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Wednesdays

Weather Watch

Cave Junction

**Thursday, Mar 14**
Cloudy
High -- 56 Low -- 34

**Friday, Mar 15**
Partly Cloudy
High -- 63 Low -- 37

**Saturday, Mar 16**
Cloudy
High -- 64 Low -- 40

**Sunday, Mar 17**
Sunny
High -- 67 Low -- 40

**Monday, Mar 18**
Partly Cloudy
High -- 68 Low -- 42

**Tuesday, Mar 19**
Showers
High -- 59 Low -- 42

**Wednesday, Mar 20**
Cloudy
High -- 57 Low -- 44

Following are the high & low temperatures, and rainfall recorded at The End of the Road in O'Brien by Cheryl Johnson:

Mar	High	Low	Rain
2	50.0	33.5	0.01
3	55.1	32.8	00.0
4	54.6	30.2	0.00
5	39.4	30.6	0.53
6	48.2	35.0	0.71
7	48.7	29.2	00.0
8	44.4	32.3	00.0

Mar Rain: 1.47" YTD Rain: 52.87

Crawlies with Cri: by Christy Solo

With St. Patrick's Day just a few days away, this week's crawly would have no risk of getting pinched; it is an expert in wearin' o' the green. Meet the genus *Dichelonyx* scarab beetle. *Dichelonyx* are members of the May/June beetle subfamily (*Melolonthinae*) so they won't really be out and about on St. Patrick's Day, but come summer it's worth keeping an eye out for these sparkly beetles.

At just over one-quarter inch, *dichelonyx* are smaller than the more familiar ten-lined June beetles most folks are familiar with which are a full inch in length.

Dichelonyx prefer to dine on conifer needles, so their glittery green elytra (wing cases) help them blend right in. Although they are among the other 600 species of May and June beetles, *dichelonyx* stand out for the same reason. Other beetles

in this subfamily come in a range of browns and tans. By comparison, *dichelonyx* is very fashion forward. *Dichelonyx* have a long life, for a beetle; two to three years. Most of that time is spent as a grub, living underground. After those first few years, like butterflies they have one final metamorphosis. They change from a wormy looking grub pushing its way through dirt all day, into a sparkly thing with wings that spends its time hundreds of feet up in the air in the tree tops of an old growth forest. It is pretty amazing.

While, in theory, *dichelonyx* beetles could cause cosmetic damage to conifer trees, there just aren't that many of these bitty beetles. iNaturalist has only 382 sightings of them for the entire United States. There are 31 species of *dichelonyx* throughout the U.S. and Canada; most are found in the coastal states, both east and west. These beautiful, unique scarabs comprise just one more crawly species we in Southern Oregon are lucky to have in our area.

While many species of scarab beetle are nocturnal,

dichelonyx are active both during the day and at night so you have a better chance of seeing one than you would a strictly nocturnal beetle.

Several specimens of the species *Dichelonyx fulgita* have been spotted around Crater Lake. Their color is more blue-green than the pictured beetle, a hue very close to that of the lake itself. Tuck that thought in the back of your mind and keep an eye out for them when you visit the lake this summer.

Dichelonyx scarab beetle (*Melolonthinae*)



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Weight Loss Support & Mindful Eating Group

Second and Fourth Thursdays
Noon - 1:00 p.m.
In the River Room at the
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535 E. River St, Cave Junction
\$2-\$5 sliding scale per month
Next Meeting is March 14

Bring a healthy lunch
Practice mindful eating
Weigh-ins optional
Nutrition information and handouts
Guest Speakers
Support group with sharing time

Call nutrition coach Laura Mancuso to join, or for more information at 541-660-5191 or email laurasunshine1969@yahoo.com

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Starting Wednesday, February 21st
the IV Branch will be open 4 days a week at 11am!

Wed 11 - 6
Thurs 11 - 5
Fri 11 - 5 & Sat 11 - 5

For more information contact Roberta Lee at 541-592-4770
IV Branch, Josephine Community Libraries
209 W Palmer St. CJ

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