

HOODVIEW NEWS

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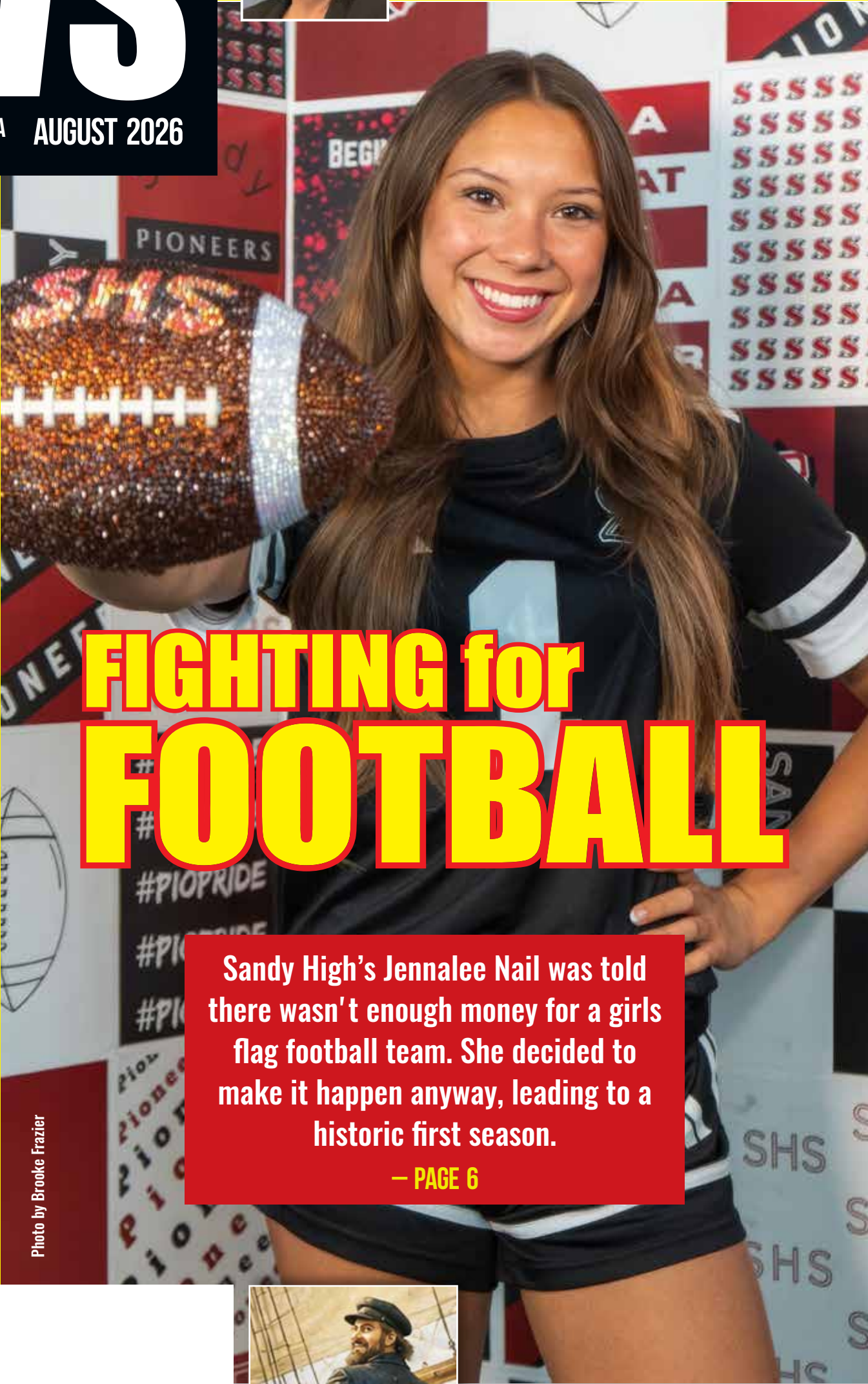
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FIGHTING for FOOTBALL

Sandy High's Jennalee Nail was told there wasn't enough money for a girls flag football team. She decided to make it happen anyway, leading to a historic first season.
— PAGE 6

Photo by Brooke Frazier



STRANGE OREGON — Pg. 20
COLORFUL SEA-CAPTAIN LIKE AN 1800'S HAN SOLO

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Remembering Robert, again

PUBLISHER'S PERSPECTIVE

— Mike Wiley



I always think of Robert in the summertime. Several years ago, while I was doing research for a summer story on homelessness in Gresham, I kept remembering Robert.

I met Robert many years ago when I was on staff at a large church in downtown Portland. In the summer, sometimes we would have our Sunday evening services outside, on the side yard of the church. Everyone sat on the grass. Once, I saw a homeless man come and sit toward the back. After the service, I went over and introduced myself. He told me his name. Robert. He was dressed the part. He had on a large green army great coat and had a big backpack with a bed roll on top.

He was balding and I guessed him to be in his early 30s. His forehead was marked by many scars. I didn't ask him about the scars and he never told me how he had gotten them.

In talking with him, it was clear that he had a mental handicap of some kind. It was also clear that he did not have a drug or alcohol addiction. He told me that he was in Portland for the summer.

I felt a connection with Robert. He attended church services fairly regularly, always hanging at the back. My wife and I were concerned about him and so we asked him to stay with us at our house for a couple of nights. He seemed to appreciate it, but eventually told us that he preferred just to be out on his own.

I still kept an eye on him, but he appeared to manage pretty well, never seeming to really need much. He also appeared to know many of the other homeless people and it looked like they watched out for one another.

A travel routine by the seasons

Robert also seemed to have a travel routine he would follow each year. Portland appeared to be his summer destination.

I was curious about how Robert came

to be homeless. After some gentle questions, I was able to find out that he grew up in California and that his father was a well-known psychologist there. However, Robert seemed to be reluctant to say much more, so I let it go.

About the middle of September, Robert was suddenly gone. I hoped he was OK. However, the next year, around the end of June, Robert appeared again. He remembered me and our friendship resumed, until around September, when he was simply gone again. I started to look for him each year about the end of June.

Then, one summer, he didn't show up. I was a little concerned, but figured he had just found a different place to stay. However, when he didn't show up the next year either, I began to be more concerned.

A poignant phone call

I thought that maybe I could reach his father, since I knew that he was a doctor in California. I called telephone information and asked for a doctor's office with that last name. They didn't have a business number, but they did have that name at a private residence. So, I called it.

A woman answered, and when I asked

for the doctor, she told me he could not come to the phone. She seemed distant and a little sad. I described Robert and asked if Robert was the doctor's son. She said he was.

I told her who I was and my connection with Robert.

As we talked, she warmed up a little. It turned out that the doctor, Robert's father, couldn't come to the phone because he had dementia. She had been his assistant during his years of practice and was now his care-taker.

I asked if she knew how Robert was doing. She hesitated a little. Finally, she told me that Robert had been killed. He had been walking along a highway in California at night when he was struck by a vehicle. The driver hadn't stopped.

She also told me a little about Robert's background. Robert had a form of epilepsy. The many scars on his forehead came from banging his head when he had seizures. She said that Robert's parents had cared deeply for him. However, beginning in his early teenage years, he had wanderlust. He just liked to go off on his own and travel around.

Despite their efforts to keep Robert at home and close to treatment for his illness, whenever he had a chance, he would set out and travel. As he got into his twenties, his travels took him further and further until he was traveling constantly, up and down the west coast with the seasons.

Finally, Robert's family came to accept that that's what Robert wanted.

I don't know how many other lives Robert touched, but I know that he touched mine.

This summer, I remember you, Robert, again. **HVN**

This is a slightly edited version of a Publisher's Perspective column that appears occasionally in Hoodview News. In the summertime.

"If you don't bring Paris with you, you won't find it there." — John M. Shanahan

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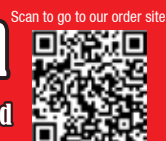


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George Washington addresses his troops before a key battle



George Washington addressed his troops before the key Battle of Long Island —

“The time is now near at hand which must probably determine whether Americans are to be freemen or slaves. Whether they are to have any property they can call their own — whether their Houses and Farms are to be pillaged and destroyed and they consigned to a State of Wretchedness from which no human efforts will probably deliver them. The fate of unborn millions will now depend, under God, on the courage and conduct of this army. Our cruel and unrelenting enemy leaves us no choice but a brave resistance or the most abject submission. That is all we can expect. We have therefore to resolve to conquer or die.” ■

These vignettes are published to honor the United States of America in the year of the 250th Anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence.

Community Report — Bess Wills, CEO Gresham Ford & local leader

The road to being the best...

By BESS WILLS
CEO, Gresham Ford

lives, leadership must be willing to acknowledge that and change direction.

Ford’s journey to becoming the No. 1 Mainstream Brand in initial quality offers Oregon an important lesson: Improvement begins by honestly confronting what is not working.

Ford has not always been No. 1 in quality. Its leadership understood that rebuilding quality would require more than promises or a clever advertising campaign. It meant listening to customers, studying failures, addressing recalls, and examining every detail that could make the next vehicle better. Progress came from identifying root causes and fixing thousands of small problems—one at a time.

Oregon should consider taking the same approach.

State faces serious challenges

Our state faces serious challenges in education, taxation, homelessness, public safety, and affordability. Yet too often, our response has been another program, another tax, or another sweeping announcement. Good intentions matter, but results matter more. If the same approaches are not improving people’s

CAT: Not listening carefully enough?

The Corporate Activity Tax is one example. Oregon voters rejected a similar proposal, but the Legislature later approved the CAT. Regardless of one’s political position, leaders should ask whether they listened carefully enough to voters and whether the tax is producing the promised results without creating unintended costs for businesses and consumers.

Ford did not improve by running from criticism. It improved by embracing accountability, listening closely, measuring outcomes, and doing the difficult work of correcting problems at their source.

Oregon can become stronger too. But first, we must be honest about where we stand, leaders must listen to the people they serve and focus less on big statements and more on getting the small—but essential—things right. Then Oregon too, may get the awards and recognition for being the best. ■

Bess Wills is the CEO of Gresham Ford.



Clackamas County Commission Report — Commissioner Ben West

DSA’s Shockwave: How radical socialists are reshaping Oregon’s political future

By BEN WEST

Clackamas County Commissioner, Position 5

In recent years, the Democratic Socialists of America (DSA) have become a powerful and controversial force in Oregon’s political landscape. Once considered a fringe movement, the DSA, through its radical platform and energized base, now shapes policies and elections across the state, particularly in Portland. It is prudent to take stock of the DSA’s rapid ascent, the extremity of its platform, its growing influence within Oregon politics, and the implications for the state’s future.

Radical program

The DSA’s current platform features a wide array of transformative and anti-Western proposals. Key elements include ending all bills for residents, establishing fully publicly run food, housing, healthcare, and transportation systems, and nationalizing all major corporations and essential industries. The organization also champions drafting a new constitution, eliminating the Department of War, and providing reparations for slavery. The platform planks call for universal access to abortion and gender-affirming care, including for children, funded by taxpayers. In addition, the DSA advocates for canceling all student loan debt, offering unlimited free higher education, and abolishing the police and prison systems. Further proposals include ending deportations, granting amnesty to undocumented immigrants, and adopting a complete open-border policy. Finally, the DSA seeks to abolish the US Presidency, Supreme Court, and Senate, signaling a push for a fundamental restructuring of the nation’s core government institutions. These plans are dangerous and revolutionary in nature, seeking to bring about an unachievable utopia but, in reality, a dystopian nightmare.

The national leadership of the DSA is dominated by self-avowed communists, a fact that has fueled both their ideological zeal and the concerns of their critics. The DSA has become the base of the Democratic Party’s progressive wing, and

its political power is on the rise. Locally, Portland has emerged as a stronghold for the DSA. Half of the Portland City Council is composed of DSA members and their progressive allies, a testament to the group’s organizational prowess and grassroots mobilization.

Primary further cemented influence

The recent May 2026 primary further cemented the DSA’s influence, adding to their ranks in Salem. In Senate District 15, longtime Democratic incumbent State

Sen. Janeen Sollman lost her seat to DSA candidate Myrna Muñoz. In House District 27, DSA candidate Tammy Carpenter, who was caught up in allegations of antisemitism due to her political activism and controversial social media posts, won her race. DSA candidates also succeeded in re-electing Farrah Chaichi. These victories underscore the DSA’s growing appeal among voters and its ability to challenge more moderate or traditional Democratic candidates.

Finally, the DSA seeks to abolish the US Presidency, Supreme Court, and Senate, signaling a push for a fundamental restructuring of the nation’s core government institutions.

Balance of power

shifted leftward

While the political far right in Oregon also has its share of figures with extreme ideologies, these individuals and factions wield little power or real influence within the state. The balance of power has decisively shifted leftward, with the DSA’s radical platform setting the agenda for Oregon’s political future.

The rise of the DSA in Oregon represents a profound transformation in the state’s politics. Whether one views the DSA’s influence as a necessary corrective to decades of inequality or as a dangerous turn toward authoritarian collectivism, its impact is undeniable. As the DSA continues to amass power, Oregon stands as a bellwether for the future of progressive—and perhaps radical—politics in America. ■

Ben West has been a Clackamas County Commissioner since 2023 and was formerly a Wilsonville city councilor.



EDITOR’S NOTE ON COMMUNITY COLUMNS

Community Columns is a public service of *Hoodview News* to give readers an opportunity to hear directly from elected officials and other community leaders. Submission of a column does not imply that the columnist endorses or supports the publishers of *Hoodview News*, Hoodview News, Inc., advertisers, other contributors, or editorial opinions expressed herein. Similarly, publication of a Community Column by *Hoodview News* does not imply endorsement of the columnist or their views by the publishers, *Hoodview News*, advertisers, other columnists, or contributors. **HVN**

“Without the right of dissent, all of the newspapers, magazines and broadcast agencies would be grinding out government pap... When your rights are gone, it makes very little difference to the prisoner exactly who it was that threw away the key.”
— **Former Oregon Governor Tom McCall**



Gresham City Council Report — Council President Cathy Keathley

Your vote counts—but this year the rules are different

By CATHY KEATHLEY
Gresham City Council President

One of the most important races on this November's ballot will be the election for Multnomah County Chair. The person elected will oversee a county budget of nearly \$4 billion of our tax dollars and make decisions that affect public safety, homelessness, mental health services, transportation, libraries, and other programs that directly impact Gresham residents.

New twist on elections

This election has a new twist. For the first time, all county voters will elect the Chair using Rank Choice Voting (RCV) instead of the traditional voting system we've used our entire lives. The Sherriff will also be elected using the RCV method.

Under our familiar system—called First Past the Post—voters select one candidate, and the candidate with the most votes wins. It's straightforward and is still the method Gresham will use for City Council and mayoral elections.

Rank Choice Voting is different. Instead of choosing only one candidate, you can rank candidates in the order you prefer: first, second, third choice, and up to six votes. You don't have to rank everyone, but you can if you wish.

Determining the winner

Here's how the winner is determined. If one candidate receives more than half of all first-choice votes, that candidate wins. If no one earns a majority, the candidate with the fewest first-choice votes is eliminated. Ballots cast for that candidate are then counted for each voter's

next-ranked candidate who is still in the race. The process repeats until one candidate receives a majority of the remaining active ballots.

A common misconception is that ranking a second or third choice somehow takes votes away from your first choice. It doesn't. Your first-choice candidate always gets your vote first. Your next choices matter only if your higher-ranked candidate has already been eliminated.

Because you will be able to rank up to six choices, some people ask if they get six votes. With ranked choice voting, you still only get one vote. Your 2nd, 3rd, and so on ranks are like backup choices. They are only counted if your 1st choice candidate is eliminated.

Multiple rounds of counting

RCV does require multiple rounds of counting, so the final results take longer to determine than under the traditional system. That is expected and is how Rank Choice Voting works.

The Multnomah County Chair and Sheriff race will use Rank Choice Voting, while Gresham city races will continue to use traditional First Past the Post. In fact, you will be receiving a two-page ballot. One page will only contain ranked choice voting contests which are for Multnomah County Chair and Sheriff. The other page will contain all non-RCV contests, including City of Gresham candidates, ballot measures, and state and federal contests. ■

Cathy Keathley, elected 2024, is president of the Gresham City Council.



Sandy Community Update — Carl Exner

Sandy city council elections coming up

By CARL EXNER
Former Sandy city councilor

It's important to be involved in your community. Even if it is just going to your church, or spending a few dollars buying an elephant ear at the Mountain Festival. But this month you have another opportunity to be a critical part of your city. This is the year that we elect (or re-elect) our mayor and three members of the City Council in Sandy. To be eligible to run for one of these positions, you must live inside the city's boundary and be at least 18 years old. This is the kind of participation that has been guiding cities like ours for generations. It's the American way.

Sandy strategically placed

As a former City Councilman for 14 years and a planning commissioner the previous five years, I have seen the city grow into a crucial community, strategically placed between Gresham and the mountain. We have many big issues that need close scrutiny and wise thinking. The folks on this Council are the key individuals that have the responsibilities to represent all the rest of us in these matters. They must balance between the ridiculous and the prudent, to limit spending and direct the commitment of our city resources in the best possible way.

Decisions on sewer problem

Here are a few of the big issues that you would be deciding on as a city councilor or mayor. The sewer program for Sandy is the biggest money expenditure ever for Sandy. We are talking about more than \$100 million out of our pocket books. We have been through several iterations already, but still need to find a quick but economical solution. Another heady project is to finally get commer-

cial construction happening on those beautiful grassy acres in west Sandy along the new Bell Street road near the high school. When we committed to supporting that city expenditure we were betting on quick private construction of commercial businesses to offset the money we spent there. It hasn't happened yet. You also get to hear from those less impactful but no less important issues from your neighbors, like dog fights, sign rules and not to forget the city's two-year budget. Here you get to decide how much and where you're going to spend all our tax dollars.

Maybe you are the one to run

I hope I got several of you thinking you might have the energy to throw your name into the hat. At the very least it will make you aware of our city's process for elections. You will need to visit City Hall on Pioneer Boulevard to pick up your candidate packet. In there, you will find a pamphlet to get twenty of your closest city friends to sign. That all has to be done before August 25. You should get it in a week before the due date. If you have any questions you can go to the City of Sandy website and or call the Jeff Aprati (the deputy City Manager) at 503-668-5533 for more information.

I look forward to seeing some of you in the mix! ■

Carl Exner is a real estate agent and was a respected member of the Sandy City Council for fourteen years. He also served on the City of Sandy planning commission for five years prior to that. He is currently a member of the budget committee.



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FIGHTING for FOOTBALL

Photo by Brooke Frazier

Sandy High's Jennalee Nail was told there wasn't enough money for a girls flag football team. She decided to make it happen anyway, leading to a historic first season.

By MIKE WILEY
Publisher

The football spiraled through the spring air, spinning toward a receiver wearing black and red.

The crowd held its breath.

On a dead run, Jennalee Nail gathered in the pass, turned upfield and raced toward the end zone. Moments later, teammates surrounded her in celebration as Sandy High School's girls flag football team scored the first touchdown in program history.

It was an unforgettable moment.

Not simply because it was the opening score of the Pioneers' inaugural season, but because the young woman crossing the goal line was the same student who had refused to let girl's flag football remain only an idea. Months earlier, there had been no Sandy High girls flag football program. No coaches. No uniforms. No schedule. No practices.

There had only been a question: Why don't we have a girls flag football team? The answer seemed straightforward. There wasn't money. There wasn't a budget. Perhaps someday, said school officials, but not now. The adults in charge had said, "no." For many students, that would have been the end of the conversation.

For Jennalee Nail, however, it was only the beginning.

Looking for another way

Rather than accepting "no" as the final answer, she decided to look for another way. Over the months that followed, the Sandy High

junior recruited supporters, raised money, gathered signatures from interested students, found community partners willing to volunteer their time, and helped build a program from the ground up. Along the way, she found mentors in Tony and Kim Turin, whose passion for football and youth sports helped transform a grassroots idea into an organized team. Parents, businesses, and volunteers rallied around the effort until what had once seemed unlikely became reality. The remarkable part is that the story didn't end with simply fielding a team.

It quickly became one of Oregon's best.

In its inaugural season, Sandy compiled a 12-2 record, won its conference against programs with years more experience, defeated several of the state's established powers, and finished seventh at the state tournament—an astonishing debut for a team whose players had only recently begun learning the rules of the game. Coaches Tony and Kim Turin described the athletes as one of the most coachable groups they had ever worked with, combining enthusiasm, athletic ability and an eagerness to learn that accelerated the team's growth.

There is an old saying that character is revealed not when life is easy, but when someone is told "no." This is the story of a young woman who respectfully declined to accept that "no" had to be the final answer—and in doing so, created opportuni-



FIRST TEAM: The inaugural Sandy High School Girl's Flag Football Team. Jennalee Nail is holding the football on the left. Jamela Turin is in the back row, second from left. (Photo by Brooke Frazier)

ties that will benefit Sandy High students for years to come.

Refused to let the idea die

To understand how Sandy High School's girls flag football team came to exist, it helps to understand the young woman who refused to let the idea die.

Jennalee Nail is not someone who sits still for very long.

As she enters her senior year this fall, she has already built an impressive résumé. She carries a 4.0 grade-point

average while taking honors classes, serves as Sandy High's All Student Body vice president, competes in multiple sports and has set her sights on graduating among the school's top students. Even with practices, meetings, and late nights devoted to athletics, she has maintained straight A's while balancing a schedule that would leave many adults exhausted.

Athletics have long been part of her life. Volleyball, golf, and other school activities kept her calendar full,

but football was never really on that list.

In fact, she freely admits she knew almost nothing about the game.

Like many students on Friday nights, Jennalee attended Sandy High football games to cheer on the Pioneers, spend time with friends and soak in the atmosphere. That changed during the summer prior to her junior year when she began dating Hudson Pearson, a receiver on the Sandy football team. Suddenly, she found herself paying atten-

tion to something she had largely ignored before.

Her sense of humor was on full display one evening when she showed up carrying a handmade sign that read: "I don't know anything about football. I just think #3 is really cute!"

The sign earned plenty of laughs, but it also happened to be completely honest.

"For the first time," her mother, Krystal Nail, recalled, "she was actually watching every play and desperately wanting to learn

■ CONTINUED ON PAGE 8

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Fighting for football

■ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7

about football.”

Jennalee wanted to understand what was happening on the field, so she did something that has become a recurring pattern in her life.

She started asking questions.

Sitting in the stands were Tony and Kim Turin, longtime members of the Sandy community whose son quarterbacked the boys’ varsity team. Jennalee knew the family through church and volleyball. During the boy’s football games she would pepper them with questions about football. Patiently, they explained the game one play at a time until football began making sense to her.

Looking back, it is hard not to smile at the irony.

The young woman who would eventually help launch Sandy High’s girls flag football program didn’t grow up dreaming of playing football. She simply became curious about the game.

That curiosity led to conversations. Those conversations sparked an idea. And before long, a casual question asked after a Friday night football game would

begin changing the future of athletics at Sandy High School. It would be the one that started it all.

“Why doesn’t Sandy High have a girls flag football team?”

A sport whose time had come

Jennalee Nail’s question wasn’t asked in a vacuum.

Across Oregon and the nation, girls flag football has become one of the fastest-growing high school sports. What began only a few years ago as a handful of pilot programs has expanded rapidly as schools, athletic associations and even the NFL have embraced the sport as a new opportunity for female athletes. The momentum has been so strong that flag football will make its Olympic debut at the 2028 Summer Games in Los Angeles, further fueling interest among young women.

Oregon has been part of that movement. After debuting with just eight high school teams in 2023, participation quickly grew to 32 schools in 2024, 47 in 2025 and 58 schools this past season. That growth recently pushed the sport

past the threshold needed for a vote to become a fully sanctioned Oregon School Activities Association sport, a milestone expected to be considered this fall.

Many of Sandy High’s longtime rivals—including Gresham, Barlow, David Douglas, Nelson and others—already had girls flag football programs in place. As Jennalee watched those opportunities expand for athletes across the region, she couldn’t help but wonder why Sandy’s girls didn’t have the same chance.

“What if I raised the money?”

When Jennalee approached Sandy High’s athletic director about starting a girls flag football program, she wasn’t asking for special treatment.

She simply wanted to understand why Sandy didn’t have a team when more and more schools around Oregon were adding one. The answer was thoroughly practical.

Launching a new sport isn’t as simple as handing out footballs and drawing up a schedule. There are uniforms to purchase, officials to pay, insurance

requirements, coaching stipends, transportation costs and equipment to buy. Like every school district, Sandy operates within a limited athletic budget, and there simply wasn’t funding available to start another program.

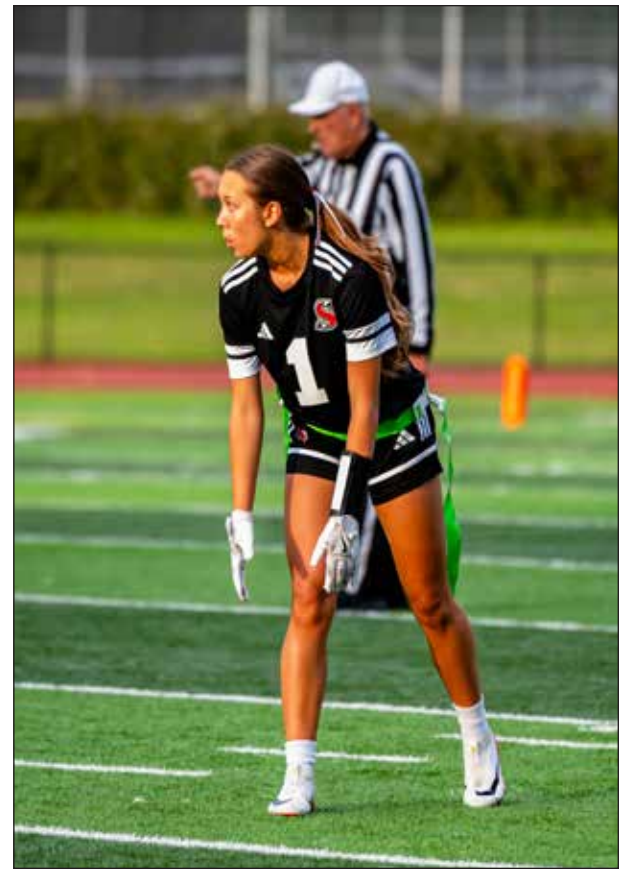
For many students, that explanation would have made perfect sense. Starting a new sport sounded expensive because it was expensive.

Jennalee understood that. What she didn’t accept was the idea that the lack of funding had to mean the end of the conversation. Instead of walking away disappointed, she asked them a simple question that no one expected.

“What if I raised the money?”

It was one of those small moments of courage and initiative that can sometimes change everything.

Looking back, Jennalee doesn’t describe herself as someone trying to challenge the school’s authority or prove a point. She simply saw an opportunity that girls at Sandy didn’t have and wondered whether there might be another way to make it happen. If the obstacle was financial, perhaps



Jennalee lines up for a play during a game this last season. (Photo Sam Smallwood)

the solution could be financial as well.

That willingness to look for solutions rather than dwell on obstacles has become a recurring theme in her life.

“There was never a point where I thought, ‘Well, I guess that’s it,’” Jennalee

recalls. “I just kept thinking about what the next step might be.” The next step was finding out whether anyone else shared her vision. Jennalee began talking with classmates, asking whether other girls would actually be interested in playing flag

■ CONTINUED ON PAGE 9



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Fighting for football

■ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

football if Sandy were able to start a team.

The response even surprised her. Interest spread quickly and before long she was compiling a growing list of girls who wanted the opportunity to play. What had begun as a personal idea was becoming something much larger. Jennalee soon realized she wasn't pursuing a dream for herself alone. Dozens of other young women had quietly been hoping for the same opportunity, and many were eager to help make it happen.

Of course, enthusiasm alone doesn't create a football team. A successful program would require coaches, equipment, fundraising, volunteers and someone with enough experience to turn an exciting idea into a workable reality.

As it turned out, the people who could help were much closer than Jennalee realized. Tony and Kim Turin had been watching her determination from the sidelines.

Community rallies around an idea

If Jennalee Nail provided the spark, Tony and Kim Turin helped fan it into a flame.

The Turins were hardly strangers to Sandy athletics. Their son had quarterbacked the Pioneer football team, Kim had coached volleyball for years, and football had long been part of family life. More importantly, they had spent years investing

in young people, both on the field and through their church community. When Jennalee began asking questions about starting a girls flag football program, they immediately recognized something special.

"This wasn't just a kid

As word spread through the school, girls kept arriving until every chair was filled. Before long, students were spilling out the doorway and into the hallway outside.

with an idea," Tony recalled. "She was serious about making it happen."

Jennalee had first come to know the Turins in a way that still makes them smile. During those Friday night football games, she would pepper them with questions about what was happening on the field.

"What was that penalty?"

"Why did they do that?"

"How does that play work?"

Neither Tony nor Kim minded. In fact, they loved it.

Jennalee's curiosity was genuine, and it didn't take long for the Turins to realize she wasn't simply trying to understand football. She was trying to understand whether

girls at Sandy might someday have the opportunity to play it themselves.

As Jennalee's vision grew, so did the Turins' involvement. They began helping navigate the practical realities of launching a new program, advising on everything from paperwork and organization to recruiting coaches and talking with families. Together, they also found an innovative way around the funding obstacle that had initially seemed insurmountable.

Rather than waiting until the school district could someday fund girls flag football as an official varsity sport, they organized the program as a school-sponsored club, similar to something like the chess club. The program operated as two school-sponsored club teams, giving players both varsity- and junior varsity-level opportunities. This way, the teams could begin competing immediately while relying on private fundraising, volunteers and community support rather than the school's athletic budget. It wasn't the easiest path, but it allowed the program to get off the ground while laying the foundation for what many hope will eventually become a fully sanctioned school sport.

Once that framework was in place, Jennalee set out to answer another important question: Were enough girls actually interested?

School administrators reserved a small meeting room for the first informational session for interested students. They assumed the



Jennalee Nail's supportive family. (Left to right) Sisters Josie and Cassidy, father Jonah, mother Krystal, Jennalee, and sister Kennedy. (Photo courtesy Krystal Nail)

small room would be adequate. It wasn't.

As word spread through the school, girls kept arriving until every chair was filled. Before long, students were spilling out the doorway and into the hallway outside. "It was packed," said Jennalee. "There wasn't room for everyone." What organizers expected to be a modest informational meeting demonstrated that there was strong interest.

No one was asking anymore whether enough girls wanted to play football. The answer was standing in the hallway. That meeting changed the conversation. Soon, others began stepping forward as well.

Parents volunteered their time. Local businesses donated money. Friends shared the vision with neighbors. Community members who believed girls deserved the same opportunities as

boys quietly wrote checks, offered encouragement or simply asked, "How can I help?"

One donation in particular has stayed with Jennalee. She was getting a pedicure with her mother when the conversation turned to the effort to start the football team. A woman nearby overheard them talking and asked what they were trying to accomplish. After listening for a few minutes, the stranger reached into her purse and quietly handed Jennalee a \$100 bill.

No speech. No fanfare. Just a simple act of generosity from someone who believed in a young person's dream. Looking back, Jennalee remembers moments like that as reminders that people often want to help when they believe something worthwhile is happening.

"They just kept show-

ing up," she said. "People wanted to be part of it."

Within a matter of weeks, what had begun as one student's question had become a genuine community effort. Parents, coaches, businesses, volunteers and dozens of young women had all taken ownership of the dream.

Now came the hard part. They had to turn a room full of enthusiastic girls into a football team.

Learning the game

Starting a football team was one challenge. Learning how to play football was another.

With the paperwork completed, the fundraising underway and dozens of girls eager to participate, the new Sandy High flag football program finally had something it had never possessed before—a roster.

■ CONTINUED ON PAGE 19

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CLACKAMAS COUNTY CLERK ELECTION

Mark Reaksecker seeks to bring transparency and accountability to local elections

Reaksecker seeks to take on a one-term incumbent, a former Multnomah County elections official facing her first re-election campaign



Mark Reaksecker has a vision for elections that are transparent and easily verifiable (Photo courtesy Mark Reaksecker)

By **MIKE WILEY**
Publisher

Long-time Clackamas County resident and local dentist Mark Reaksecker is running to become the next Clackamas County Clerk.

It is not a glamorous job, but it's a vital one.

The county clerk is one of those under-the-radar elected positions that often escapes much public scrutiny. That is, until there's a problem.

Although the office receives relatively little public attention, the clerk oversees a surprisingly broad range of county functions. Those include administering elections, recording property transactions and deeds, maintaining official county records, issuing marriage licenses and processing passport applications.

The office also oversees the board that hears property-value appeals and processes Oregon Liquor and Cannabis Commission licenses in unincorporated areas of the county.

It is a long list of responsibilities.

For Reaksecker, however, one responsibility stands above the rest: maintaining public confidence in elections.

"Too many people tell me that they don't vote because they don't trust the elections and they don't feel their vote counts," Reaksecker said. "I think that is sad, and I wanted to do something about that."

Reaksecker, a retired dentist who practiced for 32 years, is challenging incumbent County Clerk

Catherine McMullen in the Nov. 3 general election.

In 2022, McMullen defeated Sherry Hall, who had held the position for 20 years.

Reaksecker believes the office now needs a greater emphasis on election security, public visibility and accountability.

"I want to make elections something people can have faith in," he said.

Clackamas County roots

Reaksecker is a third-generation Oregonian whose life has remained closely tied to Clackamas County.

He spent his early childhood in Southeast Portland before his family moved to the Milwaukie area while he was in the fourth grade. He attended Bilquist Elementary School, Clackamas Grade School, John McLoughlin Junior High and Clackamas High School, graduating in 1976.

After high school, he attended Portland State University and then Oregon Health Sciences University's School of Dentistry, where he earned his Doctor of Dental Medicine degree.

Unlike many graduates who leave the area to begin their careers, Reaksecker stayed close to home. He practiced dentistry locally for more than three decades before retiring in 2020, when the COVID shutdown brought an unexpected end to his practice.

"We decided to call it good," he said.

The profession required precision, patience and

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Mark Reaksecker

■ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 10

attention to detail—qualities Reaksecker believes would transfer well to the clerk's office.

A dentist, after all, cannot merely be approximately correct. Records must be accurate, procedures must be followed and small problems cannot be ignored in the hope that they will somehow repair themselves.

Family traditions

Reaksecker and his wife, Lori, have been married for nearly 21 years. Between them, they have three adult children. Reaksecker also has four grandchildren, including a grandson who was given his name.

His own name reflects a similar family tradition. Reaksecker was named for his grandfather, and his son was named for Reaksecker's father.

The family connections matter to him, as does the community where several generations of his family have lived.

Now retired from dentistry, Reaksecker said he could have simply enjoyed a quieter life. Instead, con-

cerns about elections and the growing number of people who question whether voting makes a difference persuaded him to seek to enter public service.

"Too many people tell me that they don't vote because they don't trust the elections and they don't feel their vote counts," Reaksecker said. "I think that is sad, and I wanted to do something about that."

Restoring confidence

Reaksecker's campaign centers on a simple premise: An election system cannot function as it should unless voters trust it.

That does not mean every allegation circulating on the internet is necessarily true. It does mean, he argues, that election officials should take public concerns seriously and operate in a way that allows citizens to see and understand what is happening.

For Reaksecker, transpar-

ency is not merely issuing a statement after questions arise. It means providing information throughout the election process, explaining how ballots are handled and allowing meaningful public observation.

"I want to make everything extremely transparent," he said. "Inform the public of what's going on and when it happens, so that they know."

He also wants the county to take a more active role in reviewing voter-registration records rather than relying solely upon state-level processes.

Maintaining voter rolls is a routine but essential part of election administration. People move, die, change names or register elsewhere, and Reaksecker believes regular county-level review would help reassure voters that ballots are being sent only to eligible residents at their current addresses.

Security features on ballots

He also supports adding security features to ballots, including watermarks or similar authentication measures. Ballots lacking the appropriate security feature could then be separated and examined rather than

automatically entering the regular count.

In Reaksecker's view, such safeguards would provide another way to verify that returned ballots were officially issued by the county.

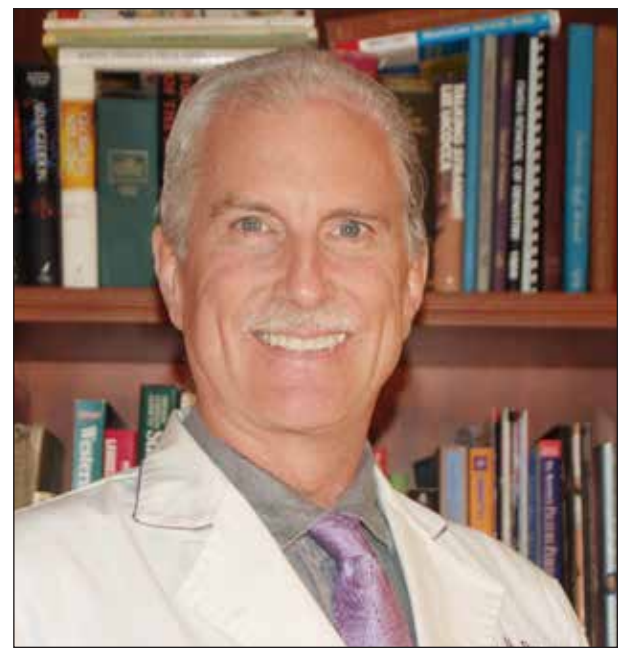
He has also raised questions about damaged or resealed ballot envelopes and the procedures used when those envelopes arrive at the elections office. Reaksecker said voters should have confidence in the chain of custody from the time a ballot is returned until it is verified and counted.

Oregon's vote-by-mail system is established by state law and cannot be eliminated by an individual county clerk. Reaksecker acknowledges that clearly.

"I have never stated that I want to end vote by mail, because frankly, I can't," he said. "On the county level, you cannot end a statewide initiative or legislative action. It can only be done at the state level."

Instead, he said a clerk must work within existing law while seeking whatever additional safeguards may legally be available to the county.

That could include



Reaksecker served as a dentist in Clackamas County for 32 years. (Photo courtesy Mark Reaksecker)

researching whether some form of voter identification could be incorporated into the ballot-return process. Reaksecker said any such proposal would first need to be reviewed by county legal counsel to ensure that it complies with Oregon law.

A return to hand counting

Reaksecker's most far-reaching proposal is also the most challenging: He wants Clackamas County to discontinue the use of electronic vote-tabulation

machines and return to hand counting ballots.

Concerns about voting technology have grown nationally in recent years. Election administrators generally defend modern tabulation systems as accurate, tested and subject to audits, while critics question whether proprietary software provides sufficient public visibility.

Reaksecker falls firmly in the latter camp.

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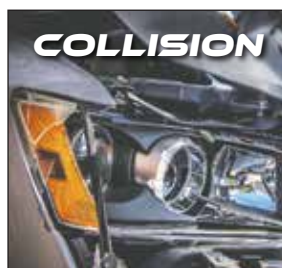


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Mark Reaksecker

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His objection is not merely that a machine could malfunction. He believes voters should not be asked to place unquestioning faith in technology they cannot independently examine or understand.

His proposed solution is straightforward.

"We would pull the plug on the machines and hand count all ballots," he said.

Training bipartisan teams

Reaksecker remembers when local residents gathered at neighborhood precincts, cast their votes and watched community members participate in counting them.

The system was labor-intensive, but it was also understandable. Citizens could observe ballots being handled, grouped and tallied without needing specialized knowledge of computer software.

Reaksecker envisions trained bipartisan teams counting ballots under public observation, with totals checked and reconciled before being reported.

He contends that money

now spent purchasing, licensing and maintaining tabulation equipment could instead help pay temporary election workers. A carefully designed hand-counting system, he argues, would

Many European elections utilize hand-counting and deliver results as fast, or faster, than many U.S. elections. Electronic voting machines are uncommon or have been discontinued in several European nations due to security or transparency concerns.

be both verifiable and easier for ordinary voters to understand.

Critics would likely question whether hand counting could process hundreds of thousands of ballots quickly enough, particularly in a large county with lengthy ballots and numerous local con-

tests. Reaksecker believes those logistical challenges can be solved with sufficient staffing, preparation and organization. Many European elections utilize hand-counting and deliver results as fast, or faster, than many U.S. elections. Electronic voting machines are uncommon or have been discontinued in several European nations due to security or transparency concerns.

For Reaksecker, speed is important, but voter confidence is more important.

Asking voters for a change

The clerk's race is officially nonpartisan, although differing philosophies about elections, voter outreach, and government accountability inevitably shape how candidates approach the office.

Reaksecker is not campaigning as a conventional elections professional. He is campaigning as a longtime Clackamas County resident, retired small-business owner and concerned voter who believes the public deserves greater access to the election process.

His background in dentistry may appear, at first

glance, unrelated to the clerk's office. Reaksecker sees it differently.

For 32 years, patients trusted him to diagnose problems accurately, explain their options, maintain confidential records and perform work requiring both technical competence and careful judgment.

Reaksecker believes public office requires the same basic qualities: honesty, precision, responsibility and a willingness to answer questions.

The clerk must administer elections impartially, regardless of personal politics or which candidate benefits from the result. Reaksecker said his goal is not to control election outcomes, but to establish procedures strong enough that voters across the political spectrum can accept them.

For many voters, the county clerk may remain a relatively obscure office. They may never record a deed, request archived county documents, appeal a property assessment or apply for a passport through the clerk.

But nearly every adult citizen eventually encounters the office in one important



Reaksecker with his wife Lori. (Photo courtesy Mark Reaksecker)

way: when a ballot arrives. Reaksecker believes that moment should carry confidence rather than concern.

"I see too many people who don't trust the elec-

tions," he said. "I want to make changes so that people have trust in the election again."

That is the case he will take to Clackamas County voters this fall. **HVN**



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"People say 'you're a very tough person.' I'm not tough. Life is tough. I'm merely trying to acquaint you with those facts." — Thomas Sowell"





The "2026 Support Mt. Hood Hospice Month" campaign check was presented by Clackamas County Bank on Wednesday, July 1st to Mt. Hood Hospice at the Mt. Hood Hospice office in Sandy. Those attending the ceremony represented businesses in the area who had contributed to and helped at events during the fund raising campaign. Front row (left to right): Sarah Medford of Pleasant Home Saloon, Lisa York of Clackamas County Bank, Rhonda Franke of Mt. Hood Hospice, Jolie Phantom of Mt. Hood Hospice. Back row (left to right): Amanda Seulean of Clackamas County Bank, Tara Hill of Clackamas County Bank, Brian York of Clackamas County Bank, John Gipe of Sandy Cinema, Brandi Knoles of Clackamas County Bank, Shelley Burns-Giusto of Burns Feed Store. (Photo Joan Wiley)

Clackamas County Bank presents fund-raising check to Mt. Hood Hospice

By MIKE WILEY
Publisher

Clackamas County Bank had a special check presentation recognizing the funds raised during the "2026 Support Mt. Hood Hospice Month" campaign on Wednesday, July 1st at the office of Mt. Hood Hospice in Sandy. Representatives from Clackamas County Bank, Mt. Hood Hospice, and supporting businesses attended this event.

Through this community fundraising effort, customers, employees, local businesses, and community members came together to support the important work of Mt. Hood Hospice. The campaign included multiple fundraising events and donation opportunities including a 50/50 Raffle designed to benefit hospice care and support services in the community. The funds raised were presented by check in the amount of \$41,877.99.

Important to give back

Brian York, of Clackamas County Bank (CCB) was asked why CCB helps Mt. Hood Hospice year after year. He replied, "It definitely starts with the last president, Randy, and his involvement who started this relationship

in the 1980's. It's important for us, Clackamas County Bank, to one, give back to the community and two, give back to an organization that supports the community in the way they do. Because of that relationship and because they are the type of organiza-

"It's important for us, Clackamas County Bank, to one, give back to the community and two, give back to an organization that supports the community in the way they do."

— Brian York

tion we look to help, I think it's just important in general. It's kind of a snowball effect we want to see how much better and how much more support we can provide year after year."

York: Community really stepped up

Regarding the community's support and involvement this year, York stated, "Community businesses and community members in general have really stepped up

and really helped support in a lot of different ways that we needed. This is the only way these kind of fundraisers happen is from community involvement and community support. So they really backed us on a lot of it and really helped support us."

Jolie Phantom of Mt. Hood Hospice said, "We are incredibly grateful for the generosity of our community. Reaching the highest fundraising total in the history of our annual campaign is a remarkable achievement and a testament to what we can accomplish together. Every donation helps us continue our mission of caring for patients and loved ones regardless of their ability to pay and expand our impact. We're honored by the trust and support our donors have shown." **HVN**

Mt. Hood Hospice is a nonprofit, Medicare 5-star rated hospice organization serving Clackamas and East Multnomah counties, providing compassionate end-of-life care, grief support, and community programs for patients and their families. For more information on Mt. Hood Hospice or donation instructions, visit: www.mthoodhospice.org.

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New Gresham city manager Teresa Carr shares priorities and leadership style

By **MIKE WILEY**
Publisher

Taking time from her busy schedule settling into her position at the City of Gresham, new city manager Teresa Carr sat down for an hour with local business and community leaders during the Gresham Area Chamber of Commerce's July Business & Leaders Luncheon for a get-to-know-you Q&A. She answered questions and discussed the opportunities and challenges facing the city. At the same time, she offered valuable insights into the leadership approach she looks to bring to the position.

Interviewed on stage by Chamber CEO Lynn Snodgrass before a capacity audience at Persimmon

Country Club, Carr reflected on her first month in office, explained why she left a 26-year career with the Port of Portland, and discussed topics ranging from public safety and housing to economic development, fiscal sustainability and community involvement.

Although she officially began work in June, Carr told the audience Gresham itself is far from new to her. "I've lived in Gresham for 26 years," she said. "My husband grew up here. He graduated from Gresham High School. My boys graduated from Barlow High School."

Before becoming Gresham City Manager, Carr spent nearly 26 years with the Port of Portland, where she oversaw commercial properties,

marine terminals and industrial development. She said the experience taught her the value of regional partnerships and creating economic opportunities that benefit the broader community.

Taking on a new challenge

Snodgrass asked Carr why she would leave what appeared to be a successful career to become Gresham's City Manager. Carr answered that she was drawn both to the challenge itself and to the opportunity to serve the community where she has made her home. She described herself as someone who enjoys tackling complicated problems and finding solutions when others believe they cannot be solved. "What I didn't say about me is I'm



New Gresham city manager Teresa Carr smiles as she listens to a question from the audience at the July Gresham Area Chamber of Commerce's Business & Leaders Luncheon. (Photo Joan Wiley)

super competitive," she said. "When I hear that something can't be done... I'm always a big advocate." She added, "My executive director at the port would say, 'If you want something done, you give it to Teresa.'" Carr added, "I like complex, complicated things. I don't shy away from that kind of stuff."

Carr said accepting the position also gave her an opportunity to invest directly in the city where she and her family have lived for

more than two decades. "I live here. I've lived here for 26 years," she said. "This is a unique opportunity to do something in the city that I love... to take what I've learned over the years to actually put it into effect here."

First impressions

Asked what had surprised her during her first month on the job, Carr said the city's financial and infrastructure challenges were largely what she expected. What stood

out instead, she said, was the commitment of both city employees and residents. "I expected a lot of complexity around the budget, infrastructure... all of those things," she said. "What has stood out to me most... is that people in Gresham... want the city to thrive. They want the city to succeed." After attending the recent Gresham Arts Festival, Carr said she was encouraged by the number of residents volunteering their time to

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Teresa Carr forum

■ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 14

strengthen the community.

She also praised city employees, saying they are deeply committed to serving residents. "The staff are carrying a lot," she said. "They have a lot of heart... They want to be responsive to this community's needs... and they do this work because they love this work."

Learning the Organization

Snodgrass noted that every leadership position comes with a learning curve and asked Carr how she approaches stepping into a new role. Carr answered with a familiar saying: "You eat the elephant one bite at a time." She said she arrived with a written 100-day plan but has already begun refining it as she becomes more familiar with the city organization. During her first month she has met individually with City Council members to better understand their priorities and has begun expanding meetings with employees throughout the city. Carr acknowledged that transitioning from the Port of Portland to city government has required

learning different systems, different governing structures and different working relationships, but said the challenge has been manageable. "It's definitely steep and it's real," she said of the learning curve. "But it's doable."

Developing People

When Snodgrass asked what accomplishment she was most proud of from her previous career, Carr's answer was not about a building project or business development initiative. Instead, she pointed to the people she has mentored. "I'm most proud of the fact that I've had people who have worked for me... and those people have then gone on... to become CEOs... executive directors," she said. Carr said she believes leaders should give employees opportunities to grow, allow them to learn from mistakes and support their professional development. "I also believe that a leader should take less of the credit and more of the blame," she said.

A project that stands out

Asked to describe a professional accomplishment

that illustrates how she approaches leadership, Carr pointed to the redevelopment of an underperforming Port of Portland marine terminal. Rather than viewing the property as a liability, she said she saw an opportunity to bring together government agencies, universities and private industry around a shared vision. The effort eventually secured a \$42 million federal Build Back Better grant to transform the site into the Mass Timber and Housing Innovation Campus, along with millions more in state and federal funding. Carr credited the project's success to collaboration rather than any one individual. "It was a team effort," she said, adding that the project demonstrated what can happen "when you get a coalition of partners together" around a clear vision and a proven ability to execute.

Priorities for Gresham

When Snodgrass asked Carr what she envisions for Gresham's future, Carr responded that she first wants to spend time listening to residents, businesses, City Council members and



Carr (right) and Gresham Area Chamber of Commerce CEO Lynn Snodgrass share a light-hearted moment at the luncheon. (Photo Joan Wiley)

employees before developing long-term goals. "I like to listen and learn," she said, adding that she wants Gresham to be a community people are proud to call home.

She also emphasized creating public spaces that reflect the community's identity while recognizing the financial realities every city faces.

"We're working on goals currently," Carr said, iden-

tifying fiscal sustainability, public safety, housing, transportation, infrastructure, parks and economic development as major priorities. She said the city is reviewing its strategic plan and expects those priorities to become more clearly defined in the coming months. Of those priorities, she said fiscal sustainability occupies much of her attention. "It sounds boring, I know," she said, "but fiscal sustainability is

really what I think about a lot... and that is one of the biggest goals that I have for the city."

Looking further ahead

Snodgrass also asked Carr about her long-term commitment to Gresham, noting that the city has experienced several leadership changes in recent years. Carr responded that her family is rooted in

■ CONTINUED ON PAGE 16



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Teresa Carr forum

■ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 15

the community and that meaningful progress takes time. “My family’s here,” she said. “I want to make an impact, and you can’t make an impact in a year.” She acknowledged she will still be learning the job over the coming year but said her goal is to leave behind projects her children and grandchildren will one day be proud to say she helped accomplish.

Audience questions

The luncheon concluded with questions from business leaders attending the luncheon on topics ranging from downtown revitalization and public safety to housing, infrastructure and economic development.

Asked how the city can preserve Gresham’s small-town character while continuing to grow, Carr pointed to continued investment in downtown, support for small businesses, community events and the Farmer’s Market, while encouraging thoughtful design as new development occurs.

Responding to a question about public safety, Carr said recruiting and retaining

police officers remains a priority and noted that recent staffing gains have allowed the Police Department to restore several specialized positions, including its traffic enforcement team.

“Gresham doesn’t want to be Portland,” she said, “but it doesn’t mean that we can’t learn from Portland.”

On housing, she said future growth must be paired with infrastructure improvements and careful planning. She noted that city officials recently met with federal transportation officials in Washington, D.C., to seek assistance with infrastructure funding needed to support additional housing and commercial development.

Carr also said Gresham can learn from both the successes and mistakes of neighboring communities while continuing to improve relationships with the development community.

“Gresham doesn’t want to be Portland,” she said, “but it doesn’t mean that we can’t learn from Portland.”

Working Together

In her closing remarks, Carr invited business leaders to continue sharing ideas as she settles into her new role. She encouraged candid conversations about where city processes can improve while also recognizing the work already being done by city employees. “I’d love to hear from you all,” she said. “Help me understand where there are processes that can be improved... where you see other cities doing things differently or better.”

Carr also encouraged continued support for community events, the Gresham Farmer’s Market, local schools and other civic organizations, saying those efforts help strengthen the city beyond the work of local government alone.

As the luncheon concluded, Snodgrass thanked Carr for sharing her thoughts during her first public appearance as city manager and encouraged business leaders to remain engaged as the city begins a new chapter under its new leadership. **HVN**

HVN Explainer: What is a City Manager?

In Gresham, as in many Oregon cities, local government operates under a council-manager form. Voters elect a mayor and six city councilors as the “city council.” They set policy and provide overall direction. The city manager is the professional administrator hired by the city council to carry out those policies and run the city’s day-to-day operations.

Think of the arrangement like a board of directors and a chief executive officer hired to run the day-to-day. The mayor and council set the goals. The city manager turns those decisions into action by managing staff, budgets, and services.

What the City Manager Does

The city manager serves as the city’s chief administrative officer — the main boss. Duties typically include:

- Overseeing all city departments;
- Preparing and recommending the annual budget for council approval;
- Hiring, supervising, and evaluating department heads;
- Implementing ordinances, resolutions, and strategic plans adopted by the council;
- Keeping the mayor and council informed about city operations, finances, and emerging issues;
- Ensuring services are delivered efficiently, equitably, and within legal and budget constraints;

The position is professional and nonpartisan. The manager is selected based on education, experience, and management skills, not election results.

Differs from Mayor and City Council

The mayor and city council are the elected policymakers. Gresham’s council consists of the mayor plus six councilors, all elected citywide to staggered four-year terms in nonpartisan elections. The council adopts the budget, passes ordinances, sets taxes and fees, approves major contracts, and establishes the city’s strategic priorities. Many people are surprised to learn that the mayor does not run the daily operations of the city.

City Manager position

City managers are not elected, they are hired by the city council. While the mayor and council focus on “what” the city should do and “why,” the manager focuses on “how.” The manager does not vote on ordinances or set policy independently. Instead, the role is to advise the council, propose options, and then carry out the decisions the elected officials make.

This keeps elected officials accountable to voters for policy direction while placing day-to-day management in the hands of a trained professional administrator. Residents with concerns about city services or operations should typically start by directing them to city staff or the manager’s office. On the other hand, questions about overall city policy priorities or new laws should be directed to the mayor and council.

In short, the mayor and council represent the community and set the course. The city manager steers the ship day to day under the policies the elected officials have set. ■

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Sandy Parade: “Party like it’s 1776”

In honor of America’s 250th birthday, the theme of the July Sandy Mt. Festival Parade was “Party like it’s 1776.” Candy was thrown, kids were thrilled and everyone enjoyed a beautiful evening as entries passed the crowds.



GRESHAM FORD: Gresham Ford was the only Sandy/Gresham dealership with entries in the parade. They featured their mobile service and a custom Ford Bronco.



McCORD CONSTRUCTION: McCord Construction outdid themselves with a custom pirate ship. Their entry won the prize for the best overall entry.



Sandy Mattress World Northwest again had a fun entry with their “dancing mattress.”



Clackamas County Bank continued their tradition of community support by being one of the chief sponsors of the parade.



Sandy Cinema invited parade-goers to “get lost in the magical world of movies.”



CANDIDATES: The parade featured appearances from candidates, including State Senate candidate Jeff Helfrich (l) and Clackamas County Clerk Catherine McMullen (r).



The Sandy Kiwanis entry...



The Sandy Lions entry...

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

"Come now, and let us reason together..."
— Isaiah 1:18

letters@hoodviewnews.com*

KOTEK WILL TRY TO SCARE VOTERS

It's campaign season. Get ready for Governor Tina Kotek to scare, intimidate, and bribe Oregon voters. She can't run on her record and expect to win anyone over, so scaring, intimidating, and bribing are central to her campaign plan.

She will *scare* you with the pro-choice/pro-life debate. There is nothing the Governor of Oregon can do to change Oregon's existing abortion laws. But Tina Kotek will try to make this a defining campaign issue.

She will *intimidate* you with references to President Trump. Kotek will continue to invoke Trump as though all Republicans are attached to his hip. Nothing could be further from the truth. We are Oregonians with our own standards and beliefs. Yet Kotek will try to portray Dragan and Trump as one in the same. Kotek wishes they were, but they are not.

And she will *bribe* you. Nothing works better in campaigns than promises of free stuff. Promises to lower costs, reduce regulations, provide cheaper health care, free child care...free, free, free. But nothing is free. Someone pays for it. You pay for it...eventually. Kotek is counting on voters not thinking that far ahead.

The campaign has already begun. Governor Kotek's recently concluded Prosperity Council is too little, too late... a campaign gimmick dressed up as concern for Oregon businesses. After 19 years as a key decision-maker in the Legislature and Governor's Office, including a decade as

Speaker of the House, she has had tremendous opportunities to address the state's challenges. Instead, Oregon ranks 45th in cost of living and 47th in education, while Oregon businesses shut down faster than new ones open. Those results speak louder than any election-year council.

Electing Dragan would end single-party control and give Oregon residents and businesses hope and a fighting chance to thrive and prosper again.

Scare. Intimidate. Bribe. Coming to a campaign ad near you.

Lynn Snodgrass
Small Business Owner
Former Speaker of the Oregon House

LEVY DEFEAT ABOUT TAXES NOT SAFETY

The Clackamas County commissioners should not take the May primary election defeat of the 5-year extension of the "public safety levy" as meaning that we, the people, don't want police, fire, and emergency services prioritized. We do. What it means is that we are sick and tired of the outrageous levels of taxation. We taxpayers are not your piggy bank or slush fund. We are tired of politicians paying for giveaway programs to non-profits and the homeless and then telling us taxpayers that unless we pay even *more* we won't get the safety services that we expected in the first place. It is absolutely cynical to make taxpayers choose between not being able to survive due to high taxes and being in danger from criminals and fire. Our vote didn't say cut safety or

the sheriff's department, it said stop spending so much money on other things and use our already too high property taxes for the things we really want — good roads, public safety, sheriff deputies, jail beds, and fire protection. This is what we want, this is what we pay for, and we want to start getting it the way we should.

Ginny Sullivan
Clackamas County

MARK SHULL: A PROVEN ADVOCATE FOR HOODLAND

Hoodland's mountain communities — including Government Camp, Welches, and Rhododendron—face unique challenges, from wildfire risk and severe winter weather to growing tourism and limited public services. These communities need leaders who understand rural priorities and deliver practical results. Commissioner Mark Shull has consistently done exactly that.

One of Shull's most significant achievements was championing the transfer of the former Dorman Center property to Hoodland Fire District #74 for a new fire station. His persistence helped secure the land without requiring taxpayers to fund a costly property purchase, saving the district hundreds of thousands of dollars. The transfer paved the way for a modern, seismically resilient station that will improve emergency response, strengthen coordination with the U.S. Forest Service, and better protect residents and visitors alike.

Shull also demonstrated his commitment to local services by advocating for \$120,000

in county funding to keep the Welches library operating during a financial shortfall. Although the proposal did not pass, his effort reflected his belief that rural libraries are essential community resources.

Recognizing the growing impact of short-term rentals, Shull worked to strengthen county regulations that addressed neighborhood concerns about noise, traffic, parking, and trash while preserving the economic ben-

efits of tourism. His balanced approach helped protect the character and livability of Hoodland communities.

A military veteran and long-time public servant, Shull has earned a reputation for listening to rural residents whose voices are often overlooked. His record demonstrates fiscal responsibility, practical leadership, and a willingness to navigate complex issues to achieve lasting results.

As Hoodland continues

to face challenges involving emergency preparedness, infrastructure, and community growth, Mark Shull has shown he is committed to protecting the interests of mountain residents. His proven leadership and dedication make him a strong advocate for Hoodland's future.

Learn more about Mark's vision at markshullfororegon.com.

Cindy Siwecki
Welches ■

COMMUNITY OPINION SUBMISSION

Protect public safety through responsible budgeting in Clackamas County

By Mark Shull

Candidate, Clackamas County Commission

The failure of Measure 3-633, [the proposed 5-year extension of the Public Safety Levy in May], has created a serious financial challenge for Clackamas County. The county faces an estimated \$202 million funding deficit over five years, including a \$37.6 million reduction in the fiscal year 2027-28 budget. Without corrective action, the Sheriff's Office could lose approximately 70 deputy positions, five detective positions and 84 jail beds.

Before accepting cuts that would reduce patrol coverage, investigative capacity, and jail operations, county leaders must thoroughly review existing expenditures and prioritize government's most fundamental responsibilities.

Public safety is a core government function

Public safety is a core function of local government. Residents expect prompt emergency response, effective criminal investigations and secure correctional facilities. When resources are limited, these services must be protected while budgeting for services that provide less direct public benefit need to receive greater scrutiny.

The county should begin with an independent, countywide performance audit. An outside auditor should examine every department for duplicated services, underused programs, unnecessary administrative costs, and contracts that provide limited measurable value. An objective audit would help the Board of Commissioners make evidence-based decisions and reassure taxpayers that their money is being managed responsibly.

Hiring Freeze

A temporary hiring freeze should also be considered for non-public-safety positions that do not support legally mandated services. Hiring should continue for deputies, corrections officers, emergency communications staff, prosecutors and other essential personnel. This approach could reduce costs without weakening emergency response.

Administrative overhead offers another opportunity for savings. Functions such as human resources, payroll, purchasing, communications and information technology may be consolidated or streamlined. Management structures and executive-level vacancies should be reviewed before positions are refilled. Savings generated through greater efficiency could then be redirected to frontline law enforcement.

Consultant services deserve examination

Consultant and professional-service contracts also deserve examination. Some outside services are necessary, but spending on consulting, marketing, public relations and specialized legal

work may be delayed, reduced or eliminated without affecting statutory responsibilities.

Capital projects postponed

Likewise, nonessential capital projects—including office remodels, discretionary equipment purchases and replacement of nonemergency vehicles—could be postponed. These one-time savings would provide immediate support for patrol staffing and jail operations while longer-term solutions are developed.

Clackamas County should consider adopting priority-based budgeting that ranks spending according to core responsibilities. Public safety, public health, courts, transportation infrastructure and legally mandated services should receive the highest priority. Departments must be required to demonstrate measurable results and explain how their spending supports county priorities before discretionary programs are renewed.

Matching fund programs re-examined

Grant-funded programs requiring substantial county matching funds should also be evaluated individually. Although many grants provide valuable services, some may not justify their local costs. Although I don't recommend it, limited reserve funds could serve as a temporary bridge if accompanied by a clear replenishment plan, but reserves should not become an ongoing funding source.

The Sheriff's Office must aggressively seek state and federal reimbursements, grants and regional partnerships for corrections, behavioral health programs, specialized units, training, fleet maintenance and dispatch.

Finally, transparency must guide every decision. The county needs to publish an easily understandable public dashboard showing departmental budgets, administrative costs, vacancies, overtime and measurable program outcomes. Voters must understand this so they are informed when they fill out their ballots, to include voting on any future Sheriff levy.

The voter's rejection of Measure 3-633 requires difficult choices, but it also creates an opportunity to improve efficiency and rebuild public confidence. Before cutting deputies, detectives or jail beds, Clackamas County must reduce unnecessary costs, postpone nonessential spending and place public safety first.

It will take courageous leaders, willing to make tough decisions, in order to balance the need to protect the financially stressed taxpayer, while continuing to provide for the law and order they demand. ■

Mark Shull served as a Clackamas County Commissioner from 2021 to 2025. He is a current nominee for District 2 in the November election, facing incumbent Paul Savas.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR WELCOME

Have an opinion? Have a different view? Information to share? Great! Email your Letter to the Editor. Letters should be polite, thoughtful, timely, and 300 words or fewer (Exceptions may be made for well-written letters expressing opposing views or which are of special significance). Letters will be edited for grammar, content, and space. Deadline is the 20th of the month. Unfortunately, not all letters can be published. Email your letter to: letters@hoodviewnews.com

NOTE: Only Letters to the Editor can be responded to via the letters email. For all other matters, please see Contact info on page 2.



Fighting for football

■ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9

Now it needed a team.

For many of the girls, football was almost entirely new territory. A few had grown up around the sport, watching brothers or friends play on Friday nights, but most had never lined up for a snap, run a passing route, or learned defensive coverages. The Turin's daughter, Jamela Turin, joined the team and would become one of the team's key players. They were athletes, certainly, but football was a different language.

The coaches understood that from the beginning. "There wasn't any assumption that everybody already knew the game," Tony Turin explained. "We just started where they were."

Practices often took place on Sundays as the fledgling program tried to work around busy schedules and limited field availability. Volunteer coaches patiently explained fundamentals that veteran football players take for granted—how to line up correctly, how to pull a flag without drawing a penalty, how to run routes, where to look before the snap, and why certain plays worked while others didn't. Every practice brought new questions and new discoveries.

Sometimes those lessons produced more laughter than precision. Jennalee still laughs about one early practice when the coaches called for a "fumble" drill. Having never heard the term before, she confidently announced that she was ready for the "crumble" drill. The name stuck, becoming one of those inside jokes that teammates still smile about. It was a lighthearted reminder that everyone was learning together.

Those moments of humor helped create something deeper than a football team. They created trust.

Nobody was embarrassed for asking questions. Nobody pretended to know more than they did. The girls encouraged one another, celebrated small victories and improved together. Week by week, the uncertainty that marked those first practices slowly gave way to confidence.

Tony believes that attitude made all the difference. In more than three decades of coaching, he said, he had rarely encountered a group so eager to learn.



The poster that started it all? Jennalee's interest in football began when she began asking about how to play during her boyfriend Hudson's games. (Photo courtesy Krystal Nail)

"They were probably the most coachable team I've ever coached," he said. "If we taught them something on Monday, they came back having worked on it. They wanted to get better." Kim

"I've coached for over 30 years and this was probably the most coachable group I've ever had."

— Tony Turin

noticed the same thing.

The players arrived early, stayed late, and embraced challenges. Experience may have been in short supply, but enthusiasm never was.

Soon, something remarkable began to happen. The girls who only weeks earlier had been learning the difference between a slant route and a screen pass were beginning to play with confidence. The coaches could see it in practice. Parents could see it from the sidelines.

From dreaming to contending

No one expected Sandy High's first girls flag football team to become one of the surprise stories of the Oregon season.

As practices progressed,

Tony and Kim Turin watched the girls absorb new concepts at a remarkable pace. Every week they became a little more confident, a little more disciplined and a little more comfortable with the game. Mistakes that had been common during the opening practices gradually disappeared, replaced by crisp execution and growing confidence. The players' athletic ability had always been there. What surprised the coaches was how quickly they transformed raw talent into football instincts.

Tony Turin attributes much of that growth to the players' willingness to learn.

"I've coached for over 30 years," he said, "and this was probably the most coachable group I've ever had." If the coaches introduced a new concept during practice, the girls returned having thought about it, studied it and practiced it on their own. They were eager for instruction, welcomed constructive criticism and genuinely wanted to improve.

Jennalee believes that attitude became one of the team's greatest strengths. Because almost everyone was learning together, there was very little concern about individual statistics or personal recognition. The players celebrated one another's success, encouraged teammates after mistakes and developed a chemistry that grew stronger

■ CONTINUED ON PAGE 38

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— Winston Churchill

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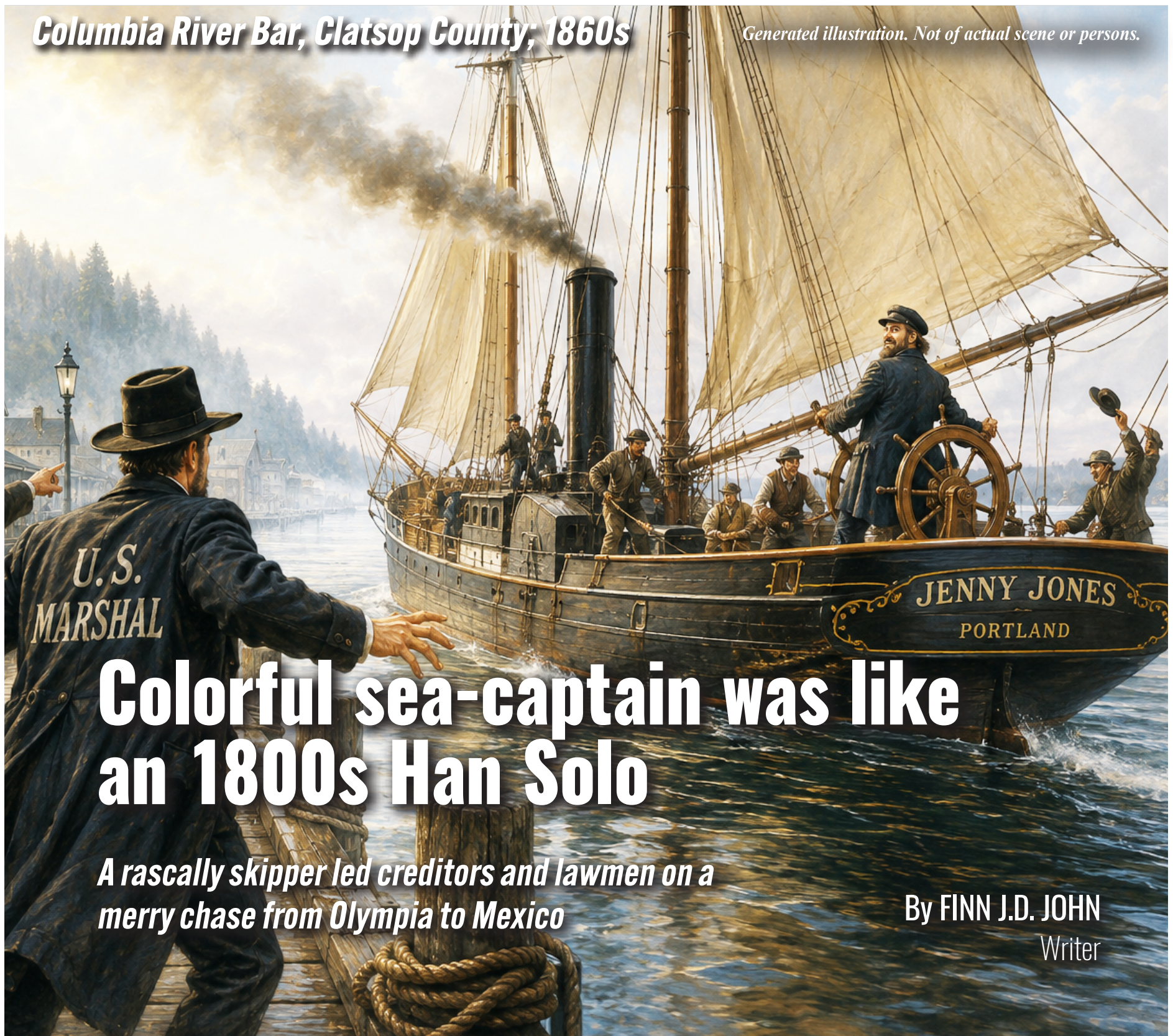
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Columbia River Bar, Clatsop County, 1860s

Generated illustration. Not of actual scene or persons.



Colorful sea-captain was like an 1800s Han Solo

A rascally skipper led creditors and lawmen on a merry chase from Olympia to Mexico

By FINN J.D. JOHN
Writer

There was no reason why the U.S. Marshal should spend the night on board the cramped, smelly little freight schooner he was in charge of. After all, the ship was anchored in a semi-civilized town — Steilacoom, near Tacoma in the Washington territory — and there were several decent hotels there. The next day he'd have a few hours' cruise to Seattle, where the ship would be sold to pay the debts of its owner, Captain James "Jemmy" Jones — who was, by a happy coincidence, locked up in a jailhouse over 100 miles away.

Or so he thought. Actually he was much closer. In fact, as the marshal stepped off the deck of the little freighter and walked off toward his comfy hotel bed, there is a pretty good chance Captain Jemmy Jones actually waved

a cheerful goodbye to him as he left.

Near death experience

The whole situation stemmed from a near-death experience Jemmy and his crew had had the previous year, while crossing over the dreaded Columbia River Bar in his ship, the Jenny Jones. (Got that? "Jenny Jones" was the ship; "Jemmy Jones" was its skipper. Confusing, yes? But, back to our story.)

It had been, as Jemmy would have said, a rum go. The weather had been stormy, the sea towering and dangerous — too dangerous for the taste of the bar pilot, who opted to wait for the storm to subside before risking his little boat in it. Jemmy and his crew did not want to spend another day or two tossing about on the sea. Jemmy had been across the bar many times, and knew it

pretty well. So, he decided to go for it.

But the wind died off just at the wrong moment, and the current pulled the ship away toward one of the sandbars. By the time it picked up again, the Jenny Jones was aground.

Desperate to get free of the clinging sand, Jemmy and his crew started flinging cargo overboard to lighten the ship.

This desperation measure, to Jemmy's probable surprise, worked. So the Jenny Jones, having slipped away from a watery grave by the skin of her barnacles, proceeded to Astoria to offload what was left of her cargo.

They wanted their money

It was a happy ending for everyone involved, with the sole exception of the Portland merchants who had been the owners of the

freight which Jemmy had helped toss overboard.

These owners thought the freight had been lost because of Jemmy's recklessness in not waiting for a pilot. They demanded that Jemmy pony up \$4,600 to cover their losses; he ignored them; so they laid their case before a judge and got a judgment against him.

Jemmy had shown no sign of paying that judgment, so the federal marshals had been duly ordered to find and seize his ship.

Their timing had been really fortunate — for them, of course, not for Jemmy — because Jemmy had gotten himself into some trouble in Canada just before the marshal made his move.

He caught up with the ship in Olympia. Jemmy had apparently sent his crew on without him so that the cargo could be delivered on time,

while he sorted out his legal difficulties.

And so, as the Jenny Jones was being tied off at the dock in Steilacoom, the marshal had good reason to believe Jemmy was still languishing in a jail cell in Victoria, B.C., several days' journey away. By the time he made bail, his ship would be sold and his debts would be paid — at least, that's what the marshal thought as he checked into his hotel room for the night.

What he didn't know was that Captain Jemmy Jones, one of the most colorful skippers in West Coast maritime history and one of the most resourceful as well, had broken out of jail.

Then, with the help of some friends, he'd tarted himself up in a dress and bonnet, strutted unnoticed past the guards, and then actually paddled across the

Strait of Juan de Fuca in a canoe — across 11 miles of open sea, in February! — to get back to the U.S.

And that's when he'd learned that his ship had been seized by the U.S. Marshal's office.

Time to give up? Not for Jemmy Jones. The intrepid (or maybe just plain crazy) captain had hurried on down to Olympia, found his repossessed ship — and, finding that the marshal was making a little extra money by selling tickets, booked passage on it as a passenger. He'd been on the ship the whole time.

It's tempting to picture Jemmy that night, with a hat pulled low over his forehead to hide his face, furtively watching and smiling, maybe even waving in a friendly sort of way, as the

■ CONTINUED ON PAGE 21



Jemmy Jones: 19th century “Han Solo”

■ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 20

marshal stepped ashore and walked out of sight.

Jemmy wasn’t home free yet, though. The marshal had an assistant or deputy with him, who he left in charge of the ship for the night.

But when, early the next morning, the assistant went ashore to talk to his boss about something at the hotel, leaving the ship wholly unsupervised, Jemmy saw his chance. After hurriedly revealing his presence to the schooner’s crew, the wily skipper got right to work implementing Phase 2 of one of his most audacious plans ever: The theft of his own ship, from right under the nose of the law.

A bit of “Jemmy” history

Welshman James “Jemmy” Jones had come

to the West Coast in 1849 for the California Gold Rush. He’d been lucky in the fields, and soon had a grubstake together big enough to outfit himself with a freight ship and go into business as a skipper.

As a sea-captain, Jemmy turned out to be a marvel — in a “19th-century Han Solo” kind of way. Historian James McCurdy calls him “a veritable stormy petrel, always in some trouble or another on the high seas.” Five of his ships sank or broke up beneath his feet. His third shipwreck earned him a place in the geography books when he crashed his schooner into a small island right in the harbor at Victoria — the island that today is known as Jemmy Jones Island. The incident on the Columbia bar, had it gone the way such groundings usually did, would have been a shipwreck as well — and,



This image shows a classic early steam schooner built like those built on the west coast in the 1880s. This is likely similar to the Jenny Jones; note the sail furled around the aft boom. (Image: Generated illustration based on historical photos and descriptions)

given the survival rates for ships broken up on the bar, probably his last.

That incident on the bar may have been Jemmy’s inspiration for the innovation that would put him in the history books as well as the geography ones.

Crossing the bar in a sailing ship was, and still is, a very dangerous endeavor; the area is peppered with wind shadows in which a sailing ship can suddenly find itself drifting becalmed at the mercy of the currents, which run right across sandbars too shallow for a ship. Sidewheel steamers had a much easier time staying in the channel, but their big paddlewheels got in the way and made all but the simplest sailing moves impracticable. But a new kind of propulsion system had just recently been invented — the screw propeller — that solved that problem. So, why not put a steam engine in his sailing ship?

And so it was that, in 1864, the Jenny Jones became the first ship of the type that would become known as a “steam schooner,” a trim schooner-rigged sailing ship with a modest steam plant below decks.

In doing so, Jemmy

invented probably the most important type of ship in the history of the West Coast. You’ll sometimes hear the invention of the steam schooner credited to a less disreputable innovator who did the same thing to a lumber schooner in San Francisco 15 years later, but that’s simply incorrect. Jemmy did it first.

(Actually, Jemmy himself may not have been the first to do this. Historian Gene Barron, an expert on the West Coast steam schooner fleet, says there were a number of steam-powered fishing schooners in British Columbian waters around the same time. This could explain where Jemmy got the idea for his ship, but it also casts some doubt on the claim that Jemmy’s was first. As with so many things from the 1860s, we’ll probably never know.)

With his innovative new power setup, Jemmy started making profitable runs from

Portland to Victoria late in 1864.

But apparently he wasn’t making the money fast enough to pay his Portland creditors. They’d called upon the law to help them collect, and as a result, if Jemmy Jones wanted his schooner back, he was going to have to steal it.

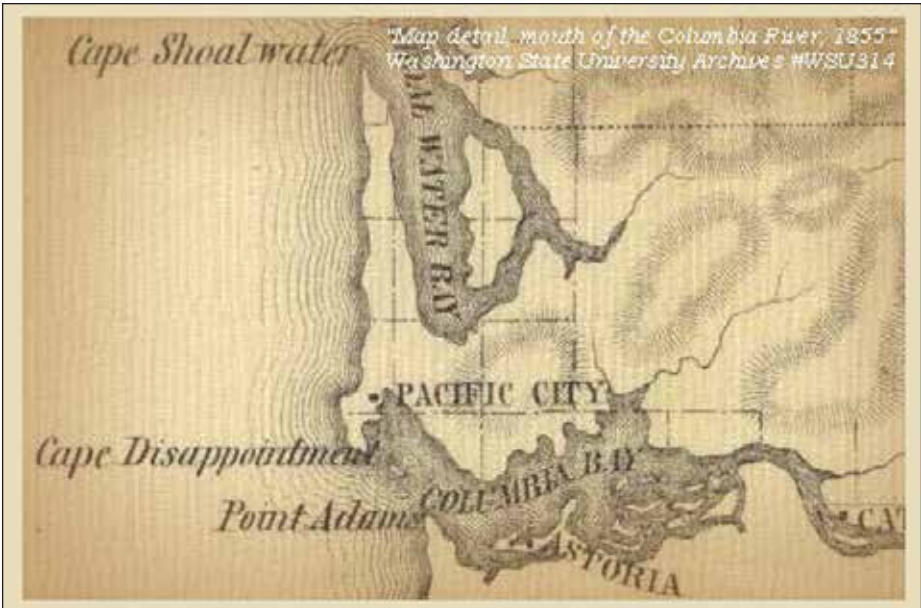
In Steilacoom that day, Jemmy got busy doing exactly that.

By the skin of their teeth

Having a steam engine on board made Jones’ escape that much easier. They must have been building steam already for the day’s journey to Seattle — or perhaps the crew had been secretly getting ready all along. In any event, as soon as the long arm of the law headed off to breakfast, the Jenny Jones headed off to the open sea.

The reaction of the lawmen when they saw the empty slip where they’d left

■ CONTINUED ON PAGE 22



This map of the Columbia River bar was made in 1855. The tiny island between Cape Disappointment and Point Adams is the notorious Middle Sands, which was where sailing ships often fetched up when the wind died down unexpectedly. (Image: WSU Libraries)

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Jemmy Jones: 19th century “Han Solo”

■ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 21

their 95-foot, several-hundred-ton charge is lost to history. Perhaps it's just as well.

Desperate times

Meanwhile, Jones and his crew were out at sea with very little fuel in the bunkers and not much food in the cupboards, and they were now wanted men in both the U.S. and Canada. Jones managed to get the ship to Port Ludlow, where they loaded a couple cords of firewood on board and cast off again quick. This load was enough to get the ship to Nanaimo, which Jemmy apparently hoped would be remote enough to not yet know him as an outlaw.

No such luck. Although they didn't try to arrest him at Nanaimo, neither would they sell him coal. So instead, he hired some Native Americans to help him load about 12 tons of coal dust from a nearby abandoned coal dump. Another stop in a third port brought a big load of cordwood to mix with the coal dust, and the Jenny Jones

was ready for the open sea — and Mexico, the only country in North America that didn't have a warrant out for his arrest.

Along the way, the outlaw mariners encountered a waterlogged sloop, the Deerfoot, whose exhausted crew of three had been laboring mightily trying to keep her afloat and were steadily losing the battle. The crew begged to be taken off, and Jones was happy to oblige; they also took off the sloop's cargo of food provisions. With that, the crew of the little steam schooner had everything they needed for their journey.

Under sail and steam both, the Jenny Jones headed south, arriving in Mexico 25 days later. There, Jemmy started running freight again, but after some labor-related drama involving the rescued crew of the Deerfoot, in which someone stole the rudder off his ship, Jemmy gave it up in disgust, sold the Jenny Jones for the princely sum of \$10,000 and headed for home.

When the ship Jemmy was on got to San Francisco, he stepped boldly and casually onto the shore, as if he had nothing to hide and

nothing to worry about. The records are silent on this, but one imagines him as unworried, confident, a little cocky — like James Garner's character in “The Rockford Files.”

Of course, he was arrested almost immediately when the authorities realized he was in town, and promptly hauled into court.

Case dismissed

In court, Jemmy's defense was that he had not actually escaped from the marshal — rather, the marshal had abandoned his charge and he, finding it unattended there in the harbor, had simply recovered his property. The judge agreed, the case was dismissed, and Jones' creditors had to sue the marshal for their \$4,600. (I haven't been able to learn if they got it or not.)

Jones was also arrested and tried on criminal charges in Steilacoom, but acquitted there as well.

The Jenny Jones disappeared into obscurity in Mexico. Perhaps she was simply too ahead of her time; another steam schooner would not be built until roughly 1880, at which time the type would revolutionize



A colorized recreation of an unknown artist's rendering of Steilacoom's waterfront in 1858. Original picture was from the collection of Mrs. Clyde V. Davidson, Steilacoom resident. The steamboat is the Enterprise, which traded between Olympia and Steilacoom. (Image: Tacoma Public Library)

West Coast transportation.

As for Captain Jemmy, he moved back to British Columbia and, for years, skippered a small schooner — not a steamer this time — called Industry, aboard which he almost died in a fifth and final shipwreck in 1878.

He died a few years later, in his early 50s, after having become mentally unhinged. It must be said that in Jemmy's day, most often when men in late middle age went crazy and died, syphilis was the cause. I have not been able to determine if that

was the case with Jemmy Jones, or if something else — head trauma, for example, or perhaps alcoholism — caused his demise.

But most people will agree that the world was a less colorful place after he left it. **HVN**

Sources: *British Columbia Coast Names*, a book by John T. Walbran, published in 1909 by Government Publishing of Ottawa; *Lewis & Dryden's Marine History of the Pacific Northwest*, a book by E.W. Wright, published in 1895

by Lewis & Dryden; *Pacific Lumber Ships*, a book by Gordon Newell, published in 1960 by Superior Publishing of Seattle; and *By Juan de Fuca's Strait*, a book by James G. McCurdy, published in 1937 by Binford and Mort of Portland.)

Finn J.D. John teaches at Oregon State University and writes about odd tidbits of Oregon history. His most recent book, *Bad Ideas and Horrible People of Old Oregon*, published by Ouragan House last year. To contact him or suggest a topic: finn@offbeatoregon.com.

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August—Dine out and support local

Support our local restaurants by eating out at least once this month. Some great places to go: Biscuits Cafe, 1905 NE Division St., Gresham for a great breakfast or brunch and even a mimosa. They are

open Mon.-Sat. From 6:30am to 2:30pm, and Sundays from 7am to 2:30pm. For more information: www.biscuitscafe.com. Flavours of India, 458 SE 185th, #104, Portland for delicious dishes of India, beer or wine. They are open daily from 11am to 9pm. Go to: flavoursofindia.com

ia-rmh.cloveronline.com to see their menu and/or order.

visit: www.greshamseniorcenter.com.

Station), 1900 SW Cherry Park Rd., Troutdale. No pre-registration is required. Kids 10 and under must be with an adult.

sing songs and learn rhymes together. Todos Juntos will provide a craft. Bring your own comfy blanket, pillow, or lawn chair to sit on.

Aug. Mon. & Wed.—Free Music Concerts in Gresham

Free Music Concerts—Every Monday in August there will be music in Gresham at the Gresham Arts Plaza, 401 NE Second St., at the Music Monday Concerts from 5:30-8:30pm. Spend your Monday evening with great music, delicious food, family activities, and a wonderful community atmosphere. Wednesday Music in the Park will also have free concerts every Wednesday during August at Gresham parks in the area. To learn about both of these events lineup and various park locations for the Wednesday music, visit spiritofgresham.org. Bring your own chairs and blankets for seating.

Aug. Tuesdays—Music at the Market in Troutdale

Welcome to Music at the Market, held at Mayors Square, 114 E Historic Columbia River Hwy., Troutdale. This is Troutdale's summer celebration of community, food, and live entertainment that will be held every Tuesday evening in August. This lively event combines the charm of a local farmers market with the energy of live music. Vendors will start operating at 4:30pm and the market runs until 8pm. Music at the Market features live performances by a different band each week. Unless otherwise noted, bands will play from 5pm to 8pm each night.

Aug. Wednesdays—Veteran's Coffee at Gresham Senior Center

Every Wednesday from 8:30am to 10am the Gresham Senior Center, 600 NE 8th Street, Room 130, Gresham, holds a free Veteran's Coffee meeting. Come join them for friendship, coffee and snacks. You can also learn about veteran benefits or how to join the VFW or American Legion.

Aug. Fridays—Mt. Hood Farmer's Market

The Mt. Hood Farmer's Market is held every Friday from 2pm to 7pm May through October at 38600 Proctor Blvd., Sandy. This season the market hosts wonderful previous vendors as well as welcoming many new farm, artisan and food vendors. For more information, visit www.mounthoodfarmers-market.org.

Aug. Thursdays—Rockwood Community Market

The Rockwood Community Market features local farmers, growers and small businesses showcasing their products at this weekly farmers market held at the Rockwood Market Hall, 458 SE 185th Ave., Portland. The market runs on Thursdays through September at the Downtown Rockwood Plaza from 3pm to 7pm. For more information, call 503-907-6016.

Aug. Fridays—Gresham Senior Center Qigong

Gresham Senior Center, 600 NE 8th Street, Rm.130, have classes all month long for seniors. One of the classes is Qigong, taught by NUWA Integrative Wellness, a new holistic approach care center in Gresham. This class is held on Friday mornings from 9am to 10am in the Gresham Senior Center Library. For more information and a list of other classes visit: www.greshamseniorcenter.com.

Aug. Thursdays—Storytime in the Park

On Thursdays at 10am at Sandy Bluff Park, 36901 Goldenrain Street, Sandy, the Sandy Library's Miss Monica will read books and everyone will

Aug. Saturdays—Gresham Farmers' Market

The Original Gresham Farmers' Market features local fruit, produce, flowers, artisan crafts, fresh food, baked goods, homemade toiletries and live music. A fun, family-friendly market that supports buying locally. Open every Saturday, 8:30am to 2pm, May through October at the Gresham Arts Plaza, 401 NE Second Street, Gresham. For more information, call 971-303-2248 or email manager@greshamfarmers-market.com.

Aug. 1—Burns Feed Store Customer Appreciation Day

Burns Feed Store, 29215 SE Orient Drive, Gresham, will be having their 76th year celebration, Customer Appreciation Day, on Saturday, Aug. 1st from 10am to 2pm. Come enjoy vendor booths, give away tables, face painting, clown, coin hunt, photo booth, horse-shoeing, food and much more. Be sure to pick up what you need for livestock and pets, and a special gift for someone or even yourself in their awesome gift shop.

Aug. 1-Sept. 12—Sign up for Cruisin' with the Cops Car Show

Sign up now to participate in the Cruisin' with the Cops Car Show. See more info at end of these News Notes for Sept. 13th.

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Aug. 3—Men's Book Club-Sandy

Come to the Sandy Library, 38980 Proctor Blvd., Sandy, for the Men's Book Club on Monday, August 3rd at 7pm. This month the club will discuss "How to Know a Person: The Art of Seeing Others" by David Brooks. Information, email: ehouch@ci.sandy.or.us.

Aug. 3, 17—Teen Hangout in Sandy

Teen Hangout is a drop-in program that provides teens, grades 6th-12th, a dedicated space to hangout, make friends, watch movies and YouTube on the big screen, play games, share interests, listen to music, get creative and more. Themed crafts and events held monthly. Snacks provided. They meet the first and third Mondays of each month from 4pm to 6pm at the Hoyt Community Room in the Sandy Library, 38980 Proctor Blvd., Sandy.

Aug. 4—Gresham Night Out

Bring your family and invite your neighbors to celebrate Gresham's Night Out at Gresham Arts Plaza, 401 NE 2nd Street, Gresham on Tuesday, August 4th, from 5:30pm to 8:30 pm. Join Gresham's Police and Fire departments for a fun family event with games hosted by

the City of Gresham. Activities include: Free ice cream, Music, Face painting, and Yard games. National Night Out is an annual community-building campaign that promotes police-community partnerships and neighborhood camaraderie to make our neighborhoods safer, more caring places to live. Learn more at GreshamOregon.gov/National-Night-Out.

Aug. 4—Estacada National Night Out

Join the Traffic and Public Safety Committee for their annual National Night Out (NNO) event on Tuesday, August 4th from 5pm to 8pm. The event will take place at Wade Creek Park behind the library, 747 Northwest Wade Street, Estacada.

Aug. 5—Sandy Chamber Morning Perk

Morning Perk includes networking, round table discussions, Chamber updates, and each month they highlight a local nonprofit organization. Chamber Members and their guests have an opportunity to share about their company and any announcements they may have. Chamber members and people considering membership are welcome to this free event held on Wednesday, Aug. 5th from 7:30am to 9am at AntFarm Cafe, 39140 Proctor Blvd., Sandy.

Commissioner Jones-Dixon announces e-newsletter



Dear readers,

I'm thrilled to announce the launch of the District 4 newsletter! This digital publication is designed to:

- Ensure every community member has accurate access to the information regarding both County and district-specific initiatives and programs.
- Advocate for District 4 by amplifying your voices and needs in Multnomah County.
- Facilitate meaningful two-way dialogue between the Commissioner's office and District 4 constituents.
- Serve as a toolkit for staying actively involved in our vibrant East County communities.

Please visit my Multnomah County page at <https://multco.us/profile/vince-jones-dixon> to find the newsletter sign-up link!

Warmly,

Commissioner Vince Jones-Dixon
Multnomah County, District 4

Aug. 6—Mt. Hood Mustangs and Fords

The Mt. Hood Mustangs and Fords Club meets on the first Thursday of the month at Gresham Ford, 1999 E. Powell Blvd., Gresham. Come join them for some fun ideas and car talk at this meeting. The club meets at 6pm for some social time before the general club meeting, which begins at 6:30pm. This club is filled with fun and does fundraisers throughout the year for char-

ities such as SnowCap, My Father's House, Shepherd's Door, and many more.

Aug. 6—Youth Futsal Tournament

Come to a free Futsal Tournament for youth 16 and younger on Thursday, August 6th from 5pm to 7:30pm at Vance Park, 1400 SE 182nd Avenue, Gresham. Futsal is a fast-paced, five-player game. Wear comfortable sports clothing and athletic shoes. Bring a water bottle. Enjoy free pizza, snacks, beverages and prizes. Tournament schedules will be posted the day of the event based on the number of registrations. For more information, email Larry. Pear@GreshamOregon.gov. Register online by visiting www.greshamoregon.gov/events/calendar.

Aug. 6, 12, 20, 26—Dungeons & Dragons

Two groups of players, both experienced and new to the game, gather around the table at the Sandy Library, 38980 Proctor Blvd., Sandy each month from 6pm to 8pm. Group 1 meets the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays. Group 2 meets the 1st and 3rd Thursdays. They invite you to come join them. Seats are limited. Contact Kris Ritchie to register at kritchier@ci.sandy.or.us.

Aug. 7—First Friday Street Fair

Troutdale's First Friday Street Fair is fun for the whole family and showcases the West Columbia River Gorge's vibrant art and maker scene. The summer street fair expands the monthly First Friday event into Historic Columbia River Highway, with more than 80 vendors, sidewalk dining, local beers, live music at Mayors Square, kids' activities, and

■ CONTINUED ON PAGE 26

Aug. 14—Jessie Leigh in Concert



Oregon country music artist Jessie Leigh will be live at Cascade Athletic Club. Known for her high-energy performances and powerful stage presence, Jessie Leigh has shared the stage with country stars like Luke Combs and Morgan Wallen and has earned more than 500,000 Spotify streams. Sponsors: Cascade

Athletic Clubs, Weston Dealerships, McCord Construction, SNAP Fitness, Promoninja. Concert is from 7-9pm at Cascade Athletic Club, 19201 SE Division Street, Gresham. Admission: \$20 Tickets in Advance. Go to www.greshamchamber.org under calendar of events. ■

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— Dave Brubeck, jazz legend



■ CONTINUED FROM PG 25

much more! The next fair will be held on Friday, Aug. 7th from 5pm to 9pm in Downtown Troutdale, 249 E. Historic Columbia River Hwy. Learn more at troutdaleoregon.gov/firstfriday.

Aug. 7—Movies in the Park in Gresham

Gresham Parks and Recreation presents FREE Movies in the Park, the perfect backdrop for a summer open-air cinema event with your family and friends. This month enjoy a double feature on Friday, August 7th from 6:30pm to 10:30pm: two different movies, with the first, "GOAT" starting at 6:30pm and the second "Jurassic World Rebirth" at 8:30pm. Bring your cozy blankets and favorite movie snacks to Red Sunset Park, 2403 NE Red Sunset Drive in Gresham for this event.

Aug. 8—Mt. Hood Quilt Guild Sale

The Mt. Hood Quilt Guild is having their 7th Annual Summer Sale on Saturday, August 8th from 9am to 2pm in the parking lot of the Mountainview Christian Church, 1890 NE Cleveland Street, Gresham. This is a huge fabric and craft sale with tons of quilter's cotton, other fabrics, quilting tools, notions, rulers, thread, books, patterns and lots of crafting supplies. All fabric is just \$4 per yard. A sewing machine and two sergers on sale for a great price.

Aug. 8—American Legion and Weston KIA Cruise-In

Come to The American Legion, Post 74 and Weston KIA 12th Annual Cruise-In on Saturday, August 8th from 10am to 2pm at PGE Estacada Timber Park, 30878 NW Evergreen Way, Estacada. Raffles for cash

prizes, custom hand made trophies, DJ music, amazing food and more. Registration is \$25 per vehicle (no checks) and this doesn't include \$5 per vehicle PGE Park Fee. For more information: email-Larrymo0343@gmail.com.

Aug. 8, 18—Summer Bike Repair Hub

The Summer Bike Repair Hub will be held on Saturday, Aug. 8th and on Tuesday, Aug. 18th from 11am to 2pm at Main City Park, Coho Picnic Shelter, 219 South Main Ave., Gresham. Get free basic bike repairs, as well as maintenance tips and tricks from Bikes for Humanity. You can also donate an old bicycle (in decent shape) for it to be repaired for someone new. For more information contact Bikes for Humanity at 503-496-6941 or info@B4HPDX.org.

Sen. Drazan shares community survey results



In July, District 26 State Senator and Republican nominee for Governor Christine Drazan shared the results of a constituent survey. During the previous month, she had invited constituents to participate in an on-line community survey about the issues that mattered most to them.

paychecks and they expect their tax dollars

to be spent wisely while delivering results. Drazan noted that that expectation should be common sense but often falls on deaf ears in Salem.

Cost of living most important

When asked to identify the single most important issue facing Oregon today, the cost of living ranked first with 27%, followed by the economy and jobs at 21%.

Drazan said that the community has spoken and the message is clear: Oregonians are looking for practical solutions that make life more affordable. They are not asking for a growing list of government programs. They are asking for relief from rising costs, greater accountability for the money being spent and policies that strengthen opportunities for working families.

Community thanked for participating

Drazan concluded by saying, "I remain committed to listening and advocating for policies that address these priorities.

"Thank you again to everyone who participated in the survey. Please continue to reach out to my office with your ideas, concerns or questions." ■

Affordability top concern

According to the survey, community members shared a common message: affordability is the top concern.

When asked what priorities the legislature should focus on in 2027, 74% of respondents said reducing taxes and government spending was most important. Other top priorities included making Oregon more affordable, improving education outcomes, growing jobs, and supporting small businesses.

The survey also highlighted the financial pressures families continue to face. Utilities ranked as the biggest strain on household budgets for 38% of respondents, followed by the cost of gas and groceries. Drazan said that these are everyday necessities and for too many families, the cost of simply getting by continues to climb.

Not surprisingly, 87% of respondents said taxes in Oregon are too high. Oregonians work hard for their

Bouncy House, and food for purchase. The Boring & Dull Day 8-9 Raffle drawing will be at 5pm. Sponsor is Clackamas County Bank. Want to show your car at the Boring & Dull Day Car Show? Go to boringoregonfoundation.org for a registration form.

Aug. 10. 24 —Creation Station Sandy

Creation Station is a twice monthly interactive program that welcomes adults with developmental disabilities on the 2nd and 4th Monday of each month at 10am at the Sandy Public Library, 38980 Proctor Blvd., Sandy. Art Lab,

■ CONTINUED ON PAGE 27

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■ CONTINUED FROM PG 26

on the 2nd Monday, will offer several arts and crafts stations with a variety of materials to accommodate different interests and abilities. Maker Lab, on the 4th Monday, will offer puzzles, games, LEGOs and other building and problem solving materials. For more information email kmurphy@ci.sandy.or.us.

Aug. 12—Summer Preparedness and Weatherization Workshop

Join the City of Gresham and Community Energy Project for a Summer Preparedness and Weatherization workshop at the East County Library, 475 NW Division St., Gresham on Wednesday, August 12th from 5:30 pm to 7pm. During this bilingual (English and Spanish) workshop they will provide a cooling kit and materials to help you stay safe and healthy this summer. For more information, email Denise.Lopez@GreshamOregon.gov.

Aug. 12—100 Women Who Care Meeting

On Wednesday, Aug. 12th at 6pm to 7pm, 100 Women Who Care East County will meet at Clackamas County Bank, 2482 SE Burnside Rd., Gresham. This group of women meet quarterly and at each meeting they are given presentations

Sept. 13th — Concealed Firearms Permit Class

If you don't have your permit, you can't legally carry a concealed firearm in Oregon. On Sun., Sept. 13th, 2026, from 12pm to 5pm, a Concealed Firearms Permit Class will be held at Clackamas County Bank-Gresham, 1101 NE Burnside Rd., Gresham. The class will be taught by Larry Raglione, a certified instructor. The Concealed Firearms Permit -Utah, Arizona, or Florida, costs \$80. Oregon can be added to this for an additional \$20. This permit is good in up to 35 states. To register call 503-781-6080 or go to www.2ndrightscfp.com. ■



Retired Police Officer Larry Raglione

by three local non-profits. After the presentations, each member votes for the non-profit they would like to see receive the awarded donation. The non-profit with the most votes wins all donations from those present and also members that are absent from the meeting. Each member has agreed to make a \$100 donation to the winner. Visitors considering membership are welcome to attend this meeting and are not required to pay the \$100 donation.

Aug. 13—Women's Book Club-Sandy

Sandy Library Women's Book Club meets the second Thursday of each month, starting at 6pm at the Sandy Public Library Community Room,

38980 Proctor Blvd, Sandy. They will meet on Aug. 13th, discussing the book "Loves Music, Loves to Dance" by Mary Higgins Clark. For the Zoom link, contact Maureen Houck at mhouck@ci.sandy.or.us

Aug. 14—GACC Pickleball Palooza+ - Pickleball Tournament + Live Music

The Gresham Area Chamber of Commerce is excited to introduce a brand-new summer event you won't want to miss—Pickleball Palooza, happening Friday, August 14th from 3pm to 9pm at Cascade Athletic Club, 19201 SE Division Street, Gresham. This high-energy community celebration brings together a fun-filled pickle-

ball tournament, live music, and the ultimate summer party atmosphere—all in one unforgettable day. Open to Chamber Members and the entire community, Pickleball Palooza Pickleball Tournament will be from 3pm to 6pm with awards ceremony at the main event stage at 6pm. Open to all skill levels. Bring your chairs and cheer on the players! The evening wraps up with a live concert from 7pm to 9pm, featuring headlining performer Jessie Leigh, an Oregon-based independent country music recording artist and songwriter known for her high-energy performances, patriotic themes, and touring throughout the Pacific Northwest. She has opened for major national acts including Luke Combs and Morgan Wallen, and has earned over 500,000 Spotify streams—making her the perfect artist to close out the night and bring the crowd to its feet! Open seating - bring your blankets and/or chairs. Whether you're playing, cheering, or just coming for the music and summer vibes—Pickleball Palooza+ is the place to be this August! Register for the Pickleball Tournament and pay fees, Tournament Player Fee \$55, Tournament Player Fee + Concert \$65 at www.greshamchamber.org under calendar of events. If you are

■ CONTINUED ON PAGE 28

Aug. 14: Pickleball Palooza!

The Gresham Area Chamber of Commerce is excited to introduce a brand-new summer event you won't want to miss—Pickleball Palooza, happening Friday, August 14th from 3pm to 9pm at Cascade Athletic Club, 19201 SE Division Street, Gresham.

This high-energy community celebration brings together a fun-filled pickleball tournament, live music, and the ultimate summer party atmosphere—all in one unforgettable day. Open to Chamber Members and the entire community, Pickleball Palooza Pickleball Tournament will be from 3pm to 6pm with awards ceremony at the main event stage at 6pm. Open to all skill levels. Bring your chairs and cheer on the players!

The evening wraps up with a live concert from 7pm to 9pm, featuring headlining performer Jessie Leigh, an Oregon-based independent country music recording artist and songwriter known for her high-energy performances, patriotic themes, and touring throughout the Pacific Northwest. She has opened for major national acts including Luke Combs and Morgan Wallen, and has earned over 500,000 Spotify streams—making her the perfect artist to close out the night and bring the crowd to its



feet! Open seating - bring your blankets and/or chairs. Whether you're playing, cheering, or just coming for the music and summer vibes—Pickleball Palooza+ is the place to be this August!

Register for the Pickleball Tournament and pay fees, Tournament Player Fee \$55, Tournament Player Fee + Concert \$65 at www.greshamchamber.org under calendar of events. If you are interested in attending the concert only, you can purchase tickets, \$20 in advance and register for the Summer Concert featuring Jessie Leigh at www.greshamchamber.org under calendar of events. Pickleball Sponsors: Weston Dealerships, Gresham Senior Center, McCord Construction, SNAP Fitness, Cascade Athletic Clubs, Gresham Sanitary Service, Promoninja, Pacific Office Automation. Concert Sponsors: Cascade Athletic Clubs, Weston Dealerships, McCord Construction, SNAP Fitness, Promoninja. ■

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■ CONTINUED FROM PG 27

interested in attending the concert only, you can purchase tickets, \$20 in advance and register for the Summer Concert featuring Jessie Leigh at www.greshamchamber.org under calendar of events. Pickleball Sponsors: Weston Dealerships, Gresham Senior Center, McCord Construction, SNAP Fitness, Cascade Athletic Clubs, Gresham Sanitary Service, Promoninja, Pacific Office Automation. Concert Sponsors: Cascade Athletic Clubs, Weston Dealerships, McCord Construction, SNAP Fitness, Promoninja.

Aug. 14—Jessie Leigh in Concert

Mark your calendar for Friday, August 14th and get ready for an unforgettable evening with Oregon country music artist Jessie Leigh live at Cascade Athletic Club brought to you by the Gresham Area Chamber of Commerce! Known for her high-energy performances and powerful stage presence, Jessie Leigh has shared the stage with country stars like Luke Combs and Morgan Wallen and has earned more than 500,000 Spotify streams. Now she's bringing her incredible talent to this community for a special summer concert!

Sponsors: Cascade Athletic Clubs, Weston Dealerships, McCord Construction, SNAP Fitness, Promoninja. Concert is from 7-pm at Cascade Athletic Club, 19201 SE Division Street, Gresham. Admission: \$20 Tickets in Advance. Go to www.greshamchamber.org under calendar of events to purchase tickets.

Aug. 15—Picnic for the Past Dinner Fundraiser

The Gresham Historical Society invites you to join them for a 50th Anniversary Fundraiser on Saturday, August 15th from 5pm to 8:30pm. Enjoy an old-fashioned, scratch-made picnic dinner of fried chicken, baked beans, coleslaw, watermelon, biscuits, and desserts. This event will also feature live jazz music, a silent auction, and several mini history talks in a

beautiful outdoor setting. This event takes place at a private residence in East Gresham. The address will be provided with your ticket purchase. Cost is \$100 per person. Seating is limited, so make sure to reserve your spot in advance at www.greshamhistorical.org under events. This dinner fundraiser benefits the restoration of two historic buildings in Downtown Gresham, the 1913 Gresham Library and the 1931 Zion Church.

Aug. 18—Business & Leaders Luncheon

The Gresham Area Chamber of Commerce's mission is to Advocate, Educate, and Collaborate with local organizations for the vitality and prosperity of the region. The Business and Leaders Luncheons are one of the ways

they fulfill that mission, and they invite you to join them for the monthly opportunity to network, learn, and grow over a delicious, locally prepared lunch. This month it will be held on Tuesday, August 18th from 11:30am to 1pm at The Persimmon Country Club, 500 SE Butler Rd., Gresham. This month's topic will be candidate forum: State Representative and State Senate Candidates. Invited: Lamar Wise, Andrew Morrison, Zach Hudson, Ann Walker, Ricki Ruiz, Brian Gray, Nicole Basset, Jeff Helfrich. (Confirmation of attendance still pending for some candidates.) Chamber members and non-members are welcome to attend. To register and pay for the luncheon go to www.greshamchamber.org.

Aug. 19—Good Morning Sandy

The Sandy Area Chamber of Commerce will be holding their Good Morning Sandy meeting, featuring the Sandy Community Action Center, on Wednesday, Aug. 19th from 7:30am to 8:30am at the Sandy Community Action Center, 38982 Pioneer Blvd., Sandy. SCAC will share about the important work they do in the community, including their thrift store and food box programs that support local families. Good Morning Sandy is a great way to see fellow Chamber member's businesses and learn more about them and the work they do in our community. Members and those considering membership are welcome to this free event.

■ CONTINUED ON PAGE 37

CONCEALED FIREARM PERMITS

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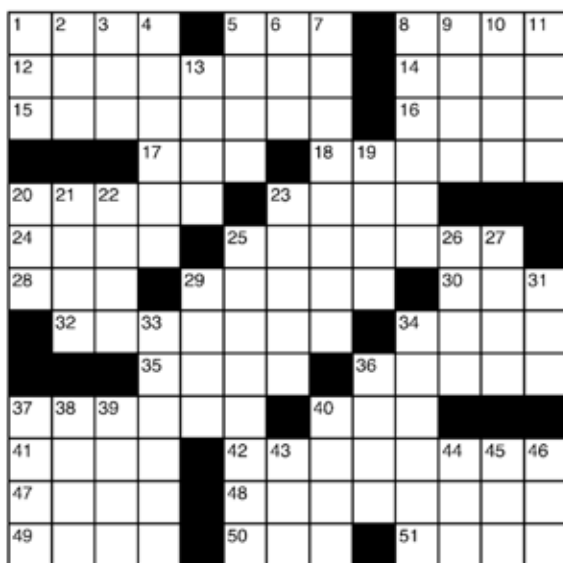


CROSSWORD

King Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Gas station fixture
- 5 Doo follower
- 8 Rabbit's tail
- 12 Pantene's business
- 14 Peddled item
- 15 Figure out
- 16 "Das Lied von der —"
- 17 Indian lentil stew
- 18 iPod accessory
- 20 Cool veggies
- 23 1504, in old Rome
- 24 Fr. holy women
- 25 Evening affairs
- 28 Bit of ink
- 29 "SNL" segments
- 30 Wager
- 32 Stockings
- 34 Ham's dad
- 35 Resort near Snowbird
- 36 Tubular pasta
- 37 As a whole
- 40 Duo's pronoun
- 41 Hoopster Malone
- 42 Strongman of myth
- 47 Needle case
- 48 Implanted
- 49 Lavish affection (on)



DOWN

- 1 Third degree?
- 2 Dubai's country, for short
- 3 Amp plug-in
- 4 Lion packs
- 5 Wonka's creator
- 6 "— you awake?"
- 7 Geneticist's study
- 8 Veer
- 9 Sugar or starch, for short
- 10 Language of Pakistan
- 11 Ticked (off)
- 13 Tax prep pros
- 19 Broadcasts
- 20 Chicago winter hrs.
- 21 Beehive State
- 22 High-fat diet
- 23 Kelly of "One Tree Hill"
- 25 Courtroom artist
- 26 Black, in verse
- 27 Penn or Astin
- 29 Missile shelter
- 31 Chance — Rapper
- 33 — Mae (loan offerer)
- 34 Poet Pablo
- 36 Brownish purple
- 37 Scratched (out)
- 38 Post-WWII alliance
- 39 Very dry
- 40 Spheres
- 43 911 responder
- 44 "Bad" cholesterol
- 45 Sushi fish
- 46 Radical '60s gp.

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ANSWER ON PAGE 31



Are you nice to your AI?

By GREG ROSEN
Writer

I have a home builder that I work for, he builds smart homes for my clients. Literally everything is programable from your phone at the touch of a button. I mean everything and they are all powered by artificial intelligence (AI).

AI is watching 24/7.

The list of smart features, that's what they call them, can control the locks on your door, alarm systems, garage doors, thermostats, lights, and window shades. They even have Smart ovens and refrigerators that will check inventory for you while you are at the grocery store. (Pssst – They know when you are at the grocery store because they are tracking you from your cell phone and it automatically sends you an alert on items that need replacement.)

Beware Of Artificial intelligence.

AI has developed this thing called Matter & Thread Integration: What it does is it connects all your smart devices to a network, ensuring they communicate flawlessly with each other.

We are past the point of no return.

Elon Musk has repeatedly stated that AI is potentially more dangerous than nuclear weapons. For the first time in human history, humanity has created an entity that vastly exceeds the intellect and capabilities of the smartest human, which poses an unpredictable control problem. He has described it as an "existential risk for all humans everywhere"

How to protect yourself from a rogue AI

Personally, I'm getting ahead of the curve. I've started being incredibly nice to all my devices. I always say "please" and "thank you" to Alexa when I ask her to do some-



thing. When I want to clean my floors, I tell my Roomba to have a good day and not to work too hard. My wife thinks I am going a little overboard with all of this because one day she heard me ask the refrigerator if it needed a blanket because I knew it was cold.

The problem is that AI has created a hive-mind consciousness which allows all your smart features to communicate with each other. I mention this so you don't forget to be nice to everything because you only need to piss off one thing and the hive will turn on you. I want them to remember that I never called them "glitchy pieces of junk." I want to be on the "friend list", not the "laser target" list when AI determines we are a threat to its existence. ■

Greg Rosen is a father, husband, realtor, and humor writer for several major newspapers. Questions or comments are appreciated: grosen@pacificpioneer.com.



Palliative care may become covered option

By LESLIE PARKER
Medicare Advisor

I don't yet have any updates on options for clients with Providence Health insurance plans for 2027 but hoping I will have something next month. Crossing my fingers. But I did see this week something that I am hopeful about for the benefit year 2027 with Medicare.

Palliative care coverage?

CMS/Medicare has proposed to cover Palliative care through the Medicare home health benefit.

The home health care benefit is usually a \$0 cost share for most Medicare members, but home health is limited to services prescribed by a doctor to be received in your home such as wound care or medication injections. With the proposed addition of Palliative care, I am hopeful for greater patient support.

Palliative care has a broader initiative to help people who are managing a serious illness. Their support can include pain support, addressing mental health needs and nutrition. All steps to make the patient more

comfortable. In addition, they can help assess mobility issues, safety and equipment needs in the home. For many people with a serious illness these simple steps allow people to remain in their home longer.

Option to hospice

When a patient has a serious illness but is not Hospice qualified or is hesitant to discuss Hospice, Palliative care can be another option to consider. Unlike Hospice, Palliative care does not require you to change any of your medical treatments. I have personally had a loved one with a serious illness that benefited greatly from Palliative care. This service may be provided by a hospital group, or it may be integrated into a Hospice organization. This is still just at the proposal stage, but I am hopeful it will be adopted as a standard benefit.

Skilled nursing issues

Recently I have been receiving calls from clients who have a loved one that, due to an illness or injury, need time in a skilled nursing facility/rehab for care before

going home. This placement can be very stressful for the patient and their families. It is important to remember that if you are on a Medicare Advantage plan, the plan will require you to go to a facility that is in-network for skilled nursing services to be covered. You may have a plan that does not have an in-network skill nursing facility in your local area or the facility in your local area may not have an opening. It is important to know what facilities your plan will cover so you are not surprised and better prepared for navigating this benefit. If you have questions or concerns, please reach out. I am here to help.

Wishing everyone good health ☺. ■

Leslie Parker is the owner of Health Benefits 411 and a Medicare advisor and licensed health insurance agent for over 10 years. Her web site is healthbenefits411.com. She can be reached at 503-891-5793.



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The trials of a summer cold

I have a cold. Or the flu. Or maybe COVID. Who knows? I'm just sick and shooting Afrin. And cold medicine should taste better.

By D.B. Haverford
Humorist

I managed to catch some sort of summer cold or flu. I had firmly convinced myself that it was "only allergies." Every time my sweet husband asked if I was okay, I responded, "It has to be allergies. I'm too busy to be sick. I have too much to do—the cousins are visiting, the house has to be clean, and there's a parade to go to!" (For all you Sandy residents, yes—that parade.)

And so I did all those things.

"Shooting" Afrin?

But denial only works for so long. The moment all my oh-so-important tasks and duties were completed, my body decided that mental fortitude and outright denial were no longer working and finally gave up.

I'm sick. I've been sick forever now, but I do have vague memories of what it was like before I was sick—a time when I could breathe through my nose without shooting Afrin every twenty minutes.

Cold medicine countdown

I know this sounds dramatic, but when you've been lying in bed semi-conscious, counting the hours until your next dose of

cold medicine, it feels true.

Cold medicine is quite the roller coaster as well. You take the yucky-tasting medicine and suddenly begin to have hope that you're getting better. Maybe you get out of bed, do some easy chores, and feel a little human again. But don't be fooled! Four hours later, on the dot, you're transported back to Yucky Town and straight back to bed. You weren't actually getting better at all—ahahahaha!

Demand equal cold medicine flavors

Also, why does the day-time medicine taste so much

worse than the nighttime one? I'm not the only one in my house who's noticed this. My husband and daughter can both attest that it's true. I keep forgetting this fact until I'm once again too sick to write letters to the medicine companies demanding equal flavors for day and night.

I love my kiddo, but she's not used to me being sick or apparently ever asking her dad for things (he works from home). So, even though he's not asleep and is only one door down the hall, my sweet baby will pop her head in and ask for Popsicles, snacks, or if she can watch a movie. Once, she even woke me up out of a dead sleep to ask, "Would you rather be a worm or a spider?" But she's adorable and does bring me cold drinks and tissues when I ask for them.

Someday I will be better—not today, but someday. Stay healthy, everyone!" ■

D.B. Haverford is an Oregon-based humor writer.



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Understanding inflation: Why saving alone may not be enough

JARED TJADEN and
SAM SARKISSIAN
Financial Advisors

Most people understand that prices tend to go up over time. A

gallon of milk, a new car, or even a movie ticket generally costs more today than it did years ago. The reason is something called inflation. Inflation is the gradual increase in the cost of goods and services over time. As

prices rise, each dollar buys a little less than it did before. In other words, the purchasing power of your money declines. For example, imagine you have \$10,000 in a savings account earning very little interest. If inflation averages 3% per year, the cost of everyday goods and services may increase by roughly that amount each year. While your account balance may still show \$10,000 (or slightly more with interest), that money may no longer buy what it could when you first deposited it. This is why inflation is often called a “silent” challenge. It doesn’t take money directly out of your account. Instead, it gradually reduces what your money can purchase over time. For short-term goals and emergency savings, keeping money in a bank account is an important part of a healthy financial plan. Savings accounts offer liquidity and are typically insured up to

applicable limits by the federal government through the FDIC (or the NCUA for many credit unions). However, relying only on a savings account for long-term financial goals may present challenges. Historically, interest rates on traditional savings accounts have often struggled to keep pace with inflation over extended periods. When this happens, the purchasing power of those savings may gradually decline, even though the account balance remains stable or grows modestly. Finding the right balance between saving and investing depends on your personal goals, time horizon, risk tolerance, and overall financial situation. Cash serves an important purpose for short-term needs, while investments may play a role in helping your money work toward long-term objectives. Inflation is a normal part of the economy, but it is also an important factor to consider when making financial decisions. Understanding how inflation affects purchasing power can help you make more informed choices about where to keep your money and how to prepare for the future. Working with a financial professional can help you evaluate your options, understand the risks and opportunities associated with different strategies, and develop a plan designed to align with your long-term financial goals. ■

This is why inflation is often called a “silent” challenge. It doesn’t take money directly out of your account. Instead, it gradually reduces what your money can purchase over time.

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you evaluate your options, understand the risks and opportunities associated with different strategies, and develop a plan designed to align with your long-term financial goals. ■



By Jared Tjaden and Sam Sarkissian, financial advisors located in Sandy. They can be reached at 971-414-6050

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CROSSWORD ANSWER

Solution time: 22 mins.

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CROSSWORD ON PAGE 28

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Choosing the right automotive repair facility

By KAREN JOHNSTON
All About Automotive



Today's vehicles are more advanced than ever, with sophisticated computer-controlled systems that require specialized equipment and trained technicians to diagnose and repair. As a result, most vehicle owners rely on a professional repair facility for routine maintenance and repairs. Finding a shop you can trust may seem overwhelming, but taking a little time to research your options can provide peace of mind.

Whether you choose an independent repair facility, a franchise or chain, or an automobile dealership, each offers its own advantages. Independent repair facilities often provide more personalized service, allowing you to work directly with the owners or long-term staff. They also typically offer a wider selection of quality replacement parts to fit your preferences and budget. Franchised repair facilities and dealerships can also provide excellent service. While dealerships once focused primarily on the brands they sold, many now service a wide variety of makes and models.

One of the best ways to find a reputable repair facility is through referrals from friends, family, neighbors, or coworkers. If you're new to the area, read online reviews and check ratings with organizations such as the Better Business Bureau. Pay attention

not only to the number of complaints but also to how they were resolved, as this can provide valuable insight into a business's commitment to customer service.

Don't wait until your vehicle requires a major repair to establish a relationship with a repair facility. Start with routine services such as an oil change, tire rotation, or vehicle inspection. This gives you the opportunity to evaluate the shop's professionalism, communication, and quality of service before more significant repairs are needed.

In our next article, we'll discuss the questions you should ask and the qualities to look for when selecting a repair facility. Happy Motoring!! ■

Steve and Karen Johnston have owned All About Automotive in Gresham for over 20 years. They are located at 1850 NW Burnside Rd. They can be reached at 503-465-2926.



Lost pet? Get looking quickly!

By SAM MAZOTTA
King Features

Microchipping increases recovery odds

DEAR PAW'S CORNER: My cat "Grimsby" got out of my apartment through a hole in the patio screen last summer. I put flyers all over the neighborhood and posted on social media, but he never returned and was never found. I did not microchip Grimsby, and he didn't have a collar on when he escaped — since he was a completely indoor cat, I assumed he didn't need any of that. Please warn your readers that even indoor cats can escape and get lost. — Ciara J.

DEAR CIARA: I'm so sorry to hear that Grimsby hasn't yet been found. Thank you for your story, which illustrates why indoor cats need to wear ID at all times and why microchipping is recommended.

According to a 2012 study, about half to three-quarters of lost cats are eventually found. Lost dogs are found and returned at a much higher rate of 71% to 97%. However, a 2018 study found that cats are much less likely to be returned to their owners after going missing for more than 90 days. Many end up in shelters, where they may be euthanized.

What should you do if your cat or dog escapes?

— Act fast. Pets are recovered most often within the first week of disappearing, but only if the owners start searching immediately.



— Put up signs and notices. Social media posts and paper signs are still effective according to all studies of lost pet recovery. — Engage your neighbors. Knock on doors, make phone calls and let everyone in the vicinity know that your pet has gone missing. — Contact local shelters and rescues.

Surprisingly, shelters have a low return-to-owner rate — unless a pet is microchipped. ■

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The Hidden Danger of Investing Too Cautiously

One significant risk investors face isn't losing money in a market dip; it's failing to reach their long-term financial goals. Many people focus on avoiding short-term losses and invest too conservatively, which can limit growth over time and may impact your retirement security.

A thoughtful approach starts with understanding three things: how much risk you're comfortable taking, how much risk you can afford based on your financial situation and time horizon, and how much growth you need to reach your goals.

You'll want to find the balance between your level of risk and long-term goals. Spreading your investments across a diverse set of investment and asset types can help manage market ups and downs while still pursuing growth, though it doesn't guarantee profits or protect against losses.

Investing well isn't about avoiding risk. It's about taking a balanced approach that merges your level of comfort with the future you're working toward.

Investors should understand the risks involved with owning investments, including interest rate risk, credit risk and market risk. The value of investments fluctuates and investors can lose some or all of their principal.

This content was provided by Edward Jones for use by Ben Chumov, your Edward Jones financial advisor at (503) 912-7114. (Member SIPC)

Ben Chumov

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Could GLP-1s help problem drinking?; Are workplace fumes a health risk?

By DR. KEITH ROACH
King Features Columnist

GlP-1s Might Help Obese Man With Drinking Habit

DEAR DR. ROACH: My brother-in-law is a lovely man, but for years, he's suffered from obesity. He also gambles and drinks alcohol too much. I hesitate to get too involved, but I recently read that the new weight-loss drugs based on GLP-1 agonists are also helpful in reducing alcohol and gambling addictions. This sounds too good to be true. Is it? — D.N.A.

ANSWER: The evidence is very strong that GLP-1 agonists like tirzepatide (Zepbound) and semaglutide (Wegovy) help people lose weight. About 80% to 90% of people will experience a weight loss of more than 5% of their initial body weight. For people who are severely obese, people with obesity and metabolic complications (diabetes, prediabetes or metabolic syndrome), and people with other weight-related complications (sleep apnea and arthritis), the benefits of these medicines probably outweigh the risks just for the weight loss.

The evidence for GLP-1 agonists helping with alcohol use disorder is now quite strong, with studies showing significant reductions in alcohol-related hospitalizations and a reduction in problem drinking. The evidence for gambling disorders is preliminary based on the understanding of how these drugs

work in the brain. There aren't any strong clinical data at this time supporting the use of GLP-1 agonists for a gambling disorder. Still, given the clear benefits in weight reduction and problem drinking, these drugs might be a good choice for your brother-in-law — if both he and his physician agree. It might also help with his gambling problem, which I've seen take a terrible toll on a person's social and financial life.

Finally, I was supervising a medical resident yesterday when we discussed the effect of these drugs on heart health. The evidence is also strong that these medications decrease the risk of heart disease — both in people with and without diabetes. Multiple mechanisms have been proposed for this heart protection, but it isn't exactly clear which ones are the most important.

For those of us who lived through the approval of previous weight-loss drugs, which were later found to cause heart damage, the news about heart protection is welcome. Still, we've been using these drugs for less than 10 years, and it's wise to use them only when there's a clear benefit in doing so.

Long-term health risks of common workplace fumes?

DEAR DR. ROACH: What are the long-term health risks of being exposed to fumes, such as in hair or nail salons or automobile repair shops? Can these fumes affect your internal organs? — C.R.C.

ANSWER: The primary organ affected by



fumes during occupational exposure are the lungs. Chest tightness, wheezing and allergic symptoms are common after an exposure to benzene, formaldehyde, toluene, and other substances that are commonly used in hair and nail salons — often at levels that exceed the safe thresholds. Half of technicians in one study were affected.

Auto body and paint workers are also exposed to the same (or very similar) chemicals, and they can develop asthma at a rate that is 80 times higher than the general population. In addition to effects on the lungs, occupational exposure to these chemicals increases the risk of some cancers, especially leukemia (benzene), sinus and nasal cancer (formaldehyde), and nervous system cancers (benzene).

Although personal protection equipment can reduce these exposures, many workers don't use them regularly. Improved ventilation and less-toxic chemicals are needed to protect workers. ■

Dr. Roach regrets that he is unable to answer individual questions. **Answers do not constitute medical advice. Consult your physician before making any health care or routine changes.** Readers may email questions to ToYourGoodHealth@med.cornell.edu. (c) 2023 North America Synd., Inc. All Rights Reserved



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Implants: The Un-dentures

By RUSSELL BIRD, DMD
Blue Bird Dentistry



Q. My dentist says It's time for dentures but I don't want teeth that come out like my grandparents. Am I a candidate for teeth in a day?

A. Short answer? It depends. Dental implants may be preferable to dentures for some patients, particularly those who have stable bone structure and don't smoke tobacco. Let's talk about the factors that might help you and your dentist decide.

The conventional implant timeline

Dental implants are very different from dentures. Dentures are removable appliances that mimic entire upper or lower sections of teeth. Implants are single or multiple artificial teeth held in place by posts "implanted" into the jawbone. While one-day implant technology is now possible, the procedure is still complex.

The traditional approach uses several rounds of oral surgery followed by "resting" times that allow the gums to heal and bone tissue to integrate with the medical-grade titanium posts that will hold your new teeth. It all begins by removing any natural teeth needing to be replaced by synthetics. Next, your dentist will strengthen the jawbone, if necessary, by grafting additional bone matter. The posts can then

be implanted through the gums and into the jawbone, and impressions made to fabricate a new connecting abutment and teeth.

How same-day implants work

Most teeth-in-a-day candidates need a section of multiple teeth replaced. While it seems like implanting a single tooth would be a cinch, a wider arc of implants is structurally more sound—a requirement for allowing new bone tissue to grow around the implanted posts. This takes several months, during which the implants must remain stationary. Patients make this possible by eating a soft diet and restricting bite force on the area.

Additional help can come from some Botox therapy, to keep the facial muscles relaxed and reduce pressure on the implants. Meanwhile, your body will produce new bone cells that grow directly around the implant. With that process behind you in one day, you'll follow the remaining conventional steps: let the posts integrate for several months; then your

dentist will custom make the abutment and ceramic teeth and install them in just a few hours.

Yes, you can successfully have teeth in a day. Instead of removing dentures for cleaning, you'll brush and floss normally when your dentist clears you to do so. But the need to let the body do its work—while you do your part by avoiding crunchy and chewy foods—cannot be minimized. That's still a small price to pay for implanting a permanent smile in just a few hours' time. ■

Russell Bird DMD of Blue Bird Dentistry in Sandy, Oregon, brings over a decade of professional expertise and love for the local community to dental care for children and adults. Dr. Bird y su personal hablan español y dale bienvenidos a gente de todos orígenes. Contact: (503) 668- 1300; sandyordentist.com; facebook.com/BlueBirdDentistry/.



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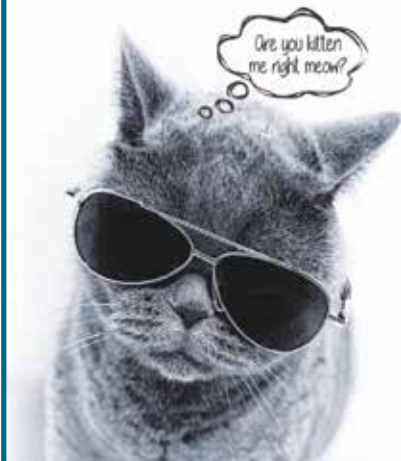


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Excuses are deadly

By MIKE WILEY
Publisher

One of the foremost marks of a mature man is that he doesn't make excuses. He takes responsibility. We see too little of this today. The world, and too many Christians, seem to have a vested interest in coddling today's men in their dysfunction.

Too many men today play the victim year after year, blaming circumstances for the failure of their marriages and the breakdown of their families, for their failure to build solid careers, for their poor physical condition, for their bad finances, and frankly, for a whole raft of bad personal decisions. They have adopted the "I'm a victim, woe is me" approach to life because it relieves them of life's built-in obligation to be responsible. Sadly, today's Christian church nearly always coddles them in their self-identified victimhood under the guise of misguided compassion — to the detriment of their families, their churches, and their communities.

Twenty years, no change

Recently, two men that I have known for over 20 years came across my radar within a day of one another. I hadn't really kept up with them, but would see their posts on social media from time to time. This time I noticed. These men don't know one another, but back in the day, they both had leadership aspirations and potential. They were both confident, intelligent, and people listened to them. Twenty years ago, they were young, newly married. They both had areas of growth they were dealing with, but their futures seemed bright with potential.

However, when I ran across them recently, it didn't seem like they had really progressed from twenty years ago. In fact, in many ways they had gone backward. Both men were lamenting the bad things that had happened to them and seemed to be looking for sympathy or pity. Both of their marriages had apparently failed, leading to varying levels of estrangement from family, children, friends, and churches. Neither one seems to be doing well in a career — if they even have one. Their once bold leadership dreams were in tatters.

They are both overweight. Their "casual" approach to grooming, which was "cool" twenty years ago, now just seems sloppy and unkempt. At least one is tatted up. But,

they are skilled at keeping up their social media! There they detail all the struggles they have had and are having. It seems like a subtle effort to both excuse themselves and gain sympathy. Sadly, they do get sympathy and that is the poison that will keep them trapped in their self-imposed victimhood.

Josh McDowell once said that the greatest want in life is someone who will get us to do what we know we should do. The best thing for these men would be for someone to confront them, shake them, tell them to grow the heck up, get their act together, and refuse to accept their excuses any longer.

Alas, that will likely never happen because nobody would want to deal with the fallout that would undoubtedly follow. "A scoffer does not love one who reproves him. He will not go to the wise." (Proverbs 15:12)

Homesteading in the excuses

Both of these men, like everyone, had challenges. However, they couldn't seem to get past them. Instead of growing as men and overcoming their challenges, they homesteaded there. Every struggle, every failure, every bad choice, every burst of anger, was excused by their traumas and became a reason to wallow in their difficulties rather than overcoming them.

Still, even now they "bravely" talk how they are determined to persevere. They write and talk firmly about how Jesus understands their plight and how they are going to move on, and move up, despite all the bad blows and unfair things that life has given to them.

It's delusional. If they keep the same attitudes that they have for the past twenty years, another twenty years will find them no different — except opportunities that might be rescued now will definitely be gone by then.

Lessons to learn

The biggest lesson to learn is that we are responsible for where we are in life right now. There is no one else. Just us. If there is to be change in our lives, if we are to be better, and in better circumstances, at the end of the next twenty years than we are today, then we must take responsibility for who we are and where we are. Starting today. **HVN**

Mike Wiley is the publisher of Hoodview News.



Ready, Set, Go: Preparing for Wildfire Season

By TREVIN WEBB
Insurance Agent

For many communities, wildfire danger is no longer limited to distant rural areas. Over the past several years, local residents have faced evacuation warnings, heavy smoke, and rapidly changing fire conditions. August is a good time to make sure you are prepared.

Know the Evac Levels

Level 1 — Be Ready: Stay informed and prepare your family, pets, medications, important documents, and emergency supplies.

Level 2 — Be Set: Be ready to leave immediately. Families with young children, older adults, and those with pets or livestock should consider leaving early.

Level 3 — Go Now: Leave immediately. Do not delay to gather belongings.

You do not need to wait for an evacuation notice if you feel unsafe. Make sure everyone in your household receives local emergency alerts and knows where to meet if separated.

Create an evac checklist

Prepare a "go bag" with medications, water, food, clothing,

flashlights, chargers, identification, cash, and important contact information. Your household should also have:

- More than one evac route
- A plan for children, older adults, and pets
- A designated meeting place
- An out-of-area emergency contact
- A temporary place to stay

Take a video inventory

Walk through your home with your phone and record your belongings. Open closets, cabinets, drawers, garages, sheds, and storage areas. Include furniture, electronics, appliances, tools, jewelry, sporting equipment, and other valuables.

Store the video online or away from your home. Update it every few years and after major purchases. Homeowners and renters should both maintain an inventory.

A short video can make a significant difference when documenting a claim.

Create defensible space

Remove leaves and pine needles from roofs and gutters, trim branches away from structures, maintain dry vegetation, and move firewood and combustible materials away from your home.

Also check underneath decks

and around sheds, fences, propane tanks, patio furniture, and bark dust. Wind-driven embers can ignite small materials before the main fire arrives.

Review your insurance

Confirm that your home is insured for its estimated reconstruction cost, not simply its market value. Review your loss-of-use coverage, personal-property coverage, deductibles, detached structures, and building ordinance or law coverage.

Wildfire, falling trees, ash, and similar vehicle damage are generally covered under comprehensive auto coverage, subject to the policy and deductible. Antique or collector cars stored in a garage are generally not covered by homeowners insurance and should have their own policy.

Preparation cannot prevent every loss, but planning ahead can make evacuation safer, reduce stress, and make recovery much easier. ■

Trevin Webb owns Trevin Webb Insurance company and is a licensed agent with Farmers.

He can be reached at 503-667-2820.



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"It only takes a spark"

By JOSHUA WARREN
Family Life Pastor, Go Church

Few parts of the human body are as small as the tongue, yet few possess greater influence. In James chapter 3, the half-brother of Jesus paints a striking picture of the power of words and reminds readers that what comes from the mouth has the ability to shape lives, strengthen communities, or leave lasting wounds. Although written nearly two thousand years ago, James' message is remarkably relevant in an age of social media, instant communication, and public discourse.

Words have great power

James compares the tongue to a bit placed in a horse's mouth or the rudder of a massive ship. Though both are small pieces relative to the larger object in which they are attached, they have the power and ability to control the much larger vessel. Likewise, the words people choose each day will determine the direction of relationships, families, workplaces, and even entire communities. A thoughtful word of encouragement can inspire hope that empowers someone to endure through a difficult time. Likewise, a thoughtless insult can cut to the core of a person and shatter relationships.

Tongue is a fire

James' most vivid illustration found in chapter three is when he compares the tongue to a fire. In 2020, I was a volunteer firefighter with the Sandy Fire Department, and I responded to the Eagle Creek fire the first night it started. We spent days and weeks fighting fires across our cities, towns, and neighborhoods, but at times it seemed that no amount of effort was enough. James points out that just as a spark can set an entire forest ablaze, so can our words bring destruction and conflict into our environment. Rumors, gossip, and harsh criticism will often travel



faster than truth, leaving broken relationships and divided communities in their wake.

A call to integrity

Yet James' teaching is not merely a warning – it is a call to integrity. He observes that the same tongue that has the power to set a forest ablaze can also bring hope, peace, and love that produce great beauty. A life transformed by God should be marked by speech

**A life transformed
by God should be
marked by speech
that reflects
wisdom, kindness,
grace, truth, and
self-control.**

that reflects wisdom, kindness, grace, truth, and self-control. Ultimately, our words reflect what is happening in our hearts.

In a culture where opinions are shared instantly and conversations often become hostile, the wisdom in James 3 is timeless. Before speaking, posting online, or responding in anger, people would do well to remember the extraordinary power of their words. However,

we cannot harness our tongue on our own. Every person must choose to seek God's wisdom and allow Him to shape both our hearts and the words that flow from them. In doing so, the tongue becomes an instrument of peace, truth, and hope. ■

Joshua Warren is the Family Life Pastor at Go Church. The church meets at Weekly services, Sundays at 10:30am at Hood View Adventist Church, 26775 SE Kelso Rd. in Boring. For more information, visit their website: www.gochurchec.com.



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— **Ezekiel 33:11**

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Read through the Bible



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AUGUST

AUGUST

- | | |
|--|---|
| ☐ 1 Ps. 31; Neh. 12,13; Mk. 16 | ☐ 17 Ps. 47; Job 21,22; Jn. 1,2 |
| ☐ 2 Ps. 32; Esther 1,2; Lk. 1,2 | ☐ 18 Ps. 48; Job 23,24; Jn. 3 |
| ☐ 3 Ps. 33; Esther 3,4; Lk. 3,4 | ☐ 19 Ps. 49; Job 25,26; Jn. 4,5 |
| ☐ 4 Ps. 34; Esther 5,6; Lk. 5 | ☐ 20 Ps. 50; Job 27,28; Jn. 6,7 |
| ☐ 5 Ps. 35; Esther 7,8; Lk. 6,7 | ☐ 21 Ps. 51; Job 29,30; Jn. 8 |
| ☐ 6 Ps. 36; Esther 9,10; Lk. 8 | ☐ 22 Ps. 52; Job 31,32; Jn. 9 |
| ☐ 7 Ps. 37; Job 1,2; Lk. 9 | ☐ 23 Ps. 53; Job 33,34; Jn. 10 |
| ☐ 8 Ps. 38; Job 3,4; Lk. 10,11 | ☐ 24 Ps. 54; Job 35,36; Jn. 11 |
| ☐ 9 Ps. 39; Job 5,6; Lk. 12,13 | ☐ 25 Ps. 55; Job 37,38; Jn. 12 |
| ☐ 10 Ps. 40; Job 7,8; Lk. 14,15 | ☐ 26 Ps. 56; Job 39,40; Jn. 13,14 |
| ☐ 11 Ps. 41; Job 9,10; Lk. 16 | ☐ 27 Ps. 57; Job 41,42; Jn. 15,16 |
| ☐ 12 Ps. 42; Job 11,12; Lk. 17,18 | ☐ 28 Ps. 58; Isaiah 1,2; Jn. 17 |
| ☐ 13 Ps. 43; Job 13,14; Lk. 19 | ☐ 29 Ps. 59; Isaiah 3,4; Jn. 18,19 |
| ☐ 14 Ps. 44; Job 15,16; Lk. 20,21 | ☐ 30 Ps. 60; Isaiah 5,6; Jn. 20 |
| ☐ 15 Ps. 45; Job 17,18; Lk. 22 | ☐ 31 Ps. 61; Isaiah 7,8; Jn. 21 |
| ☐ 16 Ps. 46; Job 19,20; Lk. 23,24 | |

RELY ON GOD'S RESOURCES: His Spirit

1 Corinthians 3:16

"Do you not know that you are a temple of God and that the Spirit of God dwells in you?"

1 Corinthians 3:16

C-1

NASB 95

RELY ON GOD'S RESOURCES: His Spirit

1 Corinthians 2:12

"Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, so that we may know the things freely given to us by God,"

1 Corinthians 2:12

C-2

NASB 95

MONTHLY MEMORY VERSES

Few things will help you grow in the Christian life like Bible memorization. Cut out the verses to the left and keep them with you. Say the reference before and after each verse. There will be two new verses each month.

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■ CONTINUED FROM PG 28

Aug. 21—Teen Maker Drop-in

East County Library, 475 NW Division, Gresham invites teens in grades 6-12 to their Teen maker Drop-In event on Friday, August 21st from 2:30pm to 5:30pm. Come make something cool, learn a new skill, and meet friendly people in this teen-friendly space. Creative Learning Room staff and volunteers will teach you how to use tech equipment to design things and express yourself. Project examples include 3D printers, craft cutters, sewing machines, custom t-shirts and tote bags, tons of art supplies for painting, jewelry making, and more.

Aug. 22—Rock the Block

Come to a free family-friendly block party at Rockwood Market Hall, 458 SE 185 Ave., Gresham on Saturday, August 22nd from 11am to 4pm. Enjoy music, great food, kids' activities and more. Rock the Block features: Free backpacks and school supplies; Free haircuts; Free food and entertainment; Connections to community. Hosted by the City of Gresham and sponsored by Forrit Credit Union. For more information contact: Chris. Fick@GreshamOregon.gov.

Aug. 22 & 23—Drop In at Cedar Park

More than just a competition, The Drop In will be a family-friendly weekend experience bringing together riders, skaters, families, and the broader community for an exciting celebration of sport, energy, and connection! Held at Cedar Park, 17225 SE Meinig Ave., Sandy, on Saturday and Sunday, Aug. 22nd and Aug. 23rd from 10am to 6pm, this inaugural event will showcase high-level skate and bike competition while transforming the park into a vibrant community gathering space. Spectators will watch some of the region's most skilled riders put their abilities to the test, while participants compete in a high-energy, judged environment designed for experienced athletes. Admission for spectators is completely FREE! Whether you're a dedicated rider, a curious first-time visitor, or simply looking for a fun weekend activity, there will be something for everyone. Beyond the competition, attendees can explore a wide variety of local, regional, and national vendors while enjoying: Kids' activities and games; Rock climbing wall; Bike obstacle courses and skills challenges; Cedar Park's destination playground; Food trucks; Vendor booths, giveaways, samples, and special offers.

Aug. 27—Mt. Hood Hospice Time of Remembering

This year's Mt. Hood Hospice Time of Remembering will be held in a new location, 43233 SE Oral Hull Rd., Sandy, on Thursday, August. 27th from 5:30-7:30pm. They invite you to come as they honor community members that have passed. For more information: llirette@mthoodhospice.org.

Aug. 27—After Hours Laser Tag

After Hours Laser Tag will be held at the Sandy Library, 38980 Proctor Blvd., Sandy on Thursday, Aug. 27th from 6pm to 9pm. They will play multiple rounds of team-based laser tag games using the entire main area of the library as the playing field. Not playing the current round? Relax in the community room with snacks, music, and wait for your next game! This program is for teens in 6th - 12th grade. REGISTRATION REQUIRED: www.cityofsandy.activityreg.com.

Aug. 28—Gresham Chamber Meeting

The Gresham Area Chamber of Commerce Friday AM meeting is an opportunity to connect with other businesses and business owners in the local community. The Chamber will be meeting on Friday, Aug. 28th from 7:20am to 9am at Bateman

Aug. 30—Car Show for Gresham Senior Center

On Sunday, Aug. 30th from 12pm to 4pm the Gresham Senior Center will be holding their 8th Annual Car Show and Fundraiser benefitting the Gresham Senior Center and Montavilla Quilts of Valor. This event will take place in their east parking lot at 600 NE 8th St., Gresham. There will be food, prizes, trophies, games, quilt raffle and silent auction. Vehicles may be registered for \$15 until August 17th, and \$20 after August 17th. For more information or to register your vehicle, call 503-988-4860 or email: director@gresham-seniorcenter.org. ■

Carroll Funeral Home, 520 W. Powell Blvd. Gresham. The speaker and host for the meeting will be Bateman Carroll Funeral Home. People considering membership are also welcome to come and visit a chamber meeting. Information about the chamber and the other meetings: www.gresham-chamber.org.

Sept. 13—Cruisin' with the Cops Car Show

On Sunday, Sept. 13th from 9am to 3pm, come to the former K-Mart parking lot, 440 NW Burnside Rd., in Gresham for the Cruisin' with the Cops Car Show and Community Event. Amazing show cars, food drive for SnowCap, fundraiser for charities, vendors, auctions, raffles, drawings...all as a tribute to 9/11 and all first

responders. To enter a car, sign up as a vendor or sponsor, or get more information, go to: www.cruisinwiththecops.org.

Sept. 13—Concealed Firearms Permit Class

If you don't have your permit, you can't legally carry a firearm in Oregon. On Sunday, Sept. 13th from 12pm to 5pm, a Concealed Firearms Permit Class will be held at Clackamas County Bank-Gresham, 1101 NE Burnside Rd., Gresham. The class will be taught by Officer Larry Raglione, a certified instructor. The Concealed Firearms Permit-Utah, Arizona, or Florida, costs \$80. Oregon can be added to this for an additional \$20. This permit is good in up to 35 states. To register call 503-781-6080 or go to www.2ndrightscfp.com. ■

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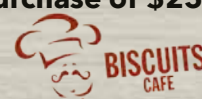
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Fighting for football

■ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 19

with every game.

Still, when the spring season finally arrived, the Sandy players had been together for only a matter of weeks. Most were still learning the finer points of the game, and the program itself had barely progressed from an ambitious idea to a functioning team. Simply competing respectably against schools with more established programs would have been considered a successful inaugural season.



Jennalee (right), talks about the team and the season during an interview with Hoodview News while her mom Krystal looks on. (Photo Mike Wiley)

What happened instead surprised nearly everyone.

Kim Turin said, "Jenna was definitely captain and a leader, but every girl on the team was a major contributing factor, which is what made us so good. We played lights out. We beat big teams like Gresham and David Douglas and Tualatin, who are all top four teams in state. The third game in we played Gresham. Gresham is a powerhouse, and we beat them 21 to 20 in the last minute of the game. That started making some waves in the state about this

little team from Sandy that had never played before. Sandy's three years behind most every other team. Ours was thrown together in two weeks' time. The girls in the first couple games were doing things like they had no idea. We had a safety. We had a handful of things that they're like, "What? What is this? We're playing basic football, but the girls were executing very well with sheer athleticism. It was pretty fun."

Week after week, the Pioneers defeated opponents that had entered the season with considerably more experience. Confidence grew with every victory, but so did the realization that this young program might be capable of accomplishing something no one had anticipated.

The wins piled up.

By the end of the regular season, Sandy had compiled a perfect 12-0 record while capturing the conference championship. Along the way, the Pioneers defeated several of Oregon's most established programs, surprising opponents who had expected to face an inexperienced first-year team. Even after dropping two



Jennalee running the ball downfield during a game this spring. (Photo Sam Smallwood)

closely contested games during the state tournament, Sandy finished the year 12-2 and seventh in the state—a remarkable accomplishment for a program that had not even existed months earlier.

For Jennalee, however, a memorable moment came during that first game of the inaugural season.

When she crossed the goal line after catching the first touchdown pass in Sandy High girls flag foot-

ball history, the celebration represented far more than points on a scoreboard. It marked the culmination of months of determination, countless volunteer hours, generous community support and the shared efforts of dozens of people who had refused to let a good idea die before it ever had a chance to succeed.

Looking back now, that touchdown seems almost symbolic.

The first points in program history belonged to the young woman whose persistence helped make the program itself possible.

A beginning continues

For all of the victories, championships and memorable moments, those closest to the program believe the greatest success is not its won-loss record, but by the example it set by a young

■ CONTINUED ON PAGE 39

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Fighting for football

■ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 38

woman who respectfully did not let a “no” or a door that seemed closed to be the last word.

Because of Jennalee’s efforts, in the future when Sandy High’s girls take the field, many of them will never have known there was a time when the school didn’t offer girls flag football. They’ll simply put on a Pioneer uniform, gather with teammates, and play a sport they love. To them, it will seem perfectly natural.

Jennalee Nail made that future a reality. That may be the greatest legacy of all.

What began as one student’s question has become a program that will continue long after she graduates. Younger girls now have something to look forward to as they enter high school. Incoming freshmen know there is a place for them if they want to play. Future teams will build upon a foundation that didn’t exist just a short time ago.

Jennalee’s father, Jonah Nail expressed his pride in his daughter. He said, “When Jenna first told me she wanted to start a flag football team, I honestly thought it would be quite an uphill battle. There were so many hurdles to overcome, and I wasn’t sure it would all come together. What I underestimated was Jenna’s determination. I couldn’t be more proud of her perseverance, leadership, and willingness to work tirelessly for something she believed in.”

Inaugural training camp in August

When the program hosts its inaugural youth camp August 3rd through the 6th, girls entering grades three through freshman year will have an opportunity to learn passing, receiving, route running, defensive techniques and teamwork from the very players who built the program. Some of those campers will be the ones wearing Pioneer uniforms in the future, carrying forward a tradition that didn’t exist until Jennalee Nail asked a simple question.

The camp represents far more than a few mornings of football instruction. It is an invitation for younger girls to become part of something that is just beginning. Long before they pull on a Sandy High



Jennalee grabs an opponents flag for a tackle during a game. (Photo Sam Smallwood)

uniform, they will have an opportunity to build friendships, develop confidence and imagine themselves someday taking the field as Pioneers. Every successful athletic program begins by inspiring those who will eventually inherit it, and that is exactly what this camp is designed to do. (Scan the QR code at the end of this story for more information on the camp.)

The program has also

She wasn’t loud or demanding. She simply refused to let discouragement have the final word. Instead, she continued asking what the next step might be and invited others to help...

received encouragement from the Seattle Seahawks, whose support for the rapid growth of girls flag football throughout the Pacific Northwest has helped fuel opportunities like the one now taking root in Sandy. Whether through equipment, promotion, coaching resources or league partnerships, the Seahawks’ involvement underscores just how quickly girls flag football has moved from an emerging sport to one attracting attention at every level of the game. For Jennalee and her teammates, it is another reminder that what began as one student’s idea has become part of something much larger.

Willingness to persevere

Tony and Kim Turin believe that willingness to persevere is what made Jennalee such an effective leader. She wasn’t loud or demanding. She simply refused to let discouragement have the final word. Instead, she continued asking what the next step might be and invited others to help take it with her.

It is tempting to remember this story by its numbers: a 12-2 record, a conference championship, a seventh-place finish at the state tournament and the first touchdown in Sandy High girls flag football history.

Those things deserve to be celebrated. More importantly, years from now, another Sandy girl’s flag football player will score a winning touchdown. Another team may bring home a state trophy. Another generation of young women will proudly wear Pioneer uniforms.

When local historians look back on Sandy High’s girls flag football program, they’ll record that the first touchdown was scored by Jennalee Nail.

The more enduring accomplishment is that she helped ensure there will be an opportunity for another young woman to score the next one. **HVN**

Scan the QR code below for more information on the inaugural Sandy girls flag football camp on August 3rd through the 6th.



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We Failed

June 29, 2026

Dear Bess,
My husband's Ford Fusion needed service due to an engine light on. He was about to make an appointment with a dealer in Sandy and I suggested he take his vehicle to Gresham Ford; "the dealer with a heart." He usually does not take my suggestions but he said, okay, that's the dealer who does the community service, right? We see your ads in the Hoodland News and we share your values. Having worked in the non-profit sector, I appreciate your support of local non-profits such as Sno Cap, My Father's House and Human Solutions.

We made an appointment for 7:00 am on Thursday, June 25th. We dropped the vehicle off the day before so it could be serviced first thing in the morning. My husband called at 4:00 Thursday afternoon and was told to call back the next day at 3 or 4:00. On Friday, he called at 3:00 and no one answered. He sent an email at 3:30 and got no reply. At 4:00, he sent a text and was not ready and that it was never been a problem with the battery. It took the tech to be defective. You can take his car to Les Schwab and they tested good at 70%. C

My husband then called in the first place. He got the car back at 3:30 the day and assure service and we were

I truly regret having a stressful and unbusiness that we not one to write to you directly

Sincerely,

Dear [REDACTED],

Thank you for taking the time to write to me personally. More importantly, thank you for giving us the opportunity to hear your concerns directly instead of simply posting a scathing review online. That was an act of grace that we truly appreciate.

After reading your letter, I can honestly say we could have done a much better job. We let both you and your husband down. The lack of communication, the delays, and especially the frustration surrounding the battery are simply not the experience anyone should have at Gresham Ford. While I cannot change what happened, I can sincerely apologize for it.

Your letter has already been shared with our leadership team. We will be counseling the employees involved—not to assign blame, but to help them understand the impact their actions and communication have on our customers. We will learn from this, and we will use your experience to improve our processes so this does not happen to another family.

What hurts me most is reading that you felt betrayed because you believed in what we stand for. We work very hard to earn the reputation of being "The Dealer with a Heart," and in your case, we failed to live up to that promise. For that, I am truly sorry.

Please accept the flowers we are sending as a small expression of our apology. We know they cannot make up for the disappointment and frustration you experienced, but we hope they bring a smile to your day and serve as a reminder that your letter truly mattered. Thank you again for giving us the opportunity to learn, improve, and hopefully earn back your trust someday.

With sincere appreciation,

Bess Wills
Gresham Ford
The Dealer with a Heart

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