

Juneteenth celebration comes to South Coast

A week of remembrance, joy, culture, and community connection

The South Coast Health Equity Coalition (SCHEC), alongside community partners, proudly announces its 2026 Juneteenth Celebration, a multi-day regional celebration honoring Black freedom, resilience, culture, and community across Oregon's South Coast.

Taking place throughout the month of June, this year's celebration brings together community members, local organizations, artists, educators, and leaders for a series of events rooted in education, reflection, liberation, and joy.

Juneteenth commemorates June 19, 1865, when enslaved Black people in Galveston, Texas were finally informed of their freedom, more than two years after the Emancipation Proclamation. Today, Juneteenth serves as both a remembrance of that history and a celebration of Black life, culture, resistance, and liberation.

2026 Juneteenth events in Brookings include a screening of



"Juneteenth: Faith & Freedom" on Monday, June 15. The movie is centered the historical and cultural significance of Juneteenth. It starts at 5:30 PM at the Equity Office, 555 Hemlock Street in Brookings.

On Juneteenth itself is the Juneteenth Community Fish Fry from 5:30-7:30 PM at the Equity Office. The family friendly celebration is rooted in tradition and will feature food, music, storytelling, and community connection alongside local

organizations. Events will also be taking place in Coos Bay for those interested, information is available online.

Throughout the celebration, participants are invited into spaces that center storytelling, cultural expression, education, healing, and collective joy. Events are designed to be accessible, welcoming, and reflective of the diverse communities that make up Oregon's South Coast. "This celebration is about

more than honoring history, it's about creating space for connection, joy, and collective healing," said Jayden Ruff, Executive Director of SCHEC. "Juneteenth reminds us that freedom is ongoing work, and that community is at the heart of how we move forward together."

SCHEC extends deep gratitude to community partners and sponsors supporting this year's celebration, including Black Market Gourmet, Southwestern Oregon Community College, Coos History Museum, and the Oregon Remembrance Project.

About South Coast Health Equity Coalition (SCHEC) The South Coast Health Equity Coalition was established in 2019 by members of Coos and Curry counties' low income and institutionally underserved communities. SCHEC works to develop and implement strategies that increase opportunities for sustained health, well being, leadership, and self advocacy across the South Coast region.

Merkley, Wyden introduce bill to block sale of federal lands

For the Pilot

Oregon's U.S. Senators Jeff Merkley and Ron Wyden today announced they introduced the

Public Lands Integrity Act, new legislation to ensure that America's public lands cannot be sold as part of a fast-tracked process in a budget reconciliation bill.



Merkley

During consideration of the Republicans' "Big, Ugly Betrayal" budget reconciliation bill that passed in July 2025 on a party-line simple majority vote, Senate Republicans nearly passed a provision to sell one to three million acres of federal public lands to generate revenue all to fund Republicans' tax cuts for

billionaires. Merkley and Wyden worked to build strong bipartisan opposition alongside lawmakers, states, counties, and sportsmen's groups across the West. The Senate ultimately abandoned the provision. Today, under current rules, any senator could propose expedited public land sales in a future budget reconciliation bill, and the Public Lands Integrity Act would eliminate that option.

"Oregonians and folks across America are united with a clear message—our public lands are not for sale," said Merkley, Ranking Member of the Senate Budget Committee. "These beloved natural treasures belong to all of us, contributing to the spirit and economies of communities all over the United States. As Republicans attempt to rip away public lands from public use, I will fight like hell to protect and preserve our public lands for generations to come."

"Republicans have proved they will stop at nothing to sell off our country's public lands to the highest bidder," said Wyden, Ranking Member of the Senate



Wyden

Local talent hits the stage at Pistol River

For The Pilot

The Pistol River Concert Association is proud to host an evening showcasing home-grown talent when Apple Barner Acoustic takes the Pistol River Friendship Hall stage.

The Saturday, May 30, show features a trimmed down version of the great local band Apple Barner with the bands songwriter Alan Plaep and lead vocalist Laura Middleton. Cliff Stansell will also hit most of the show playing fiddle!

Laura has a fabulous voice and has been adding to her musical endeavors by learning guitar over the past few years. Alan's songwriting, scores and instrumentals form the bedrock of the Apple Barner band, and Cliff is known throughout the county for his musicianship.

Cliff Stansell, who many of

you saw on the Friendship Hall stage on Valentine's Day, will be playing fiddle for this one. Laura has teased that there may be other local artists joining them for a song or two.

Whether playing a quiet room or an open-air stage, Apple Barner Acoustic delivers a powerful reminder that sometimes less really is more. You don't want to miss this Saturday, May 30 concert with Apple Barner Acoustic, showcasing some of our exceptional local artists.

So, get your tickets early for \$20 each at Wright's Custom Framing in Brookings and First Chapter Coffee House in Gold Beach or on-line at pistolriver.com for \$21 each. If the show is not sold out, tickets will be available for \$25 at the door. Doors open at 6:30 pm and the concert starts at 7:30.



Gold Beach student receives 2026 Patty J. Barton Memorial Scholarship

For the Pilot

The Coos Bay Area Zonta Service Foundation is pleased to announce that Skylar Krohn of Gold Beach has been selected as the recipient of the 2026 Patty J. Barton Memorial Scholarship Award, totaling \$20,000. Skylar is a 2024 Gold Beach Junior/Senior High School Graduate, majoring in Business Administration at Oregon State University.



Krohn said, "My passion for my major comes from the flexibility it gives me to explore multiple interests while building useful, real-world skills. Business Administration has strengthened my ability to collaborate with others, grown my knowledge of financial management, and taught me what it will take to be successful in a professional environment. Throughout my time in this major, I have been

able to explore a strong interest in finance and gotten one step closer to being able to help others feel more confident about their financial futures."

"What drives me to be successful is my desire to be able to help others in the same way I have been supported. I want

See More Scholarships on page 3

See More Lands on page 3

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CURRY COASTAL PILOT

Opinion & Letters

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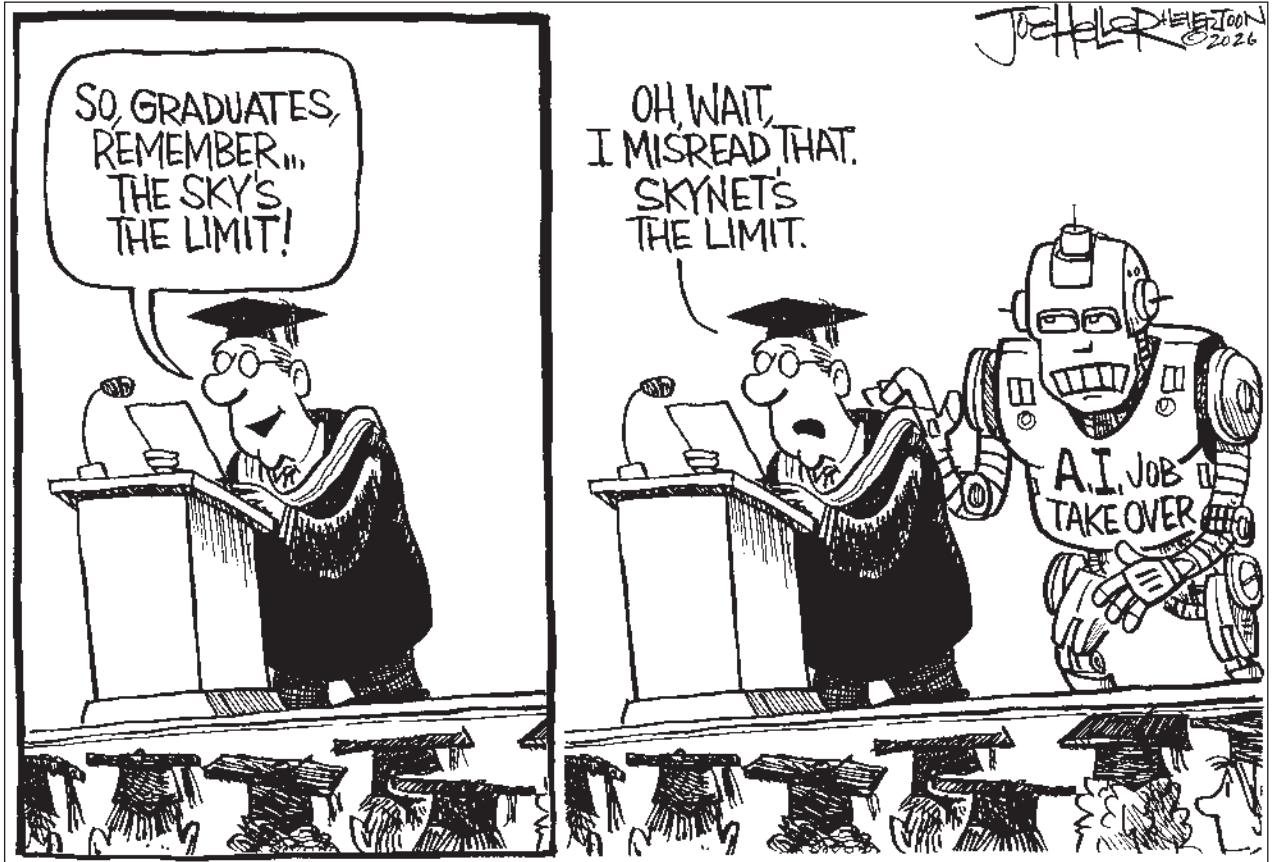
A word please

By June Casagrande

"How are you doing?"
 "I'm good, thanks."
 Does this answer make you cringe? If so, you'll be disappointed to hear who says it, often, in grocery store checkout lines, when greeting friends and when meeting new people: your local grammar columnist.
 I say "I'm good" all the time, knowing that a lot of language buffs see that as an error. To them, "I'm good" means either I'm virtuous (a good girl) or highly skilled at something (good at math.)
 Their preference is legitimate. "I'm well" is more proper. It's definitely the answer you want to give in white collar job interviews or when setting an example for children. But "I'm good" is an acceptable way to say "I'm well." And it's my preferred alternative anytime "I'm well" feels too formal or snooty, which is most of the time. I find my justification in the dictionary.
 Look up "good" in Merriam-Webster and you'll see a lot of stuff you expected: 1. "of favorable character or tendency," as in "good news, good fortune, good grades or a good feeling about the game." The next definitions also line up with expectations: 2. "bountiful, fertile: good land," 3. "handsome, attractive: good looks" and 4. "of a high or desired quality: we ate at a good restaurant."
 If you stopped reading definitions at that point, you would continue to think it's wrong to say "I'm good" when talking about health. But if you read all the way down to Merriam's eighth definition of "good," you'll see this: "free from injury, sickness,

or disease."
 In other words, "good" can mean "well." So when someone asks how I am doing and I answer, "I'm good," no grammar rules are broken.
 People who oppose "I'm good," in my experience, have difficulty explaining why they think "well" is the only correct option. In many cases, they say it's because "good" is an adjective and "well" is an adverb. That sounds like a solid argument at first. But on closer inspection, it doesn't hold up.
 Yes, "well" is the adverb form of "good": I do well at math because I'm good at math. But that's not the form of "well" you use in "I am well." That "well" is a completely different word — an adjective that means "in good health."
 The structure of our reply proves it. A sentence that begins with "I'm" or "I am" calls for an adjective, not an adverb, to modify the pronoun "I." That's a job for adjectives. "I'm happily" and "I am correctly" illustrate how adverbs don't work in this structure. Therefore, just as "I'm happy" and "I am correct" use adjectives, so does "I am well" — and so does "I am good," no matter your definition of good.
 This business is even more confusing when you consider what happens in this exchange:
 "How are you doing?"
 "I'm doing well, thanks."
 In this case, "well" is the way to go, not because you need the adjective "well" to describe your health but because you need the

See More June on page 8



Holy Cow! History

The loss that gave the world Dorothy

By J. MARK POWELL
 InsideSources.com



They say the happiest days are those when babies arrive. Frank and his wife, Maud, felt that way in the spring of 1898. Because this coming child carried special significance.
 The father was Maud's brother, Thomas Clarkson Gage. Clarky, as his family called him, was a classic American success story. After graduating first in his class at Cornell, he struck out for Dakota Territory. There, he started a successful store and helped his family invest in Western real estate.
 While Clarky was successful at starting businesses, he and his

wife, Sophie, struggled to build the big family they wanted.
 Their first daughter, Matilda, was born in 1886. After that, pregnancy proved elusive. It was five years until daughter Alice was born — only to die that same day. The tragedy was made worse, coming just before Christmas 1891.
 Despite their grief, Clarky and Sophie kept trying to have another child. And trying. And trying.
 Then, just when it was starting to seem hopeless, fortune smiled. Sophie became pregnant a third time, with the baby expected in June. The child they had longed for since losing little Alice was now within reach.
 Frank and Maud were

ecstatic for their extended family. Maud and Clarky were close; the little sister wanted only happiness for her big brother. Besides, looking forward to her new niece or nephew's arrival helped Maud take her mind off her own less-than-ideal circumstances.
 Though she dearly loved husband Frank, his career had been as haphazard and checkered as her brother's had been successful.
 Frank had hopped from one random job to another. He had been an actor, a playwright, a theatre manager, a general store owner, a chicken farmer, and a newspaper editor. Many positions, but always the same result: failure.
 With the 19th century winding down and now in his early 40s, he was living with Maud and their quartet of growing boys on Chicago's West Side. Although he alternated between newspaper reporter and traveling salesman to keep his family fed, he was itching to jump into yet another new field, one that worried Maud most of all.
 Frank wanted to write children's books. An

"iffy" proposition at best.
 So, Maud channeled her anxiety into something positive by looking forward to her relatives' coming blessed event and praying that it would soothe the lingering hurt from the daughter they had lost.
 Sure enough, Frank and Maud were over the moon happy when word finally came on June 11, 1898. Dorothy Louise Gage had arrived. The couple rushed to Bloomington, Ill., where Clarky, Sophie, and now 12-year-old Matilda lived.
 Aunt Maud instantly fell in love with her tiny niece, doting on her nonstop. Dorothy was a sweet baby, smiling sooner than most infants. Maud went to Bloomington every time she could, swaddling Dorothy with nonstop attention and affection.
 But as the leaves began turning that fall, Dorothy suddenly became sick. Her condition worsened, her little body growing weaker each week. The doctor diagnosed it as "congestion of the brain."
 On Nov. 15, Dorothy closed her eyes for the final time. She was 5 months old.
 Maud was devastated, taking to her bed and staying there for long periods. Frank tried to console his grieving wife. Since he was working on his first children's book, he decided to lift her spirits by giving the best gift an author can bestow.

See More History on page 4

Weekly Poll

HOW DID YOU CAST YOUR PRIMARY BALLOT THIS YEAR?

- Dropped it in a drop-box 25%
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- Took directly to the County Elections Office 25%
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Off the charts:

The skinny on fats

BY DR. GIGI REED, MD

Fats are often some of the most misinterpreted nutrients in today's diet, yet the body relies on them constantly. They are far more than simple "padding" around the waist—fats fuel metabolism, form cell membranes (as phospholipids), transport essential vitamins, protect internal organs, and play a role in regulating hormones and inflammation.

So what exactly are fats from a chemical standpoint?

When nutrition labels mention "fat," they are typically referring to triglycerides—structures composed of a glycerol backbone (roughly half of a glucose molecule) with three long fatty acids (FA) attached. These same fatty acids can also circulate briefly on their own as "free" FA, traveling through the bloodstream loosely bound to proteins such as albumin and acting as an immediate energy source for tissues like muscle and liver. In this way, they serve as a flexible, quick-access fuel for the body.

Fatty acids can be either saturated or unsaturated, and this distinction has a major impact on health. Saturated FA contain no double bonds and maintain a straight structure. Unsaturated FA, on the other



hand, can exist in either "trans" or "cis" forms. Think of a fatty acid like a drinking straw—the trans form remains straight, while the cis form has a bend or kink.

Here's a simple fun fact: when people talk about omega-3 or omega-6 fats, the numbers simply indicate the position of the double bond along the fatty acid chain.

Triglycerides function as the body's long-term energy "savings account," storing more than twice as much energy per gram compared to carbohydrates or protein and residing mainly in fat tissue and the liver. In standard lab tests, blood triglyceride levels are included in lipid panels because persistently high levels are associated with increased cardiovascular and metabolic risk, as well as pancreatitis.

Phospholipids also serve long-term structural roles, forming the membranes that surround every cell in the body. If these

membranes contain too many straight fatty acids (whether from saturated or trans fats), cell function becomes impaired. This can lead to widespread inflammation and trigger increased production of LDL (often referred to as "bad" cholesterol).

Diets high in fat—typically providing around 35 to 40% of total calories—can have very different effects depending on the types of fat consumed and overall calorie intake.

A ketogenic diet, which consists of about 70 to 80% fat with very low carbohydrate intake, shifts the body toward producing ketones. This lowers blood sugar and insulin levels and often reduces appetite.

However, its long-term effects depend heavily on whether the fats consumed are primarily unsaturated or instead come from sources like processed meats and butter.

Mediterranean-style and other balanced, higher-fat diets emphasize nuts, seeds, and fish, which are rich in beneficial fatty acids. These patterns tend to improve cholesterol levels and lower cardiovascular risk.

In contrast, the typical Western diet is often high in saturated fats, trans fats, omega-6-heavy oils, refined carbohydrates, and ultra-processed foods. This combination pro-

motes gradual weight gain, insulin resistance, and unfavorable changes in cholesterol.

Higher-fat diets can also slow stomach emptying, helping people feel full for longer periods. Additionally, fats are essential for transporting fat-soluble vitamins A, D, E, and K. Cutting fat intake too drastically can therefore impair nutrient absorption, as well as gut, immune, and overall health. For most individuals, the goal is not to eliminate fat but to choose it wisely—prioritizing unsaturated fats from sources like nuts, seeds, avocados, and fish, while limiting saturated fats and avoiding trans fats.

Ultimately, maintaining appropriate total calorie intake remains essential, particularly for those with heart, liver, kidney, or diabetes-related conditions. Making significant dietary changes in consultation with a healthcare professional is the best recommendation I can offer.

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. Ggireed-md@gmail.com

Obituary

Michael J. "Mike" Addison



Brookings resident Michael J. "Mike" Addison passed away on May 5, 2026, the birthday of a friend who mentored him for many years. He enjoyed scuba diving and hang-gliding for much of his life.

He is survived by his wife Donna, sons Josh and Garret, a daughter Laura, four grandchildren and a brother David. He was preceded in death by a daughter Linda, brother Tony and sister Kathleen. No services are planned.

Scholarship From page 1

every person who has invested in my future to see that their support has made a meaningful difference. Ultimately, it is my dream to create similar opportunities for others and use my education to make a lasting difference."

The Patty J. Barton Memorial Scholarship was established by the Zonta Club of the Coos Bay Area in 2018 after the death

of long time Zonta Club member Patty J Barton. This scholarship supports students who demonstrate strong potential, commitment to learning, and a desire to make a positive impact. Please join us in congratulating Skylar on this achievement and wishing her continued success at Oregon State University.

Donations to the club scholarship fund are always welcome and can be made through the official website, zontacoosbayarea.org.

Lands From page 1

Finance Committee. "This bill would help keep public lands in public hands by closing arcane loopholes that allow Republicans to carry out their fantasies of selling our beloved forests and lands off to billionaires."

America's public lands are owned by the public and managed to provide public benefits in perpetuity. This legislation would prevent the sale of federal public lands through expedited Senate procedures under the budget reconciliation process by amending the Congressional Budget Act's (CBA) "Byrd Rule."

The reconciliation process – established under the CBA – allows legislation affecting revenue and spending to pass the Senate with a simple majority vote. To prevent the inclusion of unrelated policy, Congress amended the CBA to include the "Byrd Rule," which makes "extraneous" provisions subject to a point of order and a 3/5th majority vote. The Public Lands Integrity Act would define provisions resulting

in the sale, transfer, or disposal of federal public lands as extraneous, making it significantly harder to permanently dispose of public lands that provide long-term benefits to the American people.

Specifically, the Public Lands Integrity Act would:

- Designate any reconciliation provision resulting in the sale or disposal of federal public lands as "extraneous" under the "Byrd Rule";
- Allow any Senator to raise a "Byrd Rule" point of order against the sale of federal public lands in a reconciliation bill; and
- Ensure that decisions about the future of federal public lands are debated through regular legislative order, rather than rushed through expedited and typically partisan budget procedures.

"Selling off public lands to the highest bidder is a terrible idea, and we are pleased to see Senator Merkley co-sponsor the Public Lands Integrity Act, alongside Senator Wyden," said Michael Dotson, Director, Klamath-Siskiyou Wildlands Center. "Oregon's Senators have been champions for public land conservation and steward-

ship, and this bill would ensure that Congress makes decisions about public lands in regular order, and not through some expedited budget procedure."

"From the iconic vistas at Crater Lake National Park to the fossil record preserved in the John Day Fossil Beds, Oregonians are proud of the national parks that protect our shared heritage. The wildlife, clean water, and ancient forests that define these places don't stop at park boundaries—they depend on the public lands that surround and sustain them.

"Decisions about these shared landscapes must not be rushed through a fast-tracked process that cuts out community voices. These public lands belong to all of us, and we deserve transparent, accountable and publicly-grounded decision-making, and the Public Lands Integrity Act would ensure just that," said Colin Deverell, Northwest Region Acting Regional Director, National Parks Conservation Association.

"The Oregon Chapter of Backcountry Hunters & Anglers thanks Senator Merkley for his leadership on the Public Lands Integ-

rity Act. Oregon's hunters and anglers know that public lands are more than just green, yellow and blue polygons on a map — they are the places that sustain healthy fish and wildlife populations and connect Oregon families to our state's wild lands and waters not as passive observers, but as active participants," said Ian Isaacson, Co-Chair, Oregon Chapter of Backcountry Hunters & Anglers.

"Public lands are the heart and soul of Oregon. They provide all of us, regardless of status or wealth, with the opportunity to escape the pressures of modern life and be awed by Mount Hood's majesty, thrilled by the Wild Rogue's roaring whitewater, and to find peace and beauty among towering old-growth forests and rugged desert canyons. The Public Lands Integrity Act is an important step forward in preserving America's natural treasures for everyone, forever," said Steve Pedery, Conservation Director, Oregon Wild.

"Our public lands are exactly that: public, owned by all of us for the benefit of Oregonians, Tribes, and every species living in every ecosystem. These

lands are not for private or partisan profit. We at Sierra Club thank and applaud Senators Ron Wyden and Jeff Merkley for once again fighting to protect the lands that make Oregon the unique and wonderful place we call home," said Damon Motz-Storey, Chapter Director, Sierra Club Oregon

"America's public lands provide enduring benefits for people and nature, supporting healthy communities, outdoor economies, and wildlife habitat. This

proposal helps ensure these lands — held in trust for all Americans — aren't sold off through rushed budget maneuvers," said Tom Cors, Senior Director of Legislative Affairs, The Nature Conservancy.

The Public Lands Integrity Act was led by Colorado's U.S. Senator Michael Bennet and also cosponsored by New Mexico's U.S. Senator Martin Heinrich.

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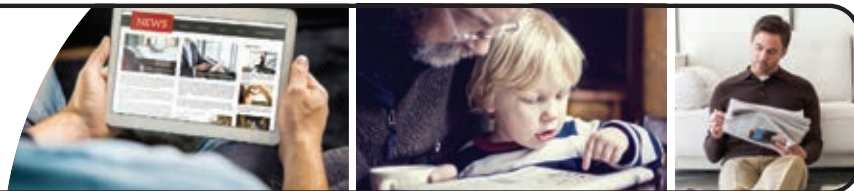
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11 GRILLED CHEESE SANDWICH TOMATO BASIL SOUP	12 CHICKEN TACOS RICE BEANS	13 SALISBURY STEAK MASHED POTATOES CHEF'S CHOICE	14 TUNA CASSEROLE BISCUIT BLEF'S BLEND	15 CHICKEN CORDON BLEU MASHED YAMS PEAS
18 BLT SANDWICH CHEF'S CHOICE SOUP	19 GROUND BEEF TACOS RICE BEANS	20 CHICKEN ALFREDO PASTA CHEF'S BLEND	21 HERB BAKED FISH CHEESY MASHED POTATOES BEETS	22 BEEFY CHILI WITH BEANS CORN-BREAD MEXICAN CORN
25 CLOSED MEMORIAL DAY	26 BREAKFAST TACO WITH EGGS & CHORIZO RICE & BEANS	27 VEGETARIAN SPAGHETTI BREAD-STICKS ITALIAN BLEND	28 TUNA SANDWICH LETTUCE TOMATO PICKLE BEAN SALAD	29 TURKEY STUFFING, MASHED POTATOES GRAVY GREEN BEANS

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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 05/04

- 8:11 Library, violation of city ordinance
- 8:16 5th St, theft
- 12:39 Railroad Ave, theft

Tuesday 05/05

- 11:06 Iris St, alarm
- 12:44 101 and Alder, panhandling
- 13:15 5th St, traffic crash
- 19:33 Pioneer Rd, minor in possession / purchasing liquor
- 20:10 Aqua Vista Ln, fire

- 21:19 Chetco Ave, disorderly conduct
- 21:58 Coverdell Rd, juvenile problem

Wed. 05/06

- 0:03 Hemlock St, alarm
- 10:43 5th St, traffic crash
- 14:08 Wharf St, false information
- 14:19 Pacific Ave, telephone harassment
- 15:07 Chetco Ave, theft
- 17:12 S of Thomas Creek Bridge, traffic crash
- 20:25 North Bank Chetco River Rd, criminal mischief

Thursday 05/07

- 7:54 Railroad St, criminal trespass
- 11:27 Carpenterville Rd, dispute/fight
- 16:30 South Fork of Chetco River, fire
- 16:43 5th St, panhandling
- 18:21 North Bank Chetco River Rd, criminal trespass

Friday 05/08

- 15:32 Hasset St, criminal trespass
- 17:23 Redwood Ave, harassment

- 17:59 Yellowbrick Rd, shot(s) fired
- 20:10 Highway 101, threats
- 21:14 Freeman and Oceanview, illegal fireworks
- 22:45 Chetco Ave, dispute/fight

Saturday 05/09

- 2:32 Elk Dr, DUII
- 3:13 Memory Ln, dispute/fight
- 5:07 Railroad Ave, alarm
- 12:09 5th St, hit & run
- 14:15 5th and Chetco, traffic crash

- 17:31 Chetco Ave, illegal dumping
- 9:34 Chetco Ave, criminal trespass
- 19:55 Alder and Hwy 101, disorderly conduct
- 21:15 101 and 5th, disorderly conduct
- 22:08 Alder St, criminal trespass
- 22:35 Chetco Ave, dispute/fight
- 10:12 Spruce near Oak, violation of city ordinance
- 12:08 Chetco Ave, hit & run
- 15:53 Elk Dr, warrant service
- 1:01 Railroad Ave, alarm
- 8:03 Old County Rd, disorderly conduct

Sunday 05/03

- 9:52 Hwy 101 N, unlawful entry of a motor vehicle
- 9:52 Old County Rd, alarm
- 11:30 Chetco Ave, loitering
- 12:02 Chetco Ave, hit & run
- 12:18 5th and Chetco, disorderly conduct
- 13:06 Hwy 101 S, traffic crash
- 13:08 Hanscam Ln, theft
- 20:37 Bottom of Redwood Bar, fire
- 21:00 Spruce St, disorderly conduct

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Submissions for events can be sent by email to: pilotofficecmgr@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

Wed. May 20

- Brookings Rural Fire District, Brookings Fire Department: 9:30 am. Regular monthly district meeting.

Thurs. May 21

- Azalea Fest Book Sale, Chetco Library, 405 Alder St: 9:00 am – 4:00 pm. Thousands of books at bargain prices. 541-412-0481.
- Azalea Fest Book Sale, Chetco Library, 405 Alder St: 10:00 am – 4:00 pm. Thousands of books at bargain prices. 541-412-0481.

Friday May 22

- Azalea Fest Book Sale, Chetco Library, 405 Alder St: 10:00 am – 4:00 pm. Thousands of books at bargain prices. 541-412-0481.
- Annual Plant Sale and Flower Show, Brookings Botanical Garden: 10:00 am – 4:00 pm. Arrangement entries accepted 8-10 am. Raffle prizes available.

Azalea Fest Book Sale (Bag Day), Chetco Library, 405

Sat. May 23

- Alder St: 12:00 pm – 4:00 pm. Fill a bag for \$3. 541-412-0481.
- Annual Plant Sale and Flower Show, Brookings Botanical Garden: 10:00 am – 3:00 pm. Hosted by Brookings-Harbor Garden Club.

Sun. May 24

- Azalea Quilters Guild, Driftwood Estates Club House, 16063 Driftwood Lane: 5:30 pm. Monthly social and

Mon. May 25

- meeting.
- Azalea Fest Book Sale (Bag Day), Chetco Library, 405 Alder St: 12:00 pm – 4:00 pm. Fill a bag for \$3. 541-412-0481.

Tues. May 26

- Azalea Fest Book Sale (Honor Day), Chetco Library, 405 Alder St: 10:00 am – 6:00 pm. Pay what you want for remaining books. 541-412-0481.
- VFW Post 966 meeting,

Mon. May 25

- 507 Pacific Ave, Brookings, 10:30 am – 12:00 pm. War-time veterans are encouraged to join. Help us save our Post, buy a brick. 541-412-6236.
- Dress a Girl, Trinity Lutheran Church, 1200 Easy St: 10:00 am – 2:00 pm. Monthly meeting to sew dresses and shorts for children worldwide. Bring your lunch and bring a friend. Jane Knox: 209-815-2100.

Tues. May 26

- Azalea Fest Book Sale (Honor Day), Chetco Library, 405 Alder St: 10:00 am – 6:00 pm. Pay what you want for remaining books. 541-412-0481.
- VFW Post 966 meeting, 507 Pacific Ave, Brookings, 10:30 am – 12:00 pm. War-time veterans are encouraged to join. Help us save our Post, buy a brick. 541-412-6236.
- Dress a Girl, Trinity Lutheran Church, 1200 Easy St: 10:00 am – 2:00 pm. Monthly meeting to sew dresses and shorts for children worldwide.

History From page 2

He named the story's lead character, a young farmgirl from Kansas, Dorothy Gale, in honor of little Dorothy Gage. Maud was deeply touched

by the thoughtfulness. It was the tale of a girl who runs away from home, is blown over the rainbow by a twister, and has fabulous adventures with a trio of friends while being chased by a wicked witch. When "The Wonderful Wizard of Oz" was

released in September 1900, it was a huge hit, selling more than 3 million copies over the next half-century. Frank would write 14 Oz books, and the story would be adapted into a classic 1939 movie starring Judy Garland.

It took a while, but L. Frank Baum finally found the success that had eluded him for so long. And by touching countless readers and even more moviegoers over the decades, he assured his lost niece's legacy will live on.

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 jmark-powell.com. He wrote this for InsideSources.com.

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502 Help Wanted

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502 Help Wanted

through Friday from 7aam 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 driveways. 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 a 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.

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999 Public Notices

In the Matter of the Estate of Mark Walsh Matthes Curry County Circuit Court Case No. 26PB03333 All persons having claims against the above-identified estate must present them, within four months after the date of the first publication of the notice to the personal representative at the address designated in the notice for the presentation of claims or they may be barred. **Sheila M. Donaghey, Personal**

999 Public Notices

Representative c/o Sam Sears 570 Liberty St. SE, Suite 240 Salem, Oregon 97301 All persons whose rights may be affected by the proceeding may obtain additional information from the records of the court, the personal representative, or the attorney for the personal representative. This notice was published on May 20, 2026. 5/20/2026 Pilot 426694

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING The Curry County Soil & Water Conservation District is holding its regular monthly meeting at 7:00 p.m. on May 26, 2026. Agenda topics include reviewing the draft 2026-27 Annual Work Plan, and discussing check and ACH fraud prevention options. Other matters may be discussed. The meeting will be held at the Curry Watersheds Partnership office located at 29286 Ellensburg Ave., Gold Beach. The location is accessible to persons with disabilities. An option to join electronically is available. For electronic access information, please contact Liesl Coleman at liesl.coleman@currywatersheds.org or (541) 247-2755 ext 0. To request an interpreter for the hearing impaired or for other accommodations for persons with disabilities, please contact Liesl Coleman at least 48 hours prior to the regular meeting. 5/20/2026 Pilot 426495

Public Notice NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City of Brookings has the following three City Council openings for the November 3, 2026 General Election to be held in Curry County, Oregon: Mayor: Two year term - expiring January 8, 2029 Council Position #3: Four year term - expiring January 13, 2031 Council Position #4: Four year term - expiring January 13, 2031 Newly elected officials will begin filling their elected positions on Monday, January 11, 2027. Candidates wishing to file for one of these positions must file perfected petitions no sooner than Wednesday, June 3, 2026 and no later than 3:00 PM, Tuesday, August 4, 2026 for incumbents and 3:00 PM, Tuesday, August 11, 2026 for non-incumbents. Candidate filing packets are available begin-

999 Public Notices

ning May 27, 2026, from the City Recorder, City Hall, 898 Elk Drive, Brookings, between the hours of 8:00 AM and 4:30 PM, Monday through Thursday. For more information, call 541-469-1102. 5/20 & 5/27/2026 Pilot 426232

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 & 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,

999 Public Notices

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/@bhsdyoutube528 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

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

FORM LB-1		NOTICE OF BUDGET HEARING		
A public meeting of the Upper Chetco Rural Fire Protection District will be held on June 3rd, 2026 at 5:30 pm at Upper Chetco Fire Hall 17548 Gardner Ridge Rd, Brookings, Oregon. The purpose of this meeting is to discuss the budget for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2026 as approved by the UCRFPD Budget Committee. A summary of the budget is presented below. A copy of the budget may be inspected or obtained at 17548 Gardner Ridge Rd, between the hours of 7 a.m. and 7 p.m. This budget is for an annual budget period. This budget was prepared on a basis of accounting that is the same as the preceding year.				
Contact: Iris Leaver		Telephone: 541-254-0472		Email: iris.leaver@gmail.com
FINANCIAL SUMMARY - RESOURCES				
TOTAL OF ALL FUNDS	Actual Amount 2024-25	Adopted Budget 2025-26	Approved Budget 2026-27	
Beginning Fund Balance/Net Working Capital	20,332	19,771	22,018	
Current Year Property Taxes Estimated to be Received	22,389	22,488	23,000	
Total Resources	42,721	42,259	45,018	
FINANCIAL SUMMARY - REQUIREMENTS BY OBJECT CLASSIFICATION				
Materials and Services	5,310	6,844	6,695	
Special Payments	15,985	14,900	15,700	
Unappropriated Ending Balance and Reserved for Future Expenditure	21,426	20,515	22,623	
Total Requirements	42,721	42,259	45,018	
PROPERTY TAX LEVIES				
	Rate Imposed 2024-25	Rate Imposed 2025-26	Rate Approved 2026-27	
Permanent Rate Levy (rate limit 0.7126 per \$1,000)	0.7126	0.7126	0.7126	
5/20/2026 Pilot 426762				

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Rival-turned-adviser hints Kotek's prosperity council to chip at Oregon corporate activity tax

BY SHAANTH NANGUNERI
Oregon Capital Chronicle

One of Oregon Gov. Tina Kotek's top economic advisers on Monday suggested that a new economic prosperity effort the governor championed last year could recommend the state reduce its corporate activity tax.

Former Senate Minority Leader Tim Knopp's comments came during a wide-ranging speech at a forum hosted by the Salem Area Chamber of Commerce, where he was joined by local business leaders to preview the work of the governor's prosperity council. Kotek announced the council's creation in December with the goal of bringing together a diverse sector of industry leaders to issue potential recommendations on policy issues such as permitting reform, global trade and corporate tax incentives.

Knopp, a Republican from Bend, said on Monday that he doesn't know specifics but that "everybody knows that we need to take a look" at the state's corporate activity tax and "figure out how to make it work better." The tax is measured based on a business' amount of commercial activity in Oregon totaling more than \$1 million. Critics have labeled the tax, intended to fund education, Oregon's "hidden" sales tax.

Kotek "will determine which one she wants to do, which one she thinks will move the needle, which things are politically available and possible. Politics is the art of the possible, and she will move on those (recommendations) and I will be helping her and you," Knopp told attendees. "This new economy that is coming, it's just a

question of whether it's coming to Oregon in a significant way, or whether it's going to pass us by somewhere else."

Knopp also said that Kotek will likely put forth legislation in the 2027 legislative session to ensure Oregon "can become the new prosperous state." He pointed to an evolving economic landscape with the development of artificial intelligence and high-profile layoffs at tech companies, suggesting that states such as Texas and Arizona have attracted companies due to lower tax and fewer regulations.

Oregon has for years struggled with its reputation for overburdening businesses with regulations and taxes, and several high-profile recent rounds of layoffs spurred concerns that businesses are fleeing the state. A March letter to the business council from one of the state's top business group coalitions warned that Oregon is facing high housing costs, poor public school performance, outdated land use rules and climate-related risks such as wildfires.

Though he didn't call for any specific policy changes, Knopp also took aim at Oregon's \$1 million threshold for the estate tax, arguing that people are leaving the state in response to it and collecting tax status outside of Oregon instead.

He also said that the main types of businesses that will improve Oregon's business climate include the semiconductor industry, energy companies, natural resources, and various manufacturing companies such as food production and sawmills.

"I told the governor, this is a no-fail mission," Knopp told attendees. "Because if we don't turn this



Former Senate Minority Leader Tim Knopp, R-Bend, speaks at a business conference in Salem on Monday. (Photo by Shaanth Nanguneri/Oregon Capital Chronicle)

around and turn it around fairly quickly, as I say, we will be Detroit for four decades with a slightly better view."

Knopp defends Kotek

Kotek tapped former political rival Knopp to lead her economic efforts as chief prosperity officer. He is a former GOP Senate minority leader who in 2023 led a six-week quorum-denying walkout over bills on gender-affirming care, abortion and guns. He was unable to run for reelection due to a 2022 voter-approved constitutional amendment, which bars any lawmaker with 10 or more unexcused absences from serving another term.

Since his selection, the council has continued to hold regular meetings until it plans to issue formal

recommendations for the governor in the summer. Kotek has declined to take any clear positions on potential policy changes ahead of the council's findings. In the meantime, the council's competing factions have sparred over how and whether the state should be cutting taxes for businesses as a solution.

One point of controversy on Monday, and among some prosperity council members, has been a 2026 law Oregon Democrats passed to partially disconnect the state from the GOP's 2025 federal tax and spending law tax breaks. Republicans and business groups have painted the legislation as an effective tax hike, though Democrats said failing to disconnect from federal tax changes would've left the state

without around \$300 million in state revenue needed for the next year-and-a-half.

Oregon GOP lawmakers have launched a ballot veto referendum to gather signatures to undo the legislation, and Kotek has said she is looking to the council to recommend legislation addressing the issue in 2027.

Pressed by an audience member to reconcile the law's passage with supporting business in Oregon, Knopp said that "governor is committed to action. I don't think she would have hired me if she wasn't."

He warned that failing to pass the legislation would have created a significant financial hole in the state's education system.

"The short session is

a difficult place to make big policy, and that was budget policy," he said. "I think some of those

policies are going to have to be relooked at in order for Oregon to reach its full potential, and to keep companies here."

<https://oregoncapitalchronicle.com/2026/05/11/rival-turned-adviser-hints-koteks-prosperity-council-to-chip-at-oregon-corporate-activity-tax/>
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Wildfire forecast 2026: Fires likely to burn over 5.5 million acres as drought intensifies

BRIAN LADA
AccuWeather Meteorologist

The United States faces a growing wildfire threat in the coming months, with fires in 2026 forecast to burn between 5.5 and 8 million acres across the country.

Wildfire danger is expected to increase across much of the western United States in the coming months, while other parts of the country could face periods of heightened risk amid worsening drought and summer heat.

2026 fire forecast: Wildfires to burn more acres than last year

AccuWeather predicts 65,000 to 80,000 wildfires will ignite across the U.S. in 2026, compared to 77,850 fires reported in 2025 and the historical average of 68,707. The forecast calls for 5.5 million to 8 million acres burned this year, above the 5,131,474 acres burned in 2025 and in line with the historical average of 7,000,514.

With fewer fires but more acres burned predicted, it means that the wildfires that do occur could become large,

scorching extensive areas before being contained or extinguished.

The fires can have far-reaching effects as winds carry smoke across the continent. When winds align with larger blazes, smoke can create a hazy sky and reduce air quality in areas hundreds or even thousands of miles away.

A smoky sky can also reduce temperatures by a few degrees compared to smoke-free conditions, even if the smoke is high up in the atmosphere.

California: Risk builds through summer

California is expected to see fire danger increase as the summer progresses, especially in interior and lower-elevation areas where grasses dry out and become more flammable.

"The spring season brought record-breaking heat to California early, which has rapidly melted off a meager snowpack from the winter season," AccuWeather Meteorologist Brandon Buckingham said. The effects of the heat may contribute to fires in the foothills and agricultural areas during late May and early June.

The heat wave was followed by a few late-season storms, not enough to erase drought concerns or wildfire concerns, but enough to cause an uptick in vegetation heading into the summer. As this spurt of growth dries out, it can contribute to more fuel for potential fires.

Buckingham warned that residents in some coastal areas could also see fire risk rise sooner than usual because very warm Pacific water may limit the marine layer.

The fire risk is expected to become more widespread later in the summer, though the peak may hold off until autumn when wind events become more common.

Southwest, Rockies, Great Basin and Northwest: The core of the summer threat

The broadest and most persistent wildfire risk is expected from Arizona and New Mexico into Utah, Nevada, Idaho, western Montana and parts of the Northwest. Drought, above-average temperatures and below-average snowpack will set the stage for a growing fire danger



Lightning strikes a charred landscape, that burned in a major wildfire, during a monsoon thunderstorm on August 18, 2021, near Payson, Arizona.

as the summer progresses.

The annual monsoon serves as a double-edged sword, as moisture helps to suppress fire activity, but lightning strikes may ignite new wildfires where the ground is dry.

"With above-average tropical activity expected in the Eastern Pacific Basin, there can be additional chances for appreciable rain aside from the typical monsoon activity that can aid in reducing the risk later in the summer season," Buckingham said.

Farther north, the Northwest wildfire season may start near normal before the risk expands in July and August as fuels dry out, mountain snow completely melts and lightning from dry thunderstorms sparks fires.

Other areas: Plains stay active, East stays quieter
Across the Plains, wildfire danger is likely to remain highest in western areas, including parts of Texas, Oklahoma, Kansas and eastern Colorado, especially during stretches of strong wind and low hu-

midity. Farther east, more summer storms and higher humidity should keep the risk from becoming as widespread.

"Early in the summer, portions of Florida and the Southeast may still experience some wildfire risk, particularly where drought conditions linger," Buckingham said. "However, as seasonal thunderstorm activity increases and tropical moisture becomes more prevalent, wildfire risk is expected to decrease."

The Midwest, mid-Atlantic and Northeast are expected to have relatively low wildfire activity this summer due to frequent rainfall, higher humidity and fully developed vegetation. The parts of the region facing the highest fire risk are the Shenandoah Valley and the Blue Ridge Mountains. Any fires could likely be tied to dry and windy conditions.

The Midwest and Northeast are expected to have relatively low wildfire activity this summer due to frequent rainfall, higher

humidity and fully developed vegetation. Any fires there would likely be brief and tied to short stretches of dry and windy weather.

"Early on in the season, the mid-Atlantic along and west of the Blue Ridge will have a moderate fire risk before the fuels become wet enough to lower the chances," AccuWeather Meteorologist Chad Merrill said.

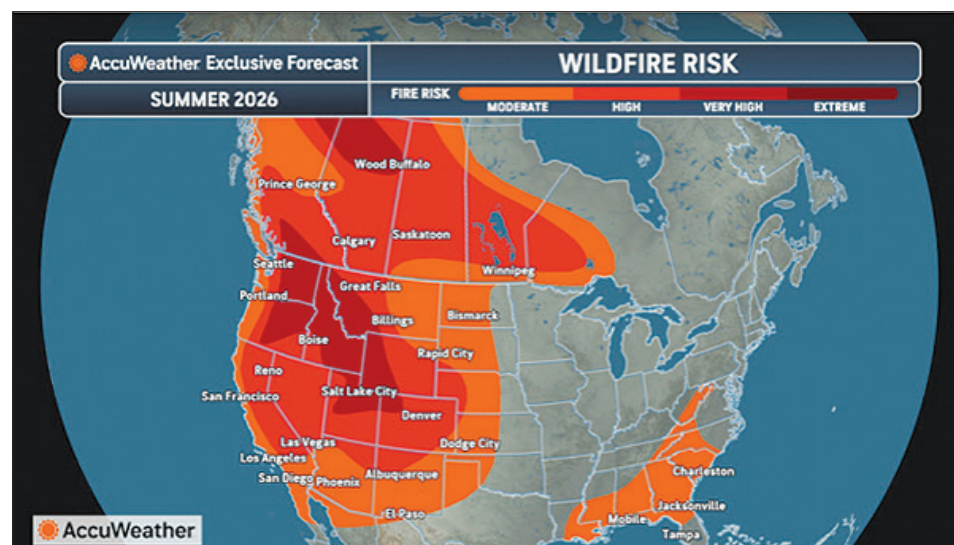
Bottom line:
•AccuWeather forecasts 65,000 to 80,000 fires and 5.5 million to 8 million acres burned across the U.S. in 2026.

•The highest summer wildfire risk will focus on the western U.S., especially the Southwest, Great Basin, Rockies and Northwest.

•California's fire danger will build through summer, with broader risk later in the season.

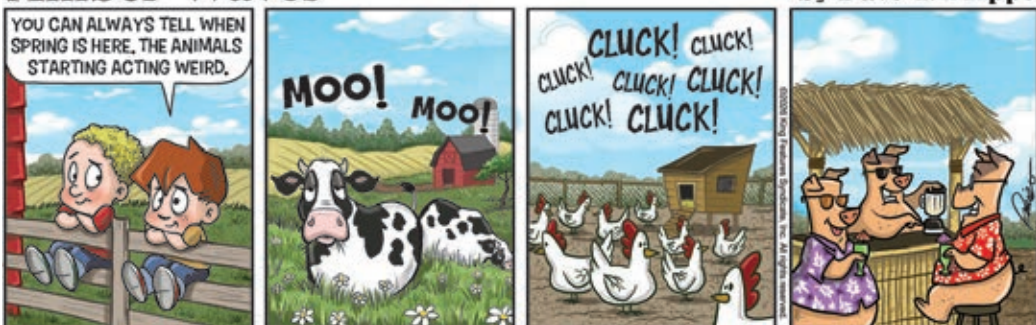
•The Plains can still see dangerous fire weather, especially in western areas.

•Smoke could affect air quality far from active fires, even in places with relatively low wildfire risk.



Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps



Out on a Limb

by Gary Kopervas



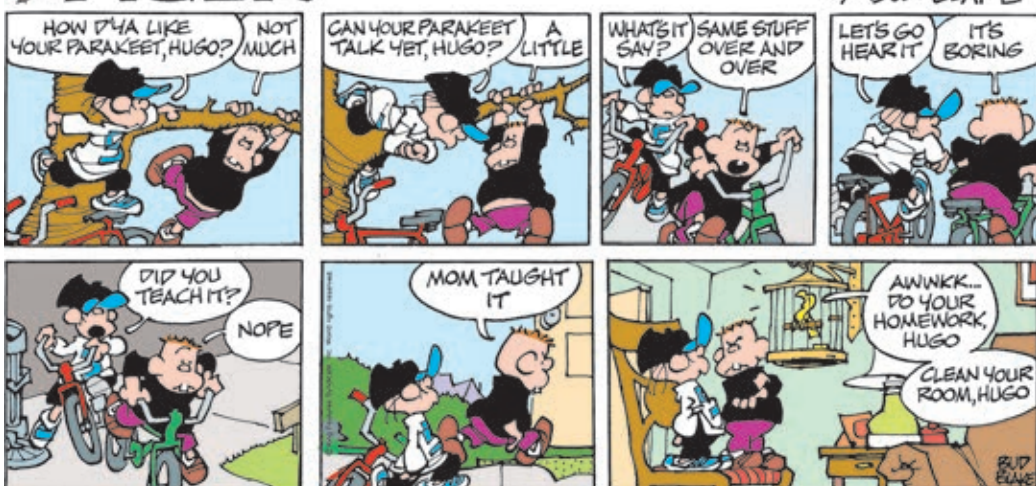
The Spats

by Jeff Pickering



TIGER

by BUD BLAKE



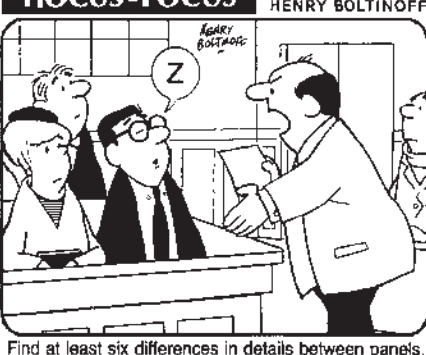
OLIVE & POPEYE

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HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



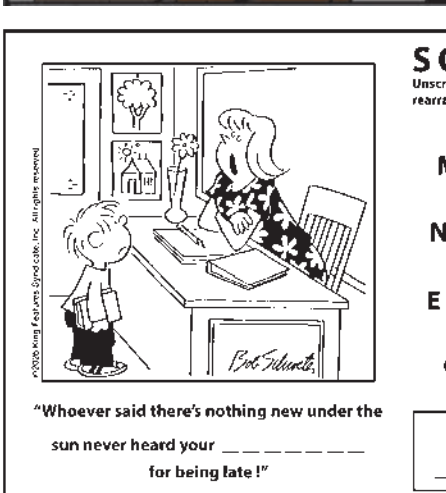
Just Like Cats & Dogs

by Dave T. Phipps



CryptoQuip

CryptoQuip puzzle instructions and grid with letters.



SCRAMBLERS puzzle with words to unscramble.

King Crossword

King Crossword grid and list of clues (ACROSS and DOWN).

Weekly SUDOKU puzzle grid and instructions.

Trivia test by Fifi Rodriguez with 10 questions.

Five Spot™ Phonetics puzzle grid and instructions.

EXCUSES and SCRAMBLERS puzzles.

King Crossword Answers grid and list of answers.

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FBI probing donations to Curry County Sheriff

Donor says Sheriff not required to disclose donations because former Sheriff who received donations told him so

By **JEFF EAGER**
Oregon Roundup

The Federal Bureau of Investigation is probing contributions from a family foundation to the Curry County Sheriff Department, according to three sources who have spoken with FBI agents in relation to the inquiry. The John G. Atkins Foundation reported in federal filings to have contributed \$390,524 to the law enforcement agency for the rural county, population 23,000, bordering the Pacific Ocean and California.

The potential crime or crimes under scrutiny by the FBI is unknown. However, county officials seek an accounting of the contributions from Sheriff John Ward, which do not appear in official county accounts or asset lists, according to county officials.

The FBI declined to comment for this article. No charges have been filed.

Foundation meets struggling county government

The John G. Atkins Foundation was long stewarded by Jayne Gibney, resident of Brookings, Oregon, to honor her late father, after whom the foundation was named. The foundation was seeded with highly valuable stock in United Parcel Service owned by Atkins during his life, according to foundation manager Rory Smith. Gibney herself passed away in 2007, according to the Fort Bragg Advocate-News. Smith told Oregon Roundup Foundation Gibney intended the foundation to support education and law enforcement in Curry County.

Curry County, meanwhile, has struggled with economic challenges common to rural Oregon, where reductions in timber harvests, fishing and

federal payments intended to mitigate lost tax revenue from reduced timber harvests on federal land have hamstrung families, businesses and local governments. As county revenue dwindled, county commissioners attempted at least six times since 2013 to create a separate property tax levy to support the Sheriff's Department. Each attempt failed, most recently in May 2025, when 60% of county voters rejected levy that would have raised taxes on property owners to fund an additional \$4 million per year to the Sheriff Department.

Untracked contributions According to publicly available IRS filings, the foundation contributed \$390,524 to the Curry County Sheriff Department, the Curry County Sheriff and Curry County Sheriff Search & Rescue between 2009 and 2023 in amounts ranging from \$2,000 (2011) and \$58,677 (2013). Smith, the foundation's manager, described to ORF the means by which contributions were made.

According to Smith, "When I get a request from the Sheriff I say put it in writing what you want, why you need it and how much it is. Then I go to my board and give them that and tell them to get me an invoice from where you're going to order this stuff and I will write the check to the vendor and the equipment will show up to you."

Smith explained he and successive Curry County sheriffs landed on this approach to prevent County Commissioners from using foundation contributions for purposes other than those intended by the sheriff and the foundation. Smith told ORF he believes the Curry



County Sheriff Department is chronically underfunded by county commissioners and he does not trust commissioners to allocate any donated funds to the sheriff's desired use. In an interview, he repeatedly referred to the commissioners' efforts to obtain information about equipment donated by the foundation as a "witch hunt" against the Sheriff.

Smith pointed to Curry County's significant history of financial mismanagement. The county announced in early 2025 that it could not track approximately half of \$2.7 million in federal COVID grants beginning in 2021, according to The Redwood Voice. The disclosure followed the May 2024 resignation of then County Treasurer David Barnes, who maintains he properly reported to the federal government the use of the funds, according to The Redwood Voice.

Current Sheriff John Ward corroborated in an interview with ORF Smith's account of the foundation's purchase of equipment for the Sheriff's Department at the sheriff's request. Ward, who has served as Sheriff since 2014, said he could think of only two items purchased for his department by the foundation: a utility trailer the department uses as an

emergency command center, and a side-by-side ATV. County officials told ORF it has no record of either donation. The county does own a utility trailer it uses as a command center, but could not verify by the publication deadline that it was donated by the foundation, according to officials.

Ward told ORF he does not keep a list or otherwise account for property donated to the Sheriff Department by the foundation.

Foundation reporting shows contributions to other local governments in Curry County, including the Brookings Harbor School District, the Brookings Police Department, local Oregon State Police outposts and, for a time, the Lake County Sheriff Department. Lake County Commissioner James Williams told ORF he can find no record of cash contributions from the foundation to Lake County, but did not respond to a follow-up question about whether the county has records of equipment purchased for the Sheriff Department by the foundation.

The FBI takes note

The FBI contacted Smith, the foundation manager, last week regarding its investigation into foundation contributions to the Sheriff Department, Smith told ORF. He said he provided emails, invoices and other documents to the FBI, but declined to provide those documents to ORF for this article. "Voters don't care about this crap; they care about funding the Sheriff Department," Smith said in an interview.

Smith said when he received the call from the FBI he was "in a truck with the retired county sheriff." He clarified the former sheriff with him in the truck was John Bishop. Bishop served as Curry County Sheriff from 2008 to September 2014, during which time the foundation reported contributing to the Sheriff Department. According to Smith, Bishop used the same request and direct foundation

purchase method used more recently by Ward.

Bishop's tenure as Sheriff ended when he resigned to become executive director of the Oregon State Sheriffs' Association. Bishop told The Oregonian at the time his career change was driven by dwindling funding for his department driven by declining federal subsidies and Curry County voters having voted down property tax hikes to fund his department repeatedly by 2014.

In 2019, Bishop's role with the Sheriffs' Association came to an end, with the former Sheriff pleading guilty to a charge of theft in the first degree for inappropriate expenditures of Association funds. Bishop was sentenced to two years' probation and 180 hours of community service and ordered to pay \$13,000 in restitution to the Association, according to the Associated Press.

In an interview with ORF, foundation manager Smith said, "The Sheriff does not have to report [foundation purchase of equipment] to the county." Smith said his legal opinion is based on Bishop, whom Smith said has been a personal friend since 1994, telling him as much when the two were in the truck together when the FBI called Smith last week.

Curry County Director of County Operations and Legal Counsel Ted Fitzgerald disagrees. "The county is in financial straits. If people are making gifts, those need to be recorded" with the county, Fitzgerald told ORF in an interview. "It's the law that county commissioners have a fiduciary duty to oversee the funds and assets of the county."

Smith consistently maintained in his interview with ORF that the contributions to the Curry County Sheriff Department were lawful, and consistent with the intent and purpose of the foundation.

County Commissioners v. Sheriff

Foundation contributions are not the only source of conflict between the county

government and its elected Sheriff. County Commissioners issued a press release April 3 regarding the county's contention Sheriff John Ward refused to meet with county officials regarding county-owned ammunition the county asserts Ward and Sheriff Department deputies purchased with their personal funds, at a discounted government rate.

Last November, Circuit Court Judge Martin Stone entered a judgment requiring Ward to coordinate with the county regarding lawful surplus property disposal, to comply with Commission-adopted county policies and pay the county \$4,426.00 in attorney fees arising from Ward's opposition to a discovery request by the county. Director of County Operations Fitzgerald and Commissioner Jay Trost told ORF the county believes Ward has failed to abide by the judgment, and the county seeks a contempt order against the Sheriff.

In July of last year, Lieutenant Jeremy Krohn of the Sheriff Department, who reports to Ward, filed recall petitions against County Commissioners Trost and Patrick Hollinger, both of whom have pushed for greater scrutiny of Sheriff Department operations. The petitions, each of which failed to receive the required 1,900 signatures to qualify for the ballot, accused Trost of supporting "expenditures like additional legal fees to litigate against elected officials," an apparent reference to the county's lawsuit leading to the aforementioned judgment against Ward.

Ward denies any wrongdoing.

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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 A 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

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(LCMS)

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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

June From page 2

adverb "well" to modify the verb "doing."

For that reason, you'll probably want to opt for "I'm doing well" instead of "I'm doing good." But as regular readers of this col-

umn may have anticipated, there's a twist. "I'm doing good" is poor form, but it's not exactly wrong. Dictionaries do allow "good" to be used as an adverb, in which case it's synonymous with the adverb form of "well."

Definition of GOOD of a favorable character or tendency; bountiful, fertile; handsome, attractive... See the full definition

If this is more effort than you want to put into a simple greeting in the grocery store checkout, just follow this simple guide: "Well" is always right and proper. "Good" is always technically OK, though not always proper.

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

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