

Gabriela Ritokova works to improve forest health

Tracy Loew

Salem Statesman Journal
USA TODAY NETWORK

This is part of a weekly series introducing readers to individuals who are passionate about our Mid-Valley community.

When Oregon's forest trees get sick or die, it's Gabriela Ritokova's job to figure out why.

Ritokova is the state's new forest pathologist. Her mission is to help the Oregon Department of Forestry and private timber owners fight diseases.

It's a big job, and one that's getting bigger.

Climate change is accelerating the decline of trees in Oregon, Ritokova said.

On the Oregon coast, Swiss needle cast is attacking Douglas fir. Southern Oregon is dealing with sudden oak death. There is mistletoe on pines in Eastern Oregon.

Those diseases stunt or kill thousands of trees each year, costing local economies millions of dollars.

"Especially with the droughts we have

been experiencing, we've seen a lot of decline and sometimes even mortality," she said.

Ritokova is a detective of sorts, but focused on microscopic pathogens.

"One of the things that people discover when spending any time around plant pathologists is that we get excited when we find a dead plant, or something declining," she said. "It's basically a puzzle to be solved."

Ritokova says she was destined to become a forest pathologist, although not necessarily in the United States.

She grew up in a small city in the former Czechoslovakia, which has since been divided into two nations. Her hometown, Košice, is now part of Slovakia. It's about 50 miles from the border with Ukraine.

Both her parents were scientists, and made sure she spent plenty of time in nature. She even joined the Young Foresters Club in elementary school, where she learned about forest ecosystems, native trees, plants and wildlife.

"This is going to sound funny, but at that time the local foresters taught us

how to use a shotgun, which is pretty much unimaginable now," she said.

Ritokova was in high school when the Iron Curtain fell, in the early 1990s, and jumped at the chance to travel.

"I came because there were so many different opportunities," she said. "I wanted to learn the language, I wanted to learn about the culture. I never really thought that I would stay here, it just turned out that it happened."

She worked as a nanny in San Francisco before earning a degree in conservation and resource studies at the University of California at Berkeley.

While there, she worked in the lab of Dave Wood, an entomologist who encouraged her to pursue further studies in forest health.

In 2012 Ritokova moved to Corvallis to work with the Swiss Needle Cast Cooperative at Oregon State University.

Swiss needle cast is a fungal disease that's causing huge problems for Douglas fir on the Oregon coast, she said.

In her role as associate director there, she established an extensive research and monitoring network along the entire

coast of Oregon and Washington.

Now, as the state's forest pathologist, she'll continue to collaborate with the cooperative.

A typical day for Ritokova could include performing aerial surveys, climbing trees to get foliage samples, providing technical advice to landowners, training ODF field staff or representing ODF in a scientific meeting.

"I really enjoy working outside. Even on a rainy day in the woods sometimes it's better than sitting in the office," she said.

Ritokova has succeeded despite profound hearing loss, and learning English as her third language.

When not working, Ritokova and her husband enjoy hiking with their dogs. She also travels to central Europe each year to visit her family.

If you have an idea for someone we should profile for this series, please email Statesman Journal senior news editor Alia Beard Rau at arau@gannett.com

Tracy Loew is a reporter at the Statesman Journal. She can be reached at tloew@statesmanjournal.com, 503-399-6779 or on Twitter at @Tracy_Loew.

Republicans

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had my six children and I was just being the mom involved in everything and once they were all in school, I just started with different things here and there and just staying busy. And now they're all grown and gone, and it's time."

The family moved to Mulino and Dave Roses started a trucking company.

She taught piano while raising her children. In her youngest son Marshall's freshman year at Molalla High School, he and nine friends wanted to play tennis, but the school hadn't fielded a team for years.

Molalla agreed to fund a team, but didn't have the money for a coach. Laurel played tennis throughout high school at Barlow, taught some young players from her church and played in tournaments at clubs around the state.

She took the job - 19 years later, she's still coaching the boys.

"He quit playing tennis, but a bunch of

his buddies still wanted to," Roses said. "We've been building a team ever since."

"Oh yeah, yeah, and I'm not going anywhere unless they fire me or my husband wants to retire and us go do something else for a while."

She's been the vice-chair of the hamlet of Mulino since 2007, a precinct committee person and has been on the budget committee of the Molalla River School District.

Roses said she has remained current with national politics over the years.

When the opportunity to run for the fifth district came up, she took it.

Roses said her priorities include advocating for the federal government to give some of the federal forests back to the states, comprehensive immigration reform and tightening up the border with Mexico.

"More people are dying from fentanyl overdoses than they are for gun violence," Roses said. "And are we doing anything to try and stop the flow? No. Over three million people last year, and it's looking like it's going to be more like four million this year."

"And the human suffering that is taking place as a result. Human trafficking, sex

trafficking. It's just a disgrace that the country knows that that is going on and really is doing little to nothing."

Roses' campaign raised \$11,607 as of March 31 and spent \$6,929. All of the money in her campaign, except for \$200, has come from her.

Bill Poehler covers Marion County for the Statesman Journal. He can be reached at bpoehler@StatesmanJournal.com

Lori Chavez-DeRemer

Residence: Happy Valley.

Family: Married, two adult daughters.

Occupation: Co-owner of Anesthesia Associates Northwest and Evolve Health.

Previous elected offices: Happy Valley city councilor 2004 to 2010, Happy Valley Mayor 2010 to 2018.

Jimmy Crumacker

Residence: Tumalo

Occupation: Former Energy Investor.

Previous elected offices: None.

John Di Paola

Residence: Wilsonville

Family: Married, four kids, two grandchildren.

Occupation: Semi-retired orthopedic surgeon.

Previous elected offices: None.

Madison Oatman

Residence: Bend

Family: Father, one sibling, girlfriend.

Occupation: Disaster restoration.

Previous elected offices: None.

Laurel Roses

Residence: Mulino

Family: Husband of 43 years Dave, six children (one deceased), nine grandchildren.

Occupation: Piano teacher, boys tennis coach at Molalla High School.

Previous elected offices: Precinct committee person, vice-chair of hamlet of Mulino since 2007.

Public Notices

public notices/legals email: sjlegals@statesmanjournal.com or call: 503.399.6789

PUBLIC NOTICE NOTICE OF BUDGET COMMITTEE MEETING

A public meeting of the Budget Committee of the Willamette Education Service District (WESD), Marion County, State of Oregon, to discuss the proposed budget for the fiscal year July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023, will be held via Zoom digital meeting. The meeting will take place on Thursday, May 12, 2022 at 6:00 pm. A second meeting, if needed, is scheduled for Thursday, May 24, 2022 at 6:00 pm.

The purpose of the meeting is to receive the budget message and to receive comment from the public on the proposed budget.

This is a public meeting where deliberation of the Budget Committee will take place. To receive the web address and password for the Zoom meeting, please email budget@wesd.org or call 503-385-4692. All public comments must be submitted in advance. Comments can be emailed to budget@wesd.org or mailed to Willamette ESD, Attn: Budget Committee, 2611 Pringle Rd SE, Salem, OR 97302 and must include name, address and phone number or email address. All comments must be received by May 5, 2022.

A copy of the proposed budget may be inspected or obtained on or after May 9, 2022 by going to www.wesd.org and visiting the Business Services page.

A copy of this notice is available on the WESD website: www.wesd.org.
Silvertown Appeal
April 27, 2022

PUBLIC NOTICE Notice of Budget Committee Meeting

A public meeting of the Budget Committee of the Silvertown Fire District, Marion and Clackamas Counties, State of Oregon, to discuss the budget for fiscal year July 01, 2022 to June 30, 2023 will be held at 819 Rail Way NE, Silvertown, Oregon, 97381. The meeting will take place on Tuesday, May 17, 2022, at 7:00 p.m. Information on how to attend virtually through Zoom is available on the Silvertown Fire District's website at www.silvertownfire.com or you can call the Silvertown Fire District office at (503) 873-5328. The purpose of the meeting is to receive the budget message and to receive comment from the public on the budget. This is a public meeting where deliberation of the Budget Committee will take place. Please consider submitting written comments to candacecantu@silvertownfire.com by 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, May 17, 2022. Comments received will be shared with the Budget Committee before the meeting and included in the record.

This public notice can also be found on the Silvertown Fire District's website at www.silvertownfire.com. A copy of the proposed 2022-2023 budget document may be inspected or obtained on or after May 10, 2022 by calling the Silvertown Fire District office at (503) 873-5328 or via email at candacecantu@silvertownfire.com. Please call (503) 873-5328 if you require accommodations to fully participate in the meeting.
Silvertown Appeal
April 27, 2022

PUBLIC NOTICE NOTICE OF BUDGET COMMITTEE MEETING

May 9th, 2022
6:00 p.m.

Three public meetings of the Budget Committee of the Mt. Angel School District, Marion County, State of Oregon, to discuss the budget for the fiscal year July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023, will be held in the months of May 2022 and June 2022. Meetings are open to the public and will be held in person at St. Mary's Elementary School located at 590 E College St, Mt. Angel, Oregon, and also accessible via Zoom Meetings. The first meeting will be held May 9th, 2022, at 6:00 pm. The purpose of the meeting is to receive the budget message and to receive comment from the public on the budget. The second meeting is tentatively scheduled on May 16th, 2022, at 6:00 pm and will take place on an as needed basis. The third meeting, the School Board Meeting and Budget Hearing, will be held on June 13th, 2022, at 6:30 pm for approval of the budget. The meetings will be available for viewing via the District's Website: <https://www.masd91.org/domain/96>. The meetings will also be recorded and available via a link on the District website at masd91.org no later than 5 business days following the meeting.

Public comment will be taken in person, virtually via Zoom or in written format. Written comments received by 5 pm on May 9th, 2022, will be read during the public comment section of the meeting on May 9th, 2022. Comments in person or via Zoom will be received during the public comment section of the meeting on May 9th, 2022. All comments will be subject to a three minute limit per community member.

A copy of the budget document may be inspected online at masd91.org or obtained by mail on or after May 9th, 2022, via email request to masd.budgetcomments@masd91.org or phone request via phone message to 503-845-2345. These are public meetings and any person may provide comment at the meetings.
Silvertown Appeal April 27, 2022

PUBLIC NOTICE NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Review Body:
Planning Commission
Hearing Date
& Time: May 10, 7:00 p.m.

Hearing Location:
Silvertown High School
Library 1456 Pine
Street with a
Teleconference option
via Zoom with a
telephone call in
number.

The instructions to listen to or virtually attend the meeting will be included in the Planning Commission meeting agenda which will be posted on the City's website and outside of City Hall, 306 S Water Street, on May 3, 2022. This will include a hyperlink to the meeting and a call in number to participate by telephone.

Agenda Item #1: File Number CP-22-01. Comprehensive Plan amendment to adopt the 2022 Stormwater Master Plan as a support document to the Silvertown Comprehensive Plan. The application will be reviewed following the criteria found in Silvertown Development Code section 4.12.400.

Failure of an issue to be raised in a hearing, in person or by letter, or failure to provide enough detail to afford the decision maker an opportunity to respond precludes appeal to LUBA based on that issue. Additional information and/or review of this application, including all documents and evidence submitted, may be obtained at Silvertown City Hall, 306 South Water Street by telephoning Jason Gottgetreu at (503) 874-2212. Copies of the staff report will be available seven (7) days prior to the public hearing and are available for review at no cost at City Hall by appointment, a copy can be provided on request at a
Silvertown Appeal
April 27, 2022

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