



EAGLES CONTINUE SOARING

Sports
PAGE B6



RIZO LOVES YOU: A
SPECIAL VALENTINE'S
DAY CONCERT

Coast Life
PAGE B1



Lincoln County Leader

Wednesday, February 4, 2026

Lincoln County, Oregon

\$2

Roads funding, budget deficit, protecting Oregon's immigrants top 2026 state legislative priorities



Oregon House chamber on June 26, 2025. Lawmakers in during the February 2026 session will consider more than 250 proposals and, most urgently, find ways to balance the state budget. (Laura Tesler / Oregon Capital Chronicle)

ALEX BAUMHARDT
Oregon Capital Chronicle

Ninety lawmakers from across Oregon gathered February 2, at the State Capitol in Salem to tackle a host of urgent issues, including balancing the state's budget amid a looming deficit, keeping the state's transportation department solvent, protecting Oregonians and immigrants from aggressive federal enforcement tactics and affordability.

The lawmakers — 30 senators and 60 representatives with Democratic majorities in

both houses — have no more than 35 days during the short session to pass new laws. Each member is allowed to propose two bills, though each chamber and the committees within them can propose additional, joint legislation.

So far more than 260 bills have been posted to the Oregon Legislative Information System, and the session must end by March 8. Here's a look at the biggest issues and proposals lawmakers will consider:

Balancing the state's

See **PRIORITIES**, page A4

Two arrested following Depoe Bay bank robbery

STAFF REPORT
Lincoln County Leader

A coordinated multi-agency law enforcement effort led to the capture of two suspects wanted in a Depoe Bay bank robbery.

At approximately 11:48 a.m. Jan. 29, Lincoln County Sheriff's Office (LCSO) deputies responded to a bank robbery at Columbia Bank in Depoe Bay.

"Callers reported two armed adult males concealing their faces entered the bank and held staff at gun point, demanding access to the vault," a LCSO releases stated. "Columbia Bank reported the two successfully obtained more than \$50,000 in US currency before fleeing south on Highway 101 in a red sedan without license plates."

Deputies located the red suspect vehicle abandoned at a vacant lot near NE Stanley and E. Collins Street in Depoe Bay.

The vehicle was set on fire. The suspects were seen getting into a grey 4-door Toyota and left the area west as reported by a nearby resident, according to the LCSD.

At approximately 12:51 p.m. Newport Police spotted a grey Toyota Camry near Don Davis Park in Newport. Witnesses reported seeing two men leave the grey Toyota Camry on foot.

"During a search of the area, Newport Police spotted a white male adult matching the description of one of the suspects at the intersection Highway 101 and Highway 20. The subject was contacted and detained," the release states.

"A short time later, the second male was spotted at Nye Beach and detained as well. A subsequent canvas of the nearby area around the vehicle revealed clothing found in a public trash can that matched the clothing worn by the suspects in the bank."

NPD K9 Officer Magnum

See **ROBBERY**, page A4

Oregon graduation rates increasing

JEREMY C. RUARK
Lincoln County Leader

Oregon high schoolers in the class of 2025 graduated at all-time highs for the state but still at a lower rate than recent national averages, according to the latest state data, the Oregon Capital Chronicle reports.

Despite stubbornly small gains in student proficiency in key subject areas since the pandemic, and consistently high absenteeism rates, more than 40,300 students graduated from Oregon's public schools in 2025, reaching an 83% four-year graduation rate, the Oregon Department of Education announced Thursday, Jan. 29.

It's an increase of 9 percentage points over the last decade and 1 percentage point over the previous year, equivalent to about 500 more students graduating in 2025 than in 2024. It's the highest graduation rate ever recorded in the state, besting the previous record of 82.6% achieved by the class of 2020.

Charlene Williams, director of the Oregon Department of Education, said at a news conference Tuesday ahead of the data release that squaring rising graduation rates with stagnant student proficiency levels, as measured by state assessment data, has less to do with real learning challenges than with

See **GRADUATE**, page A4



Seniors from Toledo Jr/Sr High School are showered with confetti at their 2025 graduation. All LCSD schools saw improvements in graduation rates from the prior year, according to LCSD officials. (Courtesy photo from LCSD)

Decision to fill county board commission post could be made this month

JEREMY C. RUARK
Lincoln County Leader

A decision to fill the vacant Lincoln County Board of Commissioners Position 2 could be made this month by the two current commissioners, Walter Chuck and Casey Miller.

At the deadline Jan. 31 for applicants, 23 people

had applied, according to county documents. See the full list of names with this story at the Lincoln County Leader website.

Commissioners Chuck and Miller will conduct the selection through the same basic process undertaken in February of last year, following the resignation of Commissioner Kaety Jacobson, Lipp told the Lincoln County Leader.

"The commissioners will be sent the applications, minus the first page with confidential information, immediately following the deadline. Then they'll evaluate and score them, likely taking about a week to do so," Lipp said. "Finalists will then be interviewed, either during a special meeting or regular meeting, depending on the timing

of the completed evaluations, and commissioners will vote to make an appointment in a subsequent meeting."

Chuck and Miller discussed the process and a timeline during their January 14 work session, which is posted to the Lincoln County website. In an email to The Lincoln County Leader Feb. 2, Miller said the commissioner vacancy appointment process is a priority. However, the Board does not desire to compromise transparency, professionalism and community

engagement at the risk of urgency.

"I will not move forward with a review process until I am confident that we have full transparency and that every individual who took the time to apply has been properly accounted for," Miller said. "The community deserves assurance that no applicant will be missed, and the community deserves an opportunity to meet the candidates. I'm excited to see who's ready to roll up their sleeves and serve this community."

The annual

salary for the Board of Commissioners position is \$94,000 not including benefits.

Lincoln County has a three-member Board of Commissioners, whose full-time salaried members are elected on a countywide basis to staggered four-year terms of office, governs the County, according to the county's website. The Board of Commissioners has the responsibility to oversee all activities related to the operations of the County. The

See **POST**, page A5



Weather

Wednesday: High-66/Low-45

Partly Cloudy

Thursday: High-64/Low-44

Sunny

Friday: High-59/Low-48

Mostly Cloudy

Saturday: High-55/Low-47

Rain

Sunday: High-53/Low-43

Rain

Monday: High-51/Low-40

Showers

Tuesday: High-51/Low-40

Showers

Past Weather

On the Coast

Rain Low High

January 20.....0.00.....42.0°F.....56.2°F

January 21.....0.00.....39.1°F.....56.9°F

January 22.....0.00.....35.4°F.....51.2°F

January 23.....0.00.....39.6°F.....54.8°F

January 24.....0.00.....36.7°F.....56.4°F

January 25.....0.00.....38.9°F.....55.8°F

January 26.....0.00.....41.5°F.....48.4°F

Total rainfall from Jan. 1.....5.69"

Tides Tables

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 4

High.....1:58 a.m.....8.4
Low.....7:39 a.m.....2.1
High.....1:33 p.m.....8.5
Low.....7:58 p.m.....0.0

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 5

High.....2:32 a.m.....8.5
Low.....8:28 a.m.....1.9
High.....2:21 p.m.....7.8
Low.....8:31 p.m.....0.8

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 6

High.....3:05 a.m.....8.5
Low.....9:18 a.m.....1.8
High.....3:12 p.m.....7.0
Low.....9:04 p.m.....1.8

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 7

High.....3:38 a.m.....8.4
Low.....10:12 a.m.....1.8
High.....4:11 p.m.....6.1
Low.....9:30 p.m.....2.7

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 8

High.....4:13 a.m.....8.3
Low.....11:11 a.m.....1.8
High.....5:24 p.m.....5.6
Low.....10:11 p.m.....3.4

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 9

High.....4:53 a.m.....8.1
Low.....12:19 p.m.....1.7
High.....7:02 p.m.....5.2
Low.....10:56 p.m.....4.1

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 10

High.....5:43 a.m.....7.9
Low.....1:30 p.m.....1.4
High.....8:49 p.m.....5.5

Sunrise/Sunset

February 4.....7:32 a.m.....5:28 p.m.
February 5.....7:31 a.m.....5:30 p.m.
February 6.....7:30 a.m.....5:31 p.m.
February 7.....7:28 a.m.....5:32 p.m.
February 8.....7:27 a.m.....5:34 p.m.
February 9.....7:26 a.m.....5:35 p.m.
February 10.....7:24 a.m.....5:37 p.m.
February 11.....7:23 a.m.....5:38 p.m.
February 12.....7:21 a.m.....5:39 p.m.
February 13.....7:20 a.m.....5:41 p.m.
February 14.....7:18 a.m.....5:42 p.m.

Lottery

Friday, January 30

Mega Millions
11 • 34 • 36 • 43 • 63 • PB-13

Saturday, January 31

Powerball
2 • 8 • 14 • 40 • 63 • PB-23 • x3

Saturday, January 31

Megabucks
3 • 6 • 10 • 19 • 36 • 43

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LCSO steps up child safety seat, seat belt enforcement

JEREMY C. RUARK
Lincoln County Leader

The Lincoln County Sheriff's Office (LCSO) has stepped up efforts to keep families safe on the road.

Deputies are conducting focused enforcement of seat belt and child safety seat laws across the county, "because your safety, and your family's safety, matters," Lincoln County Sheriff's Office Patrol Sergeant Nick Vaille said.

Although Oregon boasts a high seat belt use rate of 95.53% (2024), unrestrained crashes still lead to tragic outcomes every year. According to the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT):

In 2021, failure to wear a seat belt was a factor in

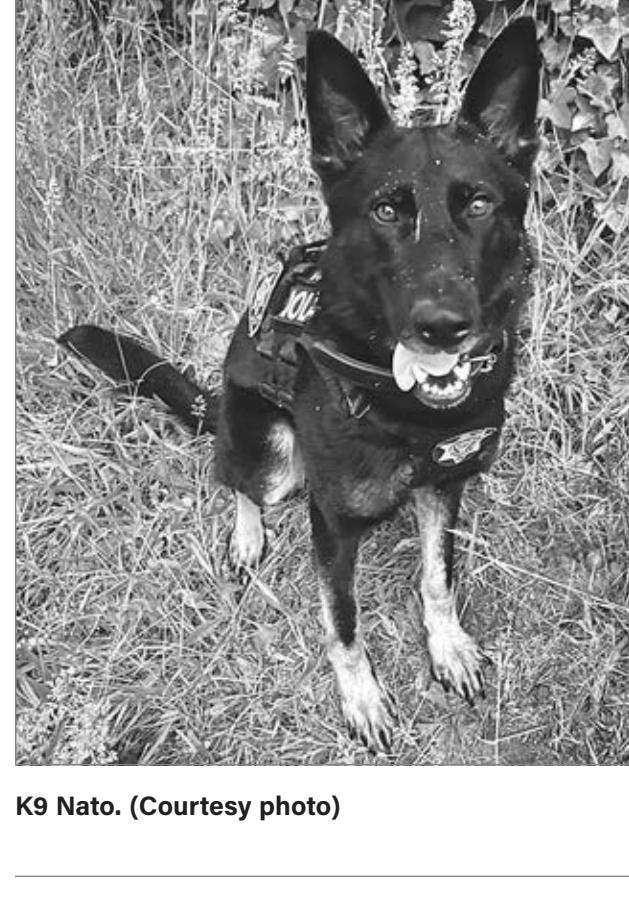


The presumptive fine for a child not properly seated in a child safety seat and or an adult not wearing a safety belt is \$115. Metro Creative Connection

half of Oregon's traffic fatalities. More than one-third of children under age

8 injured in crashes were unrestrained, held on laps, or moved to adult belts too

soon. The presumptive fine for a child not properly seated



K9 Nato. (Courtesy photo)

K9 Nato contributes to peaceful surrender during standoff

STAFF REPORT
Lincoln County Leader

A local resident faces criminal charges following a standoff with law enforcement in Otis.

Lincoln City Police Department (LCPD) officers, including Police K9 Nato, responded to assist the Lincoln County Sheriff's Office deputies Jan. 31, in establishing a perimeter around a residence on North Westview Drive in Otis.

LCSO deputies relayed that they believed 27-year-old Billyray Branum, of Otis, was barricaded

inside and refusing to come out. Branum had an active felony warrant related to a weapons offense, according to a release from LCPD.

After an approximate 90-minute standoff Branum agreed to peacefully surrender and came out with his hands raised. He was taken into custody without violence.

During a brief interview Branum acknowledged, "I really did not want to get bit." He was lodged by LCSO Deputies on his warrants.

"Although our K9 officers, as well as Nix and

Nato, train rigorously to track and apprehend suspects, the primary goal of our K9 Program is to encourage offenders to surrender peacefully and keep our officers safe," LCPD stated in the release. "We would like to express our gratitude to the citizens of Lincoln City for their ongoing support of our K9 Program.

During a brief interview Branum acknowledged, "I really did not want to get bit." He was lodged by LCSO Deputies on his warrants.

systemic toxicity."

Before this treatment can be tested in humans, the research team plans to evaluate its therapeutic efficacy in various cancer types, including aggressive pancreatic cancer, to demonstrate its broad applicability across different malignancies.

Oregon State's Kongbrailatpam Shitaljit Sharma, Yoon Tae Goo, Vladislav Grigoriev, Constanze Raitmayr, Ana Paula Mesquita Souza and Manali Parag Phawde also contributed to the research, which was funded by the National Cancer Institute of the National Institutes of Health and the Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development.

Steve Lundeberg is a news and research writer at Oregon State University. He may be reached at Steve.

Lundeberg@oregonstate.edu

are more acidic and have elevated concentrations of hydrogen peroxide, the scientists explain.

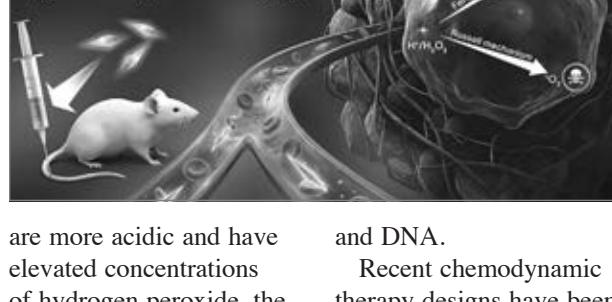
Recent chemodynamic therapy designs have been able to use tumor conditions to catalyze production of another reactive oxygen species, singlet oxygen, so named because it has one electron spin state rather than the three states found in the more stable oxygen molecules in the air.

"However, existing CDT agents are limited," Oleh Taratula said. "They efficiently generate either radical hydroxyls or singlet oxygen but not both, and they often lack sufficient catalytic activity to sustain robust

reactive oxygen species production. Consequently, preclinical studies often only show partial tumor regression and not a durable therapeutic benefit."

In this paper, the scientists present a novel CDT nanoagent, an iron-based metal-organic framework or MOF, able to generate both compounds for more effective treatment, and with superior catalytic efficiency. The MOF showed potent toxicity in multiple cancer cell lines and negligible harm to noncancerous cells.

"When we systemically administered our nanoagent in mice bearing human breast cancer cells, it efficiently accumulated in tumors, robustly generated reactive oxygen species and completely eradicated the cancer without adverse effects," Olena Taratula said. "We saw total tumor regression and long-term prevention of recurrence, all without seeing any



and DNA.

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causing physical injury to Chamet. 41-year-old Aaron Paulsen and Chamet Jackson, were arrested for Assault III domestic for causing injury to Daniel.

The altercation occurred in the presence of a juvenile child residing at the location. At the time of arrest, the child was reportedly in the care of a family friend.

Both Daniel and Chamet were treated at the scene for injuries by the Siletz Valley Fire Department.

Daniel was subsequently arrested for Assault IV domestic for

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Siletz Public Library Birthday Party and Fundraiser - Book, Bake and Rummage Sale, and a "Mystery Giving Tree" (certificates), from Noon to 3 p.m. Saturday, February 7, at the Siletz Public Library, 255 S Gaither Street in Siletz. Call 541-444-2855 for more information.

Birthday Party and Fundraiser

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Daniel Hunter selected as new City Manager for Lincoln City

JEREMY C. RUARK
Lincoln County Leader

The Lincoln City Council has selected Daniel Hunter as the City Manager for Lincoln City.

The advertised salary range for the City Manager position is \$140,000 - \$180,000, according to city records.

Hunter has served as Pro Tem City Manager since October 2025. The council approved a salary at that time for Hunter of \$150,000.

The city manager's



Daniel Hunter

duties include planning and directing the activities of all the city's departments and to provide information to the Lincoln

City City Council, as well as act as their policy advisor. The city manager also serves as the city's chief administrator and budget officer.

Hunter replaces former Lincoln City City Manager Daphnee Legarza, who submitted her resignation in April 2025 and left office in June to care for family. Legarza had been the city manager since April, 2022.

"Lincoln City is a beautiful community with an engaged population. It is the kind of place city

managers hope to end up. It is my honor to serve this community and the City Council as your City Manager, Hunter said following his selection by the city council Monday, Jan. 26.

Hunter arrives in Lincoln City with 11 years of local government experience in Oregon. He comes from the City of The Dalles, where he was hired as an Administrative Fellow. He was promoted twice, while with The Dalles, up to the Human Resource Director.

After graduating from Oregon City High School, he spent time in Montana, before joining the United States Air Force, being stationed at Fairfield AFB, near Spokane, Washington.

Following his military service, he moved back to Oregon to attend Linfield College where he received a Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science. From there, Hunter returned to Montana to work for the Montana Department of Transportation. While in Montana, he completed a Master's degree in Public

Administration, and after graduation he was hired by the City of The Dalles.

"Since Daniel Hunter has served for the last few months in a temporary capacity, Council and staff have been able to learn his leadership style and how it works for Lincoln City," Mayor Susan Wahlke said. "He has been able to get to know us and is happy here. On January 26th Council agreed to hire Daniel Hunter as our next City Manager. I look forward to Mr. Hunter being a part of our community."

Fewer immigrants are seeking Oregon health care benefits under Trump

MIA MALDONADO
Oregon Capital Chronicle

Thousands fewer people are receiving health care through a Medicaid-like Oregon program that's open to income-eligible people regardless of immigration status than were six months ago, state data shows.

Two years after its launch, the Healthier Oregon program reached peak enrollment of 107,000 people in June, according to data from the Oregon Health Authority. That includes people who have refugee status, lawful permanent residents, those enrolled in Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals, work or student visa holders and others who would otherwise qualify for Medicaid if it weren't for their immigration status.

Enrollment dropped to 97,000 people in January, according to state health officials, who attributed the change to concerns about data privacy and

increasing immigration enforcement under the Trump administration.

"We're seeing a real drop in enrollment in Healthier Oregon, likely due to all the federal changes and people being very concerned about signing up for Healthier Oregon," OHA Deputy Director for Policy and Programs Dave Baden told lawmakers earlier this month. "And we're also seeing less utilization, so even someone that is in Healthier Oregon is not coming to the doctor."

Federal health officials in June began sharing Medicaid data with Immigration and Customs Enforcement to track non-citizens in states where eligibility for the low-income health program does not depend on immigration status.

Oregon is one of five states in the U.S. that offers health care coverage for all income-eligible adults regardless of their immigration status,

according to the health policy nonprofit KFF. Several other states offer similar programs to specific groups such as pregnant women, children and elderly adults.

State dollars cover most Healthier Oregon services, except for emergency health care visits, which are paid for with federal dollars.

Under federal law, hospitals must stabilize anyone needing emergency care — no matter their immigration status — and Medicaid must reimburse hospitals for this legally required care. This means that when a Healthier Oregon recipient uses an emergency service, their information is included in files shared with the federal government, OHA spokesperson Amy Bacher told the Capital Chronicle.

The data exchange prompted Oregon and 21 other states and the District of Columbia to file a lawsuit, asking a judge to

block the Trump administration from sharing Medicaid data with deportation officials. A federal judge in December ruled that ICE can pull Medicaid data including addresses, phone numbers, birth dates and citizenship or immigration status to use in its deportation proceedings.

"From the state's perspective, we will do everything we can to only share the data that we need to share," Gov. Tina Kotek told reporters at a Saturday press conference.

Federal immigration efforts impeding immigrants from seeking care

Nearly half of likely undocumented immigrant adults say they have avoided seeking medical care since January 2025 because of immigration-related concerns, according to a survey from the New York Times and KFF.

The Trump administration in January rescinded a policy that previously protected hospitals, schools

and places of worship against immigration enforcement.

ICE agents may access public spaces such as lobbies and waiting rooms without a warrant, but under the Constitution no law enforcement can enter places where a person has a "reasonable expectation of privacy" without a warrant — such as examination rooms, staff offices and patient rooms. Despite this protection, health care providers have reported cases of ICE agents entering medical exam rooms without a warrant.

Federal immigration agents have also appeared near hospitals in Oregon. On Jan. 8, a Border Patrol agent shot two Venezuelan immigrants near Adventist Health Portland. Then on Jan. 16, Border Patrol agents detained a 7-year-old girl and her parents in the same hospital's parking lot before the family, who came to the U.S. in late 2024 from Venezuela,

could seek health care for the child.

Kotek urged health care providers to communicate with Oregonians about providing safe health care for people.

"Because of the fear and the chaos that is being created by the Trump administration and the lawful immigration enforcement, people are scared," Kotek said. "They're not seeking the medical care that they need, and that is hurting our communities."

<https://oregoncapitalchronicle.com/2026/01/28/fewer-immigrants-are-seeking-oregon-health-care-benefits-under-trump/>

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PRIORITIES

From Page A1

budget

The short sessions that take place during even years in Oregon — as opposed to the long sessions that take place over six months during odd years — are typically focused on balancing the state's existing budget.

Making that work harder for lawmakers now is the massive tax and spending cut package that congressional Republicans and President Donald Trump passed during the summer. It includes income tax exemptions on tips and overtime, major tax write-offs on business investments and assets and trillions in spending cuts over the next decade to food and health insurance programs for low-income Americans, including billions for Oregonians.

And because Oregon's state tax code automatically replicates changes to the federal tax code, lawmakers are expected to have \$63 million less revenue to spend than expected on critical services over the next year and a half. That could change, however, depending on the upcoming state revenue forecast Oregon's lead economists will unveil on Wednesday.

At a news conference leading up to the session, Democratic leaders in the House and Senate said they will consider ways to reduce current

spending, potentially tap the state's reserve funds and consider selectively disconnecting Oregon's state tax code from the federal tax code.

"If a tax break is putting more money in working people's pockets, then we can say 'keep that,'" House Speaker Julie Fahey, D-Eugene, said about the selective disconnect, and preserving some tax changes such as keeping tips tax-free. "We want to make sure that our tax policy actually incentivizes economic growth, and is not just a giveaway to the corporations."

Republicans asserted the state has enough money to execute its priority functions, and that legislators should be focused on reducing state spending, not on imposing or raising any taxes.

"State government should tighten its belt, the same way Oregon families have been forced to do over the last few years," said Senate Minority Leader Bruce Starr, R-Dundee.

The Legislature's Joint Committee on Ways and Means will hold a public hearing on Tuesday from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the Capitol to get feedback from Oregonians on budget reduction options.

Protecting immigrants
Both Democratic and Republican lawmakers said they've heard from constituents fearful and angry about recent federal immigration enforcement actions.

though House Republican

Leader Lucetta Elmer, R-McMinnville, blamed Oregon's sanctuary laws and news reports as flaming tensions.

House Majority Leader Ben Bowman, D-Tigard, shot back that "the fear is real," referring to the growing number of children and U.S. citizens who have been swept up in immigration enforcement actions in Oregon and nationwide. Those include a high schooler in Elmer's district and a 7-year-old in Portland, along with her parents, who were seeking emergency medical care for their daughter.

"What we're seeing is madness," Bowman said. "I think the proposals you'll see in Oregon will be effective, they'll be constitutional and we'll do what we can to protect Oregonians."

The Democrats' "immigration justice package" includes bills that would allow Oregonians to sue individual federal agents for constitutional rights violations, protect the data privacy rights of immigrants in Oregon and require schools notify parents when there's Immigration and Customs Enforcement, or ICE, activity on or near campus.

Other bills meant to bring more transparency to federal immigration operations would limit masking by law enforcement and standardize identification for all law enforcement in Oregon. Another proposal would put guardrails on federal

agencies' use of license plate reader data collected by local law enforcement.

A proposal from Rep. Willy Chotzen, D-Portland, would allow the state to withhold tax payments to the federal government, if the federal government unlawfully withholds funds from the state. It comes in light of recent threats from Trump and his administration to withhold federal dollars from Oregon and other Democratic states' for enforcing sanctuary laws.

Transportation funding

Lawmakers will need to get creative and collaborative following a years-long saga to get sustainable revenue flowing to the Oregon Department of Transportation for critical infrastructure and safety upgrades, and to cover the agency's \$240 million budget hole.

Democrats in a special session in September passed a \$4.3 billion, 10-year funding package that would increase gas and payroll taxes and vehicle license and registration fees, but that's in limbo after Republican opponents gathered enough signatures to refer it to the ballot. Oregon voters will decide on the new taxes and fees during the May primary.

In the meantime, Gov. Tina Kotek called on lawmakers to reallocate existing money within the transportation department to cover its budget holes, staving off hundreds

of layoffs. She said no money can be allocated from the general fund, and that long-term solutions to state transportation funding will need to be solved in 2027.

Affordability

Both Democrats and Republicans have introduced bills they believe will make living in Oregon, buying a home, finding a job and running a business more affordable and accessible.

Kotek is backing a bill in the House that would create a council to fast-track permitting for industrial sites and expand eligibility for the state's enterprise zone program, a property tax subsidy to coproporations in exchange for the promise of economic development and jobs.

Another Kotek-backed proposal would create an exception to state land use and urban growth boundary laws that would make it easier for developers to site and build manufactured homes and mobile home parks for Oregonians 55 and older who meet low-income thresholds.

Other Democratic bills to address housing affordability are aimed at making it harder for multi-billion-dollar private equity firms to buy up Oregon homes, and eliminate the mortgage interest deduction on income taxes if the mortgage is for a vacation home.

To address housing affordability, Republicans are sponsoring a bill that

would create a deferred loan program for closing costs for first time homebuyers, allowing the loan and interest to be paid off when the home is sold to the next buyer.

Other Republican proposals that lawmakers said would increase affordability would be to pause the Clean Fuels Program, which is a carbon tax on gas and fuels distributors in the state that some lawmakers said gets passed onto consumers. The program is part of state-mandated emissions reduction targets that fossil fuel providers reach to lower the intensity of their planet-warming pollution.

Another proposal would expand the types of schools, apprenticeships and training programs that Oregonians can pay for with federal Pell Grants available to low income students and students from low-income families.

<https://oregon-capitalchronicle.com/2026/02/02/roads-funding-budget-deficit-protecting-oregons-immigrants-top-2026-legislative-priorities/>

Oregon Capital Chronicle is part of States Newsroom, a network of news bureaus supported by grants and a coalition of donors as a 501c(3) public charity. Oregon Capital Chronicle maintains editorial independence. Contact Editor Lynne Terry for questions: info@oregoncapitalchronicle.com.

GRADUATE

From Page A1

Oregon schools' and parents' attitudes towards state testing.

Oregon's participation rates in state assessment tests are among the most inconsistent in the nation, state education officials have said, because Oregon allows parents to opt their kids out of taking them.

"I think there are two things that can be true in this moment. Our

graduation rate, I believe, does reflect real progress in supporting students to stay in and complete school," she told reporters. "The reconciling is: We have more work to do to ensure that we are taking those assessments seriously, and that our teachers and our students have what they need to perform well on those state assessments."

See the full Oregon Capital Chronicle story at the Lincoln County Leader website and at: <https://>

oregoncapitalchronicle.com/2026/01/29/oregons-high-school-graduation-rate-inches-up-to-record-high/

LINCOLN COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Lincoln County School District (LCSD) graduation rates increased significantly in the 2024-25 school year, with the district's four-year graduation rate rising well above the previous year, according to newly released data from the Oregon Department of Education.

Districtwide, LCSD's four-year graduation rate for all students climbed to 88.1 percent, an increase of 6.1 percentage points from the prior year and above the statewide rate of 85.5 percent. Several student groups experienced even larger gains, including Multiracial students, whose graduation rate increased by nearly 15 percentage points, and male students, whose graduation rate increased by almost 9 percentage points, according to a release from the LCSD.

Graduation rates also

rose for students with disabilities, students experiencing poverty, homeless students, and English Learners, "Graduation coaches, 9th

with several groups posting gains of six points or more.

Waldport High School posted the largest year-over-year increase, with its four-year graduation rate rising to 90.2 percent, an improvement of nearly 13 points. Taft 7-12 increased to 93.2 percent, while Toledo High

School rose to 89.3 percent. Newport High School continued to maintain a strong graduation rate above 92 percent.

"Oregon and Lincoln County School District have made a concentrated effort in high school success," Superintendent Majalise Tolan said. "Graduation coaches, 9th

grade-on-track teams, increased career and technical education offerings, and K-12 staff dedicated to a well-rounded education are all factors in student success."

Graduation is only one measure of student success, but research consistently shows that earning a high school diploma is linked to higher employment, improved health outcomes, and greater economic stability.

LCSD continues to focus on early intervention, student engagement, and inclusive supports to ensure students remain on track throughout their academic careers. Read more with this story at the Lincoln County Leader Website.

Robbery I, Kidnap II and Aggravated Theft.

The incident remained under investigation as of Jan. 30, by the Lincoln County Major Crime Team. The Oregon State Police, Newport Police Department, Lincoln City Police Department, and Toledo Police Department assisted the Lincoln County Sheriff's Office in the investigation.

Nan Kristine (KRIS) Hall

5/20/1951-1/16/2026



grandmother. She worked in administration for many years and retired from the Housing Authority of Lincoln County in Newport.

She loved baking, crafts, music, chocolate, gardening, fairy lights, and time near the ocean. She was affectionately known as "Gramma Ocean" and will always be remembered for her unconditional love, gentle spirit, and unwavering support of her family.

She passed after a courageous battle with cancer, at home, with loved ones by her side.

A private family Celebration of Life will be held. Those who wish may honor her memory in their own way.

ROBBERY

From Page A1

and K9 Sly were used to search the area of Don Davis Park and its related trails up to Nye Beach.

"A large backpack matching the description used in the bank robbery was located and seized. A search warrant for the involved Toyota Camry

and backpack was applied for and granted. A search of the items located over \$50,000 in cash and two weapons," according to the LCSO.

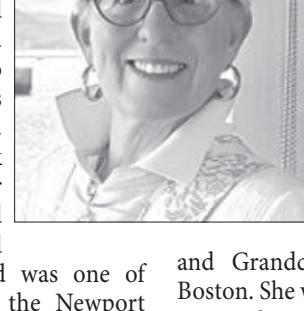
The two suspects, 37-year-old Franco Armando Mereno Jr. of Portland, and 43-year-old Jonathon F. Schwentner, of Canby, were lodged at the Lincoln County Jail and charged with

Robbery I, Kidnap II and Aggravated Theft.

The incident remained under investigation as of Jan. 30, by the Lincoln County Major Crime Team. The Oregon State Police, Newport Police Department, Lincoln City Police Department, and Toledo Police Department assisted the Lincoln County Sheriff's Office in the investigation.

Susan "Sioux" Boston

Oct. 20, 1950 - Jan 24, 2026



and Sonoma Co. for décor and customer care 3 years running. She was preceded in death by her Father, Weston H. Brockway and Mother Jacqueline S. Brockway, and Brother Dick Brockway. She is survived by Brother Dana Brockway and his Wife Mary and their Daughter Mica, Husband Lynn (Buck) Boston, Daughter Hayley Boston, Son Cooper Boston, and Grandchildren Bishop and Winter Boston. She will be missed for her engaging personality and accomplishments.

Services provided by Rest-Haven Memorial Funeral Home. Interment to be at Rest-Haven Memorial Park in Eugene, OR



Experienced estate planning attorney, Laura Laskey, is now open to serve you from her new Lincoln City office!

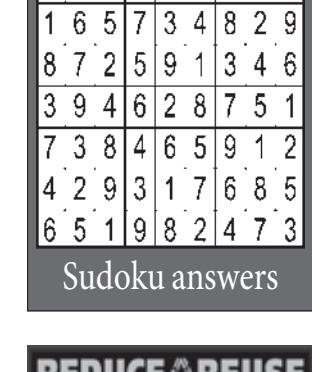
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info@lalalawllc.com

2604 NE Hwy 101, Ste B, Lincoln City, OR 97367



Lincoln County Leader

OPINION

Jeremy Ruark, Opinion Page Editor

Wednesday, February 4, 2026

A5

The Oregon Legislature's three-dimensional road chess

RANDY STAPILUS
Oregon Capital Chronicle

One of Oregon's biggest needs, as the Legislature is about to consider in the short session that starts Monday, is financing maintenance and improvements of its transportation system.

In most times, that would be a no-brainer, right?

But over the last year, it has become a mind-bending puzzle with elements of three-dimensional chess and a Rubik's cube.

For many years, the formula was simple: Gas taxes, with some related fees, along with federal grants and a few other sources, were enough to take care of the basic work.

In recent years, though, electric vehicles and better gas efficiency have cut into the revenue stream, and the cost of road work — a complex subject by itself — has shot through the roof. The system the state has relied on no longer meets the state's needs.

This much is more or less indisputable. Few Oregonians argue those basics.

The problem has been apparent for a few years, but because any solution would involve either raising taxes or fees on one hand, or letting roads and bridges deteriorate (alongside mass layoffs

at the Department of Transportation) on the other, there's political pain in grappling with any answer.

So let's review quickly our transportation funding quagmire over the last year.

During the 2025 regular session, legislators talked for months about transportation funding, although until its end not always in a wide-open fashion. Democrats argued that \$14.6 billion (over 10 years) was needed, but couldn't get the votes; then cut that down to \$11.7 billion (over 10 years) which also couldn't get the votes.

Republicans, who were barely brought into the process, agreed (in general) to oppose almost any Democratic transportation proposal. The session ended with no additional funding and the impending layoffs of hundreds of ODOT workers.

Gov. Tina Kotek understandably wasn't satisfied, and called a special session, to pass a proposal finally priced at \$4.3 billion — down more than two-thirds from the original stated need only months before.

That one — decried by Republican legislators as a tax increase of historic proportions — finally passed by a single vote only after a super-extended special session ended when a single



Oregon Department of Transportation workers fill a pothole on U.S. Highway 97 near Chemult in 2016. Courtesy from the Oregon Department of Transportation/Flickr

member was able to return to duty after medical issues. Kotek waited until Nov. 7 to sign the revenue bill into law, which had the practical effect of shortening about as much as possible the amount of time opponents would have to get petition signatures so voters could opt to vote against it a year hence.

But surprise (or probably not): Within a few weeks before the end of the year, well within the deadline, a quarter-million Oregonians signed petitions to put the referendum on the ballot, an indicator of massive opposition to the transportation package.

Next, the Democrats said they would try to repeal the bill in the upcoming special session to head off the referendum.

Then, Republicans (and legal analysis) said it was

too late for that — the referendum was going to the ballot regardless. That analysis seemed to hold up.

Next, Democrats said they would move the referendum vote to the May primary election, presumably with the hope of taking the issue off the table during the general election campaign. The (inevitable) legal challenges on that aren't all in yet.

And then, the Republican field for governor (which office is on the ballot this year) grew in January to include state Rep. Ed Diehl of Scio, who was a leader of the referendum effort and strongly indicated he planned to make it a centerpiece of his campaign.

That may have had the effect of scrambling a Republican nomination race that had seemed all but in the bag for 2022 nominee Christine

Drazan. But within days the race was scrambled again by the entry of 2010 gubernatorial nominee Chris Dudley, whose views on transportation funding (and much else) seem ... unformed.

So, as the special session is about to start: Does anyone remember that Oregon still has, you know, a problem with fixing its roads and paying for it? Work that apparently lots of Oregonians do understand needs to be done?

This funding battle has evolved into an infernal knot. As the new legislative session and election cycle bears down, it's worth asking if there's any way out.

Maybe.

We could start by going back to basics. We could ask Oregonians if they do in fact recognize the need and, if they do, if they're willing to in some form

fork over the bucks to deal with it.

It could help to pose the question most directly, and unavoidably, to Republican legislators: What sort of an actual solution would you support? And ask Democrats: This time, are you willing to work more equitably with the Republicans?

A batch of town hall meetings around the state dedicated to the issue actually might help, and could focus people's thinking.

The clock is ticking. As in hours more than days, days more than weeks.

Randy Stipilus has researched and written about Northwest politics and issues since 1976 for a long list of newspapers and other publications.

A former newspaper reporter and editor, and more recently an author and book publisher, he lives in Carlton.

<https://oregoncapitalchronicle.com/2026/01/29/the-oregon-legislatures-three-dimensional-road-chess/>

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

FIRST STEP

As a 20-year Lincoln County resident, I thank the Lincoln City Council for taking a first step toward drafting a Resolution objecting to the current Administration's Immigration, Customs and Enforcement (ICE) presence in our community.

We all agree there are legitimate reasons for immigration enforcement against "the worst of the worst" who can threaten our safety. We do not object to ICE's lawful functions. We condemn the manner in which ICE is unlawfully operating. The documented majority of those being targeted, kidnapped, detained and abused are people of color who have no criminal affiliations. They include, families, unaccompanied children, and legal citizens, protesters and observers defending civil rights of all of us. Most recently, the

current Administration is denying the unprovoked murders of two American citizens, Renee Good and Alex Pretti, by ICE agents in separate incidents in Minneapolis, MN

Multiple coastal cities, including Astoria, Waldport and Toledo, have approved Resolutions rejecting development of ICE's proposed Detention Center in our community. Now is the time to assert our values and our condemnation of the outrages we see with our own eyes in other ICE-occupied cities. If we look away, housing ICE employees and providing business and personal services to facilitate their activities, we become allies and accomplices to the atrocities indiscriminately committed against our friends and neighbors.

Resolutions already approved make no declaration that Federal authorities should not

enforce immigration laws; they do demand that ICE agents do not behave as secret police, acting anonymously and accountable to no one. We expect them to respect all individuals and their civil rights in order to preserve public trust, community safety and constitutional protections.

*Respectfully,
Michele Warner
Otis*

REJECT THE HATE

I, along with about 300 of Claire Hall's other friends, attended her memorial Jan. 31.

We heard a long succession of friends and colleagues speak with passion about Claire's dedication to the people of Lincoln County, and testimonials to the depth of her humanity and compassion for others.

But in spite of, or perhaps because of, Claire's lifelong dedication to serving the least fortunate among us, in the end she was literally hounded to

death.

This goes beyond political differences or allegations of misdeeds in public office. Claire was never afraid of a fair fight. But the vitriol she endured on a daily basis, the sheer malignance, the bullying, the dead naming and the threats, ultimately were more than even she could bear.

The profound injustice of what was done to Claire Hall cannot be allowed to stand. People of good conscience must repudiate the brand of "politics" that divorces simple humanity from political action and allows a complete disregard for common decency, where hatefulness is not only tolerated but encouraged, and facts are dismissed in favor of innuendo and outright lies.

We must reject this brand of politics, reject the chaos, and reject the hate. Lincoln County will only heal when we elect people who hold the

same values that Claire Hall exemplified: compassion, empathy, and understanding.

*Bill Dalbey
Newport*

MOSTLY NON-FUNCTIONAL

For some time now the Commissioner's office has been mostly non-functional.

since the passing of commissioner Hall there seems to be even less of an ability to complete county business. Recently the County Counsel canceled a regularly scheduled meeting because she determined that the county had no business.

This is very concerning, County Counsel has attempted to take control of the County commissioners offices, since commissioner Halls death the Counsel told commissioners that they had to share the chairmanship until a replacement is appointed. That is factually wrong. According to Oregon Statutes ORS 203-240,

if the Commission chair cannot be agreed upon by the remaining Commissioners, then the Senior Commissioner will be the chair until the next duly set chair rotation.

County counsel also has stated that she alone sets the Agenda for the commissioners, again this is factually wrong, Under OAR 345-011-0020 the County Secretary along with the Commission chair sets County Agendas, I believe that would be the county Commissioners Executive assistant and the chair not the Consul.

It would be helpful to the citizens of Lincoln County to understand these things if you and your team would do a news story on these issues.

*Sincerely
Mark Jones
Newport*

ONLINE POLL

What is your favorite "Wake Up" beverage each morning?

Coffee	64.5%
Tea	6.5%
Juice	6.5%
Soda pop	6.5%
Water	12.9%
Other	3.3%

NEW POLL

Are you ready for winter, or do you want the warm spring-like conditions to continue this month?

- Ready for winter
- Want more spring-like weather

POST

From Page A1

Board annually elects a Chair at the beginning of each calendar year.

FORMER SHERIFF

ANNOUNCES

CANDIDACY

On Wednesday, Jan. 28, for Lincoln County Sheriff Curtis Landers officially announced he will file to run for Lincoln County Commissioner, Position 2, seeking to fill the unexpired term.

Landers said in a

release Lincoln County is in need of stability, transparency, and common-sense leadership. Given the dysfunction surrounding the current appointment process for this position, he believes the decision should be made by voters at the upcoming May election.

"If I earn the trust of Lincoln County voters and receive a majority in the May election, I will be ready to step in immediately and get to work," Landers said. "My priorities include restoring effective common-sense

governance, improving operational efficiency at the county level, supporting county employees, and ensuring responsible use of taxpayer dollars with good budgeting and oversight."

According to Landers release, he spent his career serving the Lincoln County community and brings decades of experience and education in public service and leadership. Landers said he will bring a practical, collaborative approach to the Board of Commissioners and focus on solutions

that move the county forward.

"I've worked inside county government long enough to know what actually works — and what doesn't," Landers said. "This is a non-partisan position, and my focus is on effective governance — not politics. I want the best for Lincoln County and I am running to help bring stability and accountability back to county government. I would be honored to earn the support of Lincoln County voters."

The Board of

Commissioners post became vacant following the passing of Commissioner Claire Hall Jan. 4.

A Celebration of Life memorial for Hall was conducted Saturday, Jan. 31 at the Gladys Valley Marine Studies Building of the Hatfield Marine Science Center, 2030 SE Marine Science Drive in Newport.

Follow developments online at the Lincoln County Leader website and in the Wednesday print editions of The Leader.

Commission to consider modifying commercial Dungeness crab fishery rules

STAFF REPORT

The Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission will meet Feb. 20 at the Lane County Armed Forces Readiness Center, 3106 Pierce Parkway in Springfield.

The Commission will consider the following two agenda items:

Commercial Dungeness crab fishery rules petition

ODFW is expecting significant public interest in this agenda item. Comments should be submitted using this online form. Public testimony will also be taken in person and online during the meeting. (Comments that have already come in via the Commission email address were also accepted as part of the public record.)

Whale entanglements in fixed fishing gear along the West Coast, including Oregon, have increased since 2014.

This rise is linked to a growing humpback whale population, changing ocean conditions that increase overlap between whales and crab gear, and improved reporting. Since 2019, ODFW has worked with industry and other stakeholders to reduce these risks through a comprehensive strategy.

These efforts form the foundation of a draft Conservation Plan required to obtain an Incidental Take Permit (ITP) under the federal Endangered Species Act. ODFW is in the process of finalizing the plan and securing an ITP which will ensure compliance with federal law while balancing fishery and conservation goals.

On Dec. 11, 2025, the Commission received a petition from the Center for Biological Diversity, Oceana,



The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife is headquartered in Salem. The Commission will meet in Springfield Feb. 20. (Courtesy from the Oregon State Archives Scenic Images collection)

the Natural Resources Defense Council, American Cetacean Society and other parties. The petition requested that rules for Oregon's commercial Dungeness crab fishery be modified to further reduce the risk of whale entanglement.

Under Oregon's Administrative Procedures Act (APA), receipt of a petition starts the 90-day response clock. The Commission must either accept the petition (which initiates rulemaking) or deny it within 90 days.

The APA also directs the Commission to consider six statutory factors when considering a petition: continued need, public complaints, complexity, overlap/conflict, changes in technology/economics, and legal basis when considering a petition.

For this item, consistent with APA procedures, the Commission is requesting public comments on whether other options should be considered for achieving the proposed rules and rule amendments' substantive goals while reducing the negative economic impact of such rule modifications on commercial crab fishermen and the state's economy.

Per the APA, the Commission can only accept or deny the petition during this meeting. Accepting the petition directs ODFW to conduct a public rulemaking process, with any proposed rule changes considered at a future public meeting and after an additional public process.

Winchester Water Control District fish passage (WWCD) final order

The Commission will consider whether to approve or modify the proposed order prepared by the Office of Administrative Hearings, Administrative Law Judge (ALJ) after consideration of the record, including the exceptions and argument filed by the WWCD.

No new evidence may be considered during the meeting and there will be no public testimony taken. Following a brief staff presentation limited to the record, the Commission will deliberate and determine by motion its decision on the final order.

The Feb. 20 meeting agenda also includes other informational briefings. Several members of Governor's Kotek's natural resources staff will provide an overview of recent

Executive Orders, including an October 2025 EO to accelerate climate protections for the state's lands and waters.

An Executive Session will be held pursuant to ORS 192.660(2)(f) to consider information or records that are exempt by law from public inspection, as well as to consult with legal counsel concerning legal rights and duties of a public body with regard to current litigation or litigation likely to be filed as authorized by ORS 192.660(2)(h). The executive session is closed to the public.

ODFW provides reasonable accommodation upon request, including assistive listening devices, sign language interpreters, and materials in large print or audiotape. To request accommodation, please contact the Director's Office at (503) 947-6044 (voice) or (503) 947-6042 (fax) at least 48 hours prior to the meeting.

The Commission meeting starts at 8 a.m. and will be livestreamed on the meeting agenda page and at ODFW's YouTube channel. View the agenda at <https://myodfw.com/articles/commission-agenda-february-20-2026>. Sign up at least 48 hours in advance of the meeting to testify for an agenda item or in public forum using the forms found on the agenda page.

More information about each agenda item will be posted on the page no later than 10 days before the meeting (by Feb. 10).

https://forms.office.com/pages/responsepage.aspx?id=Mmk_qnz6tEggzqWYt-Fhz_X4-jw4Vl9AIUpnhvNihXVUQUdWNThTNEFPVEUyV1ZIOUxaR0szTjlJS4u&route=shorturl



The Oregon Employment Department reports 19,205 employed and 1,244 unemployed in Lincoln County in December, and 10,847 employed and 622 unemployed in December in Tillamook County. Metro Creative Connection

Seasonally adjusted counties unemployment unchanged

STAFF REPORT

Lincoln County Leader

Lincoln County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 6.2% in December, unchanged from November, according to the Oregon Employment Department.

The rate was up from 5.1% the year before. The statewide unemployment rate was 5.2% in December, and the national rate was 4.4%. Seasonally adjusted nonfarm payroll employment was unchanged in December at 18,780 jobs.

Seasonally adjusted figures compare expected changes with actual changes. A loss of 240 jobs was expected for the month, and the county's total nonfarm employment decreased by 240, with a loss of 180 jobs in the private sector and a decrease of 60 jobs in government.

Leisure and hospitality lost 180 jobs. Local government employment decreased by 50.

December's total nonfarm employment numbers were down 100 jobs over the year, a decrease of 0.5%. The largest gain occurred in retail trade, which rose by 100 jobs over the year in December.

Accommodation and food services lost 90 jobs. Local government, excluding education and tribal employment, added 90 jobs.

TILLAMOOK COUNTY

Tillamook County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 5.5% in December, unchanged from November, according to the Oregon Employment Department.

The rate was 4.4% the year before. The statewide unemployment rate was 5.2% in December, and the national rate was 4.4%. Seasonally adjusted

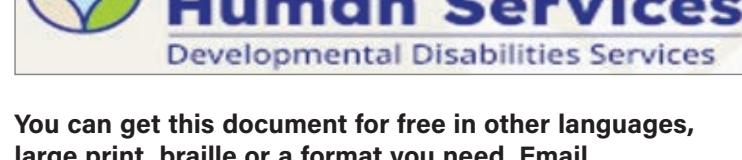
nonfarm payroll employment increased by 60 in December to 9,590 jobs.

Seasonally adjusted figures compare expected changes with actual changes. Employment was expected to decrease by 120 jobs, and the county lost 60 jobs, with a loss of 80 jobs in the private sector and a gain of 20 jobs in total government employment. Leisure and hospitality lost the most jobs with a decline of 60 jobs (-4.2%). Local education added 20 jobs (+1.2%).

December's total nonfarm employment was up from the previous year by 50 jobs, an increase of 0.5%.

Nondurable goods manufacturing added 110 jobs (+9.2%). Professional and business services lost 50 jobs (-13.2%). Local government excluding education added 20 jobs over the year (+2.3%).

Public notice, request for comment on ODDS Medicaid waiver updates



You can get this document for free in other languages, large print, braille or a format you need. Email dd.directoroffice@odhs.oregon.gov or call 503-945-5811. We accept all relay calls. (Courtesy photo)

The Oregon Department of Human Services Office of Developmental Disabilities Services (ODDS) seeks public comment on updates to its six 1915(c) Medicaid waivers:

- Adults' Home and Community-Based Services Waiver
- Children's Home and Community-Based Services Waiver
- Children's Extraordinary Needs Waiver
- Behavioral Waiver
- Medically Fragile Waiver
- Medically Involved Waiver
- Summary of substantial updates

Expanded eligibility for Medicaid services: This change affects all six waivers. The change will make it easier for children with low incomes to access waiver services. Why is this change happening? The Oregon Health Authority (OHA) is making this change to the Oregon Medicaid State Plan. ODDS is making this change to be consistent with OHA.

Fewer forms to sign: We removed the requirement for a signature on the Freedom of Choice form and the Notice of Rights form. This makes getting services easier. People won't have to sign as many forms. Services coordinators and personal agents will still go over the forms with individuals

and record this in their progress notes.

Word and formatting changes: These are all technical changes. None of these changes affects individuals' services.

All six waiver applications and the announcement letter are available to read on the ODHS website. Print versions of the updates are posted in local community developmental disabilities programs and support services brokerages. To ask for a printed version, contact ODDS Medicaid Waiver/State Plan Analyst at 503-507-2083 or odds.waivers@odhs.oregon.gov.

How to submit feedback on the proposed changes

- Send an email to odds.waivers@odhs.oregon.gov.
- Send written comments to ODDS Medicaid waiver/State Plan analyst, 500 Summer Street NE E-09, Salem, OR 97301.
- The deadline for comments is Feb. 27, 2026. We must receive comments by this date.

MORE INFORMATION

You can get this document for free in other languages, large print, braille or a format you need. Email dd.directoroffice@odhs.oregon.gov or call 503-945-5811. We accept all relay calls.

'Singing Valentines' offered by Coastal-Aires Barbershop Chorus



Mid-Coast Chapter of the Barbershop Harmony Society. (Courtesy photo)

Valentine's Day is on Saturday this year, so the Coastal-Aires Barbershop Chorus is offering Singing Valentine's both Friday and

Saturday!

Singing Valentine's are the perfect gift for everyone. They are environmentally friendly, zero calorie, gluten-free, and

one size fits all!

For just \$50, your Valentine will receive; 2 songs sung in-person by our What Four quartet, a wrapped red rose

presented to the recipient, a picture taken with the quartet, and memories that will last a

See VALENTINES, page B3



Helen Cha-Pyo

Special concert directed by guest conductor Helen Cha-Pyo

Rizo Loves You

A Special Valentine's Day Concert

SUBMITTED

Valentine's Day is usually sold as a script: flowers, reservations, rehearsed romance. A holiday born of pagan chaos, rebranded with roses and prix-fixe menus, and handed down to us as a test of romance, effort, and expectation.

With Rizo Loves You coming only to the Oregon coast, acclaimed chanteuse/cabaret artist, Rizo, gleefully peels back the cellophane and offers something far more satisfying – intimacy without pretense. For two nights only this Valentine's Day weekend, February 13 and 14 at the Newport Performing Arts Center, Rizo invites audiences to come on a date with her. No dinner or hallmark cards needed.

Rizo Loves You is a Valentine's Day-themed concert that blends music and storytelling while exploring all the sides of love and a peek into the origins of the holiday. Backed by a world class four-piece band, Rizo's set flows fluidly through some of her favorite love songs delivered with the kind of presence that makes a packed room feel titillatingly close.

"This isn't about romance as a product," Rizo said. "It's about connection. The kind where you can hear the breath between notes. Some nights are just meant to be shared. I'll take care of the mood, you just



For two nights only this Valentine's Day weekend, February 13 and 14 at the Newport Performing Arts Center, Rizo invites audiences to come on a date with her. No dinner or hallmark cards needed. (Courtesy photo)

See RIZO, page B3

The Newport Symphony Orchestra will be directed by guest conductor Helen Cha-Pyo for a one time special concert for families at 7:30 p.m. February 4.

The musical event will be at the Newport Performing Arts Center, 777 W. Olive Street in Newport.

This engaging and interactive program will first be presented to Lincoln County School District third graders in the morning, then it will be presented again in the evening for a performance for the general public.

This concert is funded by grants to encourage arts education. Along with familiar classical works, the concert is named after a fun and high energy piece written by Russell Peck for young audiences called "The Thrill of the Orchestra." While Peck's high energy music is playing, NSO Executive Director, Dan Howard, will narrate from the stage, introducing the instruments of the orchestra to the audience.

The concert lasts less than one hour without intermission. All tickets are \$10 and seating is General Admission. Bring your family to enjoy The Thrill of the Orchestra.

When: Wednesday, February 4, 2026 at 7:30 p.m.

Where: Newport Performing Arts Center, 777 W. Olive St. Newport

How much: All tickets \$10 – General Admission

Repertoire: Farrenc: Overture No. 1

See CONCERT, page B3

"85 & Over" Exhibition celebrates Timelessness of the Creative Spirit

OREGON COAST COUNCIL FOR THE ARTS

Center.

An opening reception will be held on from 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, February 11. The evening will feature music by Newport Symphony Orchestra cellists Charmaine Leclair and Adrienne Welsh, light refreshments, and artist talks beginning at 5:15 p.m.

"85 & Over" celebrates the enduring power of creativity and challenges the cultural stereotypes

See EXHIBIT, page B3



Roumagoux 1. (Courtesy photos)



Roumagoux 2.

Chamber Music on the Bayfront

FEBRUARY 14 • 7:30PM

NSO
Alistair Kok, violin
Charmaine Leclair, cello
Diane Baxter, harpsichord

newportsymphony.org

'Sacred Threads' Art Quilt show

POLLY BLOOM PRODUCTIONS

Productions is pleased to present the "Sacred Threads" Art Quilt show at the Yachats Commons, 441 Highway 101 N, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, Feb. 14 and 15.

A \$5.00 donation is suggested.

Sacred Threads is an exhibition of quilts exploring themes of joy, inspiration, spirituality, healing, grief and peace/brotherhood. This biennial exhibition was established to provide a safe venue for quilters who see their work as a connection to the sacred and/or as an expression of their spiritual journey.

The objective is to create a dignified exhibition of artwork that touches on both spiritual and personal levels all those who view it. We want to share with others the experiences of quilters whose stories may be a source of healing and strength.

Art Quilting is a fascinating and relatively new art form. The evolution of the quilt from bedcover to museum piece, and the quilter from home-maker to trained artist, is celebrated in the 1977 book "The Art Quilt", by Robert Shaw. As the



Art Quilt: Garden of Peace and Understanding.
(Courtesy from Maude Wallace Haeger)

quilters workplace moved from kitchen to studio, the art quilt continues to reinvent itself. Quilters with their signature techniques, search for innovative methods of construction, while expanding the use of non-traditional materials, and instilling personally meaningful subject matter.

A quilt is a fabric sandwich comprised of at least two layers. Quilt art or quilting uses mixed media or fiber art quilts, with modern and traditional quilting techniques to create art objects.

According to the Art Quilt Association club definition "An art quilt is an original exploration of a concept or idea rather than the handing down of a 'pattern'. It experiments with textile manipulation, color, texture and/or a diversity of mixed media. An Art Quilt often pushes

quilt world boundaries. An Art Quilt should consist predominately of fiber or a fiber-like material with one or multiple layers which are held together with stitches or piercing of the layers."

Polly Plum Productions has been hosting Art Quilt exhibits and challenges for a while. In 2017, they produced an international challenge "Gems of the Sea" awarding two thousand dollars in prizes and receiving more than 100 entries from 5 countries. Mark your calendar for another Art Quilt Show, "Somebody Told Me.... Communicating with Thread" will be on display at the Commons March 28 and 29.

Polly Plum Productions (PPP) is a tax-exempt 501(c)3 organization that supports and promotes music and dance performances, and art exhibitions, in the Yachats area.

Other PPP programs include the world-famous Yachats Celtic Music Festival (<http://yachatscelticmusicfestival.org>), the Yachats Banner Project, and the Winter Solstice Bonfire.

Collectors note, some of the pieces on display may be available for purchase.

Center Director Chasse Davidson said, "This exhibition is a celebration of it never being too late to embrace the call."

The Olive Street Gallery, located at 777 W Olive Street in Newport, is open Tuesday through Friday, from 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM. Admission to the gallery and the reception is free.

For more information, visit coastarts.org/events/85over

Willamette Writers Coast Chapter Artificial Intelligence presentation

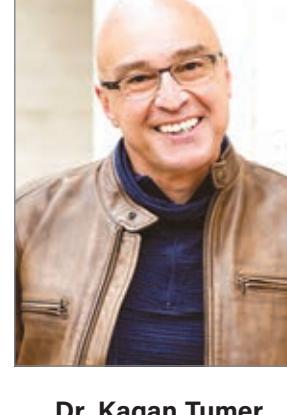
WILLAMETTE WRITERS COAST CHAPTER

The Willamette Writers Coast Chapter presents author Dr. Kagan Tumer from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. February 21 at the Newport Library.

Tumer will shine a light on Artificial Intelligence (AI) in his presentation, What AI is .. and Isn't: Are we Focused on the Right Issues?

It is impossible these days to glance at news outlets and not see an ominous headline about the negative impact of AI on our lives. But how credible are these threats? How much should we worry about them? And more importantly, are they the issues we should focus on?

In his talk, Tumer will outline what AI is and isn't, how most AI technologies are constructed, and what that means about the future of AI from autonomous vehicles to drug discovery to in-home



Dr. Kagan Tumer

care, and yes, to writing.

Check out his website <https://kagantumer.com/> and come prepared to navigate this important topic of our time, Q/A, and Book signing.

Kagan Tumer is a science fiction author and professor of Robotics and AI. He attended seven schools in five cities within four countries, all before reaching high school, and is steadily moving west, from Virginia to Texas to California to Oregon. Along the way, Kagan worked as a food server,

registrar's office clerk, print shop copier, soccer referee, math tutor, and well logging analyst.

Tumer is a member of SFWA, has a Ph.D. in Computer Engineering, and spent nine years at NASA working on multi-robot coordination. When not writing, he studies AI ethics, teaches AI and robotics, consults for TV/movie AI projects, and mentors future scientists.

This program is co-hosted by the Newport Public Library.

The WW Coast Chapter (WWCC) hosts presentations from September through June. Programs are free and open to all writers 18 and older. There are Young Willamette Writer chapters for those under 18. Willamette Writers is the largest writer's association in Oregon and one of the largest in the nation.

Join Willamette Writers at their website, <https://willamettewriters.org>

EXHIBIT

From Page B1

associated with aging. The exhibit originated from an "Open Studio" course at Oregon Coast Community College, where instructor Sandra Roumagoux discovered two fellow artists, both 85, who shared her lifelong passion for the visual arts.

"In the class, we talked about what effect the aging process had on our creative processes," Roumagoux said. "All three of us felt the same about our ability to make art. Age didn't have a damned thing to do with it. We all felt the same inside as we did when we were much younger."

MEET THE ARTISTS:

Sandra Roumagoux:

A former Newport mayor and career artist, Roumagoux's work has often focused on environmental and social issues. Her current series explores the tidal flats and estuaries of the Yaquina, Siletz, and

Alsea rivers. Her work is included in the permanent collections of the Portland Art Museum and the Hallie Ford Museum of Art.

Scottie Howard: A California native who shifted from a 50-year career in psychology and education back to art in her early 80s, Howard finds inspiration in her memories and the raw power of the ocean. She chooses oil for its "grace and elegance" and the brilliance of its texture.

Bobbie Flewellyn: After a 45-year career as an occupational therapist and time spent as a realtor and Feng Shui consultant, Flewellyn returned to her lifelong interest in art. Her paintings are informed by her varied life experiences, from climbing oak trees as a child to her deep ancestral roots on the Oregon coast.

"There is no beginning or end to our creative selves; it is always with us," Director of the Newport Visual Arts

Center Director Chasse Davidson said, "This exhibition is a celebration of it never being too late to embrace the call."

The Olive Street Gallery, located at 777 W Olive Street in Newport, is open Tuesday through Friday, from 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM. Admission to the gallery and the reception is free.

An international cult favorite, Rizo has built a career that defies easy

categorization, blending cabaret, rock 'n' roll, burlesque, and performance art into something uniquely her own. She has collaborated with artists including Moby, Reggie Watts, and Yo-Yo Ma, appeared on a Grammy Award-winning album, and received honors such as a New York Foundation for the Arts Fellowship, a Time Out London Theatre Award, and a London Cabaret Award. Most recently, she starred as Madame Zinzanni in the revival of Teatro ZinZanni and is currently developing a television project with Michael Carbonaro of The Carbonaro Effect.

Don't miss Rizo Loves You, presented by Pacific Dance Ensemble, February 13th and 14th at 7:30pm at the Newport Performing Arts Center. All tickets now on sale at a Valentine's special prices from \$21-\$26.

For more information and tickets go to rizo.love or call 541-265-ARTS. Yet for all the

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VALENTINES

From Page B1

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DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ◆◆◆

SUDOKU

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Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers.

The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once.

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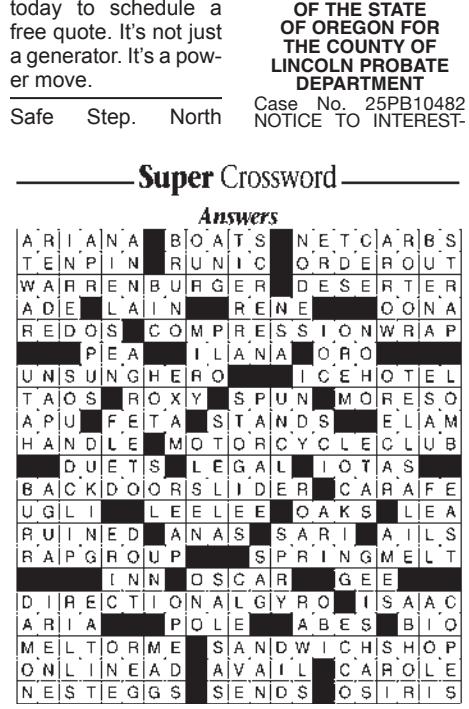
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999 PUBLIC NOTICES

**LCL26-034 NOTICE
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT
OF THE STATE
OF OREGON FOR
THE COUNTY OF
LINCOLN PROBATE
DEPARTMENT**
Case No. 25PB10482
NOTICE TO INTEREST

Answers



999 PUBLIC NOTICES

ED PERSONS In the Matter of the Estate of Charles William Bergman, Deceased. Notice is hereby given that Charles Neal Bergman has been appointed as the personal representative of the above estate. All persons having claims against the estate are required to present them to the undersigned personal representative in care of the undersigned attorney at 2116 SE 28th Pl., Portland, OR 97214, within four months after the date of the first publication of this notice, as stated below, or such claims may be barred. All persons whose rights may be affected by the proceedings in this estate may obtain additional information from the records of the Court, the personal representative or the attorney for the personal representative. Charles Neal Bergman, Personal Representative, Ian Simpson, Attorney for Personal Representative, 2116 SE 28th Pl., Portland, OR 97214 2/4/26

Lien

LIEN in the amount claimed below, pursuant to ORS87.152, for the reasonable and agreed charges for labor and materials, storage or services provided at the request of the owner or lawful possessor of the following described personal property: Personal property: Kathleen Official number: 943407; Reputed owner: Noah Beckstead Kathleen 943407; Last known address: 2181 NE Castle Ave, Bend, OR 97701; Security interest holder: Mark Whittier, 525 SE 4th Street, Newport, OR 97365; Amount of claim of lien: \$10,138.33 (which includes storage of property and accrued late charges until sale date, and costs of lien foreclosure). The Port of Newport has retained the property for at least 60 days from the date when the charges for services provided were due. Notice is hereby given that unless the lien is paid prior to the date set forth for sale below, said property will be sold to the highest bidder. The lien claimant may bid part or all of the lien amount claimed, plus storage and foreclosure sale expenses, which will be an offset against the lien amount. Minimum bid is \$12,022.65. Bids accepted until: February 16, 2026 at 9:59:59AM. Email bids to: mbrown@portofnewport.com or drop bid off at: Port of Newport, 600 S.E. Bay Blvd., Newport, OR 97365. Bid forms can be found online at www.portofnewport.com or at the address listed above. The sale of the property will be "as is, where is" and there are no representations by the lien claimant as to the condition of the property or its title. Any person wishing to inspect the property prior to the sale may do so during normal business hours, by contacting the Harbormaster at 541-270-5557. 2/4/26 2/11/26

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PUBLIC NOTICES

made on senior liens, taxes and/or insurance, trustee's fees, and any attorney fees and court costs arising from or associated with the beneficiaries efforts to protect and preserve its security, all of which must be paid as a condition of reinstatement, including all sums that shall accrue through reinstatement or pay-off. Nothing in this notice shall be construed as a waiver of any fees owing to the Beneficiary under the Deed of Trust pursuant to the terms of the loan documents. Whereof, notice hereby is given that Affinia Default Services, LLC, the undersigned trustee will on May 12, 2026 at the hour of 01:00 PM (PST), as established by section 187.110, Oregon Revised Statutes, Public Entrance, Lincoln County Courthouse, 225 West Olive Street, Newport, OR 97365, County of Lincoln, State of Oregon, sell at public auction to the highest bidder for cash the interest in the said described real property which the grantor had or had power to convey at the time of the execution by him of the said trust deed, together with any interest which the grantor or his successors in interest acquired after the execution of said trust deed, to satisfy the foregoing obligations, ORC secured and the costs and expenses of sale, including a reasonable charge by the trustee. Notice is further given that any person named in Section 86.778 of Oregon Revised Statutes has the right to have the foreclosure proceeding dismissed and the trust deed reinstated by payment to the beneficiary of the entire amount then due (other than such portion of said principal as would not then be due had no default occurred), together with the costs, trustee's and attorney's fees and curing any other default complained of in the Notice of Default by tendering the performance required under the obligation or trust deed, at any time prior to five days before the date last set for sale. For Sale Information, contact Auction.com at (800) 280-2832 or www.auction.com. In constraining this notice, the singular includes the plural, the word "grantor" includes any successor in interest to this grantor as well as any other person owing an obligation, the performance of which is secured by the trust deed, and the words "trustee" and "beneficiary" include their respective successors in interest, if any. Pursuant to Oregon Law, this sale will not be deemed final until the Trustee's deed has been issued by Affinia Default Services, LLC. If any irregularities are discovered within 10 days of the date of this sale, the trustee will rescind the sale, return the buyer's money and take further action as necessary. If the sale is set aside for any reason, including if the Trustee is unable to convey title, the Purchaser at the sale shall be entitled only to a return of the monies paid to the Trustee. This shall be the Purchaser's sole and exclusive remedy. The purchaser shall have no further recourse against the Trustee, the Beneficiary, the Beneficiary's Agent, or the Beneficiary's Attorney. If you have previously been discharged through bankruptcy, you may have been released of personal liability for this loan in which case this letter is intended to exercise the note holder's rights against the real property only. As required by law, you are hereby notified that a negative credit report reflecting on your credit record may be submitted to a credit report agency if you fail to fulfill the terms of your credit obligations. Without limiting the trustee's disclaimer of representations or warranties, Oregon law requires the trustee to state in this notice that some residential property sold at a trustee's sale may have been used in manufacturing methamphetamine, the chemical components of which are known to be toxic. Prospective purchasers of residential property should be aware of this potential danger before deciding to place a bid for this property at the trustee's sale. NOTICE TO TENANTS: TENANTS OF THE SUBJECT REAL PROPERTY HAVE CERTAIN PROTECTIONS AFFORDED TO THEM UNDER ORS 86.782 AND POSSIBLY UNDER FEDERAL LAW. ATTACHED TO THIS NOTICE OF SALE, AND INCORPORATED HEREIN, IS A NOTICE TO TENANTS THAT SETS FORTH SOME OF THE PROTECTIONS THAT ARE AVAILABLE TO A TENANT OF THE SUBJECT REAL PROPERTY AND WHICH SETS FORTH CERTAIN REQUIREMENTS THAT MUST BE COMPLIED WITH BY ANY TENANT IN ORDER TO OBTAIN THE AFFORDED PROTECTION, AS REQUIRED UNDER ORS 86.771. Pursuant to the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, you are advised that Affinia Default Services, LLC may be deemed to be a debt collector and any information obtained may be used for that purpose. File No.: 25-05840OP. Dated: 12/29/2025. Affinia Default Services, LLC By: /s/ Laura Coughlin Name: Laura Coughlin Officer Title: Officer Trustee's Mailing Address: Affinia Default Services, LLC 16000 Christensen Rd., Suite 310 Tukwila, WA 98188 Phone Number: (503) 836-3799 Trustee's Physical Address: Affinia Default Services, LLC 10151 SE Sunnyside Road, Suite 490 Clackamas, OR 97015 Email: inquiries@affinadefault.com NPP0482530 To: LINCOLN COUNTY LEADER 02/04/2026, 02/11/2026, 02/18/2026, 02/25/2026

LCL26-039 IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE STATE OF OREGON FOR THE

COUNTY OF LINCOLN
Probate Department. In the Matter of the Estate of: JOHN WALLACE BELAND, Deceased. Case No. 26PB00534. NOTICE TO INTERESTED PERSONS. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Victoria A. Beland has been appointed personal representative. All persons having claims against the estate are required to present them, with vouchers attached, to the personal representative at City Hall or download from the City's website at www.cityofdepoebay.org. Per the Depoe Bay Charter, eligible candidates for the Depoe Bay City Council must meet the following minimum requirements: 1. Be a registered voter. 2. Have resided within the City boundaries of the City of Depoe Bay for at least one (1) year prior to their appointment and continue to reside in the City of Depoe Bay during their term of office. 2/4/26

LCL26-043 REQUEST FOR PROGRESSIVE DESIGN-BUILD SERVICES CITY OF LINCOLN CITY

Wastewater Treatment Plant Septage Receiving Station & Grit Handling Area Upgrade Bids Due: 4:00 PM - March 12, 2026 WORK - The general nature of work, described in detail in this Contract and in the basis of payment, includes furnishing all labor, equipment, and materials necessary for the completion of the design and construction of the project. Primary items of work include: Design and construct a new septic receiving station and an upgrade to the Grit Handling Area. BID SUBMITTAL Sealed proposals will be received by Public Works Department, PO Box 501, 801 SW Hwy 101, City Hall, Lincoln City, OR 97367 until 4:00 PM Pacific Standard Time (PST) on the 12th day of March, 2026. Late proposals will not be accepted. Submittal of proposals shall be in a sealed envelope with identification plainly marked on the outside including project name, bid date, and time, "Proposal, Proposer's name. PROPOSAL DOCUMENTS - Proposers shall be obtained by sending an email to Amanda Sawyer, (asawyer@lincolncity.org). The official Planholder's list will be kept by the City and any addenda will be issued by the City. QUESTIONS - All questions or requests for clarification shall be directed in writing to the Terry Chamberlin, Project Engineer, via email: tchamberlin@lincolncity.org, or by regular mail to Lincoln City, PO Box 50, Lincoln City, Oregon 97367. All written questions must be received by the Project Engineer by 5 PM PST on March 3, 2026. The Project Engineer will determine appropriate responses, if any, and if necessary an Addendum will be issued to all plan holders of record at least 5 calendar days prior to the Bid Due date. Any verbal responses obtained by bidders will be considered informational and shall not be relied upon by bidders. ADVERTISED February 4, 2026 - Lincoln County Leader February 4, 2026 - Daily Journal of Commerce 2/4/26

LCL26-041 LINCOLN COUNTY PUBLIC WORKS REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP) FOR CARDLOCK FACILITY FUEL LINE REPAIR.
The Lincoln County Public Works Department ("County") is soliciting proposals to complete all work necessary to repair a failed fuel line within its cardlock facility located at 817 NE 3rd Street in Newport, Oregon. The County reserves the right to amend any resulting contract for additional time or to expand the Scope of Work, as needed, contingent upon the availability of funding. The solicitation process is being conducted in accordance with the provisions for small and intermediate contracts as defined within the Lincoln County Code. A copy of the RFP and any supplemental information will be available for review and download from the official county website <https://www.co.lincoln.or.us/966/Bids-RFPs> on Thursday, January 29, 2026. All submittal requirements must be met for proposals to be considered. The requirements can be found in Part II - Submittal Requirements of the RFP. Prospective bidders are instructed to submit proposals based solely on information received from Lincoln County Public Works. Proposals may be submitted via USPS to the Lincoln County Public Works office at 880 NE 7th Street, Newport, OR 97365, or via email at LCPW@co.lincoln.or.us until 2:00 pm (PST) on Thursday, February 26, 2026. Proposals received after this time will not be considered. The County reserves the right to not select a contractor if the information submitted in their proposal is not in compliance with the requirements of the RFP, or to not select any contractor responding to the RFP if a determination is made that it is in the County's best interest to do so. The selected contractor must comply with the applicable provisions of ORS 279C.840 and 40XUSC 276a, any applicable provisions of the Equal Employment Opportunity Act of 1972, and the Civil Rights Act of 1964 as amended. Lincoln County is an equal opportunity employer and prospective bidders will be required to submit certification as equal opportunity employers in their proposals. Prospective bidders will also be required to submit certification in accordance with ORS 279A.110 that the bidder has not discriminated against minority women, or service-disabled owned businesses, or an emerging small business, in obtaining any subcontractor proposals or required subcontracts in response to this RFP. Dated this 26th day of January, 2026. Mikel Diwan, P.E., Public Works Director, Lincoln County, Oregon 2/4/26

LCL26-044 PUBLIC LIEN SALE: U-STORE SELF STORAGE.

Auction to be held online at storageauctions.com. Auction will run from: 02/10/2026 10am & ends 02/20/2026 10am, 105 NE 73rd St Street, Newport, OR 97365, Matthew Nakken 0330, 0541, Jonathan Ochoa Maldonado 0514. GOODS OF EVERY DESCRIPTION SOLD BY STORAGE LOT. CASH & CREDIT CARD ONLY 2/4/26 2/11/26

LCL26-045 NOTICE IS GIVEN THAT IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE STATE OF OREGON

for the County of Lincoln, In the Matter of the Estate of James Lee Kennison, Case no. 25PR10448, Ronda Eichenberger Greenawalt has been appointed personal representative. All persons having claims against the estate are required to present them, with vouchers attached, to the personal representative at 540 Enchanted Forest Rd, Eastsound WA 98245, within four months after the date of first publication of this notice, or the claims may be barred. All persons whose rights may be affected by the proceedings may obtain additional information from the records of the Court, the personal representative, or the lawyers for the personal representative, Margaret E Dailey, Attorney, P O Box 552, Newport, Oregon 97365, (541) 265-8805. 2/4/26

LCL26-046 NEWPORT POLICE DEPARTMENT PUBLIC NOTICE.

The Newport Police Department has in its physical possession the unclaimed personal property described below. If you have ownership interest in any unclaimed property, you must file a claim with the Newport Police Department within 30 days from the date of publication of this notice, or you will lose your interest in that property. MOTORHOME AWNING, 1982 BEIGE SOUTHWIND MOTORHOME LICENSE/HC23050, 2017 CRUISE LITE BY FOREST RIVER BUMPER PULL TRAILER LAST 4 OF VIN/1107, 1972 ORANGE AND WHITE GLASTRON BOAT AND TRAIL REGISTRATION 585EX. People of interest: MARTIN NELSON, SELESTIN AMINA, ISIS GUILLEN, MICHAEL STONUM. Newport Police Department 169 SW Coast Hwy Newport, Oregon 97365, (541) 574-3348. 2/4/26

LCL26-047 IN THE COUNTY COURT OF THE STATE OF OREGON FOR THE COUNTY OF LINCOLN

Probate Department Case No. 26PB00581. NOTICE TO INTERESTED PERSONS. In the Matter of the Estate of LAURA KATHRYN HUFF, Deceased. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Frank Huff has been appointed as the personal representative of the above estate. All persons having claims against

the estate are required to present them to the personal representative for the personal representative, or the attorney for the personal representative. Dated and first published on: February 4, 2026. Applications can be picked up at City Hall or download from the City's website at www.cityofdepoebay.org. Per the Depoe Bay Charter, eligible candidates for the Depoe Bay City Council must meet the following minimum requirements: 1. Be a registered voter. 2. Have resided within the City boundaries of the City of Depoe Bay for at least one (1) year prior to their appointment and continue to reside in the City of Depoe Bay during their term of office. 2/4/26

LCL26-018 TRUSTEE'S NOTICE OF SALE.

The Trustee under the terms of the Trust Deed described herein, at the direction of the Beneficiary, hereby elects to sell the property described in the Trust Deed to satisfy the obligations secured thereby. Pursuant to ORS 86.771, the following information is provided: 1. PARTIES: Grantor: JEREMY J. BACCI, Trustee: WESTERN TITLE & ESCROW COMPANY, Successor Trustee: NANCY K. CARY, Beneficiary: COLUMBIA BANK FKA UMPQUA BANK. 2. DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY: The real property is described as follows: Beginning at a point 856.5 feet North of the center of Section 17, in Township 11 South, Range 10 West, Willamette Meridian, in Lincoln County, Oregon; thence North 216 feet; thence East 418 feet; thence in a South-easterly direction along Olalla Slough to a point that is 586' feet East of the place of beginning; thence West to the said point and place of beginning. Except that portion lying Easterly of the West line of that certain tract of land described in deed to Lincoln County for road purposes recorded January 16, 1940, in Book 83, page 320, Deed Records. 3. RECORDING: The Trust

will be sold, for cash to the highest bidder, on 2/13/2026. The sale will be held at 10:00am by ROWLEY'S, TOWING S. COAST HWY, S. BEACH, OR 97220, within four months after the date of first publication of this notice, or the claims may be barred. All persons whose rights may be affected by the proceedings may obtain additional information from the records of the Court, the personal representative, or the attorney for the personal representative. Dated and first published on: February 4, 2026. George A. McCoy, OSB No. 101256, Warren Allen LLP, Attorneys for Personal Representative, 9600 NE Cascades Pkwy, Ste. 300, Portland, OR 97220 Telephone: 503-255-8795 Fax: 503-255-8836 E-mail: mccoy@warrenallen.com 2/4/26

Deed was recorded as follows: Date Recorded: July 13, 2020, Recording No. 2020-06875, Official Records of Lincoln County, Oregon 4, DEFAULT The Grantor or any other person obligated on the Trust Deed and Promissory Note secured thereby is in default and the Beneficiary seeks to foreclose the Trust Deed for failure to pay: Monthly payments in the amount of \$768.24 each, due the first of each month, for the months of April 2024 through January 2025; plus monthly payments at the rate of \$779.19 each, for the months of February 2025 through October 2025; plus late charges and advances; plus any unpaid real property taxes or liens, plus interest. 5. AMOUNT DUE. The amount due on the Note which is secured by the Trust Deed referred to herein is: Principal balance in the amount of \$63,309.30; plus interest at the rate of 3.250% per annum from March 1, 2024; plus late charges of \$270.72; plus advances and foreclosure attorney fees and costs. 6. Trustee's Notice SALE OF PROPERTY. The Trustee hereby states that the property will be sold to satisfy the obligations secured by the Trust Deed. A Default and Election to Sell Under Terms of Trust has been recorded in the Official Records of Lincoln County, Oregon: 7. TIME OF SALE. Date: March 19, 2026 Time: 11:00 a.m. Place: Lincoln County Courthouse, Main Entrance (parking lot side) 225 W. Olive, Newport, OR 97365, 8. RIGHT TO REINSTATE. Any person named in ORS 86.778 has the right, at

any time that is not later than five days before the Trustee conducts the sale, to have this foreclosure dismissed and the Trust Deed reinstated by payment to the Beneficiary of the entire amount then due, other than such portion of the principal as would not then be due had no default occurred, by curing any other default that is capable of being cured by tendering the performance required under the obligation or Trust Deed and by paying all costs and expenses actually incurred in enforcing the obligation and Trust Deed, together with the trustee's and attorney's fees not exceeding the amount provided in ORS 86.778. 9. NOTICE REGARDING POTENTIAL HAZARDS. (This notice is required for notices of sale sent on or after January 1, 2015.) Without limiting the trustee's disclaimer of representations or warranties, Oregon law requires the trustee to state in this notice that some residential property sold at a trustee's sale may have been used in manufacturing methamphetamine, the chemical components of which are known to be toxic. Prospective purchasers of residential property should be aware of this potential danger before deciding to place a bid for this property at the trustee's sale. You may reach the Oregon State Bar's Lawyer Referral Service at 503-684-3763 or toll-free in Oregon at 800-452-7636 or you may visit its website at www.osbar.org. Legal assistance may be available if you have a low income and meet federal poverty guidelines. For more information and a directory of legal aid programs, go to <http://www.oregonlawhelp.org>. Any questions regarding this matter should be directed to Lisa Summers, Paralegal, (541) 686-0344 (TS #30057.31725). DATED: October 30, 2025. Nancy K. Cary, Successor Trustee, Hersher Hunter, LLP, P.O. Box 1475, Eugene, OR 97440. 1/21/26 2/4/26 2/11/26

LCL26-013 NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE #26-0013.

On February 19, 2026, at the hour of 10:00 a.m., at the Lincoln County Courthouse, 225 W Olive St, Room 203, in the City of Newport, Oregon, the defendants' interests will be sold, subject to redemption, in the following time share interests, which will be sold individually and all of which are located at 939 NW Highway 101, Depoe Bay, OR 97341, commonly known as THE RESORT AT WHALE POINTE CONDOMINIUMS: (1) Time Share Interest H in Unit 127, (2) Time Share Interest F in Unit 126. The court case number is 25C945420, Association of Unit Owners of the Resort at Whale Pointe Merged Condominiums, plaintiff vs. Robert Lynn Berry, Sr., Personal Representative of the Estate of Paul Berry, Deceased, Any and All Unknown Heirs, Successors, Assigns, and all Persons, Firms or Associations Claiming Right, Title or Interest From, Under or Through Alice M. Yetka, Deceased defendants. This is a public auction to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check, in hand. For more details go to: <http://www.oregonsheriffssales.org/> county/lincoln/ 1/14/26 1/21/26 1/28/26 2/4/26

Super Crossword FILLED FOOD

ACROSS	48	Chilly tourist	91	Feels ill	3	Way to mark	44	Wine valley	88	Fail to
	53	New Mexico	94	Thaw after	4	Fourth mo.	45	Brief audio	90	Agile
	54	Old New	96	Roadhouse	5	TV ratings	46	All the rage	91	City in Iowa
	55	Whirled	97	Writer Wilde	6	Chlumsky of	47	Midterm, e.g.	93	Half of bi-
	58	To a greater	100	"Fancy that!"	7	Musical Mars	48	"500" race	94	Sink down
	59	Phased-out	101	Pilot's	8	— Gang	50	Prevaricates	95	Hired
	60	Cartoon	108	Newton	9	Filmmaker	51	Genesis	96	Japanese
	61	Easel	112	Met solo	10	Lee	52	Bausch &	97	"Two Virgins"
	63	Susa's	113	Fishing rod	11	del Fuego	53	Cheap	98	Taco toppers
	64	Take care of	114	\$5 bills,	12	Center	54	St. Patrick's	99	Split with an
	66	Bikers'	116	ancient land	13	points	55	Actors	101	ax, say
	67	Rehnquist	117	H.S. lab class	14	NFL goals	56	Actress	102	Actor Matt
	68	Runaway	121	"The Velvet	15	OK grade	57	Day event	103	Ryan
	69	Call to	122	Fog"	16	Bow go-with	58	"I give up!"	104	Small

Eagles continue soaring

WILL LOHRE
Lincoln County Leader

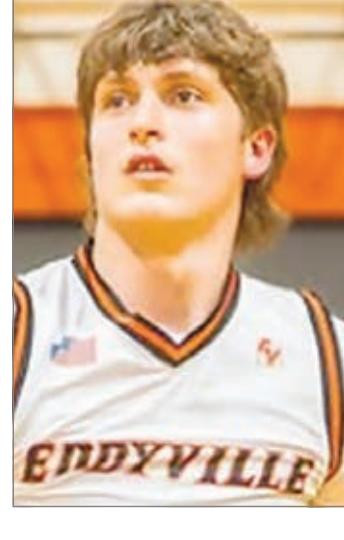
The varsity boys at Eddyville have been flying this winter, and positive recent results have the team set to repeat historic accomplishments, it's now down to the final stretch of games to decide their season.

Heading into the final five games of the season, Eddyville boasted a 16-4 overall record, maintaining a 4-0 slate in the Mountain West League, and is red hot amid a 15-1 stretch that dates back to a forfeit in early December. That one loss came Jan. 24 against non-league foe Days Creek.

The most recent win came against Mohawk on Jan. 29, and the Eagles put together a statement win against a program that sits in second in the Mountain West League. It should be noted that the result of Eddyville's Feb. 3 game against Crow/Northwest Christian Acad. is unknown at the time of press.

The victory over Mohawk was a crucial step on the road to what Head Coach Eddie Townsend hopes will be the second consecutive league title, a historic achievement for the team. After the game, Townsend was thrilled.

"I told the boys how proud I am of them. They're in the driver's seat to win back-to-back league titles after their win against Mohawk last



Darian Schultz was named as an OSAA Athlete of the Week for Jan. 19-25, putting up numbers for the Eagles. (Courtesy photo from OSAA)

night," Townsend said. "That's the second league title in 30 years. Those things should be celebrated cause they don't happen all the time."

The occasion also marked the 16th win of the season, bringing the Eagles just four wins closer to their second consecutive 20-win season. At the center of the team's success this year has been hard-nosed defense and elite shotmaking ability, powered by poppy ball movement. Put more simply: "We are just playing well," Townsend said.

"[I'm] just happy with the guys and how they're fitting into their roles," Townsend said.



Eddyville versus Toledo on Jan. 16. (Courtesy photo from Brynna Jay)

One of the players who has been making things happen for Eddyville is Darian Schultz. A crucial player in Eddyville's rotation, Schultz was named as one of OSAA's Athletes of the Week for the week of Jan. 19-25 when he averaged 16 points, 7 rebounds, 4 assists, and 2 blocks per game during that stretch. That production across each column of the statsheet is emblematic of his well-rounded and impactful play, and is one of the reasons Eddyville looks like a favorite to snare another league title this season.

While there's been plenty of highlights this season, the

Eagles remain focused on being the best team they can be as they approach the post-season. Despite being ranked #12 in OSAA's 1A rankings, Townsend still has priorities of improving along the margins.

During this fantastic run, the defensive focus for the team has been closing down shooters and keeping opponents off the offensive glass. If Eddyville can limit opposing teams to one shot per possession, Townsend counts that as a win. Offensively, the Eagles are trying to keep the ball moving and finding open hands. If they are passing up good shots for great shots, that's what they're

aiming for. More than anything, Eddyville is trying to keep its foot on the gas as they make another run to the state tournament and strives to hit the final site in Baker.

"These guys have put so much work in: 3-hour practices, a full summer slate, all for the goal of getting to Baker," Townsend said. "They're doing it, and I'm so proud of them!"

Follow game results at osaa.org and see Lincoln County High School sports features online at the Lincoln County Leader website and in the Wednesday print editions of The Leader.

Newport staying near the top

WILL LOHRE
Lincoln County Leader

Deep into the season, the Cubs' varsity boys basketball team is still among Oregon's elite 4A squads, but they need to keep the momentum flowing as they seek to cement their shot at the state title this season.

Ahead of their Feb. 3 game against Philomath, Newport were ranked #3 in the state, thanks to a 14-3 record. Oregon West Conference basketball tipped off on Jan. 20, and the Cubs' 3-1 record is only blemished by a Jan. 27 loss to Stayton on the road. (The result between Newport and Philomath on Feb. 3 is unknown at the time of press.)

The game against the Eagles was a back-and-forth battle, settled by just one point as the Cubs fell 55-56 at Stayton High School. It was a disappointing result, one that Head Coach Will Burghardt said his team will need to learn from.

"The Stayton defeat was a tough one to take. A lot of opportunities to win that game, and just couldn't get it done that night. Props to Stayton for playing a great game and executing their game plan," Burghardt said. "We need to be prepared better as a program and understand that winning on the road is never an easy thing, especially in conference."

At the time of writing on Feb. 2, the Oregon West Conference is tight at the top: Philomath leads with a 4-0 record while Newport and Stayton nip at their heels, each sitting 3-1. With five games remaining after Feb. 3, the race for the Oregon West title is hanging in the balance. It's



Senior Aaidyn Bokuro rises above the rim for the Cubs. Bokuro has balled out this season, averaging 16.7 points per game and 7.9 rebounds. (Courtesy photo from Aaron Wawrak)

certainly not a time for the Cubs to let their guard down, and Burghardt knows it. At this point, it's all about grinding through the back half of the season in pursuit of their goals of a berth to the state tournament.

"At this point of the season, everyone is a little tired and worn down, but we are emphasizing staying together as a team through adversity," Burghardt said. "We need to push through this tough part of the season and solidify ourselves in the state playoff picture."

Despite the frustrating loss to Stayton, the Cubs rebounded quickly. In their next game against Sweet Home, they grabbed a 26-point win, beating the Huskies 69-43, Newport's eighth win of the season by 10 or more points.

Throughout Newport's season, seniors Aaidyn Bokuro and Easton Herrmann have been exceptional. Bokuro has been a menace all over the floor for the Cubs, averaging 16.7 points per game, 7.9 rebounds,

4.8 assists, and 3 steals through 15 games. A versatile offensive player, Bokuro is as comfortable sniping from the outside as he is knifing into the lane for tough finishes around the rim. His best game of the season came in the Jan. 2 win against Sisters, when he erupted for 29 points on 70% shooting from the field, and knocked down three of his four triples.

Herrmann has led Newport in scoring this season, averaging over 23 points per game, and doing much of his work with a silky touch from the outside. Herrmann hits more than three three-pointers per game and scored more than 20 points in 10 games this season, topping 30 in two of those outings. Always putting the defense under pressure, Herrmann also has a second home on the free-throw line, shooting six free throws per game at a 73 percent clip. When Newport needs a basket, Herrmann has stepped up.

Also stepping up for Newport have been some

of the younger players. For a team that has three seniors, getting contributions from the athletes who will be with the program for years to come is a big bonus.

"I am extremely proud of our young guys and how they have responded to playing big-time minutes in varsity games. Jax Sampson, Quinn Barber, Emmett Schrader, and Brock Abel are all sophomores who have stepped up in a big way this year," Burghardt said. "We will continue to rely on them for the rest of the season."

With five games remaining, Newport will need to stay the course to guarantee a place in the championship bracket. Only two teams will automatically qualify from the Oregon West Conference, and Newport doesn't want to risk anything by relying on an at-large bid to punch its ticket. Rematches against Stayton (Feb. 17) and Philomath (Feb. 24) loom large, but Burghardt and the Cubs won't be taking any opponent for granted.

"We are going one game at a time. If you overlook anyone, you are putting yourself at risk of getting beat, and potentially not reaching your goals," Burghardt said.

"If we have a 1-0 mindset, that is where we will see the most success long term."

Until the final buzzer sounds, the Cubs will continue to scrap and claw for their spot in this year's 4A state playoffs.

Follow game results at osaa.org and see Lincoln County High School sports features online at the Lincoln County Leader website and in the Wednesday print editions of The Leader.

Newport swimmers finish second in Salem

WILL LOHRE
Lincoln County Leader

The Cubs swam in their final meet of the regular season on Jan. 31, and Newport ended it with a splash, taking silver in Salem.

Eight teams were in attendance at the Salem Academy Invite at the Kroc Center in Salem, and Newport took second place in the combined team score behind a second-place finish for the girls and a third-place finish for the boys.

FULL SCORES FROM THE MEET WERE:

Combined Team Scores:

Silverton - 468.5
Newport - 201
Stayton - 159
Marist Catholic - 109
Cascade - 103.5
Crosshill - 98
Salem Academy - 63
Valley Catholic - 52

Girls

Silverton - 228.5

Newport - 126

Salem Academy - 63

Stayton - 58

Cascade - 53.5

Crosshill Christian - 41

Valley Catholic - 24

Boys

Silverton - 240

Stayton - 101

Newport - 75

Marist Catholic - 71

Crosshill Christian - 57

Cascade - 50

Valley Catholic - 28

Newport found its

way onto the podium in both divisions thanks to five individual event wins and showed its depth with 23 swims that resulted in top-9 finishes. Some highlights from the meet for Head Coach John Wray included personal bests from the program's younger members.

Freshmen Hudson Cline and Rowan Pettett recorded 2 PR's each, heading into the District Championships on a high note. Newport also flashed its prowess in the relays, taking second in both 200 Medley Relays.

Other individuals leading the way for the Cubs were Gwynn Postlewait, Gigi Howard, Hana Parker, and Jahan Eibner. Howard, Parker, and Eibner were responsible for three of the five first-place Cub finishes. Postlewait was the other Cub to finish atop the podium, winning two events herself.

Next up for the Cubs are the Special District 3 Championships in Astoria on Feb. 13 & 14. Results from that meet will decide which Cubs head to the state championships!

Follow game results at osaa.org and see Lincoln County High School sports features online at the Lincoln County Leader website and in the Wednesday print editions of The Leader.



Lincoln County Leader

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