

# Eclipse: prepare for your experience

With the solar eclipse on the horizon, it's time to get prepared by stocking up on glasses, food, water, gas and patience.

"The number of people expected in Oregon for the Aug. 21 eclipse, especially in the path of totality, will really stretch our resources and infrastructures," said Glenda Hyde, a family and community health educator with Oregon State University Extension Service. "There could be double or triple the population in some areas."

Predictions may fall short, but people should be ready for large crowds, possibly gridlocked traffic, and runs on grocery stores and gas stations. To help, Extension prepared a Solar Eclipse Preparedness webpage and a flyer called Solar Eclipse: Be Responsible, Resourceful and Resilient, which was co-authored by Hyde.

In case stores close or run out of essentials, start now to stock up on food for a week, concentrating on canned and boxed goods, including shelf-stable milk alternatives. Frozen food is an option, too, but if power goes out temporarily keep the freezer closed. It's im-



**KYM POKORNY**  
Your Garden

portant to plan for healthy meals rather than just high-fat, high-sugar snacks.

"Part of being resilient is eating healthy," she said. "And don't eat the same thing over and over. You can get through with red beans and rice in an emergency, but your nutrition will be lacking."

For tips on food and water storage and meal planning options, refer to Food Storage for Emergencies and Water Storage for Emergencies online.

If you do nothing else, don't skimp on the special glasses needed for viewing the eclipse.

"It's essential to wear eclipse glasses whether you're in the path of totality or on the fringe," Hyde said. "It's not a myth that staring into the sun can cause permanent eye damage."

To avoid getting counterfeits, look for ISO 12312-2 stamped on the glasses, she



HTTPS://FLIC.KR/P/WFXJAU

**Many stores have special eclipse-viewing glasses that block harmful light. Regular sunglasses will not protect eyes from permanent damage. Look for the ISO 12312-2 international standard on eclipse glasses (https://eclipse2017.nasa.gov/safety).**

said, as well as one of the following companies certified by NASA: Rainbow Symphony, American Paper Optics, Thousand Oaks Optical, TSE 17, and Baader Planetarium.

Fire hazard will be extremely high so don't park or drive on dry grass. Water plants and lawn near the house and clean up debris to create a defensible space around homes. Don't use open flame or start campfires.

Hyde also recommends: Withdraw cash as ATMs may not work or be depleted.

Fill up the gas tank and keep it filled

Have water on hand for three days — a gallon per

person per day is a good goal.

If traveling, even for short distances, keep some water, food and a first aid kit in the car. A backpack will come in handy if you have to walk somewhere.

Don't forget pets when stocking up on food.

Keep a week's worth of medications on hand.

Cellphone towers may become overwhelmed. Make sure you can locate family members with alternative methods.

"Planning and preparing will give you alternatives for situations that may arise," Hyde said. "Try not to stress out. Take a deep breath, relax and enjoy this special event."

## MI TOWN

It was wonderful to see so many people enjoying the Polk County Fair last week — and there was indeed something for everyone to enjoy. Kids of all ages enjoyed corn dogs and lemonade and good times at our favorite summertime event. Seeing the young people involved in 4-H and FFA gives everyone a good and positive feeling about what's good in our world. Unfortunately, the six-o'clock news rarely showcases stories about these teens, and focuses more on sensational stories of all the bad things that happen daily in the cities and small communities alike. Even in MI Town, it's not all sunshine and flowers — but seeing the accomplishments of many of our young citizens, I'm optimistic that our future is in very good hands.



**PATTY TAYLOR DUTCHER**  
Columnist

The summer concerts in Main Street Park in Monmouth just keep getting better and better — and what could be more fun on a summer evening than packing a picnic supper and spending a great time with friends and family, listening to a variety of excellent entertainers. Tonight we'll enjoy a good time listening to Root Jack, featuring rock music. Time is passing quickly and these special summertime events will soon be over for another year. Thanks to everyone who has worked so hard to make Wednesday evenings

so special for everyone in MI Town.

We're in the middle of August now and it seems like summer is flying by more quickly every year. Stores are featuring back-to-school clothes and shoes, and there are displays of pens and notebooks and paper everywhere you turn. Families are enjoying these last precious days of summertime when the regular routines begin all too soon.

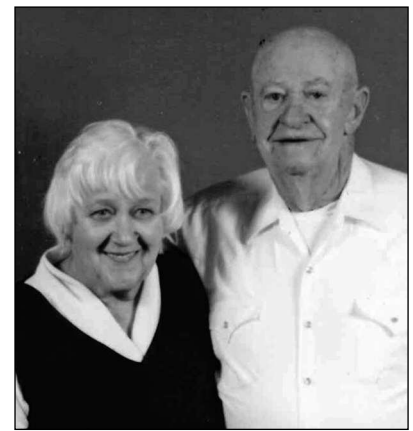
It's almost time to check the schedule for Western Oregon University football games — a sure sign that fall is just around the corner. The team members are busy with daily practices on campus now, and everyone is looking forward to a successful year. As much as I love summertime, there's

something pretty special about spending a Saturday afternoon in McArthur Stadium and catching the enthusiasm of college football — right in our own backyard. It's a good thing to support our local university sports program, and I promise you'll have a great time while you're there.

A great deal of construction, including major remodeling projects, is underway at all of our local schools, including several buildings on the WOU campus. With students and many staff members on vacation, summertime offers the best opportunity for this to get done. Custodial and maintenance staff can take advantage of this time of year to get classrooms and other buildings in good shape for the beginning of school in September.

## ANNIVERSARY

### McCaw — 60th



Darrell and Blanche (Faxon) McCaw will celebrate 60 years of marriage on Aug. 16.

The couple was married at the Church on the Hill in Toledo. They lived in various areas of Lincoln County and settled in Dallas in the early 1960s.

Darrell worked for River Bend Sand & Gravel in Salem as a truck mechanic and retired in 2001.

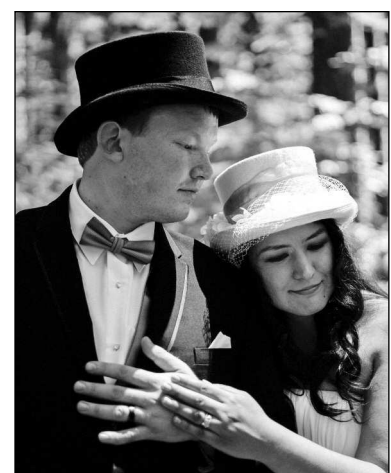
Blanche was a stay-at-home mom, raising their four children, Ruth Holcomb (1958-2001), Lyle, of Eagle Point, Laurie (Eastridge), of Monroe, and Melinda (Cutler), of Falls City. They have nine grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

They enjoy many activities with their church, friends and family. They keep active with water aerobics, bowling and traveling around Oregon. Blanche spends many hours hand quilting many placements and quilts. Darrel has an extensive collection of sand from all over the world that many friends and family members have given him.

Their children are hosting an open house on Aug. 27 at the Dallas Church, 450 SE Washington St., from 2 to 5 p.m. Family and friends are welcome to come celebrate this milestone with Darrell and Blanche.

## WEDDING

### Peters — Horn



Mack Peters, 25, of Tualatin, formerly of Boise, Idaho, and Jasmine M. Horn, 31, of Tualatin, formerly of Dallas, were married on June 24.

The groom's parents are Jon and Sam Peters, of Boise.

The bride's mother is Billie Rowe, of Salem.

Mack Peters is a research assistant at Oregon Health & Science University. He is a 2010 graduate of Borah High School, Boise. Mack went on foreign exchange to Quito, Ecuador, in 2012. He graduated from the University of Idaho in 2014 with a Bachelor of Science in biology and a Bachelor of Arts in Spanish.

Jasmine Peters is a transportation dispatcher for Salem-Keizer Public Schools. She is a 2004 graduate from Dallas High School. Jasmine went on foreign exchange to Kisogawa, Japan, in 2003. She graduated from the Savannah College of Art and Design in 2009 with a Bachelor of Fine Arts in film and television.

The couple met while filleting salmon for Leader Creek Fisheries in Alaska during the summer of 2014.

The wedding and reception were held at Silver Falls State Park. It was officiated by the groom's brother, Josh Peters. The bride was given away by her grandfather, Bob Senter, of Whitebird, Idaho.

The best man was Spencer Marrow. Groomsmen were Robert Senter and Randy Miles.

The matron of honor was Jessica Segal. Bridesmaids were Rachel Peters and Erica Felton.

Jasmine has taken Mack's last name, and they continue to reside in Tualatin, Oregon. The couple will have their honeymoon in Ecuador this December.

**ECLIPSE 2017**

August 21  
Polk County Oregon  
21 August, Observer

**INSIDE This Week's Itemizer-Observer**

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**Early Deadlines!**

Our office will be closed Monday, August 21 for the Total Solar Eclipse.

**Deadlines:**

- Community Events . . . Thursday Noon
- Legals . . . Thursday Noon
- Display Ads . . . Thursday 2 pm
- Letters to Editor . . . Friday 10 am
- Classified Display . . . Friday 11 am
- Classified Line Ads . . . Friday Noon
- Obituaries . . . Friday Noon

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