

New Samaritan CEO Marty Cahill says 'significant challenge' facing Samaritan Health

By Scott Swanson
Lebanon Local

Seventeen years into his career as an administrator with Samaritan Health, Marty Cahill has gotten to know the nonprofit health provider pretty well.

But this year, as he has taken over as CEO of the five-hospital chain, which serves an area stretching from Lincoln City to Lebanon and Corvallis, a lot has changed.

Cahill, who is in his "mid-50s", came to Samaritan after, he said, getting interested in the world of health services while working in sales for Pfizer.

"You walk around, talking to clinicians about pharmaceuticals, the benefits of your medication over the benefits of your competitors' medication – I realized after a number of years that that was not going to be my career," Cahill said.

"I was interested, intrigued by hospitals. I was intrigued by the hospital administration component of it."

Cahill had grown up in Massachusetts and found Oregon, he said, after meeting some people from Eugene while working a summer job at the beach when he was in college.

"I came out for the summer and never left," he said. "I transferred my credits from New England to the University of Oregon and never left."

"Mt. Hood, Mt. Bachelor, Sunriver, the Oregon coast – everything's like within four hours of, you know, Eugene and Portland. If you look at the summers with no humidity, no bugs, it's way different than New England."

Having graduated from the U of O in 2001 with a bachelor's in sociology, Cahill worked for Pfizer for 5½ years, then moved to Samaritan as director of physician relations for a year and a half.

"I met with all of our clinicians, kind of like an ombudsman," he said. "I talked to all the community docs, you know, any issues or concerns they had. I tried to address them, from Samaritans' per-

See Samaritan, Page 6



SERVING UP OHANA

Despite forecasted rain, The Oaks at Lebanon pressed on with their annual Longest Day Alzheimer's Awareness fundraiser on June 20. In fact, one might say the rain added to the tropical element of the event because this year The Oaks went with a Hawaiian Luau and Cruise-in theme, serving up huli huli chicken, kalua pork and other island flavors. While some rain did pass through town that evening, it didn't stop guests from being able to visit under covered tables in the courtyard. Mostly, though, a good couple hundred people gathered in the dining hall and throughout the downstairs area – which was decked out quite colorfully. Thomas Mask provided live music, children got their face painted and car enthusiasts rolled out their wheels for the cruise-in. The event raised about \$1,000 for the Oregon Alzheimer's Association. See more photos of the event at lebanonlocalnews.com.

Photo by Sarah Brown

Koi make splash at Boulder Falls Inn

By Sarah Brown
Lebanon Local

As Tom Mechals approaches the fence, a shoal is already gathering.

Hungry mouths pop open like baby birds yearning for a worm to make its way down their gullets.

Mechals pinches a small amount of kibble and tosses it into the water, causing an excited flurry of waves and spectacle of color.

The Navy veteran is behind Boulder Falls Inn, making a visit to the Japanese Healing Garden pond with hopes of finding his former aquatic pets.

More than 30 years ago, Mechals dug out and built a 10-foot by 10-foot, 3-foot deep pond in his Lebanon backyard, going by the instructions of a fish pond book he'd bought somewhere.

He'd never had fish before – except, maybe, he might've won a goldfish at a fair in his childhood; he can't remember. But once his pond and waterfall system were established, he stocked it with some goldfish.



Photo by Sarah Brown

One of Tom Mechals' giant koi, upper center – the medium-sized one he donated – lingers under a gazebo in the Boulder Falls pond while its smaller counterparts beg for food.

The pond book, Mechals later realized, was not the most expert source of information. Through some trial and error he learned how to keep fish during freezing winter months, and that goldfish multiply like crazy. But this isn't a story about goldfish.

It was probably about 10 years into the project when Mechals gave away his goldfish and bought his first koi,

which "seemed to be a better way," he said. After a little more trial and error, he bought a small doitsu (scaleless) koi that was all white, save for one orange "eyebrow" and some orange on the tail.

Then he bought more.

For more than 20 years, Mechals raised three koi fish in his small pond. Though he

See Koi, Page 16

INSIDE



LEBANON FIRE'S ERIN NUNEZ GETS PROMOTION TO BATTALION CHIEF
PAGE 7



CHAMBER OF COMMERCE GETS 'SPECTACULAR' NEW TRAIN FENCE
PAGE 9



LEBANON CITY COUNCIL OFF AND RUNNING IN ITS NEW DIGS
PAGE 12



OBITUARIES

Phyllis Schmitz
Jan. 17, 1942 - June 11, 2025

Phyllis Joyce Schmitz (Murphy) passed away peacefully at the age of 83, on June 11, 2025, at home after a brief time in the hospital.

She was born Jan. 17, 1942, to Phil John and Mary Joyce Hurst in McMinnville.

Phyllis grew up in Dayton, graduated from Dayton High School and went onto Linfield College to graduate with a bachelor's degree in accounting and taxation.

Phyllis met and married Donald Jean Schmitz, also from Dayton, in 1964 and moved to Sweet Home for a short time. They made their

home in Lebanon where she opened her accounting firm in 1973.

Phyllis and Donald were married for 35 years.

Phyllis later reconnected with a longtime friend Lonel Murphy and they married in 2004. Phyllis and Lonel shared 13 years of love and happiness until his death in 2017. Phyllis retired a year later after 45 years of owning her own accounting firm.

She had a passion for horses all her life, especially the Tennessee Walking Horse. She had a breeding farm and raised and showed Tennessee Walking Horses for many years. She passed on the love of horses to her granddaugh-

ter Ashley and continued to enjoy going to many horse shows.

Phyllis was preceded in death by her parents; twin sisters Alice Irene Hurst and Margaret Louise Youtz; her husband Lonel; and son-in-law Jim Search.

She is survived by her daughter, Heather Search of Sweet Home; grandson Ian Search and granddaughter Ashley Search of Shelbyville, Tenn., and Robert Sartore of Arlington, Wash.

In honoring Phyllis's wishes, she asked not to have a service. She will be laid to rest at Evergreen Memorial Cemetery in McMinnville, at a later time.

Sweet Home Funeral Chapel is handling the arrangements.

Paid Obituary

Death Notices

Jerry R. Adams, 79, of Lebanon, died June 2, 2025

Huston-Jost Funeral Home is handling the arrangements.

Bertha Jean Forbes, 86, of Lebanon died July 6, 2025.

Weddle Funeral Service is handling the arrangements.

Floyd Dean Garrison, 85, of Lebanon died July 4, 2025.

Weddle Funeral Service is handling the arrangements.

Keith O'Neil Gentry, 56, of

Lebanon, died June 15, 2025.

Sweet Home Funeral Chapel is handling arrangements www.sweethomefuneral.com.

Priscilla Ann (Pekelder) Gurner, 88, of Lebanon, died Jun 19, 2025.

Aasum-dufour Funeral Home is handling arrangements.

Scott Lee Ellison, 72, of Lebanon, died on July 1, 2025. Fisher Funeral Home is handling arrangements.

Joseph "Joe" James Truax, 62, of Lebanon died June 29, 2025.

Huston-Jost Funeral Home is handling the arrangements.

PUBLIC SAFETY

■ Information for the Public Safety report and Courts in Lebanon Local is sourced from local law enforcement and fire agencies. Addresses provided generally denote the location of the incident or arrest, occasionally indicating the origin of the call. Incident details, which may not always be available from agencies in time for publication in our weekly paper edition, are often updated online at lebanonlocalnews.com as information becomes available. Also, due to space limitations in our paper editions, content may be restricted to the most recent information, and a more extensive version of the Public Safety Report will be available at lebanonlocalnews.com.

■ It is crucial to emphasize that our reporting of an individual's arrest or citation for a crime does not imply guilt. Determination of guilt can only be established through legal proceedings in court. We commit significant effort to following through as cases move through the judicial process.

■ Following is a list of abbreviations that may appear in our log reports: LCSO (Linn County Sheriff's Office); LPD (Lebanon Police Department); SHPD (Sweet Home Police Department); OSP (Oregon State Police); LMC (Lebanon Municipal Court); LCCC (Linn County Circuit Court); LCJC (Linn County Justice Court); SHMC (Sweet Home Municipal Court); AMC (Albany Municipal Court); FTA (failure to appear); FTC (failure to comply). A Roman numeral listed after a charge means that the charge is that numbered-degree: theft I (first-degree theft).

nJuly 15

7:38 a.m. - Robert Allen Vanhoose, cited on AMC warrant for contempt.

7:44 a.m. - Shawn Michael Bates, 33, cited for cell phone use while driving and failure to carry proof of insurance, E Elmore/S Main Sts.

7:47 a.m. - Autumn Elizabeth Joseph, 31, cited for no valid li-

cense, 400 block E Grant St.

7:51 a.m. - Officer assists LFD with car fire, 2400 block S 12th St.

8:00 a.m. - Sarah Marie Holifield, 31, cited for speeding 52/25, S 7th/E Sts.

8:16 a.m. - Shawn Patrick Cruise, 44, cited for driving while suspended, 2200 block S Santiam Hwy.

9:32 a.m. - Kodi Lee Richardson, 26, cited for driving while suspended, W A/S 5th Sts.

10:53 a.m. - Hit and run reported in area of Bellinger Scale/Berlin roads. Caller's side mirror torn off vehicle while on the road. Other driver did not stop.

11:26 a.m. - Caller reported drone flying over his property in 33900 block Totem Pole Rd. Deputies unable to identify owner of drone.

11:36 a.m. - Emily Meghan Goodenough, 26, cited for speeding 43/25, Berlin/Brewster Rds.

11:59 a.m. - Caller reported theft of license plates from motorcycle while parked near Key Bank.

1:04 p.m. - Jesse Alan Marsh III, 37, cited for cell phone use while driving, Primrose/Porter Sts.

1:49 p.m. - Erica Elaine Baca, 53, cited for driving while sus-

pended and driving uninsured, near Safeway.

2:06 p.m. - Officer responded to call regarding juvenile attacking parent.

2:32 p.m. - Karen Sue Felgentraeger, 58, cited on LCCC warrant for FTC on original charge of DUII.

4:08 p.m. - Large-diameter tree felled on Starker property, 38900 block Mountain Home Dr., about three-quarters of a mile south of Santiam Terrace. Investigation ongoing. Report taken.

5:53 p.m. - Officer responded to disturbance in Walmart parking lot and determined a female found dog inside a car and waited with her husband for the owner to return. When he returned, there was arguing and the female ended up slapping or hitting the dog owner, after which he hit her. Female was determined to be aggressor.

6:09 p.m. - Caller reported male slumped over bike, 100 block S 5th St.

7:30 p.m. - Parker Benjamin Justham, 23, cited for driving while suspended and no insurance, N Santiam Hwy./Industrial Way.

July 14

12:24 p.m. - Caller reported theft of power tool from Wilco. Loss valued at \$349. Suspect identified and trespassed. Report taken for theft III.

1:33 p.m. - Caller reported car broken into and damaged, 900 block Wassom St.

1:42 p.m. - Witnesses reported male asking people for Narcan, between Gill's Landing and Mayfly Park.

1:45 p.m. - Caller reported theft of electric scooter parked outside of Fitness 1440. Loss valued at \$400.

3:57 p.m. - Caller reported that his windshield was cracked after parking at Bates Bridge swimming spot in 40800 block McDowell Creek Dr.

4:11 p.m. - Durrell Monroe Borden, 69, cited from driving while suspended and driving uninsured, 1000 block S Main St.

8:05 p.m. - Caller wanted subjects who previously tried scamming Walmart at self-checkout to be trespassed. Victoria Guadalupe Lopez-Mejia, 38, and Jose Alfredo Mejia-Jurado, 33, trespassed for life.

8:18 p.m. - Caller was riding bike on Main Street when someone in passing car shot him in the cheek with gel bead from toy gun.

9:56 p.m. - Dakotah Lane Hodson, 27, taken into custody on warrants with LMC and LCCC.

11:46 p.m. - Subject at hospital asked for an officer. When officer arrived, subject "talked



DIAL-A-BUS

CURB TO CURB IN SWEET HOME

MON-FRI 7 AM - 4 PM

CALL TO SCHEDULE

OFFICE HOURS 8-4



SWEET HOME SHOPPER

MON-SAT 9 AM - 4 PM

SHOP LOCAL- 4 TRIPS A DAY

THROUGH TOWN

LINN SHUTTLE

MON-FRI 6 AM - 10 PM - 10 ROUTES PER DAY

SAT 7 AM - 7:30 PM - 6 ROUTES PER DAY

CALL FOR APPROVED FLAG STOPS

SWEET HOME:

FOSTER

SH CITY HALL

HOY'S HARDWARE

13TH & KALMIA

SHEA POINT

LEBANON:

WALMART

LBCC

PARK & OAK

ALBANY:

LBCC MAIN CAMPUS

TRAIN STATION

HERITAGE MALL

DOWNTOWN

SAT ONLY: KOHL'S & WINCO

STUDENTS RIDE FREE WITH STUDENT ID | ALL OTHERS \$1 PER TRIP

ELECTRONIC TICKETS - DOWNLOAD THE TOKEN TRANSIT APP: [TOKENTRANSIT.COM](https://tokentransit.com)

TICKETS AVAILABLE AT THE OFFICE OR ON THE BUS.

ONLY CASH ACCEPTED BY DRIVERS (EXACT AMOUNT, NO CHANGE AVAILABLE)

541-367-4775 | [LINNSHUTTLE.COM](https://linnshuttle.com) |  FIND US ON FACEBOOK



See Public Safety, Page 5

LOCAL EVENTS

Can drive for local Eagle Scout project

Local Boy Scout Zach Schlundt will conduct a can and bottle drive from 9 to 11 a.m. Saturday, July 26, at the former Shari's restaurant parking lot, 2650 South Santiam Highway.

The event will coincide with Lebanon's weekly "Cars & Coffee" gathering. Schlundt is working on upgrading the nature trail at Hamilton Creek Elementary School by clearing the path and building benches for users to enjoy. Funds are still needed for building materials and tools.

Also, if anyone wants to donate, monetary contributions will be accepted and can be tax-deductible.

Spend time at Healing Garden

Lebanon Community Hospital is hosting a series of monthly cultural events at the Boulder Falls Event Center and patio, 605 Mullins Dr. through the summer.

Garden Grooves Community Concert; Saturday, July 26, at 6 p.m. - The Fabulous Bad Cats, an original rockin' blues band, will play classic hits from Johnny Cash to Prince. They have performed throughout the Pacific Northwest since 2002.

Melodies and Masterpieces: Sunday, Aug. 3, from 1-3 p.m. - The Orchid Trio, a Portland-based string trio, shares chamber music appreciation. Enjoy music while learning new art forms: Japanese origami class from 1-2 p.m., kokedoma (moss ball) class from 1-2 p.m., koto (a Japanese instrument) demonstration at 2 p.m.

Healing Garden Lecture: Thursday, Sept. 18, at 6 p.m. - Diane Durston, curator emeritus from the Portland Japanese Garden, will discuss Japanese philosophies of Wabi Sabi and forest bathing. Registration is required.

For more information or to register, visit samhealth.org/LebanonHealingGardens or contact Brandy O'Bannon at bobannon@samhealth.org.

Learn about Indoor gardening

Master Gardeners will host free monthly lectures on indoor gardening at the Lebanon Senior Center, 80 Tangent St.

Last lecture will be about seed starting for winter; Aug. 23 - tips for seed saving and identifying peak produce ripeness.

Bring your questions. For more information, contact Sheryl Casteen at casteen@aol.com.

Brownsville Farmers Market

The Brownsville Farmer's Market is looking for vendors for the 2025 season. The market is held from 3-6 p.m. on Thursdays at 185 Main St., Brownsville (across from Dari Mart). For more information, contact Melissa Selby at 541-223-4980 or info@gocfa.org.

Japanese Healing Garden tours

The Lebanon Community Hospital Foundation will host free monthly tours of Samaritan Lebanon Community Hospital's Healing Gardens this spring and summer.

The gardens offer serene spaces for quiet walks, reflection and a chance to escape everyday distractions and stresses.

Brandy O'Bannon, Lebanon Community Hospital Foundation executive director, invites all community members to join her for these special tours. The one-hour tours will guide visitors through the Samaritan Health Sciences Campus Entrance Garden and Campus Garden, providing insights into their history and maintenance while allowing guests to soak in the peaceful atmosphere.

Tours will take place at 10

a.m. on the second Friday of each month at the gazebo located at the Boulder Falls Event Center, 605 Mullins Drive. No registration is required. Upcoming tour dates: Aug. 8, Sept. 12.

For more information, contact Brandy at bobannon@samhealth.org or visit samhealth.org/LebanonHealingGardens.

ODFW wildlife art contest

The Oregon Dept. of Fish and Wildlife invites artists to submit their work for the 2026 stamp art competitions.

The winning artists receive a \$2,000 award and their artwork is used to produce collector's stamps and other promotional items with sale proceeds benefiting Oregon's fish, wildlife and their habitats. The three contests are:

Habitat Conservation Stamp - Art entries must feature a Strategy Species identified in the Oregon Conservation Strategy in its appropriate habitat. Not all species in the Strategy are eligible, so please use the qualifying list of species. See the contest rules and entry form for more information and a list of eligible species. https://www.dfw.state.or.us/conservationstrategy/habitat_conservation_stamp.asp

Waterfowl Stamp Contest - Art entries must feature one of the following species in its natural habitat setting: Blue-winged Teal, Lesser Scaup, or Ruddy Duck. See contest rules and entry form for more information. <https://www.dfw.state.or.us/resources/hunting/waterfowl/contest/index.asp>

Upland Game Bird Stamp Contest - Art entries must feature Ring-necked Pheasant in its natural habitat setting. See contest rules and entry form for more information. https://www.dfw.state.or.us/resources/hunting/upland_bird/contest/index.asp

Artists are asked to use the Recommendations for Packaging Artwork on the Contest Rules' final page.

A panel will judge artwork based on artistic composition, anatomical accuracy of the species and general appeal. Collector's stamps, art prints and other promotional materials are produced from first-place artwork. Proceeds from product sales are used for habitat improvement, research surveys and conservation projects.

Interested artists are en-

See Events, Page 4

CIRCUIT COURT

Warrants are out on the following individuals:

Omar Edgar Arroyo, Elias Nicolas Azar, Jonathan Edward Betar, Christina Marie Cash, Austin Shane Conner, Steven Michael Cooley, Nicholas Orval Duncan Jr, Selina Renee Ford-Blackburn, Steven Edward Grimm, Aaron Thomas Halvorson, Aaron Marten Heintzman, Robert Edwin Hoskinson, Sir Frank Lee James, Bruce Clifton Kelly, Faron Walter Kennedy, Alan Kenneth Kilmer, Caden Jason Scotty King, Brent Jay Klient, Adam Christien Knoll, Andrew Donald LeGore, Mikel Vincent Lizama, Christopher James Lloyd, Mainor Misael Lucas-Velasquez, John Andrew Mance, Heather Dawn Meeks, Matthew Kincaid Nelson, Autumn Brooke Pearson, Dustin James Phares, John Ray Porter, Allen Jess Russell, Daniel Ryan Salo, Rosemary O. Saviour, Shingy Robert Shineachi, Donald Shane Simmons, April Lee Springer, Brandi Lynn Trelstad, Russell Dale Truedson, Wyatt Linn Vaughan, Darnell T. Wells, Jessica Ashley Wynne

Kelvin Edwin Attebery, 36, charged June 26 with DV strangulation, DV assault IV and DV menacing. Bail set at \$50,000.

Devon Wayne Baldwin, 32, sentenced June 13 to 19 mos. with the Oregon Dept. of Cor-

rections, 24 mos. post-prison supervision and a \$200 fine after pleading no contest to assault IV. An assault IV charge was dismissed.

Thomas John Bobbitt, 24, sentenced July 17 to 96 hours jail, 24 mos. bench probation and \$200 in fines after pleading no contest to assault IV and strangulation. Robbery III charge dismissed.

Juan Felipe Barajas-Ledezma, 26, charged June 18 with DUII (controlled substances) and reckless driving.

Travis Jonathan Brown, 34, sentenced July 8 to 30 days jail, 36 mos. supervised probation and a \$200 fine after pleading guilty to DV unlawful use of a weapon. Charges of assault II, interference with making a report and tampering with physical evidence dismissed.

Cynthia Rose Christensen, 19, charged June 27 with robbery I, theft III and assault IV. Bail set at \$50,000.

Hailee Clark, 20, charged June 18 with assault III.

Chelsea Christine Elkin, 33, placed in diversion program after pleading guilty to DUII (liquor). She was sentenced July 11 to 90 days suspension of a driver's license, five days compensatory service in lieu of jail and 18 mos. bench probation after pleading guilty to

recklessly endangering another person. A second charge of the same and reckless driving were dismissed.

Gage Austin Ferrando, 20, charged June 25 with two counts of rape I. Court documents indicate the victim may have been "incapable of consent by reason of physical helplessness." Bail was set at \$20,000.

Armando Garcia-Suarez, 35, charged June 23 with DUII (liquor), recklessly endangering another person and speeding.

Jessica Chari Gregorich, 40, cited July 9 for speeding 112/55 on Highway 34 near milepost 7, and careless driving. She was charged July 16 with unlawful use of a weapon, menacing, felon in possession of a restricted weapon and two counts of criminal mischief I. Bail set at \$20,000.

Jermey Ray Harris, 45, sentenced June 24 to one year revocation of driver's license, 18 mos. with the Oregon Dept. of Corrections, 12 mos. post-prison supervision and a \$200 fine after pleading no contest to unauthorized use of a vehicle.

In a separate case, he was sentenced to one year revocation of a driver's license, an 18 additional mos. with the Oregon Dept. of Corrections, 12 mos. post-prison supervision and \$800 in fines after pleading no contest to identity theft, fraudulent use of a credit card, computer crime and unauthorized use of a vehicle.

Kayla Michelle Heath, 37, sentenced July 8 to 46 hours jail, 36 mos. supervised probation after pleading no contest to burglary I and unlawful possession of methamphetamine.

Ernest Patrick Huerta, 46,

sentenced June 18 to five days compensatory service in lieu of jail and a \$100 fine after pleading guilty to failure to report as a sex offender.

Aaron Marten Heintzman, 36, charged June 11 with DUII (controlled substances) and reckless driving.

See Circuit Court, Page 7

- Compost
- Rock Products
- Sawdust
- Fir Bark
- Hemlock
- Garden Mixes

Central Bark Sales

5265 South Santiam, Lebanon Oregon 97355 • 541-451-2373
Summer Hours : Mon. - Sat. 8am - 5pm | Sun. 9am - 3pm

Crossword KEY

Puzzle on page 4

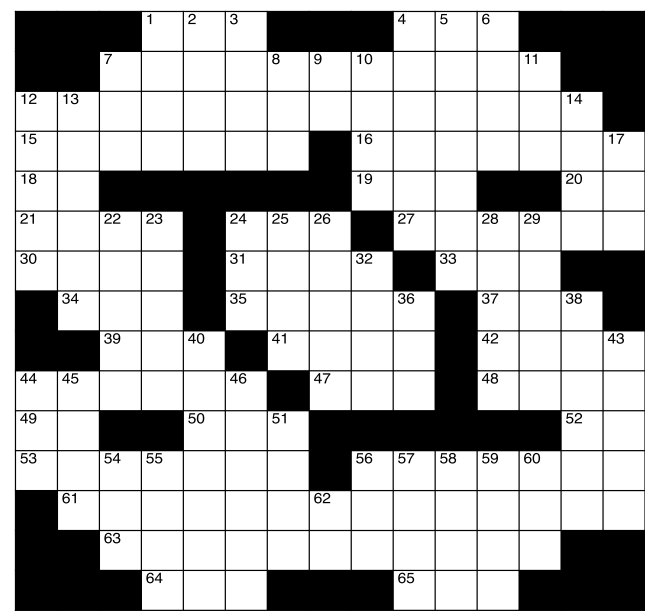
T	S	P			R	M	A		
C	A	T	A	L	O	G	U	I	N
C	H	A	R	A	C	T	E	R	I
A	E	R	A	T	E	D	E	N	R
M	D				G	E	E		D
I	G	G	S		T	U	B		S
S	E	A	T		A	M	A	S	
	D	U	E		U	B	Y	K	
		D	N	B		O	L	E	
B	A	Y	O	U	S		E	G	
C	R		S	L	R				
D	E	V	A	L	U	E		F	
A	C	C	O	M	P	L	I	S	
R	E	A	P	P	O	R	T	I	
D	D	S					I	A	N

SUDOKU KEY

Puzzle on page 4

4	6	7	2	3	1	8	5	9
1	5	8	9	4	6	2	7	3
9	3	2	5	7	8	1	4	6
6	4	1	7	9	5	3	2	8
2	9	3	6	8	4	5	1	7
8	7	5	1	2	3	6	9	4
7	8	6	4	5	2	9	3	1
3	2	4	8	1	9	7	6	5
5	1	9	3	6	7	4	8	2

CROSSWORD



CLUES ACROSS

1. Measurement (abbr.)

4. Returned material authorization (abbr.)

7. Sorting

12. Attribute

15. Poked holes in

16. Angers

18. Doc

19. MLB journeyman pitcher Dillon

20. Not don't

21. Snubs someone

24. Where kids bathe

27. One might be in distress

30. Chair

31. Music industry honors (abbr.)

33. Dash

34. Owed
35. Caucasian language

37. One thousand (Span.)

39. Musical style drum and bass

41. Evergreen trees native to warm climates

42. Begin __: start fresh

44. Marshy outlets

47. A chicken lays one

48. Yemen's largest city

49. Conversion rate

50. Single Lens Reflex

52. Atlanta rapper

53. Reduce the importance of

56. Faces of buildings

61. Something achieved

63. Distribute again

64. Tooth caregiver

65. 007's creator

CLUES DOWN

1. Skater Lipinski

2. Data

3. Single step

4. Destroyed financially

5. Fail to interpret correctly

6. Fava d'__: tree found in Brazil

7. Vehicle

8. Limited

9. Old English

10. Aussie golfer Norman

11. Job

12. Loose-fitting undergarments

13. Protected by balancing

14. Give up

17. Fifth note of a major scale

22. Extravagantly bright

23. Takes dictation

24. 19th letter of Greek alphabet

25. Rounded knob (biology)

26. French philosopher Pierre

28. Mothers
29. Dardic ethnic group

32. Supports the rudder

36. An ugly evil-looking old woman

38. Of a fasting time

40. Filled with passengers

43. Below the ribs and above the hips

44. Binary-coded decimal

45. 51 is a famous one

46. Goes into a funk

51. Chief O'Hara actor

54. Videocassette recorder

55. Scored perfectly

56. Type of tree

57. __ Spumante (Italian wine)

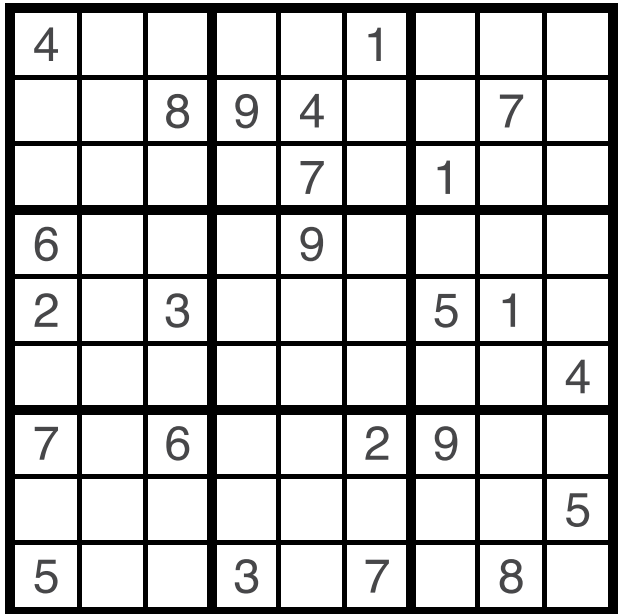
58. Popular commercial "pet"

59. Supreme god of Ancient Egyptians

60. Room in a home

62. __ and behold

SUDOKU



Level: Advanced

ELCA HONOR ROLL

Following are East Linn Christian Academy students who have been announced by the school as having made the Honor Roll for 2025.

Seniors 4.00

Kamden Bierly, Claire Devlin, Daisy Lalonde, Blake Presley, Gabe Schlabach, Katelyn Williams

Seniors 3.50-3.99

Parker Adams, Ben Baer, Bella Devlin, Olivia Garber, Josie Grunerud, Bekah Hatch, Tanner Henry, Mia Jones, Blake Knurowski, Lily McDowell, Arianna Pirtle, Grey-sen Sewell, Janessa Stevens, Paige Warren

Juniors 4.00

Brison Edwards, Chase Fen-erty, Tati Manner

Juniors 3.50-3.99

Isabella Albert, Isaiah Blount, Ally Hatch, Randy Holmes, Lexy Kauffman, Bai-ley Kramer, Owen Nofziger, Bain Pool, Angus Smith, Au-

drey Smith, Asher Taylor

Sophomores 4.00

Erin Davey, Audrey Garber, Anna Hendry, Ian Schlabach, Maya Van Dyke

Sophomores 3.50-3.99

Josi Davidson, Abby Garber, Allison Gilliam, Noah Me-dellin, Allison Presley, Avery Runyon, Tessa Salvage, Piper Sewell, Kai Wallace, Demetri-us Wilke

Freshmen 4.00

Madi Coleman, Rachel Hatch, Kaylyn Kauffman, Madison Kauffman, Dailey Kirkpatrick, Grady Knurows-ki, Liam Medford, Ella Stutz-man

Freshmen 3.50-3.99

Madison Adams, Savannah Baker, Charli Burns, Parker Caddick, Marshall Darwood, Anderson Kropf, Casey May, Maci Modderman, Karter Nofziger, Cole Pennington

Eighth Grade 4.00

Ian Miller

Eighth Grade 3.50-3.99

Hadassah Albert, Lily Boschee, Ryder Cummings, Jordan Gilliam, Njoki Githura, Annie Kizer, Morgan Lalonde, Ava Mitchell, Ezekiel Wells, Harry Yanke-Knurowski

Seventh Grade 4.00

Isabelle Brubaker, Jada Kauffman, Levi Puentes, Ky-lie Schrock, Westin Walesby, Cora Wolgamott

Seventh Grade 3.50-3.99

Boaz Angelford, Ryan Baker, Lucas Davey, Kylie Freeman, Wesley Geib, Tanu Githura, Jonah King, Ava Leverich, Peyton May, Christopher Means, Erika Pape, Logan Pennington, Clyde Ruckert, Cora Teschner, Ean Waid

Sixth Grade 4.00

Serenity Dixon, Eric Miller, Titus Schlabach

Sixth Grade 3.50-3.99

Henry Branham, Roman Howard, Grayson Kropf, Claire Miller, Bryson Mod-derman, Malachi Nixon, Cash Nofziger, Jr Smith

EVENTS

From page 3

couraged to visit ODFW's stamp art competition web-page for more information on the contests and to view en-tries from previous years.

Entries will be accepted from Aug. 29 until 5 p.m. on Sept. 26 at the ODFW head-quarters, 4034 Fairview In-dustrial Dr., SE, Salem, OR 97302.

For more information on contest rules and to order stamps and art prints, visit: https://www.dfw.state.or.us/stamp_contest/index.asp

Entries can be mailed or hand delivered. If you hand-deliver your entry, please call ahead to make ar-rangements at (503) 947-6314.

Stand By Me Day

The annual Stand By Me Day in Brownsville will be held Saturday, July 26, throughout Brownsville. More details to come.

Tomatofest

The annual Tomatofest will be held from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 27, at the Lebanon Senior Center, 80 Tangent St. Times are subject to change.

Taste dozens of varieties of

homegrown tomatoes, swap seeds or pick up free seeds, shop local vendors, pick up homegrown free produce as available, sample homemade recipes, bring your garden-ing questions for master gar-den-ers to answer, and watch demonstrations.

For more information, con-tact Sheryl Casteen via email at casteen@aol.com. Do not call the Senior Center.

Weyerhaeuser grant cycle now open

Weyerhaeuser is now ac-cepting applications for its 2025 Giving Fund grant cycle. Eligible organizations locat-ed within Oregon operating communities are encouraged to apply by Sept. 30. Organi-zations can learn more and submit applications at <https://www.weyerhaeuser.com/company/values/citizenship/giving-fund/>.

Church seeks

hygiene help

Crowfoot Baptist Church operates a hygiene supply program for families in need. They are in need of tooth-paste, toothbrushes, dental floss, shampoo and condi-tioner, deodorant, bar soap, hand soap, feminine hygiene products (tampons and pads),

razors, shaving cream, dish soap, laundry detergent, bath-room cleaner, bleach, toilet paper, garbage bags.

To donate, or for more infor-mation, call (541) 258-3138, or visit the church during open hours (T, W, Th, and Sun from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.) at 699 Cascade Drive.

Suicide loss support group

Lebanon Area Mental Health Alliance hosts a Sui-cide Bereavement Support Group every second Thursday of the month from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. at Lebanon Community Hospital, 525 Santiam Hwy. in conference room 1 and 2. Park and enter at the back of the building.

For anyone who has suf-fered the loss of a loved one by suicide, struggles with pre-vious attempts or attempts from a loved one, or if suicide has had an impact on your life.

A licensed mental health therapist will facilitate the meetings. For more informa-tion, contact Dave Butler at (541) 936-2580 or via email at dave@lamha.org.

Animal rescue helpers needed

Linn County Animal Rescue needs volunteers for its non-profit work outside Lebanon. For those interested in a re-warding time spent with an-imals, consider joining LCAR which has horses, minis, cows, sheep and senior dogs. There are two shifts a day, morning and afternoon. Volunteers can work with the livestock or dogs, or both.

Donations and spons-or-ships are also welcomed. For more information, visit lcar-horse.org or call (541) 258-3422.

The New Era

LEBANON LOCAL

A LOCALLY OWNED NEWSPAPER

LEBANONLOCALNEWS.COM

OFFICE: 1313 Main St., Sweet Home, Oregon

PHONE: 541-367-2136 FAX: 541-367-2137

WHO WE ARE:

Sarah Brown, Staff Writer - sarah@lebanonlocalnews.com

Miriam Swanson, Publisher - miriam@lebanonlocalnews.com

Mack Knebel, Ad Representative - mack@lebanonlocalnews.com

Scott Swanson, Publisher - scott@lebanonlocalnews.com

SUBSCRIPTIONS: Monthly - \$2.99 Annual - \$32.99

NEWS QUESTIONS / TIPS - news@lebanonlocalnews.com

PUBLIC SAFETY

From page 2

nonsense,” said he was willing to fight the officer if he tried to arrest him, and said he’d poop in the police car if he was put in handcuffs, but he would cooperate if officer gave him a ride to Safeway. Officer gave subject a ride to Safeway.

July 13

8:04 a.m. - Nicholas Scarnechia, 31, of Lebanon, arrested for elude-vehicle, elude-foot, reckless driving, reckless endangering, criminal trespass II, and a warrant. Also cited for driving while suspended, driving uninsured. 38900 block Hwy. 226. Vehicle towed. Report taken.

8:22 a.m. - Caller believes nephew’s ex-girlfriend leaving feces in garage and urinating in backyard, 800 block W Rose St.

9:44 a.m. - Jesse Mica Bauldree, 51, of Scio, arrested on unspecified warrant, driving while revoked; cited for driving uninsured, unsafe lane change and failure to yield to emergency vehicle, 2200 block S. Santiam Hwy. Lodged at Linn County Jail. Report taken.

10:27 a.m. - Caller reported a juvenile carries a gun and threatened people with it. Mother keeps a gun in her safe, but child should not have access to it; will change the lock.

2:38 p.m. - Caller reported theft of bike from side of house, 1100 block W Vine St. Loss valued at \$160.

2:42 p.m. - Male said he was

drugged the night before by a female. Medics responded.

3:01 p.m. - Woman left baby in car while buying life jacket in Walmart. Car was running with AC on. She was counseled on the dangers.

3:09 p.m. - Anna Lawhon, 75, of Lebanon, cited for following too closely following two-vehicle rear-end crash in 33400 block Brewster Rd. Minor injuries reported. Report taken.

3:25 p.m. - Logan Duel Looney, 22, cited on Polk County Circuit Court warrant for theft III.

3:51 p.m. - Cassandra N. Johnson, 28, cited on LMC warrant for contempt - driving while suspended. Jason Rober Skyles-Lutzi, 29, taken into custody on LMC warrant for FTA on original charge of driving while suspended, LCSA warrant for probation violation DUII, Clackamas County Circuit Court warrant for FTA on original charge of driving while suspended, and LCCC warrant for DUII and recklessly endangering another person.

6:09 p.m. - Jack Counts, 36, of Lebanon, cited for unspecified SHMC warrant, 300 block Russell St. Report taken.

8:01 p.m. - Caller reported male whipping dog with its leash near Mayfly Park.

8:32 p.m. - Katrina Counts, 53, of Lebanon, cited for unspecified AMC warrant. Anthony Middleton, 62, of Lebanon, cited on unspecified LMC and AMC warrants. 500 block Weldwood Dr. Report taken.

9:10 p.m. - Fawn Burleson, 40, of Lebanon, arrested for unspecified warrant, 31100 block Old Santiam Hwy. Report taken.

9:19 p.m. - Caller reported driver doing donuts in school parking lot, 31500 block Sand Ridge Rd. Driver’s parents notified of his behavior.

July 12

12:43 a.m. - Crash reported in 31500 block Stoltz Hill Rd. Single vehicle collided with loose cow in road. Report taken. No injuries reported.

1:07 a.m. - Stanley Todd, 60, of Lebanon, arrested for assault IV-domestic after report of domestic disturbance in 38700 block Elk Lane. Transported to Linn County Jail. Report taken.

2:02 a.m. - Jordyn Taylor-Brown, 22, of Albany, arrested for DUII following single-vehicle crash in area of Denny School Rd./Oak St, Report taken.

4:46 a.m. - Deputy located individuals sleeping in private farm field in 31600 block Sand Ridge Rd. They were told to move along and did.

6:27 a.m. - Chloe E. Linares, 24, cited for driving while suspended and driving uninsured, 200 block W Oak St.

8:09 a.m. - Theft of packages reported in 100 block Oak Lane. Value \$50. Investigation ongoing.

11:27 a.m. - Caller reported theft of electric bike from in front of Crossroads Communities. Loss valued at \$2,000.

2:14 p.m. - Driver acciden-

tally pushed gas pedal and crashed into tree at The Oaks.

2:21 p.m. - Caller reported being scammed by someone posing as LCSO personnel, asking for money for a warrant. 34900 block Ede Rd. Investigation ongoing. Report taken.

3:25 p.m. - Hali Mentzer, 31, of Lebanon, cited for driving uninsured, driving without operator’s license. 000 block Mary St.

7:43 p.m. - Edgar Ramos, 32, of Salem, cited for driving while suspended, 3300 block S. Santiam Hwy.

8:05 p.m. - Frank James Bezuk, 52, cited on LCCC warrant for FTA on original charge of possession of methamphetamine.

10:50 p.m. - Rachell A. Gandrud, 44, cited on LMC warrant for FTA and LCCC warrant for FTA on original charge of escape III.

July 11

1:43 a.m. - Alexander Anton Abshire, 30, cited for driving while suspended and LMC warrant for contempt of court, River Rd./Franklin St.

2:23 a.m. - Cyliss Troy James Hickman 20, cited for driving while suspended, 2600 block S Santiam Hwy.

3:18 a.m. - Angel Cornejo Flores, 55, of Lebanon, cited for speeding, 35800 block Hwy. 34.

7:50 a.m. - Deputy recovered found property reported in 38000 block Golden Valley Dr.

Plastic truck bed tool box containing some old tools left on caller’s property. Report taken.

9:41 a.m. - Timothy Loren Ames Jr., 36, taken into custody on LMC warrant for FTA on original charge of theft III and trespass II.

10:23 a.m. - Caller reported dog attacked him while bicycling by, 200 block Cleveland St.

11:20 a.m. - Michael Rivers, 33, arrested for attempted kidnap ! and rape I, 000 block Industrial Way.

11:49 a.m. - Daniel Noonchester taken into custody on Lincoln County Circuit Court warrants for theft I and probation violation.

11:55 a.m. - Devin Lewis, 26, cited for speeding 40/25, N 5th/W Olive Sts.

12:19 p.m. - Teal Lee, 37, cited for cell phone use and driving uninsured, N 5th/W Olive Sts.

12:27 p.m. - Caller reported theft of cans from porch, 100 block E Elmore St.

12:34 p.m. - Trudy Keller, 63, of Lebanon, cited for driving while suspended, driving uninsured, Santiam Hwy./Truman St.

2:08 p.m. - Ethaniel Delk, 21, cited for speeding, S 12th/W Oak Sts.

2:49 p.m. - Attempted burglary reported in 38900 block Sodaville Waterloo Dr. Incident

See Public Safety, Page 10

Angelita Sanchez announces run for local House seat

Sweet Home City Council member Angelita Sanchez announced last week that she will run for the House District 11 seat after current Rep. Jami Cate announced a run for the Oregon Senate.

Sanchez pledged “to bring common sense, courage, and rural representation back to Salem.”

“Our part of Oregon is full of hard-working families who feel forgotten,” she said in a statement. “I am running to make sure their voices are heard loud and clear in the Capitol. We need another representative who understands our way of life — and is willing to fight for it.”

A seventh-generation Oregonian, Sanchez said she has deep roots in Sweet Home and the surrounding communities. Her distant grandfather Frank Kropf is the “Father of the Ryegrass Industry.” Her grandfather Ralph Myers worked in the mills and gave her the love of forestry, she said. Sanchez

said she saw what it did to Myers when the mills closed.

Sanchez said her campaign will focus on: “protecting rural jobs and natural resource industries; defending parental rights and educational choice; securing our communities and standing with law enforcement; rejecting unfunded mandates and urban overreach from Salem; and putting working Oregonians — not bureaucrats — first.”

Sanchez has worked in the legislature the last two years as an aide to Sen. Cedric Hayden (R-Fall Creek), who occupies the District 6 seat for which Cate is running.

“Angelita has earned my endorsement for the Oregon House of Representatives because she’s proven herself to be a true grassroots advocate for the people of her community,” Hayden said in the statement issued by Sanchez.

“Not only has she been a strong voice serving as a City Councilor in Sweet Home,



Angelita Sanchez

she’s served in our Senate office as my legislative aide, engaging in complicated topics like health care, transportation taxes, and civil rights for families and people with disabilities. Her constituent service work is excellent. She has earned her place to serve as a state representative through her actions and her heart for the people of this state.”

LOCAL SERVICE - POWERFUL EQUIPMENT



541-451-5213 • 1215 W AIRWAY RD-LEBANON
WWW.CASCADEPOWERLEBANON.COM

SAMARITAN

From page 1

spective, tried to make sure they had all the information.”

Meanwhile, he was working on an MBA in organizational behavior from Marylhurst University, which he completed in 2008.

While doing his graduate work, Cahill lined up an interview with then-Samaritan President and CEO Larry Mullins, who was midway through his 25-year career with the organization.

“I just talked to him about hospital operations, hospital administration, and we talked for seven or eight months, and he hired me and the rest is history.”

In 2008 Cahill was named CEO of Samaritan North Lincoln Hospital, where he stayed until 2015, when he took over as CEO of Samaritan Lebanon Community Hospital.

He was at SLCH until November of 2023, when he became senior vice president and chief operating officer of Samaritan under Doug Boysen, who had succeeded Mullins.

The day after Christmas 2024, Boysen announced he was planning to step down from the role in 2025 and Cahill was named to replace him, which took place May 19.

He took the helm literally as turbulence began rippling through Samaritan's ranks and surrounding communities, including east Linn County, sparked by talk of impending closures of some services in some Samaritan hospitals, including Lebanon.

Cahill issued a statement a few days after the talk began circulating, confirming that Samaritan administrators had indeed identified some possible cuts to general surgery, orthopedics, women's and children's services and urology.

Samaritan nurses and others held a rally on May 27 outside Samaritan's corporate headquarters in Corvallis, and a change.org petition entitled “Keep Lebanon's Birth Center Open,” launched May 13, listed nearly 3,000 signatures by July 1.

‘Significant Challenge’

Cahill said Oregon's hospitals are facing “a significant challenge right now” due to increased costs resulting from tariffs and other factors, and accompanying difficulties in collecting reimbursements from the government and insurance companies.

Plus, there is a growing shortage of physicians and nurses, especially those interested in working in rural settings.

“Probably two-thirds of the hospitals in the state are ei-

ther performing in the red – not making money – or barely breaking even,” Cahill estimated.

According to Oregon Health Authority data, Oregon's 60 acute care hospitals, as a whole, saw an improvement in profitable operating margin (profit made after accounting for direct costs of earning that revenue) over the one-year period ending in the third quarter of last year, increasing from -\$9.7 million to \$11.2 million. Samaritan's recent numbers, as posted by OHA, are mixed.

In addition to Lebanon and Lincoln City, Samaritan operates Good Samaritan Regional Medical Center in Corvallis, Samaritan Albany General Hospital and Samaritan Pacific Community Hospital in Newport, all of them acute care hospitals. Its network also includes more than 100 clinics.

Of Samaritan's five hospitals, according to Oregon Health Authority data, Lebanon is the most profitable of the five hospitals, earning a profitable operating margin of \$24,414,294 in 2024, continuing a trend of profitability that extends back to 2014.

North Lincoln and Newport were also in the black last year, to a lesser extent, but Albany and Corvallis finished 2024 with losses that total roughly \$32.3 million, just short of the roughly \$39.6 profitability of the other three.

Cahill said expenses have risen “significantly” since the COVID pandemic “and reimbursements are not matching that.”

“They're flat.”

And, he added, “insurers are taking longer to reimburse us as well. So not only are we not getting reimbursed what we did five years ago, it's taking longer to collect on that as well.

“It's just hard right now. It's challenging for Samaritan and it's challenging for the state; quite actually, nationally, it's an issue as well.”

Cahill said that although some Samaritan hospitals are in the black, the five are interdependent.”

“All five hospitals do a great job. They provide great care. They do great things.”

He acknowledged that Lebanon is a “successful” operation with a “positive bottom line,” but there's more to the situation.

The Samaritan group is interdependent, he said, recounting how the system came together over time: “It was five independent hospitals that were trying to survive.”

The Backstory

Samaritan was founded

in 1948 when the Episcopal Church in Western Oregon reorganized Corvallis General Hospital as a not-for-profit facility.

In 1997 the current non-profit came into being when Corvallis merged with Lebanon Community Hospital, which was founded in 1952 by a community effort led by local Mennonites and was managed for decades by Mennonite Health Services.

Albany was added in 1999, followed by North Lincoln (2001) and Newport (2002).

“They came together mainly out of the fact that being alone was not going to be a strategy, moving forward, for them,” Cahill said.

He said that because the hospitals are now interdependent, even though in a particular year one might be doing well, “we've got to look at the whole, at all five hospitals, because they're independent.”

“The expense of being an independent hospital was too much 25 years ago,” he said. “Five hospitals that were within the region recognized that they could not survive on their own. So they came together.”

Today, Samaritan emphasizes integrated care, providing patients with coordinated, comprehensive care that addresses all aspects of their health, including medical, behavioral, and social needs, through a holistic collaborative team approach that reduces fragmentation and duplication of care.

It also has the second-largest residency program in the state, with 112 young doctors working in its hospitals and clinics, along with some 650 clinicians.

“We've come together in a way that we provide great care in an integrated way,” Cahill said.

Forced Economy

He said that things are changing, with the financial difficulties Samaritan is facing and the organization is being forced to look for ways to do more with less.

“What we have to look at now, I think, is the fact that reimbursements are flat, hospitals are really struggling to be sustainable.”

Samaritan serves the approximately 290,000 residents in Linn, Benton and Lincoln counties.

“How can we take care of 290,000 people with the infrastructure we have in a meaningful, sustainable way?” Cahill asked.

Retiring Practitioners

Then Samaritan is seeing another problem that's complicating all of this, Cahill added: retirements.

“There are more clinicians retiring today than are being created in the residency program,” he said. “We're seeing a decline in clinicians. There's not enough nurses being generated in the nursing programs to replace the nurses that are retiring.”

It's a complicated problem, he said, noting that one cause is that residency programs are generally capped at the number of residents they accepted 25 or 30 years ago. Now, as Baby Boomers retire, “we're not creating more doctors and the same is true in the nursing program.

“We're having more people retire than we can get educated and through the process.”

That, he said, is a “bottleneck” that won't be solved even if hospitals can improve their reimbursement rates.

“There are no easy solutions,” Cahill said.

With the lack of available practitioners, particularly those who want to practice in a rural setting,

Samaritan branches are “all of a sudden competing against ourselves” in trying to deliver the same services at all five hospitals.

“We need more clinicians and we need them at all five sites.”

“There are not enough anesthesiologists right now, and there's other constraints.”

Consolidation Solution?

Faced with a shortage of clinicians and financial shortfalls, Cahill said, the best way to address the issue would be to consolidate certain services. The most likely prospects are women's and children's services, obstetrics, general surgery, orthopedics and urology, the latter being a “growth strategy” for Samaritan.

He noted that for the past 25 years, each of the five hospitals has done “five of everything.”

“We believe consolidating services is the best way to ensure the delivery of those services in our system right now, because we think we can't hire the staff to man those services across all five hospitals in a meaningful way. It's becoming cost-prohibitive to do that because there's just not enough doctors to hire.”

He said the goal would be to “consolidate services in a safe way to create higher volumes at a site in a more sustainable way, and staff maybe three units instead of five units.”

For example, Cahill said, deliveries of babies may take place in Albany instead of Lebanon, though mothers would still visit their OBGYN practitioners at local clinics prior to actually giving birth. Inpatient surgery might take



Marty Cahill

place somewhere other than Lebanon.

“They'd go see their doctor every day that can see them, Monday through Friday, in the clinic, Cahill said. “If they had outpatient surgery that they needed, they would still get that outpatient surgery in Lebanon.”

Public Weigh-In on ‘Proposal’

Cahill said a coterie of “clinicians and some administrators and folks” have weighed the issues and are producing a proposal that will be introduced to the public in the near future.

“We've got to talk to internal stakeholders, external stakeholders, people that have interest in this, and get feedback from everybody,” he said, cautioning, “The proposal is not a plan. There's no decision made yet on that proposal.”

He said “listening tours” will be conducted, in which local residents would be provided the “data” behind problems and “we have to do a lot of listening.”

“This topic is a very emotional topic. And so the first thing that I want to do, that the team wants to do, is listen to everybody, hear the concerns, and then start to address those concerns in a meaningful way with data. We've got to validate the data and make sure we have all the right information, and then we've got to start to talk to people about that as well.”

Samaritan is willing to provide speakers for local community groups and service clubs interested in discussing the situation. To connect, email sustainability@sam-health.org. Those interested in voicing their opinion on prospective closures can do so by email at actionnetwork.org/letters/save-our-birth-centers.

“We're looking for all the input that we can get,” Cahill said.

CIRCUIT COURT

From page 3

Hope Rene Hodge, 20, charged June 18 with assault III.

Kevin Ray Holt, 58, charged July 8 with DUII (alcohol) and reckless driving.

Charges against **Melissa Kay Hunter**, 38, of unlawful delivery of methamphetamine, unlawful possession of cocaine and recklessly endangering another person were dismissed without prejudice on May 8.

David Michael Idsinga, 40, sentenced June 23 to 40 days jail, 36 mos. supervised probation and \$400 in fines after pleading no contest to DV unlawful use of a weapon and two counts of DV menacing. Additional charges of menacing and harassment dismissed.

Cody William Kledzinski, 27, charged July 11 with DUII (liquor), reckless driving, driving while suspended, recklessly endangering another person, and failure to perform duties of drive when property is damaged.

Kristy Lynne Lacombe-McBain, 45, sentenced June 13 to 30 mos. with the Oregon Dept. of Corrections, 24 mos. post-prison supervision, five years supervised probation and \$300 in fines after pleading

guilty to DV assault I and DV menacing. Strangulation and harassment charges dismissed.

Caleb Ray Lybarger, 20, sentenced June 18 to 20 days jail, 36 mos. supervised probation and a \$200 fine after pleading no contest to luring a minor. Three counts of sexual abuse I and a charge of online sexual corruption of a child II were dismissed.

Colton Michael McCorkle, 20, placed in the diversion program after pleading no contest to DUII (liquor) with a .09% BAC, and sentenced June 13 to a \$265 fine after pleading no contest to person under 21 purchasing or possessing alcohol.

Patrick Lee McNees, 31, sentenced June 18 to 120 hours jail, 18 mos. supervised probation after pleading guilty to identity theft and failure to appear. Theft II and computer crime charges dismissed.

Heather Dawn Meeks, 36, sentenced July 10 to one year revocation of a driver's license, 35 days jail and 24 mos. supervised probation after pleading no contest to unauthorized use of a vehicle, escape III and FTA I. Another FTA I and two counts of fleeing were dismissed.

Joshua Kalani Moss, 49, sentenced June 11 to a \$440 fine after pleading no contest

to failure to report as a sex offender.

Abby Leigh Mueller, 21, charged July 14 with assault II, unlawful use of a weapon, menacing and harassment. Bail set at \$500,000.

Charges against **Brian Patrick Murphy**, 53, of unlawful delivery of methamphetamine, unlawful possession of cocaine and recklessly endangering another person were dismissed without prejudice on May 9.

Kamara Robinson Olson, 29, ordered on June 27 to pay restitution after pleading guilty to criminal mischief I.

Dani Rena Pace, 39, charged July 9 with four counts of forgery I.

John Ray Porter, 34, charged July 7 with theft I and two counts of aggravated identity theft.

Michael Anthony Rivers, 32, charged July 14 with coercion and attempted sexual abuse I. Bail set at \$25,000.

Daniel Ryan Salo, 40, indicted July 9 on a charge of forgery I for fraudulent \$100 bills.

Caden Alexander Smith, 23, charged July 9 with criminal mischief I.

Captian Yeaauh Sun, 28, placed in the diversion program after pleading no contest to DUII (liquor).

A charge against **Jaime Mauricio Villa-Uruchima**, 40, of criminal mistreatment I was dismissed without prejudice June 12.

Joseph J. Warren, 57, sentenced June 18 to a \$200 fine after pleading no contest to menacing. Charges of pointing a firearm at another and unlawful use of a weapon were dismissed.

Joshua Webb, 47, charged July 8 with burglary I, theft III, possession of a burglary tool or theft device, and felon in possession of a restricted weapon.

Troy Steven Williamson, 24, charged June 27 with robbery I, theft III and assault IV. Bail set at \$50,000.

Michael R. Wiltgen, 51, charged June 26 with unlawful use of a weapon, menacing and pointing a firearm at another.

Bryan Matthew Young, 36, sentenced June 20 to one year suspension of driver's license, 48 hours jail, 18 mos. bench probation and \$1,000 in fines and fees after pleading no contest to DUII (liquor). Reckless driving charge dismissed.

One dead, three injured in crash

An Albany boy was pronounced dead at the scene of a single-vehicle crash in Lebanon.

The Linn County Sheriff's Office reported they received a call at about 1 a.m. on June 14 for an accident on Middle Ridge Drive. The LCSO, Brownsville Rural Fire District and Lebanon Fire District responded to the scene and found the crash location on a gravel section of Middle Ridge Drive. It appeared a 2021 Chevrolet pickup failed to negotiate a corner and struck a tree.

Four unidentified teenage boys – ages 16 and 17, two from Albany and two from Lebanon – were in the vehicle at the time of the crash. It was

determined one of the Albany boys was ejected from the vehicle and was pronounced dead at the scene. The other boys had serious injuries and were transported to local area hospitals. Two of the boys were transported to Corvallis Good Samaritan Regional Medical Center and one boy was transported to Samaritan Albany General Hospital.

Sheriff Michelle Duncan said this accident marks the third fatal motor vehicle crash in Linn County handled by LCSO that week.

The investigation is ongoing. Anyone with information related to this incident is asked to contact Detective Scott Tennant at (541) 967-3950.

Lt. Nunes rises to battalion chief

By Sarah Brown

Lebanon Local

Lebanon Fire District Lt. Erin Nunes was promoted to Battalion Chief during the district's Board Meeting July 8.

Fire Chief Joseph Rodondi said that during her 18-plus years with the LFD, Nunes "constantly strived" to grow in increasing responsibilities, added to her education and skills, volunteered her time and expertise for others, and coordinated many special events that helped bind the LFD family – something that is "noticed and appreciated."

"Her commitment and passion to the fire service, and specifically this organization and the community, is unwavering," Rodondi said. "It shows in her passion to influence others – especially in the Young Women's Academy, mentoring those to emulate her success."

Board Member Dale White took the opportunity to reflect on his experience with Nunes, watching her prove her dependability and develop in leadership over the years.

Nunes thanked her family for their support.

"My family has been amazing and really pushed me to succeed in this organization,"



Photos by Sarah Brown

John Tacy, Division Chief of Operations, swears in Lt. Erin Nunes as the new battalion chief of LFD while her children Davin and Sierra Nunes stand beside her.

she said. "Without their help, there's no way that I could've done it."

And with that, her daughter, Sierra Nunes, pinned a new badge on the battalion chief's lapel.

In other business, Chief

Rodondi:

- Swore-in incumbents Matt Herb, Wyatt King and Rob Boren;

- Informed the board the new BLS (Basic Life Support) ambulance pilot program has begun.

KSHO
94.1 FM-920 AM
The Best Music
www.ksho.net

THE ACTION
Stream
willamettevalleysports.com

KGAL
SmartTalk 1580
www.kgal.com



Photos by Sarah Brown
Captain Kimberly Hyde, Officer Zac McKinney, Lt. Taylor Jackson and Lt. Ryan Padua stand before City Council while Police Chief Frank Stevenson describes the heroic actions McKinney took to save a life.

Officer awarded Lifesaving Medal

By Sarah Brown
Lebanon Local

Lebanon Police Officer Zac McKinney was honored during a special presentation at the City Council meeting on July 9.

Police Chief Frank Stevenson explained that Lebanon Police received a call about an unconscious 32-year-old male on June 10. When McKinney arrived, he found the male unresponsive and purple in color. He found there was no pulse, so he began chest compressions and completed two full rounds of CPR before medics arrived. The

male, at that moment, began to breathe and medics took over. After arriving at the hospital, the subject made a full recovery.

"Throughout the incident, Officer McKinney demonstrated composure, decisive action and unwavering commitment, preserving life," Stevenson said. "His quick response and immediate intervention were critical and directly contributed to saving the life of this man."

Stevenson presented McKinney with a Citation for Lifesaving and a Lifesaving Medal for his action.

In other business, the council:

- Heard from Marilyn Belcher, who spoke in favor of an emergency alert system for the local area;
- Heard a report from Human Resources;
- Held a public hearing concerning an appeal of a Planning Commission decision about code interpretation regarding whether recreational trails are permitted in low-density residential zones (CI-24-01). The council upheld the Planning Commission's decision 5-1; Councilor David McClain opposed.



Photo provided by LFD
Debris from a single-vehicle crash lays in the road while power lines drape over the truck that caused the damage.

Truck takes out Main St. hydrant, power pole

First responders responded to a crash July 13 that resulted in a broken power pole near Wing Ming's restaurant.

Lebanon Fire District reported they were dispatched at approximately 6:30 p.m. after a vehicle crashed into a power pole at the corner of Main and W Elmore streets.

Crews found a pickup truck had struck a fire hydrant, sign pole and utility pole before coming to rest with live power lines draped over it. The driver was alert and re-

mained in the truck while waiting for Pacific Power to secure the lines. He was then taken to Lebanon Community Hospital.

According to police logs, a witness saw the driver's vehicle traveling south when it suddenly turned west and collided with the pole. It was determined the driver, who was not identified, had a medical emergency and was transported to the hospital.

The cause of the crash is still under investigation.



Firefighters stop old mill vegetation fire before it reaches structures

Lebanon firefighters were able to contain a six-acre vegetation fire within the city before it could reach any structures.

At 8:50 p.m. on June 17, Lebanon Fire District responded to a call for a small vegetation fire at the old Santiam-Willamette mill site, located east of Milton Street and west of the Santiam River.

LFD reported that the incident, initially called in as a small fire, was quickly upgraded to a first alarm after multiple callers reported heavy smoke visible from Oak Street. Fire crews gained access through a locked gate off Milton Street. Upon arrival, they found approximately one to two acres burning with moderate fire behavior and no immediate threat to nearby structures or exposures.

Due to the rough terrain and limited access within

the area, crews were unable to conduct a direct mobile attack. Instead, firefighters implemented a containment strategy using the existing wide roadways surrounding the fire. Favorable weather conditions allowed the fire to be safely boxed in on all four sides. Firefighters implemented a strategic backburn operation to further assist with containing the fire.

After the fire's forward progress was stopped, crews established a secure wetline around the entire perimeter and worked to cool internal hotspots using hand tools and backpack sprayers.

The fire burned close to six acres, with no structures threatened or injuries reported. It took about two-and-a-half hours to complete the work.

The cause of the fire remains under investigation.



REP.JAMICATE@OREGONLEGISLATURE.GOV 503-986-1411

Hey Lebanon!

I'm here to serve you!

Never hesitate to reach out to my office for help with government agencies, concerns over legislation, or to get clarity on things happening in Salem!



Get my emails!

Visit my Legislative page to register for my in-depth and informative emails.



Subscribe at OREGONLEGISLATURE.GOV/CATE



Photo provided by LFD

The 2007 Pierce fire engine is loaded up and ready to head to Nevada.

ENTEK gives LFD a lift

Lebanon Fire District expressed its gratitude after ENTEK offered to transport a fire engine to Nevada for retrofitting, an offer that saves the district thousands of dollars.

The fire district is sending their 2007 Pierce fire engine to Fire Trucks Unlimited in Henderson, Nev., where it will undergo a complete refurbishment.

According to a press release, the collaboration began with a family conversation between LFD Battalion Chief Blaine Suing and his father, Marty Suing, ENTEK's Director of Fabrication. When Blaine mentioned that the district needed to transport the truck to Henderson, Marty saw an opportunity to help. "When my son told me they were planning to drive it down themselves, I remembered ENTEK has a manufacturing facility in Henderson," Marty told LFD. "I brought the idea to our owner, Larry Keith, and he didn't hesitate – he immediately saw it as a chance to give back."

Fire Chief Joseph Rodondi told Lebanon Local that Shovel Ready Trucking in Lebanon

makes trips to ENTEK's Henderson facility, so it made sense to ENTEK leaders to help LFD in this way.

The engine retrofit will include a full rebuild of the engine, transmission and pump, along with new paint and upholstery to restore both the interior and exterior.

With the cost of new fire engines increasing by 17-21% annually since 2020, budgeting for replacements has become increasingly difficult, LFD reported. Refurbishing the engine will extend its service life at roughly one-third the cost of purchasing a new unit.

LFD stated that the trip to Nevada would have been costly and logistically challenging for the agency.

"This is a wonderful example of a public-private partnership and helps us be fiscally responsible to our taxpayers," Lebanon Fire District Fire Chief Joseph Rodondi said. "Getting that vehicle to Henderson would have been a significant expense for the district. ENTEK's support saves us thousands of dollars – resources we can now dedicate elsewhere."

Train art stands guard at chamber

By Sarah Brown
Lebanon Local

The Lebanon Chamber of Commerce held a special ribbon cutting ceremony to celebrate a fence.

Rebecca Grizzle, the chamber's executive director, explained during the June 20 ceremony that as the chamber was renovating its building, staff realized they would need the addition of a fence to protect the updated property.

The chamber approached Rick Franklin of Albany & Eastern Railroad to see if he would provide a fence around the building, adding that he could include a plaque with information about the railroad. Franklin went a step further – actually several steps further, "because Rick doesn't do anything small," Grizzle said – and designed a fence commemorating his company's Santa Maria 205 steam engine train.

The intentionally-rusted metal sheet fence features a cutout of the Santa Maria with its iconic steam ribboning above the rail cars.

"He could have done the minimum, but (instead) over-delivered in the most spectacular way," Grizzle said. "We're proud to call this piece



Photo by Sarah Brown

Rebecca Grizzle, fourth from right, cuts the ribbon for the chamber's new fence. With her are, from left, chamber ambassadors Cindy Ongers, Kathy Gay, Nancey West; Nancy Randall and Jacob Snodgrass of Albany & Eastern Railroad; and chamber ambassadors Jenni Grove, Betty Schmidt and Adrienne Irwin.

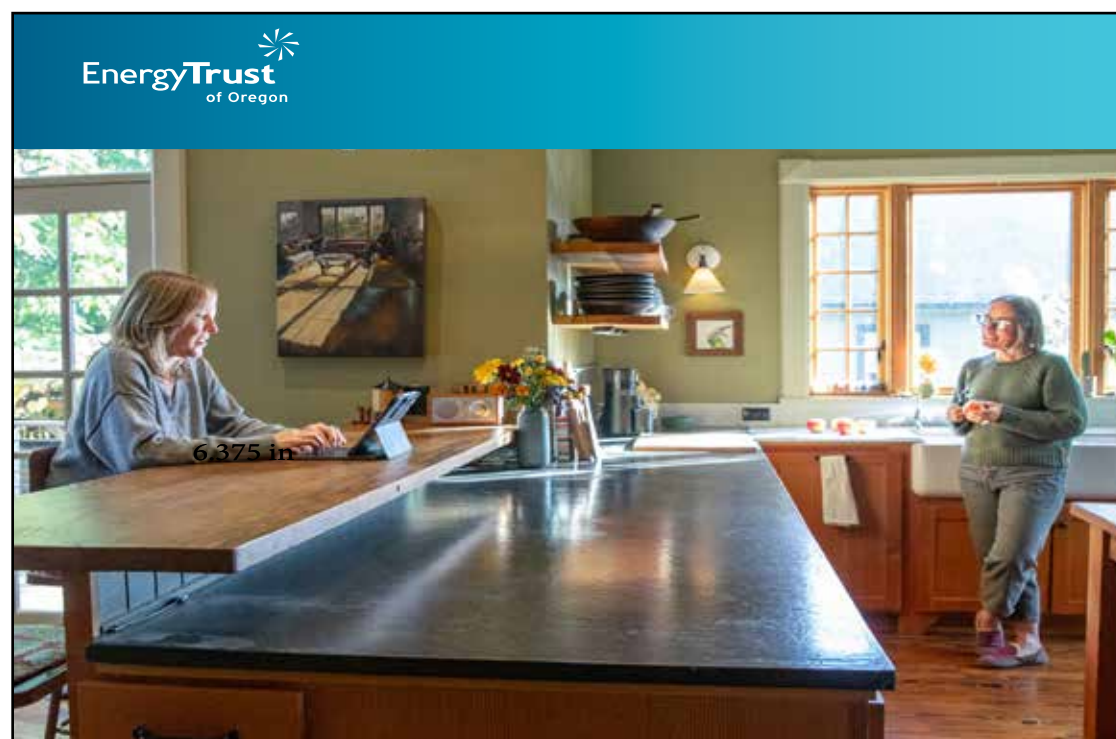
of art part of Lebanon's story."

Jacob Snodgrass, general manager of Albany & Eastern Railroad, was present at the ribbon cutting. He shared the company's dream of providing a family-friendly activity to Lebanon that would attract others to the city. That vision resulted in Santiam Excursion Trains, something they believe brings positivity to the community, he said.

"Already we have people that are coming, checking it out, taking selfies with it," Grizzle said of the new fence. "It is stunning."

It's a functional piece of art that, according to Grizzle, was a costly endeavor donated to the chamber.

"Thanks to Rick for his vision, his generosity and his heart for this community," Grizzle said.



EnergyTrust
of Oregon



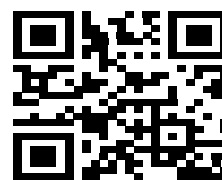
Lumina
Hospice & Palliative Care

As an independent
nonprofit, your care
– not profit –
is our top priority.

Supportive Care | Hospice Care | Grief Care

Care Illuminated

541.757.9616
luminahospice.org



**WHEN IT COMES
TO SAVING MONEY,
YOUR HOME HAS
A LOT TO SAY.**

TAKE THE ONLINE HOME ENERGY ASSESSMENT
To learn more, visit www.energytrust.org/assessment.

Jami Cate announces she will run for state Senate seat

Rep. Jami Cate announced last week that she is running for the Oregon Senate District 6 seat, currently occupied by Cedric Hayden, whose term ends in January 2027.

Oregon's primary election is May 19, 2026, 10 months after Cate's announcement on July 19.

Cate has represented state House District 11, which includes all of Linn County except for Albany, Millersburg and Tangent, and Jefferson and Marion in Marion County, since 2021.

A fifth-generation farmer from rural Lebanon, Cate said in a statement that she will bring "common-sense leadership, deep community roots, and commitment to rural values to the State Senate."

"Rural Oregon deserves a voice that fights for our farms, forests, and freedoms," said Cate. "As your state

representative, I've stood firm against overregulation and Portland-driven agendas, advocating for wildfire recovery, agriculture, and accountable governance. I'm running for Senate District 6 to continue this work, ensuring our communities thrive for the next generation."

Among her accomplishments in office, Cate said she has been a leader in wildfire recovery efforts, pushed for accountability at every turn, and defended constitutional rights."

Her list of priorities, if elected, includes:

- Protecting Rural Economies: Supporting agriculture, timber, and small businesses by reducing regulatory burdens.
- Wildfire Prevention and Recovery: Advancing meaningful forest management to protect communities from future wildfires.



Jami Cate

- Fiscal Responsibility: Opposing new taxes and demanding transparency in state spending, including ODOT and other mismanaged agencies.
- Standing up for the Unborn: Continuing to be an unabashed defender of those who do not have a voice, Jami Cate is the author of the only pro-life legislation that has actually passed the Legisla-

ture in recent history, and has always been endorsed by Oregon Right to Life.

• Preserving Freedoms: Defending Constitutional and Second Amendment rights with proven results.

In addition to running a grass seed farm, Cate has also been a longtime member of the Lebanon Strawberry Festival, including serving as board chair and association treasurer; and has served in various leadership capacities with the Lebanon Museum Foundation; the Oregon Tall Fescue Commission; and the Lebanon Community Foundation.

Cate listed nearly 30 endorsements from local politicians and law enforcement officials in her candidacy announcement.

Sen. Fred Girod, who formerly represented much of Linn County before redistricting moved east Linn

County out of Senate District 9, described Cate as "smart, articulate, and a counterweight to Portland's extreme liberal agenda."

"I trust her to support our rural way of life. She simply is the best."

Linn County Commission Chair Roger Nyquist said: "When our community needs something, Jami Cate is there, every time. I am honored to endorse her and am committed to helping her get elected. Jami will be a strong voice for Linn County and rural Oregon in the Senate."

"Jami Cate was a leader in pushing back on the horrific drawdowns at Green Peter and Lookout Point Dams, and the damages they've caused our communities," said Lebanon Mayor Kenneth Jackola. "She has worked to keep our citizens informed to help amplify our voices."

Pool director resigns

By Sarah Brown
Lebanon Local

Mark McAllister, board director of the Lebanon Aquatic District, resigned suddenly from his position on June 16.

Board Chair Kim Kendall, when she made the announcement at that night's regular meeting, said he informed her he'd made the decision a few months ago to resign.

McAllister told Lebanon Local he grew up swimming and lifeguarding, and today continues to use the Lebanon pool regularly. Six years ago he decided to serve a

four-year term. When that term was up, he ran for a second term.

"I did six years on the board," McAllister said. "I felt I did my duty and it's time to step down."

During his time on the board, he said he worked hard with other board members and staff to fundraise for much-needed pool improvements which threaten the pool's continued use. He is passionate about keeping the pool open.

"I wish them the best. Lebanon needs the pool," he said.

PUBLIC SAFETY

From page 5

documented.

3:00 p.m. - Caller reported theft of winning lottery ticket, 800 block W Carolina St.

4:16 p.m. - Report taken for theft of phone from car, 1300 block Franklin St. Loss valued at \$800.

5:41 p.m. - Crash reported in area of Blueberry Hill/Stoltz Hill roads. According to LCSO, Leon Nissen, 20, of Monroe, was riding a Ninja Street bike when another vehicle pulled out in front of him, causing him to turn towards the ditch and crash. Minor injuries and no citations issued. Report taken.

6:55 p.m. - John Cole, 47, of Lebanon, arrested on felony

warrant, for harassment after report of disturbance in 38700 block Lacombe Dr. Report taken.

8:39 p.m. - Caller said subject intentionally ran over a jar of peanut butter; caller found large globs of peanut butter on her house and believes he threw it there, 1400 block S 5th St.

9:07 p.m. - Caller reported fight involving six people, 300 block W Rose St. Argument was over men using women's restroom.

9:18 p.m. - Theft reported in 31100 block Old Santiam Hwy. According to LCSO, situation appeared to be ongoing civil issues, and suspect reportedly stole the lug nuts off of disputed vehicle to prevent the vehicle from leaving. Report taken.

July 10

8:24 a.m. - LPD assisted LFD with call regarding transients starting fire on old mill site, 800 Milton St. Shania Little Sims, 27, cited on Benton County Circuit Court warrant.

8:57 a.m. - Caller reported green cardboard box near railroad tracks near Rite Aid. Caller didn't want to open it because "it could be nothing, but you never know these days." Officer found box containing unconsenting items; wind blew it into the canal.

10:08 a.m. - Caller said former tenant abandoned pet rabbit and now neighbor is trying to kill it with pitchfork.

11:33 a.m. - Maria Crow, 45, cited for speeding, 73/55,

See Public Safety, Page 11

BUSINESS DIRECTORY

LOVE WHERE YOU LIVE, SHOP WHERE YOU LIVE.

HOME & GARDEN

SUMMIT

HOME & GARDEN

541-258-7107

www.summitacehg.com

MON- FRI 7:30AM-6PM

SATURDAY 8AM-5PM

1055 Tangent St. Lebanon

INSURANCE

Irwin Insurance Agency

Enriching The Lives In The Communities We Serve

COUNTRY

FINANCIAL

Auto • Home • Life

Business • Retirement

(541) 224-0081

JEWELRY

Tremi's Jewelry

Custom Design

Diamond Specialist

722 S. Main Street

tremisjewelry.com

(541) 258-2888

LOANS

loanDepot

NMLS#174457

JOLENE MULLENIX

Loan Consultant

NMLS #853502

(541) 570-2322

www.loanDepot.com/jmullenix

Equal Housing Opportunity | 56 E. Airport Rd., Lebanon, OR 97355. loanDepot.com, LLC NMLS ID 174457. Licensed by the OR Division of Finance and Corporate Securities, Mortgage Lending ML-4972. (091923 120284-1723)

REAL ESTATE

OREGON

Real Estate PROFESSIONALS

2345 S. Santiam Hwy., Lebanon, OR 97355

oregonrealestateprofessionals.com

(541) 258-6100

EQUIPMENT

CASCADE

OUTDOOR POWER EQUIPMENT

"Powerful Equipment, Local Service"

Hours: M-F 8am-5pm

Sat 8am-noon

1215 W Airway Road

Lebanon OR 97355

CascadePowerLebanon.com

(541) 451-5213

FURNITURE

Hometown Comfort Station

2550 S. SANTIAM HWY

(541) 259-3646

Sodaville mayor suggests 'exempt well' option

By Sarah Brown
Lebanon Local

Sodaville Mayor Brian Lewis is told the City Council during its June 19 meeting there might be a loophole to drill an "exempt well."

He learned from a drilling company the city could drill a new well and call it an exempt well, which might yield the city up to 15,000 gallons per day. According to ORS 537.545, an exempt well doesn't require a water right permit for certain specified uses.

Lewis was informed that Well 3 is likely the best water, and there's a new well already being drilled 500 feet away. Wells in that area produce 40-50 gallons a minute, he said. Well 3 had been re-drilled to 285 feet deep, which is believed to be too deep. He thinks if they could drill another well and hook it into the city's piping for Well 3, they might be able to pull 15,000 gallons a day.

Lewis said he will do more research to make sure these ideas are legal.

"If we could drill another well and use it as our exempt well and draw 15,000 gallons

a day, that would really help," he said.

During the July 17 meeting, Lewis provided an update.

The family drilling a well 500 feet from Well 3 went down 120 feet and are pumping 106 gallons per minute. Before the city drilled Well 3 deeper, it was pulling 50 gallons per minute; now it's pulling 30 gallons per minute, he said.

In other business:

- Lewis reported the state is allowing a two-year extension on a grant. A few years ago the city was awarded a \$367,000 grant for the Well 6 project. A portion has been used, but access to the remaining funds expired June 15. The city was trying to rewrite the grant application so it could be used for water hauling, if needed.

- Resident Gary Hahn asked the council if they can do anything about the dust on Vine Street. Staff said they would look at what dust suppression for roads in need would cost. Burns reported he received a \$10,000 estimate to cover two dusty roads with lignins. He will look at other options,



Photos by Sarah Brown

The Sodaville City Council conducts business during its regular meeting on June 19.

such as Earthbind.

- Burns reported the city is now on water restrictions and they will begin water hauling on Aug. 1.

- McGuire reported the city and volunteers spent a work day on June 14 to place partial fencing around the basketball court. The council scheduled a work day to finish installing the fence on Aug. 2 at 8 a.m.

- Burns reported May and June's water loss were both at 11%.

- The council approved a purchase of a well sounder that can read the static water levels in wells; cost is \$1,445. Burns said it will help him monitor and manage the water in the city better. Currently the city pays a third party to do the measurements, but the city could perform the tests as often as it likes if it owns its own, Burns said.

- The council adopted a \$700,921 budget for fiscal year 2025-2026.

- The council approved the division of a property lot at 30767 Alder St.

- The council accepted a \$50,000 grant from the Safe Drinking Water Revolving Loan Fund from SIPP for the city's Water Master Plan updated. The money will put the city in a stronger position to obtain future grants.

- The council discussed security camera replacement options for the park and City Hall.

- McGuire gave an update about stolen water. A man had taken water from a hydrant in Lebanon that is reserved only for the City of Sodaville; the city is charged for all water used there. The man apparently told Lebanon he was given permission to fill his truck with the water so he could fill his pool. The City of Lebanon will credit Sodaville for the stolen water.

- The council discussed options for a residence that has very overgrown weeds.

- The council scheduled a work session to review water rate increases for Aug. 6 at 5:30 p.m. The next council meeting will be Aug. 25 at 7 p.m.

PUBLIC SAFETY

From page 10

35100 block Hwy. 34.

11:50 a.m. - Caller reported theft of phone that was left at Marathon gas station.

1:35 p.m. - John Michael Meiris, 62, cited on LCCC warrant for probation violation.

2:24 p.m. - Caller reported hit and run by Fed Ex truck on parked car, 600 block S Main St.

2:51 p.m. - Jonathan Wayne Springs, 19, cited for driving while suspended, 500 block N Santiam Hwy.

3:21 p.m. - Jacquelyn Ann Mattson, 32, cited for failure to obey traffic control device, near Safeway.

3:33 p.m. - Tracy Lynn Flores-Rosas, 61, cited for cell phone use while driving, 1500 block S Main St.

4:14 p.m. - Caller reported hit and run near Walmart.

4:29 p.m. - Kalista Faith Scott, 21, cited for no valid license and driving uninsured, W Carolina/S 6th Sts.

5:16 p.m. - Kevin Dee Price Jr., 33, cited for failure to use seatbelt, E Sherman/S Main Sts.

6:29 p.m. - Report taken for theft of electric scooter, 500 block W Oak St. Loss valued at \$175.

9:06 p.m. - Caller reported hit and run on parked car in EN-TEK parking lot.

9:54 p.m. - Bradley Mark

Springer, 64, cited for driving while suspended, S 3rd/W Oak Sts.

11:12 p.m. - Emmanuel Alejandro Cortes, 38, cited for driving uninsured, 2600 block S Santiam Hwy.

July 9

11:16 a.m. - Donald Brady, 37, of Lebanon, arrested on LMC warrant, 30900 block Santiam Hwy. Report taken.

11:24 a.m. - John Rios, 29, of Lebanon, cited for driving uninsured, failure to register vehicle, 5100 block Santiam Hwy.

12:55 p.m. - Credit card fraud reported in 33000 block Sand Ridge Dr. Total loss reported as \$2,518.37. Report taken.

2:11 p.m. - Deputy responded to complaint about baseballs being hit onto caller's property from neighboring property in 36200 block Cold Springs Rd. Deputy mediated situation. Non-criminal.

2:58 p.m. - Vehicle burglary reported in 33100 block Tennessee Rd. Deputy took report of missing diaper bag and purse from vehicle.

4:41 p.m. - LCSO responded to report from unhappy resident that tree trimmers dispatched by utility company had "butchered" her trees in 35500 block Truelove Dr. Civil matter.

7:58 p.m. - Suicidal subject transported to hospital per their request, 300 block Gilbert St.

July 8

8:04 a.m. - Caller reported son was drinking last night and this morning there is blood everywhere, 400 block S Main St. Officer found blood on ground and blankets outside. Medics said son seemed intoxicated, disoriented and lost a lot of blood. Not sure whether it was assault.

8:16 a.m. - Travis Peters, 24, of Lebanon, cited for driving uninsured, 3300 block S. Santiam Hwy.

9:05 a.m. - Caller reported subject yelling "you killed the family" and "where's the wood to burn the bodies." Eddie Zarr, 46, cited on warrants with LMC and LCCC.

2:00 p.m. - Lynette Irene Johnson, 46, cited on warrants with LJC, LMC, SHMC and Linn County.

2:56 p.m. - Brian Claude Hall, 50, cited for failure to carry proof of insurance, 2000 block S Santiam Hwy.

3:19 p.m. - Carolyn Louise Coleman, 49, cited for felony elude, fail to carry and present, driving while suspended and driving uninsured, Mary/N 5th Sts.

7:25 p.m. - Andre Alvarez, 19, of Albany, cited for speeding, 78/55, 35100 block Hwy. 34.

9:40 p.m. - Camryn Eilers, 20, of Lebanon, cited for speeding, 75/55, Hwy. 34/Agan Rd.

11:40 p.m. - Deputies responded to report of domes-

tic disturbance in 37600 block River Rd. One individual taken into custody on police officer hold. Report taken.

July 7

12:12 a.m. - Angel Manuel Salinas, 22, arrested for DUII, Denny School Rd./Oak St.

12:23 a.m. - Jesus Antonio Aguellar, 22, of Lebanon, cited for driving without valid operator's license, Hwy. 34/Denny School Rd.

1:17 a.m. - Caller following "highly intoxicated" male walking down Grant Street and hitting meters with stick.

3:44 a.m. - Shay Kepler, 28, of Sweet Home, cited on warrant, 2600 block S. Main St.

11:25 a.m. - Caller reported losing backpack from truck along Santiam Hwy and later noticed \$100 transaction from debit card.

12:06 p.m. - Ricky Leon Sizemore, 69, given 30-day exclusion from city parks for alcohol use at Ralston Park.

2:23 p.m. - Lorenzo Cisneros, 39, of Lebanon, cited for failure to renew vehicle registration, Airport/Main roads.

5:59 p.m. - Caller reported hit and run on parked car in Walmart parking lot.

9:20 p.m. - Officer responded to two-car crash involving hit and run, S 2nd/W Sherman Sts. Witnesses said passengers in car that was at fault abandoned car and ran off.

10:25 p.m. - Officers assisted

LCSO with suicidal subject who had sword.

11:26 p.m. - Caller reported couple fighting in Safeway parking lot. Male broke bottle and raised it toward female.

July 6

12:59 a.m. - Jenny Sue Biggs, 51, cited for driving uninsured, S Williams/E Ash Sts.

3:36 a.m. - Tyrel Glenn Attebery, 44, cited on BCCC warrant for FTA on original charge of reckless endangerment, criminal mischief II and reckless driving.

3:47 a.m. - Antiwinette Hergert, 53, of Sweet Home, cited for speeding, 75/45, Brewster Rd./Eddings Lane.

3:49 a.m. - Deputies assisted Lebanon police and K9 to take Travis Pressey, 47, into custody for multiple warrants, 400 block Tangent St. Transported to Linn County Jail.

3:59 a.m. - Travis Earl Pressey, 47, arrested on LCCC warrant for criminal mischief II, OSPB warrant for parole violation, and LMC warrant for FTA.

12:35 p.m. - Caller reported theft of wallet from car, 600 block E Carolina St.

2:34 p.m. - Officer responded to two-car crash, 400 block Tangent St. Witnesses said car swerved into U-Haul traveling in opposite direction. Forrest Manuel Woodward, 31, cited for driving while suspended

See Public Safety, Page 15

City Council holds first meeting in new location

By Sarah Brown
Lebanon Local

The Lebanon City Council held its first meeting in its new location in the community room at the Lebanon Public Library, 55 Academy St., on June 11.

Councilor Michelle Steinhebel said she likes the new setup, adding that a lot of technology went into the building to make it a successful move. The room provides more seating for the public, and the acoustics are improved from the council's former location, the Santiam Travel Station.

"I think this building is more fitting for a City Council than the old train station; even if our roots are kind of there," she said. "I think this is the next step in the growth of the city."

City Manager Ron Whitlatch pointed out the city's remaining American Rescue Plan Act monies helped fund the move, and the new dias and tables were built by inmates at the Oregon Department of Corrections.

Development code disagreements

After more than a year of refining a proposed amendment to the city's development code related to a recently adopted housing production strategy, the council found itself in a tie when the time came to vote on the ordinance and finally put the matter to bed.

The housing production strategy is a state-required document created by the city to identify how the city would promote housing production. The development code amendment before the council on this day outlined how the city intended to implement the policy, Community Development



Photos by Sarah Brown

The City Council conducts its first meeting in the public library's community room, which provides more seating and better sound for the public.

Director Kelly Hart explained.

The city met multiple times with consulting firm MIG Inc. and local stakeholders over the course of a year to help guide decisions made on the amendment.

Darci Rudzinski, with MIG Inc., provided an overview of the project, which included:

- Allowing small lot single-unit homes and cottage clusters;
- Removing infill design standards;
- Clarifying manufactured dwelling parks standards;
- Allowing tiny homes on wheels under certain conditions;
- Updating affording housing bonuses;
- And other code "clean up" items.

Councilor David McClain took the opportunity to express his opposition to the matter by reading from a prepared statement, noting also that he is speaking up on what he believes his constituents – the residents of Lebanon – would want.

"I keep hearing we must do this to solve a housing crisis," he said. "I would like to think

we get to determine our own destiny and our own crisis."

McClain gave a nod to those who've put in the effort to develop long-range plans for the city, but likened out-of-town policymakers as a team of foxes acting as security for a chicken coop.

"Becoming a city of renters instead of homeowners was not the vision of our city fathers, but instead has become the vision of developers and investors," he said.

McClain said in the past 10 years he has witnessed "substantial growth," including more apartments and fewer houses that fail to solve the city's issues. His stance is that the city should encourage home ownership and stay away from denser development that he believes will create more problems than solutions.

"I do not believe for a second it will make housing more affordable or more available for the lower income, or solve any homelessness issue," he said.

Councilor Dave Workman said he agreed with McClain's statement, but said it's too late to do anything without "running afoul of legislation," which



MIG Project Manager Darci Rudzinski, seen on the screen, waits for council approval on an amendment to the city's development code while Councilor Michelle Steinhebel and City Manager Ron Whitlatch go over notes.

has mandated these policies.

McClain and Councilor Dominic Conti voted against the ordinance, while Workman and Councilor Carl Mann approved it. Councilor Jeremy Salvage was absent, and Steinhebel stood in as council president while Mayor Kenneth Jackola was away. Steinhebel voted as the tie-breaker to approve the ordinance.

"While I don't agree with every single thing, actually, in the housing production strategy that we have tonight, I will say I also feel that I represent Lebanon," Steinhebel said.

She added that younger generations face different issues than older generations, and many of the proposed options are the only entry point option they have.

"I believe it's important for us to provide those opportunities," she said.

In other business, the council:

- Held a work session to review the city's Strategic Plan and hear an update on legislative affairs;

- Approved a two-year renewal contract with Municipal Judge Gerald Waite;

- Approved the annexation of 4.82 acres on S 5th Street;

- Approved a \$95.6 million budget for the 2025-2026 fiscal year, with a total expenditure budget of \$66.7 million;

- Approved a number of fund resolutions as the council, Budget Committee and Urban Renewal Agency Budget Committee;

- Heard from Police Chief Frank Stevenson who provided an overview of the police department's tow rotation policy. During this time, he explained the city began seeing an increase in abandoned RVs, trailers and boats a few years ago. It was reported that abatement of the vehicles can cost up to \$5,000, and the police department had trouble finding tow companies to remove them.

- Whitlatch mentioned during the work session that city staff are evaluating the feasibility of reopening the municipal jail. A work session on the matter will be held in July.

FOOD

=and=

Fun

**BITES AROUND THE BLOCK:
DISCOVER LOCAL YUM!**

**WE INVITE YOU TO EMBARK
ON A CULINARY ADVENTURE.**

**REDISCOVER YOUR TOWN
ONE PLATE AT A TIME.**

**DINE WITH PRIDE, KNOWING
THAT WITH EVERY BITE,
YOU'RE CELEBRATING OUR
LOCAL HERITAGE, TRADITIONS,
AND COMMUNITY SPIRIT.**

FREE McMuffin® Breakfast Sandwich

of equal or lesser value with purchase of any McMuffin® Breakfast Sandwich

Valid only at Lebanon, OR McDonald's®
Not valid with any other offer, discount, coupon or meal. Limit one coupon per person per visit.
Cash value 1/20 of 1 cent.
Expires 12/31/25

FREE Medium Fries and Medium Soft Drink

With purchase of a premium sandwich valued at \$2 or more

Valid only at Lebanon, OR McDonald's®
Not valid with any other offer, discount, coupon or meal. Limit one coupon per person per visit.
Cash value 1/20 of 1 cent.
Expires 12/31/25

TAQUERIA DOS ARBOLITOS

GREAT MEXICAN FOOD!

50 W. Oak St., Lebanon
541-258-5798

Work session fleshes out what is needed to reopen jail

By Sarah Brown
Lebanon Local

The City Council held a work session on July 9 addressing one of the City of Lebanon's goals outlined in the Strategic Plan for 2025-2029: the feasibility of reopening the jail.

Police Chief Frank Stevenson provided data and historical information about the jail and City Manager Ron Whitlatch presented funding opportunities before the council began discussing options.

Stevenson clarified that the jail in Lebanon is intended for holding people who are charged with Lebanon misdemeanor crimes, such as theft, assault, trespass, harassment, disorderly conduct, criminal mischief and driving offences.

"It provides local accountability for misdemeanor-level offenses," Stevenson said. "We're talking about community safety. It's holding individuals accountable."

The Lebanon jail was built in 2009 with the anticipation of being fully staffed with six corrections officers, but "we never got there, due to funding," Stevenson said. For 14 years, it was run by patrol officers, resulting in the limitation of patrol functions. A patrol officer had to return back to the jail every hour to check on the inmates, leaving one other patrol officer patrolling the city.

That, Stevenson said, ultimately decreased the safety of the patrol officer on the road as well as increased the liability of adults in custody who were essentially left alone.

For several months in 2020, the jail and court were closed. The jail then resumed oper-



Photos by Sarah Brown

City Council and staff look to Police Chief Frank Stevenson, far right, as he provides information about the municipal jail.

ations until the end of 2022, but with limitations. It was in 2023 when the decision was made to close the jail for a number of reasons, such as low staffing and the inability to reach ORS and CIS operating requirements.

Since 2023, three other municipal jails in Oregon have closed, leaving only three left in the state. Much of that was due to legal demands placed on the system, such as medical and staffing requirements.

Stevenson reported that during the past five years, calls for service increased 11%, misdemeanor cases increased 30% and warrants issued increased 52%. Also, there's an average of 68% of "failure to appear" incidents since 2022.

"So it's just a cycle right now," he said. "We're going out, we're conducting business, we're trying to hold people accountable for their actions, but it's just not being met."

Before the jail's closure, if a warrant was issued for failure to appear, Lebanon police

would locate the subject and put him in the municipal jail until his next court date. Now, essentially, people are just being given a piece of paper to go to court, and if they don't go, then they get another piece of paper, he said.

"There's no teeth to it," Stevenson said.

If the jail were fully staffed as originally planned, processing arrests and court appearances would be more efficient, more officers would be on patrol, and support service referrals would be more accessible to those who need it, he said.

The chief provided a breakdown of estimated funding currently needed to reopen and operate the jail: \$825,000 for six correction officers, \$75,000 for a required health-care provider, \$30,000 for insurance, \$317,200 for operational costs such as clothing, meals and maintenance. That's approximately \$1.2 million.

So how does Lebanon get there?

City Manager Ron Whit-

latch provided the three options before them:

Operational levy - An option that would be put before the voters. Whitlatch pointed out that the current General Obligation Bond for the library and justice center comes to an end in June 2027.

According to Finance Director Brandon Neish, taxpayers are paying about \$1.15 per \$1,000 of assessed value on the bond. Once that bond is paid off and - if agreed upon by voters - essentially replaced with this operational levy, taxpayers would pay about 78-cents per \$1,000.

Increase the City Services fee - This would require about \$12 to \$14 additional per month per water service bill and, Whitlatch said, is not a palatable option.

Reduce city services - To reach the needed \$1.2 million, the amount of services that would need to be cut (library, senior center, et al) is "pretty daunting and not very palatable," Whitlatch said.

Though he acknowledged it's a difficult (if not impossible) number to nail down, Councilor Dave Workman pressed for some sort of answer that quantifies how much citizens are paying to not have the jail open.

"The deterioration of the quality of life caused by the people who just keep going out there is a number we can't quantify, but it's affecting the quality of everybody's life.... That's not a safe way for our citizens to live and I think it's something we need to address."

Councilor David McClain asked how the budget has changed in the past 10 years,

to which Stevenson explained the budget hasn't changed based upon the jail, but what it would cost to operate the jail based on state-required standards "requires that extra" bit.

"Part of this is you've got inflationary costs since it's been open, but they were running the jail with their patrol staff," Whitlatch added. "There never was dedicated corrections officers for the jail when it opened. They just made it work, and now we're up against the wall where CIS (insurance) says 'no you can't do it that way,' and Oregon revised statutes says the same thing."

Based on a question posed by Mayor Ken Jackola, it was determined it would take about two years to get the jail open if the city went forward with a levy on the ballot and to hire and train additional officers.

"I think really the only option for us is an operational levy, in my opinion," Jackola said. "I don't think the people have an appetite for increased service fees.... If we did a levy, we'd actually see what the appetite of the city is for having a jail."

Lebanon Local later asked during the regular City Council meeting whether the council may intend to impose more City Service fees for the jail if voters turned down the operational levy.

"I think if your operations levy didn't pass, then you got the word from the community in that, and so to turn around and raise your City Service Fee, I'm not sure that would bode very well," Whitlatch said.

FOOD
=and=
Fun

**BITES AROUND THE BLOCK:
DISCOVER LOCAL YUM!**

**WE INVITE YOU TO EMBARK
ON A CULINARY ADVENTURE.**

**REDISCOVER YOUR TOWN
ONE PLATE AT A TIME.**

**DINE WITH PRIDE, KNOWING
THAT WITH EVERY BITE,
YOU'RE CELEBRATING OUR
LOCAL HERITAGE, TRADITIONS,
AND COMMUNITY SPIRIT.**

the POINT
RESTAURANT
EST. 1970

**DOWNLOAD OUR APP
TO SEE OUR DAILY SPECIALS**

Online Ordering • Outdoor Patio Section • Oregon Lottery

Sun- Thur: 8am- 8pm | Fri- Sat: 6am- 9pm
(541) 367- 1560 • 6305 US 20 Foster • pointswethehome.com

IxtaPa Mexican Restaurant

Gift Certificates Available Now!

\$2 OFF ANY LUNCH OR DINNER
Not valid with any other offer.

25 N Santiam Hwy • (541) 451-3995
ixtapamexicanrestaurant.com

Mon. - Thurs. • 11 A.M. - 9:30 P.M. | Fri. - Sat. • 11 A.M. - 10:30 P.M. | Sunday • 11 A.M. - 9 P.M.

REAL ESTATE SOLD

Following are Lebanon, Sweet Home, and Brownsville area real estate transactions recorded with the county during late June and July 2025. These are not properties for sale, and some transactions may represent a change in ownership within a family or corporation. Properties are listed by address, property/residence size and purchase price:

- 2867 Hazel Dr., Lebanon; 1165 sq.ft., One story, three bedroom, 1 ½ bath built in 1964; 0.37 acres; \$355,000.
- 1520 David Dr., Lebanon; additional details not listed; 0.23 acres; \$430,000.
- 2443 Roll Tide Ct., Lebanon; additional details not listed; 0.29 acres; \$670,000.
- 1462 Strawberry Ridge.,

- Sweet Home; 2190 sq.ft., Two story, three bedroom, 2 ½ bath built in 1995; 0.45 acres; \$335,000.
- 26945 Gap Rd., Brownsville; 660 sq.ft., One story with attic, two bedroom, one-bath built in 1946; 3.56 acres; \$420,000.
- 33920 Tallman Rd., Lebanon; 1461 sq.ft., One story, three bedroom, two-bath built in 1973; 2.18 acres; \$575,150.
- 415 Ash St., Lebanon; 1313 sq.ft., One story, three bedroom, two-bath built in 1965; 0.17 acres; \$360,000.
- 2444 Phillips Way., Lebanon; 2290 sq.ft., Two story, four bedroom, 2 ½ bath built in 2024; 0.16 acres; \$492,000.
- 2191 Ames Creek Rd., Sweet Home; additional details not listed; 0.5 acres;

- \$130,000.
- 846 5th Ave., Sweet Home; 940 sq.ft., One story, two bedroom, one-bath built in 1948; 0.22 acres; \$355,000.
- 28791 Liberty Rd., Sweet Home; 1696 sq.ft., One story, four bedroom, 1 ½ bath built in 1963; 1.08 acres; \$600,000.
- 680 Crowfoot Rd., Lebanon; 1324 sq.ft., One story with attic, three bedroom, one-bath built in 1942; 0.93 acres; \$475,000.
- 40712 Lacombe Dr., Lebanon; 2440 sq.ft., One story, three bedroom, one-bath built in 1979; 9.42 acres; \$749,900.
- 408 Depot Ave., Brownsville; 1881 sq.ft., Two story, four bedroom, 2 ½ bath built in 2021; 0.17 acres; \$445,000.
- 1261 44th Ave., Sweet Home; additional details not

- listed; 0.18 acres; \$373,000.
- 1041 Kees St., Lebanon; 1112 sq.ft., One story, three bedroom, two-bath built in 2006; 0.14 acres; \$330,000.
- 705 Tangent St., Lebanon; 1056 sq.ft., One story, two bedroom, one-bath built in 1910; 0.18 acres; \$159,000.
- 2590 6th St., Lebanon; 1660 sq.ft., One story, four bedroom, one-bath built in 1960; 0.14 acres; \$350,000.
- 2401 Ames Creek Rd., Sweet Home; 1389 sq.ft., One story, three bedroom, two-bath built in 1949; 0.6 acres; \$390,000.
- 4450 Knotty Pine Ct., Sweet Home; additional details not listed; 0.18 acres; \$417,300.
- 825 Rose St., Lebanon; 1176 sq.ft., One story, three bedroom, 1 ½ bath built in 1970; 0.26 acres; \$379,900.
- 2301 Main St., Sweet Home; additional details not listed; 0.77 acres; \$500,000.
- 41625 Marks Ridge Dr., Sweet Home; 2106 sq.ft., One story with basement, three bedroom, 2 ½ bath built in 1980; 5 acres; \$650,375.
- 1001 Walker Rd., Lebanon; 1409 sq.ft., One story, three bedroom, two-bath built in 2019; 0.12 acres; \$399,000.
- 704 Oak St., Brownsville; 1504 sq.ft., One story with attic, four bedroom, one-bath built in 1900; 0.19 acres; \$300,000.
- 28835 Hiltz Rd., Sweet Home; 2054 sq.ft., Two story, three bedroom, 2 ½ bath built in 1999; 6.2 acres; \$880,000.
- 37309 Scott Dr., Lebanon; 1928 sq.ft., One story, three bedroom, two-bath built in 1976; 5 acres; \$618,000.
- 36680 Edgemont Dr., Lebanon; 1296 sq.ft., One story, three bedroom, two-bath built in 1978; 2.73 acres; \$600,000.
- 1983 12th St., Lebanon, 1404 sq.ft., One story, three bedroom, two-bath built in 2017; 0.12 acres; \$412,000.
- 1404th St., Lebanon; 1056 sq.ft., One story with attic, two bedroom, one-bath built in 1945; 0.19 acres; \$55,000.
- 38585 Sodaville Waterloo Dr., Lebanon; 2139 sq.ft., Two story, 2 ½ bath built in 1973; 4.93 acres; \$696,000.
- 1026 Charlie Ave., Lebanon; 1638 sq.ft., One story, three bedroom, two-bath built in 2006; 0.18 acres; \$439,900.
- 555 16th St., Lebanon; 1283 sq.ft., One story, three bedroom, two-bath built in 1976; 0.23 acres; \$425,000.
- 1345 Tamarack St., Sweet Home; 2024 sq.ft., Two story, three bedroom, two-bath built in 2024; 0.24 acres; \$403,000.

- 336 Spaulding Ave., Brownsville; 1764 sq.ft., One story with basement, two bedroom, one-bath built in 1928; 0.45 acres; \$275,000.
- 128 Spaulding Ave., Brownsville; additional details not listed; 0.03 acres; \$130,000.
- 3300 Burdell Blvd., Lebanon; additional details not listed; 1.58 acres; \$1,650,000.
- 920 D St., Lebanon; 1248 sq.ft., Two story, three bedroom, two-bath built in 1999; 0.2 acres; \$382,745.
- 1039 B Ln., Lebanon; 1100 sq.ft., One story, three bedroom, two-bath built in 2002; 0.14 acres; \$362,000.
- 72 Cedar St., Lebanon; 852 sq.ft., One story, two bedroom, one-bath built in 1942; 0.17 acres; \$286,600.
- 720 Sherman St., Lebanon; 1378 sq.ft., One story, three bedroom, one-bath built in 1947; 0.18 acres; \$339,900.
- 31101 Berlin Rd., Lebanon; 1512 sq.ft., Double wide manufactured home, three bedroom, two-bath built in 2000; 12.33 acres; \$575,000.
- 35586 Northern Dr., Brownsville; 1405 sq.ft., One story, two bedroom, 1 ½ bath built in 1972; 0.78 acres; \$371,000.
- 8 Pine St., Lebanon; 800 sq.ft., One story, two bedroom, one-bath built in 1942; 0.13 acres; \$259,900.
- 1675 2nd St., Lebanon; 1008 sq.ft., One story, two bedroom, two-bath built in 1950; 0.11 acres; \$305,000.
- 29680 Speasl Rd., Lebanon; 1610 sq.ft., One story, three bedroom, 1 ½ bath built in 1966; 3.1 acres; \$565,000.
- 390 7th St., Lebanon; 840 sq.ft., One story, two bedroom, one-bath built in 1950; 0.15 acres; \$334,900.
- 742 Harmony St., Lebanon; 1469 sq.ft., Two story, three bedroom, two-bath built in 1976; 0.16 acres; \$364,000.
- 3461 Hawk Arrow Dr., Lebanon; 1953 sq.ft., One story with attic, five bedroom, two-bath built in 2014; 0.14 acres; \$449,900.
- 3197 Columbine St., Lebanon; 1082 sq.ft., One story, three bedroom, one-bath built in 1977; 0.2 acres; \$360,000.
- 575 Ash St., Lebanon; 1200 sq.ft., One story with attic, three bedroom, one-bath built in 1948; 0.17 acres; \$150,000.
- 32696 Merrill Ln., Lebanon; 1441 sq.ft., One story, three bedroom, two-bath built in 2009; 15.67 acres; \$640,000.
- 207 J St., Lebanon; additional details not listed; 0.22 acres; \$1,230,000.



2345 S. Santiam Hwy
Lebanon, OR 97355

(541) 258-6100

OregonRealEstateProfessionals.com



Firiell Severns
REALTOR®
Licensed in the state of Oregon





I'd love to be your Realtor

541-401-9276
linncountyrealtor@gmail.com



Photos by Sarah Brown

The Waterloo City Council discusses business during its July 15 meeting.

Waterloo drafting ADU rules

By Sarah Brown
Lebanon Local

The City of Waterloo is preparing to possibly adopt an ordinance regarding accessory dwelling units (ADUs).

Prior to the regular meeting on July 15, the council held a work session to review options for developing a development code for ADUs. They looked at Oregon laws and examples of ordinances adopted in other counties.

Considerations that need to be taken into account include zoning, lot size, structure size, setbacks, utilities and septic, occupancy/rental and parking rules, and defensible space and wildfire protections.

Currently, two residents – Jason Cripe and Mark Kropf – are pursuing interest in adding an ADU to their properties.

During the work session, the council reviewed laws and options, and submitted notes to City Recorder Justin Cary. During the regular meeting, the council directed Cary to provide ADU agreement drafts at the next meeting for adoption.

In other business:

- Cary reported that the former city recorder recently handed over some paperwork belonging to the city, including uncashed checks. Checks that were still valid – were deposited, and he is pursuing the recovery of expired checks for franchise agreements, which he said total about \$5,000.

- Street Master Chad Wolfe expressed interest in sending notice letters to homes with overhanging trees in right-of-ways, as well as homes on the corners of 5th and Gross, and 6th and Gross streets for vegetation in the right of way.

- Councilor Adam Beskow reported someone living in a trailer that has been plumbed into a house's septic system.

- Wolfe reported someone living in an RV in the easement between Card and Davis streets.

- Cary reported that Linn County notified the city of a resident's intent to divide their property at 31150 Kay St., and an easement request would need to be approved. The council voted to respond to Linn County by providing the city's driveway easement ordinance.

- The council announced a job position for City Recorder will become available, and directed Cary to post the position and collect resumes by Aug. 1. Applications will be reviewed during an executive session on Aug. 12 prior to the regular meeting of that day.

Pursuit ends in Lebanon man's suicide

A Lebanon man committed suicide Tuesday evening, July 15, after his mother was found bloodied on Washburn Heights Drive, outside of Lebanon.

According to Linn County Sheriff Michelle Duncan, Sheriff's dispatchers received a 9-1-1 call at 8:41 p.m. reporting that a female was lying in the road with blood on her head.

Washburn Heights Drive leads to the top of a hill that is frequented by the public for the view overlooking the Willamette Valley.

Deputies responded to the area and found an elderly female with blood on her face, hands, arms and knees. Deputies learned from witnesses her son, Oliver Mercer, 67, of Lebanon, was at the top of Washburn Heights Drive and was reported to be suicidal.

Deputies began to drive up to the viewpoint at the top of the hill, when they encountered Mercer driving back down towards them. Deputies stopped and contacted

Mercer in his vehicle and saw he had a bottle of alcohol between his legs, Duncan said, adding that Mercer then displayed a pistol and held it to his head.

The Sheriff said deputies began attempts at de-escalating the situation, which was overheard by several witnesses, but Mercer would not cooperate and drove away from the scene.

Deputies and multiple other law enforcement agencies responded to the area in pursuit. Mercer attempted to elude law enforcement, driving toward Lebanon, where he struck two law enforcement vehicles and continued to attempt to elude.

With the help of Oregon State Police, Mercer's vehicle was safely redirected to the ditch near the intersection of Denney School Road and Highway 34, Duncan said. As law enforcement began to surround Mercer, he fired one round to his head, resulting in life-threatening injuries, she said.

Mercer was transported by paramedics to Corvallis Good Samaritan Regional Medical Center, but died from his self-inflicted injuries. Mercer's mother was transported to Samaritan Lebanon Community Hospital with non-life threatening injuries.

Linn County Sheriff's Office is continuing to investigate the event to include the initial report regarding the female, her injuries, and Mercer's actions leading up to the incident. It's likely additional witnesses were in the area and have information on this incident.

Anyone with information is encouraged to contact Detective Scott Tennant (541) 967-3950.

Linn County Sheriff's Office was assisted during the incident by Oregon State Police, Albany Police Department, Corvallis Police Department, Lebanon Police Department, Brownsville Rural Fire District and Lebanon Fire District.

PUBLIC SAFETY

From page 11

and failure to maintain lane.

2:52 p.m. - Police and Public Works responded to fallen tree took down powerlines and was blocking road, Berlin Rd./E Grant St.

3:28 p.m. - Jessica Mushrock, 41, of Brownsville, cited for failure to obey traffic control device, 37900 block Golden Valley Rd.

4:06 p.m. - Krystal Dingman, 40, of Lebanon, cited for failure to obey traffic control device, 2000 block S. Santiam Hwy.

4:25 p.m. - Evan Christenson, 19, of Lebanon, cited for failure

to obey traffic control device, 4000 block Santiam Hwy.

5:02 p.m. - Adam Sears, 41, of Lebanon, cited for failure to obey traffic control device in construction zone, 32800 block Denny School Rd.

5:16 p.m. - Angelica Gonzales, 25, of Albany, cited for failure to obey traffic control device in construction zone, 1400 block W. Airport Rd.

5:28 p.m. - Ronald Tangsrud, 81, of Sweet Home, cited for failure to obey traffic control device in construction zone, 32600 block Denny School Rd.

5:41 p.m. - Melinda Dove, 54, of Lebanon, cited for failure to obey traffic control device in

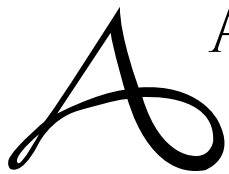
construction zone, 1300 block W. Airport Rd.

5:54 p.m. - Gregory Winter, 71, of Lebanon, cited for failure to obey traffic control device in construction zone, 1000 block W. Airport Rd.

6:14 p.m. - Officer responded to two-car crash near Chipotle. Ricky Lyle Boulden, 64, cited for driving while suspended, driving uninsured and failure to stop before merging.

7:38 p.m. - Officer responded to fight, 100 block E Elmore St. Subject said he was in a chokehold and pulled out pocket knife in self defense.

8:26 p.m. - Subject identified only as Taylor cited for initiat-




AVAMERE

REHABILITATION of LEBANON

A PART of the AVAMERE FAMILY of COMPANIES

350 S 8TH LEBANON, OR 97355

541-259-1221



Lebanon's New Neighbor Program

Lebanon is welcoming new residents to town by extending hospitality from our local merchants as well as maps and guides to help them settle in Our Town!

And it's FREE!

If you or someone you know is new to Lebanon and would like a

New Neighbor Packet

Stop by the Lebanon Chamber of Commerce
Monday-Saturday
1040 S. Park St., Lebanon

"Welcome!"





#vanlife on the Calapooia

Lebanon resident Kristy Welch, left, and Junction City resident Julie Sannes chat during the Rally on the River event in Brownsville. Vintage RV trailer enthusiasts came from across the country to spend July 16-20 with like-minded devotees at Pioneer Park. Organizer Wade Long said more than 100 campers attended this year's rally. Welch said she attended the rally "on a whim" in 2018 and immediately decided she wanted to be a part of it. She bought a 1970 Kit Companion for \$800 and gussied it up with orange and yellow.

Photo by Sarah Brown



Photo by Sarah Brown

Mechals looks over the pond behind Boulder Falls Inn to see if he can identify the three fish he rehomed there last month.

KOI

From page 1

doesn't know the sex of his finny friends, he never found baby koi swimming around in his pond. But, he did learn, koi are known to sometimes eat their offspring.

Yet, although he no longer had a multiplication problem in his pond, he eventually had an oversized problem.

"Koi get big no matter what they're in, so they've probably been cramped in this pond for a long time," he said.

It's reported that koi can live 25 to 35 years – even more if given a premium environment.

So what does one do when they have large fish and nowhere to put them? Why, of course – in this case, at least – they call Boulder Falls Inn.

Chris Breshears, general manager of the hotel, said Boulder Falls staff visited Mechals' pond to get a look at the fish.

Boulder Falls Inn put their

first seven koi into their pond on May 5, 2015, he said. Today he estimates there are between 200 and 250, and that's not because they added more. When they agreed to rehome Mechals' fish to their property, it was the first addition they'd done since 2015.

So, some time in mid-June this year, the three koi (which were never given a name) were moved to bigger water "pastures."

"They were surprisingly larger than any koi we had on our property," Breshears said.

Mechals would agree, referencing Moby Dick as a good indicator of what we're talking about here.

The doiku fish, he estimates, is about "30-some inches long" and 35 pounds or more. The "medium-sized" fish is not as long, but much wider or "deeper," using his hands to make about a 1-foot depth.

This fish is your typical white and orange spotted koi with a big, flowing tail and

maybe about 25 pounds, he said.

The smaller one – all silvery-white with a crooked tail – is maybe 20 pounds.

Now they lurk somewhere beneath the somewhat-murky waters, mixing it up with their new pond-mates and, possibly, drawing out the Jaws theme song as they undulate toward the surface.

Mechals has already visited a couple of times and seen his aquatic friends on those occasions. Though the fish at Boulder Falls are many and quite varied in size, he can easily spot his when they surface.

"They stand out; they're pretty big," he said.

The hotel sells fish food for 50-cents, allowing visitors to get a closer look at who's living in those waters.

Mechals said it about his fish, and Breshears agrees: "They've been quite an attraction, apparently, since they've been here."



Declaring No Kings in Lebanon

Members of East Lebanon Indivisible hold signs along Main Street during a protest at the north end of town. Indivisible, a nationwide movement, and other progressive organizations held a "No Kings" rally on June 14 – President Donald Trump's birthday – across the United States. The protest symbolized their opposition to authoritarianism, and Trump's policies and actions since taking his second term in office. Local member Marilyn Belcher said as many as 250 to 300 people participated in the Lebanon rally on Main Street at Academy Square Park.

Photo courtesy of Marilyn Belcher

Celebrating 125 Years

A huge thank you to our employees and everyone in the Lebanon community for helping us reach this milestone!



Vision Source SIGNATURE EYE CARE

Experience Modern Eye Care

Lifetime Vision Source of Lebanon offers comprehensive eye care services and in-demand lenses and frames to Lebanon and the surrounding communities.



Lifetime Vision Source of Lebanon

90 Market St, Ste 20
Lebanon, OR 97355
541-451-1144

lifetimevisionsource.com

