

# BRITT ORCHESTRA OFFERS UP SOME HEAVYWEIGHTS

INSIDE TEMPO



# SOU'S SAIGO REFLECTS ON LIFE, CAREER

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TODAY SAT SUN  
 104°/66° 98°/60° 95°/61°  
 Complete forecast, A6

Lithia revenue hits \$2.1 billion in Q2  
 BUSINESS, PAGE C6

# Mail Tribune

Jackson County, Oregon www.mailtribune.com

Friday, July 29, 2016

Southern Oregon's News Source

\$1.50



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Bald eagles, apple pie and a letter to the editor: Three of America's most cherished symbols. If we've published something that ticked you off, made you think or brought a lump to your throat, tell us — and your neighbors — about it in 200 words or fewer. Letters on local issues will receive priority. Email your opinion to letters@mailtribune.com.

## REGION

### Woman's body ID'd in Bend homicide

BEND — Police in Bend say a body found off a rural highway has been identified as that of a young woman who went missing early Sunday. Police say an autopsy revealed 23-year-old Kaylee Sawyer died of blunt force trauma. Edwin Lara, 31, has been charged with murder in Sawyer's death. Lara, who worked as a security guard at Central Oregon Community College in Bend, is in a jail in Northern California after being arrested there on Tuesday and charged with attempted murder, kidnapping and other counts related to a shooting and carjacking in Yreka. Police say Sawyer's body was found Tuesday off Highway 126 near milepost 100, which lies between Redmond and Sisters.

## STATE

### Oregon State Fair to feature marijuana

PORTLAND — A new crop will be featured at the Oregon State Fair this year: marijuana. The Oregonian/Oregon Live reports that the fair awards prizes for the curviest vegetable or the most misshapen fruit. This year, marijuana plants will also be on display — and will be judged by a panel of growers before the fair. The Oregon Cannabis Business Council is sponsoring the exhibit. Chairman Don Morse says nine plants will be displayed in a greenhouse and monitored by a security guard. Only people age 21 and older will be allowed inside. Fair spokesman Dan Cox says the exhibit is a nod to the newly legal status of cannabis. Morse says, however, that those hoping for a sample will be disappointed. The fair runs Aug. 26 through Sept. 5.

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111th year, No. 130  
 68 pages, 5 sections



## DEMOCRATIC NATIONAL CONVENTION DAY 4

# Clinton: 'This is the moment'

First woman to accept major party nod promises a steady hand

By Julie Pace and Robert Furlow  
 The Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA — Promising Americans a steady hand, Hillary Clinton cast herself Thursday night as a unifier for divided times, an experienced leader steeled for a volatile world. She aggressively challenged Republican Donald Trump's ability to do the same. "Imagine him in the Oval Office facing a real crisis," Clinton said as she accepted the Democratic nomination for

president. "A man you can bait with a tweet is not a man we can trust with nuclear weapons."

Clinton took the stage to roaring applause from flag-waving delegates on the final night of the Democratic convention, relishing her nomination as the first woman to lead a major U.S. political party. But her real audience was the millions of voters watching at home, many of whom may welcome her experience as secretary of state senator and first lady, but question her character.

She acknowledged those concerns briefly, saying "I get it that some people just don't know what to make of me." But her primary focus was

persuading Americans to not be seduced by Trump's vague promises to restore economic security and fend off threats from abroad.

Clinton's four-day convention began with efforts to shore up liberals who backed Bernie Sanders in the Democratic primary and it ended with an outstretched hand to Republicans and independents unnerved by Trump. A parade of military leaders, law enforcement officials and Republicans took the stage ahead of Clinton to endorse her in the general election contest with Trump.



Democratic presidential nominee Hillary Clinton takes the stage during the final day of the Democratic National Convention Thursday in Philadelphia. MARY ALTAFFER/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

SEE CLINTON, A3

## ENVIRONMENT

# Working for the water

Wagner Creek landowners will get help making stream steelhead-friendly

By Mark Freeman  
 Mail Tribune

TALENT — From time to time, Bob Hackett has taken a whack at the bulging sea of nonnative Himalayan blackberries that envelope a stretch of Wagner Creek that runs through his five-acre property.

"It's so overgrown and utterly invasive," Hackett says. "I'd love to be able to see what it's supposed to look like."

Now Hackett is getting help with those blackberries, and he'll get some native plants and fencing as well, as part of a cost-share program that's helping Wagner Creek landowners win back their stream for wild steelhead and improve practices on their lands.

Hackett is one of 11 landowners along more than a half-mile of lower Wagner Creek who will see their irrigation practices improve and their impacts on Wagner Creek lessen under a new project meant to boost water quality and fish habitat in this key upper Bear Creek Basin wild steelhead stream.

The state Department of Agriculture grant, funneled through the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board, helped address a reach of the creek deemed a strategic stretch for improving water quality.

Plans are to reduce the amount of fertilizers and bacteria from cow manure and other sources that find their way into creeks through irrigation returns or during rainstorms.

Streamside lands on several



Clint Nichols, a rural conservationist, points out a section Thursday of Wagner Creek approved for stream restoration near Talent. MAIL TRIBUNE / JAMIE LUSCH

parcels also will be stripped of nonnative blackberries and replanted with native plants to shade and reduce solar warming of the water. In some cases, such as on Hackett's land, the riparian areas will be fenced to keep out cattle that destroy streamside vegetation, increase erosion and put sediment into streams.

In some cases, ranchers will have their irrigation updated from 19th-century flood-irrigation systems to pressure-based sprinklers, providing a more efficient and stream-friendly way to water their land.

"It's hard to have stewardship without production," says Randy White, manager of the Jackson Soil and Water

Conservation District, which has teamed with the Rogue River Watershed Council on this project.

Wagner Creek water is labeled by the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality as unhealthy because of high water temperatures and bacteria. While

SEE CREEK, A3

## MEDFORD POLITICS

# Recruiting firm passed on Patridge

By Damian Mann  
 Mail Tribune

A recruiting firm hired by the Medford City Council didn't recommend Rob Patridge for the city manager position because it said he lacked relevant experience.

The Mail Tribune obtained a copy of Waters Consulting Group's recommendations for manager applicants after the city was ordered to provide it by Jackson County District Attorney Beth Heckert. Patridge

was offered the job last week by a majority council vote, but Mayor Gary Wheeler has threatened to veto the decision.

The heavily redacted report showed recommendations for only the three finalists, who were announced publicly: Patridge, Jon Amundson, assistant

SEE PATRIDGE, A3

## FALSE IDENTITY CASE

# Woman, 76, says she stole to support kids

By Nick Morgan  
 Mail Tribune

A 76-year-old Medford woman told a federal judge Thursday she stole six figures' worth of public assistance because she was supporting her nine children and grandchildren by herself.

"I knew I was doing wrong, and I'm sorry I did it, but I was thinking of my family," Edubigen M. Gonzalez said in U.S. District Court in Medford.

"I was the only one working." Gonzalez was sentenced to

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