

# Northwest just finished warmest fall on record, scientists report



**Jake Goldstein-Street / Washington State Standard**  
A minivan is stuck after flooding along Tualco Road near Monroe, Wash. on Saturday, Dec. 13, 2025. The Northwest is seeing warm rains instead of snow in much of the region, concerning climate scientists.

**ALEX BAUMHARDT**  
Oregon Capital Chronicle

Across the Northwest, a record warm fall and lack of snowpack going into the winter is putting more drought pressure on Oregon, Idaho, Washington and western Montana.

Despite record rain in western Washington recently, and earlier this year in central and southern Oregon, the showers are filling up already overdrawn reservoirs in many areas, scientists said on Monday at an online drought and climate outlook meeting hosted by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

Snowpack in the region and in the Cascade Range, acting as a reservoir of its own for summer months when there's little rain and many communities rely on snowmelt, is simply not piling up.

Snowpack in the Northwest is sitting at the lowest level for the region as a whole at this point in the winter since record keeping began in 2001, according to Jacob Genuise, a climatologist at the Washington State Climate Office.

"We're seeing just really warm storms with a lot of rain and not a lot of snow," Genuise said. "Given all this warm rain, it actually melted some of our snowpack, and we saw a decline."

The Northwest just experienced its sixth warmest August on record, the warmest September on record — about 6 degrees Fahrenheit above normal on

Please see **FALL** Page 3

## Timber Sales In Oregon And Washington Net Over \$67 Million



**FROM THE BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT**

The Bureau of Land Management in Oregon and Washington wrapped up fiscal year 2025 with a standout timber performance. Across Oregon and Washington, the BLM exceeded its annual goal and, in support of the President's promise of increased timber production, offered 15% more timber than in fiscal year 2024. In total, BLM Oregon/Washington sold 241 million board feet of timber for \$67,049,012 from October 2024 – September 2025.

"This year's timber efforts show what the BLM can achieve," said Barry Bushue, BLM Oregon/Washington State Director. "We exceeded the timber target goal established in the One Big Beautiful Bill Act. Next year, the BLM is offering even more timber, which means supporting more rural jobs and improving forest health."

The sales support the BLM's commitment to the nation under the One Big Beautiful Bill Act and the President's order to increase domestic timber

production.

The timber sold in fiscal year 2025 could build more than 15,000 homes and support about 3,400 jobs across western Oregon.

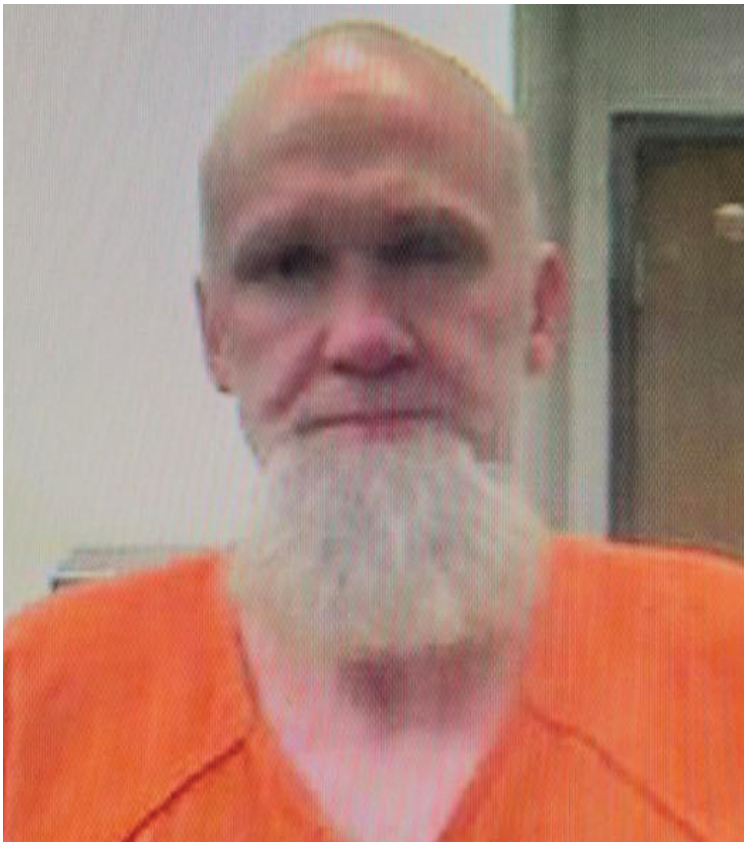
"America has significant timber resources, and Oregon and Washington have some of the best timber in the world," said Bushue. "BLM timber sales ensure we retain our domestic lumber supply and reduce reliance on other imported building supplies."

In addition to new sales, in fiscal year 2025 the BLM facilitated the harvest of 250 million board feet of timber valued at nearly \$66 million, a 7% increase in harvest volume and 9% more in revenue than fiscal year 2024. These harvests include sales that were purchased over the previous four years, reflecting years of planning and collaboration with purchasers and operators in the community.

"Our foresters and partners in local communities are the reason for this successful year," Bushue

Please see **TIMBER** Page 2

## Fugitive Back in Custody After Escaping Custody



**STAFF REPORT**

After fleeing from custody at Curry General Hospital in the afternoon of December 13, Glenn Allen Burkhow, 45, is back in custody as of that same evening. Burkhow was arrested by U.S. Marshalls on warrants in Curry County on December 9.

Burkhow had been receiving treatment at Curry General for a suspected medical issue when upon being cleared made a run for it on the deputy assigned to him at around 3:02 PM.

Barefoot and wearing jail oranges, the deputy lost track of Burkhow when he entered an area of thick brush. He would remain at large for another 5 hours.

Sheriff's Deputies, Gold Beach Police, Port Orford Police, Brookings Police and Oregon State Police were all involved in searching for Burkhow, but it was Sheriff John Ward who spotted him at around 8:11 PM that evening.

After spotting him on 11th Street in Gold Beach, Sheriff Ward called in a cover unit, and Burkhow was tracked to heavy brush behind a residence there on 11th. Gold Beach PD and Fire assisted in removing Burkhow from the brush and re-arresting him.

He was then returned to Curry General for medical clearance and is now back in custody at Curry County Jail.





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](http://www.brookings.or.us/134/police-services) and follow the link near the bottom of the page.

Monday 12/08:

-

Tuesday 12/09:

-

Wednesday 12/10:

- 11:16 North Bank Chetco River Rd, civil problem
- 13:43 401 Fir St, criminal trespass
- 14:10 1223 Chetco Ave, illegal camping
- 17:12 770 Elk Dr, traffic crash
- 17:24 Railroad Ave, theft
- 18:37 Lower Harbor Rd and Shopping Center Ave, traffic crash
- 21:12 Mill Beach, loud noise

Thursday 12/11:

- 0:53 99898 South Bank Chetco River Rd, criminal trespass
- 3:36 707 Pioneer Rd, dispute/fight
- 16:44 1 Park Ave, dispute/fight
- 16:54 325 5th St, criminal trespass
- 18:07 1122 Fifield St, civil problem
- 19:09 17529 Long Acre Loop, fire alarm
- 19:34 Shopping Center Ave and Lower Harbor Rd, criminal trespass
- 20:59 1210 Chetco Ave, probation violation
- 22:32 Mill Beach, loud noise
- 22:56 500 5th St, intoxicated subject
- 23:07 432 Maple St, loud noise

Friday 12/12:

- 6:13 898 Chetco Ave, alarm
- 9:28 98059 Gerlach Ln, theft
- 11:42 542 Memory Ln, criminal mischief
- 14:38 Hwy 101 MP 361, fire
- 15:59 Chetco and Easy, warrant service
- 17:30 898 Elk Dr, civil problem
- 18:57 640 Old County Rd, juvenile problem

Saturday 12/13:

- 7:13 869 Jodee Ln, criminal mischief
- 7:35 845 Railroad St, alarm
- 8:25 845 Railroad St, alarm
- 7:13 869 Jodee Ln, traffic crash
- 11:13 5th and Hassett, traffic crash
- 12:18 16183 W Hoffeldt Ln, loud noise
- 16:52 Chetco and Easy, hit & run
- 19:54 North Bank Chetco River Rd and Social Security Bar, criminal mischief
- 23:49 Sunshine Cove, shot(s) fired

Sunday 12/14:

-

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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

DAILY

- Daily Meal, 11:15 a.m. – 12:30 p.m., 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, Elks Lodge. Membership not required. All donations welcome and appreciated, \$2 minimum from all dancers. 11:30-12:00 absolute beginners (new), 12:00 – 1:00 pm improver, 1:00-2:00 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.

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.

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.

SATURDAYS

- Men's Club Golf, Salmon Run Golf Course: 900 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.
- 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.
- Line dance lessons, Elks Lodge. Membership not required. All donations welcome and appreciated, \$2 minimum from all dancers. 11:30-12:00 absolute beginners (new), 12:00 – 1:00 pm improver, 1:00-2:00 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.

DECEMBER 12-24

- All Aboard! Presented by Stout Mountain Railway Playground of Imagination, 642 Railroad St: 12:00 pm – 5:00 pm. Model train layouts in G, O, ON30, HO, N, and Z scales. Free admission. For more information, Contact Tony Parrish at 541-254-4296 or [tonyparrish@frontier.com](mailto:tonyparrish@frontier.com) or visit Stout Mountain Railway Club on Facebook or YouTube.

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Timber

From page 1

added. “Together, we’re building a stronger future for Oregon’s forests, one timber sale and acre at a time.”

In western Oregon, the BLM manages 2.4 million acres of some of the most productive forests in the world, and is committed to supplying a reliable, secure, and resilient domestic supply of timber. BLM forestry supports economic security, reduces risks from wildfire, conserves fish and wildlife habitat, and decreases costs of energy production. Local communities rely on jobs that come from BLM forests, and timber from public land feeds local industry.

Each year, sales managed by the BLM’s forestry program in Oregon and Washington support local jobs and generate more than \$1 billion for local economies. Revenue from timber sold on O&C lands is shared between the U.S. Treasury and 18 western Oregon counties. This funding provides local communities with the means to construct new county buildings; develop fairgrounds and museums; support libraries, schools, and jails; and build flood-control dams and reservoirs.

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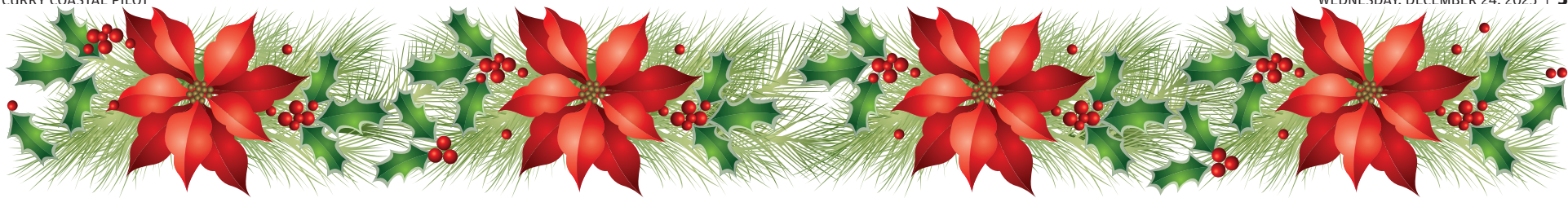


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# County Commissioners Continue Pledge to Sheriff’s Office

The Curry County Board of Commissioners announced today that each Commissioner will continue making personal monthly contributions to the Curry County Sheriff’s Office through June 2026, reaffirming a voluntary commitment first established in June 2024.

Two years ago, Curry County faced significant financial challenges that required every department to reduce budgets, staffing levels, and non-critical activities. Recognizing the importance of maintaining stable law enforcement and public safety services during that period, each Commissioner chose to personally contribute \$22,000 per year (\$1,833 monthly) to help soften the impact of those reductions. By the end of 2025, these contributions will total \$99,000 in personal donations from the Board of Commissioners. These funds were always intended as a temporary

bridge to support the community through a difficult time.

The Board of Commissioners understands that many residents are seeking greater confidence in how public safety resources are used. To that end, the Board requested and received confirmation from District Court Judge Stone regarding their authority and responsibilities related to the Sheriff’s Office. The Commissioners’ contribution combined with the Judgment issued by Judge Stone has culminated in a positive path to move forward. The Commissioners remain committed to working collaboratively with the Sheriff’s Office as it continues to strengthen communication, accountability, transparency, and overall service delivery.

The Board encourages residents to stay engaged in their local government, share ideas, and help shape a responsible path

forward. By working together with elected officials, law enforcement professionals, and community members, Curry County can continue building a safe, resilient, and well served future.



## Fall

From page 1

average — and the second warmest November on record, according to NOAA data.

Taken together, August through November of this year was the record warmest on average across the Northwest in more than 130 years of record keeping. NASA scientists, using NOAA records of global average temperatures dating back to 1880, found that this November was the third-warmest November on Earth, behind only November of 2023 and 2024.

But in 2023 and 2024, a planet-warming El Niño weather pattern helped fuel record temperatures, according to the data. There was no El Niño event to drive temperatures this year.

Temperatures in the Northwest have been most abnormal across all of Idaho, eastern Washington

and eastern Oregon, and in western Montana.

“It’s definitely not good,” Genuise said. “We’ve seen much more above normal years in the past few decades than we did in the past.”

Rain not snow

By the end of this summer, drought took hold of the Northwest, Genuise said, especially in parts of northern Idaho and south-east Washington. Snow melted too quickly in spring, creating drought as the summer went on, and abnormal heat also increased surface water evaporation in lakes and streams, lowering water levels that contributed to drought in parts of the region.

In the last month, most of western Oregon was at 50% of its normal level of precipitation for this time of year, according to Brad Pugh, a meteorologist at the National Weather Service’s Climate Prediction Center.

Only southern and

central Oregon have been spared major drought impacts this year, but reservoirs that filled from heavy spring rains are also being quickly depleted, he said.

Everywhere north of Oregon is experiencing above average rainfall, Pugh said.

This will potentially help pull the Northwest out of a region-wide drought in the coming weeks or month, according to Pugh, but much of that will also

depend on whether or not it gets cold enough for rain to turn into snow and snowpack.

The only area in the region getting roughly normal snowpack is western Montana, where temperatures have been just-cold-enough to turn rain to snow. All of Oregon and most of southern Washington are seeing “really, really deep snowpack deficits,” Genuise said.

If the snowpack is still bad in the spring, there could be ongoing drought issues in the year ahead, Genuise added.

“We could see this change, and this is likely to change as we see some wetter and cooler systems later in the month, but we’re definitely sitting well below normal as we talk here today,” he said.

<https://oregoncapital-chronicle.com/2025/12/16/>

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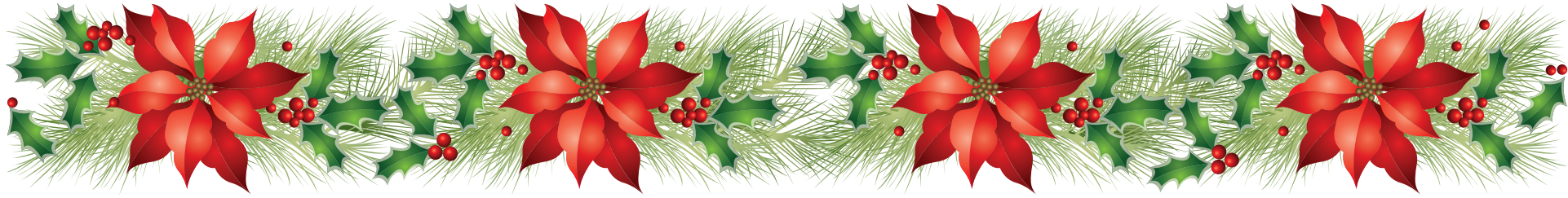
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# Merkley, Oregon Delegation: No New ICE Facilities in Oregon

Washington, D.C. — Today, Oregon’s U.S. Senator Jeff Merkley led his Democratic colleagues in the Oregon congressional delegation—Senator Ron Wyden and Representatives Suzanne Bonamici (OR-01), Val Hoyle (OR-04), Andrea Salinas (OR-06), Maxine Dexter (OR-03), and Janelle Bynum (OR-05)—in demanding urgent answers from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) about any plans to expand ICE’s footprint in Oregon.

“We write to request a full and detailed description of any plans to open or expand Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) detention facilities in Oregon. Recent public job postings in the Portland and Newport areas suggest that planning is well underway to contract for a new or expanded detention facility, but no formal notice has been provided to local or state leaders, or to Oregon’s congressional delegation,” wrote the Oregon delegation to DHS Secretary Kristi Noem and Acting ICE Director Todd Lyons. “We strongly and unequivocally reject the need for any new detention capacity and urge you to honor the public’s right to be informed and review your plans before any contracts are signed or facilities are opened. Oregonians deserve far better from the

Trump administration than this shabby track record of absolute secrecy and total disdain for their communities’ viewpoints.”

The lawmakers raised serious concerns about increased ICE detentions of U.S. citizens and non-citizens alike, regardless of criminal history, and illegally denying due process.

They emphasized, “The information we require is critical to support Congress’s responsibility to protect detainees’ bedrock human and legal rights. As witnessed in the disastrous setup of Florida’s Alligator Alcatraz in the Everglades, hastily assembled detention centers invite horrific abuse and fail to effectively support efforts to detain dangerous criminals who pose a genuine threat to community safety. One recent report from Amnesty International found that people detained in Alligator Alcatraz are living in inhumane and unsanitary conditions. These conditions include overflowing toilets, limited access to showers, exposure to insects without protection, lights on 24-hours-a-day, and lack of privacy – including cameras above the toilets. This record of abuse demands deep skepticism and scrutiny of any plan to open detention facilities in Oregon.”

Merkley has led the charge to oppose the escalating ICE presence throughout the state,

partnering with the Oregon delegation to speak out against ICE activities in Portland and Newport. He urged Portland protestors to “not take the bait” in response to the Trump Administration’s aggression toward the city and pushed for the release of Jackie Merlos, a mother of four who was illegally held in ICE custody for over 100 days.

Full text of the letter follows below:

Dear Secretary Noem and Acting Director Lyons,

We write to request a full and detailed description of any plans to open or expand Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) detention facilities in Oregon. Recent public job postings in the Portland and Newport areas suggest that planning is well underway to contract for a new or expanded detention facility, but no formal notice has been provided to local or state leaders, or to Oregon’s congressional delegation. We strongly and unequivocally reject the need for any new detention capacity and urge you to honor the public’s right to be informed and review your plans before any contracts are signed or facilities are opened. Oregonians deserve far better from the Trump administration than this shabby track record of absolute secrecy and total disdain for their communi-

ties’ viewpoints.

ICE has been increasingly using dragnet practices to detain groups of people with little attention to citizenship or criminal history. Despite near constant claims and reassurances that ICE is pursuing dangerous criminal noncitizens, a recent review of immigration detentions in Oregon from January through October 2025 shows that less than 10 percent of those arrested had been convicted of a violent crime. In Oregon and nationally, the vast majority of people arrested have never been convicted of any crime whatsoever. In addition to not prioritizing public threats, ICE has been detaining U.S. citizens in record numbers. One recent report found more than 170 detentions of U.S. citizens in the first nine months of 2025.

The information we require is critical to support Congress’s responsibility to protect detainees’ bedrock human and legal rights. As witnessed in the disastrous setup of Florida’s Alligator Alcatraz in the Everglades, hastily assembled detention centers invite horrific abuse and fail to effectively support efforts to detain dangerous criminals who pose a genuine threat to community safety. One recent report from Amnesty International found that people detained in Alligator Alcatraz are living in inhumane and unsanitary conditions.



These conditions include overflowing toilets, limited access to showers, exposure to insects without protection, lights on 24-hours-a-day, and lack of privacy – including cameras above the toilets. This record of abuse demands deep skepticism and scrutiny of any plan to open detention facilities in Oregon.

Another significant concern requiring your attention is access to counsel. Oregonians in ICE detention are often moved from one location to another in a manner that effectively denies timely access to legal counsel. Recent legal filings from Oregon nonprofits show that current detention

sites in Oregon do not have sufficient space for lawyers to physically meet with their clients. Denying due process to detained individuals in this fashion is a moral stain that demands immediate action, and must not be replicated in any new detention site under consideration.

We reiterate our steadfast opposition to any new or expanded ICE detention facilities in Oregon. Please submit a written response detailing any plans to open or expand Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) detention facilities in Oregon as soon as possible, and not later than Friday December 19, 2025.

## OBITUARIES

### Nanette Claire Birdwell (Reallon)

It is with deep sadness that we announce the passing of Nanette C. Birdwell, a devoted wife, loving mother, cherished grandmother, and pillar of strength to her family. Nanette passed away peacefully at her daughter’s home in Windsor, CA, surrounded by loved ones.

Born and raised in central California, Nanette attended high school in McFarland before establishing her adult life primarily in Bakersfield. Driven by an unwavering dedication to her family’s well-being, she was a true embodiment of hard work and perseverance. She tirelessly pursued her education throughout her life, earning her bachelor’s degree and countless certifications in medical records coding, to ensure a stable and secure financial future for those she loved.

Nanette’s life was defined by her boundless love and commitment to her family. She is survived by her devoted husband, Dan.

She was a loving mother to her two daughters, Melanie (German) and Tanya (Steven). She held a special place in her heart for her late son, Daniel, who passed away in 2004, a loss she carried with grace and resilience. Her legacy continues through her beloved grandson, Daniel III, whom she lovingly raised and nurtured. She cherished all of her grandchildren, German (Miranda), Chance, Daniel III, Ross, Cadence, Zane, Jaela, Cash and Van.

Nanette is also survived by her supportive and loving brother, Gus (Marilyn). She will be profoundly missed by her extended family and friends, all of whom were touched by her warmth, generosity, and strong spirit.

After a lifetime of hard work and dedication, Nanette retired to the peaceful coastal community of Brookings, Oregon, where she enjoyed her final years with her husband Dan. Her strength of character, loving



nature, and enduring legacy of love and hard work will forever live on. Nanette was a bright light that will shine in the hearts of those who knew her, she will be deeply missed and forever loved.

A celebration of life will be held for all family and friends to honor Nanette’s life and legacy on January 10th at 11:30am, at Capella by the Sea, reception to follow.

### Lydia Lida Bennett

Lydia Bennett passed away on December 4, in Brookings after a short illness at the age of 105. She lived at SeaView Senior Living for the last 15 years. Lydia was born in 1920 into the Richison family in Shawnee, Oklahoma. They moved to Merced County, CA, in the 1930’s. Lydia was the last remaining sibling of eleven children.

Lydia and her husband, Thomas Tarwater, were residents of the farming community of Manteca, California. Thomas passed away in 1962. Their children are Jerald (Nelwyn) Tarwater, Stockton, California, and grandson Thomas Tarwater. Thomas passed away in 2010. Jerald passed

away in 2020. Nelwyn lives in Stockton, California. Lydia and Thomas’ younger son, Vernon (Linda), lives in Gold Beach, and granddaughter Anne Leigh Herbert (Christopher) lives in Bandon.

Lydia was a resident of Harbor since 1973, moving from Sacramento with her husband, John Bennett, who passed away in 1982.

Lydia was a member of the Brookings-Harbor Christian Church.

A graveside service will be held at a later date in French Camp, California. In lieu of flowers, the family asks that Lydia be honored with a remembrance to Coastal Home Health & Hospice, or a charity of your



choice.

Redwood Memorial Chapel is assisting the family.

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# CLASSIFIEDS

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Divorced in 1-5 weeks possible. 503-772-5295. <a href="http://www.paralegalalternatives.com">www.paralegalalternatives.com</a> legalalt@msn.com.</p> <p>Donate your car, truck, boat, RV and more to support our veterans! Schedule a FAST, FREE vehicle pickup and receive a top tax deduction! Call Veteran Car Donations at 1-866-695-9265 today!</p> <p>Get a break on your taxes! Donate your car, truck, or SUV to assist the blind and visually impaired. Arrange a swift, no-cost vehicle pickup and secure a generous tax credit for 2025. Call Heritage for the Blind Today at 1-844-533-9173 today!</p> <p>Get Boost Infinite! Unlimited Talk, Text and Data For Just \$25/mo! The Power Of 3 5G Networks, One Low Price! Call Today and Get The Latest iPhone Every Year On Us! 844-955-3417.</p>	<h3>311</h3> <h4>Announcements</h4> <p>Get DISH Satellite TV + Internet! Free Install, Free HD-DVR Upgrade, 80,000 On-Demand Movies, Plus Limited Time Up To \$600 In Gift Cards. Call Today! 1-866-373-9175.</p> <p>Jacuzzi Bath Remodel can install a new, custom bath or shower in as little as one day. For a limited time, waiving ALL installation costs! Additional terms apply. Subject to change and vary by dealer. (Offer ends 9/30/25.) Call 1-855-341-5268</p> <p>No more cleaning out gutters. Guaranteed! LeafFilter is backed by a no-clog guarantee and lifetime transferrable warranty. Call today 1-855-536-8838 to schedule a FREE inspection and no obligation estimate. Plus get 75% off installation and a bonus \$250 discount! Limited time only. Restrictions apply, see representative for warranty and offer details. Portable Oxygen Concentrator May Be Covered by Medicare! Reclaim independence and mobility with the compact design and long-lasting battery of Inogen One. Free information kit! Call 855-839-0752.</p> <p>We buy 8,000 cars a week. Sell your old, busted or junk car with no hoops, haggles or headaches. Sell your car to Peddle. Easy three step process. Instant offer. Free pickup. Fast payment. Call 1-855-980-4382.</p> <p>We Buy Houses for Cash AS IS! No repairs. No fuss. Any condition. Easy three step process: Call, get cash offer and get paid. Get your fair cash offer today by calling Liz Buys Houses: 1-866-249-8679.</p>	<h3>502</h3> <h4>Help Wanted</h4> <p>ence in Human Resources. This company offers 401K, health insurance, accrued vacation &amp; sick time benefits. Email Lily at <a href="mailto:lily@pipeandrock.com">lily@pipeandrock.com</a> or apply in person at 98109 N. Bank Chetco River Road; Brookings, OR Mon-Fri 7am-5pm</p> <p><b>Safe Coast Seafoods LLC</b> Hiring for processor's. Apply in person 161 Starfish Way, Crescent City, Ca 95531</p>	<h3>999</h3> <h4>Public Notices</h4> <p>(2) 18 C.F.R. § 385.2007(a)(2) (2025). 12/24/2025, Pilot, 421550</p> <p>The Curry County Soil &amp; Water Conservation District is holding its regular monthly meeting at 7:00 p.m. on December 30, 2025. In addition to routine business, agenda topics include a presentation about the county floodplain development permit process in relation to watershed restoration projects and a presentation on employee health benefit 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. To access the meeting electronically, please contact Tammy Wills at <a href="mailto:tammy.wills@currywatersheds.org">tammy.wills@currywatersheds.org</a> or (541) 247-2755 ext 6. To request an interpreter for the hearing impaired or for other accommodations for persons with disabilities, please contact Tammy Wills at least 48 hours prior to the meeting.~ 12/24/2025 (online 12/22 - 12/29), Pilot, 421310</p> <p>TRUSTEE'S NOTICE OF SALE TS No.: 141289-OR Loan No.: *****6578 Reference is made to that certain trust deed (the "Deed of Trust") executed by DOROTHY L. NICKERSON, AS AN ESTATE IN FEE SIMPLE, as Grantor, to CURRY COUNTY TITLE INC., OR, as Trustee, in favor of FINANCIAL FREEDOM SENIOR FUNDING CORPORATION, A SUBSIDIARY OF INDYMAC BANK, F.S.B., as Beneficiary, dated 7/21/2006, recorded 7/26/2006, as Instrument No. 2006-4003, in the Official Records of Curry County, Oregon, which covers the following described real property situated in Curry County, Oregon: That certain tract of land lying in the Northeast Quarter (NE ¼) of the Southeast Quarter (SE ¼) of Section One (1), Township Thirty-seven (37) South, Range Fifteen (15) West, Willamette Meridian, Curry County, Oregon, described as follows: Beginning at a point described as being 489.59 feet North and 810.78 feet East of the Southwest Corner of the Northeast Quarter (NE ¼) of the</p>	<h3>999</h3> <h4>Public Notices</h4> <p>Southeast Quarter (SE ¼) of said Section One (1); Thence North 1° 53' West 261.9 feet to an axle; Thence South 89° 18' West 146.5 feet; Thence South 21° 44' East 100.0 feet; Thence South 89° 18' West 214.8 feet, more or less, to the centerline of the pipeline easement described in DV: 62 Page: 445, Curry County deed records; Thence following the centerline of said pipeline easement South 17° 37' East 100.0 feet; Thence South 7° 34' West 9.21 feet; Thence leaving the centerline of said pipeline easement, East 153.48 feet; Thence South 60.0 feet; Thence East 150.0 feet to the point of beginning. EXCEPT that portion lying within the pipeline easement referred to above APN: R13207 / 3715-01DA-01710 Commonly known as: 29202 WALLACE STREET GOLD BEACH, OR 97444 The current beneficiary is: PHH MORTGAGE CORPORATION Both the beneficiary and the trustee have elected to sell the above-described real property to satisfy the obligations secured by the Deed of Trust and notice has been recorded pursuant to ORS 86.752(3). The default for which foreclosure is made is caused by the death of the borrower.</p> <p>TOTAL REQUIRED TO PAY-OFF: \$599,850.32 By reason of the default, the beneficiary has declared all obligations secured by the Deed of Trust immediately due and payable, including: the principal sum of \$230,151.24 together with interest thereon in the total amount of \$344,412.39, plus all accrued late charges, and all trustee's fees, foreclosure costs, and any sums advanced by the beneficiary pursuant to the terms and conditions of the Deed of Trust ~emspace Whereof, notice hereby is given that the undersigned trustee, CLEAR RECON CORP, whose address is 1915 NE Stucki Avenue, Suite 400, Hillsboro, OR 97006, will on 4/2/2026, at the hour of 11:00 AM, standard time, as established by ORS 187.110, AT THE ELLENSBURG AVENUE ENTRANCE TO THE CURRY COUNTY COURTHOUSE, 29821 ELLENSBURG, GOLD BEACH, OR 97444, sell at public auction to the highest bidder in the form of cash equivalent</p>	<h3>999</h3> <h4>Public Notices</h4> <p>(certified funds or cashier's check) the interest in the above-described real property which the grantor had or had power to convey at the time it executed the Deed of Trust, together with any interest which the grantor or his successors in interest acquired after the execution of the Deed of Trust, to satisfy the foregoing obligations thereby secured and the costs and expenses of sale, including a reasonable charge by the trustee. Notice is further given that any person named in ORS 86.778 has the right to have the foreclosure proceeding dismissed and the Deed of Trust reinstated by payment to the beneficiary of the entire amount then due (other than the portion of principal that would not then be due had no default occurred), together with the costs, trustee's and attorneys' fees, and curing any other default complained of in the Notice of Default by tendering the performance required under the Deed of Trust at any time not later than five days before the date last set for sale. Without limiting the trustee's disclaimer of representations or warranties, Oregon law requires the trustee to state in this notice that some residential property sold at a trustee's sale may have been used in manufacturing methamphetamines, the chemical components of which are known to be toxic. Prospective purchasers of residential property should be aware of this potential danger before deciding to place a bid for this property at the trustee's sale. In construing this notice, the masculine gender includes the feminine and the neuter, the singular includes plural, the word "grantor" includes any successor in interest to the grantor as well as any other persons owing an obligation, the performance of which is secured by the Deed of Trust, the words "trustee" and "beneficiary" include their respective successors in interest, if any. Dated: 11/17/2025 CLEAR RECON CORP 1915 NE Stucki Avenue, Suite 400 Hillsboro, OR 97006 Phone: 858-750-7777 866-931-0036 Jessica Lopez, Authorized Signatory of Trustee 12/10, 12/17, 12/24, &amp; 12/31/2025, Pilot, 421038</p>
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# \$800,000 awarded to expand campus veteran resource centers

The Oregon Department of Veterans’ Affairs (ODVA) has awarded grants totaling \$800,000 to expand campus veteran resource centers and enhance services for student veterans at Oregon’s public universities and community colleges.

These centers play a key role in helping veterans make the transition from military service to college life and pursue their educational and career goals.

The purpose of the Campus Veteran Resource Center Grant Program is to strengthen existing campus resources by funding innovative and impactful projects that improve the lives of student veterans and support their success.

A record 19 of Oregon’s 24 eligible public universities and community colleges applied for grants during this cycle, reflecting a broad commitment to serving student veterans across the state. All 19 institutions that applied received a portion of the available funds.

This level of participation demonstrates the strong, continued partnership between ODVA and Oregon’s higher education community in ensuring that veterans have access to the tools and support they need to thrive.

Awardees include Blue Mountain Community College, Central Oregon Community College, Chemeketa Community College, Clackamas Community College, Columbia Gorge Community College, Eastern Oregon University, Klamath Community College, Lane Community College, Linn-Benton Community College, Mt. Hood Community College, Oregon Institute of Technology, Oregon State University, Portland Community College, Portland State University, Rogue Community College, Southern Oregon University, Southwestern Oregon Community College, University of Oregon, and Western Oregon University.

The proposed proj-

ects were evaluated by a committee composed of veterans service officers, current and former student veterans, education partners, and others who provide direct services to veterans.

“Student veterans enrich our campuses and our communities with their leadership, discipline, and life experience,” Oregon Department of Veterans’ Affairs Director Nakeia Daniels said. “Yet we know that navigating higher education after military service can bring unique challenges. Veteran resource centers provide a

place where student veterans can connect with one another, access benefits and support, and build the foundation for success—both in school and beyond the uniform.”

Highlights of funded projects include:

- Support for campus veteran coordinator and outreach positions to help ensure student veterans can access the benefits and services they have earned.
- Creation of peer mentor programs and other peer support services to strengthen connection and retention among student veterans.
- Purchase of technology and electronic equipment for student use.
- Programs to address student veteran food insecurity, mental health, transportation, and other urgent needs.
- Veteran-focused events, ceremonies, career fairs, and skill-building workshops.
- Marketing and outreach to engage historically underrepresented and underserved student veteran populations.

More information about this grant program can be found on ODVA’s website at [www.oregon.gov/odva/](http://www.oregon.gov/odva/) agency-programs/grants/Pages/Campus-Grant.aspx.

Established in 1945, the Oregon Department of Veterans’ Affairs is dedicated to serving Oregon’s diverse veteran community that spans five eras of service members. ODVA administers programs and provides special advocacy and assistance in accessing earned veteran benefits across the state.

Learn about veteran benefits and services, or locate a local county or Tribal veteran services office online at [oregon.gov/odva](http://oregon.gov/odva).



The purpose of the Campus Veteran Resource Center Grant Program is to strengthen existing campus resources by funding innovative and impactful projects that improve the lives of student veterans and support their success. Courtesy photo

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# Ongoing wind storm causing widespread road impacts across Oregon



Photos Courtesy of ODOT

FROM ODOT

Strong winds that began overnight are causing widespread impacts on roads across Oregon, including downed trees, fallen limbs and downed power lines. Conditions are expected to continue and may change or worsen as high winds persist throughout the day.

ODOT crews have been out through the night responding statewide, clearing debris and downed trees where conditions allow and working closely with utility companies where power lines are involved. In areas where high winds are continuing and trees are still falling, it is not safe to begin clearing until conditions improve.

Power outages may affect traffic signals, highway message signs and Trip-Check cameras. Travelers should expect delays to continue throughout the day as cleanup and repairs progress. Road conditions, closures and impacts are changing quickly. Travelers should check Tripcheck.com for the latest information before heading out.

**Safety tips**

- Stay away from downed power lines and assume all lines are live.
- Treat intersections with dark traffic signals as four-way stops.
- Use extra caution while traveling, as trees and limbs may still be falling in windy conditions.
- Slow down and watch for crews and equipment working along roadways.
- Do not drive around closure points.

Roads are closed because they are unsafe or impassable. ODOT has received reports of vehicles driving over downed trees and around closures, putting themselves and others at risk.

- Do not rely on GPS, which may direct drivers onto closed or unsafe roads.
- Be prepared for unexpected delays or detours.

ODOT urges travelers to delay non-essential trips if possible and to plan ahead for changing conditions.

Drivers can find the latest road conditions and weather information at Trip-Check.com, which provides real-time updates.



## 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/>

**Trinity Lutheran Church**  
1200 Easy St., PO Box 1199  
Brookings

Sunday Bible School  
All Ages...9am (Sept.-May)  
Sunday Worship Service...10am

**Nursery Available**  
**Pastor Matt Steendahl**  
541-469-3411  
tlcbrookings.org

**Church of Christ**  
17222 Passley Rd., Brookings

Sunday Morning Bible Study.....10am

Sunday Morning Worship Assembly...11:00am  
Wednesday Bible Class.....6pm

**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](http://www.BrookingsCSC.com)  
541-469-2398 or 469-3333

**Lighthouse Assembly of God**  
15803 Hwy. 101 S., Harbor

Sunday School.....9:30am  
Sunday Worship.....10:30am  
Thursday Youth Group.....5:00pm  
Wednesday Bible Study.....6:00pm  
Wed. Lighthouse Kids.....6:00pm

**Doug Jamieson, Pastor**  
541-469-3458

**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!”**

**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/>

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### 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](http://www.solidrockcrescentcity.com)

### Crescent City

**Grace Lutheran Church**  
(LCMS)

9:00am All Ages Bible Study  
Childcare Available  
10:15am “The Story” Worship  
11:15am Fellowship

**188 E Cooper, Crescent City**  
[www.GraceLutheranCC.com](http://www.GraceLutheranCC.com)

**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.

### 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

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**Chetco Activity Center**  
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550 Chetco Lane, Brookings 541-469-6822

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
1	2	3	4	5
CLOSED LABOR DAY	Frittata, Eng Muffin, Fruit	Chicken Cacciatore, Penne Pasta w/ Mush & Zucc	Spanish Baked Fish, Rice, Baja Corn	Grilled Tomato & Cheese Vegetarian Chili
8	9	10	11	12
Chile Dog, Baked Fries, Corn	Smothered Pork Chops, Baked Beans, Broccoli	Sweet & Sour Chicken, Turmeric Rice, Asian Blend	Tuna Casserole Biscuit, Peas & Carrots	Chicken Cordon Bleu, Au Gratin Potatoes, Roasted Tom.
15	16	17	18	19
Cheeseburger, Lettuce, Tom, Onion, Pickle, Fries	Chef Salad Crackers Fruit	Meatloaf Mac 'N Cheese Roasted Vegetables	Fish Sandwich with cheese Vegetable Soup	Chile Relleno Spanish Rice Refried Beans
22	23	24	25	26
Kielbasa & Sauerkraut Beans Peas & Carrots	Egg Salad Pasta Salad Fruit Salad Crackers	Spaghetti with meatballs Garlic Bread Brussel Sprouts	Fish Sticks Baked Beans Chef's Blend	Turkey, Stuffing, Mashed Potatoes, gravy, yams
29	30	Menu is subject to change without notice. Meals include Drinks (Coffee, Tea (hot or iced), Milk, or Water), Salad, and Dessert. Meals Cost \$10 to prepare - Donations requested.		
Turkey Chile Soup, Bacon, Lettuce, Tomato Sandwich	Supreme Pizza Minestrone Soup			

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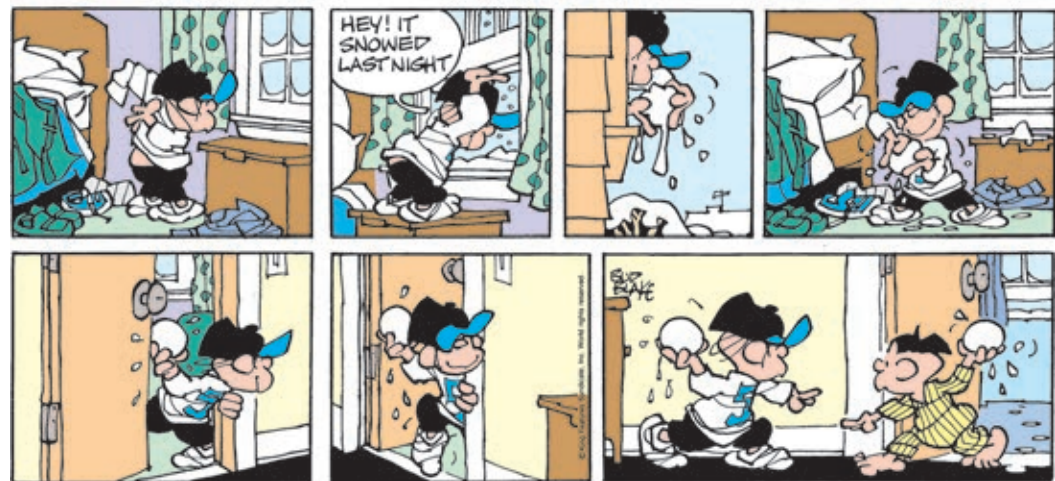
Out on a Limb



The Spats



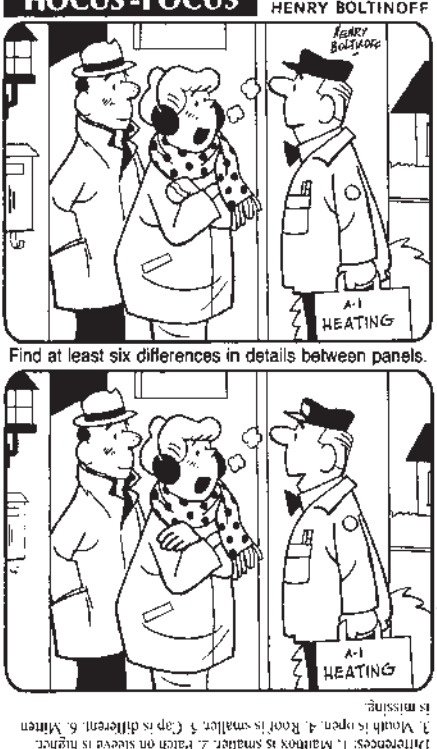
TIGER



OLIVE & POPEYE



HOCUS-FOCUS



Just Like Cats & Dogs



### 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: U equals G

GH LPO FWXGWTW WTWELFPZL  
QYP RNL R JYWL'TW HPOVZ N  
QNJWE-QPEV ENTGVW, G  
UOWRR LPO'EW UOXXL-FXW.

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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!

Booster  
TOCKER  
Consume  
OUDERV  
Intellect  
NABIR  
Guide  
CORSET

TODAY'S WORD

by Dave T. Phipps

by Gary Kopervas

by Jeff Pickering

by BUD BLAKE

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF

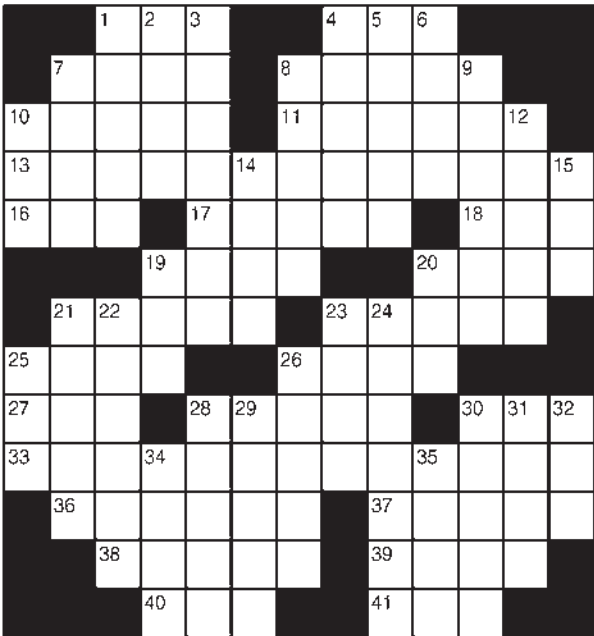
by Dave T. Phipps

December 15, 2025 Posting Date

King Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Train alternative
- 4 Tease
- 7 Former frosh
- 8 Wyoming's — Range
- 10 Valerie Harper sitcom
- 11 Eventually
- 13 Play dough?
- 16 Observe
- 17 Concepts
- 18 Sailor
- 19 Peevish fit
- 20 Hardy lass
- 21 Winner's gesture
- 23 Seaboard
- 25 Sneaky laughs
- 26 Mediocre
- 27 Actress
- 28 Flinch, say
- 30 Gratuity
- 33 Work week start, for many
- 36 Some
- 37 Smidgens
- 38 Where the action is
- 39 Family
- 40 Chang's brother



- 41 Solo in space
- 9 City on the Loire
- 23 Couturier Chanel
- 10 Apt. divisions
- 12 Breadmaking need
- 24 African bird
- 25 Scene stealer
- 26 "The Metamorphosis" protagonist
- 28 Asian noodles
- 29 Gawking at
- 30 Giant
- 31 — uproar
- 32 Film ratings
- 34 Challenge
- 35 The Big Easy acronym

DOWN

- 1 Trailblazer Daniel
- 2 High hairstyle
- 3 Giving form to
- 4 Uganda neighbor
- 5 Things
- 6 Nitwit
- 7 Loafer, for one
- 8 Apartment sign

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Weekly SUDOKU

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

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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FiveSpot™

Office Supplies

B	L	A	C	K

- Chess side
- It holds up the Brooklyn Bridge
- Spear
- Duplicate
- Spell caster
- Printer need

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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Trivia test by Fifi Rodriguez

- 1. U.S. PRESIDENTS: Who was the first left-handed president?
- 2. GEOGRAPHY: What country is home to the largest cave in the world?
- 3. MOVIES: Who is the voice of Buzz Lightyear in the "Toy Story" movies?
- 4. HISTORY: Who was the first emperor of Rome?
- 5. LITERATURE: In what city is James Joyce's novel "Ulysses" set?
- 6. TELEVISION: What is the name of Data's cat on "Star Trek: The Next Generation"?
- 7. ASTRONOMY: What is an exploding star called?
- 8. SCIENCE: What kind of cloud is associated with thunderstorms?
- 9. U.S. STATES: Which states have no sales tax?
- 10. ANATOMY: What is the function of the carotid arteries?

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BREAK

Today's Word

- 3. Brain: 4. Escort
- 1. Rocket: 2. Devour

Solution

SCRAMBLERS

R	E	N	O	T
E	N	O	R	C
E	N	O	C	L
E	C	N	L	A
E	C	N	C	A
E	C	N	C	A
E	C	N	C	A
E	C	N	C	A
E	C	N	C	A

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

Answer

Weekly SUDOKU

If you believe everybody who says they've found a water-worn raving, I guess you're gully-blie.

CryptoQuip

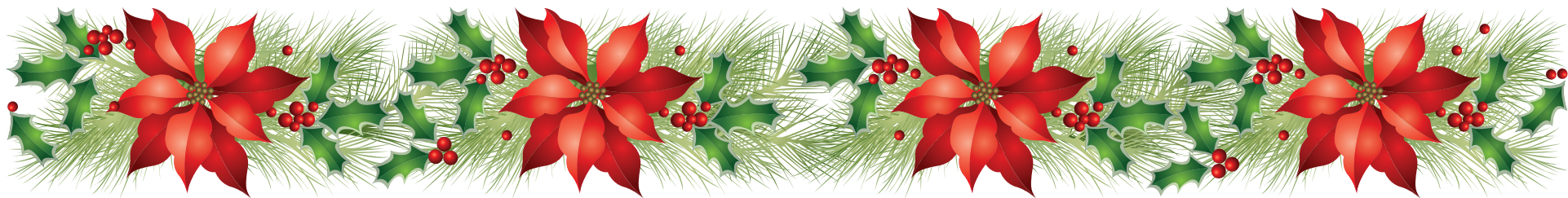
Answer

- 1. James Garfield
- 2. Vietnam
- 3. Tim Allen
- 4. Augustus
- 5. Dublin, Ireland
- 6. Spot
- 7. A supernova
- 8. Cumulonimbus
- 9. Five states have no sales tax: Alaska, Delaware, Montana, New Hampshire and Oregon
- 10. They supply oxygen-rich blood to the face, neck and brain

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# Oregon grows more Christmas trees than other states

## Climate researchers want to keep it that way

MIA MALDONADO  
Oregon Capital Chronicle

As Oregonians prepare for Christmas, researchers are looking into how they can keep the state’s Christmas tree industry alive for decades to come.

Oregon grows more Christmas trees than any other state in the country, selling 3 million trees in 2023 and contributing \$118 million to the state’s economy, according to the most recent federal data available. More than half of those trees are sold in California, with other Western states, Mexico, Canada, Hong Kong, Japan, Panama, Singapore and Maldives among Oregon growers’ top markets, according to the Oregon Department of Agriculture.

The state’s mild summers and wet winters are ideal for growing popular Christmas tree species like the native noble and Douglas firs, but researchers are looking beyond native species to find trees that can withstand hotter and drier conditions.

Priya Rajarapu, an assistant professor and Christmas tree specialist at Oregon State University, works closely with growers and spends much of her time diagnosing sick trees.

“The two most significant problems that we have right now with climate



**Courtesy from Oregon State university**  
Priya Rajarapu is an assistant professor at Oregon State University’s College of Forestry. She is a Christmas tree specialist, researching new climate resilience strategies at the university campus in Corvallis and at the North Willamette Research and Extension Center in Aurora.

change is one, keeping the seedlings alive after they are transplanted in the field the first year, and two, the older trees are more stressed because there is not enough water, which makes them prone to pests and disease attacks more frequently,” she told the Capital Chronicle.

Rajarapu is researching

how species from Eurasia are growing in Oregon — a project that started under her predecessor, Chal Landgren, who collected Nordmann fir and Turkish fir seeds from Georgia and Turkey. Those trees are now growing at a 3-acre site she oversees in Aurora. So far, Rajarapu has found that they are more toler-

ant to drought and pests, which reduces the need for chemical insecticides.

The species are a growing percentage of Oregon’s crop, and the research supports a vital part of Oregon’s economy that supports seasonal jobs in rural areas, Rajarapu said.

“When you buy a real tree, you’re supporting a

local Oregon business, and you should take pride in it, because we are the leading producers of the trees in the country,” Rajarapu said.

<https://oregoncapitalchronicle.com/briefs/oregon-grows-more-christmas-trees-than-other-states-researchers-push-for-climate-resilience/>

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# Oregon Lacks Stability, Coordination, and Clear Data as it Struggles to Implement Measure 110, Auditors Say

FROM THE SECRETARY OF STATE’S OFFICE

SALEM, OR — Measure 110 is still far from achieving its promise to help Oregonians struggling with addiction due to frequent policy changes and a lack of stability, coordination, and data at the Oregon Health Authority (OHA), according to an audit released today by the Secretary of State Audits Division.

“Oregon has struggled to respond to substance use for decades, and fentanyl is only making the problem worse. Enough is enough. We can and should do better,” said Secretary of State Tobias Read. “With a consistent, long-term strategy, stronger coordination, and better data, Oregon can help more people get the care they need, and we’ll all have safer, healthier communities. These recommendations don’t require new resources, just a commitment to providing basic oversight, common-sense governance, and accountability.”

Measure 110 faced serious headwinds from the start. Oregon reports some of the highest rates of substance use disorder in the nation. The pandemic, the rapid spread

of fentanyl, and Oregon’s historically poor access to treatment only made the crisis worse. When voters passed Measure 110 in 2020, Oregon ranked 50th in the nation for access to treatment.

However, auditors found issues with frequently shifting legislative policies and uneven program implementation at OHA that contributed to the lack of results.

For example, legislators changed parts of Measure 110 nearly every year since it passed, making it hard for OHA to build or evaluate long-term strategies. Inside OHA, leadership changes, reorganizations, and unclear accountability weakened the program from the start. Measure 110 services are still not well integrated into Oregon’s broader behavioral health system, leaving them fragmented and harder to manage.

Auditors also found OHA lacks reliable information to track basic metrics — demographic data such as race, ethnicity, age, and gender is often missing or inconsistent, making it hard to know whether funding is reaching communities most harmed by the “war on drugs.” Even determining whether the number of treatment providers

has increased since 2020 is difficult based on available OHA data. Without better data, neither OHA nor lawmakers can tell if policies, services, or millions of dollars in grant funding are improving access to treatment.

**Auditors issued six recommendations to OHA to strengthen Measure 110, including:**

- Develop an implementation roadmap with timelines, accountability, and clear deliverables.
- Require all Measure 110-funded providers to participate in standardized data reporting.
- Complete an analysis to create a baseline that can be compared to new data to measure progress.

*“If OHA follows these recommendations, and the Legislature avoids the temptation to make further significant changes for some time, Measure 110 will be stronger and more likely to help Oregonians struggling with addiction,” said Secretary Read. “Clearer laws, better coordination, and better data will help ensure tax dollars actually get people into treatment.”*



### Mental Health Care That’s Close to Home

- Primary Medical Care
- Mental Health Care
- Addiction Treatment
- Community Support

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