

On The Record

City issues tax prep scam warning for area residents

Tax season is in full swing, which means criminals will go to great lengths to separate taxpayers from their money, identity or anything of value that is within their reach.

Scammers may offer seemingly legitimate "tax services" that are actually designed to steal an identity and tax refund.

Here are some warning signs to look for:

Warning Signs of an Online Tax Scam

- An email or link request-

ing personal and/or financial information, such as your name, social security number, bank or credit card account numbers or any additional security-related information.

- Emails containing various forms of threats or consequences if no response is received, such as additional taxes or blocking access to your funds.

- Emails from the IRS or federal agencies. The IRS will not contact anyone via email.
- Emails containing excit-

ing offers, tax refunds, incorrect spelling, grammar or odd phrasing throughout.

How to Avoid Being the Victim

- Never send sensitive information in an email. Information sent through email can be intercepted by criminals. Make sure to consistently check financial account statements and credit reports for any signs of unauthorized activity.
- Secure your computer. Ensure your computer has the latest security updates in-

stalled. Check that anti-virus and anti-spyware software are running properly and receiving automatic updates from the vendor. If not already done, install and enable a firewall.

- Carefully select sites visited. Safely searching for tax forms, advice on deductibles, tax preparers and other similar topics requires great caution. Never visit a site by clicking on a link sent in an email, found on someone's blog or in an advertisement.
- Be wise with Wi-Fi. Wi-Fi

hotspots are intended to provide convenient access to the internet, however, this convenience can come at a cost. Public Wi-Fi is not secure and is susceptible to eavesdropping by hackers, therefore, never use public Wi-Fi to file taxes.

- Be on the watch for fake IRS scams. The IRS will not contact you via email, text messaging or your social network. Nor does it advertise on websites. Additionally, if an email appears to be from an employer or bank claim-

ing there is an issue that requires verification of personal information, this is most likely a scam as well.

- Always utilize strong passwords. Cybercriminals have developed programs that automated the ability to guess passwords. For the best protection, make passwords difficult to guess. Passwords should have a minimum of nine characters and include uppercase and lowercase letters, numbers and symbols.

Local man graduates from U.S. Navy Boot Camp

On Jan. 31, Navy Seaman Nicholas D. Taddei, son of Duane and Birdella Taddei, completed U.S. Navy Basic Training at Recruit Training Command, Great Lakes, North Chicago, Ill.

He is a 2019 graduate and Valedictorian of Willamette Leadership Academy. His parents, sister Shelby and his grandparents, Bruce and Arlene Taddei, also of Cottage Grove, said they are proud of his recent accomplishment.

Seaman Taddei successfully completed eight weeks of intensive basic training at Great Lakes Illinois as one of 76 recruits in Training Division 070.

While in basic training, Seaman Taddei learned valuable skills to become a sailor, including classroom study and practical



Seaman Nicholas Taddei

instruction on naval customs, first-aid, firefighting, water safety and survival, also shipboard and aircraft safety.

An emphasis was also placed on physical fitness.

Seaman Taddei has reported to the Navy Mine Warfare Training Center in San Diego, Calif., for the next six months, where he will learn critical skills as a Navy Mineman (MN).

DEATH NOTICES

BOOHER—James William Booher, 85, of Dillard, Ore., died Feb. 3, 2020.

Arrangements by Smith Lund Mills Funeral Chapel, Cottage Grove, Ore.

TRISKA—Mary Ruth Triska, 91, of Eugene, died Feb. 2, 2020.

Arrangements by Smith-Lund-Mills Funeral Chapel in Cottage Grove.

Richard Otis Chapman

1931-2020



Richard Otis Chapman, 88, of Dorena, OR passed away on January 31, 2020 from injuries resulting from a fall. He was born on November 30, 1931 in Lynch, NE to parents Otis Stanley and Ethel Opal (Whetham) Chapman. Richard married Patricia M. Vaughn on December 27, 1961 in Lakeview, OR. He was a millwright in the lumber industry. Richard enjoyed gardening, woodworking, black-

smithing, studying American and Revolutionary history, volunteering and bowling. He was a member of the Cottage Grove Masonic Lodge and the VFW. Richard is survived by daughter, Sebrena Cargill, Gresham, OR; son, Rick Chapman, Dorena, OR; son, Lyle Chapman, Cottage Grove, OR; daughter, Lori Adeniji, Eugene, OR; brother, Ronald Chapman, Portland, OR; sister, Fern Carpenter, Cottage Grove, OR; 10 grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his spouse, Patricia Chapman and son, Harlan Chapman. A Memorial Service will be held at 2:00 PM on Saturday, February 8, 2020 at Riverside Church of God, Cottage Grove, OR. Arrangements in the care of Smith Lund Mills Funeral Chapel, Cottage Grove, OR.

Ruth Millner Kazebee

1921-2020



Ruth Millner Kazebee, 98, of Cottage Grove, Oregon passed away January 30, 2020. She was born April 25, 1921 in Bal-

timore, Maryland to parents Clarence and Addie (Axt) Millner. Ruth worked as a secretary for an Engineering firm, where she met and married Llewellyn Kazebee May 28, 1955 in Cleveland, Ohio. She enjoyed painting, reading, crossword puzzles and golfing. Ruth is survived by her daughter Lisa (Kent) Russo of Cottage Grove, Oregon; and her grandson Nick Russo. There will be no services at this time. Arrangements in the care of Smith-Lund-Mills Funeral Chapel, Cottage Grove, Oregon.

Final Arrangements Handled with Care

- Cremation Options
- Memorial & Funeral Planning
- Monuments & Memorials • Cemetery Options
- Family Owned & Operated



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Join us to Celebrate

Laure Barrus

After 23 years, Laure is retiring from Magnolia Gardens Senior Living Tuesday, February 11th 3:00 p.m.

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