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The North Douglas Herald Newspaper is published once a month in Drain Oregon. The North Douglas Herald is owned and operated by Oregonians, published and printed in the State of Oregon. It is our mission to bring the news and information that our Readers will find pertinent, useful and with some insight to our common values and sensibilities.

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OUR DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS is the 25th of the month prior to publication

*Free Papers can be found, upon availability, in all of the following town's and these fine establishments*

**Drain**

Rays Food Place, 308 N 1st St  
Country Cabin Coffee & Laundry, 438 W "B" Ave Hwy 38  
The Rose Bar, 413 Umpqua Hwy 38  
Mildred Whipple Library, 205 W. "A" Ave.  
Beaver Creek Unique, 416 W "B" Ave.

**Yoncalla**

Eagle Valley Supply, 2570 Eagle Valley Rd  
Food Center & Deli, 2580 Eagle Valley Rd  
Why Not Bar and Grill, 164 Main St

**Elkton**

Arlene's Cafe & General Store 14858 State HWY 38  
Elkton Station 14940 State HWY 38  
Tomaselli's Pastry Mill & Cafe, 14836 OR Hwy 38

**Scottsburg**

Riverbanks Speedy Mart 32841 State HWY 38

**Reedsport**

Jacks Barber Shoppe, 1199 Highway Ave,  
TRMF Smokes, 1898 Winchester Ave. US-101  
Don's Main Street Family Restaurant, 2115 US-101  
Recreation Station, 1575 Winchester Ave US-101 S  
Creative Mercantile, 392 Fir Ave.  
High Water Cafe, 427 Fir Ave.  
Lower Umpqua Library, 395 Winchester Ave.  
7-11 Store, 2011 Winchester Ave. US-101

**Cottage Grove**

Old Mill Farm Store, 327 South River Rd.  
Kwik Pik Market #2, 925 E Gibbs Ave.  
Daves Corner Market, 633 N 9th St.  
Crafty Mercantile, 517 E Main St.  
The Book Mine, 702 E Main St.  
Dari Mart, 1200 E Main St.  
Cottage Market, 603 OR HWY-99  
Medication Station, 1041 N Pacific HWY-99

**Winchester Bay**

Beck's Winchester Bay Market, 245 8th St.  
Pelican Market, 75298 Pacific Coast HWY US-101

**Oakland**

Bart's Oakland Market, 204 SE 1st St  
Tye Landing, 11424 Oregon HWY 138

**Sutherlin**

Kwik Pik Market & Deli, 551 W Central Ave.  
Smitty's Food Mart & Deli, 1367W Central Ave.  
Center Market, 1230 W Central Ave.  
Center Market #32, 206 E Central Ave.  
S-Mart, 333 E Central Ave.  
Central Food Mart, 1021 E Central Ave.  
Chevron/S-Mart, 1484 W Central Ave.  
DC Precision Lube & Tune, 489 E Central Ave.

**Roseburg**

Roseburg Tobacco & Food Mart, 2050 NE Stephens St  
1 Am Market, 1931 NE Stephens St  
Lil' Pantry, 2611 NW Edenbower Blvd

**North Douglas Herald**  
**PO Box 581, Drain OR 97435**  
**Rusty Savage, Editor**  
**541 221-3283 www.ndherald.com**

# Editorial

By Rusty Savage

Well, it looks like summer is finally here. You know, you power through the winter and then tip-toe through spring, and Voila, summer plops on down. The thing is, it's easy to forget what all comes with summer and if you're not careful you might find yourself coveting that fall weather.

Not today though, let's embrace the warmth and feel the resurgence of activities that we can now embark. Getting the garden in, cleaning out the garage, we can reach out and make things happen, like the metaphor of summer's grand change from the previous season.

Looking around, I see it is happening. I see our communities shinning in the sun and I am learning that it is from the visions and hard work of the citizens who are the "Doers". To quote the great Teddy Roosevelt; "It is not the critic who counts; not the man who points out how the strong man stumbles, or where the doer of deeds could have done them better. The credit belongs to the man who is actually in the arena, whose face is marred by dust and sweat and blood; who strives valiantly; who errs, who comes short again and again, because there is no effort without error and shortcoming; but who does actually strive to do the deeds; who knows great enthusiasms, the great devotions; who spends himself in a worthy cause; who at the best knows in the end the triumph of high achievement, and who at the worst, if he fails, at least fails while daring greatly, so that his place shall never be with those cold and timid souls who neither know victory nor defeat."

It's the "Doers" that work with others, maybe they are leaders and maybe they are soldiers, workers. We know it takes all kinds working together but the truth is that many of us, most of us maybe, watch from the sidelines. Some will coach from the gallery to no one who is listening. Some may grumble and others will scream, but the "Doers" step forward. If we can step forward, it works the other way as well, and we can make ourselves into "Doers".



There is a very basic path to become a "Doer" in our community. Volunteer. You can be of help at the Food Bank, at Church, on a citizen or civic committee, any organization that is for the betterment or benefit of others. There are so many things needing done for our neighbors, community and environment that needs you and your attention. If you are looking for a cause, an outlet, can volunteer or just want to know where you can fit in, send an email to [citizens@ndherald.com](mailto:citizens@ndherald.com) or drop a line to North Douglas Herald PO Box 581, we'll find something to share.

Let's talk about scams. Yea, it's something to stay on guard against because they are ruthless, folks. A friend just called me and told me of a scam that bilked her out of \$1000. She got a call, supposedly from her grandson in trouble. It's a scare story just like all the ones you hear about. The phone is lost in a wreck, there's a serious problem with the hospital and a Lawyer and the police or DA. Trying to be cautious but the emotional aspect caused her to drop her guard and though they wanted more, she sent \$1000 to a supposed Bitcoin account blonging to the jail. Once some family members got involved, the truth was figured out, but to late. To make matters worse she made a number of attempts afterwards to contact law enforcement and was left feeling high and dry. They will play on your emotions, don't panic. Talk to family or friends, right away and don't do anything till you do. Bitcoin or gift cards for a payment plan is definitely not going to be in your benefit, it's just not going to turn out OK. If you want to get Law Enforcement involved - call them first.

You know the 2024 elections are looming. Are you registered to vote? You can do it online or mail it in, get it done. November may seem like a long way off, but I think it can sneak up if you let it. Check in your communities and cities, what positions are coming up, what are the

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## Letters to the Editor

### Elk Creek Watershed Council Dissolution

A few years ago, my husband Brian and I were fortunate enough to have the opportunity to buy the property next to the farm where I grew up and where my mom and sister still live. This property is in North Douglas County and it is part of the Elk Creek Watershed area. It is beautiful land, with a creek running through it and a forest behind the house. I consider myself so lucky to be able to be back on this land, to take care of it, and keep it for future generations.

When we bought the property, we knew that our driveway, which goes over culverts in the creek and is the only way we can get to the house, would need to be replaced. The culverts are failing and they are not going to last much longer. Every winter the driveway sinks more, and it will not be long until the bridge collapses altogether and we won't have any way to get to our house. About a year ago, we started working with Lee Russell, the Executive Director of the Elk Creek Watershed Council, to figure out how to construct a bridge that would both be functional and also comply with the primary goals of the Watershed Council, which include encourage[ing] landowners to recognize and accept responsibility for that portion of the watershed under their stewardship and to take voluntary action in the interest of the watershed. Our creek, Pheasant Creek, is an important coho salmon spawning run, so we knew we needed to make sure that we were building the new bridge in a manner that would protect and foster the growth of wildlife. The new bridge would replace the failing culverts and improve access to the upper portion of Pheasant Creek where the salmon spawn. At the same time, we wanted to make sure that the bridge would be suitable for emergency vehicles to get to the house if needed (for instance, in the event of wildfires) and for log trucks to get to the forest if we decided to do any logging projects. In other words, this is not going to be a small project.

Lee did a great deal of work helping us identify and apply for grants that could help us fund this project, and he was successful. I know that he has done the same for a number of landowners in Douglas County over the years. We recently found out that we were one of about 25 projects that were funded, to the tune of \$140,000. One of the reasons that this project got approved is because it would have such a significant benefit to the fish, which is another of the Council's

primary principles (Fish are important to the economic, recreational, ecological, and cultural values of persons and communities within the watershed. ). This would be a lot of money for us as individual landowners to have to spend on a bridge, so we were really excited when we found out about the grant. Unfortunately, we found out almost immediately that we had to turn down the funding because the Watershed Council Board refused to sign the Agreement that would allow the project to go forward. Indeed, the failure of the Watershed Council Board to approve the project was the only thing standing in the way of our new bridge, despite the fact that this is exactly the type of project that the Watershed Council should be promoting.

It is my understanding that the Council's refusal to sign the Agreement was related to Chairman Mast's intention to dissolve the Watershed Council because of some personal vendetta against the state related to the Forest Accord legislation. In fact, the Council Board apparently voted to dissolve the Council, which was announced at the most recent meeting. While there is nothing that my husband and I can do to convince the Council to reinstate itself, I believe that the Council Board's refusal to back projects that are absolutely in keeping with the Council's stated mission and the dissolution of the Council just because it has political issues with a piece of legislation is in bad faith and is harmful to the very people and the land that it was formed to protect.

Maybe like many of the people reading this paper, I did not appreciate the power that the Watershed Council had until it personally affected me, but I have learned a lot about it in the last few months. I am very disappointed in the decision to dissolve the Elk Creek Watershed Council, especially because of the reason for that decision, because to me, it would have made a lot more sense to replace the current Board members who no longer agreed with the Council's mission so that the Council could keep going. Since that is no longer on the table, we, along with other landowners and watershed advocates, will find a way to move forward. We will find a way to get our bridge built without the current Council who refused to sign on to our project and we will find ways to work with other landowners who care about the watershed and everything it protects. In the end, it will be even better in the meantime, I just hope we can get to our house.

Jennifer Duncan Hackett

*It is disturbing to hear about the dissolution of the Elk Creek Watershed Council. Mainly because there are a great number of citizens and land owners who believe and want to work for the conservation and improvement of our lands for the good of wildlife habitats and watershed improvements. There is the appearance of a disconnect between the administrative body and the managerial workings of this great effort. Many land owners are concerned to operate within a broad range of efforts to work around land use issues that benefit all of these rural areas. Some are narrowly focused on their own perceived land rights and unconcerned with the big picture. The Herald plans to bring you some important background and information on the importance and benefit of the watershed projects in coming issues.*

## Government

Know your local Representatives!

### Drain

Mayor: **Erin Sparhawk**  
Council Position #1: **Grant Vaughan**  
Council Position #2: **Kevin VanPelt**  
Council Position #3: **Katie Decker**  
Council Position #5: **Aaron Lymath**  
City Administrator: **Aeni Stevens**  
City Council Meeting: 06/10/24 - 6pm

### Yoncalla

Mayor: **Kathleen Wertz**  
Councilors: **Dan Wagoner**  
**Gene Vroman**  
**Harold Gilpin**  
**Bryce Wertz**  
City Administrator: **Jennifer Bragg**  
Council Meeting: 06/11/24 - 6pm

### Elkton

Mayor: **Daniel Burke**  
Council President: **Joan Smith**  
Council Members:  
**Kim Moore**  
**Dan Shepherd**  
**Sandra Galli**  
Public Works Supervisor: **Gary Trout**  
Council Meeting: 06/13/24 - 8:30am

### Oakland

Mayor: **Bette Keehley**  
Counselor: **Jan Wier**  
Counselor: **Kent Rochester**  
Counselor: **Sky Ironplow**  
Counselor: **Betty Tamm**  
Council Meeting: 06/10/24 - 7pm

### Sutherlin

Mayor: **Michelle Sumner**  
Council President: **Debbie Hamilton**  
Councilor: **Lisa Woods**  
Councilor: **Joe Grossman**  
Councilor: **Larry Whitaker**  
Councilor: **Shawn Smalley**  
Councilor: **Gary Dagal**  
City Manager: **Jerry Gillham**  
Council Meeting: 06/10/24 - 7:15pm

### Reedsport

Mayor: **Linda McCollum**  
Council Position #1: **Rob Wright**  
Council Position #2: **DeeDee Murphy**  
Council Position #3: **Chuck Miller**  
Council Position #5: **Allen Teitzel**  
Council Position #5: **Rich Patten**  
Council Position #6: **Debby Turner**  
Council Meeting: 06/03/24 - 7:15pm

### Cottage Grove

Mayor: **Candace Solesbee**  
Councilor Ward 1: **Chalice Savage**  
Councilor Ward 2: **Jon Stinnett**  
Councilor Ward 3: **Dana Merryday**  
Councilor Ward 4: **Greg Ervin**  
Councilor: **Mike Fleck**  
Councilor: **Alex Dreher**  
Council Meeting: 06/10/24 - 6:55pm  
06/24/24 - 6:55pm

## County State & Federal

Douglas County Commissioners:  
**Tom Kress** (Chair) **Tim Freeman**  
**Chris Boice** **Jennifer Miller**  
Lane County Commissioners:  
Dist 1: **Ray Ceniga** Dist 2: **David Lovall**  
Dist 3: **Laurie Trierger** Dist 4: **Pat Farr**  
Dist 5: **Heather Buch**  
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**  
Vice-President: **Kamala Harris**  
President: **Joe Biden**

*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](mailto:citydesk@ndherald.com)*

