

# City Desk

## Drain Citizen Committees at Risk

**Drain** - In Recent months, there has been an effort on the part of Drain City Counsel to eliminate the Citizens Committees that have worked for many years to steer and manage those resources and facilities.

It is the contention of the Drain Council that these are redundant efforts and their aim is to consolodate the management and control, without the input of involved citizens. It seems unlikely that eliminating dedicated and involved citizens, who are pivotal in the long running standings of these institutions, from the conversation will bring any benefit to the community at large.

The Drain Cemetary Committee and the Drain Civic Center Committee, both are staffed with long time residents who are invested in the community. If the City saves money and loses sight of issues that are important to its citizens, what's the upside? The City Council meeting of September 11, showed that there may be a widening divide between government and citizens.

# Yoncalla Volunteer Water Conservation Request has Ended

**Yoncalla** September 29:

The City of Yoncalla would like to thank the users of our water system that conserved water during our voluntary conservation request. The City of Yoncalla is dropping our voluntary conservation request at this time, however, conservation of water is never a bad thing and always encouraged. During the summer months the city has located and repaired several large leaks throughout our water distribution system, upgraded our Adams Creek dam, and

worked with our engineering firm to find solutions for water storage throughout the future summer months. We are committed to providing safe and readily available water to all users of our system. We understand that the community water supply is an essential resource that plays a vital role in the well-being and prosperity of our community.

If you have any questions, please contact Yoncalla City Hall at (541) 849-2152.

**“our liberty depends on the freedom of the press, and that cannot be limited without being lost.”**

*-Thomas Jefferson to Dr. James Currie, January 28, 1786*

## Fire restriction for Douglas County is now a level 1 - low fire danger

Now Allowed all day:

**Non-Industrial Power Saw Use:** When allowed, each saw being used must have a shovel and a fire extinguisher of at least 8 ounce capacity. A firewatch of at least one hour is required following the use of each saw.

**Cutting, Grinding, or Welding of Metal:** When allowed, is restricted to areas that are cleared of flammable materials and a charged garden hose or a 2 ½ pound or larger ABC fire extinguisher must be immediately available.

**Cutting, Trimming or Mowing of Dried, Cured Grass**

The use of battery or electric string trimmers and the culture and harvest of agricultural crops is exempt from this requirement.

**Power Driven Machinery** not specifically mentioned above and used for any non-industrial improvement or development on private property is restricted. Each piece of equipment must have a shovel and a 2 ½ pound or larger ABC fire extinguisher. A one hour fire watch is required once work has completed for the day

## Mildred Whipple Library Book Sale

*Benefiting Nor4th Douglas Schools Food-Drives*

The Friends of the Mildred Whipple Library, a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, have a self-serve used book sale in the lobby of the Drain Civic Center year round. The money raised from this book sale helps us support the library in many ways. We help fund programming including summer reading performers, sponsor children for the Dolly Parton Imagination Library, purchase books for the collection, and so much more.

However, all the money raised from our book sale during the month of October will be donated to the North Douglas El-

ementary and Middle School food drive for Thanksgiving food baskets. Then all the money raised during the month of November will be donated to the North Douglas High School food drive for their Holiday food baskets. For the entire month of December all the books are free! We are looking for a way to let local residents know about this and hope that your paper can help spread the word!

Thank you,  
Valarie Johns, Vice-President  
Friends of the Mildred Whipple Library  
541-231-7901

## Elkton City Hall

366 First Street, Elkton

### Regular Meeting of City Council

September 14, 2023, 8:30 a.m.

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Regular Meeting of City Council:

1. Call to order
2. Minutes/ Bills
3. Visitors:
4. Communications:
5. Public Input:
6. Business New & Old:
  - City Report
  - TMDL
  - NHMP
  - Ordinance No. 182 Park Rules & Regulations
  - Notice of Admin Review
7. Goals Short Term/Long Term
8. Good of the order

UPCOMING EVENTS: Regular Council Meeting October 12, 2023, 8:30 a.m.

# Government Know who you're local Representatives are!

## Drain

Mayor: **Erin Sparhawk**  
Council Position #1: **Grant Vaughan**  
Council Position #2: **Kevin VanPelt**  
Council Position #3: **Katie Decker**  
Council Position #4: **Aaron Lymath**  
City Council Meetings:  
10/09/2023 - 6:00pm  
11/13/2023 - 6:00pm  
12/11/2023 - 6:00pm  
City Administrator: **Jeni Stevens**

## Yoncalla

Mayor: **Kathleen Wertz**  
Councilors:  
**Dan Wagoner**  
**Gene Vroman**  
**Harold Gilpin**  
**Bryce Wertz**  
Council Meetings:  
2nd Tuesday / month 6pm City Hall  
City Administrator: **Jennifer Bragg**

## Elkton

Mayor: **Daniel Burke**  
Council President: **Joan Smith**  
Council Members:  
**Kim Moore**  
**Dan Shepherd**  
**Sandra Galli**  
Council Meetings:  
2nd Thursday, 8:30am  
Next Council Meeting:  
**September 14, 2023, 8:30 a.m.**  
Public Works Supervisor: **Gary Trout**

## State & Federal

Oregon House Representative:  
District 02: **Virgle Osborne**  
  
Oregon State Senator:  
District 1: **David Brock Smith**  
  
U.S. Senate Oregon:  
**Jeff Merkley**  
**Ron Wyden**  
U.S House of Representatives:  
District 4: **Val Hoyle**  
  
Secretary of State: **LaVonne Griffin-Valade**  
Attorney General: **Ellen Rosenblum**  
Governor: **Tina Kotek**

*It is important to know your representation in your State, Districts and Municipalities. REMEMBER it is vital to your freedoms to vote.*

*If you would like to have your own towns municipal officers listed please send title & names only to citydesk@ndherald.com*



## Man Arrested in Tualatin for the Murder of Oakland Woman, Terry Dean

*Story by Milo Van Elder*



**OAKLAND, Ore.** — September 8, 2023, a man was arrested in connection to the murder of Terry Lea Deane, 78, of Oakland.

Deane's death on August 12th was reported as a suspicious death at a home in the 400 block of Coltrin Lane in Oakland. The Douglas County Sheriff's Office said investigators determined the death was a homicide. In the subsequent investigation, detectives identified Dwayne Michael Lauka, 45, as a suspect in her murder.

Lauka was arrested in Tualatin on Friday and was taken to the Douglas County Jail for second degree murder. According to the Douglas County Sheriff's Office, more charges are expected in the coming days.

Dwayne Lauka is a homeless person from the Washington County area with ties to the greater Portland area. He also frequents Douglas and Josephine Counties under several aliases. Those aliases include Sammi Alameer, Jason Myers, Dwayne Lauk, Dwayne Michael Luaka, Dwayne Michael Alshargabi-Lauka and Michael Eugene West.

Following Lauka's arrest, detectives are urging anyone with information on Lauka or his movements between Aug. 11 and Sept. 8 to contact DCSO at (541) 440-4458 or by emailing dcsio.pio@co.douglas.or.us.

The case is still under investigation and no further information is available at this time.