want to be more than a place where we keep dusty artifacts, so there is a lot going on here at the museum," she said.

She went on to discuss the museum's continuous fundraising efforts to keep the doors open, preserve the history of the City and surrounding areas, and to author in more events, groups, and interests in the museum.

One of the ways they raise money is by selling publications

about history, including those created by the museum itself. They announced an addition to their publication section that they are working on, a coloring book based on historical figures and locations of the City of Sheridan, such as the rodeo, boat races, a page with a soda fountain run by Marilyn Levy's family, and much more. The museum is working with the West Valley Bulletin Board to get the book printed and bound so the museum can add it to its other publications. She mentioned that they still have calendars for 2026 and history books on Sheridan still for sale.

Marianne expressed, "We try to make the museum available for community events," adding that the museum never charges for events it hosts. She mentioned a pinochle group, which includes around 16 players, has been using the museum to play. She mentioned the old-timers who frequently hang out at the museum, enjoying cookies, coffee, and chatter every Saturday. "If you can't find it in a book (information), they probably know, and they're always willing to talk and help. They love to tell you stories," she said about the group of regulars.

Marilyn announced that the museum just acquired a cane-back rocking chair that belonged to Samuel Buell II, nephew to Elias Buell (1797-1871), whose house still sits on Mill Creek Rd., and for whom the area of Buell is named. Marilyn said that cane-back rockers became very popular in the 1860s. She also noted that their pharmacy displays have broadened from folks who no longer have independent pharmacies. "We keep growing our displays," she added.

Marilyn also mentioned a roll-top desk that the museum will

be bringing in, which used to belong to E.W. Hast at the drugstore, once they organize the best way to get it from Troutdale to Sheridan.

She stated that the biggest need for the museum is volunteers when it is open on Saturday. Marianne added, stating, "I hesitated to volunteer because I thought, I don't know what happens here. Finds out, you don't need to know it right off the bat in order to do this, because, again, there's always folks at the table. If you know where to send people, that's pretty good. You're going to learn a lot as you participate."

Marianne said that there are a lot of different ways to help, pointing out one of their sponsorship plaques in a section of the museum. People can sponsor an area or display in the museum, with the choice of a one or two-year sponsorship. A one-year sponsorship runs \$100, while the two-year option is \$175. Sponsors will have their own plaque hung in the section sponsored to show who is supporting the museum.

Marilyn, towards the end of their presentation, expressed that she would like to see more of the younger generation get involved at the museum.

After their presentation, the chamber asked what their specific favorite part of the museum was. Marianne stated that the research section, which houses newspapers, some dating back to the late 1800s, was her favorite. While Marilyn said, "Most of this stuff is my favorite."

For those interested in taking a look back and learning more about the City of Sheridan, or learning how to sponsor, volunteer, or become a member, the museum is open from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. every Saturday.



Marilyn Levy (blue) and Marianne Thomson (white) of the Sheridan Museum of History hosted the Sheridan Chamber meeting Friday. The two presented to the chamber what the organization is doing to raise funds to keep the history of the City of Sheridan alive.

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Registration includes ATF
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20% bidder premium
Age Requirements:
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Limited space — *40 bidders only*
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McMenamins to Hold FCS Friends and Family Night

McMenamins Hotel in McMinnville will host a Friends and Family Night fundraiser from 5 p.m. to close on Tuesday, March 10. Fifty percent of sales from the night will be donated to the Faulconer-Chapman School. McMenamins is located on the corner of 3rd and Evans at 310 NE Evans St., McMinnville.

Centennial Cookbook Reprint, Order Your Presale Copy Now

The Fourth of July Committee is excited to announce a second printing of the beloved Original 4th of July Centennial Cookbook. Whether you missed it the first time or want an extra copy for gifting, now is your chance to secure one. Presale ends April 1, and books are expected to arrive just in time for Mother's Day a perfect gift for the cooks and memory-makers in your life. Simply scan the QR code or enter <https://forms.gle/iJFsiLM-HKaXmfwTg7> to access the electronic order form, or email Willamina4thofJuly@gmail.com to request a paper form you can print and mail. You can also connect with any committee member to purchase your copy. Cookbooks are \$30 each don't wait, these are sure to go quickly again. Thank you for supporting our cherished small-town traditions.



Warm Fuzzies

The Sheridan Museum of History extends its heartfelt gratitude to Dick Jordan.

Sheridan Museum members and volunteers would like to send a huge, collective thank you to Dick Jordan for his historic photo presentation last Saturday, Feb. 21. With a packed house in the Sheridan High School "cafetorium," and his photos displayed beautifully on the enormous movie screen provided by the Sheridan Rotary Club, the event was a spectacular success. Everyone in attendance learned a great deal about our history dating back to Sheridan's founders, all enriched by Dick's personal memories and wonderful stories.

The museum would also like to thank Dick for the countless maps, notes, and names he has added to the backs of so many of these historic photos that help community members and visitors understand when and where the photos were taken.

We are endlessly grateful for your support and encouragement of the museum and its volunteers. Because of the sheer volume of photos you have provided, anyone can visit the museum on any given Saturday to see and appreciate our shared history.

For all you have generously contributed over the years, we extend our deepest thanks. You are truly a Sheridan treasure, and you have our warmest appreciation.

Your friends and fans at the Sheridan Museum of History

My boss told me to have a good day... So I went home.

A Message from the Sheridan Superintendent

Dear Sheridan Residents,

Classified staff are the steady heartbeat of Sheridan Schools. While teachers and administrators often receive the most visible recognition, our schools simply could not function without these dedicated professionals working behind the scenes every day to feed, support and communicate with our students and families. Classified employees who keep our schools running smoothly include instructional assistants, office staff, librarians, custodians, nutrition services workers, health and medication support, and many others.

Members of the Nutritional team are the first to arrive each morning at 5 A.M. to ensure each student has access to a delicious breakfast and lunch that also meets their nutritional needs.

Custodians arrive at 5:30 and 6 A.M., to make sure buildings are safe, clean and ready for the day.

Instructional assistants help students succeed in classrooms, cafeterias, and playgrounds by building trusting relationships, especially those who need extra support, encouragement, or stability.

Throughout the buildings classified employees also serve in various other supportive roles. They can be found in the front offices of each building, on the playground or dispensing items ranging from ice packs and bandages to the books in the library. Employees in these roles create a critical connection between students, families and schools, greeting students and guests each morning, answering calls and assisting teachers.

Together, these employees create the structure and environment that allows educators to focus on teaching.

Recognizing and supporting classified staff is essential to strengthening Sheridan schools. Their work is not secondary—it is foundational. When classified employees are valued, students thrive, schools operate effectively, and our community grows stronger.

March 2-6 is Classified School Employees week and I hope you will join me next week in taking every opportunity to thank each of them for their service and work for students, and for the future of Sheridan.

Sincerely,
Dorie Vickery Ed. D,
Superintendent

Sheridan School District
School District Office: 971-261-6959
Sheridan High School: 971-261-6970

WEST VALLEY COMMUNITY CAMPUS

Greetings Gardeners!

The West Valley Community Campus Community Garden is opening up for the 2025 season on March 1, 2026, to



anyone who would like to sign up for one of our spaces. We have 12 raised beds of various sizes plus four round planters, and we are working on preparing some ground space for gardening as well. Please contact us through email, info@westvalleycommunitycampus.org or call at 503-929-4037 and leave a message. We will call you or write you back to add you to our list of interested gardeners when we open up for the new season and send you further details for signing up. We have been working on preparing our garden spaces through the winter and are excited to offer these spaces to all! Please check out our Facebook page and our website to see past and present pictures of our garden!

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Amity Art Collective Seeking Artists for Tour

The second Annual Amity Art Collective Tour has issued a Call to Artists to participate in the studio tour that will take place the weekend of May 15-17 in Amity.

Amity Art Collective reported that this free, self-guided journey through open studios and inspired spaces with local artists was a successful event last year, with over 14 open studios and 25 local artists.

This year, the collective hopes to engage even more artists, including high school artists. The public is invited to participate in the tour and witness creativity in motion, explore works-in-progress, engage in conversations, and discover the soul behind every piece of art. Applications for this juried show are open and can be found at www.amityartcollectivetour.com or by emailing info@amityartcollectivetour.com before March 15. Application cost is \$70, and \$25 for students.

Bulldog Wrestling Sends Two More to State Meet

The Willamina Bulldogs' wrestling squad will be sending two more wrestlers to the state championship tournament after the girls finished their OSAA Girls 4A/3A/2A/1A Special District 1 championship this last weekend in Molalla.

Joining Adonija Stanton, Eden Stanton, Grayson Hubbard, Jacob Bazy, Kisor Savage, and Landon Risseeuw, who all qualified at the OSAA 3A Special District 1 tournament the week before, will be Kelsea Gray and Paige Baker.

Gray placed 3rd in the 125-pound bracket, and Baker won district champion in the 190-pound division. The team finished the tournament picking up 13th place in the 38-team tournament.

The OSAA State Championship meet will take place from Thursday, February 26, to Saturday, February 28, at Veteran Memorial Coliseum in Portland.

You can track the team's progress on www.flowwrestling.org and searching for OSAA State.



Hit The Sweet Spot With Homemade Bread



Many people have a passion for baking. Baking can be a rewarding hobby and fill a home with an aroma that's unique, welcoming and instantly identifiable.

There's no shortage of options when the desire to bake arises. Homemade bread is a go-to among baking enthusiasts, who can whip up a loaf of this "Sweet Potato Bread" courtesy of Lines+Angles.

Sweet Potato Bread

Makes 1 loaf

1 1/2 cups granulated sugar

1/4 cup canola oil

2 eggs

1 3/4 cups sifted all-purpose flour

1 teaspoon baking soda

1/4 teaspoon salt

1/2 teaspoon ground cinnamon

1/2 teaspoon ground nutmeg

1/3 cup water

1 cup cooked and mashed sweet potatoes

1/2 cup shelled chopped pecans or walnuts

In Addition:

Pure maple syrup, for drizzling

Whipped cream, to serve

1. Preheat oven to 350 F. Coat a 9- by 5-inch loaf pan with non-stick cooking spray.

2. In a large bowl, combine sugar and oil; beat well. Add eggs, one at a time and beat between each addition. In a separate bowl, combine flour, baking soda, salt, cinnamon, and nutmeg. Stir flour mixture into egg mixture alternately with water. Stir in mashed sweet potatoes and chopped nuts.

3. Pour batter into prepared loaf pan. Bake for about one hour, or until a cake tester inserted into the center of the bread comes out clean.

4. Cool in the pan for 5 minutes and turn out onto a wire rack to cool further. Slice and serve with maple syrup and whipped cream.



Sheridan Family Chiropractic

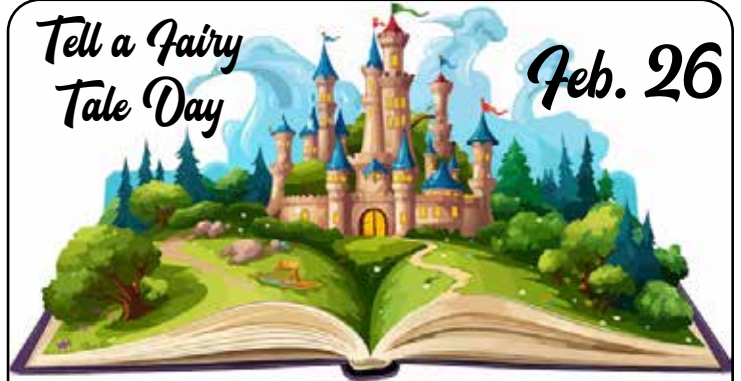
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Tell a Fairy Tale Day

Feb. 26



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QUEEN

RAPUNZEL

ROBIN HOOD

RUMPELSTILTSKIN

SLEEPING BEAUTY

SNOW WHITE

THUMBELINA

TROLLS

WITCH

Word Scramble

Use the letters and clues below to unscramble the words related to National Chili Day (February 26). Place the letters from the circles on the dashes at the bottom to solve the last remaining word.

○ □ □ □ □
C P Y I S

□ □ □ ○ □ □ □ □
C E X I M O

□ □ □ □ □ ○ □ □
D R O P E W

□ ○ □ □ □ □ □
C A S E U

What state has chili as its official dish?

□ ○ □ □ □
W E S T



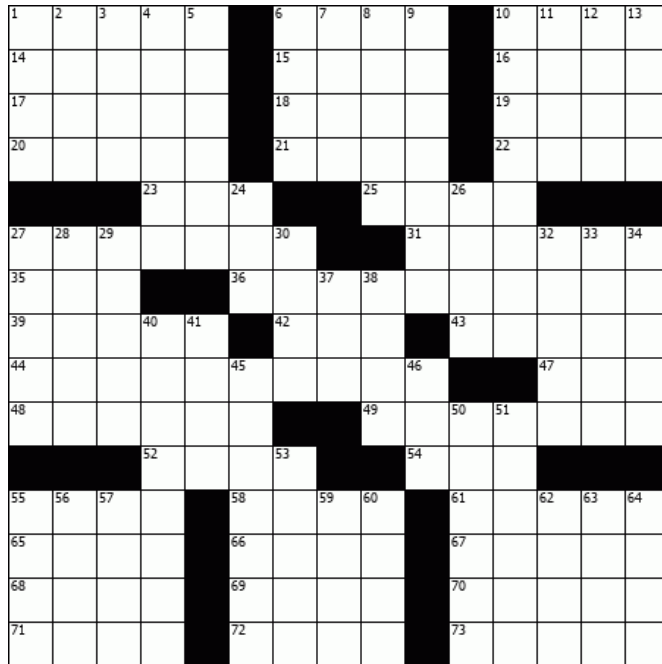
Last weeks answers
Breakfast, Baked, Flour, Dough, Pastry

○ ○ ○ ○ ○

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

Across

1. Bellows
6. Adrift
10. She, in Valencia
14. Consent
15. Yearn
16. Big cat
17. Shoe spike
18. Average skirt
19. Give off
20. Baker's need
21. Narrow opening
22. Barn ornament
23. Bullring cheer
25. Stop sleeping
27. Sickness
31. Gets uptight
35. Poor mark
36. Liike a downpour
39. Pile up
42. Musical twosome
43. The ones here
44. Friendly toward guests
47. Neckline shape
48. Shaquille and Tatum
49. Least fatty
52. Bat



Down

1. Bawdy
2. Eye amorously
3. Neighborhood
4. Motive
5. Decide
6. Gifts to charity
7. Dirt
8. Bestow
9. Stir up
10. ___ hour (last possible moment)
11. South American capital
12. Pork cut
13. Initial bet
24. Washington, DC time zone
26. Clark ___ (Superman)
27. Potato state
28. Citrus fruit
29. Rental agreement
30. Soft drink
32. Strainer
33. Relieves
34. Icy precipitation
37. Buff
38. Bakery item
40. Astronaut
41. Window part
45. Giant wave
46. Poetic dusk
50. Biblical mount
51. Character
53. Termite, e.g.
55. Reverberate
56. Percussion instrument
57. Strong gust
59. Fine fabric
60. Has brunch
62. Pub brews
63. Gave temporarily
64. Ages

Horoscopes Feb. 25 - Mar. 3

ARIES - Mar 21/Apr 20

Unleash your inner architect, Aries. Your focus is laser sharp this week. Use this incredible mental clarity to map out a long-term goal that can lead to professional success.

TAURUS - Apr 21/May 21

Taurus, you might uncover a previously unnoticed talent or find a fantastic, easy way to increase your income stream. Your instincts about finances are particularly sharp.

GEMINI - May 22/June 21

You are stepping into a week of elevated confidence and personal magnetism, Gemini. It's the perfect time to make a splash, meet new people or launch a personal project.

CANCER - Jun 22/Jul 22

This week brings soothing energy, allowing you to find deep comfort and resolution with any lingering personal matters. A moment of quiet reflection will bring a profound realization about your path forward.

LEO - Jul 23/Aug 23

Your social connections are bringing incredible joy and opportunity, Leo. A friend or colleague has valuable information that can directly benefit your goals.

VIRGO - Aug 24/Sept 22

All eyes are on your professional achievements, and recognition is due, Virgo. Expect positive feedback, a nod from an important figure or a chance to take on more responsibility.

LIBRA - Sept 23/Oct 23

This week ignites your desire for learning and adventure, Libra. If you've been putting off a trip or a new course of study, the time to commit is now.

SCORPIO - Oct 24/Nov 22

Complex issues feel manageable this week, Scorpio. You have the emotional intelligence to navigate and resolve long-standing challenges in shared resources or relationships.

SAGITTARIUS - Nov 23/Dec 21

Sagittarius, your one-on-one relationships, both personal and professional, are reaching a new peak of understanding and support. A shared goal with a key person becomes much clearer.

CAPRICORN - Dec 22/Jan 20

You feel a vibrant surge of energy and vitality this week, Capricorn. It's an ideal time to commit to a new health routine or simply enjoy the ease and flow of your daily tasks.

AQUARIUS - Jan 21/Feb 18

Dive into what sets your soul on fire, Aquarius. Your creative imagination is running wild, delivering innovative solutions and exciting ideas for self-expression.

PISCES - Feb 19/Mar 20

The cosmos is supporting your home and emotional life, Pisces. You feel a wonderful sense of security and belonging. It's a great time for connecting with your roots.

Dallas Man Booked On Multiple Felony Charges From Grand Ronde Incident

Press Release from:

Yamhill County Sheriff's Office

On February 14, 2026, just after 6 PM, Yamhill County Sheriff's Office deputies were dispatched to a local area hospital on a reported assault. The adult victim reported being assaulted, held against their will, strangled unconscious multiple times, beaten with a tree limb, and having a firearm discharged at them by the suspect while staying at a remote campsite in the Siuslaw National Forest off SW Little Hebo Road in rural Grand Ronde, OR. The victim was able to escape on foot and hid in the forest until they flagged down a passerby, who immediately transported them to the hospital for medical attention.

A YCSO Special Investigations Unit (SIU) detective was contacted to assist given the serious nature of the reported crimes, and a suspect, Travis William Ferguson, (47), of Dallas, OR was identified. A search warrant was obtained for evidence related to the reported crimes and later executed at the campsite.

YCSO deployed one of our newest assets, an armored Humvee, to ensure the safety of law enforcement on scene given the remote location of the campsite, and the information that a firearm had already been discharged toward the victim in this case. Ferguson was taken into custody without incident.

Travis Ferguson was lodged in

the Yamhill County Correctional Facility on:

- Attempted Murder 2nd Degree ORS 163.115
- Assault in the 2nd Degree ORS 163.175
- Strangulation (x 3) ORS 163.187
- Kidnapping in the 1st Degree ORS 163.235
- Unlawful Use of a Weapon (x 2) ORS 166.220
- Unauthorized Use of a Vehicle ORS 164.135
- Menacing ORS 163.190

The investigation is ongoing and additional criminal charges are expected after the case goes before a grand jury.

"This case highlights that serious crime, including crimes involving domestic violence, occurs across rural Oregon in remote locations where access to services and even reporting to law enforcement can be challenging. I am grateful for the efforts of my deputies and detectives, and our partner agencies, who were able to swiftly and safely apprehend this dangerous individual and bring the appropriate charging to the courts." - Sheriff Sam Elliott

We want to thank our partner law enforcement agencies who assisted with the search warrant service, which included McMinnville Police Department with a K9, Yamhill Police Department, Grand Ronde Tribal Police Department, and a Bureau of Land Management (BLM Oregon & Washington) Ranger.



Honoring Our Nation's 250th Anniversary

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Fascinating Facts About

James Madison (1751-1836)

- **Physical stature:** He was the shortest U.S. president, standing 5'4" and weighing roughly 100 pounds.
- **Nickname:** He was affectionately called "Jemmy."
- **Marriage:** He married Dolley Todd at age 43 after being introduced by Aaron Burr.
- **Pre-presidency:** He served as Secretary of State under Thomas Jefferson.
- **The Constitution:** He is the "Father of the Constitution" (despite having no law degree) because his Virginia Plan served as its model.
- **Convention notes:** He kept exhaustive notes of the Constitutional Convention, which the U.S. bought for \$30,000 after his death.
- **Presidency (1809-1817):** He served as the 4th U.S. President, a tenure heavily defined by the War of 1812.
- **White House fire:** First Lady Dolley Madison famously saved key documents and a portrait of George Washington before the British burned the capital.
- **VP turnover:** He is the only president to have had two vice presidents die while in office.
- **Legacy:** He was the last surviving Founding Father, passing away at age 85 in 1836.

Last issue's crossword solution

L	I	P	S		O	P	A	L		P	E	S	T	S	
I	D	E	A		G	L	U	E		A	D	O	R	E	
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S	T	O	R	E			S	E	E	R		S	P	O	T

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 Tuesday - Friday 10 a.m.-6 p.m.
 Saturday 10 a.m.-3 p.m.
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~Story Time~
 Fridays at 10:30 a.m.
 Feb. 27, Mar. 6,13,20,27
 Enjoy a story and craft!

~LEGO Challenge~
 Mar. 6 and 20, 3-5 p.m.
 March Challenges
 • Impractical Machine: Design a machine that is completely unnecessary or redundant
 • MegaFig: Make a larger version of a minifig.

~Adult Craft~
 March 14 at noon

~ Teen Time ~
 March 20 • Pre-Teen Movie Day3pm
 March 26 • Teen Movie Day4pm

~RPG Days~
 March 5,19 - 3:30 p.m.
 Come play tabletop RPGs, beginners welcome! This month's Current game is set in a futuristic, tongue-in-cheek setting full of guns, explosions and questionable decisions! All materials will be supplied. Ages 14+ Limited availability, call or come in to talk to Trevor to sign up.

~ Nintendo Switch ~
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COMMUNITY

March 2026

Monday			
Mar 2	7pm	Sheridan City Council	120 SW I
Tuesday			
Mar 3	Noon	Kiwanis	825 NE M
Mar 3	4:30pm	Book Club	Willamin
Mar 3	6pm	Friends of Sheridan Library Meeting	Sheridan
Thursday			
Mar 5	1:30pm	Municipal Court	120 SW I
Mar 5	3-4:30pm	Minecraft Gaming Club	Bridge Le
Mar 5	6pm	Sheridan Revitalization	Sheridan
Mar 5	6pm	Toastmasters	Willamin
Mar 5	6pm	Keegan Smith Memorial Basketball Game	Sheridan
Friday			
Mar 6	8-9:15am	Sheridan Chamber Breakfast	Sheridan
Saturday			
Mar 7	9:30am	West Valley Cheerleading Showcase	Sheridan
Mar 7	2pm	Fendall Hall Stew Feed & Pie Auction	37515 TI
Monday			
Mar 9	7pm	Sheridan Planning Commission	120 SW I
Mar 9	6pm	Sheridan Boosters	433 S Bri
Mar 9	7pm	Willamina School District Meeting	Live Stre
Mar 9	7pm	American Legion	125 N Br
Tuesday			
Mart 10	5pm	Friends and Family Night (Benefiting FCS)	McMena
Mar 10	6:30pm	Sheridan Fire Board	230 SW I
Mar 10	6pm	Willamina City Council	825 NE M
Wednesday			
Mar 11	6pm	Willamina 4th of July Committee	Willamin
Mar 11	6pm	West Valley Rotary Evening Meeting	Bennie H
Thursday			
Mar 12	4-5pm	Yamhill County Youth Advisory Council	Sheridan
Mar 12	5-6pm	Free Line Dancing at the Buell Grange	5970 Mill
Mar 12	6:30pm	Astronomy Club	Willamin
Mar 12	6:30	2nd Annual Jazz Night	Faulcone
Saturday			
Mar 14	Noon-2pm	A Steam Lab	Willamin
Mar 14	2pm	Bake Sale fundraiser 4th of July Committee	Best Stop
Mar 14	5pm	Chili Feed and Basket Auction Fundraiser	Willamin
Sunday			
Mar 15	Noon	Dessert Auction - Churches United for WV	Trinity Lu
Monday			
Mar 16	6pm	Hometown Days Meeting	Sheridan
Mar 16	7pm	Sheridan City Council	120 SW I
Mar 16	7pm	VFW	771 NE M
Tuesday			
Mar 17	12:30-5:30pm	Red Cross Blood Drive	
Mar 17	1pm	Lunch Bunch (to go lunches)	Sheridan
Mar 17	6-7pm	Sheridan High School Music Concert	Sheridan
Wednesday			
Mar 18	6pm	Sheridan School District Board	District C
Thursday			
Mar 19	3-4:30pm	Minecraft Gaming Club	Bridge Le
Mar 19	6pm	West Valley Fire District Board Meeting	825 NE M
Mar 19	6pm	Toastmasters	Willamin
Mar 19	5pm/6pm	Willamina Library Board Session/Meeting	Willamin
Mar 19	6pm	Sheridan Parks and Rec Meeting	120 SW I
Friday			
Mar 20	8-9:15am	Sheridan Chamber Breakfast	Sheridan
Monday			
Mar 23	Start	Sheridan and Willamina Spring Break (No School)	
Tuesday			
Mar 24	6pm	Willamina Planning Commission	825 NE M
Friday			
Mar 27	5-7pm	Churches United Community Dinner	Sheridan
Mar 27	End	Sheridan and Willamina Spring Break (No School)	
Saturday			
Mar 28	Noon-3pm	MakersSpace Lab	Willamin
Mar 28	Noon-2pm	Oh, Buttons! Sewing Mending Club	Willamin

CALENDAR

Weekly

Mill St., Sheridan	Monday: Early Literacy Adventures Willamina Public Library 9:30am
Main St., Willamina Public Library	Celebrate Recovery Willamina Free Methodist Church 6pm
Mill St., Sheridan Learning Community Museum of History Public Library High School	Scout Meeting Sheridan All Prep, Sheridan 7pm P.I.F. AA Meeting (Mon, Wed, & Fri) Sheridan All Prep 7pm
City Hall	Tuesday Grand Sheramina Food Bank (1st & 3rd Tue), Bridge Street, Sheridan 2-4pm
High School New Gym Creek Rd	NA Meeting, Light House Church, Grand Ronde 6pm
Mill St., Sheridan Edge St., Sheridan am/School Library Edge St., Sheridan	Yoga Swan Hall, 242 NE Main St., Willamina 6pm
mins Hotel, McMinville Mill St., Sheridan Main St., Willamina	Cornhole Ft. Hill Restaurant, 8655 Ft. Hill Rd 6pm
na Christian Church luie's Backroom	Wednesday Willamina Chamber of Commerce (EID Meeting Jan 7) Coyote Joe's 8am
High School Creek Rd, Sheridan Public Library r-Chapman New Gym	Bridge Learning Play Group (Age 0-5) 430 SW Monroe St, Sheridan 9:30 - 11:30am
na Public Library (Blue) Market, Willamina Free Methodist Church	Creative artists and artisans Willamina Christian Church 10am-2pm
theran, 311 SE Schley St	Sheridan Rotary Meeting Sheridan School District office, Sheridan Noon
Methodist Church Mill St., Sheridan Main St., Willamina	Willamina Food Pantry, Civic Club, 340 B Street, Willamina 4-6pm
United Methodist High School	Willamina 4th of July Committee Willamina Christian Church Basement 6pm
Office/Web	Thursday Community Showers Trinity Lutheran Church, Sheridan 1-4pm
Learning Community Main St., Willamina Public Library Library/Zoom Mill St.	Bingo VFW Hall, Willamina 5:30pm
Museum	Mill Creek Road Band Live Music w/Potluck (Free) Buell Grange, Mill Creek Rd. Sheridan 6-8pm
Main St., Willamina	NA Meeting, Light House Church, Grand Ronde 6pm
United Methodist	Friday Grand Ronde Food Bank Distribution 9765 Grand Ronde Rd, Grand Ronde 10am-2pm
Public Library Public Library	Grand Ronde Community Clothes Closet 9765 Grand Ronde Rd, Grand Ronde 9am-Noon
	American Legion Bingo 125 N Bridge St., Sheridan 5:30pm
	Saturday Sole Sisters Walk/Run (Mar. 8 - May 31), Southside Park, Sheridan 7:50am
	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 Anonymous (Emmanuel Lutheran) 315 W. Main St., Willamina 7-8pm
	Sunday Tina Miller Youth Center 172 NW 4th Street, Willamina 1-4pm
	Yoga Swan Hall, 242 NE Main St., Willamina 5pm
	NA Meeting, Light House Church, Grand Ronde 6pm



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Survivor of Christmas Day Accident Tells Tale Life and Change of Outlook

Like something from a Hallmark Movie, Daniel Mims, a frequent singer at the Open Mic Night at Wildwood Hotel and a local aesthetic pruner who specializes in turning smaller trees, such as false cypress, Japanese maple, and other ornamental trees, became a bit of an unexpected Christmas miracle.

Early in the morning of Christmas Day, Daniel was on his way to visit friends up on Mill Creek, before heading south to Eugene to meet up with some other friends, when he ended up running off the side of Gopher Valley Rd., across from Dairy Queen on Highway 18, outside Sheridan.

"I just had a great prayer session early in the morning on Christmas, just kind of doing my Christmas morning thing and really felt empowered to do it. Just all smiles and on cloud nine, bouncing out to my truck like oh yes, this is going to be great.

Then boom, within 10 minutes, I'm in the cab of this truck with limbs coming through, everything disheveled, and I thought I was in hell.

I touched my face, and there was flaps of skin hanging down. I was like, oh dude, you're dead. I just laid my head down on my shoulder and was like, all right, just go ahead and die, you're dead. I was at that place where I was at a kind of acceptance," he stated.

Daniel doesn't know how long he lay there. The next thing he knew, a deputy was knocking on the window. "I guess I'm

not dead," he said to himself. That deputy was Officer Christopher Bannister, of the Yamhill County Sheriff's Office.

Deputy Bannister was able to help extradite him from the vehicle, and Daniel was able to walk to an awaiting ambulance.

Daniel stated he doesn't really remember what happened, stating "I remember turning off the gravel road (onto Gopher Valley Rd.), but nothing else.

It was Christmas morning. I must have fallen asleep because I just went up the road and hit a tree. I still can't find where I went up the road. I've looked over and over and over again, you'd think I'd see. They said I took out a fence and then hit a tree, but I can't find where it happened. So I started to wonder if it did, this is my only proof (pointing at the scar just above his left eye)."

A mile-per-hour faster, a longer branch, a harder tree, so many different variables could have made for a much different and more tragic story for Daniel. He reported that one of the officers stated a tree limb, about the same diameter as a soda can, came through the front windshield and hit him just above the left eye.

The limb ended up breaking his skull, popping out the front section of it just above that eye, breaking his nose, and causing other head trauma around the area.

Daniel spent time at the hospital, undergoing surgery and recovering from the accident. He reported, "They had to cut my whole face off and peel it all back (during surgery). Definitely not what I expected on Christmas. That wasn't part of my plan. I'm just kind of lucky to be here."

Daniel stated that the doctor was amazed that the impact did not break the blood-brain barrier, the semipermeable border that protects the brain by regulating the passage of substances from the blood and is extremely thin, measuring half as thick as a piece of standard notebook paper.

He was not alone in the car, either. Deputy Bannister followed up with him at the hospital after the accident, reporting that he had his dog.

"My dog or my dogs?" Daniel asked. Bannister was surprised to hear that there was more than one dog in the vehicle,

so he explained to the deputy exactly where the dog would be hiding inside the truck. Bannister drove to the yard where the vehicle from the accident was towed, and found the other dog exactly where Daniel described, unharmed.

During his stay at the hospital, Daniel had some time for reflection, "I would have liked to have not gotten through the wreck, but the whole, thank God for small favors thing. I can see how, like the course I was going before, I was doing just work six days a week, nothing but. Because I thought that was the thing to do, to pull myself up by the bootstraps. But relationships, and kind of service, was going by the wayside. I wasn't spending time with any friends, I wasn't doing anything but just working," he said, adding jokingly, "I've always learned to thank God for small favors, just kind of keep your eye out for them. At least I didn't put my eye out."

Just before Christmas, Daniel used his musical talents at a retirement home on the outskirts of McMinnville. The home bought a Santa suit for him to wear. He got dressed up, played guitar, and sang for all the people at the home. Daniel expressed that the ladies especially loved it when he covered songs by the Beatles.

"After I got into the wreck, I was in the hospital, and I realized how important visitors were. I wasn't going to die, but it was open-ended on what was going to happen for a while there, if you're going to come through out of the surgery or not. I realized that being in that position, life or death type stuff going on, and you were there kind of alone."

He felt lucky that several people came to visit him, but he realized many at the hospital who didn't have that, bringing thoughts back to his time playing for the crowd at the retirement home. "They're at the same point," he added. So he started thinking, why was he doing open mic nights as his outlet for music? After some thought, he added retirement homes to his list of places to perform. "I'll go and start doing my YouTube (where he posts his pruning videos and more) at these retirement homes, won't charge anything, just go donation-based. I could do exactly what I'm wanting to

do with the pruning." He did note that he would only record himself playing at the retirement homes, not wanting to record any of the individuals who live there. "I'll just record myself playing the songs, not monetized because I'm playing just covers, but I can have a donation base where people can support me to do that. Hopefully, move out in my old age to just serve the community like that, playing for people's moms and dads that they're not able to be there for all of the time, or maybe they have no visitors at all."

For now, he's biding his time, waiting for his truck to get fixed. As he does, he spends time practicing on his guitar, learning more prayer and upbeat music. He said there's a time and place for a sad song, but he wants to make sure to pepper his playlist with some uplifting stuff.

He plans to obtain a 16-foot cargo trailer, build an apartment in the first two-thirds, install a divider wall with a door, and place all of his equipment in the back. He will then venture around, traveling to do his work pruning, and take time out to play for the retirement homes in the area.

"Right now, I just feel like I'm kind of biding my time, waiting on that truck to get done and figuring it out from there.

Those interested in following Daniel's journey can tune into his YouTube Channel @DanielMimsBonsaiGuardDogs.



Daniel Mims singing at the Wildwood Open Mic Community Outreach Night early December, less than a month before an accident on Christmas Day that almost ended his life.

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Sheridan City Council: Former Councilor Hodgins Receives Award,

Sheridan City Council held its regular session meeting on February 17. Here are some takeaways from the meeting:

Pouring over the Sheriff's report, Council President Jim Buckle stated, "I see that the traffic stops are up, and we really like that. Looking through here (the report), and this is more for the public than anybody else. I've heard some recent comments that, well, these police don't do anything for Sheridan. Sheridan doesn't even have any police. I looked through here (the report). I see 54 cases that were started because of your work. I didn't count out the number of calls answered, but just the number of cases that were set up shows you are doing the work that we hire you to do, and I want the city to know that."

Liz Hebert received the Public Service Award for her time as city councilor from 2022 to 2026.

Former Councilor Hodgins, who stepped down for personal reasons, expressed gratitude for the award, stating, "It was an honor and a pleasure to be on this council, and I'm sorry I didn't fulfill my entire obligation."

Council President Jim Buckles said, after Hodgins received the award, "I want to say too, that it is a hard job to do. We appreciate that you at least made the best effort that you could to last as long as you did, so thank you."

City Manager Preston Polasek also had some parting words for former Councilor Hodgins, expressing, "I wanted to say that I don't know if I've ever had another councilor that has been so involved in the community

as you. It's tremendous. I have a big heart for all things Sheridan, whether it's a fundraiser or whatever. I'll hear about it, or I'll show up, and there's Liz. I also want to say, you were always the teacher. Very thoughtful, thinking things through, that's the teacher in you being comprehensive. We haven't talked since you resigned, but to me it just seemed like you really thought this out and resigned at the time that was just right for the council to maybe bring somebody on, go through the budget, and decide whether they like being a councilor, then they might want to run this fall. It just seemed like it was Liz thinking it through. Being a leader in the community, I just want to say thank you, Liz.

During the consent agenda, a few minor misworded terms were noted from the minutes from the council meeting on January 20, and was asked to be changed. One major change, though, was the deadline for accepting council applications, stated as February 11, but was changed to February 23.

At the time of the February 17 council meeting, no applications were received by City Hall.[JV1.1] Polasek vocalized that city council members can take some applications and see if they can find somebody they know to fill the remainder of Liz's term. "If you don't appoint somebody in the next few months, then why bother, right? Because it's going to be an election, and people are going to run at that point. So this is a great time to appoint somebody," he added.

Diana Snyder[JV2.1], though not

present, had her application for a position on the Parks and Recreation Committee presented to the council.

A new resident of Sheridan, having moved to the area in February of 2025, her application, as read by Council President Buckles, stated, "I love the city and the possibilities are endless here." The council did not object to the appointment of Diana to the position. This appointment brings the City of Sheridan's Parks and Recreation Committee to 5 voting members, with two vacant voting and one non-voting position still available.

The council discussed an amendment that would add a 12th project to the Capital Improvement Plan. The background stated of the amendment, "The current Capital Improvement Program (CIP) consists of 11 projects and is attached for your reference. Redecking the current plaza was not included in Phase I and should not wait for the final phase of downtown park improvements, which is project no. 9, the Morgan Street Parking Lot. A distinct Phase II is therefore needed to complete the redecking of the Herbert Memorial Plaza."

Polasek stated, "This project is something that you (council) was aware of, but it wasn't on our CIP. It wasn't on the Morgan St. Park, it's not on the downtown improvement, it's kind of that thing that was in between, undefined, so now we've defined it. This action tonight by the council really is the first step in getting this project done. So now we have to amend our CIP and add it as a distinct project. Once the council approves this, the CIP gets updated, and then we can proceed to get it done." The council brought up again the possibility of large, sharp

rock placement under the plaza to discourage homeless camping and fires underneath the plaza decking, and to reinforce the land underneath it as well. Some councilors stated that the best and most cost-effective time to do the rock placement would be during the replacement of the decking at Hebert Plaza, adding the rocks while the decking was off.

Polasek stated, when discussion of adjusting the motion to include the addition of the large riprap, that regardless of the motion made during the meeting, he would make sure that the placement of the rock happens during the deck replacement. The council voted to pass the amendment. The project will cost (without the addition of the riprap) \$57,314, which will be pulled from the CIP fund currently reserved for project number 9, the Morgan Street parking lot.

The council moved on to discuss the disposition of grant funds for the Yamhill Street Sewer Replacement Project.

The original 2024 construction cost estimate was \$12-22 million. The current soft cost budget for the project is just over \$1.4 million.

The Staff Report states, "Staff is working with the State of Oregon on our request to repurpose the remaining amount of grant funds toward construction (sliplining) instead of design and other soft costs. Environmental and permitting costs go away with sliplining construction. To date, the City has spent \$333,961 of the CDBG funds to date, leaving \$709,979 remaining from the original CDBG grant award.

In the event the repurposing request is denied, the City must be prepared to return to

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Hebert Plaza Added to CIP, \$333,400 at Stake in State Request

the state a portion or all of the \$333,961 spent by the City. The earliest this date of repayment may occur is expected to be March 31, 2026. The Council last fall was made aware of this likely potential requirement when the Council approved the sliplining of the pipe under the Yamhill River. That project was successful and will result in a significant reduction of infiltration and intrusion (I&I), which in turn will help reduce the days in wintertime when the City has been in violation of DEQ wastewater discharge standards for multiple years.

The new approach to this project is effective, avoids permitting and environmental review costs, and represents significant savings in the repairs of the Yamhill Street sewer main."

Polasek reported, "You might recall when we did the sliplining for the sewer line coming down Yamhill, and we covered the distance from our wastewater treatment plant under the river and up the other side of the other bank. Then we added to that because we got such a favorable price.

That project has been completed, and what we suspected is the worst part of the line is now fixed. It was oversized for future growth. We're not restricting this in any engineering sense that someday when everybody flushes their toilets, we're gonna blow manhole covers on the other side of the river. There's no danger of that."

He continued on, stating the sliplining was more preferable than the replacement of the sewer main at a cost of \$12-22 million. So he's reprinted his formal request to repurpose grant funds from the CDBG P22009 grant awarded in the amount of \$1, 043,940 towards finishing an additional 6.3 city blocks of sliplining.

Should the state deny the repurposing of those funds, the city would have to send back \$333,961 out of the current \$1.2 million in the budget that would have gone to sewer repairs. "It doesn't take it down to zero, but you have that much less going forward to spend on projects next year," Polasek reported. Council voted to pass the petition and move forward in requesting the redistribution of the grant money.

The amendment to the Community Grants Application and Award process, which was previously discussed during the January 20 city council meeting, was presented to the council.

The current process governs the 4th-quarter awards in the current fiscal year. The new process, which would be for fiscal year 2027, would make the allocation of grant applications to all 501(c)3 organizations that exist and serve the Sheridan community due by March 31.

The sum of grant requests would be presented to the budget committee, which would determine the amount of grant funds to be available for fiscal year 2027. That report would be presented to the council at the July regular session council meeting, where the council would allocate the annual community grants.

The staff report states that benefits of the new process are that the process is inclusive of all non-profits that serve the community, the organizations plan their annual activities, services, and collaborations, the process is flexible to address community needs as they arise, and the grant awards by the city council in July offers a time to be thoughtful about the requests without being pressured to adopt the fiscal year budget.

Councilor Dennis "Denny" McElroy voiced his concerns about the new process, stating, "Over

the years, some people ask for one grant, and maybe two years later, they've asked for another one. There's emergency things that come up.

He continued, stating that this new process would be putting this money in the organization's budget for the year, and that's not the purpose of the grants. The purpose was to help out when they needed help.

Councilor Lucy Hebert stepped into the conversation, agreeing with Councilor McElroy, adding that if the council wanted, they could put more grant money in the budget and then have a contingency plan if it is not spent.

The council voted unanimously to table the topic.

During the debt report for the City of Sheridan, Council President Buckles stated that in the process of signing checks for the city, one for \$210,000 jumped out at him. "I don't sign many checks that big for the city, and I wanted to know what in the heck that was," he said.

The check was related to a water bond that was refinanced in 2017. "These are now our payments, and we're getting it down to just two more years.

Polasek responded, reporting

that this is the only debt the city has, and after it is paid off, the city will be debt-free.

Discussion at the meeting continued, with Council President Buckles stating that a suggestion was brought to him that city council packets, which are available at the Sheridan City Hall, be added to the Sheridan Public Library so that individuals who do not have access to view them online can do so.

If you are interested in more information about the city council meeting, audio and video recordings are available online at www.cityofsheridanor.com. Agenda packets are also available online, as well as at the Sheridan City Hall, and now possibly at the Sheridan Public Library.



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Projects Moving Forward on City of Sheridan Parks

As individuals travel over the Sheridan Bridge, they may take note of construction going on at the west side of the bridge, behind Hebert Plaza.

The construction is part of a park improvement project by the City of Sheridan.

The current construction project involves the installation of earthen and concrete retaining walls. The construction started last year, but was delayed for a short time by the atmospheric river event back in December.



A concrete retaining wall is curing underneath Hebert Plaza in Sheridan. The wall will help protect the land under the plaza during high water events and is part of the enhanced safety improvements the City of Sheridan is providing to the parks.

Now the teams are back at it, with new concrete wall curing under the Hebert Plaza and work continuing in other parts of the park.

The City of Sheridan Public Works Director, Kie Cottam, stated, "These improvements are part of the City's broader effort to invest in local parks and public spaces, alongside other projects at South Side Park, City Park, and the planned dog park on the east end of Jefferson Street.

The City is also working on a larger water access trail along the Yamhill River in partnership with the Sheridan School District and the National Park Service, which will complement the upgrades at Hebert Memorial Plaza.

Ernie Hebert has also been assisting the city along with the

parcs and rec committees." Phase one of the project should be completed early spring of this year, Kie noted. Two more phases are planned for the improvements to Morgan St. and Chester Moore Parks, as well as Hebert Plaza. Those improvements include a new asphalt river access trail to improve access to the water, installation of a 5-foot-wide concrete sidewalk below the south edge of the plaza for safer pedestrian circulation, a level picnic area, and improvements to the Hebert Memorial Plaza sidewalk.

Cottam stated that the project's purpose is to enhance safety, accessibility, and river access in and around the plaza, allowing greater accessibility for the public and the beautification of the City of Sheridan's riverfront parks.



Retaining walls wrap around the top area of Morgan St., Park, located behind Riverside Cafe and Hebert Memorial Plaza. Construction was delayed in December from the heavy rain event, but has continued with phase one set to be completed in early spring.

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Paget Manufacturing Moving Gear, Sprocket Plant to Muscatine, Iowa

In a consolidation move, R & J Dick Co, Inc. of Iowa, is moving their Paget Manufacturing plant from Sheridan to their main plant at Muscatine, Iowa. The local firm closed down their operation here several days ago, and the first of the week started shipping over 20 pieces of heavy equipment to the Iowa plant.

At its peak operation last summer, the plant employed approximately 20 men; most of them machinists in the manufacturing of gears and sprockets for the west coast customers of R & J Dick Co. Production has slowed down considerably the past three months while company officials studied the move.

T. J. Clark, plant manager, told The Sun this week that the consolidation move is being made due to a cheaper labor market at the site of the Iowa plant, and also because of lower steel prices in the midwest state. Under the consolidation program, the R&J Dick company will have their manufacturing operation all under one roof, according to Clark. The nationally known firm manufactures industrial power transmission equipment. The Sheridan plant turned out sprockets and gears principally for the firm's West Coast customers.

R. & J. Dick Co. entered the local manufacturing picture two years ago when they bought stock in the Sheridan Gear Co., owned at that time by Wayne Zumwalt. About a year ago, Zumwalt sold his stock to the company and moved to Arizona.

For several years, the plant had been on a "slow bell" type operation until R. & J. Dick Co. became the sole owner a year ago. The plant entered the gear and sprocket business when "Red" Thompson owned and operated the plant. He sold his interest to Wayne Zumwalt over 10 years ago, and the plant's production soared, working two shifts, and operating in the building on East Main between the Huntley buildings.

Zumwalt sold the plant to Robert and John Hall several years ago, and they moved part of the equipment into Portland to consolidate it with their Portland plant. Eventually, most of their machinery was in Portland, and the operations at the local plant

were suspended.

Wayne Zumwalt returned to Sheridan two years ago and reactivated the plant and leased the former Houser Chevrolet building across the street to accommodate more machinery, and operated plants in both buildings. R. & J. Dick Co. entered the picture soon after Zumwalt started operating Paget Manufacturing Co.

T. J. Clark said he expects to leave for Iowa in about two or three weeks to help set up the plant.

Final decision on the move was made here Feb. 13 when Walter Bass, president, and W. Randle Mitchell, executive vice president, visited the Sheridan plant.



Sheridan Wins Over Sherwood; Loses to Y-C

Bruce Rogers found the basket Tuesday night for 23 points to lead the Sheridan Hi Spartans to a 64-39 win over Sherwood as the locals head into the final three games of the season. Friday night at Yamhill-Carlton, Sheridan dropped a league game 56-41.

Sheridan Hi plays their last home game of the season Friday night when Nestucca comes here for a league encounter. The two teams meet again Saturday night at Nestucca. Final game of the season will be at Salem Academy on March 1 for Coach Bob Close's quintet.

Sheridan is in sixth place in league standings with 5 wins and 8 losses. Philomath leads the league, Yamhill-Carlton is second. Salem Academy, Amity, and Sherwood are in the cellar spots with 2 wins and 11 losses. Willamina is in 5th place.

Sheridan scoring in the Yamhill-Carlton game: Spencer 4, Rogers 11, Evers 5, Brickell 18, Wren 3.

Sheridan scoring in the Sherwood game Tuesday night: Brickell 8, Rogers 23, Evers 2, Spencer 11, Wren 5, Cinnamon 2, McMahill 3, Bruast 4, Berkey 6.

Grand Ronde World War I Vet Dies In Portland

Francis Clarence Michelle died suddenly Feb. 14 in Portland. Funeral services were held Feb. 20, in the Chapel of Adamson's Sheridan Funeral Home at 2 p.m. Interment was in the Grand Ronde Cemetery.

Mr. Michelle was born May 1, 1897, in Grand Ronde, the son of Joseph F. and Mary Ann Hoffer Michelle. He served in the 44th Infantry during the First World War. He worked at various jobs in the sawmills around Grand Ronde. The past five years, he had resided in Portland.

He is survived by four children, Francis Michelle of Portland, Orville Michelle of Portland, Clarice Westby of Amity, and Delorous Michelle of California; one sister, Mrs. Walter Banke of Sheridan; and many friends.

Rodeo Dates Set For June 22-23

Directors of the Phil Sheridan Rodeo Association have announced the 1963 rodeo shows will be held on the afternoons of June 22 and 23. It will be an amateur rodeo with added purse. Ray Malfait of Washougal, Wash., will again furnish stock for the annual event.

Officers of the Associations were re-elected: Cleo Latham, president; Ray Brown, vice president; Del Lamson, secretary, and Elwin Littlejohn, treasurer. Other directors include Otto Heider; Jack Bissell, Dallas; Milton and Clarence Schukar, Willamina; Harlan Hantz and Don Warner, Amity.

Irrigation Project Annual Meeting Set for Saturday

Art King, Oregon State University soil conservationist, will be the featured speaker at the annual business meeting of the Red Prairie project Saturday, 1:30 p.m. at the Ballston community hall. King's talk will deal with the future opportunities of irrigation in the Willamette valley. Lee McAllister, Bureau of Reclamation engineer, plans to attend.

Everyone interested in the proposed Irrigation project is invited to attend the meeting. Chairman is Marvin Fast, and Marcel Chrisman is secretary.

Churches to Unite in World Day of Prayer

Theme of the annual "World Day of Prayer" this year is "Witnesses Unto Me." In Sheridan, the event will be held at the Assembly of God church on March 1, at 1 p.m., to which the public is invited.

The program will be put on by women of the Nazarene, Methodist, Christian, and Assembly of God churches.

Construction Bid for New School Awarded to Vancouver Firm

Sheridan School Board Tuesday night voted a \$536,611 contract to Raley Construction Co. of Vancouver, Wash., for the construction of the new Sheridan High School. The board expects to award the contract to the firm next week.

Construction is expected to get underway on Monday, March 4. Raley at \$595,000 and Larry O. Collins, Inc., also of Vancouver, bidding \$594,994, were only \$6 apart on basic bids when they were opened by the board Monday night. Seven firms submitted bids.

In subtracting the alternates, the low bid went to the Raley firm. During the next several weeks, the School Board will select the alternates to be included in the building project.



Girl Scouts Hold Local Board Meeting

The Santiam Girl Scout Senior Planning board met Saturday in Sheridan at the Methodist church. Local Girl Scouts on the board, who, with the assistance of their mothers, were hostesses for a luncheon for the group, are Jody Heilinger, Karen Novak, Linda Holmes, and Nancy McKibben. Eighteen Scouts and five parents were present. The group meets once a month at the different towns, having met at Lebanon, Albany, Corvallis, and Salem recently.

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ABC Daycare to Close After 33 Years

The ABC Daycare, out by the Seventh-Day Adventist Church, West of Sheridan, announced that it will be closing its doors this Friday, after being in operation for 33 years.

The school was started by Geraldine Nelson, known by all who went through the school as Teacher Jeri, when Jeri was just over 60 years old.

Barbara Curtis, who has been in childcare for almost 40 years and has been the daycares director for the past almost two years, stated that Jeri opened the school as a safe place out in the West Valley where children could come, be safe and loved, and learn manners. "That's why

the ABC is Adventist Beginning Courtesy," she added.

Since then, the school has grown, providing preschool services for kids as young as 30 months to after school for kids 12 and under. On any given day, the school would house anywhere from 10-20 kids, with 42 currently enrolled.

Barbara stated, "We have kids attending here whose parents attended as children. We have had, in one case, a child whose grandma had attended here."

Bill Kernan, the ABC Daycare Administrator and son-in-law to it's founder, Teacher Jeri, stated that the daycare was able to continue operations as

it was no longer able to maintain financial stability these past years.

"I don't know if anyone knew, but she (Jeri) worked for free. I guess the first couple of years she got paid, but we could see it wasn't financially viable, cause she charged minimal rates. We raised rates in the last six months, but it didn't make any difference," Bill reported.

From 4:30 to 6:30 p.m., this Friday, February 27, the daycare will be hosting a farewell party. All who have attended are invited to join them in sharing a memory, hug, snag contact info for kids (and teachers) who made friends, and celebrate the time shared together as ABC Daycare says goodbye to the past 33 years of loving and caring for children in the West Valley area.



An empty classroom at the end of the day at ABC Daycare outside Sheridan. This look will be permanent, after the school closes its doors this Friday, ending its 33 years of service to the West Valley.

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