

LOCAL, STATE & REGION

Columbia River Gorge trails reopened after 2017 wildfire

Associated Press
SALEM — The new year has brought a new beginning for some of the most famous trails in the Columbia River Gorge. Eagle Creek Trail, the iconic pathway that passes waterfalls and steep cliff edges, reopened Friday after 2017 wildfire damage kept it closed for more than three years, the Statesman Journal reported.

The epicenter of the 49,000-acre Eagle Creek Fire, the trail is open for its entire length, from the trailhead near Cascade Locks to Wahtum Lake. It wasn't the only high-profile pathway to reopen in the Gorge. Other trails that reopened include Wahclella Falls and the Larch Mountain Trail between Multnomah Falls and Wahkeena Falls.

Officials also opened the Gorge 400 Trail, specifically, Eagle Creek to John B. Yeon State Park and Ainsworth State Park to Horsetail Falls.

A few trails remain closed, including Oneonta Trail, which was impacted by a recent landslide and will reopen when it's



Crews battle the Eagle Creek Fire near Multnomah Falls in September 2017. Several trails in the Columbia River Gorge area reopened for the first time in over three years on New Year's Day.

cleared, officials said. Oneonta Gorge, an off-trail route down a narrow creek canyon, also apparently remains closed. Its status is unclear but will be updated.

Taken together, the reopening represents the end of a chapter following the Eagle Creek Fire, which raged across

Portland's outdoor playground in the summer of 2017, shuttering businesses, burning buildings and closing Interstate 84 for an extended period.

Wyden plans to seek reelection in 2022

Associated Press
PORTLAND — U.S. Sen. Ron Wyden says he's seeking reelection in 2022, ending any speculation that Oregon's senior senator might retire and pave the way for a crowded lineup of potential replacements.

Wyden, 71, told Oregon Public Broadcasting that he believes he has more work to do in Washington, D.C.

"Of course, I'm running," the Democrat said. "There's so much to do for Oregonians, and I'd very much like to have the honor of representing Oregonians again."

Wyden holds several key positions in Congress, including on the Senate Intelligence Committee. Should Democrats regain control of the Senate



Wyden: "Of course, I'm running. There's so much to do for Oregonians."

this month, Wyden is in line to chair the powerful Senate Finance Committee.

One of his priorities in the coming Congress, Wyden said, is wildfire preparation and prevention. He and U.S. Sen. Jeff Merkley have proposed creating a 21st Century civilian conservation corps — essentially a modern re-creation of a program that was part of President Franklin Roosevelt's efforts to pull the United States out of the Great Depression.

Wyden said the racial justice

protests of 2020 changed the way he thinks about his job. For example, he said, the Senate Finance Committee is looking at racial injustices in the health care system.

"You look, for example, at the fact that so often in affluent white suburbs there's an incredible array of health care services. But in communities of color, very often, what we're seeing is almost health care deserts, where they really lack for basic services," he said. "... These challenges are going to have to be priorities for every single senator, for every single committee, and they will be at the top of my list."

He's hoping President-elect Joe Biden makes infrastructure a priority during his first 100 days in office.

Wyden's decision to seek reelection hardens the political calculus for ambitious politicians planning ahead. Wyden's announcement means there will be only one high profile statewide job up for grabs: The governorship. Gov. Kate Brown is term-limited out of office in 2022.

TODAY

It's Sunday, Jan. 3, the third day of 2021. There are 362 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

In **1977**, Apple Computer was incorporated in Cupertino, California, by Steve Jobs, Steve Wozniak and Mike Markkula Jr.

In **1777**, Gen. George Washington's army routed the British in the Battle of Princeton, New Jersey.

In **1833**, Britain seized control of the Falkland Islands in the South Atlantic. (Almost 150 years later, Argentina seized the islands from the British, but Britain took them back after a 74-day war.)

In **1870**, groundbreaking took place for the Brooklyn Bridge.

In **1959**, Alaska became the 49th state as President Dwight D. Eisenhower signed a proclamation.

In **1961**, President Dwight D. Eisenhower announced the United States was formally terminating diplomatic and consular relations with Cuba.

In **1967**, Jack Ruby, the man who shot and killed Lee Harvey Oswald, the accused assassin of President John F. Kennedy, died in a Dallas hospital.

In **1975**, the original version of the TV game show "Jeopardy!," hosted by Art Fleming, ended its nearly 11-year run on NBC.

In **1990**, ousted Panamanian leader Manuel Noriega surrendered to U.S. forces, 10 days after taking refuge in the Vatican's diplomatic mission.

In **2000**, the last new daily "Peanuts" strip by Charles Schulz ran in 26-hundred newspapers.

In **2007**, Gerald R. Ford was laid to rest on the grounds of his presidential museum in Grand Rapids, Michigan, during a ceremony watched by thousands of onlookers.

In **2008**, Illinois Sen. Barack Obama won Democratic caucuses in Iowa, while Mike Huckabee won the Republican caucuses.

In **2013**, students from Sandy Hook Elementary School in Newtown, Connecticut, reconvened at a different building in the town of Monroe about three weeks after the massacre that had claimed the lives of 20 first-graders and six educators. The new 113th Congress opened for business, with House Speaker John Boehner reelected to his post despite a mini-revolt in Republican ranks.

Ten years ago: Democrat Jerry Brown was sworn in as California's 39th governor, returning to the office he'd left 28 years earlier. Prosecutors in Dallas declared Cornelius Dupree Jr. innocent of a rape and robbery that had put him in prison for 30 years.

Five years ago: Republican presidential contender Donald Trump brushed off an African militant group's video that showed him calling for Muslims to be banned from coming to the U.S., telling the Sunday news shows he wouldn't be dissuaded from saying what he thought. Saudi Arabia announced it was severing diplomatic relations with Shiite powerhouse Iran amid escalating tensions over the Sunni kingdom's execution of a prominent Shiite cleric.

One year ago: Health authorities in the Chinese city of Wuhan said the number of cases of a newly diagnosed respiratory illness linked to a food market there had risen to 44, with lung damage appearing in a "small number" of cases. Authorities in Hong Kong activated a newly-created "serious response" level as fears spread about the disease that may have been brought back by visitors to Wuhan. The United States killed Iran's top general in an airstrike at Baghdad's international airport; the Pentagon said Gen. Qassem Soleimani, the head of Iran's elite Quds force, had been "actively developing plans to attack American diplomats and service members" in Iraq and elsewhere. Iran warned of retaliation.

Today's Birthdays: Actor Dabney Coleman is 89. Journalist-author Betty Rollin is 85. Hockey Hall of Famer Bobby Hull is 82. Singer-songwriter-producer Van Dyke Parks is 78. Musician Stephen Stills is 76. Rock musician John Paul Jones (Led Zeppelin) is 75. Actor Victoria Principal is 71. Actor-director Mel Gibson is 65. Actor Shannon Sturges is 53. Actor John Ales is 52. Jazz musician James Carter is 52. Musician Thomas Bangalter (Daft Punk) is 46. Actor Jason Marsden is 46. Actor Danica McKellar is 46. Actor Nicholas Gonzalez is 45. Singer Kimberley Locke is 43. Actor Kate Levering is 42. Former NFL quarterback Eli Manning is 40. Actor Nicole Beharie is 36. Pop musician Mark Pontius (Foster the People) is 36.

— Associated Press



TOUCHMARK

CELEBRATING 40 YEARS OF HOSPITALITY

40 YEARS OF INNOVATION

WINE DOWN WEDNESDAY

Wednesdays in January and February

Whether you are independent and looking for a more social lifestyle or in need of additional day-to-day support, our team of experts is here to help you navigate these challenging times. Join us for Wine Down Wednesday, every Wednesday in January and February to learn more about The {FULL} Life at Touchmark! Schedule a personal appointment with one of our retirement counselors. We are here to help you plan for 2021 and beyond. Call 541-647-2956 to make an appointment and take away knowledge, a gift of wine, and friendship.

HISTORY YOU CAN TRUST.

TOUCHMARK AT MOUNT BACHELOR VILLAGE
FULL-SERVICE RETIREMENT COMMUNITY
541-647-2956 • TOUCHMARKBEND.COM

2024084 © Touchmark, LLC, all rights reserved

We  our military & vets

10% OFF

BIG LOTS!

everything, every day for active military and veterans!

Exclusions apply. See store for details.

IN STORES

Show your BIG Rewards card & valid military ID to cashier

BIGLOTS.com

Sign into your account & use code SERVICE10 at checkout

Not a member?

It's FAST & FREE to sign up in store & online!

Get this discount, frequent freebies, & so much more!



"We owe a great debt of gratitude to our service men and women and we're honored to show our support in this practical way."

Bruce Thon

President, CEO, & Army veteran