CURRY COASTAL PILOT

www.currypilot.com | WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2026 | Brookings, Oregon

SHERIFF WARD

County board shares OGEC decision

It is clear that the Oregon Government Ethics Commission's recommendation to dismiss is based on a statutory time limitation. It is not a finding that the underlying conduct was proper.

The Ethics Commission's recommendation rests primarily on the four-year jurisdictional limitation in ORS 244.260(10). That statute provides that the Ethics Commission may not investigate actions that occurred more than four years before a complaint is filed. Because the complaint was filed on July 29, 2026, the Commission's review was limited to the period from July 29, 2022, through July 29, 2026.

Much of the conduct examined in the independent investigation reports including the December 2020 ammunition purchases, the 2017 Atkins Foundation-funded storage building and travel trailer, and related handling of donations and equipment falls outside that window.

As a result, the Commission was prohibited from examining those earlier events for potential violations of Oregon Government Ethics Law.

In Ward's response to the investigating staff, Sheriff Ward stated that he was the sole point of contact with the John G. Atkins Foundation and that Foundation representatives "didn't want the County owning anything," preferring instead to direct donations to the Sheriff's Office or to him personally, these actions appear to be in direct violation of the declaratory judgement ruling and Oregon Revised Statutes.

Regarding the travel trailer purchased by the Foundation for search-and-rescue and mobile command use, Ward stated to the investigator that he was asked by the Foundation to register the trailer in his personal name because the nonprofit did not trust the County. Ward further indicated that he complied so as not to interfere with the donation process.

The storage building funded by the Foundation was constructed on his private property under a permit he obtained in his own name, with him paying related costs, taxes, and insurance. Ward acknowledges that

See More OGEC on page 3

Brookings City Manager Tim Rundel honored for 25 years of public service

For the Pilot

BROOKINGS – City of Brookings City Manager Timothy L. Rundel was recently recognized for 25 years of professional local government service by the International City/County Management Association (ICMA) during its 112th Annual Conference, held in Long Beach, California.

The award recognizes Rundel's dedication to public service and a career spanning more than two decades of municipal leadership in Oklahoma, California, and Oregon.

Rundel has served as Brookings City Manager since July 2024. Throughout his career, he has held leadership positions in communities of varying sizes, including serving as City Manager in Weed and Auburn, California, and Durant, Oklahoma. He previously served as Assistant City Manager in Midwest City and Yukon, Oklahoma.

During his career, Rundel has overseen major infrastructure investments, economic development initiatives, financial recovery efforts, and organizational improvements. His experience includes helping guide the City of Weed through significant financial challenges, the



Tim Rundel

COVID-19 pandemic, and two major wildfires. In Brookings, he is currently overseeing major wastewater infrastructure improvements, housing initiatives, and efforts to strengthen the community's economic future.

"Reaching 25 years in this profession is certainly something I'm proud of, but what means the most to me are the people I've had the privilege of working with and the communities I've had the opportunity to serve," Rundel said. "City management isn't always an easy profession, but there's something incredibly rewarding about working alongside dedicated employees, elected officials, and community members to make a positive difference."

The recognition was especially meaningful to Rundel because James Durand "Jim" Crosby, the City Manager who hired him as Assistant City Manager in Yukon, Oklahoma, in 2001, was also honored at this year's conference. Crosby, who currently serves as City Manager in Chickasha, Oklahoma, received ICMA's prestigious 60-Year Service Award and was one of only two individuals receiving that distinction in 2026.

Crosby's remarkable career began in 1964 with the City of Oklahoma City. Over the following six decades, he held leadership positions in several Oklahoma communities, including Norman, Piedmont, Yukon, and Chickasha. His career includes multiple terms as City Manager in Yukon, where he hired Rundel and helped introduce him to the profession.

"Jim Crosby took a chance on me back in 2001 when he hired me as his Assistant City Manager in Yukon," Rundel recalled. "I spent nearly six years working for him, and I can't begin to tell you how much I learned about the ins and outs of city management during that time. Jim taught me lessons about leadership, problem-solving, and working with people that have stayed with me throughout my career. I'm incredibly grateful that he saw something in me and gave me that opportunity."

Rundel added that seeing Crosby honored for six decades of service made his own career milestone even more special.

"Here I am celebrating 25 years, and the man who helped launch my city management career is being recognized for an extraordinary 60 years. That's pretty special. It also reminds me how important it is for those of us in this profession to mentor and encourage the next generation of local government leaders."

Rundel holds a Master of Public Administration from the University of Oklahoma and is a veteran of the U.S. Air Force and Oklahoma Air National Guard, where he was named Oklahoma Airman of the Year in 1994.

The International City/County Management Association is a professional organization dedicated to advancing excellence in local government through professional management, leadership development, ethical standards, and education."

Port of Coos Bay receives further $204 million in federal support for PCIP project

By NATE SCHWARTZ
Editor



Coos Bay -- In the latest show of support for the Port of Coos Bay's Pacific Coast Intermodal Port project, the U.S. Department of Transportation has granted a further $204 million in funding through the Consolidated Rail Infrastructure and Safety Improvements (CRISI) Grant Program. This tranche of funds is nearly double what had already been secured in total for the project, and nearly three times the previous federal commitment.

CRISI funds are specifically targeted at rail improvements for the Coos Bay Rail Line, a critical infrastructural piece for the PCIP concept. What is hoped to be the first exclusively ship-to-rail port on the West Coast will need substantial improvements to the railway itself, as well as bridges, tunnels, and the receiving yard in Eugene.

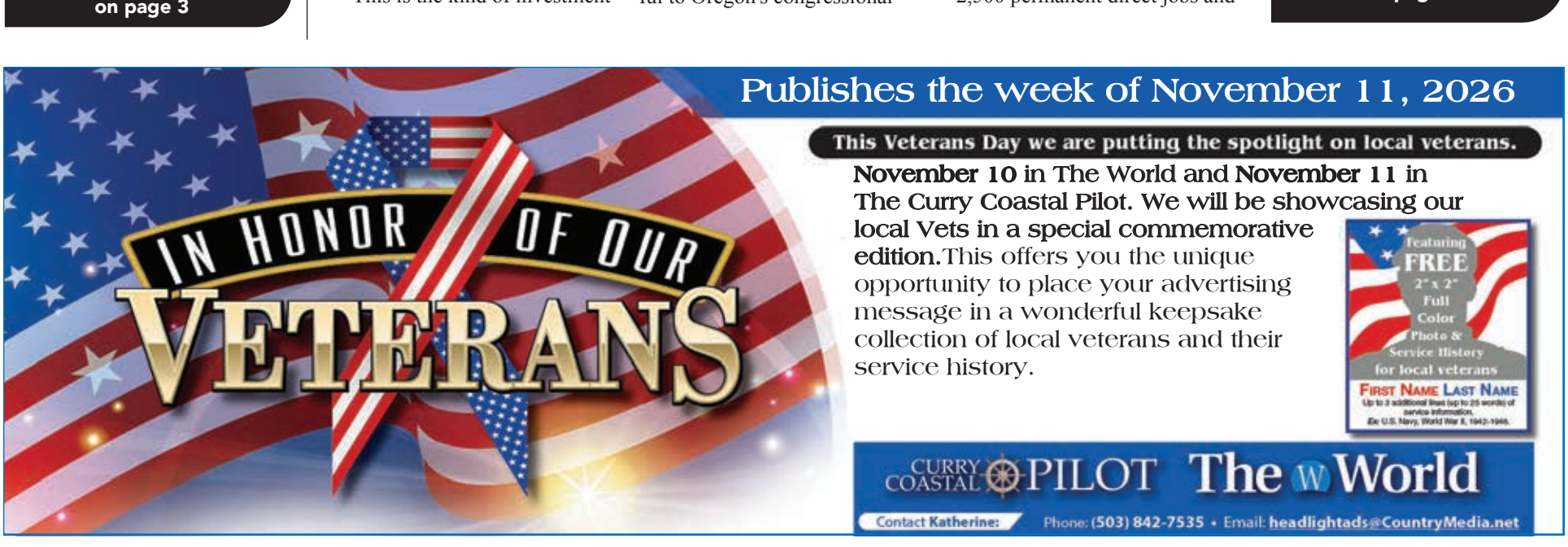
According to official communications from the Port, the $204.8 million is one of the largest awarded in this year's CRISI grant cycle, and is the first funding that will directly support construction.

"This is the kind of investment that changes what's possible for a region," said Kyle Stevens, President of the Port's Board of Commissioners, in an official release. "For decades, the South Coast has had the geographic advantages and the ambition to play a larger role in international trade. What we've needed is the infrastructure to match. This award brings that future within reach, and we're incredibly grateful to Oregon's congressional delegation and the many partners who have helped get us here."

It's hard to over-sell the importance of the project's rail component. Meant to represent a newer, greener kind of port. According to the Port's estimated numbers, the terminal is projected to take in 1.2 million twenty-foot equivalent units (TEUs) annually, with the hope that the project will create and maintain 2,500 permanent direct jobs and 2,600 construction jobs over a three-year construction period.

Developers NorthPoint have been connected to the building of the terminal itself, with the Bohlin Group, a member of the NorthPoint development team, credited for the technical analysis needed for the successful grant

See More PCIP on page 3



INDEX
Police Blotter 4
Calendar of Events 4
Classifieds 5
Crossword Answer 7
Crossword Puzzle 7

Phone Number: 707-460-8655 • Email: Circulation@CountryMedia.net

We're always interested in hearing about news in our community. Send us your news, photos, and videos and let us know what's going on!

PilotNews@CountryMedia.net

@CurryPilot

Latest news can be found online at:

www.CurryPilot.com

0 88267 02336 9
$2.00

Opinion & Letters

Opinions expressed on this page are the writer's alone and do not represent the opinion of the newspaper or its parent company, Country Media, Inc.

Sea-Side Social Scene

By Jacques Kepner
Social Columnist



Grand greetings to you, dear Pilot readers. Welcome back to this week's social column, joyfully written for locals and tourists alike. A columnist is only as good as his spies. If you know of a real character, gig, event, or a story needing a little ink, don't keep it tucked beneath a Harris Beach starfish. Reach out to me and I will help spread the good vibes.

I wish to thank the Newspaper Gods for allowing me to wax poetic with this column: Like a zephyr, the season of change is upon us. Do you grow more reflective and contemplative during this time of dwindling light? The holiday season comes to Curry County in the language of rain and pockets full of sand. Running down the crooked coastal spine of rock and water, the tumultuous Pacific clashes eternally with the land. Most of us have front row seats in our own backyards to watch this epic battle.

We "Oregon-Coasters," are a hardy lot-clinging to the cliffs of nostalgia like Christmas lights muted in fog. Curry folks love nothing more than gathering in warm, weathered homes to watch seagulls wing their crooked signatures across the sky. My best advice? Take stock as the holiday season slips into a warmer coat. Do not be too busy to enjoy the subtle, seaside art of living. As my friend Ms. Jordan Branch so aptly sings: "breathe in-breathe out." Rejoice and count your blessings. Amen & Awomen.

My better half, German born, Dr Gigi Reed, MD, has built a storied career as a patent-holding DNA scientist, professor and physician. English is her third language, after German and French, but she has mastered it so well that few people realize she was born and raised in Germany's Black Forest. "Read-All-About-Reed," in this very newspaper each week with her own medical column, "Off-The-Charts." Now you know.

Many of you know that I am the steward of three incredibly cute and smart eastern box turtles. Kush, Kosmos, and Kleaver always attract lots of interest when I take them for a walk on the beach. Sometimes I keep them on a leash (which amounts to a string taped to their carapaces). Most of the time, they are free to explore any of our area's many beaches. Over the past 20 years, they have entertained thousands of humans who are flummoxed when they first spy such adorable terrapins traipsing across the sand beneath their feet. Out come the phone cameras, and I can only dream of how wealthy I would be if I had a dollar for every picture taken.

In Brookings, a small miracle now slips easily into your pocket: KCIW 100.7fm, has an app to help you enjoy this great community radio station. The KCIW studios are located next door to Misty Mountain Brewery in downtown Brookings,

See More SOCIAL on page 3



Holy Cow! History

A 1947 cereal's radioactive surprise

By J. Mark Powell
InsideSou



1947 began on a wildly exciting note for kids. That January, enthralling ads popped up in comic books, Sunday newspaper funny pages and on the radio. What they announced was breathtaking.

Children could have a tiny piece of the Atomic Age of their very own! That was heady stuff for youngsters just 18 months after two atomic bombs made two Japanese cities disappear beneath mushroom clouds.

The Atomic Age's abrupt arrival was as titillating as it was misunderstood. Scientists promised mankind was entering a new era of amazing advancements, all made possible by harnessing the atom's power.

Though Americans were in awe, they didn't yet fully understand what humanity was facing.

Time magazine reported in October 1945 that an Arkansas farmer wrote to the nonexistent "Atomic Bomb Co." in Oak Ridge, Tennessee, "I have some stumps in my field that I should like to blow out. Have you got any atomic bombs the right size for the job? If you have, let me know by return mail and let me know how much they cost. I think I should like them better than dynamite."

Still, in that brief period before intercontinental missiles were created and the Soviet Union had yet to acquire a big, shiny one of its own, the world felt like it was on the threshold of an exciting new chapter, thanks to this remarkable discovery. For the time being, only the Good Guys held the secret to unlocking the atom, and it was widely believed it would be used for the greater good.

That's why those ads targeting children made such big news in the kiddie world in early 1947. Kix cereal was suddenly offering something almost too good to be true.

For a mere 15 cents (about $2.25 today) and a Kix box top, youngsters could send off for a Lone Ranger Atomic Bomb Ring!

It contained a tiny scientific device called a spinthariscope holding a teeny trace of radioactive polonium-210. That's right: just one nickel, dime and box top let kids squint into a tiny hole and gaze at tiny flashes sparked when alpha particles hit a zinc sulfide screen.

The promotion was a masterpiece of cobranding marketing. Just what the 19th-century Lone Ranger had to do with futuristic atomic energy was never explained. And it couldn't be, because the only thing the two had in common was they were both at the zenith of their popularity just then.

The ads that hawked the rings were high water marks in hype, too, proclaiming them a "seething scientific sensation," "super and stupendous" and even a way to see "genuine atoms split to smithereens." To reassure America's moms, it was branded "PERFECTLY SAFE!" (emphasis original).

For kids growing up at the dawn of the Atomic Age, it was literally tomorrow at their fingertips.

Many stories circulating online today allege that parents, outraged by their kids being exposed to radioactivity, caused an uproar that led to the campaign being swiftly dropped.

Nothing could be further from the truth. In fact, the exact opposite happened.

The promotion was a grand-slam success. A history of "The Lone Ranger" radio show (which heavily promoted the special) received 1.6 million responses, making it by far the program's most successful premium. Anecdotal evidence confirms that; one man recalled peering inside his ring for weeks after he got it.

As for claims that the campaign was swiftly dropped because of outraged protests, the Museum of Radiation and Radioactivity says the rings were available well into "the early 1950s." It wasn't done in by parental disapproval; as is the case so many times in the toy industry, the fad simply ran its course, and new things came along to capture kids' interest.

So, were the rings dangerous? Not especially. Polonium-210 can cause serious problems if it's swallowed or inhaled, but there's no record of that happening. It also has a half-life of 138 days, meaning the little show it put on inside the device didn't last long.

About the worst that can be said is that promoters were guilty of not practicing truth in advertising. Remember that "see genuine atoms split to smithereens" boast? They didn't. What youngsters actually witnessed was scintillations caused by alpha decay, not nuclear fission. But who cared? At least they saw something!

The idea of a toy containing even a trace of radioactive material, however infinitesimal, is unimaginable today. But not so 80 years ago, when, for one brief, shining moment, kids played with little shiny things that made the future glow with possibilities. And all for just 15 cents, too.

ABOUT THE WRITER

J. Mark Powell is a former television journalist. His nonfiction book "Witness to War: The Story of the Civil War Told by Those Living Through It" is available at jmarkpowell.com. He wrote this for InsideSources.com.

Weekly Poll

WHAT ARE YOUR EXPECTATIONS OF THE COMING ELECTION?

YOU VOTED: THE STATUS QUO WILL REMAIN, BUT CHANGES WILL STILL HAPPEN - 43%

A BIG SHIFT IS GOING TO HAPPEN, LEADING TO BIG CHANGES - 27%

A BIG SHIFT IS GOING TO HAPPEN BUT NOT MUCH WILL CHANGE 27%

THE STATUS QUO WILL REMAIN, BUT CHANGES WILL STILL HAPPEN-3%

Poll Results

currypilot.com

New poll every week!

Wild Rivers Coast BUSINESS DIRECTORY

Country Media, Inc.
CURRY COASTAL PILOT
KATHERINE MACE
Advertising Specialist
Call: 541-444-7924
headlightads@CountryMedia.net

Window Cleaning

Window Cleaning
• Gutter Cleaning
• Pressure Washing
Residential
Steve Bowker • 541-254-3182

Plumbing
WOODS PLUMBING
707-464-3789
Available Saturday & Sunday
• Residential
• Commercial
• Well Pumps
• Water Heaters
• Drain Cleaning
CA Lic. 844506 Ricardo de Solenni • PO Box 705, Crescent City

Landscaping
DAVINCI LANDSCAPING AND MAINTENANCE
SENIOR AND VETERAN DISCOUNTS!!!
- BEST RATES IN TOWN -
Protect your property!
Full Service Landscaping & Maintenance
Any type of Hauling • Excavation
Gutter Cleaning Specialist • General Debris Clean Up
Drainage Specialist
We take pride in making our community look beautiful.
1-888-729-8980
Toll FREE 24hrs a day, 7 days a week
Contractors LIC #1060054, 257302 | DavinciConstruction88@gmail.com
Bonded & Insured in CA & OR

Storage Facility
WILSON-OW STORAGE
Storage Units from 5x10 to 24x40
Call 541-469-6119

High Impact Low Cost
Advertise in this space and receive a group and consistency rate! Call Katherine at 503-842-7535

Off the charts: Thyroid

By Dr. GiGi Reed
MD

The thyroid is a small gland with an enormous influence on human health. Located at the front of the neck, it serves as a metabolic control center, helping regulate how quickly the body uses energy, maintains its temperature, and keeps the heart, brain, and digestive system working smoothly. Its importance is easy to overlook until something goes wrong. When it does, the effects can be widespread and unmistakable.

The thyroid contains two main types of cells, each with a different job. Follicular cells produce thyroid hormones, mostly thyroxine, or T4. Outside the thyroid, T4 is converted into T3, the more active form. Their names offer a clue to their chemistry: T4



contains four iodine atoms, while T3 contains three.

These hormones travel through the bloodstream and influence nearly every organ system. They help determine energy levels, heart rate, body temperature, bowel function, and even mood. The pituitary gland, located at the base of the brain, helps keep this system in balance. When thyroid hormone levels fall, it releases more thyroid-stimulating hormone, or TSH, signaling the thyroid to work harder. When thyroid hormone levels rise, TSH production drops. This feedback loop is an elegant example of the body's ability to regulate itself.

Less familiar are the thyroid's C-cells, also called parafollicular cells. Rather than producing T3 or T4, these cells release calcitonin, a hormone involved in calcium balance. In humans, calcitonin plays a smaller role than other calcium-regulating hormones. Nevertheless, it remains clinically important, particularly in identifying and monitoring certain thyroid diseases.

Thyroid disorders are common and often go unrecognized. An underactive thyroid resulting in hypothyroidism, can cause fatigue, weight gain, constipation, dry skin, and slowed thinking. An overactive thyroid, or hyperthyroidism, can cause weight loss, a racing or pounding heart, anxiety, heat intolerance, and tremor. Because these symptoms overlap with those of many other conditions, thyroid disease may not be obvious at first.

Thyroid nodules—lumps within the gland—are also common. Most are benign, but appropriate evaluation matters, especially when symptoms or risk factors are present.

Thyroid cancer represents a separate but important category of disease. The vast majority of thyroid cancers develop from follicular cells, with papillary thyroid cancer being the most common type. Medullary thyroid carcinoma, by contrast, arises from C-cells. This different origin gives it distinct biological features, diagnostic markers, and treatment considerations. In practical terms, knowing which cell became cancerous is helpful in determining how to diagnose and manage the disease.

Although thyroid cancer accounts for only about 1% of new cancer diagnoses in the United States each year, it is the most common cancer of the endocrine, or hormone-producing, system. That distinction underscores a broader point: the thyroid may be small, but it is far from simple. Its metabolic hormones, calcium-related cells, and range of possible disorders make it a medically important and fascinating gland.

From a physician's perspective, the thyroid deserves attention because it connects everyday symptoms with underlying hormonal changes and, sometimes, cancer. Fatigue, unexplained weight changes, mood shifts, palpitations, or a lump in the neck may all lead back to this one organ. Understanding the thyroid offers a window into how the body manages energy, helps regulate calcium, and controls cellular growth—and how disruptions in these processes can affect health.

Leaving Germany after college, Dr. Gudrun (Gigi) Reed spent over 20 years as a scientist in the U.S. She holds four patents in DNA research and was a university professor. Today she is busy as co-medical director for hospice, acute rehabilitation and practices family medicine in Brookings, OR. Gigireed-md@gmail.com

Community Collages generate $11 billion in annual economic impact

OREGON COMMUNITY COLLEGE ASSOCIATION

Oregon's 17 community colleges, including those in Lincoln and Tillamook counties, generate $11.0 billion in annual economic impact and support 120,140 jobs across the state, according to a new economic impact study released today by the Oregon Community College Association (OCCA).

The analysis, conducted by Lightcast using fiscal year 2023-24 data, found that one out of every 23 jobs in Oregon is supported by the activities of the colleges and their students.

"Community colleges work for Oregon every day - preparing people for family-wage careers, helping employers find skilled workers, and strengthening communities in every region of our state," OCCA Executive Director Abby Lee said. "This study puts a clear value on that work. Oregon's investment in community colleges returns benefits to students, taxpayers, businesses and the broader economy."

The $11.0 billion total includes $9.9 billion generated by community college alumni through their higher earnings and increased workplace productivity, $858.1 million from college operations, $216.8 million from student spending and $41.0 million from construction activity. The total impact is equal to approximately 3.7% of Oregon's gross state product and is larger than the state's entire accommodation and food services industry.

The study also found:

• Students receive $4.70 in benefits for every $1 they invest through higher lifetime earnings. The average associate degree graduate earns about $9,800 more each year than a worker with only a high school diploma or equivalent.

• Taxpayers receive $1.40 in benefits for every $1 of public funding invested through increased tax revenue and reduced demand for health care, justice system and income-assistance services.

• Oregon society receives $6.50 in benefits for every $1 invested through added student income, increased business income, college activities and social savings.

• The colleges served 125,399 credit students and 77,494 non-credit students during the study year, and an estimated 73% of students were employed while attending college.

The findings offer new evidence of the role Oregon's community colleges play in preparing workers, supporting businesses and strengthening communities across the state. They serve Oregonians at every starting point, including students pursuing GEDs, English-language learning, short-term credentials, career and technical education certificates and degrees, transfer degrees and applied bachelor's degrees.

Community colleges are also central to Oregon's workforce pipeline. Enrollment is growing, particularly in career and technical education (CTE) programs that prepare students for high-demand fields such as health care, advanced manufacturing, construction, transportation, public safety and other essential industries. The study's strong return on investment reflects, in part, the value created when community colleges connect Oregonians with the skills employers need and help businesses remain competitive.

In Tillamook County, career and technical education is where education meets opportunity. It gives students a clear, direct path from the classroom into the careers our local employers depend on," said TBCC President Dr. Paul Jarrell. "Through our Rural Guided Pathways work, we're making sure every student, whether they're starting with a GED, learning English, or heading straight into a certificate, can see exactly where they're headed and how to get there. Our new Center for Industrial Technology takes that a step further, with modern equipment like CNC machining and robotic welding in a space built for hands-on learning. This study confirms what we see every day: when we invest in CTE, we invest in the people and businesses that keep our community strong."

The findings underscore that investing in community colleges is an investment in Oregon's workforce and economic future. Continued state support helps colleges respond to employer demand, maintain high-cost CTE programs, keep education affordable, and provide the advising, financial aid, tutoring, technology, and other services students need to complete their education and enter the workforce.

SOCIAL From page 2

but its voices, including those on The Doc & Jacques Show, now travel wherever you go! No dashboard dials or signal hunting required! Visit the App Store or kciw.org to download the app, and open your world to lively talk, local news, music, and the things that matter most. And now, a quiet word between songs: Jay Cabrera, producer of his own KCIW music show and a friend to many, died a few weeks ago. His dedicated ear for the "hard and heavy" and his kindness toward listeners, musicians, and pirates alike-made the airwaves brighter. Rest in Peace.

This week's Dining Call-Outs.

"Ponchos," Brookings. Serving good Mexican food since 2006.

"Groundlings Pizza Co." Gold Beach. A slice of heaven.

"Khun Thai," Brookings. A perennial favorite-2 thumbs up!

"Mattie's," Harbor. Always a line out the door.

"Redfish," Port Orford. Good seafood-with a view!

"Langlois Market," Langlois. Famous Hotdogs since forever.

Well friends, the curtain lowers—but the coastline keeps dancing. Step outside, greet these cooler days and spread a little joy. May peace warm your porch, prosperity line your pockets and if you see someone not smiling – give them one of yours. Cheers!

PCIP from page 1

application.

"Rail is the backbone of this project, and this award sends a powerful signal to the global shipping industry that the Pacific Coast Intermodal Port has serious public investment behind it," said Melissa Cribbins, Executive Director for the PCIP project.

"For shipping lines and international cargo customers evaluating future trade routes, that level of federal support matters. It demonstrates that the United States is prepared to invest in expanding its maritime capacity. Oregon's congressional delegation and the federal administration deserve tremendous credit for helping make that possible. This is a great stride forward, and this initial construction grant is a strong indication of how important this critical infrastructure project is locally and for the long-term strength of the country."

While continued financial commitments on the state, federal, and private levels indicate a huge amount of momentum for the project, it will still be beholden to the necessary environmental surveys and processes through NEPA and the Army Corp of Engineers. The Port is still in early pre-permitting stages in regards to those reviews.

Local environmental groups, as well as concerned citizens (particularly in the Empire district, directly across the federal navigation channel from the development site) have expressed concerns over the financial viability of the project and the robustness of those reviews under a Trump-administration Environmental Protection Agency.

Despite those concerns, the project retains widespread support among the business community and elected officials at the local, state, and federal level.

ERIEHOME™ Trust the Nation's #1 Roofing Contractor
Award-Winning Roofing and Customer Service
Erie Roofing Since 1976
LIMITED TIME OFFER 50% OFF Installation
FREE ESTIMATE SCHEDULE TODAY! Call 1.855.626.1990
CALL TODAY! 1.855.626.1990
New orders only. Does not include material costs. Cannot be combined with any other offer. Minimum purchase required. Other restrictions may apply. This is an advertisement placedon behalf of Erie Construction Mid-West, Inc ("Erie"). Offer terms and conditions may apply and the offer may not be available in your area. If you call the number provided, you consent to being contacted by telephone, SMS text message, email, pre-recorded messages by Erie or its affiliates and service providers using automated technologies notwithstanding if you are on a DO NOT CALL list or register. Please review our Privacy Policy and Terms of Use on homeservicescompliance.com. All rights reserved. License numbers available at eriehome.com/erielicenses/

Coast Denture Service
All Dental Insurance Plans Accepted ~ Excellent Quality/Low Cost
24-Hour Emergency Care Available
Coast Denture Service has made quite a name for themselves throughout the local area. This is one firm where people know they can place their complete trust and confidence and that they will get the highest level of professional service.
They are located at 800 Chetco Avenue in the Pacific Center across from Les Schwab Tires in Brookings. Specializing in upper and lower partials and dentures, this licensed denturist and dental technician will give you relines, (same day), and repairs (while you wait), plus immediate dentures, replacement implant dentures and cosmetic denture work, all with excellent quality and low cost. Albert Giddings is dedicated to the proposition that everyone deserves the same personal service.
Albert has done work for more than 35 dentists and ten oral surgeons in his 45 years of experience, learning many different techniques, and is continually taking new courses to further his education to better meet your needs.
Becezi Albert Austin Stormi
800 Chetco Avenue ~ Pacific Center ~ Brookings, OR 97415
Phone: 541-469-2610 Cell: 541-971-1828

OGEC from page 1

the building has positively impacted his property value. Independent investigation reports document these and other matters including ammunition purchases and distribution, personal registration and possession of donated equipment, and incomplete or inconsistent accounts of the transactions as raising serious concerns about the separation of public resources from personal control and benefit. These issues remain active by the Oregon Department of Public Safety Standards and Training (DPSST), DPSST is scheduled to review the matter on November 19 at 10:00 a.m.

In addition, the matter remains under federal criminal investigation. The Board remains committed to accountability, proper stewardship of taxpayer and donated resources, and compliance with applicable law. We will continue to pursue appropriate remedies available under County authority and Oregon law.

The public deserves clear, accurate records and responsible management of law enforcement assets and funds.

If you have any questions, please contact the Curry County Board of Commissioners at BOC_Office@CurryCountyOR.gov.

SATURDAY NOV. 14, 2026
9am-4pm | NO ADMISSION CHARGE
Brookings Harbor COMMUNITY BAZAAR
OVER 100 CRAFT VENDORS
AZALEA GYM & BHHS CAFETERIA
CORNER OF PACIFIC & PIONEER STREETS

Obituaries/News/Columns

Diane Marie Valentine

November 29, 1949 – October 4, 2026



Diane Marie Valentine passed away on October 4, 2026, at the age of 76.

Diane was preceded in death by her husband, Val J. Valentine, who passed away in 2023.

She is survived by her three children, Kym Hanson, Anthony Berg, and Matthew Silva; her four grandchildren, Shelby, Haley, Madison, and Alexandria; and her five great-grandchildren, Jordan, Ariana, Aubrielle, Ezra, and Ivory, as well as extended family.

Diane's passing marks the closing of a chapter in her family's history, one that spans generations and encompasses many lives, memories, and experiences. She was a dedicated Jehovah's Witness and found solace in her faith, from her spiritual beliefs and the promise of everlasting life.

May Diane and Val both rest in peace.

In Loving Memory of Mike Wills

February 22, 1960 – October 4, 2026



Michael Eugene Wills passed away peacefully in his sleep at home in Gold Beach, Oregon, on October 4, 2026, with his beloved wife, Tammy, and loyal dog, Buck, by his side. For more than 30 years, he owned and operated a baseball and softball school in Marin County, California, mentoring generations of young athletes. He volunteered with the Sebastopol Police Department for nine years, saved two lives, was nominated for the American Red Cross Hero of the Year award, and received the Mill Valley School District's "Employee of the Year" Golden Bell award.

Mike took great pride in being a stepfather to Jonathan and Steven. He loved supporting them, teaching them, and watching them grow, and being part of their lives gave him a deep sense of purpose. He enjoyed fishing, golf, and fantasy football, especially setting his weekly lineups and watching Sunday games.

He is survived by his wife, Tammy Schnapp-Wills; stepsons, Jonathan and Steven; brother, Jonathan Wills, and sister-in-law, Michelle Wills; and sister, Debbie Miller, and brother-in-law, Chris Miller.

Mike will be remembered for his love of children, his courage, and his dedication to helping others. His legacy lives on in his family, the athletes he mentored, and the communities he served. He will be deeply missed and forever remembered with love and gratitude.

Mike took great pride in saving animals through his work in Code Enforcement and Animal Control. In his memory, donations may be made to Wild Rivers Animal Rescue, P.O. Box 1883, Gold Beach, OR 97444.

Memorial arrangements are being planned for January or February. Details will be available once finalized. For further information, please contact Tammy at mwills20261004@gmail.com.

Seasonal jobs and SNAP benefits: What Oregonians should know before the holidays

From ODHS

With the holiday season approaching, the Oregon Department of Human Services (ODHS) is encouraging Oregonians who are not currently receiving Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits to apply now to see if they qualify. People who previously lost benefits may also be eligible again.

SNAP provides monthly food benefits to help eligible households buy groceries. ODHS wants every Oregonian who qualifies for SNAP to receive it, and applying now gives the agency time to process applications before the holidays. Processing times vary, and benefits are not guaranteed.

For people already receiving SNAP, seasonal employment may offer another opportunity. Did you recently start working at a pumpkin patch or a Halloween store? Are you planning to work at a Christmas tree farm or pick up extra hours during the holidays? That work could help you meet federal SNAP work or activity rules or regain benefits you've previously lost.

ODHS encourages people who start a new job or work additional hours to report changes as required and find out how their employment may affect their SNAP benefits.

"Seasonal employment can be an opportunity to earn extra income while also helping people meet SNAP work or activity rules," said Jessica Amaya Hoffman, ODHS interim Oregon Eligibility Partnership Director. "If you've started a new job, picked up additional hours or are planning to work during the holidays, contact us. We can help you understand how your work and income affect your SNAP benefits and what steps you may need to take."

Seasonal employment can help people meet SNAP work or activity rules

Under federal rules, certain adults ages 18 through 64 must complete at least 80 hours of work or qualifying activities each month to continue receiving SNAP benefits, unless they qualify for an exemption.

SNAP
From page 5

Graduation requirements add practical preparation, adult life



Oregon graduation requirements are changing to give students more practical preparation for college, careers and adult life.

Students earning diplomas beginning in 2026 must complete a half-credit of civics. Students receiving an Oregon Diploma or Modified Diploma on or after Jan. 1, 2027, must also complete a half-credit each in Personal Financial Education and Higher Education and Career Path Skills.

The new requirements are included within Oregon's existing credit totals and do not increase the number of credits students need to graduate. They grew out of community-informed recommendations and state legislation, with the

Oregon Department of Education developing standards and guidance and school districts providing the required instruction.

This first story in LCSD's four-part series focuses on civics.

The half-credit of U.S. civics is included within Oregon's existing three-credit social sciences requirement. Although civics standards are not new to Oregon schools, the dedicated course gives the subject greater focus.

"Civics-focused standards have always existed and been incorporated into other courses," Newport High School teacher Adam Scarberry said. "The new standards are taught in a standalone course where greater emphasis is placed on student inquiry."

At Newport High School, Civics has replaced Government. While the courses cover similar subjects, Scarberry said

the updated standards have changed how students engage with the material.

Students continue learning about the structure and functions of government, the U.S. Constitution, individual rights and the responsibilities of citizenship. The course also emphasizes critical thinking, problem-solving, communication and consideration of multiple perspectives.

"A lot of the work being done has students make connections to themselves and the world around them," Scarberry said. "The involvement of the student and building relevancy are important in Civics. The focus is on becoming informed and engaged critical thinkers."

Civics education also helps students understand how they can participate in a democracy through voting, communicating with elected officials, serving their communities, evaluating information and engaging in respectful discussion about public issues.

"The success of any country and its government hinges on its citizens," Scarberry said. "Education should enhance our ability to have civil and productive discourse that can address society's needs while protecting individual freedoms and liberties. Most directly, students should care because if they know their rights and freedoms, they can exercise them."

Learn more about Oregon's social sciences graduation requirements by visiting the ODE website.

Barron's
LIFT
Give yourself a lift
Starting at $899
We are very excited to introduce our new line of lift chairs;
Barron's LIFT
Available in multiple body styles with a number of options, Barron's lift has the customizability people are looking for when they need it most.
Featuring
• Independent Leg Lift & Back Recline • USB Charging Port
• 350lb Weight Limit • High Density Foam Options
• Varying Widths • Power Headrest* • Power Lumbar*
• Lay Flat Mechanism • Extended Footrest
• Quick Delivery on Suggested Floor Fabric.
*Options may vary by style
Barron's
Down the Hwy from our Main Store
97885 Shopping Center Ave.
Harbor, OR • 541-412-1226
BARRON'S HOME FURNISHINGS and SLEEP CENTER
410 Oak Street • Brookings, OR
541-412-0250 • 800-667-9990
Text anytime: 541-230-9368

Wild Rivers Coast
Worship Directory
Brookings

Star of the Sea Catholic Church
Justus Alaeto, Pastor
820 Old County Rd., Brookings
541-469-2313
Tuesday Mass.....5:15 p.m.
Wednesday Mass.....5:15 p.m.
Friday Mass.....5:15 p.m.
Saturday Mass.....4:30 p.m.
Saturday Spanish Mass....6:30 p.m.
Sunday Mass.....8:30 a.m.
First Friday every month Adoration 4 p.m. & Mass 6 p.m.
First Saturday every month Mass 9 a.m.
https://staroftheseastcharles.org/

Faith Baptist Church
Fundamental Independent
409 Hillside Ave. Unit C, Brookings
541-412-1070
Sunday School.....10 a.m.
Morning Preaching.....11 a.m.
Evening Preaching.....6 p.m.
Wednesday Bible Study...7 p.m.
"Looking for an exciting Bible-Preaching Church? We may be just what you're looking for!"

Church of Christ
17222 Passley Rd., Brookings
Sunday Morning Bible Study.....10am
Sunday Morning Worship Assembly...11:00am
Wednesday Bible Class.....3pm
Evangelist: Darryl Cope
541-469-6453
or 541-469-0191

Christian Science Church
429 Pine St. at Redwood Spur, Brookings
Sunday Service.....11 a.m.
Sunday School.....11 a.m.
Wednesday Testimony Mtg..6 p.m.
Reading Room:
Monday & Wednesday..1-3 p.m.
or by appointment
www.BrookingsCSC.com
541-469-2398 or 469-3333

Crescent City

Grace Lutheran Church (LCMS)
9:00am All Ages Bible Study
Childcare Available
10:15am "The Story" Worship
11:15am Fellowship
188 E Cooper, Crescent City
www.GraceLutheranCC.com

Ft. Dick

Fort Dick Bible Church
"Grace Alone, through Christ Alone, for God's Glory Alone"
6725 Lake Earl Dr.
Sunday School - 9:30am
Sunday Service - 10:45am
Sunday Replay on Facebook @FortDickBibleChurch
Mid-Week Bible Study - call for details
Phone (707) 458-4030

To God Be The Glory
Christian Community Church
15138 McVay Lane
Sunday Service 10:30am
Bible Study Thursdays 7:00pm
See Our Facebook page
Friends Who Like Christian Community Church - Harbor
Pastor Carl Smith
541-659-9352

SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST
Pastor Barry Kimbrough
102 Park Ave., Brookings
541-469-3030
Saturday Bible Study.....10:00am (All Ages)
Saturday Worship.....11:15am
Also on Facebook and Youtube.
https://www.facebook.com/7thdayadventistbrookings/

Seventh-day Adventist Church
1770 Northcrest Dr., Crescent City
707-464-2738
Pastor Mason Philpot
Crescent City Seventh-day Adventist School
Grades 1-8 707-464-2738
Saturday
Sabbath School.....9:30 a.m.
Worship Services.....11:00 a.m.

Smith River

Smith River Baptist Church
340 Highland Avenue, Smith River
Just off Hwy. 101
(707) 487-5275
Pastor Steve Alexander
Worship Service.....10:30am

SolidRock Christian Fellowship
Pastor Pat Henderson
(707) 460-1696
3180 S Fred D Haight Drive
Smith River, CA 95567 • (707) 460-1696
Sun 10:00am • Wed 6:30pm
Kids Ministry for both services
Also on Facebook and YouTube
www.solidrockcrescentcity.com

Share your service with us! Spaces as low as $13 per week in The Curry Coastal Pilot
Email: kmace@CountryMedia.net

BE IN THE KNOW
Find breaking news first at
CurryPilot.com

Wild Rivers Coast CLASSIFIEDS

Placing a classified ad is ***Easy and Fast***

Contact us: (707) 460-8655 Mon - Fri 8:30am - 5:00pm www.CurryPilot.com

150 Misc Services

MOBILE WASH N' WAX
Detail Cars n' Trucks
Service to your door
License # 3763
541-661-0807 or text me

DIVORCE $130. Complete preparation. Includes children, custody, support, property and bills division. No court appearances. Divorced in 1-5 weeks possible. 503-772-5295. www.paralegalalternatives.com legalalt@msn.com.

No more cleaning out gutters. Guaranteed! LeafFilter is backed by a no-clog guarantee and lifetime transferrable warranty. Call today 1-855-536-8838 to schedule a FREE inspection and no obligation estimate. Get 15% off your entire order. Plus, Military & Seniors get an additional 10% off. Limited time only. Restrictions apply, see representative for warranty and offer details.

Consumer Cellular - the same reliable, nationwide coverage as the largest carriers. No long-term contract, no hidden fees and activation is free. All plans feature unlimited talk and text, starting at just $20/month. For more information, call 1-855-504-6496.

Donate your car, truck, boat, RV and more to support our veterans! Schedule a FAST, FREE vehicle pickup and receive a top tax deduction!

Get a break on your taxes! Donate your car, truck, or SUV to assist the blind and visually impaired. Arrange a swift, no-cost vehicle pickup and secure a generous tax credit for 2026. Call Heritage for the Blind Today at 1-844-533-9173 today!

Replace your roof with the best looking and longest lasting material - Steel from Erie Metal Roofs! Three styles and multiple colors available. Guaranteed to last a lifetime! Limited Time Offer Â– up to 50% off installation + Additional 10% off install (for military, health workers & 1st responders.) Call Erie Metal Roofs: 1-855-626-1990.

Audien Hearing. The world's first hearing aid with touchscreen controls. No tiny buttons, apps or prescriptions. 45-day risk free trial. Free shipping. Lifetime support. More than 1.5 million happy customers. Call Audien 1-844-387-1163.

Safe Step Stairlifts. Enjoy greater independence and stay in the home you love. Feel safe on every level. $750 off plus FREE installation. Made in the U.S.A. Call today for a free quote. 1-888-473-1933.

STRUGGLING WITH STAIRS? STAY SAFE AT HOME. Acorn Stairlifts® are the perfect solution for arthritis, COPD, and mobility challenges. A+ Rated by the BBB. Special $250 Savings and a FREE In-Home Consultation. Call 1-844-812-6573 Today!

Repairing or replacing appliances and home systems like heating and cooling can be costly. A home warranty plan can help. Start saving and get 30% off any plan today. Workmanship Guarantee included. Terms apply. Call Cinch Home Services 1-855-907-9919.

FreedomCare. Let your loved ones care for you and get paid! Paid by Medicaid. Choose family or friends as your paid caregiver. Check your eligibility today! Call FreedomCare now! 1-855-994-1589.

We buy 8,000 cars a week. Sell your old, busted or junk car with no hoops, haggles or headaches. Sell your car to Peddle. Easy three step process. Instant offer. Free pickup. Fast payment. Call 1-855-980-4382.

The bathroom of your dreams in as little as 1 day. Limited Time Offer - $1000 off or No Payments and No Interest for 18 months for customers who qualify. BCI Bath & Shower. Many options available. Quality materials & professional installation. Senior & Military Discounts Available. Call Today! 1-844-847-9778.

Jacuzzi Bath Remodel can install a new, custom bath or shower in as little as one day. For a limited time, waiving ALL installation costs! Additional terms apply. Subject to change and vary by dealer. (Offer ends 12/27/26.) Call 1-855-341-5268.

Prepare for power outages today with a Generac Home Standby Generator. Act now to receive a FREE 5-Year warranty with qualifying purchase. Call 1-877-557-1912 today to schedule a free quote. It's not just a generator. It's a power move.

Get DISH Satellite TV + Internet! Free Install, Free HD-DVR Upgrade, 80,000 On-Demand Movies, Plus Limited Time Up To $600 In Gift Cards. Call Today! 1-866-373-9175.

Get Boost Infinite! Unlimited Talk, Text and Data For Just $25/mo! The Power Of 3 5G Networks, One Low Price! Call Today and Get The Latest iPhone Every Year On Us! 844-955-3417.

Never miss any news for *Curry County* by following us on Facebook!
www.**CurryPilot**.com

502 Help Wanted

McLennan Excavation has a full-time working foreman position to fill. The working foreman will have full understanding of underground utilities and grading. Foreman will have full working knowledge of the use of heavy equipment needed for all excavation projects. Leadership, communication, critical thinking, and problem solving under pressure will be essential in this position. The ability to successfully manage projects and use project management plans and can set grades and elevations. McLennan Excavation offers health & dental benefits as well as 401K opportunities. Email your resume to: lily@pipeandrock.com or drop off your resume & apply directly at 98109 N. Bank Chetco River Road; Brookings, OR. Open hours are Monday through Friday from 7aqm to 5pm. Please be prepared for a prospective interview.

790 Misc Wanted

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.

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.

800 Rentals

2BR/1.5BA • BROOKINGS $1475 • REMOD $1550 W/S/G INCL • PETS OK $500 OFF 1ST MO! CALL/TEXT SAM 916-809-0726

999 Public Notices

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE STATE OF OREGON, FOR THE COUNTY OF CURRY
In re Trust Agreement of WILLIAM DAVID RAUHAUSER, Deceased
Case No. 26PB09288
NOTICE TO INTERESTED PERSONS
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that William David Rauhauser, Grantor and Trustee, established the William David Rauhauser Revocable Living Trust ("Trust") under agreement dated February 22, 2026. William David Rauhauser died May 25, 2026. Talesha Maurine Rauhauser is the Successor Trustee of the Trust.
All persons having claims against the Trust are required to present them in writing to the undersigned Trustees in care of attorney David C Johnston at Law Office of David C Johnston, P.O. Box 4884, Brookings, OR 97415, within four months after the date of first publication of this notice, as stated below, or such claims may be barred.
Dated and first published on October 21, 2026.
/s/ Talesha M. Rauhauser
Successor Trustee
Lawyer for Trustee:
David C. Johnston, OSB #140957
Law Office of David C Johnston
15957 Hwy 101 S #6; P.O. Box 4884
Brookings, OR 97415
(541) 373-8706
10/21, 10/28, 11/4/2026 Pilot 431476

Notice of Public Meeting
The Winchuck Rural Fire Protection District will hold its next Board of Director's meeting on Wed., November 11, 2026, at 6:00 P.M., at the Winchuck Fire Hall, 363 Winchuck River Road, Brookings, Oregon.
Agenda:
1. Call to Order and Roll Call
2. Reading of the Minutes
3. Chief's Report
4. Treasurer's Report
5. Old Business
6. New Business
7. Public comment
8. Adjourn meeting

Respectfully Submitted
Jan Loren, Secretary
11/4/2026 Pilot 431739

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE STATE OF OREGON FOR CURRY COUNTY
Probate Department
In the Matter of the Estate of: TONYA LEE VENA, aka TONYA L. LEE, Deceased.
Case No. 26PB05342
NOTICE TO INTERESTED PERSONS
NOTICE IS GIVEN that Perri Rask has been appointed personal representative of this estate. All persons having claims against the estate are required to present them, with vouchers attached, to the personal representative c/o Robert Cole Tozer, Attorney at Law, 856 Olive St., Ste. 106, Eugene, OR 97401, (541) 345-0795, within four months of the date of publication of this notice, or the claims may be barred.
All persons whose rights may be affected by the proceedings may obtain additional information from the records of the court, the personal representative, or the personal representative's attorney, Robert Cole Tozer.
DATED and published November 4, 2026.
/s/Perri Rask
Personal Representative
11/4/2026 Pilot 431848

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE STATE OF OREGON FOR THE COUNTY OF CURRY
In the Matter of the Estate of: JAMES MICHAEL WILEY, Deceased
Case No.: 26PB09357
NOTICE TO INTERESTED PERSONS
The undersigned, attorney for the Personal Representative of the Estate of James Michael Wiley, Deceased, hereby gives notice to all persons having claims against the Estate to present them, verified as required by law, with proper vouchers, within 120 days from the date of publication of this Notice to said Personal Representative in care of the Attorneys for said Estate, DAVIS HEARN ANDERSON SELVIG & NARUS, P.C., 515 East Main Street, Ashland, Oregon 97520. Failure to submit said claim timely may result in same being barred. All persons whose rights may be affected by these proceedings may obtain additional information from the records of the Court, the Personal Representative, or Attorneys for said Personal Representative.
Date of publication. November 4, 2026
/s/ Jack Davis, OSB #750905
Attorney for Personal Representative
DAVIS HEARN ANDERSON SELVIG & NARUS
A Professional Corporation
515 East Main Street
11/4/2026 Pilot 431884

Place a classified ad with us!
(707) 460-8655

Oregon insurance regulators warn of cheap healthcare plans

SHAANTH NANGUNERI
Oregon Capital Chronicle

Oregonians should be cautious before purchasing health insurance coverage through misleading "self-funded" or "limited partner" plans that can result in high out-of-pocket costs and unexpected medical bills, state insurance regulators said.

The Oregon Division of Financial Regulation in a recent press release warned that companies may offer plans to Oregonians by classifying them as "limited partners" or "employees" to avoid state law guaranteeing consumer protections. The message comes after the agency approved a nearly 22% increase in premiums for individuals using the state's health insurance marketplace and a 15.5% increase for small businesses.

Typically, self-funded plans involve employers who take on the risk of insuring their employees' claims rather than paying lump-sum premiums to insurance carriers. These employers often obtain stop-loss insurance to guard against expensive surges in claims.

More than 25% of businesses in the state offer at least one of these types of plans to their employees, according to federal data from last year. These plans are regulated under the federal Employee Retirement Income Security Act rather than state insurance law.

But that also makes these arrangements vulnerable for misuse by companies who are not serious employers seeking to cover their companies. Oregonians may be attracted to the low cost, but plans from these companies often end up only offering substantial coverage for checkups and routine screenings, according to state regulators.

"Consumers should remember the adage that if a deal looks too good to be true, it probably is," Oregon Insurance Commissioner TK Keen said in a statement. "If a health insurance policy offers unusually low premiums and low deductibles, yet promises full or unlimited coverage, be skeptical."

The warning from state insurance regulators comes as open enrollment for Oregonians who do not obtain health insurance through their employer, Medicare or the Oregon Health Plan approaches beginning Nov. 1. Plans that comply with the federal Affordable Care Act are available through licensed insurance agents or Oregon's health insurance marketplace, which operates on an official ".gov" website.

In the meantime, other "red flags" state regulators said to watch out for include salespersons claiming they do not need a license because their product is not insurance, cheap plans that reference "stop-loss" insurance or a company attempting to delay or deny claims while making excuses about failing to pay for them.

Oregonians who believe they may have been deceived can contact consumer advocates with the state at 1-888-877-4894 (toll-free) or email dfr.insurancehelp@dcbs.oregon.gov. State regulators also encourage people to request their insurance agent's full name and National Producer Number, which can be verified through a database hosted by the National Association of Insurance Commissioners.

https://oregoncapitalchronicle.com/2026/09/29/oregon-insurance-regulators-warn-of-cheap-healthcare-plans-resulting-in-high-bills/

Oregon Capital Chronicle is part of States Newsroom, a network of news bureaus supported by grants and a coalition of donors as a 501c(3) public charity. Oregon Capital Chronicle maintains editorial independence. Contact Editor Lynne Terry for questions: info@oregoncapitalchronicle.com.

SNAP
From page 4

Seasonal employment, including jobs at Halloween stores, retail businesses, restaurants, warehouses and other employers preparing for the holidays, may help people meet these requirements.

If you're picking up a second job or working extra hours during the holidays, it's also important to understand how this income may affect your SNAP benefits. Households must report income changes when required under SNAP reporting rules so benefits can be calculated accurately. Contact ODHS if you're unsure whether you need to report your new income.

People who have already lost SNAP benefits because they did not meet work or activity rules may also be able to regain eligibility through employment or other qualifying activities. People may need to reapply for benefits and demonstrate that they meet the requirements.

ODHS encourages people to contact the ODHS ABAWD Team to discuss their circumstances, report qualifying hours and learn what steps they need to take to keep or regain benefits.

Check whether you qualify for an exemption before new OHP rules begin

Some Oregonians may have recently received a letter from the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) about upcoming work or activity rules for the Oregon Health Plan (OHP), Oregon's Medicaid program.

These new federal requirements are scheduled to begin in January 2027.

People who qualify for an exemption from SNAP work or activity rules are automatically exempt from OHP work or activity rules.

ODHS encourages people who have questions about their SNAP work or activity rules or potential exemptions to contact the ODHS ABAWD Team now. Staff can review their circumstances and help determine whether an exemption applies.

Keep your address current and read your mail

As federal changes continue, ODHS reminds everyone who receives benefits to keep their contact information, including mailing address, up to date.

Important notices may include information about eligibility, work or activity rules, deadlines, or actions needed to keep benefits.

If you receive a letter from ODHS or OHA:

• Open and read it carefully.

• Pay attention to deadlines and any actions requested.

• Contact the agency if you have questions or need help understanding the notice.

Missing an important notice could mean missing an opportunity to provide information needed to keep benefits.

Where to get help

SNAP work or activity rules and exemptions:

• Visit oregon.gov/snapworkrules

• Call the ODHS ABAWD Team at 833-947-1694

• Email SNAP.ABAWD-Team@odhsoha.oregon.gov

Apply for SNAP or update your information:

• Visit benefits.oregon.gov

• Contact your local ODHS office for assistance.

ODHS encourages people to reach out as soon as possible if their circumstances change or they have questions about their benefits.

If you have questions about SNAP food benefits and the public charge rule for immigrants, you can call the Oregon Law Center's Public Benefits Hotline at 800-520-5292.

currypilot.com

Police Blotter

The police blotter is an excerpt of a public record of incidents as reported by law-enforcement agencies. All individuals arrested or charged with a crime are innocent until proven guilty. The information printed is preliminary and subject to change. For a list of missing items found in the Brookings area, you can visit the police services page of the city of Brookings website at www.brookings.or.us/134/police-services and follow the link near the bottom of the page.

Tuesday, October 13

9:21 am, Myrtle St, violation of restraining order.

10:57 am, Chetco Ave, criminal trespass.

1:29 pm, Chetco Ave, warrant service.

3:28 pm, 5th St, theft.

4:17 pm, Fir St, juvenile problem.

4:36 pm, Chetco Ave, dispute/fight.

5:25 pm, Chetco Ave, traffic crash.

5:47 pm, Chetco Ave, juvenile problem.

10:19 pm, Fifield St, criminal trespass.

Sunday, October 18

6:35 am, Mill Beach, loud noise.

7:48 am, Redwood Massage, llegal camping.

8:31 am, Chetco Ave, disorderly conduct.

12:27 pm, Lower Harbor Rd, disorderly conduct.

2:37 pm, Presbyterian Church, stalking.

3:54 pm, 5th St, theft.

4:20 pm, Hwy 101 S, civil problem.

4:24 pm, Kevin Pl and Hassett, juvenile problem.

4:51 pm, Chetco Ave Northgate, civil problem.

5:52 pm, Elk Dr, harassment.

Monday, October 19

5:03 am, North Bank Chetco River Rd, fire.

6:58 am, Wharf St, alarm.

7:32 am, 5th St, criminal trespass.

10:41 am, Fifield St, criminal trespass.

11:53 am, 5th St, disorderly conduct.

6:35 pm, 5th St, disorderly conduct.

Tuesday, October 20

8:04 am, Hwy 101 MP 352, traffic crash.

9:11 am, Elk Dr, juvenile problem.

1:39 pm, Chetco Ave, warrant service.

3:26 pm, Fern Ave, fire alarm.

6:12 pm, Elk Dr, fire alarm.

6:39 pm, 5th St, criminal trespass.

8:23 pm, 5th St, intoxicated subject.

Wednesday, October 21

5:08 am, Shopping Center Ave, criminal trespass.

9:49 am, Highway 101, criminal trespass.

10:20 am, Krista Ln, harassment.

11:26 am, Ferm Ave, illegal dumping.

12:12 pm, Chetco Ave, traffic crash.

7:10 pm, 2nd and Ransom, warrant service.

9:22 pm, Dawson Rd, criminal trespass.

11:48 pm, Pedrioli Rd, alarm.

Sunday, October 25

12:25 am, Moore St, dispute/fight.

2:49 am, Court St, dispute/fight.

3:32 am, Pedrioli Dr, alarm.

10:16 am, North Bank Chetco River Rd, criminal trespass.

11:22 am, Chetco Ave, disorderly conduct.

12:12 pm, Pioneer Rd, unauth use vehicle.

12:56 pm, Chetco Ave, theft.

4:05 pm, Moore St, criminal trespass.

4:18 pm, 5th St, theft.

5:43 pm, Elk Dr, theft.

6:44 pm, North Bank Chetco River Rd, traffic crash.

9:19 pm, 5th St, criminal trespass.

Monday, October 26

10:51 am, Elk Dr, civil problem.

11:33 am, Harris Beach State Park, theft.

1:09 pm, Elk Dr, theft.

2:19 pm, Highway 101 and E Hoffeldt, unauth use vehicle.

3:26 pm, 2nd St, civil problem.

6:40 pm, Chetco Ave, warrant service.

7:11 pm, Gardiner Ridge Rd, fire.

8:36 pm, 2nd St, dispute/fight.

11:00 pm, Boat Basin Rd, theft.

11:50 pm, Railroad Ave, alarm.

Calendar of Events

Submissions for events can be sent by email to: pilotofficemgr@countrymedia.net. The deadline for submission is 4:30 pm Monday, the week prior to publication.

DAILY

- Daily Meal, Chetco Activity Center, 550 Chetco Lane: 11:15 am - 12:30 pm.

All Year Long

- Beyond 250 Oral History Project, Chetco Library. Anyone who has called Brookings-Harbor home is welcome to share lived experiences for the oral history project. Learn more and sign up at chetcolibrary.org/Beyond250.

Mondays

- Line dance lessons, Brookings Elks Lodge, 800 Elks Drive: 10:30 am - 1:00 pm. Membership not required. Absolute beginners 10:30 am, improver 11:00 am, intermediate 12:00 pm. $2 minimum donation.
- Qi Gong for Health & Vitality, Chetco Library: 5:30 pm. Free class with licensed instructor Linnie. All are welcome; donations appreciated.

Tuesdays

- Brookings-Harbor Garden Club Work Party, Brookings Botanical Garden: 10:00 am - 11:30 am.
- Bridge, Chetco Activity Center: 12:15 pm.
- Line Dancing, Brookings Elks Lodge: 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm. Donations requested.
- Storytime, Chetco Library: 10:30 am. Stories, songs, and games for young children.
- Tween Club, Chetco Library: 3:30 pm. Activities for youth ages 10-13.
- Pinochle and Card Games, Chetco Activity Center: 12:00 pm - 4:00 pm.
- Amateur Radio Net, Gasquet Net: 6:30 pm (147.18); DN Amateur Radio Club: 7:15 pm (146.88).
- Line dance lessons, Crescent City Elks Lodge, 359 H Street: 10:30 am - 1:00 pm. Membership not required. Absolute beginners 10:30 am, improver 11:00 am, intermediate 12:00 pm. $2 minimum donation.
- Ukulele Group, Chetco Activity Center: 1:00 pm - 2:30 pm. Bring your instrument and a music stand. Music provided.

Wednesdays

- T'ai Chi, Chetco Activity Center: 9:00 am - 10:30 am and 12:00 pm - 1:30 pm.
- Qi Gong for Health & Vitality, Chetco Library: 9:30 am. Free class with licensed instructor Linnie. All are welcome; donations appreciated.
- Line dance lessons, Brookings Elks Lodge, 800 Elks Drive: 10:30 am - 1:00 pm. Membership not required. Absolute beginners 10:30 am, improver 11:00 am, intermediate 12:00 pm. $2 minimum donation.
- The Walking Group, Azalea Park: 11:00 am. Meet by Capella by the Sea. If raining meet at Brookings Harbor Shopping Center by the barbershop. 541-412-8664.
- Afternoon Creation Station, Chetco Library: 1:30 pm - 4:00 pm. Drop-in activities for school-aged kids.
- Recorder Group, Chetco Activity Center: 1:00 pm - 2:30 pm. Bring your instrument and a music stand. Music provided.
- Men's Club Golf, Salmon Run Golf Course: 9:00 am. Friendly team and individual play. All skill levels welcome. Bob K: 701-269-7822.
- Cribbage Club, Wild Rivers Pizza: 5:30 pm.

Thursdays

- Rowdy Creek String Band, Chetco Library: 10:00 am - 12:00 pm. Open rehearsal for acoustic string instrument players.
- Bridge, Chetco Activity Center: 12:15 pm.
- Widows and Widowers Coffee Clique, Community Center, Airport Way, Gold Beach: 10:30 am - 11:30 am.
- Checkmate Corner, Chetco Library: 3:00 pm - 5:00 pm. Weekly chess club for all ages and skill levels.
- Easy Flow Yoga, Chetco Library: 5:30 pm. Free class. Participants should be able to comfortably get up and down from the floor. All are welcome; donations appreciated.
- Recreational Table Tennis, 102 Park Street, Brookings: 6:30 pm. Intermediate players welcome; bring your own paddle.
- Line dance lessons, Crescent City Elks Lodge, 359 H Street: 10:30 am - 1:00 pm. Membership not required. Absolute beginners 10:30 am, impr over 11:00 am, intermediate 12:00 pm. $2 donation. Jean: 541-251-8998.

Fridays

- Bingo, Chetco Activity Center: 12:00 pm - 12:30 pm.
- The Walking Group, Azalea Park: 11:00 am. Meet by Capella by the Sea. If raining meet at Brookings Harbor Shopping Center by the barbershop. 541-412-8664.
- Pinochle and Card Games, Chetco Activity Center: 12:30 pm - 4:00 pm.
- T'ai Chi, Chetco Activity Center: 9:00 am - 10:30 am.
- Threads, Hooks, & Needles, Chetco Library: 10:30 am. Fiber arts club for knitters, sewers, and more.

Wednesday, November 4

• Take a Walk on the Wild Side: Wild Bees of the Oregon Coast, Chetco Library: 1:00 pm - 2:00 pm. Invertebrate expert and Xerces Society member Dave Kollen presents an exploration of local wild bees and their ecology.

• Bookworm Buddies Book Club, Chetco Library: 4:00 pm - 5:00 pm. Second- through fifth-graders will discuss Dragon Masters: Rise of the Earth Dragon by Tracey West in the River Room.

Thursday, November 5

• Family Bingo, Chetco Library: 3:30 pm - 5:00 pm. Family bingo celebrating International Games Month, with snacks and refreshments. Bingo cards are limited and available first come, first served.

Friday, November 6 - Saturday, November 7

• Take-Home Craft: Make Your Own Mancala Set, Chetco Library: all day. Free take-home Mancala kits celebrate International Games Month with a hands-on history lesson. Supplies are limited and available first come, first served. Saturday, November 7

• Arch Rock Brewing Co. Rock Show, Arch Rock Taproom inside Turtle Rock RV Resort: doors open at 2:00 pm; rock show begins at 3:00 pm and closes at 8:00 pm. Bring rock collections, share rockhounding adventures, and trade or give away specimens. Limited table space.

Monday, November 9

• Spice World Bags, Chetco Library: all day. Take home a monthly spice bag featuring a unique spice from around the world, with a sample, trivia and recipe suggestions. Available first come, first served while supplies last.

Wednesday, November 11

• Chetco Library closed in observance of Veterans Day.

Thursday, November 12

• Comic Quest Book Club, Chetco Library: 4:00 pm - 5:00 pm. Tweens and young teens will discuss Lightfall: The Girl & the Galdurian by Tim Probert in the Forest Room.

• Pub Grub Book Club, Misty Mountain Brewing: 5:30 pm - 6:30 pm. Adult fans of comics and graphic novels will discuss issues 1-24 of the Saga Compendium by Brian K. Vaughan.

• Getting Involved in Oregon's "Micro Space Program," SWOCC Curry Campus Community Room, 96082 Lone Ranch Parkway, and online: 6:00 pm. Free all-ages STEAM Pathways lecture with Portland State University's Andrew Greenberg. Watch online at youtube.com/@southwesternOR/streams.

Thursday, November 12 - Sunday, November 15

• Friends of the Library Fall Book Sale, Chetco Library: hours vary. Browse thousands of used books at bargain prices; proceeds benefit Friends of the Chetco Library. Full schedule at chetcolibrary.org.

Wednesday, November 18

• Writers' Club, Chetco Library: 5:00 pm - 6:30 pm. Local writers gather in the Forest Room for creative writing prompts, sharing and constructive feedback.

Thursday, November 19

• Oregon Shakespeare Festival Performances and Workshops, Chetco Library: 3:30 pm - 7:00 pm. An evening of workshops and two short performances. Seating is limited; registration is required for performances and workshops.

• Lego Club, Chetco Library: 3:30 pm - 5:00 pm. Build with Legos individually or in teams in the Children's Section; creations will be showcased on library shelves.

Friday, November 20

• Jigsaw Puzzle Tournament, Chetco Library: 12:00 pm - 3:00 pm. International Games Month tournament for teams of two, recommended for adults and puzzlers ages 10 and older. Team registration is required at chetco.librarycalendar.com.

Saturday, November 21

• Meet the Author: Rev. Dr. Cynthia Paulsen, Chetco Library: 12:00 pm - 2:00 pm. The local author, speaker and New Thought minister will discuss her newest book, That's a Good Thought: Daily Wisdom in an Uncertain World.

Wednesday, November 25

• Craft'n'Connect with Kim, Chetco Library: 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm. Free monthly crafting workshop for adults. The project will be announced by November 1; registration is required and supplies are limited.

• Look-Back Book Club, Chetco Library: 5:30 pm - 6:30 pm. Teens 16+ and adults revisit a childhood classic in the Annex Conference Room; see library social media or chetcolibrary.org for the November selection.

• Monthly Drum Circle, Chetco Library: 5:30 pm - 7:00 pm. Drop in to play percussion or listen in the Forest Room; all percussion instruments, including hand clapping, are welcome. Thursday, November

26 - Friday, November 27

• Chetco Library closed in observance of the Thanksgiving holiday.

Saturday, November 28

• Book Talk Book Club, Chetco Library: 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm. Discussion of Dungeon Crawler Carl by Matt Dinniman in the Quiet Reading Room.

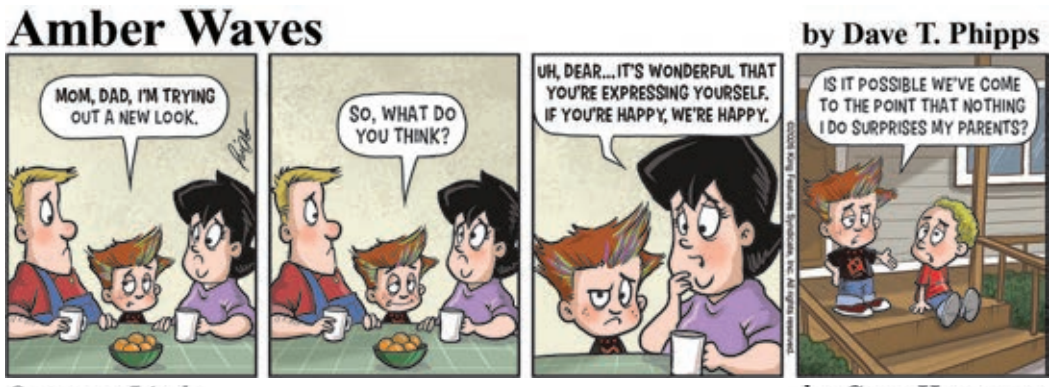






Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps



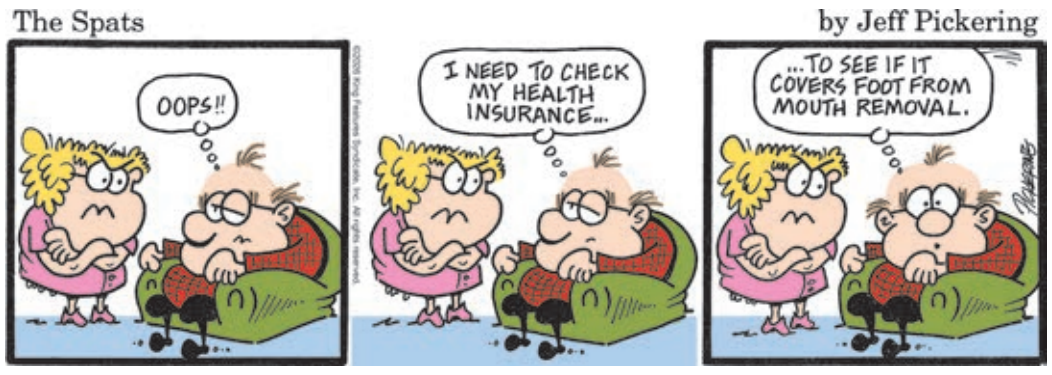
Out on a Limb

by Gary Kopervas



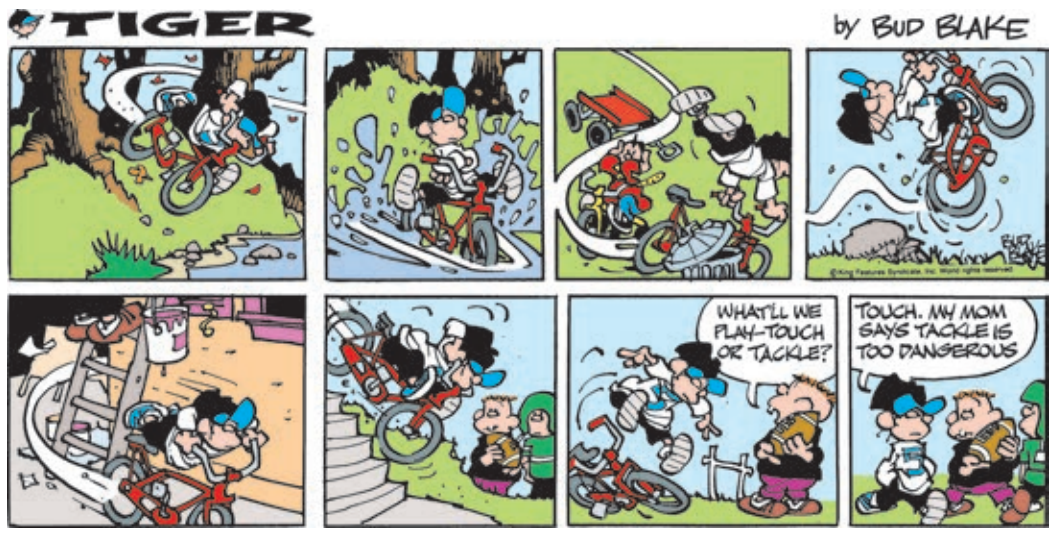
The Spats

by Jeff Pickering



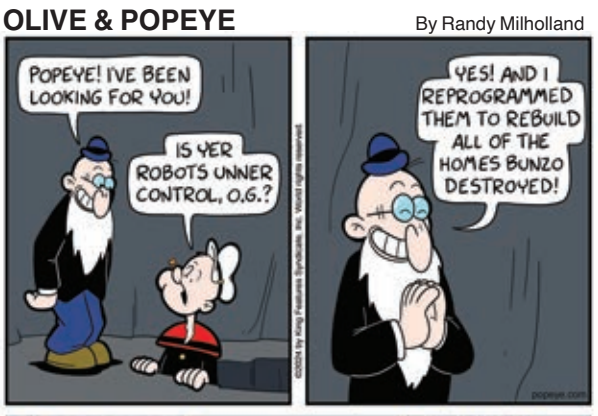
TIGER

by BUD BLAKE



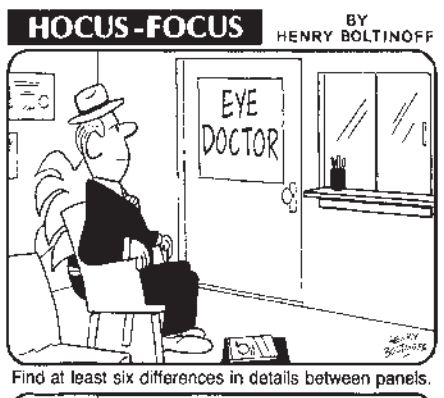
OLIVE & POPEYE

By Randy Milholland



HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.

Differences: 1. Door is narrower. 2. Window is smaller. 3. Left arm is not shown at all. 4. Pencil cup is moved. 5. Chair leg is moved. 6. Plant leaf is moved.

Just Like Cats & Dogs

by Dave T. Phipps



CryptoQuip

This is a simple substitution cipher in which each letter used stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Solution is accomplished by trial and error.

Clue: V equals N

FMJ VJFDB RLRFDGZ BDFDWFASD CZJFNDZI MNJ KASD AV R BAIFAVWFKU CJNDLARV WGKFGZD: FND RZFU CJUI.

©2026 King Features Synd., Inc.

SCRAMBLERS

Unscramble the letters within each rectangle to form four ordinary words. Then rearrange the boxed letters to form the mystery word, which will complete the gag!

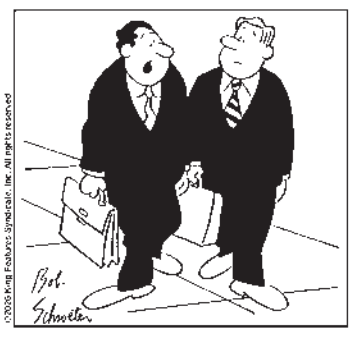
Vast
COMICS

Human
TRAMOL

Lane
LEYLA

Delay
RELIGN

TODAY'S WORD

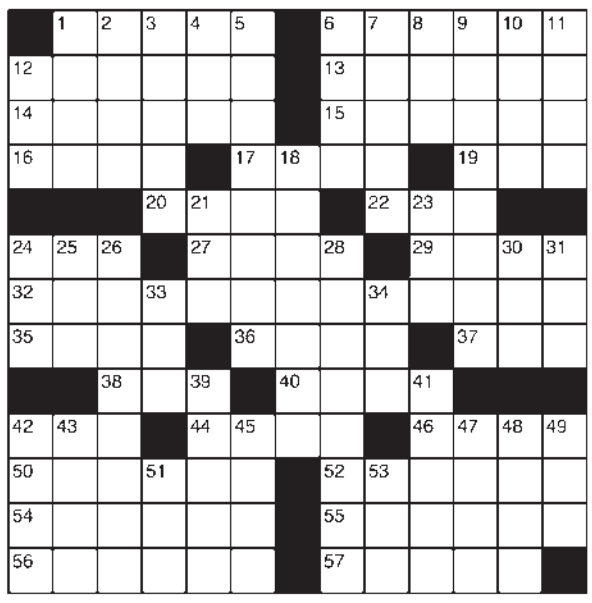


"When I was in college, I used to dream of the _____ I won't be able to get by on this year."

©2026 King Features Syndicate, Inc. All rights reserved

November 2, 2026 Posting Date

King Crossword



ACROSS

1 Interior design
6 Views
12 Made over
13 "Phooey!"
14 Aromatic herb
15 Found out, to Brits
16 Party pooper
17 "Dream on!"
19 Prof's helpers
20 Poker pot money
22 Covert agent
24 Jungfrau, for one
27 Melodies
29 Emmy winner Falco
32 Paintings of artists, say
35 Dessert fruit
36 Not even one
37 Mom's mate
38 "— -hoo!"
40 Grant basis, at times
42 Home for mil. jets
44 Horse's halter?
46 Eight (Pref.)
50 Illusionist David
52 — app
54 Boris of tennis
55 Hearth remains
56 Gardeners, at times
57 Synthetic fabric

DOWN

1 Woodland grazer
2 Writer Buchanan
3 Line dance
4 Small bill
5 Affinity
6 Pieces for one
7 Kitchen VIPs
8 Coach Parseghian
9 Bowlful served with chips
10 Sicilian spouter
11 Swift jets
12 "Mayberry —"
18 Hot chili pepper
21 Snooze
23 Pod dweller
24 Nile viper
25 Director Spike
26 Listen to a recording
28 Football game prankster
30 Judge Lance
31 Mentalist's claim
33 Swing to and —
34 Deli bread
39 Proprietor
41 Surround sound name
42 Shortened wd.
43 Dog bane
45 Towel word
47 Jazz singer Laine
48 Shore bird
49 Hosp. areas
51 Mamie's man
53 "— Little Teapot"

© 2026 King Features Synd., Inc.

Weekly SUDOKU

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

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ◆◆◆

◆ Moderate ◆◆ Challenging ◆◆◆ HOO BOY!

© 2026 King Features Synd., Inc.

Trivia test

by Fifi Rodriguez

1. MOVIES: Which pop music group sings at the wedding in "Bridesmaids"?
2. U.S. STATES: Which state's official dance is the shag?
3. GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: Which designer made the miniskirt famous?
4. MUSIC: How many strings does a standard violin have?
5. LANGUAGE: What does it mean to apricate?
6. TELEVISION: Who was the original host of "The Price is Right"?
7. ANATOMY: Which component of blood initiates clotting?
8. LITERATURE: Who wrote the novel "The Age of Innocence"?
9. MONEY: What is depicted on the back of a $10 U.S. bill?
10. HISTORY: When did the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) go into effect?

© 2026 King Features Synd., Inc.

FiveSpot™

Puzzling work

T	H	I	N	K	Use your noggin
					Belonging to thee
					Octoberfest vessel
					Tiny landmass
					Eponymous jeans
					Figure out

Solve each row by replacing one letter from the answer above or below and scrambling to make a new word. When complete, the top and bottom words will have no letters in common.

FiveSpot is a trademark of Michael McLaughlin
See more at www.fivespotpuzzle.com

03684

Trivia Answers

1. Wilson Phillips
2. South Carolina
3. Mary Quant
4. Four
5. To bask in the sun
6. Bill Cullen (The original show debuted in 1956)
7. Platelets
8. Edith Wharton
9. The U.S. Treasury Building
10. 1994

Weekly SUDOKU Answer

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

FiveSpot™ Solution

T	H	I	N	K
T	H	I	N	E
S	T	E	I	N
I	S	L	E	T
L	E	V	I	S
S	O	L	V	E

CryptoQuip answer

Two noted amateur detect ve brothers who live in a distinctly bohemian culture: The Arty Boys.

SCRAMBLERS Solution

1. Cosmic; 2. Mortal; 3. Alley; 4. Linger

Today's Word

SALARY

King Crossword — Answers

Solution time: 21 mins.

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

COUNTRY MEDIA, INC. IS HIRING!

Advertising Representative and Reporters - multiple locations

Submit resume and cover letter to Chief Executive, jwarren@countrymedia.net

Friends of Curry Campus Speaker Series presents:
Exploring the Flora and Fauna of the Australian Rainforest

For the Pilot

Southwestern Oregon Community College Curry Campus invites the community to join us on Thursday, November 12, 2026, from 1:00 to 2:00 pm, for a presentation by Vicki Gorham on "Exploring the Flora and Fauna of the Australian rainforest."

This is a free program sponsored by the Friends of Curry Campus and will be held in the Community Room on Southwestern's Curry Campus, 96082 Lone Ranch Parkway (off Highway 101), Brookings.

Vicki recently returned from a three-week trip to the tropical region of Queensland, known as the "top end" – which includes the Daintree Rainforest, the oldest in the world.

Vicki became interested in photography when she and her husband Bill were living in Australia in 2010 and 2011. Since then, photographing birds and other wildlife, along with interesting trees, plants and flowers, has been an ongoing passion.

Bring a friend and stay tuned for upcoming talks in our speaker series.

For more information contact the Curry Campus at 541-813-1667.



SMART Reading calls for volunteers on South Coast

For the PILOT

For 35 years, SMART Reading, Oregon's largest volunteer-driven literacy nonprofit, has proven that one hour a week can change a child's life. Now, as the organization launches programs for the 2026-27 school year, community members have an opportunity to step up and empower the next generation of readers by volunteering to read weekly with students along the South Coast.

Since launching in 1992, SMART Reading has reached landmark milestones across the state, pairing over 164,000 volunteers with more than 357,000 Oregon children and putting over 5.1 million books directly into children's homes. This year, SMART plans to serve more than 600 students and distribute more than 4000 books in Coos, Curry, and Coastal Douglas 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," says Regional Director, Leona Westdahl. "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!"

The organization is looking for volunteer Readers to commit one hour a week to read with a child at a local school. No prior teaching experience is required, and full training is provided.

According to state assessment results released late last month by the Oregon Department of Education, nearly 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.

Where Help Is Needed Most

Along the South Coast, volunteers are needed to read weekly with students at the following locations:

- Coos Cultural Afterschool Program in Coos Bay
- Eastside School in Coos Bay
- Highland Elementary in Reedsport
- Hillcrest Elementary in North Bend
- ***Kalmiopsis Elementary in Brookings***
- Ocean Crest Elementary in Bandon
- ***Driftwood Elementary in Port Orford***

Learn more about volunteer opportunities or sign up today at www.SMARTReading.org, by calling 541-266-7476, or emailing cjones@smartreading.org.

State offers ballot traction

All Oregon voters can now sign up to receive updates on the status of their ballot for the November 2026 general election, from when it is sent to them, to when their ballot is accepted for counting, at OregonVotes.gov/Track.

"Every voter in Oregon, no matter where they live, deserves the same access to their ballot and the same confidence that their vote counts," Oregon Secretary of State Tobias Read said. "This tool gives voters a quick, easy, and secure way to track their ballot through the process and get alerted if there are any issues with their signature on their ballot. This is a great upgrade for voters and for Oregon's gold standard vote-by-mail elections."

The only information voters will need to provide to sign up is first and last name, date of birth, and zip code. The information must exactly match the information on their voter record.

Voters can choose to get updates via text, email, or phone call. Updates will be sent at three key points:

- When your ballot is sent to you by the county elections office
- When your ballot is received by the county elections office
- When your ballot is accepted for counting

If a ballot is not accepted because of a ballot signature issue, an update will be sent so the voter can take steps to make sure their vote is counted.

Fire season ends, backyard debris burning season begins

Fire season ends, backyard debris burning season begins

The Oregon Department of Forestry's (ODF) Western Lane and South Cascade Districts and the Lane Fire Defense Board (LFDB) announced that fire season in Lane County officially closed at 11:59 p.m. Friday, Oct. 16, 2026.

Backyard debris burning opened Saturday, oct. 17 and that season is regulated by the Lane Regional Air Protection Agency (LRAPA).

While conditions have improved enough to close out fire season, ODF, LFDB, and LRAPA are urging residents to stay cautious. Dry vegetation and debris from a long fire season can still ignite easily, and a single unattended pile can quickly turn into a wildfire — or a serious air quality problem for the whole community.

This summer was one of Oregon's most severe fire seasons on record, with more than 2.5 million acres burned statewide. Anticipated rain, cooler temperatures, and improving fuel moisture allowed officials to set a closing date.

"We're glad conditions have improved enough to close out fire season, but that doesn't mean the danger disappears overnight," ODF South Cascade District Forester Chris Cline said. "Residents should still take every precaution before lighting a debris pile. Make sure you have water and a shovel ready and attend the burn until it is out."

Before lighting any outdoor debris pile, residents should:

- Check beforeyouburn.net for your local fire regulations.
- Check LRAPA's outdoor burning advisory, it's updated daily with that day's approved start and stop times to protect air quality.
- Always have water from a hose or a bucket of water, and a shovel within reach at all times.
- Never leave a fire unattended, even for a few minutes.
- Check weather conditions first — avoid burning on windy or very dry days.
- Keep burn piles small and manageable.
- Make sure the fire is completely out. Drown it with water, stir, and repeat until cold to the touch. Any warmth means it can reignite later.

Residents who start a wildfire in Oregon can be held responsible for the cost of putting it out.

"We appreciate the community waiting for the close of fire season before burning," LRAPA Public Affairs Manager Matt Sorensen said.. "But fire season ending doesn't mean the risk is gone. One escaped fire can accidentally start a much bigger fire and that is a serious air quality problem."

Check LRAPA's burn advisory by visiting lrapa-or.gov or calling the outdoor burn line at 541-726-3976.









BE IN THE KNOW

Find breaking news first at: www.CurryPilot.com

