The New Era

SWEET HOME · LEBANON · AND SURROUNDING COMMUNITIES

Serving East Linn County Since 1929 | WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2026 | VOL. 96, NO. 44 | $2.00

Trick or Treat'ers Head Downtown





Kids of all ages from Lebanon, left, and Sweet Home, above, turned out en masse for their respective Halloween celebrations over the weekend. At left, Megan Lofton and her son Jaxson, 3, work their way down Main Street in Lebanon. Above, Sweet Home celebrants stand alongside the Burger Family at A&W, who were also dressed for the occasion. See more photos on page 4 and many more at sweethomenews.com and lebanonlocalnews.com.

Photos by Sarah Brown and Scott Swanson

Sweet Home contracts with law firm for general city work

By Sarah Brown
Of The New Era

The City Council approved a contract with a law firm during its regular meeting on Tuesday, Oct. 27.

The city's former attorney, Blair Larsen, resigned on Aug. 28. Following a July 14 work session to discuss replacement options, the city issued solicitations for three separate city attorney services – general city work, prosecution and labor negotiations. Larsen covered all legal services except for labor negotiations.

Larsen explained to the council at the work session that it's unusual and difficult to find an attorney who, like himself, would be able to do both prosecution and city work.

At the Oct. 27 council meeting, the council was tasked to approve, modify or deny a contract with Local Government Law Group P.C., which was one of two firms that responded to the bid for general

See SH Council, Page 17

Samaritan-MultiCare merger official

Samaritan Health Services officially joined MultiCare Health System Sunday, Nov. 1, in a move that the now-combined organizations say will strengthen health services across the mid-Willamette Valley and central Oregon Coast.

As part of the partnership, MultiCare has committed to investing $700 million over 10 years to expand access to care, recruit and retain clinicians, support workforce development and improve facilities and technology across Samaritan's region.

Tacoma, Wash.-based MultiCare is a not-for-profit healthcare organization with 18 hospitals and more than 36,000 team members, mostly in Washington but also in Idaho and now in Oregon. It is one of the largest community-based, locally governed health systems in the Pacific Northwest, providing a comprehensive system of health that includes primary care, urgent care and dedicated specialty services.

Samaritan Health Services is a nonprofit regional health system serving more than 280,000 residents in Oregon's Benton, Lincoln and Linn counties. The system includes five hospitals, primary, walk-in and specialty-care clinics and health insurance plans.



Executives for the new merger are, from left, Marty Cahill, president and CEO, Samaritan Health Services and senior vice president, chief executive, Oregon Coast to Cascades Region, MultiCare Health System; Florence Chang, president, MultiCare Health System; and Bill Robertson, CEO, MultiCare Health System. **- Karl Maasdam photo**

Samaritan Health remains locally led as part of MultiCare, with local knowledge and community needs helping guide future priorities, it said in a statement issued Monday.

"The people who live here count on Samaritan and we chose this partnership to strengthen our ability to serve them for generations to come," said Marty Cahill, Samaritan president and CEO, who is now also senior vice president and chief executive of MultiCare's Oregon Coast to Cascades Region. "MultiCare brings expertise and resourc-

See MultiCare, Page 7

HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER OF
LEONARD SIGMUND

This Week's Top Stories



Inside: Our 2026 Veterans Section

Learn about local veterans – and two local veterans organizations that are celebrating milestones.

Page 9



Eagle Girls Win XC District Title

East Linn Christian's girls won their first district cross-country title since 2017.

Page 22

Obituaries

Eleanor Sophia Hewitt

April 8, 1999 – Sept. 29, 2026



It is with profound sadness that we announce the passing of our sweet Elea, beloved daughter, sister, niece, cousin and granddaughter.

Elea was a cherished friend to those she met, an eternal student, a loving soul and a humble servant of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Elea was born in Eugene and raised in Marcola and Sweet Home, the eldest daughter of Kahlil 'Bo' and Pamela Hewitt and sister to Sarah and Malia (Josie). She was a 2017 graduate and valedictorian of Sweet Home High School and a 2022 graduate of Yale University.

She was passionate about "the potential of regenerative agriculture practices as a facet of the broader solution to the global climate crisis and as a path forward to a more just and equitable future."

Elea found communities in Sweet Home that nurtured her growth: Key Club, Swim Club, Youth Watershed Council and she served as The Huskian newspaper and yearbook editor and sang in the school choir.

She was an athlete and played on teams including volleyball, cross-country, track and swimming. She was especially proud to be a part of her Sweet Home High School team's two state swimming championships.

At Yale, Elea was engaged and passionately involved in the community, including the Environmental Studies major, the Endowment Justice Coalition, Native American Cultural Center, Yale Women's Crew, Yale Farm and the Pundits and Torch Societies.

Elea wrote, "I hope to work toward climate, health and economic resiliency in the community." After graduation, she did just that, serving in the Kingdom of Tonga in the Peace Corps' first cohort to offer climate resilience facilitation.

She loved her work, island life, the people she met there, the language and traditional way of life in which she was immersed; and it was in Tonga that she passed away last month from rapid-onset pneumonia and influenza. Her community was devastated by her sudden passing and honored her with love and respect providing a heart-felt memorial service.

What made Elea so special was the warmth and generosity she brought to those around her. She had a gentle spirit and a way of making people feel seen and valued.

Relationships were the most important thing to Elea, she sought ways to connect and share joy and light: through song, dance, storytelling, writing, listening and community building.

Elea loved the forest, the rivers, the children and the animals – all our relations. For Elea, care for the land and care for people were deeply connected. As she wrote, "In the end, what we have is the land we put our feet upon and the relatives who surround us. We must take care of them."

Elea also worked in New Haven, Conn., in urban forestry, in NYC as a kitchen manager at a Michelin star restaurant and in Sweet Home as a swim instructor, swim coach and lifeguard. Elea loved working on her family ranch, caring for sheep, cattle and poultry.

Wherever she went, Elea worked to serve others and build inclusion through caring and dedication.

Elea is survived by her parents, Kahlil 'Bo' R. Hewitt and Pamela J. Hewitt; her sisters, Sarah F. and Malia "Josie" Hewitt; her aunts, Gwendolyn Constance Moore, Rhonda D. Hodges and Linda M. Lenz; her uncles, Craig Moore and Bryan L. Tuft; and her grandmother, Mary C. Tuft.

In celebration of her life, her family is dedicating a bookshelf at the Sweet Home City Library featuring books that reflect Elea's passions and interests. Topics will include environmental protection, cultural preservation, regenerative agriculture, indigenous and ethnic studies, environmental justice, sustainability and related subjects. The collection will span fiction and nonfiction for children, young adults and adults.

Donations or book suggestions made to the "Sweet Home Public Library," including a note "in memory of Elea Hewitt," can be mailed to: 1101 13th Ave., Sweet Home, OR 97386-2197.

Donations can also be made to The Friends of Tonga, a registered 501(c)(3) nonprofit founded by Returned Peace Corps Volunteers. They partner directly with local organizations like the Civil Society Forum of Tonga to build disaster-resistant school infrastructure, fund student scholarships and supply clean water storage across isolated island groups. www.friendsoftonga.org

A celebration of life memorial will be held on Sunday, Nov. 22, at 2 p.m. at Boulder Falls Center in Lebanon. A tree planting will be held on Saturday, Nov. 21, at 2 p.m. at Rock 'n' Wool Ranch, in Sweet Home. Please contact the family for details at rancher@rocknwoolranch.com.

Paid Obituary

Logan Clark

July 11, 1990 - Oct. 8, 2026



Logan Charles Clark, 36, passed away Oct. 8, 2026, in Oklahoma.

He was born July 11, 1990, to Dixie (Smith) and Charles Clark in Lebanon.

Logan grew up in Sweet Home, graduated from Sweet Home High School in 2009. He moved to Oklahoma five years ago and worked for Veteran Waste Solutions in El Reno, Okla.

He loved fishing and hunting and enjoyed collecting rocks.

He is survived by his mother, Dixie Clark of Sweet Home; sister Blair Clark of Sweet Home; uncles Harland, Dennis and Kelly Smith. all of Sweet Home and Ray Eder of Mt. Angel; aunts Patti Eder of Mt. Angel and Kay Clark-Stock of Sweet Home; and many cousins and extended family.

He was preceded in death by his father, Charlie Clark (2021); uncles Joe Clark, Tom Smith and Kirk Smith; aunt Shirley Smith; and grandparents Eunice Clark, Beulah Smith (Ditty), Blair Smith and Joseph Clark.

A celebration of life will be from 1 to 4 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 16, 2027, at Star Attractions, 42648 Ames Creek Road.

Paid Obituary

The icebox Performer Of The Week



This week's ICEBOX performer of the week goes to Dave, one of our awesome Fab Techs. Some of the most dependable people are the ones who quietly show up, put in the work, and make a difference every day, and that is absolutely Dave.

He brings a strong work ethic, a humble attitude, and a willingness to think through challenges and find better ways to get things done. He takes pride in his work, stays positive, and consistently gives his best without looking for recognition. That kind of dedication can be easy to overlook when someone makes it look routine, but it certainly hasn't gone unnoticed by our leadership team.

Thank you, Dave, for your hard work, positive attitude, and everything you bring to the shop. We're grateful to have you on the team, and we appreciate you!

RADIATOR RSH Supply House

Allen Bousman

Aug. 3, 1929 - Oct. 26, 2026



Allen M. Bousman, 97, of Lebanon, passed away Oct. 26, 2026.

He was born Aug. 3, 1929, to Ethel (Walcott) and Charlie Bousman in Grants Pass.

He was raised in Klamath Falls and graduated from Klamath Falls Union High School in 1947.

Allen worked at various jobs, from selling Liberty Magazines at age 10, falling timber, operating A&B Auto Repair and as a brakeman for Southern Pacific Railroad until he retired.

He loved camping, hunting and fishing with family. He liked hardtop racing and was a member of the racing association. Allen enjoyed doing yard work and repairing just about anything.

He is survived by his daughters, Connie Lepley of Baker City, Bonnie Wilson of Sweet Home and Yvonne Dunlap of Roseburg; seven grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his sons, Donald Bousman, Lonnie Bousman and Jonnie Bousman.

Sweet Home Funeral Chapel is handling the arrangements.

Kenneth Norris

Oct. 27, 1940 - Oct. 22, 2026

Kenneth "Mickey" Wayne Norris, 85, of Lebanon, passed away Oct. 22, 2026.



He was born Oct. 27, 1940, to Eugene and Norma Norris in Wrangell, in the Territory of Alaska.

He graduated from McCloud High school in 1958 as vice president of his class. He played both baseball and football in high school.

Ken served five years in the Air Force, stationed in Zaragoza, Spain, where he participated on the competition rifle team.

He worked in the timber industry from the coast to Canada. He retired from Weyerhaeuser and started Norwest Forest Marketing.

Ken enjoyed coaching little league, hunting, fishing and love of family. He was known to kids as "he who told big stories".

Ken is survived by his wife Kathy; brothers Tom and Rocky; sons John and Monty Norris; blended family members Melody Frasure and Tim Villegas; eight grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by a daughter, Samantha Stephens; and great grandson Toby Kitchen..

A celebration of life will be at 2 p.m. Sunday Nov. 8, at Boulder Falls Event Center, 605 Mullins Drive, Lebanon.

James Wilcox

June 21, 1954 - Oct. 25, 2026

See Obituaries, Page 3

Lebanon Fire District launches Support Academy to strengthen emergency response

By Brandon Cominsky
Of The New Era

When emergency crews respond to a fire or other crisis, firefighters are not the only people working to help those affected. Behind the scenes, support volunteers provide practical assistance, care for displaced residents and help emergency personnel keep operations moving.

The Lebanon Fire District (LFD) is expanding those opportunities through its new Support Academy, which welcomed 10 participants in early October. The academy includes five Western University of Health Sciences Heatherington College of Osteopathic Medicine students participating through the WesternU Lebanon Fire Emergency Alliance (WLEA) and five community volunteers who stepped forward to serve in the Support Volunteer Program in Lebanon, Lacomb, Berlin and Fairview.

In an October Facebook announcement, LFD described the academy as another way to strengthen its emergency response capabilities.

"Support members back our crews when it counts: rehab on the fireground, practical help for people in crisis and extra hands when the call volume stacks up," the district wrote. "This academy is where that starts."

The academy prepares participants to assist firefighters and community members during emergencies through designated support responsibilities that differ from traditional firefighting duties.

Building another layer of emergency response

Russell Duerr, LFD lieutenant of recruitment and retention, said the academy brings together people with different backgrounds and experiences, including medical students who contribute valuable skills to the program.

"WLEA academy members add an interesting dynamic to the academy and have amazing medical skills that we can utilize and teach them more," Duerr said.

The district's partnership with WesternU has continued for years, giving medical students opportunities to gain practical experience while volunteering their time.

"It is part of their community volunteer hours requirement in their program, so they gain experience while also volunteering for the district," Duerr said. "It is an ongoing partnership that has been going on for years now."

According to LFD's website, WLEA is a volunteer-based program made up of medical students from WesternU's HCOM campus who serve as emergency medical services providers with LFD. Its mission is to put "osteopathic ideals into action in our community through superior emergency response, community risk reduction and emergency preparedness," as stated in the LFD WLEA guide.

WLEA members also serve as official district volunteers, wear district-issued uniforms and work under the direction of fire district supervisors. Their responsibilities include ambulance ride time, participating in emergency responses, attending monthly EMS drills, assisting with smoke alarm installations and contributing to public safety education and fitness programs.

The program requires a minimum 24-month commitment. Participants must complete an EMS orientation, attend monthly drills, complete three hours of training per quarter and participate in at least four hours of ride time each month. Their volunteer hours also count toward WesternU's Community Service Learning requirement.

What is a Support Person?

While WLEA provides a pathway for medical students, the Support Volunteer Program offers another opportunity for community members who want to contribute to emergency response without becoming firefighters.

LFD describes support volunteers as official members who provide "emotional and practical aid to victims in crisis," as stated on LFD's website. Support volunteers may assist with rehabilitation operations while supporting victims and participating in additional specialized programs.

The district's program requires a minimum 12-month commitment and at least 12 on-call shifts annually. Volunteers coordinate their availability through the district's scheduling system, CrewSense, and may respond to incidents by riding on emergency apparatus or arriving in their personal vehicles. They also attend monthly meetings and complete required training.

According to the Oregon Department of Public Safety Standards and Training (DPSST), a support person "is someone trained to assist a fire department with operations in nonhazardous environments or protected work zones." DPSST describes support person certification as a "training pathway that formally recognizes individuals who provide support to fire service agencies."

The role allows trained volunteers to contribute to emergency operations without taking on the same hazardous responsibilities as firefighters.

Personal Connection to Volunteering

For Katie Nelson, one of the community participants in the academy, volunteering is an opportunity to expand on the work she has already been doing through the district's Fire Corps program.

Nelson moved to the area approximately five years ago and she said she initially became interested in volunteering because she wanted to meet people and become more involved in her new community. She first learned about the district's opportunities after attending a coffee chat event with the fire chief.

Her connection to emergency services also stems from her husband, who works as a firefighter-paramedic for Marion County. Over the years, she has found different ways to support emergency crews, including bringing meals to firefighters spending nights overnight at the station.

"I would bring a pot of soup or whatever we were having for dinner and bring it to the back of the engine and feed everybody," Nelson said.

She said her personal experiences as well as this academy have helped her understand how many responsibilities firefighters have beyond directly fighting fires or responding to emergencies.

"There are so many other jobs that need to get done," she said.

During the academy, Nelson has said she has partially enjoyed learning how to establish a portable water supply. She is looking forward to applying those skills during actual incidents and becoming more helpful to firefighters.

However, one of the most meaningful parts of her existing volunteer experience has been helping families displaced by house fires.

Nelson explained that after a residential fire, families sometimes cannot safely return home, even to retrieve personal belongings, because hazardous conditions from burned materials make it unsafe. Through the Lebanon Fire Community Assistance and Initial Relief Service (LFCAIRS), volunteers can help families find temporary accommodations and provide "safety equipment for children, assisting fire loss victims and offering both financial and logistical aid to individu-

See Academy, Page 20

OBITUARIES

From page 2



James Laurance Wilcox, 72, of Sweet Home, passed away Oct. 25, 2026.

He was born June 21, 1954, to Patricia (Tyler) and Walter Wilcox in Lebanon.

He lived most of his life in Sweet Home and was a longtime member of Holley Church. He never met a stranger and always had a greeting and smile for everyone.

He loved fishing, yardwork, gardening, woodwork, collecting and tumbling rocks.

James liked football and was a huge Oregon State University Beavers fan. He enjoyed science fiction books and movies.

He is survived by his wife of 49 years, Lori Wilcox of Sweet Home; daughters Hollie Wilcox of Ware, Mass., Kristina (Steve) Pyle of Lebanon and Andrea (Foster) Martinson of Lebanon; four grandsons; two step-granddaughters; brothers Mike (Fonda) Wilcox and Bill (Paulina) Wilcox; sister Edith Wilcox and partner Steve; and many nieces, nephews and extended family members.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Walter Wilcox (2010) and Patricia Wilcox (2012); and brother Christopher Wilcox (2025).

A memorial service was held Oct. 30 at Holley Church.

Sweet Home Funeral Chapel is handling the arrangements.

DEATH NOTICES

Byron Anthony Crespin, 71, of Lebanon, passed away Oct. 19, 2026.

Rita Jo Follett, 65, of Sweet Home, passed away Oct. 28, 2026.

Sweet Home Funeral Chapel is handling the arrangements. For updated information, visit www.sweethomefuneral.com.

Shawn Aaron Gourley, 55, of Lebanon, passed away Oct. 17, 2026. A celebration of life will be held on Saturday, Nov. 7, 2026, at 1 p.m. at The Gathering Barn, 35476 Knox Butte Rd., Albany.

Delbert M. Langdon, 97, of Sweet Home, passed away Oct. 26, 2026.

Sweet Home Funeral Chapel is handling the arrangements. For updated information, visit www.sweethomefuneral.com.

Randall Lewis Peterson, 71, of Sweet Home, passed away Oct. 25, 2026.

Sweet Home Funeral Chapel is handling the arrangements. For updated information, visit www.sweethomefuneral.com.

Wayne Stockdale, 80, of Veneta, passed away Oct. 24, 2026.

A memorial service will be at 1 p.m. Monday, Nov. 9, at Sweet Home Funeral Chapel.

Private burial took place at Gilliland Cemetery.

Matthew Marvin Warren, 70, of Sweet Home, passed away Oct. 21, 2026. There will be a private family gathering held in the Spring.

Dixie L. Whitmore, 91, of Lebanon, passed away Oct. 22, 2026.





Sweet Home Downtown Trick or Treat



Trick-or-treaters, above, and below, got things rolling on Friday afternoon, Oct. 30, during the Downtown Trick or Treat event sponsored by downtown businesses. See more photos in our gallery at sweethomenews.com.





Photos by Scott Swanson

Halloween Fun in Lebanon



Lebanon celebrated Halloween Saturday, Oct. 31, with some very creative costumes and lots of goodies, above and below. To see many more photos, visit our photo gallery at lebanonlocalnews.com.





Photos by Sarah Brown



Public Safety

– Information herein is sourced from law enforcement and fire agencies. Details, which may not always be available in time for our weekly publication, are updated on our website as information becomes available. – Addresses noted generally denote the location of the incident or arrest, occasionally indicating the origin of the call.

– 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. A Roman numeral indicates the degree of a charge: theft I (first-degree theft).

– Following are abbreviations that may appear in our log reports:

AMC (Albany Municipal Court), **DU** (Driving uninsured/without insurance), **DUII** (Driving while intoxicated), **DWS** (driving while suspended), **FTA** (failure to appear), **FTC** (failure to comply), **FTOTCD** (Failure to obey traffic control device), **LCJ** (Linn County Jail), **LCSO** (Linn County Sheriff's Office), **LCCC** (Linn County Circuit Court), **LCJC** (Linn County Justice Court), **LMC** (Lebanon Municipal Court), **MIP** (Minor in possession), **PV** (Probation Violation), **SHMC** (Sweet Home Municipal Court), **SHPD** (Sweet Home Police Department), **SLCH** (Samaritan Lebanon Community Hospital)

NOV. 1

SWEET HOME POLICE

1:02 a.m. - Caller reported "people throwing things at vehicles" in area of 18th/Kalmia. Officer responded, contacted large group with vehicles, who stated that they had thrown snacks from one vehicle to another. No obvious damage in area.

1:12 a.m. - Caller reported male hitting and choking female in 1300 block Long. Officer responded, but was unable to confirm who victim was – she did not cooperate with the investigation and had no obvious injuries. Info noted.

1:32 a.m. - Caller from Dam Bar, 6099 Main, reported female following him and "won't leave him alone." Officer responded, determined incident was mostly verbal with some minor physical interaction. Parties agreed to separate. Female declined medical assistance.

2:03 a.m. - Caller reported male screaming and crying in area of Long/23rd. Officer contacted male, who was upset that his wife was not home when he arrived and was looking for her. Male agreed to remain at home, await his wife's arrival.

2:15 a.m. - Michael Scott Delay, 38, arrested for burglary I after a caller reported strange man in her house in 1900 block Willow, whom she "doesn't know." According to SHPD, the 17-year-old female was home alone at the time. Police contacted the adult resident of the home, the mother of the 17-year-old, and learned that Delay was an acquaintance but did not have permission to enter the residence. Delay was also arrested on a LMC warrant in a criminal citation case. Lodged at LCJ.

7:40 a.m. - Bryanah Paige Tranilla, 33, arrested by Yamhill County Sheriff's Office on SHMC warrant for FTA in theft case. Cited to appear Nov. 18.

12:50 p.m. - Caller reported woman screaming for help at Quarry Park, 3110 Zelkova. Second caller reported woman screaming for help, male walking around camper with hatchet. Officer unable to locate any emergencies.

1:15 p.m. - Braden Oreilley Wasson, 31, arrested on SHMC warrant for FTC in DWS case, Quarry Park, 3110 Zelkova. Cited and released.

1:21 p.m. - Caller reported his wife claiming she sees people breaking into their home on their cameras, 2300 block Cedar. Officer responded, unable to locate anyone breaking into the home. Report forwarded to Linn County Mental Health due to previous similar calls at that location.

LEBANON POLICE

Lebanon police had not submitted a log for this date in time for publication. When available, log will be updated at lebanonlocalnews.com.

LCSO/OSP SWEET HOME/S. COUNTY

1:08 a.m. - Jordan Buckland, 28, of Brownsville, cited for failure to carry proof of insurance, 200 block S. Main, Brownsville.

1:43 a.m. - Deputies responded to report of CPR in progress in 37900 block Hwy. 228, Brownsville. When they arrived, deputies took over CPR until medics arrived, transported patient to hospital.

8:32 a.m. - Devon Contreras, 28, of Harrisburg, cited for speeding, 81/55, 26000 block Hwy. 99, Halsey.

9:39 a.m. - Deputy trespassed male from gas station in 32900 block Hwy. 228, Halsey, who was arguing with employees. Non-criminal.

11:28 a.m. - Deputies responded to dispute between neighbors in 41800 block North River. Determined to be non-criminal.

12:36 p.m. - Vehicle burglary reported in 41900 block Marks Ridge. Investigation ongoing. Report taken.

12:53 p.m. - Hunting rifle reported found in area of North River/Sunnyside. Deputy retrieved rifle, which was lodged at LCSO for safekeeping. Report taken.

1:40 p.m. - Disturbance reported in 27300 block Rowell Hill. Determined to be non-criminal.

LCSO/OSP LEBANON

12:31 a.m. - James Steven Jewett, 24, of Lebanon, cited for speeding, 74/55, Santiam Hwy./Santiam Terrace.

10:51 a.m. - Brent Prather, 38, of Gates, arrested on warrant, Cascade/Sodaville. Report taken.

OCT. 31

SWEET HOME POLICE

1:08 a.m. - Multiple callers reported male with hatchet in area of Main/19th, possibly overdosing. Officer contacted male, who refused transport by medics. No crimes reported.

5:47 p.m. - Caller from 1500 block Tamarack reported that a male had ripped out the interior roof of his car. Officer noted information Investigation continuing.

10:18 p.m. - Caller reported female yelling for medical help in area of 1500 block Tamarack. Officer responded, female transported by medics.

LEBANON POLICE

Lebanon police had not submitted a log for this date in time for publication. When available, log will be updated at lebanonlocalnews.com.

LCSO/OSP SWEET HOME/S. COUNTY

9:01 a.m. - Sex offense reported in 1900 block Main. Investigation ongoing. Report taken.

LCSO/OSP LEBANON

5:36 a.m. - LCSO responded to physical altercation between family members in 30600 block 5th Rd., after one got "very drunk." No visible injuries and no one wanted to press charges.

8:28 a.m. - Macky Hollings, 30, of Gresham, arrested for unlawful use of motor vehicle, unlawful entry into motor vehicle and meth possession, 40400 block Lacomb. Report taken.

9:07 p.m. - Dakota Ross, 24, of Lebanon, cited for speeding, DU, 34700 block Hwy. 20.

9:54 p.m. - Teenagers caught egging a house "got to clean up the mess because the homeowners were nice," per LCSO report. 30200 block Townsend.

OCT. 30

SWEET HOME POLICE

8:55 a.m. - Daniel William Sappington, 30, arrested for disorderly conduct II, assaulting a public safety officer, and resisting arrest after he allegedly entered SHPD, 1950 Main, and demanded to speak to code enforcement officer within 10 minutes or dispatcher "wouldn't like to see what happens." Officers responded. Lodged at LCJ.

11:33 a.m. - Caller reported he did not feel safe with female in 4300 block Long because she calls him names and has access to his medical records. Officer responded and provided options.

2:03 p.m. - Caller reported teenager riding three-wheeler westbound in 1600 block Long, running stop signs. Officer contacted juvenile, who denied the actions. Officer did not observe violations.

4:38 p.m. - Domestic altercation reported in 3100 block Long. Minor physical, no mandatory arrest, parties to remain separated.

5:02 p.m. - Caller from NAPA, 899 Main, reported male who had previously exposed himself and been trespassed was back and refusing to leave. Officer responded, trespassed male, who moved along.

5:12 p.m. - Caller from area of Long/23rd reported trailer parked that is only being held up by a jack. Officer was unable to contact owner of trailer. Caller was mainly concerned about how trailer was being supported.

5:50 p.m. - Adam Brian Lee, 45, arrested for domestic violence-harassment, criminal mischief II, and Austin Brian Lee, 23, arrested for domestic violence-harassment, 3100 block Long. Caller reported that he had been assaulted by a male who took his keys and refused to pick up dog feces. Second caller then reported that male had taken his birth certificate and rubbed it in dog feces and was yelling at him.

8:22 p.m. - Daniel Hernandez-Luttrell, 22, arrested for DUII, reckless driving and hit and run, after multiple callers reported vehicle hit parked car at 1853 Long, then left. Hernandez-Luttrell also cited for DWS.

10:04 p.m. - Ethan Michael Hawk, 25, arrested for criminal driving, on LCCC warrant for FTC in DUII case and LMC warrant for PV in DWS case. Multiple callers had reported hearing shots and explosions in area of 300 block W. Holley. Officers contacted Hawk, who denied the behavior. Officer attributed noise to vehicle backfiring.

See Public Safety, Page 19

NOVEMBER 2026

Sweet Home Senior Center Wednesday Lunch Menu

Nov. 4th: Shrimp and broccoli Alfredo, vegetable, salad, and dessert.

Nov. 11th: CLOSED FOR VETERANS DAY

Nov. 18th: Smoked Sausage and Potato Bake, vegetable, and dessert.

Nov. 25th: Thanksgiving Dinner
Turkey and stuffing, mashed potatoes and gravy, vegetable, cranberry sauce, rolls, and pumpkin pie.

$6 DINE IN, $7.50 TAKE OUT

Dining room opens 11:30 Lunch Served 11:30-12:30

Please note: If you plan to pick up more than 3 take out lunches, please call at least a day ahead to ensure we have enough to fulfill all orders. 541-367-4775



TEMPERATURES

DATE	HIGH	LOW	RAIN
10/27	57	46	0.36
10/28	55	46	0.17
10/29	58	43	0.01
10/30	57	42	0.09
10/31	46	34	0.00
11/1	47	36	0.00
11/2	53	41	0.00

RAIN IN INCHES

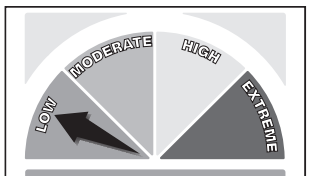
Year to date: **14.39**
11/05/25: **22.72**

FORECAST

DATE	WEATHER	HIGH/LOW
11/5	Cloudy	61/44
11/6	Showers	61/44
11/7	Cloudy	66/44
11/8	Showers	59/43
11/9	Showers	60/41
11/10	Showers	61/47
11/11	Showers	59/47

LAKE LEVELS

Foster **615.9**
Green Peter **839.5**

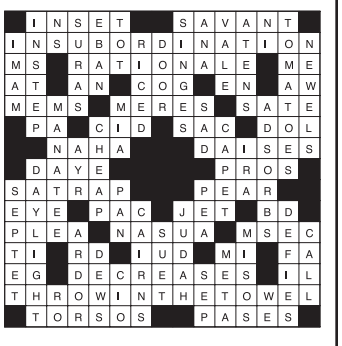


TODAYS FIRE DANGER IS
LOW

The fire danger information provided is current at the time of publication. For the latest and most accurate updates, please visit: oregon.gov/odf

CROSSWORD KEY

Puzzle on page 19



SUDOKU KEY

Puzzle on page 19

9	2	5	8	1	6	4	7	3
7	4	1	9	3	2	5	8	6
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Local banker expresses optimism on economy to chamber crowd

By Scott Swanson
Of The New Era

Chris Hemmings told guests at the Lebanon Chamber of Commerce's monthly Forum Lunch that despite high fuel prices and weather concerns, he's "optimistic" about the state of Oregon's economy – particularly agriculture.

Hemmings, chief financial officer for Citizens Bank, outlined the state of the Oregon and national economies Friday, Oct. 30, held at Samaritan Lebanon Community Hospital's conference room.

He stepped in at the last minute for Mark McMullen, vice president of policy and research for the Common Sense Institute, who was unable to attend.

Hemmings summarized what he sees happening in the economy in the areas of interest rates, unemployment, fuel prices and more.

A native of Crewe, England, near Manchester, Hemmings has lived in the U.S. for more than 25 years. He said he offers an "outsider's" perspective, though he has worked in local banking in Oregon since 2008, after he graduated from the University of Oregon. He joined Citizens 29 days previous to his talk.

He said that "historically very low" unemployment has contributed to stabilization of interest rates by the Federal Reserve.

"I think that's part of what drives the Federal Reserve's dual mandate when it thinks about and leans towards managing inflation," he said.

Answering a question from the audience, Hemmings said that the "yield curve," which tracks short- and long-term interest rates, is sloping upward after "a long stretch of time" in which the nation's yield curve was "essentially flat." An upward-sloping curve means there is more reward for long-term investments.

"You need an upward-sloping curve so that you have more return, more reward when you're going further out in the duration timeline."

Hemmings said he expects Federal Reserve board members to dial down the amount of "noise" that the Fed has generated in recent years.

"I think it created a lot of uncertainty," he said. " I think the Federal Reserve is sending a clear message that, communication-wise, they've probably been a little too involved in messaging with the economy over the last few years.

"I think that uncertainty has been challenging for business owners, local business owners, when they think about what to do, what to start and when."

Hemmings predicted that the Federal Reserve Board of Governors will "be more aggressive" in "making sure that inflation does not return to some of the levels that we saw in 2023, because I think that is that is a path that becomes quite unsustainable and I hope that we'll see price stabilization from an oil side," though he said that may not happen until next year.

Diesel prices, particularly in an agricultural economy, are "a challenge" he said.

He predicted that the outcome of the midterms "and certainly the state elections will be very interesting and what it means for the state."

Hemmings said that he believes Oregon is at "a little bit of a crossroads," particularly in regard to the governor's race.

"I think there are a lot of elections that will make a difference to local business owners, the agricultural economy, certainly healthcare."

"Oregon's agriculture sector genuinely is one of the most remarkable elements of this state," Hemmings said. "It's very unique. There are folks that, as I've even traveled across the world, know about this particular valley, whether that's for grass, whether it's for some kind of beef, whether it's for the hazelnuts, whether it's for the wine, there are lots of of elements of agriculture that make this state and this valley remarkable."

He said that the "might" of the national economy, viewed from an "outsider" perspective, is "the U.S. consumer."

"It's all of you sitting in this room, folks that are out in the hallways, out supporting local businesses, the U.S. economy making purchases and quite frankly, it's the mind of the U.S. economy that's been so terrific for so much of the rest of the world," he said.

The Gross Domestic Product, the total monetary or market value of all final goods and services produced within U.S. borders during a specific time period, has remained "resilient," he said, despite uncertainty caused by fuel prices, inflation and interest rate fluctuations.

Consumers are still spending, unemployment is low and "that's a good thing," he said.

The national debt is "absolutely a challenge," Hemmings said. "I think it's something that, at some point, whether it's the current generation, a future generation, is going to have to address. It is just the growth that the debt has seen over the last number of years and the trajectory that it's in – the burdens and obligations that the U.S. government has doesn't feel like it's on a sustainable path long term."

Hemmings said he sees "some version of an AI bubble taking place."

He noted that many AI data centers are being built on "assumed leases" by large firms such as Amazon and Microsoft and if those companies don't follow through on those leases, "I think that's where it would be a challenge."



Chris Hemmings, of Citizens Bank, speaks at the Lebanon Chamber of Commerce's Forum Lunch.

– Photo by Scott Swanson

Hemmings said he believes strongly that community banking is important for the Willamette Valley population.

"Local independent businesses started here, founded here, staffed and supported by people in these communities will always be key to Lebanon thriving, Albany thriving, Corvallis thriving, even Eugene thriving.

"There will be large national challenges economically, federally, but the ability of the community to stay connected economically, supporting each other, Referring each other to each other across the communities and extending a hand when even if it's not your business or your area of expertise, referring it to somebody that you may know.

"I would encourage you to do so because the success of the local economy will survive and thrive, sometimes irrespective of what goes on at the national level."

CHURCH DIRECTORY
In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.
Matthew 5:16

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Pastor Machiel Greyling
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Wednesday, 7 pm Prayer & Bible Study
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New Life In Christ Fellowship
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1266 44th Ave. PO Box 515
541-367-2848 • shnlic.org
10:30 a.m. Worship Service
10:30 a.m. Children's Church

Sweet Home United Methodist Church
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A Reconciling Congregation
11:00 am Worship
Free Meal - Wednesdays - 5:00 pm
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hope.church sweet home
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11am Worship
5pm Prayer
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541-367-5883



Staffers celebrate as the new sign at Samaritan Lebanon Community Hospital is unveiled. **- Karl Maasdam photo**

MULTICARE

From page 1

es that will help us meet the changing healthcare needs of our region and support our clinicians and employees in their work every day. We move forward with a deep commitment to our communities and confidence in what we can accomplish together."

Bill Robertson, MultiCare's CEO, said: "Together, we can make a meaningful difference in the lives of our neighbors in the Willamette Valley and central Oregon coast by improving access, delivering exceptional care and helping people live healthier lives."

A locally led regional strategic planning process, informed by community needs and perspectives, will guide longer-term service priorities and investments. Improvements will advance thoughtfully over time.

"For patients and families, the promise of this affiliation is better access to the care they need," said Florence Chang, president of MultiCare. "Our teams will work in partnership to understand where the needs are greatest and how our combined expertise can help meet those needs. We will measure our progress by the difference we make for the people we serve."

Leaders from Samaritan and MultiCare joined community partners Monday at Samaritan Lebanon Community Hospital to celebrate the affiliation and unveil signage featuring both organizations' logos. The event is part of a week of employee and community celebrations across Samaritan's region.

For additional information and answers to frequently asked questions, visit samhealth.org/affiliation. Questions may also be sent to affiliation@samhealth.org.

Property taxes due; discount available for full payment

Linn County residents should have received property tax statements, which were mailed Oct. 16, according to county officials..

If you did not receive your tax statement, contact the Linn County Assessment and Taxation office at (541) 967-3808 or email assessor@co.linn.or.us to get a duplicate copy.

Taxes are levied based on the property's assessed value. The real market value on the property tax statement is based on the assessment date of Jan. 1, 2026. The real market value is the estimated amount of money that an informed seller could reasonably expect from an informed buyer in an arm's-length transaction.

The cumulative real market value of all property in Linn County is $30 billion (up over $1 billion) and the Assessed Value of all property in Linn County is $14.77 billion (up over $700 million).

Those who pay taxes in full by Nov. 16, 2026 (Nov. 15 falls on a Sunday) will receive a 3% discount. Make sure to mail early so your envelope is postmarked by Nov. 16.

With changes at the post office, many envelopes are not postmarked for several days after mailing. You can also go into the post office and get your envelope hand cancelled (hand stamped) on or before the due date from a postal worker.

There is a payment drop box at the west end (Ferry Street) entrance of the Linn County Courthouse in Albany, on the left side of the doors.

You can look up your individual tax information at https://www.linncountyor.gov/assessor/page/account-detail

Taxes can be paid on-line at https://www.linncountyor.gov/assessor/page/online-tax-payments.

The site also features videos that explain the property tax system at https://www.linncountyor.gov/assessor/page/property-tax-informational-videos.

Property Tax Payment Schedule

To avoid interest charges and receive any applicable discount choose one of the following payment schedules:

Full Payment: Receive a three percent (3%) discount on the current year, if paid in full by Nov. 16. We accept postmark. Mail early to receive a timely postmark.

Two-thirds Payment: Receive a two percent (2%) discount on the current year, if the first two-thirds payments are made by Nov 16. Pay the final one-third balance by May 17.

One-third Payment: No discount allowed. Pay one-third by Nov. 16. Pay a second one-third payment by Feb. 16. Pay the final one-third balance by May 17.

Reminder: Notices are not sent for February or May payments.

Interest is charged on any past due installment for the schedule you choose. Statute determines the interest rate.

Property owners with questions or concerns may contact the Assessor's Office at (541) 967-3808, or by email at assessor@co.linn.or.us.

Those who disagree with their real market value are encouraged to request a review prior to filing an appeal. There are instructions on the back of all property tax statements that describe how to file an appeal. The deadline for filing an appeal is Dec. 31, 2026.

– *Alex Paul, Linn County Communications*

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From our Files



Carving and costuming art was again evident at the 1976 annual pumpkin contest at Crawfordsville school. First place winners are, from left, Dale Zoon with his pumpkin "Mr. Millegan," David Banta with "Cabbage Head," Wade Lundin with "Weirdo," Elizabeth Winslow with "Vamparilla," Jaimmy Babb with "Junkyard" and Kevin Maynard with "Vampire."

NOV. 8, 1951

Ralph "Swede" Johnson, part-time Sweet Home resident living currently in Nevada, was held up by officials as an example of how not to construct living quarters. He owns 18 rental dwellings ($14.50-$40 rent/month) in the 1100 and 1200 blocks of 2nd Avenue that are under inspection by the city and state. Single drop-cord type wiring has been cut by the fire department and the state fire marshal objected to the faulty chimneys. None of the units have plumbing or sanitary facilities, nor are they connected to the sewer system.

A panel and group discussion around "Does Sweet Home have a youth problem?" led to the conclusion that if a problem exists in Sweet Home, it belongs to the parents, not the children. The youth expressed surprise that adults thought there was a problem, though they agreed youth could benefit from a recreation center. Adults in the panel determined "the lack of support by parents is largely responsible for the students' lack of interest."

NOV. 4, 1976

Sweet Home's proposed new tax base was defeated in the general election. The tax base proposal, which would have increased the city's base from $55,322 to $328,034, was rejected 721 to 527. However, the Linn-Benton Community College tax base proposal was approved 31,767 to 19,566.

Halloween night was all quiet but for one egg-to-gun incident that led to the arrest of Larry Hicks, 19. He was involved in an egg throwing incident with other youth when he left the scene and returned with a gun. He was charged with criminal activity in drugs and unlawful possession of a concealable weapon.

NOV. 7, 2001

Leanna Whistler, 16, of Lebanon, was named 2002 Calapooia Roundup Rodeo Queen, as well as Miss Congeniality. She is joined by two princesses, Elizabeth Fitzsimons, of Sweet Home and Tami Zucker, of Lebanon.

A former Sweet Home police officer, O'Dean Hall, was one of three officers recently involved in the shooting of a suspect in Alaska. Troopers responding to a domestic assault call in Alaska ended up firing at the suspect when he advanced on them and fired. The suspect died from a gunshot wound. Hall was one among the three troopers who fired at the suspect. An investigation is ongoing.

Letters to the editor

Disappointed? Step up instead

Editor:

Your Oct. 27 report that Sweet Home's Singing Christmas Tree will not perform this December is sad news for people who have made it part of their Christmas.

Traditions depend on people arranging rehearsals and carrying responsibilities alongside the rest of their lives. Disappointment is understandable. Blame does not have to follow.

In Mark 6, Jesus invites his disciples to come away and rest after their work. Communities can become very good at asking dependable people for one more thing.

The care behind a tradition deserves attention even in a year when there is no show. People who have rehearsed, directed, organized or supported it should not have to defend the value of everything they have already given.

I do not know what next year will bring and the decisions belong to the people doing the work. For the rest of us, this pause can prompt a practical question: when we say that a community tradition matters, are we willing to share its less visible responsibilities?

That might begin by listening when organizers describe what is needed, respecting the limits they set and learning a task before a crisis makes it urgent.

Christmas hope can survive a change in the calendar. So can gratitude. The people who have helped a town sing still deserve kindness during the season when they cannot put on the performance.

Douglas Vandergraph
Fort Collins, Colo.

Tax credit, double impact for cultural donations

Editor:

Those who donate to good causes at the end of each year should consider the Oregon Cultural Trust. This program, unique to Oregon, lets you double the impact of your donation at no extra cost.

Here's how the Cultural Trust works: Donate to your favorite organization(s) among approximately 1,700 qualified cultural nonprofits. (Thirty-one of them are in Linn County. To find out whether your favorite is included, visit the website at culturaltrust.org.)

Donate the same amount to the Cultural Trust. Then take the same amount off your state taxes. Your donation to the Cultural Trust returns to you as a tax credit. Individuals can get a tax credit up to $500, couples up to $1,000 and class-C corporation up to $2,500.

The money given to the Cultural Trust is dispersed across Oregon to keep cultural organizations thriving throughout the state. Since 2003, donations to the Cultural Trust have generated more than $40 million in grants to cultural organizations across Oregon.

A portion of Cultural Trust funds are distributed locally by Cultural Coalitions, one for each county and federally recognized tribe in Oregon.

This year, the Linn County Cultural Coalition distributed $28,000 of these funds among 15 local organizations. Every registered Linn County nonprofit organization with a project involving the arts, heritage, or humanities is welcome to apply to the Coalition for funding. The next deadline for applications is Feb. 1, 2027.

For more information, visit linnculture.org.

Linda Ziedrich, Co-President
Linn County Cultural Coalition
Lebanon

We support The New Era!
Electrical Systems Services
Dan and Cindy Rice

SMART Reading Calls for Lebanon Volunteers

Lebanon elementary students are in need of adults willing to read to them.

As the SMART Reading program celebrates its 35th year of supporting child literacy in Oregon, the nonprofit organization seeks community members willing to read weekly with students at Hamilton Creek.

Since launching in 1992, SMART Reading has reached landmark milestones across the state, pairing more than 164,000 volunteers with more than 357,000 Oregon children, putting more than 5.1 million books directly into children's homes and proving that one hour a week can change a child's life. This year, SMART plans to serve 966 students and distribute nearly 7,000 books in Lane, Linn and Benton counties, ensuring local kids have the tools and support they need to succeed.

"For 35 years, our volunteers have been the heart of everything we do," Regional Director Leona Westdahl said. "Sitting down with a child and encouraging them, helping them find books they love and giving them an opportunity to practice the skills they're learning in the classroom is a simple, but powerful way to set them on a path for success in school and beyond. Plus, it's so much fun."

According to the Oregon Department of Education, 60% of Oregon third-graders are currently reading below grade level. Data collected from teachers annually consistently shows that nearly 90% of SMART Reading participants demonstrate measurable growth in reading comprehension, vocabulary, motivation and confidence.

To learn more about volunteer opportunities at Hamilton Creek Elementary, or at other sites in Linn and Benton counties, visit SMARTReading.org or call 541-600-8035.



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VETERANS DAY

HONORING ALL WHO SERVED



VETERANS DAY | HONORING ALL WHO SERVED
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 2026

VETERANS DAY ACTIVITIES SCHEDULE

Veterans Uniforms on Display
Ongoing Through Wednesday, Nov. 11
Downtown Albany
Displays include 19 uniforms from various branches of the military from the Civil War, World War I, World War II, Korea and Vietnam, to current campaigns.
Find locations at:
albanydowntown.com/ada-event/veterans-uniforms-on-display.

Santiam Salute 5K Fun Run
Saturday, Nov. 7, 9 a.m.
Former LBCC Building, 44 Industrial Way, Lebanon
Hosted by WesternU, all proceeds directly benefit the Edward C. Allworth Oregon Veterans' Home in Lebanon and the Military Medical Student Association.
Cost $25 (Includes T-shirt, finisher medal)
www.facebook.com/westernuhcom/posts/12-days-until-the-western u-oregon-military-medical-student-association-santiam-s/1827471228985135/

Veterans Recognition Celebration
Tuesday, Nov. 10, 3:30 to 4:30 p.m.
Lebanon Senior Center, 80 Tangent St.
Recognition ceremony honoring local community veterans (ages 50 and older)

Veteran of the Year Banquet
Tuesday, Nov. 10, 6 p.m.
YMCA, 3201 Pacific Blvd. SW, Albany
Tickets $40 per person, available at VFW Post 584 Canteen, 1469 Timber St. SE, Albany, or at www.vfwpost584.org/veteran-of-the-year-program

Albany Optimist Club Breakfast
Wednesday, Nov. 11, 6:30 to 9:30 a.m.
South Albany High School, 3705 SE Columbus St., Albany
(Note: After 50 years at West Albany, this is a new location)
All-you-can eat breakfast of ham, eggs, pancakes, coffee, milk and orange juice $13 per person, $10 for veterans and military, $7
Proceeds benefit local nonprofit organizations
albanyoptimist.org/veteran-s-day-breakfast

Veterans Day Continental Breakfast
Wednesday, Nov. 11, 7 to 10 a.m.
American Legion Post 10, 1215 Pacific Blvd., Albany

Veterans Day Memorial Service
Wednesday, Nov. 11, 8:30 - 9:15 a.m.
Guest speakers, laying of Gold Star and POW/MIA wreaths, a performance by "Oregon's Own" 234th Band, a Howitzer salute, and Echo Taps.
Timber Linn Park, 900 Price Rd. SE, Albany

75th Annual Linn County Oregon Veterans Day Parade
Wednesday, Nov. 11, 11:11 a.m.
Historic Downtown Albany (Route starts on Pacific Boulevard, heads down the overpass onto Lyon Street, turns left onto 2nd Avenue, turns left onto Ferry Street, and passes the Linn County Courthouse). The largest Veterans Day parade west of the Mississippi, featuring military vehicles, marching bands, floats, equestrian units, and thousands of participants with the theme "Salute to our Heroes" / America's 250th birthday.
(Military flyover approx. 11:11 a.m.)

Veterans Day Spaghetti Lunch
Wednesday, Nov. 11, Noon to 2 p.m.
American Legion Post 10, 1215 Pacific Blvd., Albany

VFW Chili Feed
Wednesday, Nov. 11, Noon
VFW Post 584, 1469 Timber St., Albany
Open to public; Donations Welcome

Stars and Stripes Ball
Saturday, Nov. 21, 4 p.m.
Knife River Training Center, 35973 Kennel Road SE, Albany
Formal event. Guests must be 18 or older. Non-veterans welcome.
Dinner, silent and live auctions, games and dancing
Tickets are $125 each. Proceeds benefit Link Up Vets. For tickets, visit linkupvets.org/stars-and-stripes-ball-2025.

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VETERANS DAY | HONORING ALL WHO SERVED
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 2026

Local veteran rises in Honor Flight organization

By Scott Swanson
Of The New Era

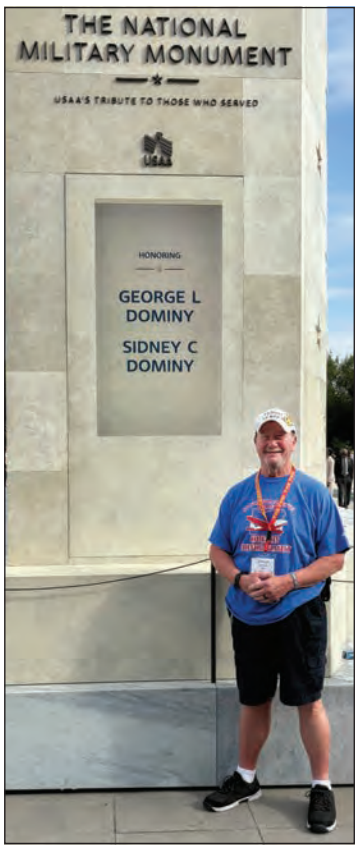
George Dominy has never participated in an Honor Flight as a veteran honoree – per se.

But he's been on plenty as a veteran, nonetheless. He's played a variety of roles in shepherding recipients through the three-day trips to Washington D.C., where they visit military memorials and museums in what, for many, becomes a healing process.

Since 2014 he's played multiple roles in the local Honor Flight program,most recently as a flight leader.

"I've never gone as an actual veteran, said Dominy, 65, a retired law enforcement officer. "I've just always gone as part of the leadership team."

Dominy served in the U.S. Marine Corps from 1978 to 1982 as a military policeman, following in his father's footsteps, he said.





George Dominy, left, visits the National Military Monument during an Honor Flight trip to Washington, D.C. Above, Honor Flight participants make a stop at the Vietnam Memorial.
- **George Dominy photos**

"I did the one-year delayed entry," he recalled, noting that he was taking classes in law enforcement at Southwestern Oregon Community College in Coos County, where he grew up.

He served mostly at Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center in Twentynine Palms, Calif., the largest United States Marine Corps base in the world.

After his discharge, he did a short stint at Moore Lumber Co. in Bandon before joining the Myrtle Point police, then Brookings, before moving to Sweet Home in 1988.

Dominy was a sergeant for SHPD before leaving in 2008 for the state Police Academy in Salem, where he served as a class training coordinator and trained groups in security, corrections, parole and probation, dispatch and firefighting.

In the midst of the Great Recession, with the academy experiencing budget problems, his position dissolved after six months, but he stayed on, part-time and also worked for Lebanon Police Department for several years.

During that period he also traveled around the state, conducting active shooter training sessions for public safety agencies that couldn't afford to send personnel to Salem.

"We actually had high school students play the roles and then we had law enforcement or military personnel that we could use as 'active shooters,'" he said. "We used blanks. We used smoke. We used firecracker-type stuff, so it was loud enough that people could hear explosive things going on. We made it as realistic as we could."

After sustaining an injury, he retired in 2012 from law enforcement, although he continued to teach at the academy until 2018.

Meanwhile, in 2014, Dominy and his sons David and Cliff, who have performed a cappella music for decades in the region as Praise In 3D, were asked by Mike Pungercar, founder of the South Willamette Valley Honor Flight program, to sing at a presentation the organization was putting on at the River Center in Twentynine Palms, Calif., the largest United States Marine Corps base in the world.

Honor Flights, usually held twice yearly in this area, are free, three-day all-expense-paid trips provided to U.S. military veterans – particularly those from Korea and the Vietnam War – to visit war memorials in Washington, D.C. The program provides closure and a sense of appreciation for many participants and allows them to build relationships with other veterans.

See Honor Flight, Page 16

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VETERANS DAY | HONORING ALL WHO SERVED
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 2026

Albany Veterans Parade celebrating 75 years

Albany's parade, historically the largest Veterans Day Parade west of the Mississippi and the third-largest in the United States, began in 1951 when local ex-Marine Jim Barrett and the Linn County Marine Corps League decided to make Linn County the most patriotic in the country after a "spiritless" celebration of what was then Armistice Day.

Armistice Day is an international commemoration held each Nov. 11 to celebrate the signing of the armistice that ended fighting in World War I. President Woodrow Wilson first proclaimed the day in 1919 to honor World War I veterans, reflect on the cost of war and celebrate world peace.

In 1954 President Dwight D. Eisenhower signed a bill that created Veterans Day, which included all veterans from all eras.

During the 1950s and the early 1960s Albany's parade expanded significantly in size and participation by military and government dignitaries, who made it a regular stop on Veterans Day, as well as Hollywood celebrities such as Raymond Burr, Audie Murphy, General Jimmy Doolittle, Jesse Owens, Don Scholander, then Gov. Ronald Reagan, Bob Hope, Hugh O'Brien and more.



Historically known as the largest Veterans Day parade west of the Mississippi, Albany's parade includes a wide variety of entries, including annual appearances by Lebanon High School's Junior ROTC members, bottom photo. – The New Era file photos

During the Vietnam era, the parade continued to support veterans, who were treated with everything from outright hostility to indifference.

Participation was enthusiastic, with many organizations participating in the Veterans Day celebrations. Albany's Optimist Club hosted – and still hosts – a pancake breakfast, now at South Albany High School.

Boy Scouts, in particular, were a big part of the parade from the start, with as many as 240 Scouts marching during the peak years of the organization.

During COVID, the parade was suspended for two years, but retired Col. Chris Reese and McCall Washburn came up with the idea of having reverse parades to keep the tradition alive with as many as 35 displays set up around Albany, which people could drive around and check out via QR codes.

Despite leadership challenges and the cancellation of the parade for two years during COVID, the parade has continued under the leadership of such people as Louie White, Ed Horinek, Ernie Argo, Pat Morits, Louie White, Patty Louisiana, Reese and Washburn and now, the Linn County Veterans Day Parade Committee, headed by Christine Ferguson.





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VETERANS DAY | HONORING ALL WHO SERVED
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 2026

American Legion Post 51 celebrates 100 years of service in Lebanon

By Brandon Cominsky
Of The New Era

As American Legion Post 51 marks 100 years, it continues to serve veterans, their families and the Lebanon community as a gathering place rooted in patriotism, volunteerism and service.

Established in Lebanon in 1926, the local post began in a small upstairs meeting space on Main Street before growing into a community gathering place that continues to welcome veterans, families and residents of all generations.

As the organization celebrates its centennial this year, members reflect on a century of history while looking ahead to the next generation who will carry its mission forward.

"The members of American Legion Post 51 have served veterans, their families and the Lebanon and Linn County community through patriotism, volunteerism, military honors, youth programs and community service," said Nona Miller, the club manager, during an Oct. 13 presentation about the centennial to Lebanon Museum members.





The American Legion Post 51 building is on the right, just past the power pole and the Gem Theatre, in this 1949 photo of downtown Lebanon. At right is the current location at 480 S. Main St. - **Left photo from Facebook/Right by Brandon Cominsky**

A century of history

The American Legion was founded nationally in 1919. Seven years later, in 1926, Lebanon established its own post, initially meeting upstairs in a building along Main Street.

According to Miller's historical presentation, the organization first met at a location believed to have been 718 Main St. The group operated as American Legion Club 51 before moving into its current building.

Over the following decades, members raised money to establish a permanent home. Construction on the original portion of the current building was completed in 1958, giving the organization a dedicated space.

The building's original neon Club 51 sign was eventually changed to reflect its new identity as Post 51. The organization continued expanding its facilities over the years.

Miller's presentation included photographs of the organization's early meeting rooms, members, construction and activities throughout its history.

Among the stories shared were the contributions of American Legion Auxiliary members, who organized a holiday show to raise money for bricks used in the building's construction. According to Miller, they delivered the bricks behind the building and hauled them in wheelbarrows.

For Miller, those historical details show how generations of members contributed their time and resources to establish the organization that exists today.

More than a gathering place

Today, Post 51 serves as more than a gathering place for veterans. Its membership and affiliated organizations bring together veterans, spouses, children, grandchildren and other family members.

The American Legion includes the post itself, the American Legion Auxiliary, Sons of the American Legion (SAL) and Legion Riders. Together, these groups support veterans, families and the broader community.

The post also operates as a club where veterans and their guests can socialize, enjoy meals and participate in activities. Miller said the building welcomes people of all ages and offers a family-friendly environment.

"We have lots of things going on down here for everybody in the family," Miller said.

The building also serves as a community space for events outside the organization. Residents and groups can use its facilities for memorial services, baby showers, birthday parties, homeowners association meetings and Girl Scout gatherings.

Miller said opening the building to the community helps introduce residents to

See Legion , Page 14







LEGION
From page 13

the organization and show them activities beyond its membership meetings.

"We want to be open to the community so they can see that we're not just a bunch of little old men sitting at the bar," she said.

Giving back to Lebanon

Community service remains central to Post 51's mission.

Each year, the organization holds a Harvest Ball to raise money for residents who need assistance. The proceeds help provide gift certificates that recipients can use at stores of their choosing.

The organization also hosts an annual oratorical contest for middle school and high school students. Participants learn about the U.S. Constitution, demonstrate their understanding through presentations and can earn scholarships.

SAL members contribute to local events, including preparing chicken for the Lebanon Strawberry Festival and cooking hamburgers for volunteers who place American flags at veterans' gravesites ahead of Memorial Day. Miller said the SAL members buy the hamburgers and buns themselves and prepare a meal to thank volunteers for their time and service.

Miller also noted that the Auxiliary organizes activities for members' children and grandchildren, including Christmas and Easter parties and other seasonal gatherings. Its Christmas celebrations include a visit from Santa Claus.

Beyond those activities, members help support veterans in practical ways, including providing transportation to medical appointments, assisting with shopping and helping veterans and their families during the holidays.



Nona Miller of the American Legion Post 51 shares stories from the organization's history in Lebanon during a presentation to Lebanon Museum members Oct. 13. - **Photo by Brandon Cominsky**

Miller said the organization also welcomes community members who want to volunteer but may not qualify for membership.

"There are people that can't be members, but we're always open to volunteers," she said. "We're going to make sure that you're part of this home."

Bringing younger generations through the doors

While Post 51 has spent a century serving the community, Miller said one of its biggest priorities is attracting younger members.

She said younger members are essential to keeping the organization operating and ensuring its programs continue for decades to come.

"If we don't have the younger generation coming in, then our doors will close," Miller said.

In recent years, Miller has introduced different entertainment options and performers to appeal to a wider audience while continuing to accommodate longtime members.

The building offers activities including darts, karaoke, dancing and a regulation-size pool table. The organization also hosts bands and other entertainment two or three times a month, depending on scheduling.

Miller said the goal is to create an environment where people without a connection to the Legion can still find a welcoming place to spend time. She also hopes younger generations can learn from longtime veterans about community involvement, supporting fellow veterans and helping neighbors.

The organization is also planning new activities. Miller shared an upcoming Nerf-themed event in the dining hall as an example of the creative gatherings members are willing to explore.

"We want to be involved and we want the community involved," she said.

Looking toward the next 100 years

As Post 51 celebrates its centennial, Miller hopes the organization will keep growing, welcome new members and remain relevant to Lebanon residents.

She said the building's future depends on people willing to walk through its doors, participate in activities and support its members' work. Miller encourages residents to stop by, meet members and experience the community firsthand.

The post also offers breakfast, which Miller said was traditionally served Sunday mornings from 8 to 11 a.m. The organization plans to expand breakfast service to seven days a week, with options including omelets, French toast, pancakes, chicken-fried steak and a $10.50 breakfast featuring eggs, a choice of meat and a choice of carbohydrates.

After 100 years, the organization is looking to preserve the history built by previous generations while making room for those who will shape its future.

Miller hopes the post's next century will bring continued service, new friendships and more opportunities to bring the Lebanon community together. Most of all, she hopes residents will keep walking through the doors, joining in and helping the post remain part of the community for years to come.

"Just supporting the post by coming down and seeing us," she said, "is a good place to start."







VETERANS DAY | HONORING ALL WHO SERVED
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 2026

Al Severson named grand marshal of parade he announced for decades

Al Severson, who announced the Albany Veterans Day Parade for 31 years, won't be behind the mic for this year's event.

Though Severson, 75, is suffering health problems and will not be able to attend this year, he will be present in spirit – he's been chosen the grand marshal for the 75th annual parade.

Severson served in the Oregon National Guard right out of Sweet Home High School, starting in the fall of 1969, including a brief tour of duty at Fort Greely in Alaska in 1975.

He served in the National Guard until 1980.

Meanwhile, Severson was learning the auctioneering business, in which his father Orvin was involved, which proved to be his catapult into veterans activities.

He worked for Dan B. and Larry Roth's New and Used Furniture and Auction in Albany and his bosses – especially Dan B. – were very active in the Veterans Day events.

"When it got to be Veterans Day, he'd just hand you a list and say, 'That's what you've got to do.' You didn't question it. You just did it."

The Roths' biggest legacy to Severns has been his involvement in veterans' causes.

"That was drilled into me 50 years ago: If it wasn't for our veterans, we wouldn't have freedoms we have today."

Larry Roth was a World War II pilot who got shot down "twice, if my memory is right," in the Pacific, Severson said.

"It's funny how I got involved in the Veterans Day Parade because, as a kid, I was told, 'You go to the Linn County Veterans Day meeting tonight. We'll feed and water you.' I would have been 23."

When Dan B. died, 30 years ago, Severns took over as parade announcer and he's been in the booth ever since for what was, for many years, the largest Veterans Day parade west of the Mississippi. (Las Vegas has recently risen to the top, he said.)

He has operated The Frame House in Albany since 1996, moving to that occupation after the Roth family sold their business.

Over the years Severson has announced not just the parades, but "all kinds of events all over the state."

"In my 50 years, I've done close to 3,000 events at no charge – granges, conservation groups, agricultural events, logging shows, whatever."

One of his most recent gigs was the Harrisburg Fourth of July Parade.

Severson was recognized as the local Veterans Day celebration's Distinguished Veteran of the Year in 2019 and he said one of his greatest treasures is a Quilt of Valor he received earlier this year, created for the Brownsville Pioneer Picnic Quilt Show by Carolyn Stegall.

"Certificates are nice and awards are nice, but when you get a blanket that someone put hours into, that means a lot," he said, adding that the quilt won "the top award" in the Brownsville show.

"It's not about me," he said. "It's about our veterans. They've given a lot more than I ever have.

"Every day is Veterans Day with me. That's the way I've been brought up: Past, present, future veterans are never forgotten."



Al Severson works the microphone during a past Albany Veterans Parade.
- The New Era file photo

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HONOR FLIGHT

From page 11

"After the presentation was over, he asked me if I'd be interested in being a guardian to go on the flight and I said, 'Sure, why not?'" Dominy recalled. "So I ended up going as a guardian and that pretty well hooked me. Then it was, like, 'OK, this is pretty cool.'"

He continued, starting as a guardian – a one-on-one companion for veterans participating in the program. Later, he moved up to team leader and now serves a flight leader, overseeing two team leaders and their teams of 10 veterans and 10 guardians each.

"We just make sure the team leaders get hold of everybody, make sure everybody's on board, that the guardians and veterans are all ready to go – they're not forgetting anything, all the forms and documents are all filled out, that kind of stuff.

"And then, any decisions that need to be made on the flight, we make those decisions."

All those volunteers pay their own way, $1,500, Dominy said. One trip costs about $180,000.

The last trip was Sept. 23-27, following one in May of this year. The participants are bussed to Portland on Thursday, where they stay at the Sheridan Hotel and eat dinner. On Friday they fly to Washington D.C., where they visit memorials and military museums until Sunday evening, when they fly back.



A host impersonating Gen. George S. Patton, left, chats with veterans during an Honor Flight visit to the World War II memorial in Washington D.C. **- George Dominy photos**

"We do try to do as many memorials and museums as we can," Dominy said, listing some of the regulars: the World War II, Korea and Vietnam memorials, Marine Corps Museum, the Army Museum, the Navy Memorial, the Iwo Jima Memorial, the Air Force Memorial and more.

Any veteran who served in the military between Dec. 7, 1941 and May 7, 1975 is eligible to participate. Veterans or prospective guardians can apply at www.swvhonorflight.org, call (541) 246-9726 or email info@swvhonorflight.org.

"Anybody can be a guardian," Dominy said. "It doesn't have to be a family member. As a matter of fact, we have a lot of people that don't have family in the area and so we provide guardians for them."



Veterans visit the U.S. Marine Corps Memorial (Iwo Jima Memorial) in Arlington Rdige Park, near Washington D.C.

Dominy said the trip helps veterans connect.

"Everybody gets to know everybody. If you didn't know them before, you're gonna know them by the time we're done."

It also provides "healing," he said, "especially with the Vietnam veterans and the Korean veterans."

"When we first fly out, they're excited to go, but they're not real talkative. But then, once we get to their memorial, they just open up. It's amazing."

Dominy recalls trying to persuade one veteran to participate.

"He said, 'I'm not ready to go. I just can't do it.'"

Finally, the man agreed to take the trip.

"He opened up and he said, 'Hey, I just had a lot of survivor guilt,' which is what most of them have. So we were able to find his friend on the wall. We got his name etched for him.

"There's a lot of guys who just break down. It's definitely an emotional healing for them."







Commissioners hear report on Juvenile Department activities

By Alex Paul
Linn County Communications

The Linn County Juvenile Department works with as many as 150 young people every school year through its Early Intervention Program, Probation Officer Beth Shook told Linn County Commissioners Roger Nyquist, Sherrie Sprenger and Will Tucker at their Oct. 27 meeting.

The county's two-person intervention team works with young people who are having issues obeying school rules, disrupting class, struggling with getting along with other students, or are dealing with suspensions, Shook said.

The goal is to help the students make positive changes before they become entangled in the legal system and are placed on court-mandated probation. Participation is voluntary and must be agreed upon by both students and parents.

Staff work with middle schools in Albany, Sweet Home and Seven Oaks in Lebanon. She has worked in the Juvenile Department for eight years and spent eight years with the District Attorney's Office before that.

Shook said she will work with five to seven groups each school day, three to 10 students per group.

"Using evidence-based materials, we teach them skills and provide them with tools to help them deal with anger, anxiety and stress issues," Shook said. "We also work with them through peer-led suicide prevention."



Probation Officer Beth Shook, left, speaks to commissioners Roger Nyquist, center, and Sherrie Sprenger about the Juvenile Department's Early Intervention Program. **– Linn County photo**

The program doesn't end when school lets out for summer break, Shook noted.

Once a week, the Juvenile Department provides the student with positive learning experiences such as snorkeling for fish counts in the Calapooia River, visiting the space museum, building underwater robots, touring a local dairy farm and taking cooking classes at the OSU Extension Service Office in Tangent.

"They get to do fun things they would not normally get to experience," Shook said. "They also learn to communicate and get along with students from other schools, kids outside of their school groups."

Shook said she also helps parents find resources through the Mental Health and Drug & Alcohol Departments.

Shook said teachers, administrators, students and parents provide her with information about students who might benefit from the program.

In other business the commissioners:

• Received the September Juvenile Department report from Director Torri Lynn. There were 25 youth held in September from Linn, Benton and Lincoln counties. There are 199 youth in the Probation Unit and 118 in the Community Programs Unit. 119 young people are working with the Intervention Specialists.

• Were told by Accounting Officer Bill Palmer that the county remains fiscally stable and spending continues to be conservative through the first quarter of the fiscal year that ended on September 30. Spending levels were all about the same as the same time a year ago.

• Received a report from Ryan Vogt, Executive Director of the Cascades West Council of Governments and Community Services Consortium. He said that on Nov. 3, an economic development summit for Linn, Benton, Lincoln and Lane counties will be held at the Fair & Expo Center. He said the goal is to develop a five-year plan, laying out local economic development priorities.

• Approved an increase of $474,912 within the Health Fund from the State of Oregon.

• Approved transferring $330,100 within the Alcohol & Drug Program from contingency to materials and supplies (contracted services).

• Held an executive session but took no action as the result of the session.

SH COUNCIL
From page 1

city attorney services and had the higher score.

The council unanimously agreed to the contract; councilors Chelsea Augsburger and Josh Thorstad were absent.

The law firm, based out of Eugene, will be an independent contractor paid on an hourly basis, generally between $140 and $400 an hour, depending on the type of work performed. They will perform duties to include:

Attending meetings as needed;

Providing guidance and procedural and legal requirements for the Planning Commission;

Advise city officials on code enforcement matters;

Assist in elections-related matters, as needed;

Provide legal advice where needed;

Advise on real estate matters;

Write contracts;

Perform other general services needed of an attorney to the city.

In other business:

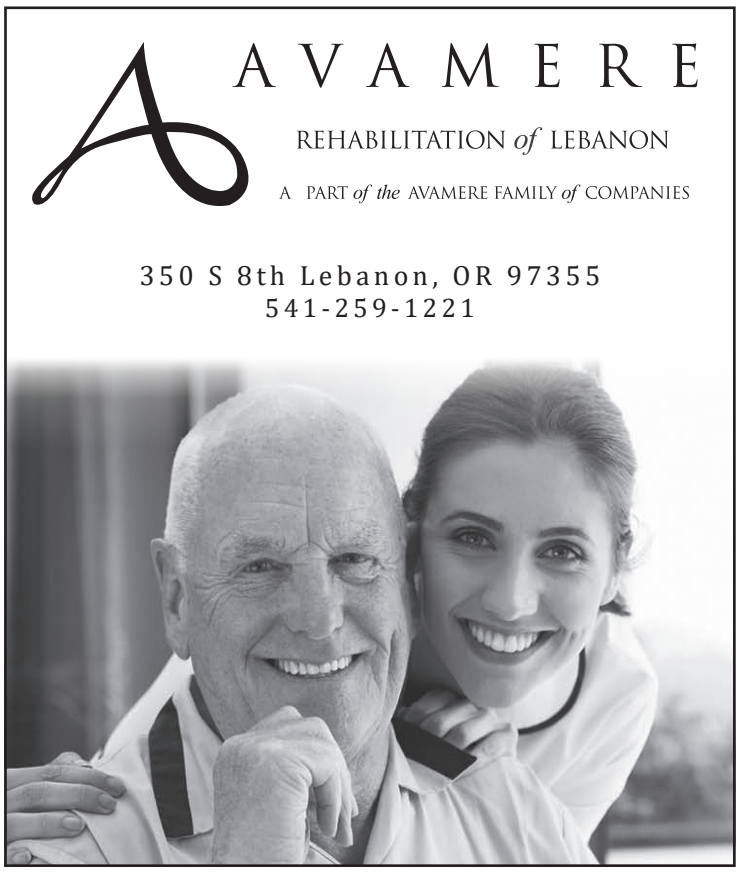
• Residents George Dominy and David Lowman expressed concern regarding Councilor Josh Thorstad who, they said, violated the city's Code of Ethics by making derogatory and degrading statements on social media against council candidates and community members. Dominy asked for an investigation on the matter.

• The council approved road closures for the annual Parade of Lights on Saturday, Dec. 12.

• The council approved a municipal code change allowing the Library Board to meet at minimum four times per year instead of monthly, as the board oftentimes finds there is not sufficient business to conduct monthly meetings.

• Police Chief Jason Ogden provided information from the Oregon Department of Transportation on laws pertaining to bikes, electric bikes and other non-motor and motor-assisted devices. He said the police department is receiving more complaints about e-bikes and noted the law does not permit e-bikes to be ridden on sidewalks.







Sodaville maintains stance on water bill dispute

By Sarah Brown
Of The New Era

Following its regular meeting on Oct. 15, the Sodaville City Council held a follow-up work session on Thursday, Oct. 29, to discuss a resident's water bill dispute and plans for a revived Blackberry Festival.

At its regular meeting, City Recorder/Administrator Molly McGuire informed the council that resident Warren Gacsi, who last month asked the city to write off some of his water bill due to a leaking pipe, has since sent in "numerous amounts" of public records requests.

As reported in The New Era, a pipe or pipe fitting on Gacsi's side of the water meter burst, causing about 14,000 gallons of water to leak within just a few hours and resulting in a very high water bill. Gacsi believes the city is responsible to maintain any equipment within the meter box, including the pressure relief valve on his side of the meter.

At the work session, Public Works Director J D Burns provided the council with the full text of a municipal code that Gacsi used in his argument to say the city is responsible for anything within the meter pit.

Burns pointed out that the code number and text provided by Gacsi is not taken from Sodaville's codes. In reviewing the city's own ordinance (82-8), Mayor Caleb Gay believes Sodaville's ordinance states the customer is responsible for his pressure relief valve.

Gacsi told this reporter he was asking the city to reduce his water bill by charging him on the lowest water rate tier instead of the higher tiers. McGuire added that Gacsi also wants a $329 reimbursement for a payment to Buckmaster for servicing his line.

Councilor Adina Olivares said the city has not issued forgiveness to other residents who experienced high bills from water leaks.

"I still think in consistency and fairness to all of our other citizens that we said no to, we don't do that," Olivares said. "We will give you a payment plan, we will not charge you interest, but we don't write it off."

Councilor Roger Perry added, "We can't afford it anymore."

McGuire pointed out that people on social media have been saying the city should just forgive the charges.

"The unfortunate part is that that's not a reality for such small communities," she said.

"We'd go bankrupt," Councilor Joseph Parsons said.

Olivares suggested an idea to allow residents an option to donate to a relief fund for homeowners who find themselves in similar situations.

McGuire told the council that, although Gacsi did request public records, she has not yet mailed the documents because she was out ill for a week and also he has not yet paid fees to complete the request, but she has responded to him, per law. According to her, some of the items he is asking for includes information on when the meters were installed, cleaned, last serviced and last inspected, and answers about the $10 water maintenance fee.

Perry – who started on Sodaville City Council in 1981 – said residents who moved to Sodaville since the water system was installed in the 1980s don't realize what components of the system they're responsible for, and added that "the city allowed the residents to put all that s–t in the city meter box," referring to the customer's equipment being placed inside the city's meter box.

Olivares and Parsons questioned whether it would be a good idea to remind residents about homeowner responsibilities in Sodaville.

"From my point of view, we put people on the payment plan and that's about as much grace as you're gonna get anywhere," Parsons said.

Councilor Tony Flanagan believes the leak and faulty equipment is "clearly" not the city's responsibility and there is established precedence establishing the council's stance to no longer issue forgiveness on water bills.

The council also asked McGuire to update the city's fee schedule for records requests. Currently the fee is $25/per hour with a $5 minimum, which "doesn't even cover wages," Parsons said.

The council will formally vote on any relevant matters at its next regular meeting on Thursday, Nov. 19.

Community Events

Following water bill discussions, the council held a work session with Community Liaison Peggy Bishop, who is interested in reviving some community events, namely the city barbecue, city-wide yard sale and Blackberry Festival.

"We're trying to bring back our community, togetherness, fun," Bishop said.

She determined it might be best to start with one event, such as the yard sales, and expand with the other events in the coming years.

Parsons noted during the meeting that he's been tossing around the idea of some day hosting a car show in Sodaville that would raise money for the city's water system.

Gay noted the city's only revenue comes from the water system and he'd like to find a way to develop some extra revenue with the building at the park.

After some discussion, Bishop was tasked with forming a committee to get a community yard sale event underway for next year. McGuire suggested the committee also begin alerting residents to the Blackberry Festival, which might begin in 2028, so people have time to grow their blackberry bushes out.

"We are starting to rejuvenate our little town, which is important to us," Bishop said. "We are, over the next three years, going to create things that are going to bring visitors to the community events."

Water Report

During its regular meeting on Oct. 15, Burns reported that, with major water leaks now repaired, the city's water loss has returned to average, resulting in last month's calculations returning a 12% loss. Water consumption this past month also appears to have gone down significantly.

Meanwhile, Well 3 went offline due to wiring issues that will cost the city about $1,000 to fix.

Burns also provided a report on well production, noting that May is usually the time of year when the wells produce the most water.

Well 1 provides approx. 9,000 gallons of water in a 24-hour period in May. It is currently producing about 4,500 gallons.

Well 2 provides approx. 1,100 gallons of water in a 24-hour period in May. It is currently producing just under 1,000 gallons.

Well 3 provides approx. 4,500 gallons of water in a 24-hour period in May. It is currently producing about 1,500 gallons.

Well 4 provides between 4,500-6,000 gallons of water in a 24-hour period in May. It is currently producing "barely" 1,000 gallons.

Well 5 is offline.

"Your wells' water table is way down, there was no snow pack last year and there's not looking to be any this year," Burns said. "It could get ugly."

In other business during the regular session, Burns reported potholes on St. Louis Street have been filled in, though they are already showing signs of coming back out, and the park's basketball backboard is being rebuilt with plywood, with the help of Councilor Roger Perry.

PUBLIC SAFETY

From page 5

LEBANON POLICE

Lebanon police had not submitted a log for this date in time for publication. When available, log will be updated at lebanonlocalnews.com.

LCSO/OSP SWEET HOME/S. COUNTY

5:01 p.m. - Keely Gomez, 21, of Lebanon, arrested on warrant.

Kayla Gamble, 42, of Sweet Home, arrested on warrant.

McDowell Creek/Pleasant Valley. Report taken.

10:26 p.m. - Crash reported in 40300 block Upper Calapooia. One vehicle sustained substantial damage. Driver transported to hospital with non-life-threatening injuries. Report taken.

LCSO/OSP LEBANON

3:45 a.m. - Christopher Stidham, 35, of Lebanon, arrested on multiple warrants,

See Public Safety, Page 19

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Public Notices

Notice of sale of personal property under Landlords Possessory Lien. Personal property left in the following units have been seized for non-payment of rent and will be sold at The Storage Depot, 2887 SW Ferry St Albany, OR 97322 on November 19, 2026 at 12:00 pm. A0107 (Jena Downard), E0560 (Tristen Moersch), J2012 (Alisyn Murphy), J2019 (Debra Tilley), H0822 & H0841 (Sherinda Depas), J2025 (Cheryl Rhodes), J2054 (Alicia Huber), J2065 (Lana Hecocta), K3007 (Anthony Gallegos), K3027 (Christina Burkett)
(11/04 - 11/11)_____

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE STATE OF OREGON FOR THE COUNTY OF LINN

JAMES A. HURLEY, Plaintiff, v. THE HEIRS, DEVISEES and/OR SUCCESSORS OF FRANKIE J. BRINKLEY; LOYD JAMES BRINKLEY; THE HEIRS, DEVISEES and/OR SUCCESSORS OF ROY R. SIMMS; THE HEIRS, DEVISEES and/OR SUCCESSORS OF WENDY WALKER; THE UNKNOWN HEIRS, DEVISEES and/OR SUCCESSORS OF DONNA J. MCDANIEL; PATRICIA MISKEY; RAY KLEIN, INC. dba PROFESSIONAL CREDIT SERVICE; and ALSO ALL OTHER PERSONS OR PARTIES UNKNOWN CLAIMING ANY RIGHT, TITLE, LIEN, OR INTEREST IN THE PROPERTY DESCRIBED IN THE COMPLAINT HEREIN, Defendants. Case No. 26CV31543.

SUMMONS TO: The Heirs, Devisees and/or Successors of Frankie J. Brinkley; Unknown Heirs, Devisees and/or Successors of Roy Simms; The Heirs, Devisees and/or Successors of Wendy Walker; Unknown Heirs, Devisees and/or Successors of Donna J. McDaniel; and Also All Other Persons or Parties Unknown Claiming Any Right, Title, Lien, or Interest in the Property Described in the Complaint Herein.

IN THE NAME OF THE STATE OF OREGON: You are hereby required to appear and defend the action filed against you in the above-entitled cause within 30 days from the date of service of this Summons upon you; and if you fail to appear and defend, for want thereof, Plaintiffs will apply to the Court for the relief demanded therein.

NOTICE TO DEFENDANT: READ THESE PAPERS CAREFULLY! Plaintiff seeks a judgment and decree quieting title and declaring Plaintiff to be the sole and exclusive owner of the real property located at 2187 Mill Street, Lebanon, OR 97355.

You must "appear" in this case or the other side will win automatically. To "appear" you must file with the court a legal paper called a "motion" or "answer." The motion or answer or reply must be given to the court clerk or administrator within 30 days of the date of first publication specified herein along with the required filing fee. It must be in proper form and have proof of service on the plaintiff's attorney or, if the plaintiff does not have an attorney, proof of service upon the plaintiff.

If you have any questions, you should see an attorney immediately. If you need help in finding an attorney, you may contact the Oregon State Bar's Lawyer Referral Service online at www.oregonstatebar.org or by calling (503) 684-3763 (in the Portland metropolitan area) or tollfree elsewhere in Oregon at (800)452-7636. Sherman Sherman Johnnie and Hoyt, LLP By: Mark C. Hoyt, OSB No. 923419, Of Attorneys for Plaintiff, P.O. Box 2247, Salem, Oregon 97308, (503) 364-2281 Date of First Publication: October 28, 2026
(10/28, 11/4, 11/11, 11/18)_____

NOTICE OF ONLINE AUCTION – A SQUARED STORAGE 1294 44th Ave. Sweet Home, OR 97386. Online bidding at www.storageauctions.com, auction ends 11/12/2026 at 10:00 a.m. Stephen Epperson, unit 333.
(10/28-11/04)_____

For Sale

2002 Harley Heritage motorcycle 9800 miles, pristine condition, extra parts $6200; 1 3/4 cord split firewood $150 541-367-3139
(11/4)_____

5 - 6 cords of mixed firewood must take all $600; Sweet Home Stoveworks wood burning stove with 8 ft dual wall pipe included $500; 6ft dual wall stove pipe $150. 760-221-9900
(11/4)_____

For Sale

Clean '87 Fifth Wheel. Everything works $2500 OBO, clean title and tags. 541-971-2857
(11/4)_____

Craft Fair Bazaar

Holiday Craft Bazaar, November 6th & 7th from 9 am to 4 pm at Santiam Place Event Hall, 139 Main Street, Lebanon. A variety of vendors will be selling their items. Pick up a map of the 9 Lebanon Craft Bazaars happening this weekend!
(10/28 - 11/04)_____

Holiday Bazaar: Friday, Nov. 6 9am - 5pm and Saturday, Nov. 7 9am-4pm Vintage Table, Opportunity Table, Baked Goods, Local Crafters, Handmade Tied Quilts. Lunch served on both days. Christ Community Lutheran Church 320 Market St. Lebanon.
(10/28 - 11/04)_____

Christmas Bazaar Fri. Nov 13, 10am - 5pm, Sat. Nov 14 9am - 4pm. The kitchen will be open for lunch. Lots of gift to buy, wreaths, table arrangements, jewelry, wood items, home-made candy, jams and jellies, greeting cards. Sweet Home Evangelical Church 1347 Long St. Sweet Home
(11/04 - 11/11)_____

Events

American Legion craft show vendors wanted for December 5th,2026 contact Laura Dickson 503-664-6777
(10/21 - 11/18)_____

Wanted

Wanted portable bandsaw mill 541-801-1049 Tom.
(10/28 - 11/4)_____

Statewide Notices

Services: OLDER POKEMON CARDS. Paying cash for 1990s-2000s Pokemon cards, collections, binders. Any condition. Local transaction. Please call or text Dane 503-884-5031. Thank you.

Timber Wanted: Brent Ottosen Timber Co. Selective logging specialists. Buying standing timber. Insured with excellent references. Honest, dependable service throughout Southern Oregon. Call today for estimate: 541-866-8586.

PUBLIC SAFETY

From page 18

200 block W. Airport. Lodged at LCJ. Report taken.

10:59 a.m. - Deputy assisted Hamilton Creek School staff with juvenile. 32100 block Berlin.

7:09 p.m. - Jett McConnell, 28, of Lebanon, cited for speeding, 93/45, 33400 block Brewster.

OCT. 29

SWEET HOME POLICE

10:40 a.m. - Caller reported individual lying in parked vehicle in 600 block 10th. Officer contacted individual, who was living in the vehicle and was advised of proper locations and other options.

11:55 a.m. - Benjamin Jazmin, 37, arrested on LCJC warrant for failure to register as sexual offender after caller reported male in vehicle in parking lot at 925 Long, asking individuals for money. Vehicle was left parked on street after Jazmin was advised of his "driving status." Jazmin cited and released.

12:30 p.m. - Brian Lee Lindsay, 38, arrested after turning himself in at SHPD, 1950 Main, on SHMC warrant for FTC in hit and run case. Cited and released.

12:53 p.m. - Caller reported her Social Security number was used by someone for employment, 1400 block 24th. Info noted.

12:53 p.m. - Caller reported neighbor digging out caller's fence, making it fall over, 800 block Alder. Officer responded to what has been ongoing civil issue. Caller advised of options.

11:04 p.m. - Ryan Joseph Hutchinson cited for DWS, DU, Poplar/Foster Dam Rd.

11:43 p.m. - Christopher Jon Head cited for DU, Main/19th.

LEBANON POLICE

8:32 a.m. - Kimberly Alice Vis, 54, cited for speeding 33/20 school zone, N 5th St./Boulder Falls Dr.

9:34 a.m. - Tamina Lee Grover, 43, cited for DU and speeding 34/20.

9:44 a.m. - Christina Michele Shaffer, 41, cited for cell phone.

10:42 a.m. - James Moses Gallegos, 49, cited for speeding 34/20.

10:57 a.m. - Kayli Raschae Ehlbeck, 28, cited for DU and cell phone.

11:11 a.m. - Brison Alan Edwards, 18, cited for cell phone.

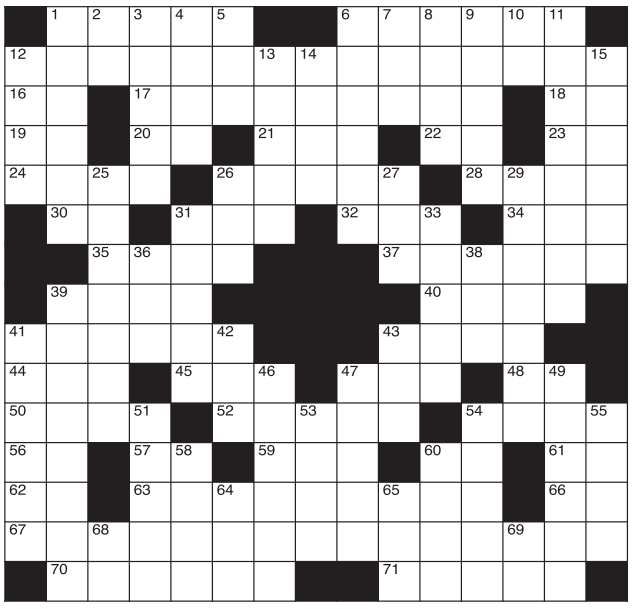
12:39 p.m. - Cassandra Marie Barden, 32, cited for cell phone.

12:54 p.m. - Trevor Reed Welker, 31, cited for cell phone.

2:08 p.m. - Shenna Marie

See Public Safety, Page 23

CROSSWORD



CLUES ACROSS

1. Put within
6. Learned person
12. Resistance
16. Female title
17. Logical basis for a belief
18. Of I
19. Indicates position
20. Article
21. Insignificant organizational member
22. __ route
23. Expression of disapproval
24. Microelectromechanical systems
26. Ponds
28. Satisfy
30. Dad
31. Spanish soldier "El __"
32. Pouch-like structure
34. Obscure unit of measurement
35. Okinawa prefecture capital
37. Platforms
39. Jazz singer Irene
40. Benefits
41. Hellenistic governors
43. Brownish-green fruit
44. Needed to see
45. Political action committee
47. Fast plane
48. Bahrain dinar
50. Urgent request
52. Raccoon genus
54. Millisecond
56. Atlanta rapper
57. Rural delivery
59. Intrauterine device
60. The Wolverine State
61. Free agent
62. For instance
63. Reduces
66. Lincoln's state
67. Quit
70. Midsections
71. Bullfighting maneuvers

CLUES DOWN

1. The arch of the foot
2. Canadian peninsula
3. Koran chapters
4. Abba __, Israeli politician
5. Youngster
6. Burns
7. Comedienne Gasteyer
8. Valley
9. Belongs to sun god
10. Nickel
11. Great in salads
12. Leader
13. Forced through a sieve
14. Entryway
15. Support pillars
25. Aquatic mammal
26. __ Farrow, actress
27. Unhappy
29. Holds molecules
31. Thrifty
33. French dynasty
36. Scottish port
38. Irish militant organization
39. Dawn
41. Musical group of seven
42. Used to fry things
43. Carrot's companion
46. Rough stone landmarks
47. Fourth son of Jacob and Leah
49. Goes against
51. Passion
53. Hard white animal fat
54. Soybean pastes
55. Beckon
58. Mountain and morning are two
60. Self-referential
64. Data executive
65. Retirement plan
68. Star Trek character Laren
69. You and I

SUDOKU

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

Level: Intermediate

New county treasurer sworn in as Hawkins leaves after 31 years

By Alex Paul
Linn County Communications

Jennifer Stanaway was sworn in Thursday, Oct. 29, as the new Linn County Treasurer and Budget Officer by Commissioner Roger Nyquist at a ceremony in the Board Room of the Linn County Courthouse.

Beginning Nov. 1, Stanaway, 53, will serve out the term of Treasurer and Budget Officer Michelle Hawkins, who retired Oct. 31, after 31 years serving Linn County residents.

Stanaway was named Linn County's Chief Financial Officer in April. She will retain the title of Chief Financial Officer and adds the responsibility of Investment Officer to her duties.

The Bible on which she took her oath, was given to her in 1976 when she was just four years old by her grandmother. That spiritual link made four generations of family member with her for her special day.

"Jennifer is a great fit," said Nyquist, who chairs the Board of Commissioners. "She knows numbers and she brings extensive experience with budget analysis from her years in banking, so she has been good from the start."

Nyquist added that Stanaway served on the county's Budget Committee for about 25 years, most of that time as chair, so she already has long-term knowledge about county finances and the team-oriented culture among department heads and elected officials.

Stanaway came to Linn County after serving as executive director of the Albany General Hospital Foundation since 2017. Prior to that, she worked in banking for 18 years, at First Interstate, Wells Fargo and Citizens Bank, all in Albany.

Nyquist said Stanaway reached out into the community in that position as well as her volunteer activities, which provides her with a solid foundation for communicating with Linn County residents.

She has served on the Board of Directors of the Boys and Girls Club, ABC House, the Albany Chamber of Commerce, the American Red Cross and United Way.

"We couldn't be happier to have Jennifer with us," Nyquist said.

In addition to fellow county staff members, several of Stanaway's family members were present for the ceremony, including her husband, Kevin, of Albany, as well as her son, Austin, her parents, Larry and Maureen Jespersen and brother Lauren, all from the Klamath Falls area.

Stanaway said she has enjoyed her work with Linn County over the past seven months, adding that coworkers have made her feel welcome from day one.

Linn County's total budget for the current fiscal year is about $299 million.



Retiring Linn County Treasurer and Budget Officer Michelle Hawkins, left, with her replacement, Jennifer Stanaway.
– Linn County photo

ACADEMY
From page 3

als in crisis," according to the LFCAIRS website. Volunteers can also contact the American Red Cross to connect families with additional assistance.

"Being able to say, 'Hey, I have a place for you to stay tonight.' That is so rewarding," Nelson said.

She said helping families navigate the immediate aftermath of a fire can make a significant difference when they are unsure where to turn.

"It's awful that they've experienced a house fire, but being able to say, 'We've got you, we're here for you,'" she said.

Another pathway to serve

In addition, the WLEA and Support Person program's website also outlines the Resident Volunteer Program, which is designed for college students seeking hands-on experience in firefighting and emergency medical services.

Resident volunteers are official district members who work under the supervision of district personnel and participate in station activities, training and emergency responses according to their certification and skill levels. Participants may be assigned to one of three 24-hour shifts or a 40-hour daytime schedule depending on district needs.

The program requires participants to be enrolled in a college or university, take at least 12 credit hours per academic term, maintain a minimum 2.5 grade point average and meet other eligibility requirements. Training includes firefighting, EMS, hazardous materials and fire safety, with certifications such as EMT, NFPA Firefighter I and HazMat Awareness.

LFD can cover eligible tuition, fees, books and required equipment. Full-time students receive a monthly $300 stipend, while part-time students receive $150.

Although the three programs serve different purposes, each offers a way for people to contribute to the district and develop skills that support emergency services.

Growing the next generation of volunteers

Duerr said interest in the new academy was strong, particularly among WLEA applicants.

"We had so many strong applications for this academy for WLEA participants. It was not easy having to turn some people away, but there are so many slots we could take," he said.

After completing the academy, support volunteers and WLEA participants will earn a certification that allows them to be assigned designated emergency responsibilities.

"Our support volunteers and members of the academy actually will earn a certification for completion of the academy and they will be able to assist with certain aspects during emergencies that are not hazardous to them as a whole," Duerr said.

For Nelson, the opportunity to participate provides a manageable way to volunteer while balancing her responsibilities at home. With four children and a farm, she said the time commitment of traditional firefighting training would be more difficult to accommodate. She described the support pathway as flexible, with training generally taking place once a month and volunteers able to respond when their schedules allow.

Nelson also encouraged community members interested in volunteering to learn about the different opportunities available and consider which responsibilities best fit their abilities and schedules. She said people should find the role that best matches what they can offer. Together, the programs give community members clear ways to serve.

"Sometimes it might be physical limitations, which Fire Corps is great for, because sometimes you're just talking with the family and helping them make phone calls or making phone calls for them," she said.

Duerr said watching participants develop new skills and step outside their comfort zone has been one of the rewarding parts of the academy.

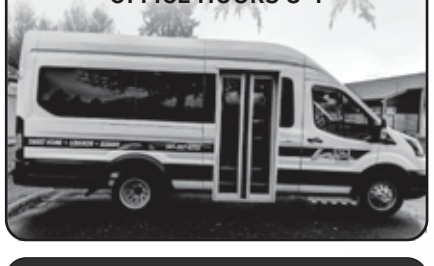
"This is a fun and engaging group and they have so many unique personalities," he said. "It has been amazing seeing them grow and try something outside of their comfort zone."

How to get involved

Community members and students interested in volunteering with LFD can explore the district's programs and learn about eligibility requirements, training and application procedures by calling the Lebanon Fire District at 541-451-1901 or emailing recruitment@lebanonfireoregon.gov to learn more about available opportunities.

LINN SHUTTLE

DIAL-A-BUS
CURB TO CURB IN SWEET HOME
MON-FRI 7 AM - 4 PM
CALL TO SCHEDULE
OFFICE HOURS 8-4



SWEET HOME IN TOWN TRANSIT
MON-FRI - 9:30 AM - 4 PM
SHOP LOCAL - 4 TRIPS A DAY
THROUGH TOWN

The Sweet Home Senior Center and the Linn Shuttle/Sweet Home Transportation systems will be closed Nov.11th to honor our nations Veterans. We will also be closed for the 4-day Thanksgiving Weekend-Nov. 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th. No buses those days as well.

There will be no Shuttle Saturday service for November. We appreciate your understanding.

We are looking for a part-time Driver- CDL with Passenger Endorsement required.

The Senior Center is looking for someone to take over the Wednesday Community Lunch Program. Please apply in person at the Senior Center.

541-367-4775 | LINNSHUTTLE.COM | FIND US ON FACEBOOK

Huskies enter football playoffs at 9-0, to face North Valley Friday

By Ryker Burr
For The New Era

Sweet Home became the second team in the school's history to go undefeated in the regular season, notching its ninth-consecutive win of the year at South Umpqua, 54-20.

The win in Douglas County means the Huskies have run the table in Special District 3, scoring 368 points and allowing just 163. The only other Sweet Home football team to go undefeated in the regular season was the 1987 Huskies, who were ranked No. 1 when they played No. 2 Dallas to go undefeated in league in front of 5,000 people, standing 20-plus deep in Husky Stadium – the largest crowd on record for Sweet Home.

They went on to win the state championship.

This time, junior running back Sam Barringer rushed for 80 yards and three touchdowns on 10 carries.

Barringer is ranked second in the 4A division in rushing yards with 1,131 on 124 carries thus far this season, and third in rushing touchdowns with 17.

Senior quarterback Kyle Zajic was 10 of 18 for 121 yards with a touchdown pass to senior wideout Bradyn McClure, and a QB-sneak touchdown. McClure finished the game with four receptions for 53 yards and the aforementioned score.

Junior Mason Tyler had a 100-yard touchdown on an interception return.

Sophomore Bradyn Driver had two rushing touchdowns in the closing quarter, one a 68-yarder.

The Huskies, seeded second in the 4A bracket, will host their first playoff game since 2018 on Friday, Nov. 6 at 7 p.m., taking on No. 15 North Valley. The Knights are 3-6 overall, 3-3 in league play, and on a two-game losing streak (both losses coming against playoff teams: No. 9 Junction City and No. 1 Cascade Christian).

Medford-based Cascade Christian (9-0), which moved up to the 4A division after winning the 3A crown last year, has the top seed and will open against Marist. Scappoose (8-1), seeded third, will open against Baker and Cascade (9-0), seeded fourth, will host Ashland.

North Valley runs a double-tight Wing-T offense, which is unfamiliar to the Huskies, who have faced spread, pass-first offenses all season long in 4A Special District 3. The Knights run the ball 80% of the time.

"We're gonna continue to do what we've been doing," head coach Ryan Adams stated. "We've got to stop the run and limit their big plays to control the game. We want to dominate the line of scrimmage on offense and run behind our line. We're committed to controlling what we can control and doing what we've been doing all year.

"We've got to continue to focus on one day at a time. The games in November are the ones to remember. I think they're really excited to get after it; they're pretty motivated to win one, as it was a big goal of theirs. The goals they set back in August are still holding tight to them.

"The season starts over in November. We're in a category very few teams have been in Sweet Home history, but nobody cares about that come the first round of playoffs."

East Linn's volleyball season ends in playoffs at Portland Christian

East Linn Christian finished its season Wednesday, Oct. 28, at Portland Christian in the first round of the 2A girls state volleyball playoffs.

Against the Royals, who were undefeated in the Metro East Conference, East Linn battled back from a 7-0 deficit to trail 24-23 with a chance to tie, but missed the serve to end the set 25-23.

Things weren't as close in the next two sets, as ELCA fell 25-13, 25-17.

"Portland Christian was undefeated in their league and a very-well coached opponent," said East Linn Coach Rory Rush. "The girls never stopped battling it out but unfortunately we lost in three."

Ashlyn Davisson led the Eagles with 11 kills and three blocks, while Chloe Twede finished with seven kills.

Tessa Salvage had five kills, two blocks and two aces in the match.

The Eagles finished the season 15-11 overall, after a second-place finish in the final Valley Coast Conference standings with a 10-4 record.

"While we had some losses early on that hurt us, the girls stayed the course and worked hard to get those big wins the second time around," said Rush, who joined the coaching staff last year after a very successful stint at Sisters.

"Their hard work paid off beating Lowell in our league playoffs to secure 2nd place and a state playoff game. Their improvement over the season was exponential and so fun to watch. We, as coaches, couldn't be more proud of the season."

Eagles move into boys soccer playoffs

East Linn went 1-1 in the Special District 2 boys soccer playoff to clinch a spot in the 2A/1A state playoffs.

The fifth-ranked Eagles will face their own league champion, Crosshill Christian, Saturday, Nov. 7, in the quarterfinals of the 2A/1A state championship tournament. The game is scheduled for 1 p.m. at Chambers Field at the Salem Capital Futbol Club.

In their previous meeting this season, the Eagles lost 2-1 to Crosshill at home in regular-season play.

To qualify, ELCA beat Central Christian 2-1 on Wednesday, Oct. 28, in a game played at Lebanon High School, then fell 3-0 to Faith Bible on Saturday, Oct. 31.

The Eagles finished fourth in Special District 2, but since the top five teams in the district are ranked in the 2A/1A top 10, they received an at-large slot in the playoff bracket.









East Linn girls win district, SH qualifies for XC state

East Linn's girls won the Special District 2 cross-country championship Thursday, Oct. 29, with 47 points, ahead of Regis (50), Crosshill Christian (56), Kennedy (58), Central Linn (70) and Western Christian (78) in the field of nine teams.

The meet was held at Cheadle Park in Lebanon.

ELCA Coach Meggan Modderman said her team had an "incredible" day. Until this year, East Linn's girls have finished midway in the pack in the team competition since their last district title in 2017.

This year Morgan Lalonde led the Eagles with a fourth-place finish in a personal-best 21:13, followed by Allie Presley one spot behind in fifth (21:18, also a PR), Erin Davey (12th, 22:47) and Hadassah Albert (26th, 23:27).

Only the top four runners were included in the team scores. Also finishing for East Linn were Anna Henry (24:02), Ella Stutzman (25:30) and Maci Modderman (27:48, a PR).

Central Linn's Anya Griffith was the district individual champion, running 19:25.

Since the Eagles only had three boys in the varsity race, they did not score as a team. Harry Yanke-Knurowski was ELCA's top finisher placing 45th in 19:19, followed by Kaito Miller (20:42, a PR) and Lucas Davey (22:52, also a PR).

Regis won the boys title with 47 points, followed by Crosshill (74), Western Christian (83) and C.S. Lewis Academy (112).

Meggan Modderman was named Coach of the Year.

"I couldn't be more proud of this team," she said. "They have worked so hard all season and seeing that dedication pay off is such a rewarding feeling.

"I'm especially proud of our boys for ending their season with personal bests. This is such a special group of runners and I'm excited to see what our girls can accomplish at state."



East Linn Christian teammates Anna Henry, left and Ella Stutzman run together during the girls 5,000-meter 2A/1A race.
- Photos by Brandon Cominsky

State for East Linn's girls will start at 9:25 a.m. Saturday, Nov. 7, at Lane Community College. Tickets are $13 for adults 19 and over and $7 for students aged 5 through high school seniors.

Huskies score first state berth since 2013

Sweet Home's girls clinched their first team trip to the state cross-country championships since 2013 when they placed third in the District 3 championships Thursday, Oct. 29.

The Huskies didn't qualify automatically, but they were chosen as the single at-large team by a committee of coaches, Sweet Home Coach Dave Martin said.

The girls finished with 66 points, behind Glide (37) and Siuslaw (45).

It was a "mixed bag" day for the Huskies, as the boys finished fifth

Coquille's Ella Henthorn, who has been a dominant small-schools runner all season, surprised no one by running away with the individual title, finishing in 18:16, nearly a minute ahead of Glide's Halle Goodman (19:12).

Emma Whitton led Sweet Home in fifth place, running 19:43, followed by Cassie Spencer in 10th (20:52), Kali Vogel (22:33) and Pyper Hall (23:08) to score for the Huskies. Also finishing for the varsity were Noelle Helfrich (23:26), Marian Helfrich (24:08) and Madison Ciullo (24:57).

"Obviously, the big news, the most exciting part is that our girls qualified for state," Martin said.

"Emma had one of her strongest races of the year and although some of the other girls didn't have their best races, they were really solid. They ran competitive, they ran tough. I was really pleased."

The boys started the race with some significant challenges: Acen Webber, one of their top performers, was not able to race and Elijah Rodriguez, who was their front runner in three races this year, got out of a sick bed to run.

"It was a mixed bag," Martin said. "We had some good things and some things that didn't turn out the way we wanted them to. The boys team ran into multiple difficult obstacles."

Evan Knight led the Huskies with a 15th-place finish in a field of 79 runners. Noah Strawn was second, 21st in 17:57, followed by Rodriguez (18:30), Ryker Burr (18:34) and Louis Kistner (18:53).



Eagle Kaito Miller keeps pace with Chemawa's Hezekiah Hastings.



Emma Whitton, right, leads a pack of runners up a hill during the district championship meet. Sweet Home runners visible behind her are Cassie Spencer, to the left of Whitton, and the rest of the girls varsity at top of photo.
– Photo by Scott Swanson

"Evan Kight ran a great race as our No.1 runner," Martin said. "Noah Strawn ran almost as fast as he's ever run before. They ran a really tremendous, competitive race."

Also finishing for the varsity boys were Conner Spencer (19:03) and Hudson Ogden (19:54).

"Three of our runners were off," Martin said. "Our No. 1 runner in the meet was our No. 3 runner (previously during the season) and our No. 2 finisher was our No. 6. That shows how upside down things were. It was a disappointing end.because we've been so good."

Siuslaw's Henry Stone ran 15:49 to win the district individual title and lead the Vikings to the team championship, as they placed four runners in the top 10 to score 29 points.

Pleasant Hill was second (77), followed by Trinity Lutheran (107) and Sisters (121).

In the boys JV race, Wes Goff was fifth in 20:05 for Sweet Home, as the boys finished second with 35 points behind Pleasant Hill (21).

Wiley Farris finished sixth (20:53), followed by Carson Van Patton (21:05), Ryder Farris (21:27), Matthew Jorgensen (23:20), Jaxon Slayter (23:39) and Lael Watkins (25:16, a PR).

Sweet Home's girls were the only team with five runners, so they finished with a perfect score of 15, led by Sydney Dominy (25:36), followed by McKenzie Ohlheiser and Miu Simmonds in a tie at 26:59, Emma Davis (27:08), Emily May (28:22, a PR), Lexi Lee (28:27), Zoie Allison ({29:58), Maddie Hegge (31:13, a PR) and Neveah Mize (42:08, a PR).

State for the Huskies will start at 10:35 a.m. Saturday, Nov. 7, at Lane Community College. Tickets are $13 for adults 19 and over and $7 for students aged 5 through high school seniors.

If the Huskies can dial up another competitive race, they could get close to a trophy, which go to the top four teams.

"Currently, we're sitting sixth with a reasonable chance for fifth," Martin said. "It would be nice to move up at least one spot."

Warriors end XC season with PRs across board

Lebanon's girls were sixth in the Mid-Willamette Conference district meet held Thursday, Oct. 29, at Crystal Lake Sports Park in Albany.

Although they didn't qualify anyone for state, the Warriors had a big day in scoring personal bests.

Jane Brandt was the Lebanon girls' top finisher, in 26th in 22:11, with Julia Hearn a couple of steps behind in 27th (22:15), followed by Brooklyn Davis (22:20, PR) and Danica Teague (22:38, PR) as scorers. Also finishing for the varsity girls were Kapri Collins (22:50), Grace Murray (24:41) and Daphne Graves (25:15), a personal best.

See Districts, Page 23

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Warriors end girls soccer season with 1-0 loss to West Albany





Lebanon's Piper Sewell, above, battles a West Albany opponent for the ball in the Warriors' final game of the season Tuesday, Oct. 27. At right, Heather Savedra sends the ball past the Bulldogs' Maddie Christensen. West Albany won 1-0 in the final game of the season for both teams. Lebanon's girls finished 3-10-1 overall, 1-4-1 in Mid-Willamette Conference play. See more game photos at lebanonlocalnews.com.

- Cole Harnar photos

PUBLIC SAFETY

From page 19

Hillsman, 37, cited for cell phone.
2:24 p.m. - Caller reported "racially charged" Halloween decoration of body bag wrapped in tape and hung by a "noose" with sign that reads, "You're next."
2:28 p.m. - Johanna Marie Reed, 21, cited for cell phone.
2:36 p.m. - Maria Elena Jaime-Bernier, 42, cited for cell phone.
5:21 p.m. - Rickey Allen Aldrich, 44, cited on LMC warrant for PV.
6:37 p.m. - Katy Adeline McIntire, 47, taken into custody on LCCC warrant for FTA and LMC warrant for PV - DWS.
6:48 p.m. - Two-car crash, S 12th/W Oak sts. Bryan Keith Spaulding, 61, cited for failure to perform duties of driver, DWS and failure to use headlights.

LCSO/OSP SWEET HOME/S. COUNTY

3:38 a.m. - Deputy contacted male parked in 43300 block North River on U.S. Army Corps of Engineers property closed to public. Male was sent on his way.
7:44 a.m. - Deputy posted warning stickers on unoccupied trailer, unoccupied motorhome on BLM land near milepost 20, Quartzville.
10:09 a.m. - Male hunting was suspected to be someone who had been trespassed from CTC property in 46600 block Old Hufford. Hunter produced ID to prove he was not that person.
5:10 p.m. - Deputies responded to property in 27900 block Seven Mile Lane, Brownsville, where 20-plus goats and three alpacas appeared to have been killed by predator(s). Dog(s) suspected as culprits. Investigation ongoing.
7:24 p.m. - Patrick Anthony Guillen, 35, of Halsey, cited for FTOTCD, 000 block W. 1st, Halsey.
7:41 p.m. - Nolan Adam Cogan, 33, of Junction City, cited for FTOTCD, 2nd/American, Halsey.
8:29 p.m. - Bryce Nicholas Harmon, 21, of Lebanon, cited for FTOTCD, 000 block W. 1st, Halsey.
11:10 p.m. - Mandie Fern Chanterell Lassley, 47, of Halsey, cited for DWS, FTOTCD, 2nd/American, Halsey.

LCSO/OSP LEBANON

1:33 a.m. - Joshua Williams, 19, of Lebanon, cited for speeding, 75/55, Hwy. 34/Agan.
1:49 a.m. - Deputy checked welfare of female who had left hospital without having her IV removed, 1100 block Cascade. She was fine.
7:50 a.m. - Nason Cheever, 32, of Albany, arrested for felony assault IV stemming from past incident, outstanding strangulation warrant, 2000 block S. Santiam Hwy. Report taken.
1:44 p.m. - Deputies responded to report of transient attempting to camp in resident's back yard, 1900 block Franklin.
4:44 p.m. - LCSO investigating report of historical sexual abuse, 5500 block Santiam Hwy. Report taken.
7:49 p.m. - Cheyenne Williams Richardson, 31, of Lebanon, cited for speeding, 73/55, 38000 block Richardson Gap.

OCT. 28

SWEET HOME POLICE

7:55 a.m. - Jenna Marie Smith, 38, cited for speeding in school zone, 34/20, 1100 block 22nd.
8:56 a.m. - Caller reported suspicious vehicle parked in area of 4th/Ironwood for a week. Owner notified of complaint.
10:29 a.m. - Caller reported trailer parked in 900 block 1st for more than three days. Code enforcement officer posted multiple trailers for removal.
11:40 a.m. - SHPD conducted death investigation in 1500 block Tamarack. Report taken.

See more and updated Public Safety reports at sweethomenews.com and lebanonlocalnews.com.

DISTRICTS

From page 22

Corvallis won the girls district title with 37 points, ahead of Crescent Valley (48) and Dallas (62). Lebanon's score was 154.

Alexa Montgomery of Crescent Valley was the district champion, finishing in 17:54.

Gavin Robertson of Crescent Valley was the boys district champion, running 16:00.

Corvallis won the boys team title, putting all five of its scoring runners in the top 10 for 24 points, followed by Crescent Valley (52) and South Albany (73).

Lebanon was seventh (181), led by Adam Nielsen, 22nd in a PR of 17:51, followed by Ethan Johnson (18:16, a PR), Evan Milburn (19:20, PR), Gavin Harris (20:23) and Giovanni Hodson (20:49). Also for the Warriors, Noah Yeack finished in 21:15 and Ezra Patton in 23:02, a PR.

In the junior varsity races, Lebanon's girls finished sixth, led by Leslie Thayer (25:17, a personal best), Scarlett French (25:32, a PR), Madison Rainey (26:23), Ava Mills (26:45, PR) and Lauren Judy (31:06, a PR).

Logan Windsor was the only Warrior finisher in the boys race, running 25:49, also a personal best.

"It is so great to see kids be successful after all the hard work they put in getting those PRs and season bests," Coach Cameron Eberhart said. "So many years the district meet has had such bad weather that no kids PR and I'm sure that takes a toll on them, as they are just wanting to see success after all they have done over the season.

"With such a young team I am really looking forward to next year as we continue to build and grow and develop. Go Warriors!"



Huskies, from left, Noah Strawn, Evan Knight and Ryker Burr run during the boys varsity race at the district meet.

– Photo by Scott Swanson

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To our neighbors in Oregon:

It is an incredible privilege for us to be given the opportunity to care for your communities. Samaritan and MultiCare coming together is a partnership built on common values, a shared vision for the future and a mutual commitment to those we serve.

Since MultiCare is new to your region, you may not know very much about us. So, we want to share a little bit about who we are.

MultiCare is a community-based, locally governed, not-for-profit health system with roots dating back to the founding of Tacoma, Washington's first hospital in 1882. Over the years we've expanded to meet the needs of our patients and their families, and have grown from a Tacomabased organization to a system of health serving communities across the Pacific Northwest region.

Our organization now includes a full continuum of health and health-related services, including multiple primary and specialty care clinics, urgent care and virtual care services, as well as over a dozen hospitals and numerous programs and services to support our communities.

MultiCare's mission is partnering for healing and a healthy future, and that mission goes well beyond medicine. In every community we serve, we strive to engage, support and partner with individuals and organizations who share our commitment to improve the health and wellness of people and communities. We work to bring our values - respect, integrity, stewardship, collaboration, kindness and joy - to life with every interaction. We listen and learn about the unique needs of each community, and we do what we can to meet those needs and to be of ever greater service.

We very much look forward to this journey with you.



Bill Robertson
CEO
MultiCare Health System



Florence Chang
President
MultiCare Health System

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