

## COMMUNITY BRIEFS

## Wilson graduates from Valdosta State University

Rachel Wilson of Creswell, Oregon, graduated with a Bachelor of Arts, Psychology, from Valdosta State University during the 219th commencement ceremonies May 8-9 in the P.E. Complex.

Wilson is one of nearly 1,200 students who completed the requirements of their respective academic programs during the spring semester.

Valdosta State University is a comprehensive university characterized by outstanding instruction, a wide range of student life opportunities, and a close connection to the community. Valdosta State University offers more than 100 degrees, certificates, and endorsements at both the undergraduate and graduate level.

## 912 Project

Dennis Linthicum, former Klamath Co Commissioner and publisher of "The Dirt Road Economist," will speak at the next meeting of the Cottage Grove 912 Project on Monday, July 6 at 6:30 p.m. at Stacy's Covered Bridge Restaurant, located at 401 E Main St. Linthicum will discuss the Convention of the States/Article 5.

## FIRE

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In addition, the U.S. Forest Service reported that the Bunker Hill Fire Complex was started by lightning on Friday and consists of one larger fire called the Bunker Hill Fire and several small fires all burning within the Umpqua National Forest. Hand crews and dozers constructed fire line on the northeast portion of the Bunker Hill Fire on Sunday. In response to the danger posed by the fire, Bunker Hill, Inlet, and Crystal Springs Campgrounds are closed to protect

public safety, while Lemolo Lake Resort and the Forest Service Campgrounds at Poole Creek and East Lemolo remain open. Current restrictions and closure information is located at: <http://www.fs.usda.gov/main/umpqua>

"There's more angst around wildlands than in the past," Raade said, adding that the state of Oregon is gearing up for major fires that may occur simultaneously. He recommended the office of the Oregon State Fire Marshal's website at <http://www.oregon.gov/OSP/SFM/pages/index.aspx>

for those who wish to stay up-to-date on Oregon's fires.

Raade said a team of two to three firefighters and one vehicle from South Lane Fire and Rescue has been pledged to a Lane County Task Force to fight fires.

"They are prepared to deploy to Central Oregon for 72 hours, but it could last as long as a week," he said.

With regard to the upcoming July 4 holiday, Raade said there are no ordinances in Cottage Grove banning the lighting of fireworks as long as those fire-

works are legal in Oregon; legal fireworks are defined as those that do not explode, fly into the air, travel more than six feet horizontally or 12 inches vertically from the point of ignition. These include cone fountains, cylindrical fountains, flitter sparklers, ground spinners, illuminating torches, wheels, etc. As the holiday approached, however, fire officials sought to remind the public that possession or use of fireworks on private, state, Forest Service and BLM land is illegal.

## WATER

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For the City Council, the "least worst option" has thus far been an incremental increase in water rates over time (for a long time,

most likely) to plan for increasing costs in a system that must deliver water to fill the City's needs for generations to come. Which is, as you can imagine, not a popular stance to take where ratepayers are concerned.

"Previous councils could have raised the rates, but they didn't, because nobody wants to," Boone said. "But that's wildly unfair to future councils. The system does us a disservice in that regard, and we're the ones that take the heat for saying that we need to

do it (raise rates)."

The bottom line, then, is not necessarily a comforting one, as Boone illustrates:

"Our utilities are pretty expensive, and they're going to continue to be expensive for the foreseeable future. But they're not expensive because anyone's doing something wrong or underhanded — they're expensive because that's what it actually costs to provide those services," he writes.

Those services — the delivery of clean, drinkable water when-

ever one turns on the tap, in addition to the timely removal of that water after it is used, water that is then treated and cleaned before being reintroduced to local waterways — have undoubtedly boosted the standard of living in this country and this community. The reality of the costs required to provide these services is not simple or sexy, but for those who are interested, it's great news that there's a place to get a thoughtful, readable and comprehensive explanation of that reality.

VFW 4<sup>TH</sup> OF JULY PICNIC & RAFFLE

**PICNIC:** July 4, 2015 12:00 pm – 5:00 pm  
at the VFW (3160 Hillside Drive-CG)  
**FOOD FOR SALE:** BBQ Chicken, Hot Dogs, Chips & Salads soft drinks, coffee & tea (No Alcohol, drugs or fireworks allowed)  
**MUSIC:** The Country Classic Band, "Anderson Family & Friends" 12:30pm – 4:30 pm  
**DEDICATION PROGRAM:** 2:00 pm

## RAFFLE

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## JOYCE

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when our circumstances are not so enjoyable.

Of course the enemy will throw up all the roadblocks he can...that's just who he is. But with the Holy Spirit leading the way, you don't have to get stuck in a difficult moment or season. Stay focused, determined and obedient and He will lead you through.

That is the key...obedience. Work with the Holy Spirit. Yield to His guidance and don't resist Him. How many times has the Holy Spirit prompted you to do something, but because it doesn't feel good you resist His lead? For example, He may encourage you to give up certain

friends. But you love them...and you want to be loved, so you ignore that nudge in your heart. But God just wants to lead you to better, healthier relationships. He is always looking out for your best interest.

It's the "in-between" time when you will have to persevere. And whatever happens during your "in-between," know that it is an opportunity to grow stronger in your faith and relationship with the Lord.

When the Holy Spirit spoke to my heart while I was making my bed one morning years ago, He told me I would travel the world teaching His Word and have a large teaching ministry. But there was definitely an "in-between" period for me. I had to

learn some things...like how to be in authority by being under authority. I had to learn submission and humility...and I had to forgive.

I remember one time during my "in-between," when I held on to the leg of my desk and cried because I wanted to run. I begged God to help me to stay put. Thanks to the Holy Spirit's help, I persevered and endured several years of testing, growth and development, and eventually began my full-time ministry at the age of 42. But it didn't happen overnight for me. It didn't happen so quickly for Moses, David, Ruth or Paul either. It won't happen in a snap for anyone, but if you won't give up, God's plan for your life will happen.

Even if you've had a bad foundation in life you can have a new beginning...a do-over...a fresh start—and a great finish. Just be determined to never give up!

Joyce Meyer is a New York Times bestselling author and founder of Joyce Meyer Ministries, Inc. She hosts the Enjoying Everyday Life radio and TV programs, which air on hundreds of stations worldwide. For more information, visit [www.joycemeyer.org](http://www.joycemeyer.org).

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