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JUSTIN MUCH | STATESMAN JOURNAL

Pictured, from left, are four generations of Haslebachers: Bryan, his son Casey and his daughter Hallie, Mary and Raymond along with four-legged Guido.

CELEBRATING A CENTURY FARM

Haslebachers take time to reflect

JUSTIN MUCH
STAYTON MAIL

August 26, 2017, proved to be a good day for the Haslebacher family to celebrate more than a century of hard work.

The Lake Labish-area agrarians joined 19 other farm and ranch families from 10 different counties honored by the Oregon Farm Bureau Foundation as Century Farms or Ranches; one farm from Clackamas County — Voss Farms — Jeannette Voss and Julie Edy — reached Sesquicentennial status, bringing the total number of Oregon Century Farms and Ranches to 1,200 and Sesquicentennial to 39.

OFB ceremoniously honored farm families at the Oregon State Fair, including Raymond and Mary Haslebacher who officially submitted their farm for recognition.

For the Haslebachers, the honor provided an opportune time for some reminiscence and re-

flection. Reaching into his sixth decade, Ray and Mary's son, Bryan Haslebacher, harbors a respectful perspective of farm life and the myriad changes that have shaped and reshaped the family business since his great grandfather, Ferdinand Haslebacher, founded it in 1911.

Over the decades the Haslebachers have raised dairy cattle, grains, hay, hops, berries, row crops, and Bryan planted and currently tends a hazelnut orchard.

Bryan's memory stretches back to the vestigial hop infrastructure, though he wasn't around when hops were the crop. He has vivid memories of the row crops, and the labor force necessary to harvest them. That was during the days when many area teenagers were bussed out to the farms for picking duties.

Bryan actually took a different career path for a time, serving in law enforcement in Gervais,

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CREEKSIDE CHAT

Marion County DA candidate discusses crime

CHRISTENA BROOKS



Clarkson

Here's a political race that Silverton and Mt. Angel residents might overlook: the election of a new district attorney, whose job is to prosecute crime in Marion County.

Longtime prosecutor Paige Clarkson stopped by Silver Creek Coffee House for a Creekside Chat last week to tell local voters what they'll get if they pick her for the office being vacated by District Attorney Walt Beglau in next spring's election. So far, she's the only person to announce candidacy.

Clarkson, 43, is a senior deputy district attorney who leads the county's team of drug-crime prosecutors while also participating in alternatives for offenders with addiction and mental illness. Over 20 years, she's prosecuted everything from DUII to murder for the Marion County District Attorney's Office, starting there as a clerk even before earning her law degree from Willamette University in 1999.

"The district attorney is responsible for dealing

with crime and the issues that drive crime in every small community,"

Clarkson said. "Marion County is diverse, and each community is different, but it's our job to see that the law is applied consistently everywhere."

If elected, Clarkson would be the county's first female DA.

"There's not enough of us," she said. "I think women bring different life experience to the job. Our experience isn't better or worse — it's just different — and it's needed."

She's worked for two male district attorneys: Beglau and, before him, Dale Penn. Both she respects for "being political servants, not politicians," and "setting aside ego and personal interests for the good of the community," she said.

From her early days as a line attorney, handling up to 150 cases at a time, Clarkson said her

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Man accused of stealing from area nonprofit

WHITNEY M. WOODWORTH
STATESMAN JOURNAL

A Mount Angel man — and longtime community fixture — is facing felony charges for allegedly stealing tens of thousands of dollars from an area nonprofit.

James Byron Hall Jr., 64, was arrested on two counts of first-degree aggravated theft and two counts of first-degree theft.

He is accused of stealing from the Mt. Angel Community Foundation, a local nonprofit that raises funds for the public library, scholarships for graduating seniors and Mount Angel's famous glockenspiel.

The organization's website lists Hall as their treasurer.

According to a Woodburn Independent article, Hall served with the nonprofit since its creation in 1995. He was awarded the Mount Angel Chamber of Commerce First Citizen Award in 2014 for his community volunteer work. The article also notes that Hall served on the St. Mary's church finance committee and as-

sisted with Benedictine Sisters finances.

Officials with the Mt. Angel Community Foundation did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

The Oregon Board of Accountancy website lists Hall as a certified public accountant licensed since 1984. No disciplinary actions are listed in his file.

According to court records, Hall was arraigned on the theft charges Aug. 18. He is accused of stealing more than \$20,000 from the nonprofit in 2011 and 2012. Hall also allegedly stole more than \$2,000 in 2014.

Court records state that the Oregon Department of Justice began investigating Hall this year.

He was released from custody on Aug. 18 and ordered to have no contact with the Mt. Angel Community Foundation.

His next court appearance is scheduled for Sept. 21 at 1:30 p.m.

For questions, comments and news tips, email reporter Whitney Woodworth at wmwoodworth@statesmanjournal.com.

Citizen-soldiers fighting wildfires

CONNOR RADNOVICH
STATESMAN JOURNAL

Before an Oregon National Guard airman or soldier can deploy to a wildfire, the state must overcome a number of logistical hurdles. One of the biggest is boots.

It takes about four days for each pair of handmade boots to arrive after a special order is made for every service member — and it could become a record year.

Teams of guardsmen are fighting the Horse Prairie and Chetco Bar fires in the southwestern corner of the state.

With about 500 guardsmen activated, this year already is at the 2015 level for most deployed guardsmen directly



CONNOR RADNOVICH / STATESMAN JOURNAL
Sgt. Lucas Hoffman, left, selects a wildfire fighting shirt with Mike Brown of the Oregon Department of Public Safety Standards and Training at the Oregon Public Safety Academy.

fighting wildfires, said Maj. Cory Jones, joint director of military support for the Oregon National Guard.

"We have citizen-sol-

diers out there right now that are assisting the citizens of Oregon," Jones said. "It's pretty amazing what they do."

From the time Gov.

Kate Brown activates a group of guardsmen for firefighting, it takes seven days until they arrive at the fire camp. Most of that time is spent training at the Oregon Public Safety Academy — a 235-acre facility on the outskirts of Salem.

It's four days of classroom and field work, setting fires to learn how to control them. Training touches on establishing fire lines, using various tools, opening fire shelters, studying communication terms and learning suppression techniques.

Usually the training last five days, but the Oregon National Guard cuts it to four, 13-hour days.

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