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CURRY COASTAL PILOT

www.currypilot.com WEDNESDAY, MAY 13, 2026 Brookings, Oregon



County Board gives statement on harassment investigation

By NATE SCHWARTZ
Pilot Editor

The Curry County Board of Commissioners issued a statement and summary regarding a recently conducted investigation into workplace harassment. The release provided information as to how the board decided to handle the accusations by Curry County Assessor Kiley Wegner, who accused Director of County Operations and County Counsel Michael "Ted" Fitzgerald of violating Curry County policies prohibiting gender discrimination, harassment and retaliation.

"In April of 2025, the Curry County Assessor, through legal counsel, formally approached the Board of Commissioners with allegations that she had experienced retaliation, harassment, and gender discrimination by the Director of County Operations. The Assessor explicitly requested that the Board initiate an investigation," explained the BOC statement.

In order to address that complaint in what the BOC called "an appropriate, professional manner," they instructed county legal counsel to contract an independent investigator that specializes in employment investigations, Mountain Lakes Employment Investigations, LLC (MLEI). MLEI is an independent firm, however, Curry County Counsel happens to be Fitzgerald, the accused party.

According to a summary and "fact sheet" released by the BOC entitled "Condensation of Attorney Investigation Report", MLEI conducted the independent investigation and examined the allegations by interviewing five witnesses and reviewing 400 pages of documents.

"Following the completion of the investigation, Mountain Lakes Employment Investigations submitted an executive summary of its findings to the County's outside legal counsel and insurance firm, which then presented the findings to the

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Gold Beach airport to receive share of \$3.1 million federal investment

Staff Report

U.S. Senators Ron Wyden and Jeff Merkley as well as U.S. Reps. Suzanne Bonamici, Andrea Salinas, Val Hoyle, Janelle Bynum and Maxine Dexter have announced that 10 Oregon airports, including Tillamook, will receive a combined federal investment of more than \$3.1 million to improve their infrastructure.

"Small airports throughout our state need and deserve federal investments so Oregonians can count on them for small business support, emergency response, secure travel and more," Wyden said. "These federal resources advance those key objectives statewide, and I'll keep battling for similar infrastructure investments to make all airports in Oregon better and safer."

"Investing in critical airport improvements such as taxiways, helipads, hangars, and more increases safety and strengthens infrastructure across our state," said Merkley. "Our regional airports are vital hubs for Oregonians, supporting local businesses and providing essential lifelines during natural disasters. I'll keep fighting to secure critical federal funds to improve the efficiency and reliability of Oregon's airports, benefitting the folks who rely on them for business, travel, and so much more."

"Regional airports are critical to keeping Oregon connected," said Rep. Bonamici. "In rural communities like Tillamook, investments in transportation infrastructure give small businesses access to markets and make communities more resilient in the event of a disaster. I'm grateful that this funding will support work at the Port of Tillamook Bay."

"Small airports are vital for rural Oregonians," said Rep. Salinas. "They support local businesses and enable emergency responses when our communities need them most. This \$1 million investment in McMin-



(Courtesy of Port of Gold Beach): The Port of Gold Beach has been awarded \$78,000 for upgrades to the Gold Beach Municipal Airport's runway.

ville Municipal Airport will replace aging infrastructure and improve safety for everyone who uses it. I'm proud to help deliver these federal dollars to the airports that keep Oregon connected, and I'll keep pushing to make sure rural communities keep getting the federal investment they deserve."

"These infrastructure investments across our regional airports in Corvallis, Florence, Gold Beach and Newport are a win for the economic growth of our rural and coastal communities," said Rep. Hoyle. "We rely on these federal dollars to build up our airports' resilience in the face of worsening wildfire seasons."

"Making it easier to get where you need to go keeps our economy strong and makes

everyday life more convenient," said Rep. Bynum. "Regional airports connect our communities, small businesses, and ensure Oregonians don't have to drive hours just to access reliable transportation. I am proud to work with my colleagues to secure this critical funding for Oregon."

"Investments in small airports are invaluable and will pay dividends for Oregonians in the years to come," said Rep. Dexter. "This funding will support critical improvements to the Troutdale Airport, a key hub for the Port of Portland and our regional econo-

See More Airport on page 3

Brookings City Council seeks applicants for soon to be vacant council position

From the City of Brookings

Applications for Brookings City Council Position #4 are now being accepted as of Monday, May 4th following the announcement of Councilor Kristi Fulton's upcoming resignation effective June 22, 2026. Fulton announced she and her family will be relocating out of state. Her term was due to end January 11, 2027 coinciding with the November 3, 2026 General Election.

The council stated that it hopes to see applicants who would file for candidacy for the November 3, 2026 General Election. The filing period for this with the City is June 3, 2026 through August 11, 2026 as a non-elected incumbent.

Council members spend a significant amount of time considering information in support of the decision-making process. Members of council must attend regular City Council meetings on the 2nd and



4th Mondays of each month at 5:30pm.

They also attend Executive Sessions and Workshops, and may serve as liaisons to local,

county and state organizations and agencies. City Council members also serve as the Board of the City's Urban Renewal Agency. City Council

positions are unpaid voluntary positions.

Interested qualified Oregon electors, who have resided within the City limits for the twelve months immediately preceding application, are invited to apply.

Completed applications must be received by the City Recorder at City Hall, 898 Elk Drive, Brookings, OR 97415, no later than 4:00pm, Monday, June 15, 2026. Applications are available at City Hall Monday through Thursday, 8:00am to 5:00pm, and on the City's website.

Completed applications will be included and published in the City Council agenda packet which will be available for review on the City's website and at City Hall.

Eligible applicants will be interviewed by Council during a public Council meeting; the successful candidate will be appointed by majority vote.

Election 2026

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Opinion & Letters

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A word please

By June Casagrande

A lot of people know that the plural of attorney general is attorneys general, including, I suspect, most readers of this column. But not many people know why. And even those who have a sense of why probably can't explain it in grammar terms.

My sister, I found out recently, is among them. "Why is it attorneys general and not attorney generals?" she texted me.

"Because the noun is attorney," I texted back. "General in this context is an adjective."

What followed was a good lesson in information silos. In my mind, my reply was clear and unequivocal. But other people aren't in my mind with me, apparently: "Hmmm," she replied. "I thought Attorney General was the full title, not general as an adjective since they both are capitalized."

To me, it was obvious that a full title could contain multiple parts of speech. But I can see now how others might think a title is a single unit, no matter how many words it contains, and think that because it's a single unit, the internal words don't really have grammatical relationships with each other.

"It is the full title," I texted back. "Adj and noun just describe the relationship between the two words in the title. Like a certified public accountant. Accountant functions as noun. Certified is adjective."

I pride myself in being able to make grammar simple and clear, so her reply was another blow to my ego: "Okay that makes a little more sense, but still not total sense. I mean, we don't say Chiefs Executive

Officer. The only language I know doesn't make sense to me. LOL."

That last part is important: English doesn't make sense to any English speaker. It's not a very logical language. And we'd all be better off if everyone understood that they're not alone. If something about our language doesn't make sense to you, you're not the problem. But I digress.

At that point, I couldn't handle typing answers out with my thumbs on my phone, so I called to explain.

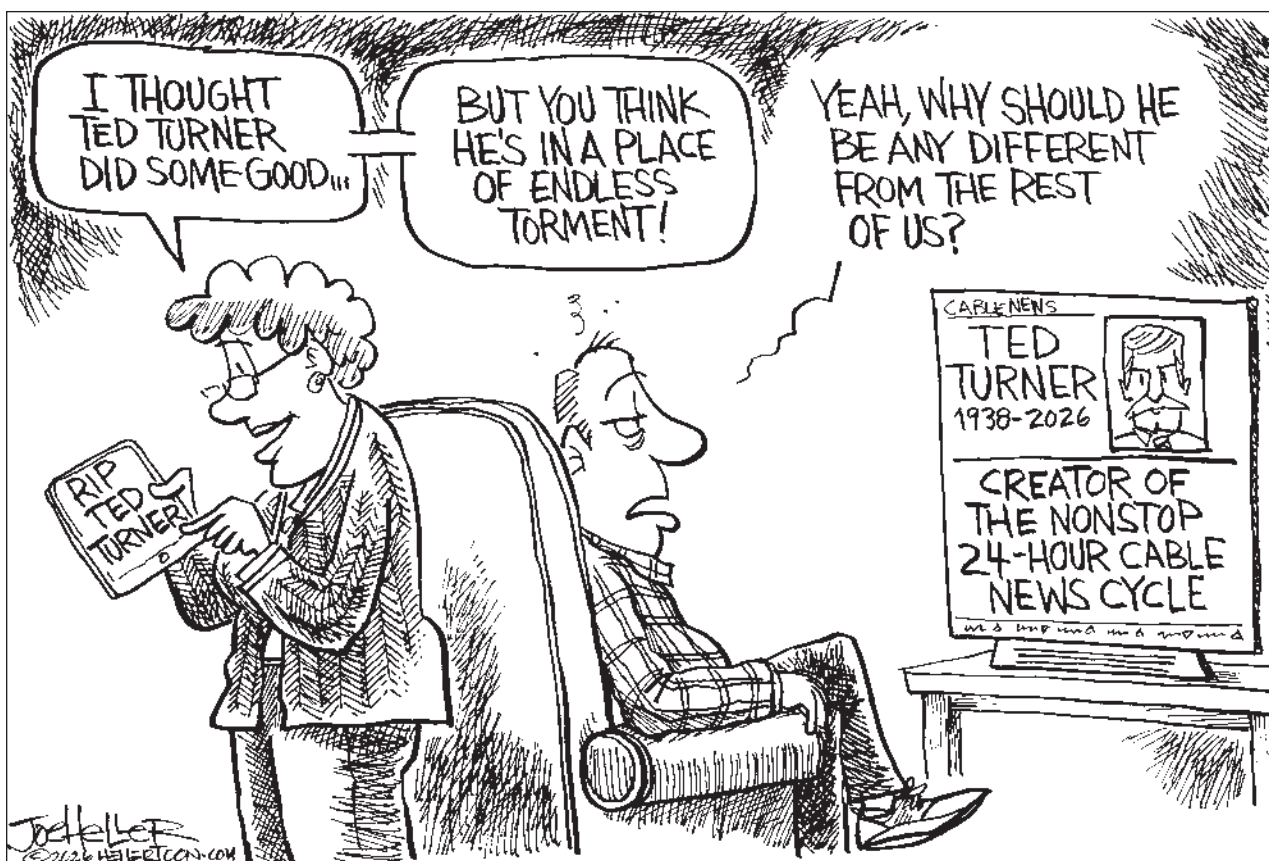
Yes, I said, "chiefs executive officer" would be wrong because the noun is "officer," and only nouns take a possessive S. Adjectives don't, which is why we don't say "big's houses" or "gentles dogs." In chief executive officer, "chief" is an adjective modifying the noun "officer." So "officer" takes the plural S.

"Certifieds public accountants" would be wrong for the same reason. Only the noun, accountant, can take the plural S.

Those two examples would be intuitive for any native speaker. But "attorney general" throws us a curve ball for two reasons: First, the adjective comes after the noun. That's unusual in English. It's like saying a "house big" or a "dog gentle." Second, the adjective in this title, "general," is often a noun. So "attorney general" sounds a lot like "major general" or any other term that uses "general" as military rank. But in "attorney general," it's an adjective, not a member of the armed forces.

"I see," she said. "I understand now, but it's still weird."

"Agreed, I said. And don't even get me started



on the possessive."

Of course, this did get me started on the possessive of attorneys general. I'll explain it here as concisely as I can.

Unlike the plural S, which attaches to the noun, the possessive apostrophe and S attach at the end of the whole title. So it's "the attorney general's opinion" if you have one and "the attorneys general's opinions" if you're talking about more than one. And that's not just my interpretation. That's straight out of the Associated Press Stylebook.

If you want to get the plural possessive right, it's probably best not to put too much mental energy into "why?" Just committing it to memory is a feat.

— June Casagrande is the author of "The Best Punctuation Book Period." She can be reached at JuneTCN@aol.com

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Weekly Poll

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Airport
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my. I will keep working to bring federal dollars into high-value projects in our community.”

The awards totaling \$3.14 million from the federal Department of Transportation for the Oregon airports are as follows:

\$78,063 to the Port of Gold Beach for Gold Beach Municipal Airport to reseal 3,200 feet of runway pavement; to reseal 3,200 feet of taxiway pavement.

\$1 million to the city of McMinnville for McMinnville Municipal Airport to acquire and install a new wind cone to help pilots; to build 12,500 feet of perimeter fencing and 10 gates.

\$417,996 to the city of Burns for Burns Municipal Airport to build a new 1,600-square-foot snow removal equipment building.

\$400,338 to the city of Florence for the Florence Municipal Airport to acquire and install a new wind cone and segmented circle navigational aid for pilots.

\$289,000 to the Port of Portland for Troutdale Airport to reseal 13,000 feet of existing taxiways and joints.

\$274,708 to the city of Ontario for Ontario Municipal Airport to build a new

helipad.

\$245,950 to the city of Corvallis for Corvallis Municipal Airport to build a new 1,300-foot north taxi lane to provide airfield access to a non-exclusive hangar development area.

\$160,332 to Morrow County for the Lexington Airport to replace the precision approach path indicator for a runway; to replace and relocate the existing precision approach path indicator for another runway.

\$137,000 to the city of Newport for the Newport Airport to build a new 5,250-square-foot non-exclusive use hangar for aircraft storage.

\$137,000 to the Port of Tillamook Bay for the Tillamook Airport to build a new fuel farm by adding two fuel tanks and two self-service pumps and associated apron pavement for a new fuel type.

“As Mayor of Gold Beach, I know the port is critical for emergency services and is an economic development engine,” said Gold Beach Mayor Tamie Kaufman. “This work helps make sure the port can continue being an asset to our community.”

“The City of McMinnville greatly appreciates the continued federal financial support of safety and security improvements at the

McMinnville Municipal Airport,” said airport manager John Paskell. “This important project provides for a significant security upgrade by adding nearly three miles of perimeter security fencing and adds an additional level of safety for pilots by installing a supplement wind cone on the Runway 4 end of the airport’s primary runway... Those airport improvement dollars go a long way and help protect and preserve the airport’s financial self-sufficiency while also improving the facility.”

“This federal investment is crucial as it ensures our airport infrastructure remains fully functional year-round, which is vital for emergency response and general aviation access in Eastern Oregon,” said Burns City Manager Brenda Engebretson.

“The City of Florence is excited to receive this FAA funding to support the Beacon & Wind Cone Replacement Project at the Florence Municipal Airport,” the city said in a statement. “This project will help to improve essential airport safety infrastructure, as well as support safe and reliable aviation facilities that serve local and regional users. The Florence Municipal Airport is an economic driver for our area that

provides a valuable space for commerce, emergency response, and recreational uses. The City of Florence is grateful for the continued support of this regional asset.”

“Ensuring safe and efficient operations is the Port’s top priority, and this federal investment will help to maintain taxiways at Troutdale Airport,” said Curtis Robinhold, Executive Director of the Port of Portland. “We are grateful for the Oregon delegation’s continued support for our projects to meet the diverse transportation needs of our region.”

“The recent FAA award for the Lexington Airport to upgrade our precision approach path indicators (PAPIs), is a major win for a small regional airport like ours,” said Morrow County Commissioner Gus Peterson. “This system will allow us to continue to serve our users with improved safety and efficiency as well as allow us to be able to potentially expand in the future. Morrow County is grateful for the opportunity to continue to improve our small but important regional airport.”

“Securing funding for a new hangar is significant investment in the future of Newport Municipal Airport,” said Lance Vanderbeck, Newport

Municipal Airport Director. “This project will enhance our ability to serve pilots, aircrafts, and improve overall efficiency and safety. Through this funding,

we’re better positioned to meet demand and ensure the airport remains a reliable asset for our community.”

County
From page 1

Board of Commissioners,” stated the BOC.

While the investigation found insufficient evidence to substantiate claims of workplace harassment, there were multiple comments found by MLEI which Fitzgerald admitted to making:

“Fitzgerald admitted he responded to Wegner’s June 10, 2024 text question, ‘You have got to be fucking kidding me. Why am I here!’ by texting back, ‘To doll up the place?’”, was one such comment.

In another exchange, “Fitzgerald admitted he responded to Wegner’s September 18, 2024 text inquiry regarding a department head meeting, ‘Am I invited? I feel like I’m public enemy number one,’ by texting back, ‘I’m number one; you’re maybe #5. Plus you’re cute.’”

In another exchange, Fitzgerald texted Wegner in comparison with another female employee, stating that Wegner was “more professionally turned out”.

In further claims, Wegner alleged that Fitzgerald had a habit of referring to her son as “Little Ted”. According to the summary, Wegner’s cat was named Ted, which MLEI determined was the true subject of the comments. The summary stated there was a lack of corroboration for other claims of verbal comments made by Fitzgerald.

Despite Fitzgerald admitting his comments were inappropriate, the MLEI report stated that, on the whole, the evidence was not substantial enough to constitute a workplace harassment charge, and claimed the way in which Wegner relayed events was unreliable:

“The MLEI Investigation identified four comments made by Fitzgerald to Wegner over approximately 1.5 years could relate to Wegner’s gender, and that Fitzgerald admitted that three of these comments were either inappropriate or

potentially inappropriate. However, considering the totality of the circumstances, the MLEI Investigation found that the overall record did not demonstrate that the comments interfered with Wegner’s work performance.

“The MLEI Investigation further found that Wegner’s characterization of her working relationship with Fitzgerald as inappropriate or hostile from the onset was not supported when the full context of the factual record was considered, noting that certain facts relevant to the allegations were not initially disclosed by Wegner but were later addressed through documentary evidence,” stated the summary.

The other part of Wegner’s claims regarded retaliation. She claimed that in 2024, Fitzgerald changed the Assessor’s Office work hours in response to a complaint about parking codes and a contentious comment she made in a public meeting in which she opposed an employment contract.

According to the summary, MLEI found that while the Assessor’s Office had been granted an exception to county-wide schedule restructuring in September of 2024 (many departments were to shift from 4-day/10-hour weeks to 5-day/8-hour weeks), that exception was planned to sunset on December 31, 2024.

There are a number of investigation materials, including full interviews and documents that could reveal personnel information, that the county states will not be disclosed in order to “protect those involved and maintain the integrity of the investigative process”.

“The Board of Commissioners remains committed to maintaining a professional and respectful workplace, protecting employees who come forward with concerns, ensuring due process and fairness for all parties, and upholding professionalism,” closed the BOC’s official release on the matter.

Off the charts: Gallbladder issues

By Dr. Gigi Reed, MD

Around 15 percent of adults live with gallbladder problems, an often-overlooked cause of abdominal pain and digestive discomfort. Understanding how this small organ works—and what happens when it doesn’t—can help millions recognize symptoms early and seek proper treatment.

The gallbladder is a pear-shaped pouch tucked beneath the liver, right below the ribs on the right side. Its job is to store and concentrate bile, a digestive fluid produced by the liver to help break down fats. When a person eats, especially fatty foods, the gallbladder releases bile into the small intestine to aid in digesting and absorbing vitamins.

But this simple system can run into trouble. The most common issues include gallstones, gallbladder inflammation (cholecystitis), and biliary dyskinesia, a condition in which the gallbladder fails to empty properly. Gallstones form when substances in bile, such as cholesterol or pigments, crystallize.



These stones can be tiny as grains of sand or as large as marbles.

While gallstones alone may cause no harm, problems begin when they block the bile duct. When that happens, the gallbladder contracts without being able to release bile, leading to severe pain, nausea, bloating, and sometimes vomiting. The pain often appears after a fatty meal and may radiate to the back or right shoulder.

In more serious cases, this blockage can lead to infection, jaundice, or inflammation of nearby organs such as the pancreas. Some of my patients who have experienced a bout of acute cholecystitis describes the cramping as horrific.

Diagnosis often begins with a physical exam and a “Murphy’s sign”

test, in which a provider presses gently under the right ribs as the patient breathes in. A sharp pain or sudden catch in breath suggests inflammation. Imaging tests such as ultrasound or more advanced HIDA scans can confirm gallbladder dysfunction or blockage.

When gallbladder diseases cause continuous pain, then surgery, called a cholecystectomy—is usually recommended. Most of these operations are performed laparoscopically, requiring only small incisions and allowing patients to return home within a day or two. After recovery, most people can resume a normal diet, though many are advised to eat smaller and less fatty meals.

Still, not every patient’s story ends here. As many as a quarter experience some degree of diarrhea after surgery, and in about 5 to 12 percent, persistent bile acid diarrhea develops. Usually though, patients who experience these symptoms still prefer this over the cramping and nausea.

Without a gallbladder, bile flows continuously into the intestine rather than being released in bursts, which can irritate

the colon. Treatment can include dietary changes, fiber adjustments, or bile acid-binding medications.

In rare cases, chronic inflammation can lead to a condition known as “porcelain gallbladder,” where the wall becomes calcified and stiff. Because this is linked to an increased risk of gallbladder cancer, cholecystectomy is usually performed.

Though the gallbladder is small, its impact on digestion can be significant. With modern imaging, minimally invasive surgery, and early detection, most people affected by gallbladder disease can regain comfort, enjoy normal eating habits, and live symptom-free.

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. Gigreedmd@gmail.com

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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.

Monday 04/27

- 5:33 Hwy 101 and Freeman Ln, hit & run
- 12:34 Old County Rd, civil problem
- 13:07 Chetco Ave and Mill Beach, assault
- 14:48 Lower Harbor Rd, fire
- 15:25 Court St, criminal mischief
- 16:37 Liquor, theft
- 18:34 Railroad Ave, alarm

Tuesday 04/28

- 8:47 Oak St, disorderly conduct

- 9:31 Railroad St, dispute/fight
- 10:25 Hwy 101, disorderly conduct
- 10:29 5th St, warrant service
- 12:20 5th St, panhandling
- 13:13 Brookings Area, attempt to locate
- 15:12 Old County Rd, juvenile problem
- 16:30 King St, fire
- 19:37 Hwy 101, illegal burn

Wed. 04/29

- 3:28 Chetco Bridge, loud noise
- 3:47 Mill Beach, criminal trespass

- 8:26 King St, fire
- 10:05 Old County Rd, criminal trespass
- 11:24 5th St, theft
- 17:19 Chetco Ave, warrant service
- 18:23 Pioneer Rd, juvenile problem
- 19:29 5th St, stalking
- 22:32 Oak St, disorderly conduct

Thursday 04/30

- 0:13 Chetco Ave, alarm
- 9:29 Chetco Ave, disorderly conduct
- 18:15 Arch Ln, criminal trespass
- 18:52 Chetco Ave, disorderly conduct

Friday 05/01

- 3:15 Easy St, loud noise
- 9:02 Memory Ln, littering
- 9:34 Smith Dr, theft
- 9:45 Heather Ln, theft
- 10:12 Arnold St, traffic crash
- 13:05 Wharf St, criminal trespass
- 13:55 Hemlock, criminal trespass
- 14:22 Chetco and 5th, panhandling
- 14:42 Fir St, harassment
- 16:01 North Bank Chetco River Rd, fire alarm
- 16:35 Winchuck River Rd, civil problem
- 17:36 Fir St, harassment

- 17:51 5th St, traffic crash
- 19:20 Fir St, civil problem
- 20:13 Chetco Ave, warrant service

Saturday 05/02

- 0:53 North Bank Chetco River Rd, eluding
- 1:08 Old County Rd Azalea Park, illegal camping
- 4:45 Pedrioli Dr, fire alarm
- 13:05 Old County Rd, custodial interference
- 13:26 Cape Ferrello Rd, traffic crash
- 14:06 Hwy 101 and Winchuck, traffic crash
- 17:45 Wharf St, juvenile problem

Sunday 05/03

- 19:39 South Bank Chetco River Rd, disorderly conduct
- 20:25 Birch St, loud noise
- 23:10 Wharf St, probation violation
- 2:07 Pioneer Rd, loud noise
- 8:34 Hwy 101 S, assault
- 10:12 Spruce near Oak, violation of city ordinance
- 12:08 Chetco Ave, hit & run
- 15:53 Elk Dr, warrant service

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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

DAILY

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

WEDNESDAYS

- T'ai Chi, Chetco Activity Center: 9:00 am – 10:30 am and 12:00 pm – 1:30 pm.
- Line dance lessons, Brookings Elks Lodge. Membership not required. All donations welcome and appreciated, \$2 minimum from all dancers. 10:30 – 11:00 am absolute beginners, 11:00 – 12:00 pm improver, 12:00 – 1:00 pm intermediate.
- 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. For information 541-412-8664.
- Cribbage Club, Wild Rivers Pizza: 5:30 pm.
- Afterschool Program, Chetco Library: 1:30 pm – 4:00 pm. School aged kids are welcome to come by the library for a free snack and to hang out, work on homework, or craft using supplies from the Maker cart.
- Recorders, Chetco Activity Center, 1:00pm – 2:30 pm. Bring your recorder(s) and a music stand. Music will be provided.
- Men's Club Golf, Salmon Run Golf Course: 9:00 am. Friendly team and individual play. Prizes, laughs, good food and drink. \$65 annual fee (includes OGA membership). All skill levels welcome. For info call: Bob K. 701-269-7822.

THURSDAYS

- Bridge, Chetco Activity

Center: 12:15 pm. Closed on Thanksgiving.

- Widows and Widowers Coffee Clique, Community Center, Airport Way, Gold Beach: 10:30 – 11:30 am.
- Easy Flow Yoga, Chetco Library: 5:30 pm. A beginners' yoga class that includes standing positions. For this class it is recommended that participants be able to comfortably get up and down from the floor.
- Rowdy Creek String Band (open rehearsal), Chetco Library: 10:00 am – 12:00 pm. A friendly open rehearsal for acoustic string instrument players. Not a string instrument player? Drop in and listen.
- Checkmate Corner, Chetco Library: 3:00 pm – 5:00 pm. A weekly chess club for players of all ages and skill levels. Can't bring your own set? Extra game boards are available.
- Recreational Table Tennis, 102 Park Street, Brookings: 6:30 pm. Love a good rally? Join us. For intermediate players who enjoy fast, friendly matches and great company. Bring your paddle and hope to see you soon.
- Line dance lessons, Crescent City Elks Lodge. Membership not required. All donations welcome and appreciated, \$2 minimum from all dancers. 10:30 – 11:00 am absolute beginners, 11:00 – 12:00 pm improver, 12:00 – 1:00 pm intermediate.

FRIDAYS

- Bingo, Chetco Activity

Center: 12:00 pm – 12:30 pm. Closed Friday after Thanksgiving.

- The Walking Group, Azalea Park: 11 am. Meet by Capella by the Sea. If raining meet at Brookings Harbor Shopping Center by the barbershop. For information 541-412-8664
- Pinochle and other 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. A fiber arts club for knitters, sewers, and more. Bring your latest project and connect with other fiber artists over light refreshments in the Makerspace.

SATURDAYS

- Saturday Shuffle: Magic the Gathering and more, Chetco Library: 1:00 pm. Stop by the library every week for Saturday Shuffle, where players can bring their favorite deck and play Magic: The Gathering. Gamers of all kinds are also welcome to bring their favorite card or board games from their own collections, or browse the library's games, and find a crew to play with.
- Saturday Storytime, Chetco Library: 10:30 am. Stories, songs, and games for young children.

MONDAYS

- Line dance lessons, Brookings Elks Lodge. Membership not required. All donations

welcome and appreciated, \$2 minimum from all dancers. 10:30 – 11:00 am absolute beginners, 11:00 – 12:00 pm improver, 12:00 – 1:00 pm intermediate.

TUESDAYS

- Brookings-Harbor Garden Club Work Party, 10:00 am – 11:30 am, Brookings Botanical Garden. Come see how you can help.
- Bridge, 12:15 pm, Chetco Activity Center
- Line Dancing, Brookings Elks Lodge, 6 pm – 8 pm Donations requested.
- Storytime, Chetco Library: 10:30 am. Stories, songs, and simple crafts for young children.
- Tween Club, Chetco Library: 3:30 pm. Youth ages 10-13 are welcome to hang out and explore new interests and activities every week.
- Pinochle and other card games, Chetco Activity Center 12:00 pm – 4:00 pm
- Amateur Radio Net check-ins, Gasquet Net: 6:30 pm on 147.18, DN Amateur Radio Club: 7:15 pm on 146.88. If you are a licensed Ham Radio operator, join us. You do not have to be a member of the Del Norte Amateur Radio Club. Find out what is happening around the area. Registration recommended, but team signups are allowed the day of if space allows.
- Line dance lessons, Crescent City Elks Lodge. Membership not required. All donations welcome and appreciated, \$2 minimum from all

dancers. 10:30 – 11:00 am absolute beginners, 11:00 – 12:00 pm improver, 12:00 – 1:00 pm intermediate.

- Ukuleles, Chetco Activity Center: 1:00 pm – 2:30 pm. Bring your uke and a music stand. Music will be provided.

Sat. May 16

- Chetco Grange Garage & Vendor Sale, Chetco Grange #765, 97895 Shopping Center Ave: 8:30 am – 3:00 pm. Enjoy one stop shopping with several vendors inside and outside the Grange. Plus!!! Live music by Cisco and Friends! To rent tables or outdoor spaces call or text Gayle at 541-290-0592.

Sun. May 17

- Monthly Potluck, Chetco Activity Center, 550 Chetco Lane, 4:30 pm. Bring your own or enough to share, either way, we share community and friendship.

Wed. May 20

Thurs. May 21

- Brookings Rural Fire District monthly meeting, Brookings Fire Department: 9:30 am
- Azalea Fest Book Sale, Chetco Library, 405 Alder St. Thousands of books at bargain prices! May 21: 9am – 4pm, May 22 – 23: 10am – 4pm, May 24: 12pm – 4pm (Bag Day, \$3/Bag), May 25: 12pm – 4pm (Bag Day, \$3/Bag), May 26: 10am – 6pm (Honor Day,

pay what you want). For More Info, call 541-412-0481 or email lys7073@yahoo.com

Sat. & Sun May 23-24

- Annual Plant Sale and Flower Show, Brookings Botanical Garden: 10:00 am – 4:00 pm Saturday, 10:00 am – 3:00 pm Sunday. You are invited to participate in the Flower Show on Saturday by bringing your arrangement or most favorite blooms to the botanical garden between 8-10am for the convenience of setup and viewing by the Parade Grand Marshal, the Pioneer Citizen and the Queen and her court. Awards will be given based on a selected favorite from each official. Don't forget to buy tickets for our raffle prizes. Hosted By: Brookings-Harbor Garden Club, Inc.

Mon. May 25

- Azalea Quilters Guild monthly meeting, Driftwood Estates Club House 16063 Driftwood Lane: 5:30 pm.

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Registration open for the Wild Rivers Film workshop

Registration is now open for the 2026 Wild Rivers Film Workshop, returning for its third exciting year at Southwestern Oregon Community College Curry Campus, June 15–26, 2026. Building on the energy

and success of the past two years, this immersive, hands-on workshop brings together aspiring filmmakers, storytellers, and creatives of all experience levels for ten inspiring days of learning, collaboration, and



filmmaking on Oregon's spectacular South Coast.

A Collaborative, Real-World Film Experience Participants will work alongside experienced instructors and industry professionals to move from concept to completion — developing stories, learning production techniques, and gaining practical experience in directing, cinematography, sound, editing, and more.

Whether you are picking up a camera for the first time or refining your craft, the Wild Rivers Film Workshop offers

a supportive, creative environment designed to spark confidence and build skills.

- Why Attend?**
- Hands-on instruction in narrative and documentary filmmaking
 - Access to professional equipment and editing resources
 - Collaboration with fellow creatives
 - Inspiration from the natural beauty of the Wild Rivers Coast
 - Opportunity to showcase completed work
- The 2026 workshop promises expanded learn-

ing opportunities and an even more dynamic production experience. Space is limited to 30 students to ensure personalized instruction, so early registration is encouraged.

For registration details, visit the Wild Rivers Film Festival website or contact them directly. The program is open and welcoming to both returning participants and first-time filmmakers for another unforgettable year of creativity and community at the Wild Rivers Film Workshop.

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502 Help Wanted

McLennan Excavation is looking for a full-time working foreman to join their growing team. 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 software tools is also a must. 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 7am to 5pm. Please be prepared for a prospective interview.

McLennan Excavation is looking for a part-time &/or full-time Concrete Finisher. The finisher will expertly pour, level, and smooth concrete on surfaces including pads, walls, sidewalks, curbs, and drive-

502 Help Wanted

ways. Strong working knowledge of hand-held and power tools including power vibrators, polishers, cutting saws, and edging tools will be important in setting forms, patching existing surfaces, and cutting expansion joints. The ability to monitor the curing of the concrete to ensure a high-quality finish is also needed. **Should be physically fit and able to stand for long periods of time, work on their knees, lift heavy materials, and work outdoors in high heat and in the coastal cold, wet, and windy conditions. Apply directly at 98109 N. Bank Chetco River Road; Brookings, OR. Or send resume to lily@pipeandrock.com Open hours are Monday through Friday from 7am to 5pm. Please be prepared for a prospective interview.

McLennan Excavation is looking for full-time Commercial Drivers Licensed Dump Truck Drivers for local deliveries and equipment mobilization. Drivers should be familiar with using manual and automatic dump trucks, transfers, and lowboys. McLennan Excavation offers health & dental benefits as well as 401K opportunities. Apply directly at 98109 N. Bank Chetco River Road; Brookings, OR. Or send resume to lily@pipeandrock.com Open hours are Monday through Friday from 7am to 5pm. Please be prepared for a prospective interview..

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1BR 1BA apartment. Upstairs. Approx 600 sqft. Renter pays electric. \$1000/mo + \$1000 dep. Background check required. If intersted call 541-469-6119
RV Space Available. River Bend Terrace RV, Payne Rd, Harbor. 55+ park, 35x35 spaces, bathroom/shower, laundry, pet area, excellent wifi, cable. Manager on site. \$550.00 / month. 541-251-3334

311 Announcements

Spring Marketplace May 16th 9:00-3:00, 1320 Oregon Street, Port Orford

702 Garage Sales

Chetco Grange #765 - 97895 Shopping Center Ave. Multiple vendors, inside and outside. Saturday only 8:30 - 3:00. No Early Birds!

Garage Sale! Saturday only 9am-3pm. (Driftwood Estates) 16063 Driftwood Ln #2. Chainsaw and lots of misc.

Garage sale. May 15 & 16. 9am-2pm. Wilson and OW Storage. 98121 W Benham Ln. Camping gear, tents, ice chests, fishing poles and gear, surfboards, hand tools and more.

Multi-family garage sale. 97812 Crestline Loop. May 16-17. 8am-4pm. Fine art, lawn equipment, and much more.

Parkwide Yard Sale! 9am-4pm Friday - Sunday. 98126 W Benham Ln. No early-birds (gate oens at 9am).

702 Garage Sales

Large Garage Sale! May 6-9 & May 13-16. 9am-5pm. 97953 Court St.

999 Public Notices

PUBLIC NOTICE OREGON TRAWL COMMISSION BUDGET HEARING DATE: June 3, 2026 **TIME:** 8:00 am **PLACE:** The Spruce Room, The Mill Casino, 3201 Tremont Ave, North Bend, OR 97459. As required by ORS 576.416, the Oregon Trawl Commission will accept public comments on its fiscal year 2026-27 budget at the above date and time. Copies of the Commission's proposed 2026-27 budget can be requested via email at officemanager@oregontrawl.org or at the Commission office, PO Box 66215, Portland, OR 97290. 5/13/2026, Pilot, 426522 Chetco Public Library LB1 3X7.25 B&W CDisp

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

Probate Department In the Matter of the Estate of: GREGA LINGDER, Deceased. Case No. 26PB02917 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 May 13, 2026. s/ Perri Rask Personal Representative 5/13/2026 Pilot 426478

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE OF STATUTORY LIEN

According to O.R.S. 87 152-87 162 Name of the Owner: Happy Dhesi Description of Property Sold: Contents of Unit A39 The Amount Due on the Lien: \$1201.00 Date and Time of Sale: June 6, 2026 at 9:00 AM Place of Sale: AAA Stor-All, LLC., 14703 Oceanview Drive, Brookings, OR 97415 Name of Person Foreclosing the Lien: AAA Stor-All, LLC. Payment Terms: To reclaim your property, all above costs must be paid by cash, certified check, or money order. Payable To: AAA Stor-All, LLC., 14703 Oceanview Drive, Brookings, OR 97415, (541) 412-7758 Date Signed: 4/26/2024 Manager: Rose Gabrielson 5/13 &

999 Public Notices

5/20/2026 Pilot 426237

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE OF STATUTORY LIEN According to O.R.S. 87 152-87 162 Name of the Owner: Wendy Roth & David Bono Description of Property Sold: Contents of Unit D18 The Amount Due on the Lien: \$901.00 Date and Time of Sale: June 6, 2026 at 9:00 AM Place of Sale: AAA Stor-All, LLC., 14703 Oceanview Drive, Brookings, OR 97415 Name of Person Foreclosing the Lien: AAA Stor-All, LLC. Payment Terms: To reclaim your property, all above costs must be paid by cash, certified check, or money order. Payable To: AAA Stor-All, LLC., 14703 Oceanview Drive, Brookings, OR 97415, (541) 412-7758 Date Signed: 4/26/2024 Manager: Rose Gabrielson 5/3 & 5/20/2026 Pilot 426236

NOTICE OF BUDGET COMMITTEE MEETING

A public meeting of the Budget Committee of the Brookings-Harbor School District 17C, County of Curry, and State of Oregon, to discuss the budget for the fiscal year July 1, 2026 to June 30, 2027 will take place on May 26, 2026 at 5:30 PM in Room 51 at Kalmiopsis Elementary School, 650 Easy Street, Brookings, Oregon 97415. The purpose of the meeting is to receive the budget message. This is a public meeting where deliberation of the Budget Committee will take place. Any person may appear at the meeting and discuss the proposed programs with the Budget Committee. You will also be able to watch a livestream of the meeting from our BHSD youtube link @ http://www.youtube.com/@bhdyoutube528 A second meeting may take place on June 2, 2026 if necessary. A copy of the budget may be obtained by request on or after 12 p.m., May 22, 2026. To request the copy email dedec@brookings.k12.or.us 5/13 & 5/20/2026 Pilot 426235

Notice of Public Meeting

The Port of Brookings Harbor Board of Director's will hold a Regular Meeting Wednesday May 20, 2026 at 2:00 P.M. For meeting agenda and packet please visit Port website: www.portofbrookingsharbor.com This Institution is an Equal Opportunity Provider 5/13/2026 Pilot 425905 **NOTICE OF BUDGET COMMITTEE MEETING** A public meeting of the Budget Committee of the Harbor Sanitary District, Curry County, State of Oregon, to discuss the budget for the fiscal year July 1, 2026 to June 30, 2027, will be held at Harbor Sanitary District Office, 16408 Lower Harbor Rd. Brookings, OR. The meeting will take place on May 19, 2026 at 3:00 pm. The purpose of the meeting is to receive the budget message and to receive comment from the public on the budget. This is a public

999 Public Notices

meeting where deliberation of the Budget Committee will take place. Any person may appear at the meeting and discuss the proposed programs with the Budget Committee. A copy of the budget document may be inspected or obtained on or after May 7, 2026 at Harbor Sanitary District 16408 Lower Harbor Road, between the hours of 9:00 am and 2:00 pm Monday through Thursday 5/6 & 5/13/2026 Pilot 426180

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE OF STATUTORY LIEN

According to O.R.S. 87 152-87 162 Name of the Owner: Ashley Purdue Description of Property Sold: Contents of Unit A14 The Amount Due on the Lien: \$1401.00 Date and Time of Sale: June 6, 2026 at 9:00 AM Place of Sale: AAA Stor-All, LLC., 14703 Oceanview Drive, Brookings, OR 97415 Name of Person Foreclosing the Lien: AAA Stor-All, LLC. Payment Terms: To reclaim your property, all above costs must be paid by cash, certified check, or money order. Payable To: AAA Stor-All, LLC., 14703 Oceanview Drive, Brookings, OR 97415, (541) 412-7758 Date Signed: 4/26/2024 Manager: Rose Gabrielson 5/13 & 5/20/2026 Pilot 426238

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE STATE OF OREGON FOR THE COUNTY OF CURRY PROBATE DEPARTMENT


In the Matter of the Estate of: MICHAEL JAMES BROGAN, Deceased. Case No. 26PB03404 NOTICE TO INTERESTED PERSONS NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Julie Rosebraugh-Brown has been appointed personal representative. All persons having claims against the estate are required to present them, with vouchers attached, to the personal representative at c/o K.R. Olin, Attorney at Law, PO Box 7530, Brookings, OR 97415, within four months after the date of first 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 attorney for the personal representative, K.R. Olin, PO Box 7530, Brookings, OR 97415. DATED AND FIRST PUBLISHED this 6th day of May, 2026. /s/ K.R. Olin K. R. Olin, OSB #903547 Attorney for Personal Representative PO Box 7530 Brookings, OR 97415 (541)469-2669 olinandassociates@gmail.com 5/6, 5/13, & 5/20/2026 Pilot 425956

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FORM LB-1 NOTICE OF BUDGET HEARING			
A public meeting of the Chetco Community Public Library District will be held on Tuesday, May 19, 2026 at 6:00 p.m. at 405 Alder Street, Brookings, Oregon. The purpose of this meeting is to discuss the budget for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2026 as approved by the Chetco Community Public Library District Budget Committee. A summary of the budget is presented below. A copy of the budget may be inspected or obtained at 405 Alder Street, Brookings, Oregon during library hours or online at www.chetcolibrary.org. This budget is for an annual budget period. This budget was prepared on a cash basis of accounting, which is the same as the preceding year.			
Contact: Julie VanHoose, Budget Officer/Director	Telephone: 541-469-7738 Email: julie@chetcolibrary.org		
FINANCIAL SUMMARY - RESOURCES			
TOTAL OF ALL FUNDS	Actual Amount 2024 - 2025	Adopted Budget 2025 - 2026	Approved Budget 2026 - 2027
Beginning Fund Balance/Net Working Capital	955,628	902,248	1,005,220
Fees, Licenses, Permits, Fines, Assessments & Other Service Charges	6,593	4,500	6,000
Federal, State & all Other Grants, Gifts, Allocations & Donations	138,312	53,500	54,000
Interfund Transfers / Internal Service Reimbursements	0	13,030	30,000
All Other Resources Except Current Year Property Taxes	72,649	51,713	51,252
Current Year Property Taxes Estimated to be Received	933,906	934,734	973,437
Total Resources	2,107,088	1,959,725	2,119,909
FINANCIAL SUMMARY - REQUIREMENTS BY OBJECT CLASSIFICATION			
Personnel Services	686,447	749,342	783,420
Materials and Services	272,441	296,758	324,873
Capital Outlay	81,158	302,500	307,500
Interfund Transfers	0	13,030	30,000
Contingencies	0	30,000	30,000
Unappropriated Ending Balance and Reserved for Future Expenditure	1,067,042	568,095	644,116
Total Requirements	2,107,088	1,959,725	2,119,909
FINANCIAL SUMMARY - REQUIREMENTS AND FULL-TIME EQUIVALENT EMPLOYEES (FTE) BY ORGANIZATIONAL UNIT OR PROGRAM *			
Name: General Fund	1,643,545	1,489,802	1,602,250
FTE	8.95	8.95	8.95
Name: Misener Fund	16,763	17,392	17,985
FTE	0.00	0.00	0.00
Name: Library Improvement Fund	420,153	390,480	431,131
FTE	0.00	0.00	0.00
Name: Specific Purpose Library Grants	26,627	62,051	68,543
FTE	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total Requirements	2,107,088	1,959,725	2,119,909
Total FTE	8.50	8.95	8.95
PROPERTY TAX LEVIES			
	Rate or Amount Imposed	Rate or Amount Imposed	Rate or Amount Approved
	2024 - 2025	2025 - 2026	2026 - 2027
Permanent Rate Levy (rate limit 0.4256 per \$1,000)	0.4256	0.4256	0.4256
5/13/2026 Pilot 426426494			

City of Brookings Water Users Annual Water Quality Report Available

The Federal Safe Drinking Water Act requires the City to provide their water customers a yearly Consumer Confidence Report advising how the City water quality meets or exceeds established federal and state drinking water standards. We encourage customers to review this report as it provides details about the source and quality of the drinking water delivered to you.



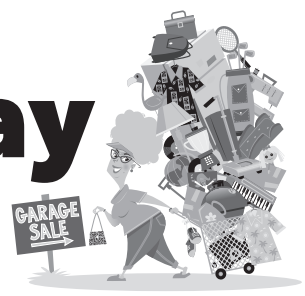
In an effort to be environmentally and fiscally responsible, the City no longer prints and mails reports to customers unless requested. The report is available to be viewed online and printed at: <http://www.brookings.or.us/DocumentCenter/View/22>. Please call 541-469-1103 if you would like the report mailed to you.

BE IN THE KNOW

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Curry County Garage Sale Saturday May 16 & 17



1. Brookings

Chetco Grange #765 - 97895 Shopping Center Ave. Multiple vendors, inside and outside. Saturday only 8:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. No Early Birds!

4. Brookings

Garage Sale! Saturday only 9am-3pm. (Driftwood Estates) 16063 Driftwood Ln #2. Chainsaw and lots of misc.

2. Brookings

Multi-family garage sale. 97812 Crestline Loop. May 16-17. 8am-4pm. Fine art, lawn equipment, and much more.

5 Brookings

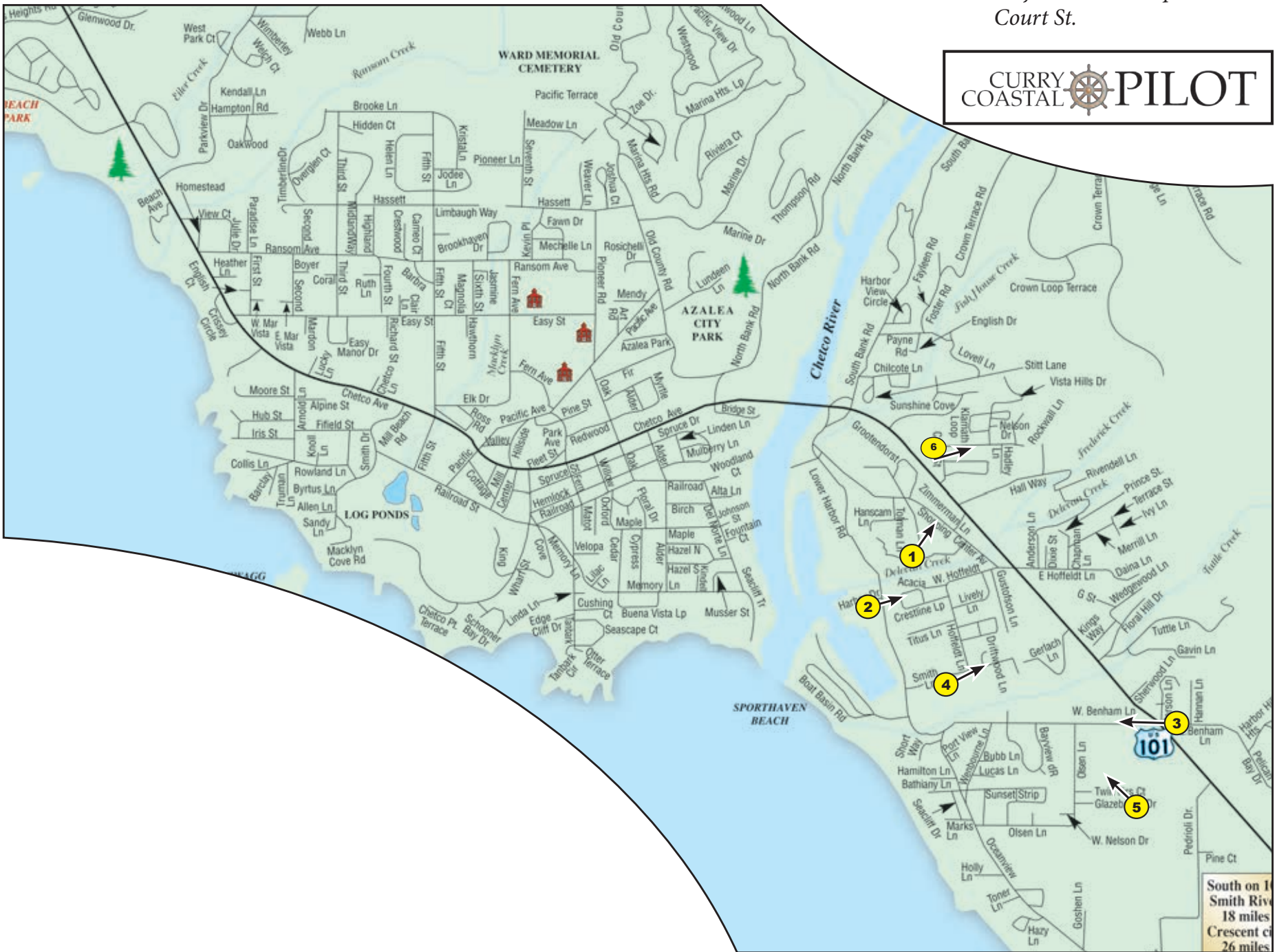
Parkwide Yard Sale! 9am-4pm Friday - Sunday. 98126 W Benham Ln. No early-birds (gate oens at 9am).

3. Brookings

Garage sale. May 15 & 16. 9am-2pm. Wilson and OW Storage. 98121 W Benham Ln. Camping gear, tents, ice chests, fishing poles and gear, surfboards, hand tools and more.

6 Brookings

Large Garage Sale! May 6-9 & May 13-16. 9am-5pm. 97953 Court St.



Brookings Harbor Community Theatre puts on Sherlock Holmes youth play

BY JASON LIDDELL
For the Pilot

Brookings Harbor Community Theatre recently closed its youth production, “The Baker Street Irregulars”. In the play, Sherlock Holmes has been poisoned and is out of commission, and his group of street urchins, the Irregulars, band together to investigate the murder of a sword-swallower at a traveling orphan circus.

The absence of the world’s greatest detective leaves the leader of the Irregulars, Wiggins, unsure of himself and his ability to be a great detective. Through teamwork and hard-hitting investigation, the group discovers the culprit and saves Holmes’ life at the last minute.

The season comes from the actual Sherlock Holmes novels by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle. In one

of his books, Holmes says they “are as sharp as needles, too; all they want is organisation.” This phrase sits at the heart of the story; each of the Irregulars is smart in their own way, but it’s only when they put their heads together that they are able to solve the mystery.

Directed by Tiffany VanMaren, Brenna Haley, and Lisa Fielding, the cast of The Baker Street Irregulars exclusively featured kids and teens, many of whom were acting on stage for the very first time. Kids like Gloria Fox and Charity Fielding are two such actors who nearly stole the show.

More veteran actors, Jayden Roberts and Maya VanMaren – the characters Wiggins and Alaska, respectively – brought their experience to the stage, and it showed. Jayden has recently acted with



Threepenny Theater Co. in the youth production Escape Room in 2025, and his growth as an actor is tremendous.

Being a play cast entirely by kids, one can reasonably expect some missteps and dropped lines. However, the earnestness with which some actors prompted others when they forgot their lines, and the inevitable stifled laughter

that ensued, turned out to be adorable and entertaining.

One thing that comes with working with child actors, especially first-timers, is getting through their nervousness and teaching them to project. Some of the Irregulars were difficult to hear clearly, but it did not take away from one’s ability to understand or enjoy the plot.

Willow Trinity, regardless, is one such young actor to look out for in future shows. Even through her apparent nervousness and quiet speech, she was hilarious and captivating as a character in the show.

The Baker Street Irregulars showed at the Sea Spray Center, the location of Oregon Coast Dance. Typically, a dance studio, it opened its doors to BHCT

to produce their youth play. Acting as a sort of makeshift theater, the Sea Spray center held roughly 50 seats for guests.

Brookings Harbor Community Theatre can be found on Facebook. You can get information about the group and their upcoming shows from board members Tiffany VanMaren and Carolyn Poston.

Oregon faces longer fire season due to historic heat, drought

BY ALEX BAUMHARDT
Oregon Capital Chronicle

Oregon’s wildfire season started early this year and is expected to last into October, according to state fire experts.

The season is made more difficult by historic heat, drought and a potentially early El Niño weather pattern that could further stir up temperatures and lightning storms into the fall, fire officials said at a Tuesday news confer-

ence with Gov. Tina Kotek. Oregonians need to be proactive about protecting themselves and their properties from wildfire and behave far more cautiously when starting campfires or burning debris than in recent years, they advised.

“It’s not one thing that brings the wildfire season, it’s many things,” Kotek said.

Although May is officially Wildfire Awareness Month, the season’s first

Level 3 fire — meaning residents were ordered to evacuate immediately — occurred in La Pine in March, burning 20 acres.

“All indications suggest a more challenging fire season ahead of all of us,” Kotek said.

Oregon’s winter was among the warmest on record and snow-pack across the Northwest was one-third of normal levels, according to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric

Administration.

Last year’s wildfire season burned significantly fewer Oregon acres than in previous years, in large part because the Oregon Legislature allocated hundreds of millions of additional dollars to the Oregon Department of Forestry and the Office of the State Fire Marshal. Both in turn beefed up preparation and response systems since the 2020 Labor Day Fires that became the most expensive

in state history.

But most fires last year — more than 60% of wildfires — were started by humans, a disappointing reversal from years prior, which had human-caused fires trending downward. People burning yard waste and other debris is the number one cause of human-ignited wildfires, Oregon State Fire Marshal Mariana Ruiz-Temple said. She encouraged Oregonians who burn debris to

download a new Before You Burn app developed with support from state and federal fire agencies, which will provide users information about local burn regulations, burn statuses, required safety measures and fire and weather alerts. About 700 Oregonians have downloaded it since it launched in April, she said.

See More Oregon page 8

Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps



Out on a Limb

by Gary Kopervas



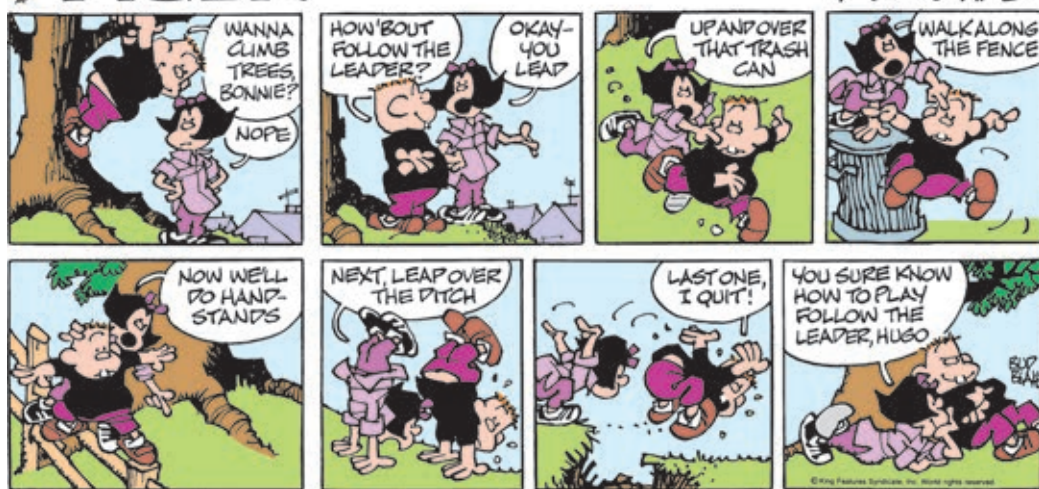
The Spats

by Jeff Pickering



TIGER

by BUD BLAKE



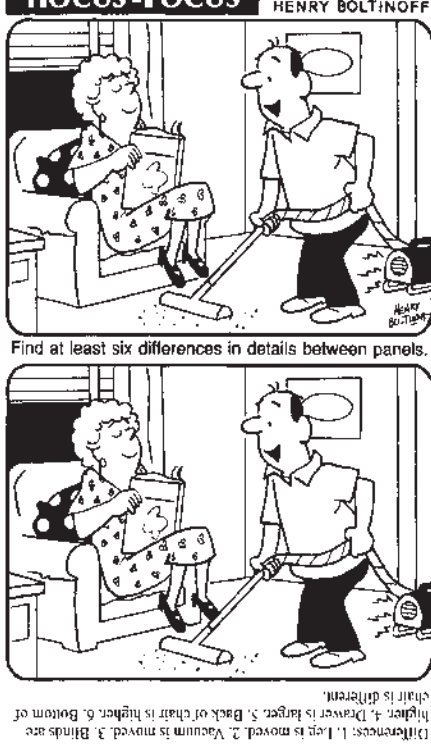
OLIVE & POPEYE

By Randy Milholland



HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLT/NOFF



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: C equals R

PT BI NCDYF CSAPKS P CSZMRS
FD MRS FYLF YSCN ZCDB L
JLMCSJ FCSS, ADTFCLCI FD
KDKMJLC NLI JSLZ.

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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!

Stoop: DINGE
Clang: ONESI
Deluge: RAREBAG
Social: CAROLID

TODAY'S WORD



King Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Cry
- 4 Vault
- 8 Daly and Allen
- 12 Common title start
- 13 Killer whale
- 14 Web addresses
- 15 Pithy joke
- 17 Legume
- 18 Suggests
- 19 TV guide abbr.
- 21 Wager
- 22 Expulsion
- 26 Errand runner
- 29 Whatever number
- 30 Hwy.
- 31 Caspian Sea feeder
- 32 Keats creation
- 33 Go caroling
- 34 Capitol VIP
- 35 Year in Madrid
- 36 Epic narratives
- 37 On/off switch
- 39 "You've got mail" co.
- 40 Documentarian Burns
- 41 Obligations
- 45 Beige
- 48 The whole crowd

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
12			13					14			
15			16					17			
18						19	20				
			21			22		23	24	25	
26	27	28			29			30			
31					32			33			
34				35			36				
37			38				39				
			40				41		42	43	44
45	46	47			48	49					
50					51				52		
53					54				55		

- 50 Ache
- 51 Aswan's river
- 52 Victory
- 53 Abbr. on a schedule
- 54 Ticked (off)
- 55 Annex
- 9 Rage
- 10 Org. with a style manual
- 11 Nine-digit ID
- 16 Slander in print
- 20 Purchase
- 23 Advanced math
- 24 Sicilian peak
- 25 Bylaws, briefly
- 26 Sudden wind
- 27 Disc-shaped cookie
- 28 Sharp tooth
- 29 Commotion
- 32 Penny
- 33 Like seawater
- 35 Boxing legend
- 36 Turned bad
- 38 Hog's "hello"
- 39 "Hello" singer
- 42 Illinois neighbor
- 43 Wife of Geraint
- 44 Fax
- 45 Clean air org.
- 46 Baseball fan's headwear
- 47 Tear
- 49 Compete

DOWN

- 1 Halt
- 2 "It can't be!"
- 3 Hive population
- 4 Hang around
- 5 Painter Max
- 6 Expert
- 7 Series opener
- 8 Big brass

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Weekly SUDOKU

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

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!

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Trivia test

by Fifi Rodriguez

- GEOGRAPHY: What is the capital of Belarus?
- LITERATURE: Which Ken Kesey novel is set in an Oregon psychiatric hospital?
- MYTHOLOGY: Who is the Greek goddess of discord?
- ANATOMY: What is the longest bone in the human body?
- U.S. PRESIDENTS: Which president was a commanding general in World War II?
- MATH: What kind of polygon has three sides?
- BIBLE: What is the last book in the Bible called?
- ASTRONOMY: Which planet in our solar system is closest in size to Earth?
- CHEMISTRY: What is the newest element on the Periodic Table?
- MOVIES: Which Canadian actor/comedian starred in the movie "Uncle Buck" and died of a heart attack at 43?

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FiveSpot™

Home alone

S	A	V	O	R

Enjoy
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Set aside for future use
Path
Price estimate
Serenity

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.

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OBEDIENCE

Today's Word

3. Borage; 4. Cordial

SCRAMBLERS

1. Deign; 2. Noise

S	A	V	O	R

5. A V A V O R

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

Answer

Weekly SUDOKU

In my brain recipe I refuse to use that herb from a laurel tree, contrary to popular bay leaf!

CryptoQuip

Answer

1. Minsk
2. "One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest"
3. Eric
4. Fenur
5. Dwight Eisenhower
6. Triangle
7. The Book of Revelation
8. Venus
9. Oganesson (Og)
10. John Candy

King Crossword

Solution time: 26 mins.

Answers

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

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At best, social media connections unlikely to make you less lonely, research suggests

By **STEVE LUNDEBERG**
Oregon State University

A first-of-its-kind study of U.S. adults suggests that all of those strangers you're friends with on social media are not helping you to feel less lonely.

On the contrary, social media connection with people you don't know in person is associated with increased loneliness, according to scientists at Oregon State University.

In a nationally representative study of more than 1,500 adults ages 30-70, connecting online with people you actually do know was not linked with greater loneliness, but neither was it associated with decreased loneliness.

The findings suggest that "people experiencing loneliness may wish to examine critically their interactions with strangers on social media and to prioritize in-person connections over social media ones, even when those social media connections are considered close," study leader Brian Primack said.

The research was

published today in Public Health Reports, the official journal of the U.S. Public Health Service. The agency developed a deep interest in loneliness following the 2023 report on the nation's loneliness epidemic by then Surgeon General Vivek Murthy, said Primack, a professor in OSU's College of Health.

The surgeon general's report notes that even before COVID-19, about half of American adults reported measurable levels of loneliness, and that lacking connection brings health risks on par with smoking.

People who often feel lonely are more than twice as likely to develop depression. They also face a 29% increased risk of heart disease; 32% increased risk of developing dementia (for older adults); and greater than 60% chance of premature death.

The research by Primack, two OSU faculty colleagues and two graduate students represents a step toward filling a

knowledge hole regarding social media's role in loneliness. Most prior studies, Primack said, have looked at teens and young adults, whereas this study examines adults in midlife and later adulthood.

"This gap in the literature is important because people who aren't teens or young adults comprise 75% of the U.S. population, these people are heavily exposed to social media, and many of the downstream health impacts of loneliness grow increasingly severe as adulthood progresses," Primack said.

The researchers note that overall, about 35% of the study group's social media contacts were people they had never met in person. They suspect that one reason interacting with "strangers" on social media is associated with loneliness is because of social media's high potential for facilitating misinterpretation.

"We know that social media interactions can result in idealization of other people's friendships with each other, which can



exacerbate the effects of social comparison," said study co-author Jessica Gorman. "This idealization is possibly stronger when those friendships involve people you've never met because there is no personal experience to counter that idealization."

Research assistant professor Dawn Hyosin Kim and graduate students

Geethika Koneru and Memuna Aslam also contributed to the research, which took place in summer 2023 and was supported by the National Institutes of Health. Study participants reported their personal (non-business) engagement with 10 social media platforms: Facebook, X, Reddit, YouTube, LinkedIn, Instagram, TikTok,

Snapchat, Pinterest and WhatsApp.

The project builds on earlier work by Primack and Gorman linking loneliness to the amount and frequency of social media use and adds to a growing body of scholarship by OSU researchers exploring loneliness' link to conditions such as insomnia and nightmares.

See More Oregon page 8

Oregon's new state forester, Kacey KC, said it's likely that wildfire risk will be above normal east of the Cascades in rangeland areas beginning in June and above normal southwest of the Cascades by July, heading up further into forests that have experienced record-low snowpack this year.

Federal partners?

Oregon's fire agencies have roughly 700 wildland fire fighters and 300 fire trucks ready to protect 16 million Oregon acres this season. They'll rely as well on more than 300 local fire departments and federal and tribal wildland firefighters to respond in an emergency.

"We are ready, we are coordinated and we are all hands on deck as we prepare for the season," Kotek said.

Oregon's congressional

Democrats have raised concerns that federal support could be lacking in light of budget and personnel cuts to the U.S. Forest Service over the last year. The cuts, according to a letter from Oregon's senior U.S. Sen. Ron Wyden, included 1,400 employees who hold the necessary certifications to support firefighting operations during a wildfire.

KC said she talks frequently with the Forest Service's regional direc-

tor — at least weekly as the state prepares and gets closer to the fire season — and that she's been assured no wildland firefighters working for the Forest Service or U.S. Department of the Interior in Oregon have lost their jobs.

Although federal officials have been criticized for consolidating wildland firefighting efforts at both agencies to create the new U.S. Wildland Fire Service so close to the start of the fire season, KC said signs

so far indicate that moving all firefighting efforts under the Interior as opposed to several agencies could be beneficial in the long run.

"They're working together to figure out how to do this more effectively. And so I feel confident that this year, on a firefighting front, they're going to be as active as they've always been, and that it may actually even be a little simpler," she said.

[https://oregoncapital-](https://oregoncapitalchronicle.com/2026/05/05/oregon-faces-longer-fire-season-due-to-historic-heat-drought-fire-experts-warn/)

[chronicle.com/2026/05/05/oregon-faces-longer-fire-season-due-to-historic-heat-drought-fire-experts-warn/](https://oregoncapitalchronicle.com/2026/05/05/oregon-faces-longer-fire-season-due-to-historic-heat-drought-fire-experts-warn/)

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Wild Rivers Coast

Worship Directory

Brookings

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(LCMS)

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10:15am "The Story" Worship
11:15am Fellowship

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www.GraceLutheranCC.com

Ft. Dick

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Sunday Service - 10:45am
Sunday Reply on Facebook
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Mid-Week Bible Study - call for details
Phone (707) 458-4030

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

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/>

The Riverview Fire in La Pine in March was the first big wildfire of 2026. (Photo courtesy of the Deschutes County Sheriff's Office)

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