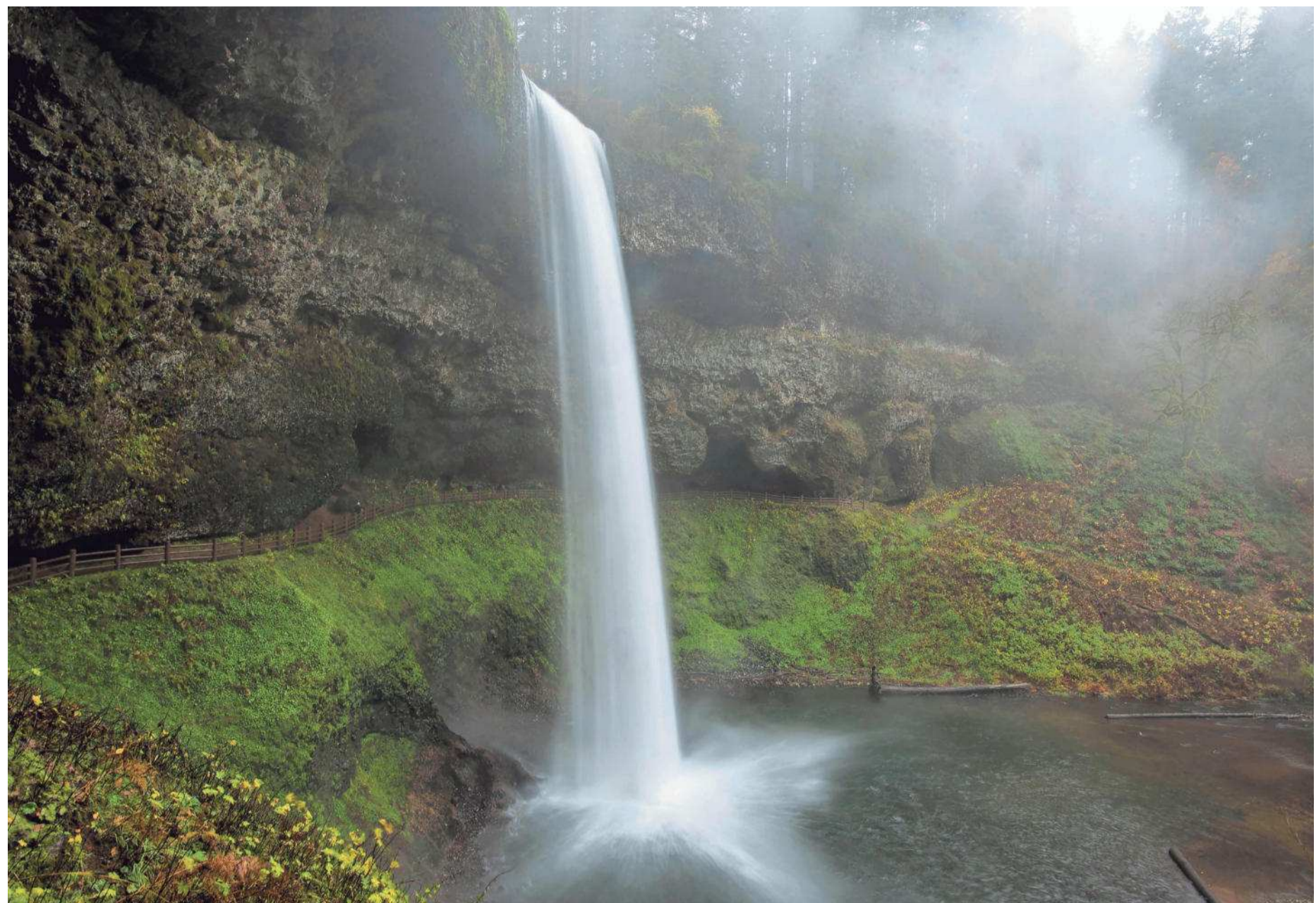


Life *in the* Valley

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PHOTOS BY DANIELLE PETERSON / STATESMAN JOURNAL

Fog and mist hang above South Falls on Sunday, Oct. 30, at Silver Falls State Park. Much of the orange and yellow leaves that frame the falls this time of year have fallen and are now covering the trail.

Enjoying autumn at Silver Falls

DANIELLE PETERSON
STATESMAN JOURNAL

Much of the bright yellow and orange leaves have fallen from the trees that surround South Falls, but the iconic waterfall at Silver Falls State Park is a stunning site, no matter the season.

A light fog and mist hovered above the falls Sunday as hikers navigated the steep gravel trail in the rain.

Anne Saxe, who just moved to Silverton with her family from Tennessee, made her first trip to Silver Falls on Sunday. She said the photographs of the park she had seen were “just breathtaking.”

“We love the outdoors and since we’re getting familiar with the area and it’s not raining too hard, we decided to come up here and get some exercise,” Saxe said. “We love how green it is and the smell of the fir trees.”

Amber Peoples of Portland was also hiking at the park on Sunday.

“My career (in the entertainment industry) may take me to all parts of the world very soon, so I really wanted to appreciate as much of Oregon as I could while I’m here,” Peoples said.

For the last five years, around Christmas time, she has rented a cabin at a state park.

“For two of those five years, I’ve rented a cabin at Silver Falls because I love it here so much, so it was definitely a place I wanted to visit again before I possibly become a world traveler.”

Where: 20024 Silver Falls Highway SE, Sublimity

When: The park is open year round, but hours vary depending on the season. The South Falls Day Use area is open 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. November through January.

Cost: \$5 day-use fee

Contact: For more information call 503-873-8681 or visit OregonStateParks.org.



A bit of fall color still remains around the South Falls Lodge at Silver Falls State Park.



Orange and yellow leaves cover the trail leading to the South Falls at Silver Falls State Park.



A rustic bridge crosses Silver Creek along a paved path leading to the South Falls overlook at Silver Falls State Park.