



INTO THE PLAYOFFS

THE BLAZERS SHOCKED THE SUNS TUESDAY NIGHT AND A SEASON FILLED WITH ADVERSITY ENDED IN THE MOST IMPROBABLE WAY: WITH A TRIP TO THE WESTERN CONFERENCE PLAYOFFS. **B1**

SOUTHERN OREGON

Tiny Oregon club is doing big things with needle and thread

The southern Oregon Hugo Ladies Club donates hundreds of quilts annually to children and hospital patients.

Janet Eastman *The Oregonian/OregonLive*

Stitch by stitch for almost a century, members of the Hugo Ladies Club/Schoolhouse Quilters have been creating community and quilts in the rural southern Oregon community of Hugo, north of Grants Pass.

Through wartime and in peace, the women have gathered inside a former one-room schoolhouse, built in 1894, to set up sewing machines and cups of tea on long tables, and talk.

Quilt gatherings, big and small, happen every day in Oregon, from drop-in sewing sessions, spirited show and tells, to elaborate quilt shows. The 51st Sisters Outdoor Quilt Show in central Oregon on July 11 will famously display 1,000 quilts on downtown buildings. More than 10,500 visitors are expected to fill the town on show day.

The Hugo club will host its Quilts in the Country Annual Show Oct. 2-3 in its schoolhouse at 6050 Hugo Road. There will be more than 70 quilts made by club members hanging inside the red clapboard building and two dozen vendors will have booths outside.

The fundraiser will be free to attend. Club members will sell homemade desserts and raffle tickets to win a basket or the main prize, the 2026 opportunity quilt.

During the year, many who don't sew show up at the schoolhouse to take a class, like the Hugo Ladies Club Quilting 101 workshop, and other programs.

Members and invited experts share quilting techniques while making machine and hand quilts, piece traditional and modern patchwork, applique and embroidery.

"Join us," said Larsja Peterson, club president. "We sew starting at 9 a.m. on Fridays and we gather on many Tuesdays to make comfort quilts and work on personal projects, and there are lots of social activities."

At the club's March show and tell, members displayed finished patchwork and applique quilts and other colorful works in progress. Kathy Goff revealed her "Postage Due" quilt of half-inch squares.

SEE SOUTHERN OREGON, A2



The club's oldest member, Mary Baird, 92, lower left, makes scrap quilts to donate to Dorcas Community Service, which offers food, clothing and low-cost bedding to those in need in the Grants Pass area. *Photos by Janet Eastman, staff*



Name tags are handmade pieces of artistic expression for members of the Hugo Ladies Club/Schoolhouse Quilters, who meet in a former one-room school house.



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IMMIGRATION

Judge orders woman's immediate release by ICE

Immigration authorities detained the farmworker, a victim of domestic violence, for 8 months.

Yesenia Amaro *The Oregonian/OregonLive*

A federal judge on Tuesday ordered the immediate release of a Woodburn woman held by immigration authorities for eight months after her arrest with others on their way to pick berries.

Marta Escalante Perez was among the first group of farmworkers detained in Oregon by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement agents under the Trump administration's mass deportation campaign.

Escalante Perez, the single mother of a 5-year-old boy and a 12-year-old girl, is Indigenous Mam from Guatemala and came to the U.S. in 2015 at age 18 to escape violence, including gang rapes when she was 14, according to her attorney and court records.

Once in the U.S. she suffered abuse by her partner, who was convicted in 2022 and 2024 of crimes against Escalante Perez and her daughter, records show.

Escalante Perez, arrested in early August, was to be reunited with her children on Tuesday, said her attorney, Rachel Game.

"Marta's unlawful detention sheds light on how flawed our immigration laws are," Game said in a statement. "This shows how someone who has suffered from so much violence and has sought safety in this country ... can still be so unjustly harmed by the injustice of the immigration system."

Escalante Perez is seeking a U-visa — a special visa which allows crime victims to remain legally in the country.

The order for Escalante Perez's release came after a habeas corpus petition filed by attorneys with Innovation Law lab and students challenged her detention at the regional holding center in Tacoma.

U.S. District Judge Thomas S. Zilly in Seattle concluded the "immigration **SEE IMMIGRATION, A2**

PUBLIC WORKS PROJECT

West Linn OKs \$17M for early work on new complex at landslide site

The council also directed the city to hire a hearings officer to consider a neighborhood appeal of the permit.

Maxine Bernstein *The Oregonian/OregonLive*

West Linn's City Council voted unanimously Tuesday night to have a city-appointed hearings officer consider a neighborhood appeal challenging the Planning Commission's approval of a permit for the new West Linn Operations Complex on the site of a 1969 landslide.

The council then unanimously approved \$17 million to allow contractors to secure materials and begin work for the public works compound on the slope above Interstate 205.

The decisions came over the objections of several former city councilors and residents of the Savanna Oaks neighborhood

who live next to the planned project. The neighborhood association filed the appeal over public safety concerns.

The landslide occurred during state construction of Interstate 205 and wrecked three houses and a city reservoir, forcing people to ration water for months. State crews built a buttress and regraded the site to prevent further damage, Oregon Department of Transportation officials have said.

Mayor Rory Bialostosky said hiring a hearings officer will remove any appearance of bias by the council, which has been involved in the "planning, funding and overall direction" of the new public works center.

"My goal is to ensure the public has full confidence in the appeal process and the outcome," said Bialostosky, a member of the five-member council.

Ed Schwarz, treasurer of the Savanna Oaks Neighborhood Association, said the city residents expect their council members to make difficult decisions.

"Abdicating that responsibility is not why you were elected," he told them.



His wife, Roberta Schwarz, neighborhood association president, questioned how the city could change the appeal process at this late stage in the project's review.

SEE PUBLIC WORKS PROJECT, A2

West Linn plans to develop a 40,000-square-foot emergency operations center on this land it bought from the state transportation department, despite the property's "very high" landslide susceptibility. *Vickie Connor, staff*