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Sports
PAGE B8



'MONSTER BASH'
AT YACHATS

Coast Life
PAGE B1



Lincoln County Leader



As the incident transitions into the investigation and recovery phases, state officials encourage Oregonians to support those affected, respect the privacy of victims and families, and rely on official sources for accurate information. (Courtesy photo)

Condolences, support offered following Bend school shooting

STAFF REPORT
Lincoln County Leader

The State of Oregon extends its deepest condolences to the families,

students, educators, school staff and entire Bend community affected by the shooting at Silver Rail Elementary School, Oct. 15.

“Our hearts are with everyone impacted by this tragedy, especially the victims and

See **SCHOOL**, page A7

One person dies, others escape capsized boat



The incident occurred at Siletz Bay in Lincoln City. (Jeremy C. Ruark / Lincoln County Leader)

JEREMY C. RUARK
Lincoln County Leader

One person died and five others escaped after a boat capsized at the mouth of Siletz Bay in Lincoln City. Shortly after 1 p.m. on Friday, October 16, crews from the Depoe Bay Fire District (DBFD) and the North Lincoln Fire & Rescue (NLFR) were

dispatched to the mouth of the Siletz Bay for reports of a capsized boat and multiple people in the water. Upon arrival, crews were advised by bystanders that one person had made it out of the water on the north side of the bay, within NLFR's response area, and five additional people were out of the water on the south

side, within DBFD's response area, according to the NLF&R Deputy Chief of Operations Cody Heidt. Incident command was established near SW 51st Street, and responding crews were directed to both sides of the bay to assist those involved. NLFR water rescue units deployed their

See **BOAT**, page A6



The rally was held along Highway 101 in Lincoln City. (Courtesy photo)

No Kings Rally lines Highway 101

JEREMY C. RUARK
Lincoln County Leader

With the November election looming less than three weeks away, Oregonians took to the streets Saturday in the nation's first vote-by-mail state to slam the Trump administration and encourage their fellow

citizens to cast their ballots, according to the Oregon Capital Chronicle. The coordinated national No Kings demonstrations are meant to encourage early voting. County election officials in Oregon began mailing ballots to the state's 3.1 million voters on Wednesday, and ballots

must be returned or in the mail with a postmark by 8 p.m. Nov. 3. Because of policy changes at the U.S. Postal Service that require all mail go to a central facility in Portland before it receives a postmark and reaches its intended destination, election officials are urging voters to use

official ballot boxes. If voters choose to use the Postal Service, election officials advise mailing ballots no later than Oct. 27 or going in person to a post office counter to ask for a manual postmark. Oregon organizers planned more than 30 rallies across the state Saturday as part of the

national movement, with the largest expected in downtown Portland. In Lincoln City, dozens of people held a No Kings rally lining Highway 101 near the Lincoln City Outlet Mall. Several of those attending held signs opposing ICE and current federal government policies.

The Lincoln County Leader reached out to rally coordinator Shar Walbaum for insight into the demonstration.

Lincoln County Leader: What is the significance of this particular No kings rally in Lincoln City?

See **NO KINGS**, page A6

ELECTION 2026

Waldport, Toledo mayor races

JEREMY C. RUARK
Lincoln County Leader

There are three candidates running for Mayor in Waldport.

Jan Hansen
Define the role of the city's mayor:

The primary role of the mayor is to preside over the Council deliberations, preserve order, enforce the rules of the Council,

determine the order of business, and sign documents as authorized by the Council. The mayor also represents the city when appropriate at a county and state level and attends conferences, seminars, etc.

I believe the most important role of the mayor is to provide the atmosphere in which the Council operates, which needs to allow respectful participation and individual opinions while encouraging

cooperation and consensus. Community involvement should always be encouraged provided it is productive and not disruptive.

If elected, what would be your priorities for the city?

We should work on finishing the current projects now underway before beginning any new large undertakings. One major project will be extending and improving the water system to the east, and I think

the Water Master Plan from 2020 needs to be reviewed and updated. Plans for the CORE building also need to be looked at and some kind of schedule should be

See **MAYOR**, page A7



REELECT

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See **RETIRE**, page A7

LCSD announces graduation requirements

LINCOLN COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Oregon graduation requirements are changing to give students more practical preparation for college, careers and adult life.

Students earning diplomas beginning in 2026 must complete a half-credit of civics. Students receiving an Oregon Diploma or Modified Diploma on or after Jan. 1, 2027, must also complete a half-credit each in Personal Financial Education and Higher Education and Career Path Skills.

The new requirements are included within Oregon’s existing credit totals and do not increase the number of credits students need to graduate. They grew out of community-informed



Learn more about Oregon’s social sciences graduation requirements by visiting the ODE website. (Metro Creative Connection)

recommendations and state legislation, with the Oregon Department of Education developing standards and guidance and school districts providing the required instruction.

This first story in LCSD’s four-part series focuses on civics.

The half-credit of U.S. civics is included within Oregon’s existing three-credit social sciences requirement. Although civics standards are not new to Oregon schools, the dedicated course gives the subject greater focus.

“Civics-focused standards have always existed and been incorporated

cover similar subjects, Scarberry said

the updated standards have changed how students engage with the material.

Students continue learning about the structure and functions of government, the U.S. Constitution, individual rights and the responsibilities of citizenship. The course also emphasizes critical thinking, problem-solving, communication and consideration of multiple perspectives.

“A lot of the work being done has students make connections to themselves and the world around them,” Scarberry said. “The involvement of the student and building relevancy are important in Civics. The focus is on becoming informed and engaged critical thinkers.”

Civics education also helps students understand how they can participate in a democracy through voting, communicating with elected officials, serving their communities, evaluating information and engaging in respectful discussion about public issues.

“The success of any country and its government hinges on its citizens,” Scarberry said. “Education should enhance our ability to have civil and productive discourse that can address society’s needs while protecting individual freedoms and liberties. Most directly, students should care because if they know their rights and freedoms, they can exercise them.”

Learn more about Oregon’s social sciences graduation requirements by visiting the ODE website

Community colleges generate \$11B in annual economic impact

OREGON COMMUNITY COLLEGE ASSOCIATION

Oregon’s 17 community colleges, including those in Lincoln and Tillamook counties, generate \$11.0 billion in annual economic impact and support 120,140 jobs across the state, according to a new economic impact study released today by the Oregon Community College Association (OCCA).

The analysis, conducted by Lightcast using fiscal year 2023-24 data, found that one out of every 23 jobs in Oregon is supported by the activities of the colleges and their students.

“Community colleges work for Oregon every day - preparing people for family-wage careers, helping employers find skilled workers, and strengthening communities in every region of our state,” OCCA Executive Director Abby Lee said. “This study puts a clear value on that work. Oregon’s investment in community colleges returns benefits to students, taxpayers, businesses and the broader economy.”

The \$11.0 billion total includes \$9.9 billion generated by community college alumni through their higher earnings and increased workplace productivity, \$858.1 million from college operations, \$216.8 million from student spending and \$41.0 million from construction activity. The total impact is equal to approximately 3.7% of Oregon’s gross state product and is larger than the state’s entire accommodation and food services industry.

The study also found:

- Students receive \$4.70 in benefits for every \$1 they invest through higher lifetime earnings. The average associate degree graduate earns about \$9,800 more each year than a worker with only a high school diploma or equivalent.
- Taxpayers receive \$1.40 in benefits for every \$1 of public funding invested through increased tax revenue and reduced demand for health care, justice system and income-assistance services.
- Oregon society receives \$6.50 in benefits for every \$1 invested through added student income, increased business income, college activities and social savings.
- The colleges served 125,399 credit students

and 77,494 non-credit students during the study year, and an estimated 73% of students were employed while attending college.

The findings offer new evidence of the role Oregon’s community colleges play in preparing workers, supporting businesses and strengthening communities across the state. They serve Oregonians at every starting point, including students pursuing GEDs, English-language learning, short-term credentials, career and technical education certificates and degrees, transfer degrees and applied bachelor’s degrees.

Community colleges are also central to Oregon’s workforce pipeline. Enrollment is growing, particularly in career and technical education (CTE) programs that prepare students for high-demand fields such as health care, advanced manufacturing, construction, transportation, public safety and other essential industries. The study’s strong return on investment reflects,

in part, the value created when community colleges connect Oregonians with the skills employers need and help businesses remain competitive.

In Tillamook County, career and technical education is where education meets opportunity. It gives students a clear, direct path from the classroom into the careers our local employers depend on,” said TBCC President Dr. Paul Jarrell. “Through our Rural Guided Pathways work, we’re making sure every student, whether they’re starting with a GED, learning English, or heading straight into a certificate, can see exactly where they’re headed and how to get there. Our new Center for Industrial Technology takes that a step further, with modern equipment like CNC machining and robotic welding in a space built for hands-on learning. This study confirms what we see every day: when we invest in CTE, we invest in the people and businesses that keep our community strong.”

The findings underscore

that investing in community colleges is an investment in Oregon’s workforce and economic future. Continued state support helps colleges respond to employer demand, maintain high-cost CTE programs, keep education affordable, and provide the advising, financial aid, tutoring, technology, and other services students need to complete their education and enter the workforce.

The Lightcast study evaluates both the colleges’ direct economic activity and the long-term benefits generated for students, taxpayers and society. It uses academic and financial data from

Oregon’s community colleges, federal industry and employment data, Lightcast’s economic modeling, and established research connecting education with earnings and social outcomes.

The executive summary and full report are available from OCCA at www.occa17.com.

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YAQUINA LAW

WHO WE ARE



Volunteers and church members serve a traditional Thanksgiving dinner during the St. Augustine Catholic Church's 2015 annual community holiday meal. (Jeremy C. Ruark / Lincoln County Leader)



A long line stretched out the door of the St. Augustine Catholic Church during the 2015 annual community Thanksgiving meal. (Jeremy C. Ruark / Lincoln County Leader)

Volunteers needed to conduct community Thanksgiving meal

JEREMY C. RUARK
Lincoln County Leader

Volunteers are needed to help put on the annual Thanksgiving Day meal at the St Augustine Catholic Church in Lincoln City. The annual community meal began 20 years ago, according to church spokesperson Arlene Burchett. "This dinner is important because Lincoln County has a very high

food insecurity problem, and a great deal of our neighbors are hospitality workers which means that at this time of the year money is tight," she said. "Everyone deserves to have Thanksgiving Dinner and if they dine in someone to talk to while the eat. Delivery means those who are home bound, or elderly get to enjoy the meal."

The meal is a typical Thanksgiving dinner and

includes turkey, mashed potatoes (real), beans, yams, gravy, dinner rolls and of pumpkin pie with whipped cream.

The Catholic Church has a special collection, and funds are used towards the dinner.

"The typical cost for the meal is around \$4,500," Burchett said. "St Augustine Catholic Church provides the cost. With help from donations. I have two volunteers

Connie Thompson and Victoria Montgomer, plus, about 80 volunteers from all over the country. And yes, a dinner this size needs volunteers to make it happen."

Because of health issues, Burchett said the church cannot except food donations for the community meal.

According to Burchett, the meal also provides a community social connection.

"It's simply providing company, for others it's the knowledge that they are thought about. It also provides meals so that on this special day all can enjoy dinner together," she said. "I have been in charge of this event for about 9 years. We branched out these last few years to the elderly community and agencies to ensure that no one is left out. I have received many handwritten thank you notes with

saying that they were very thankful that they were able to receive a meal.

The meal is schedule from 12 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. at the St Augustine Catholic Church, 1139 NW Highway 10, in Lincoln City.

To volunteer, or for more information, call 503-488-0141.

Who We Are is a regular Leader feature highlighting the people of our community.

Public hearing on ocean shore alteration application

The Oregon Parks and Recreation Department will hold a virtual public hearing on Nov. 18, 2026, at 2 p.m. to accept public testimony on Ocean Shore Alteration Application number 3128

The permit application requests to construct a 150-foot-long riprap revetment on the Ocean Shore State Recreation

Area west of the end of Beach Grass Lane in Gleneden Beach.

OPRD received over 10 requests for a hearing during the public comment period that ended Oct. 9, 2026. This hearing is an information gathering session and provides an opportunity for OPRD to hear directly from the public on the submitted

application materials.

The meeting will include an introduction by staff and public testimony. Anyone wishing to testify must pre-register. Each registered individual will be provided up to three minutes to testify in the order they registered. Within 45 days after the hearing, OPRD will make a permit decision. This

decision will include consideration of public comment received during the public comment period and this hearing.

Review the application online under the heading "Pending Applications;" look for permit application 3128.

Virtual public hearing details
Date: Nov. 18, 2026

Time: 2 p.m.
Location: Join via Zoom

To testify, register for the virtual meeting by noon on Monday, Nov. 16. The registration page will ask whether you want to submit a public comment.

Requesting accommodations
The services,

programs and activities of the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department are covered by the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). If you need special accommodations to participate in this meeting, please contact Allison Mangini at 541-220-3786, allison.mangini@oprds.org by 5 p.m. on Friday, Nov. 13.



“It’s important to know the people you’re doing business with.”

Kelly Barnum learned early that building on the Pacific County coast leaves no room for shortcuts. A lifelong native, he founded Barnum Homes, LLC in 2004 as a one-man operation. He used real CDX plywood when others used OSB, oversized Douglas fir joists, and cedar trim primed on all six sides. Word spread, and the business grew by reputation.

His wife, Stefaine, joined the business and became the backbone of its operations. Together, they have completed more than 100 custom homes across four counties. "Twenty-two years of building in this climate has taught us a lot of lessons," says Kelly. "You learn to respect Mother Nature when she's got a lesson to teach."

Barnum Homes is a total process builder, handling everything from planning, design, and permitting to excavation, framing, and finished paint and trim. Most work is done in house, with the rest going to local owner-operators whenever possible. "This community has supported us from day one," says Kelly. "We do everything we can to ensure your hard-earned dollars stay here." The results last. "Barnum Built homes rarely come up for sale, and I think that speaks to our quality."

Kelly's banking relationship runs nearly as deep as his local roots. At 16, he opened his first savings account at what was then Raymond Federal Bank, later Connect Community Bank and now part of Oregon Coast Bank. That account grew into business accounts, mortgages, auto loans, and a preferred-lender relationship for Barnum Homes' clients. "Knowing my bank rep is a phone call away straight to her cell phone, or a Sunday evening text message when I finally get a chance to sit down and go through numbers, is priceless," he says.

Looking ahead, Barnum Homes isn't changing a thing. Kelly still walks every job site, and Stefaine still picks up the phone. "We are going to continue to see our past customers in the grocery store or at a local sporting event and catch up like family," says Kelly. Oregon Coast Bank is proud to stand behind Barnum Homes and looks forward to helping build Pacific County's future, one home at a time.



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Waldport: 285 NW Maple St. • 541-563-9000

Coos Bay: 1390 N Bayshore Dr. • 541-982-5575
Raymond: 202 Duryea Street • 360-942-3444
Long Beach: 1615 Pacific South • 360-642-4464

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Christa Pike’s torture highlights death penalty hypocrisy

SUSAN ELIZABETH REESE PAINTER
Lincoln County Leader
Guest Column

Tennessee’s recent and hideously botched effort to conduct its ritual killing of Christa Pike exposed both the extreme cruelty and the profound hypocrisy of our machinery of death.

Christa Pike was undoubtedly guilty of a gruesome murder. Recognition of her humanity does nothing to diminish the horror of her crime. But she was a victim herself: enduring years of sexual assaults beginning from her toddler days. She was only 18 at the time of the crime – too young to drink or buy cigarettes in most states – with an immature brain whose judgment was not fully formed. Her co-defendant and possible “mastermind” of the

murder was spared the death sentence because he was just 17. Another teenage girl who acted as “lookout” served only a few months in jail.

Christa had already endured 31 years locked up on Death Row before the state tried to snuff out her life with an injection of pentobarbital. Dr Joel Zivot, an anesthesiologist and intensive care physician, told Christa’s lawyers months before her torture that she had medical conditions which would make lethal injection both painful and cruel. She had small veins, so when officials tried to administer the drug, her arms turned purple, blistering and burning at the injection sites. Dr Zivot noted that pentobarbital is alkaline, like bleach, and when injected into tissue results in a severe chemical burn. He suspects the drug may

“Its only remaining justification is blind vengeance.”

— Susan Elizabeth Reese Painter

have reached her brain enough to sedate her but not kill her. Because these drugs are purchased and prepared in secret, both their efficacy and purity were untested. In addition, doctors who honor their commitment to “first do no harm” routinely refuse to participate in executions, so the technicians who must do it are often poorly trained and surely inexperienced.

Dr Zivot noted that lethal injection is supposed to let us avoid seeing what we are doing when we snuff out a human life. “It puts the violence behind a saline drip and behind curtains that close the moment something goes wrong,”

he wrote. But the blinds couldn’t keep secret what happened a few weeks ago: after more than an hour, Christa left the death chamber in an ambulance. The prisoner had become the patient. The state had succeeded only in poisoning her, and now the only people who could help were doctors.

Since states began using lethal injection in the 1970’s, authorities have insisted executions were humane – like medicine – but as Dr Zivot points out, there is no consent and no healing purpose and no medical practitioner. Now what of Christa’s future? She was nearly denied life supports but suddenly seemed able to

stand and offer a form of speech. Despite having tortured her, Tennessee has not yet said it will relinquish its efforts to kill her. Though she was taken to a hospital for treatment, while there she remained handcuffed and shackled – a cruel reminder of the state’s attempt to wipe out her humanity. The notion that she was either a flight risk or a danger in her condition is absurd. It telegraphs to a horrified world that Tennessee is still in control, insisting it will make its own decision about whether Christa Pike, in the end, has any agency over her own death.

Although compassionate governors in Oregon have commuted death sentences and placed a moratorium on the penalty in our state, capital punishment remains on the books. The political winds might shift, and a death sentence leaves no recourse after a wrongful conviction. Cases like those of Frank Gable, Philip Scott Cannon, Nick McGuffin, Earl Bain – and others – should make us consign the penalty permanently to the dustbin of history.

Civil rights lawyer Bryan Stevenson points out our profound ambivalence about the death penalty: we keep it, yet try to conceal its horror behind facades of medical process. Experts have repeatedly shown it is no deterrent. It wreaks pain and havoc on those who carry it out. Its technical failures are frequent and hideous. Victims’ families have often affirmed it provides no real “closure.” Its only remaining justification is blind vengeance.

A civilized society should do better.

Susan Elizabeth Reese Painter is a Newport resident.

Election 2026: It’s just math

SHAR WALBAUM
Lincoln County Leader
Guest Column

Headlines, canvassers, waving signs, phone calls, emails, and mailboxes stuffed with flyers tell us that Nov. 3 is Election Day.

Being ready to vote the minute your ballot comes is important. But what will happen after Jan. 1 is also important.

Oregon has seen severe

federal funding cuts to basic supports like medical care and food assistance. For example, nearly half a billion (\$490 million) was cut from Oregon Health Authority since Trump took office. Likewise, about the same amount was cut from Human Services (\$540 million). It has been hard on folks who depend on Oregon Health Plan to pay doctors or on SNAP to feed their kids.

However bad it has been, it is about to get worse. This is not hyperbole. It’s just math. After the midterms (and that is the important bit), scheduled federal cuts to OHP & Social Services will skyrocket to over 5 billion dollars (\$5,560 million).

Good people of all political stripes care about those who will suffer. They want a good future for Oregon. These changes will increase suffering.

They will not make our future better. Maybe the people most affected have the least power, but everyone can vote.

I will be voting to re-elect Governor Tina Kotek. She has stood in the way of President Trump’s cuts, fighting them at every turn. She has worked to protect Oregonians so that most Oregonians still have healthcare coverage. Gov. Kotek kept Trump from

blocking SNAP assistance, keeping food on the table for families.

Gov Kotek will keep on fighting, but that battle will get much harder after Jan. 1. In contrast, Drazan is all for the cuts – she won’t blink when our state loses over 5 billion in federal assistance. She isn’t worried about families having less food. Let’s give her the benefit of the doubt - maybe she didn’t know about the sheer number of

Oregonians who depend on OHP and Medicaid. Then again, if she couldn’t be bothered to find out, we really don’t want her.

OHP covers 1.44 million Oregonians – that is 34% of residents and 57% of all of Oregon’s children. Ironically, folks living in the reddest counties of the state will be hit the hardest.

It’s just math.

Shar Walbaum is a Lincoln City resident.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

STAND UP TO ICE

I am writing with my concern regarding Marci Baker becoming our next mayor in Lincoln City. I would like to know what Ms. Baker’s current policy is regarding ICE and DHS activities in Lincoln City and Lincoln County.

I was present, and gave public comment, at the City Council meetings on January 12th and 26th. I was one of a number of folks who gave public comment or sent emails requesting that our City Council adopt a Resolution against illegal ICE presence in our city.

Mayor Wahlke and the councilors discussed this request, and voted to draft a Resolution to that effect. Everyone present was in favor of this except for Council member Baker, who spoke at great length, putting forward a number

of objections. She was the only member present who voted “no”.

There is evidence that the DHS is still working to set up a detention center in Newport. The ruthless and illegal activities of ICE agents have been well publicized. People have been murdered, (some of these murders have made headlines, many others have gone relatively unnoticed.) There are confirmed reports that conditions in the “detention centers” are deplorable and inhumane, including the lack of medical care for the families who are living there, the serving of moldy food and contaminated water, and documented cases of rape and violence.

I, for one, would like to have a mayor who will stand up to ICE.

Roberta Baker
Lincoln City

committee.

What she apparently did not know was how that story ended.

The City later publicly apologized to me, and I was appointed to the committee. After I explained that, Carolyn changed her framing and said it sounded like things had “worked out great.”

She then repeatedly emphasized “kindness.”

Disagreeing with a candidate is not unkind. Criticizing a platform, questioning judgment, or saying you do not think someone should represent part of the city are normal parts of civic participation.

What matters is how candidates respond.

In my view, trying to discredit a resident, then changing the framing when the full story comes out, is not good leadership.

Facebook is not City Council, but the same skills matter: checking facts, handling criticism, correcting mistakes, and not making disagreement personal.

Kindness is not something you prove by saying you are kind. It is something you demonstrate.

The same is true of leadership.

Laura Joki
Lincoln City

instrumental in the creation of the Oregon Coast Aquarium as well as the Oregon Coast Community College. The membership strongly supports the City of Newport’s Ballot Measure 21-244, and we encourage Newport residents to vote for this impactful bond measure.

Measure 21-244 would authorize a replacement bond (keyword here: no new taxes) that would generate \$38 million for much-needed citywide improvements to protect public safety, improve critical services and extend the life of Newport’s public assets.

These funds would be utilized to realize multiple impactful projects that will increase water system resiliency, enhance wastewater infrastructure, improve city transportation and pedestrian safety and improve Newport’s city parks. These projects were identified by city staff and the City Council, along with strong community input. This 20 year bond will replace an existing and expiring bond, meaning no new taxes for Newport city residents.

Newport is an essential economic engine for all of Lincoln County, and these improvements will not only enhance the quality of life for Newport residents, but lower future maintenance costs on critical infrastructure (which is often stressed during the peak visitor season).

The Yaquina Bay Economic Foundation cares deeply about the economic vitality of the entire Yaquina Bay region. Please join us in supporting Ballot Measure

21-244.

The Membership of the Yaquina Bay Economic Foundation

LETTER: SUPPORTS CATHIE RIGBY

Casey Miller is Not an Ally

In 2022, Casey Miller made LGBTQIA+ support a key component of his campaign for LC Commissioner. He gave it precious space in his voter’s pamphlet statement. He publicly shared his participation in Pride events. Casey Miller told us he was an ally.

Since then, he’s proven that he is not.

In 2024-25, Miller decided Commissioner Claire Hall was his enemy. Claire was an amazing, brave trans woman who served on the Board of Commissioners for over 20 years. She once considered Miller a friend. But when he decided Claire was an enemy, he found others who considered Claire an enemy, and stood aside as many of them bullied her, deadnamed her, and made her final year of life miserable. That is not an ally.

Now in 2026, Miller wants to be reelected, but he has lost the trust of those who got him in office four years ago. He has turned to the Republicans of Lincoln County – a party that published a press release ahead of Pride Week, disparaging the City of Newport for displaying its support for the LGBTQIA+ community. Where was Casey Miller? Did he denounce it? Did he say that support from the Republican Party isn’t worth betraying us? No.

He stood aside.

Cathie Rigby has shown that she will stand alongside us when we are celebrating, and in front of us when we are being attacked. That’s what a true ally does, and why I will vote for her.

Kathy Redwine
South Beach

IT WAS MOVING AND WELL DONE

I’m a substitute teacher in several districts in Tillamook and Lincoln County.

On Monday the 12th, Indigenous People’s Day, I was subbing at Taft Middle and High School. There was an hour and a half assembly recognizing the newly renamed holiday for the entire student body and staff. We were treated to tribal and student recognitions, tribal music and dance, stories of tribal culture and history and over a dozen tribal elders and teachers from the Confederated Tribes of the Siletz.

It was moving, well done and significant for all who were there. It ended with thanks to all who came, and an invitation to all there to join tribal members in a giant round dance celebration. I was more than moved. It gave me hope that there are members of tribal as well as our dominant culture who are willing to work towards healing the divisions and horrific episodes of the past to better understanding and acceptance.

Thanks to the school and the tribe for such a tremendous and significant

ONLINE POLL

PREVIOUS POLL

Overall, do you feel the State of Oregon is headed in the right direction or has gotten off on the wrong track?

22.2 %..... Right

74.1%..... Wrong

3.7%..... Unsure

NEW POLL

How do you gain information about local and state candidates and measures in elections?

- Voter's pamphlet
- Social media
- Newspapers, tv, and radio reports
- Other

FACEBOOK IS NOT CITY COUNCIL

A candidate for City Council should be able to handle criticism without attacking the resident who gives it. That is why my recent exchange with Carolyn concerns me.

After I criticized her campaign on Facebook, she brought up my past interactions with the City and referenced a former councilor’s reservations about appointing me to a

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

“Often when you think you’re at the end of something, you’re at the beginning of something else.”

Fred Rogers

FOUNDATION SUPPORTS NEWPORT MEASURE 21-244

The Yaquina Bay Economic Foundation (founded in 1982) is non-profit member-based collaborative organization which fosters and encourages economic development within the Yaquina Bay region.

The Foundation was

See **LETTERS**, page A6

State jobless rate unchanged

JEREMY C. RUARK
Lincoln County Leader

Oregon’s unemployment rate was little changed at 5.0% in September and 5.1% in August, according to the Oregon Employment Department.

The rate is a key indicator of the state’s economy.

The jobless rate has held to a tight range between 5.0% and 5.3% for the past 19 months, since March 2025 when it was 5.0%.

In September, Oregon’s seasonally adjusted nonfarm payroll employment rose by 5,800 jobs, following a revised gain of 2,600 jobs in August. September’s gains were largest in construction (+2,000 jobs); health care and social assistance (+1,700); and leisure and hospitality (+1,300). Losses were largest in retail trade (-1,500 jobs).

In the past 12 months, payroll employment rose by 2,600 jobs, or 0.1%. Health care and



The monthly unemployment reports are a key economic indicator of the state. (Metro Creative Connection)

social assistance continued its rapid growth during the past four years by adding 12,100 jobs, or 3.8%, in the past 12 months. Other services (+1,600 jobs, or 2.4%) and private

education (+1,300, or 3.6%) were the other major industries that added the most jobs since September 2025. Manufacturing (-4,300 jobs, or -2.4%) cut the most jobs in that time, followed

by government (-4,000 jobs, or -1.3%).

Construction employment drifted upward during April through August, then jumped higher by 2,000 jobs

in September. In the past 12 months, each of the three component industries expanded: construction of buildings (+900 jobs); specialty trade contractors (+500); and heavy and civil engineering construction (+100).

Several industries rebounded over the most recent two months. Government added 1,300 jobs since July, following losses in prior months. Nonetheless, it has cut 4,000 jobs in the past 12 months. Manufacturing added 1,700 jobs since July, partially reversing steady declines during the past three years. Leisure and hospitality’s September gain reversed losses in June and July.

There were 2,135,475 employed and 94,836 unemployed in Oregon during September, according to the Oregon Employment Department.

The U.S. unemployment rate was 4.2% in September and 4.1% in August.

Four-county summit to prioritize economic projects

STAFF REPORT
Lincoln County Leader

Local and elected officials, business leaders, and regional partners from Lane, Benton, Linn, and Lincoln counties will gather to prioritize economic projects on November 3 at the Linn County Expo Center in Albany.

The 2026 Cascades West Economic Development District (CWEDD) Annual Summit will give them the opportunity to gain insight, collaborate, and prioritize economic projects in the four-county region that makes up the district, according to a release from the summit organizers.

Attendees will hear from former Oregon State Senator Tim Knopp, Chair of the Oregon Prosperity Council, about Oregon’s Prosperity Roadmap, and plans for the future.

The summit will also spotlight Frontiers of Advanced Semiconductor Technology (FAST), include resources for small businesses, and examine how councils of governments help communities turn local priorities into coordinated regional action. Through facilitated discussion and interactive prioritization, participants will help identify projects to strengthen infrastructure, support resilient communities, expand economic opportunity, and advance the region’s 2025-2030 Comprehensive Economic

Development Strategy. This feedback will help the CWEDD Board prioritize projects and initiatives, focus resources and capacity, and begin to source gap funding.

“Meeting face to face encourages and energizes us. We learn more about each of our counties’ needs. This summit helps us to better prioritize these amazing projects that will drive economic vitality throughout our region, which helps the entire state of Oregon,” said Sandra Easdale, Loan Program Manager at Lane Council of Governments.

Participants will leave with a stronger understanding of the forces shaping our regional economy, build meaningful connections with public-and private-sector leaders, and have a direct voice in determining the priorities that will ignite economic vitality across the region.

The Cascades West Economic Development District Annual Summit will be hosted with generous support from Oregon Cascades West Council of Governments (OCWCOG), Lane Council of Governments (LCOG), Economic Development Alliance of Lincoln County, and the City of Albany.

Agenda
9:00 - 9:05 AM: Welcome, Overview, and Outcomes
9:05 - 9:10 AM: Roll Call/ Board Member Introductions
9:10 - 9:40 AM: Oregon’s



The Cascades West Economic Development District (CWEDD) Annual Summit is designed to give attendees insight, the opportunity to collaborate, and to prioritize projects that need gap funding. (Courtesy photo)

Prosperity Plan and Next Steps - Tim Knopp
9:40 - 9:50 AM: Public Comment
9:50 - 10:05 AM: Break and Networking
10:05 - 10:30 AM: Frontiers of Advanced Semiconductor Technology (FAST)

Oregon State University, University of Oregon
A partnership advancing semiconductor innovation, workforce development, and economic growth in Oregon. Learn about its purpose, status, and implementation plans.

10:30 - 11:15 AM: CWEDD Business Innovators Showcase Panel
Hatfield Marine Science Center, Eugene Airport

Overview of innovative products, services, and their impact on our regional economy

11:15 AM - 12:00 PM: What’s New and Cool? Small Business Support

Reverse pitch and spotlight on services to support businesses

12:00 - 1:30 PM: Buffet Lunch and Access to Capital

Greg Price, Small Business Development Center Director
Panel will discuss small business financing options, processes, and pragmatic solutions.

1:30 - 1:45 PM: Council of Governments and Their Role in Economic Development
Ryan Vogt, OCWCOG and Community Services

Consortium, Brenda Moore, LCOG

1:45 - 2:50 PM: 2025-2030 CEDS and Significant Projects Prioritization

A high-level review of the CWEDD 2025-2030 Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy priorities and brainstorm regionally significant projects for the CWEDD Board to consider. Your feedback will help us prioritize and mobilize projects for gap funding and implementation.

2:50- 3:00 PM: Next Steps and Evaluation

For more information, go to <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/2026-cwedd-ignite-economic-vitality-summit-tickets-1993552726871>

New tool offered to help navigate health coverage options

STAFF REPORT
Lincoln County Leader

People in Oregon can now get an early look at their health coverage options for 2027 with the launch of the Explore Health Plan Guide.

The new online tool is designed to help people prepare for Open Enrollment.

The Plan Guide helps users explore individual health and dental plans available in their area and compare costs, benefits and coverage. Users can also enter their prescription medications and doctors to see which plans may best meet their health needs, according to a release from the Oregon Health Authority (OHA).

The tool provides an assessment for potential eligibility for Oregon Health Plan (OHP) benefits and financial help through the Marketplace, including an estimate of the amount of financial assistance



The Plan Guide helps users explore individual health and dental plans available in their area and compare costs, benefits and coverage. (Courtesy photo from the OHA)

someone may qualify for.

“Choosing health insurance can feel overwhelming, especially when plans and coverage options are changing,” Oregon Health Insurance Marketplace Director Chiqui Flowers said. “The Plan Guide gives you a chance to explore options before Open Enrollment begins so you can better understand what coverage and financial help may be available.”

The new tool is especially

timely for 2027. Providence and PacificSource will no longer offer individual health plans in Oregon, and Moda will only be available in select counties. The Plan Guide can help people affected by these changes understand which plans are available in their area and compare their options before selecting coverage.

Explore Health is available for people in Oregon who do not have access to affordable

health coverage through their job and are not eligible for public medical programs such as the Oregon Health Plan.

Open Enrollment for 2027 health coverage runs from Nov. 1, 2026, to Jan. 15, 2027. The Plan Guide is available now to help people explore their options ahead of Open Enrollment. Using the tool does not enroll someone in coverage.

Explore Health is Oregon’s

new state-based health insurance marketplace. Starting with the 2027 plan year, eligible individuals and families will be able to use Explore Health to shop for and enroll in Marketplace health coverage.

RESOURCES

To explore the Plan Guide or learn more about Open Enrollment, visit ExploreHealthOR.gov. People in Oregon can also make an appointment with an Enrollment Partner for help understanding their options and enrolling in coverage.

FAST FACT

The Plan Guide is designed to help people in Oregon find financial help, compare health plans.



Suki Siren. (Courtesy photo)

Suki Siren to perform

SUBMITTED
Synth-pop and electro-pop musician Suki Siren will perform a live set at Snug Harbor Bar & Grill from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. Sunday, October 25.

Known for high-energy electronic beats, theatrical stage presence, and vibrant pop performances, Suki Siren brings a unique live
See **PERFORM**, page B2

Coast Moment



A stroll along the boardwalk at Yaquina Bay in Newport. Send us your Coast Moment photo with a description and we will consider featuring the photo in an upcoming edition. Send your photos to jruark@countrymedia.net. (Jeremy C. Ruark / Lincoln County Leader)



Thanks to the non-profit Trash No Lands who put more than \$30,000 toward improvements at Wolf Creek Shooting Lanes recreational shooters now have longer lanes, gravel staging areas, gravel walkways, new informational signs, repainted Jersey barriers and improved backstops. (Courtesy photos)



ODF repaired the kiosks and made new informational signs to help target shooters use the lanes in a safe and fire-wise manner. It's estimated 25,000 people use the ranges each year. The lanes are open every day from dawn until dusk, unless there are fire or maintenance closures. There are no fees to use the lanes.

Wolf Creek Shooting Lanes reopen

OREGON DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY

The Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF) has worked with the non-profit Trash No Land to make major improvements to the four shooting lanes at Wolf Creek in the Tillamook State Forest.

The two groups reopened the lanes this month after being closed for several weeks to complete the work.

"The improvements include increased yardage at the lanes, packed gravel walkways and staging areas, new signage, and fire and other

safety improvements," ODF's State Forests Division Recreation Facilities Manager Ben Burns said. "Thanks to the \$30,000 raised by Trash No Lands we were able to get all this work done in just a few weeks."

One of the most notable improvements was the increased yardage for the lanes.

"The number one ask from target shooters using the lanes was increased yardage," President and Co-Founder of Trash No Land Bill Cooley said.

See **WOLF**, page B2



Adults in custody work crews from South Fork Forest Camp cleared the sides and backstop areas of all four shooting lanes. This fire mitigation was a critical first step before other improvements were made at Wolf Creek. South Fork Forest Camp, in the Tillamook State Forest, is jointly run by ODF and the Department of Corrections.



The "Monster Bash" fundraiser is scheduled from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. Friday, Oct 30, at the Yachats Community Presbyterian Church. (Metro Creative Connection)

'Monster Bash' at Yachats

SUBMITTED
All those who wish to contribute to the well-being of our Latino and Immigrant neighbors are invited to attend the "Monster Bash" fundraiser from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. on Friday, Oct 30, at the Yachats Community Presbyterian Church.

Live music, a food truck, free snacks, a raffle, line dancing, and a Halloween costume contest (with prizes in 6 categories) make this event a sure way to have fun and also support our Latino/Mesoamerican neighbors.

A \$20 donation is suggested, but any amount helps support Lincoln County's three Latino organizations to provide services to the Latino and immigrant community.

Sponsored by Indivisible Newport, all proceeds from this event will be divided between Centro de Ayuda, Arcoiris Cultural, and Conexion Fenix.

The recent increase in Immigration and Customs Enforcement action across Oregon has had a significant impact on local Latino and Immigrant families. The three Latino/Mesoamerican service organizations in Lincoln County are dedicated to providing essential goods and services to families in need.

Cash donations to these organizations are vital in continuing to provide support. Eva Gonzalez Munoz, Board Chair of Centro de Ayuda, says "Through funds raised from community fundraisers, we have been able to provide essential food assistance to households who have stopped working due to fear, job loss, medical challenges, or immigration-related issues. Providing access to culturally specific foods has made a meaningful difference for many families. Even small items, such as familiar spices, can offer comfort and restore a sense of hope during difficult times."

Alex Llumiquinga Perez, of Arcoiris Cultural, says "Thanks to the received funds, we have assisted members of the Guatemalan community with

See **BASH**, page B2

Celtic Concert series

SUBMITTED

Fiddles, harps, pipes, accordions and centuries of musical tradition will fill the Lincoln City Cultural Center this fall, winter and spring as the LCCC presents its 2026-27 Celtic Series, a eight-concert journey through the music of Ireland, Scotland, the Isle of Man, Québec, and beyond.

That events began October 20, with the Double-Billing of Hayden Stern and Dear Crow and will conclude Wednesday, May 5, with internationally celebrated Québécois ensemble Le Vent du Nord. The series brings an extraordinary collection of traditional and contemporary folk musicians to the Oregon Coast . All performances will take place in the Lincoln City Cultural Center Auditorium, 540 NE Highway 101 in Lincoln City.

Purchase Season passes at the following link: <https://app.arts-people.com/index.php?subscription=lccc> or call the LCCC at 541-994-9994.

Tickets for individual shows can be purchased at: <https://app.arts-people.com/index.php?ticketing=lccc> (after Oct. 12)

The 2026-27 Celtic Series lineup includes: **Hildaland Nov. 19** Fiddler Louise Bichan, originally from



Orkney, Scotland, and American mandolinist Ethan Setiawan make up Hildaland, a duo that connects Scottish and American traditional music with progressive bluegrass, jazz and contemporary composition.

Kevin Burke Dec. 10 December brings one of the great names in Irish traditional music to Lincoln City. Fiddler Kevin Burke has been at the forefront of Irish music since the 1970s, performing with influential groups including The Bothy Band, Patrick Street and the Celtic Fiddle Festival. Burke is a recipient of a National Endowment for the

Arts National Heritage Fellowship and Ireland’s Gradam Ceoil Traditional Musician of the Year honor.

Lisa Lynne and Aryeh Frankfurter Jan. 9

The new year begins with the shimmering sounds of Celtic harps and an array of unusual stringed instruments. Lisa Lynne and Aryeh Frankfurter are multi-instrumentalists known for concerts featuring Celtic harps, Swedish nyckelharpa, Ukrainian bandura, bouzouki, cittern and more.

Caroline Keane and Tom Delany Feb. 4

Irish traditional music takes center stage with

Caroline Keane and Tom Delany. Keane’s expressive concertina playing meets Delany’s uilleann pipes, bouzouki and guitar in a partnership that began while both were studying at the Irish World Academy of Music and Dance at the University of Limerick.

Men of Worth March 17

St. Patrick’s Day at the Cultural Center will feature longtime favorites Men of Worth. Scotsman Donnie Macdonald and Irishman James Keigher have performed together since 1986, blending Scottish and Irish folk songs, instrumental tunes, storytelling and humor.

Tom, Paddy and Adam April 1

Tomas Callister, Paddy Callaghan and Adam Rhodes unite fiddle, accordion and bouzouki in a high-energy trio drawing from Manx, Scottish and Irish traditions. Callister and Rhodes are known for their work with Mec Lir and Ímar, while Glasgow-based Callaghan is a former BBC Radio Scotland Young Traditional Musician of the Year.

Le Vent du Nord May 5

The season concludes with the return of music from Québec as Le Vent du Nord brings its joyful

and powerful take on Francophone traditional music to the LCCC. The celebrated five-member ensemble has spent more than two decades bringing Québécois music to stages around the world, blending songs, reels and foot percussion with fiddle, accordion, hurdy-gurdy and other traditional instruments.

Together, the eight concerts in the 2026-2027 LCCC Celtic Music Series offer audiences a chance to hear the many branches of Celtic and related folk traditions, from intimate instrumental conversations to full-stage celebrations, without leaving the Oregon Coast.

For performance times, ticket prices, individual concert information and ticket links, visit www.lincolncity-culturalcenter.org or call 541-994-9994.

Purchase Season passes at the following link: <https://app.arts-people.com/index.php?subscription=lccc> or call 541-994-9994.

Tickets for individual shows can be purchased at: <https://app.arts-people.com/index.php?ticketing=lccc> (after Oct. 12)

Where: Lincoln City Cultural Center Auditorium, 540 NE Hwy 101, Lincoln City.

Information and Tickets: www.lincolncity-culturalcenter.org | 541-994-9994

BASH

From Page B1

transportation costs and fees needed to obtain essential identification documents and passports. Additionally, we purchased food for our community pantry, ensuring we can continue supporting families facing

financial hardship. These efforts have made a significant difference for the families we serve. We are truly grateful for the community’s generosity and for the opportunity to turn these donations into direct support for our neighbors.”
For more information, email indivisiblenewsport@gmail.com

PERFORM

From Page B1

music experience to the Oregon Coast.
Event Details:
• Artist: Suki Siren

- Date: Sunday, October 25, 2026
- Venue: Snug Harbor Bar & Grill (2726 SE Highway 101, Lincoln City, OR)
- Admission: Open to the public / Venue entry

RUN

From Page B8

kept a pace of about 150 miles a week, all while juggling work. A typical week for him has been three 50-mile days, three days working remotely as a counselor, and one rest day.

For the most part, Edwards has stuck to Route 20, which cuts through the country from the Atlantic to the Pacific. The route has needed to be augmented to keep Edwards off major highways, but he’s now blazed the trail from Massachusetts to Oregon, and his trek has taken him

through 12 states. As he approaches the last leg, he wants to draw attention to the cause that set him on this course: the importance of mental health. It’s easy to lose yourself in today’s fast-paced society, and finding time to process and understand your emotions can be difficult. While he thinks society is now more aware of the difficulties of anxiety or depression, people aren’t always aware of the tools and resources at hand that can help.
“Health is wealth. And not doing something that’s health-related because you need to do it, like then you’re probably

behind the ball at that point. Starting the journey, mental health is part of that. So, seeing a therapist doesn’t mean you’re less than or that you have issues: It means that you care for yourself and you want to better yourself,” Edwards said. “If you do live in abundant life, maybe help someone who might be a little bit less abundant. So that’s where donating to these organizations like Taloha, which provides counseling sessions for people who can’t afford it, can feel helpful. Stay ahead of the curve and try to take care of yourself before you need to take care of yourself.”
Edwards’ plan for the

end of his journey is scripted for Nye Beach on Oct. 24. He’s hoping to run through the arch in downtown, and take his final steps of the trip on Nye Beach, where he’ll hang out with family, friends, and his fiancé, enjoying the sand and the waves.
“Even though I’ll be exhausted and tired and ready for a nap, we’re gonna plan on like hanging out on the beach afterward, so people are more than welcome to come up, talk to me, talk to Amanda, or, you know, hang out with us, have a hot dog or whatever makes the most sense,” Edwards said.

WOLF

From Page B1

Lane 1 was 35 yards, and now it’s 120 yards. Lane 2 was 24 yards, and now it’s 70 yards, Lane 3 was 60 yards plus the 16-yard pistol berm, and it’s now 70 yards with the pistol berm slightly longer at 18 yards, Lane 4 was 80 yards and is now 106 yards.
“The 100-yard distance is important because that’s what most hunters and target shooters use to sight in their rifles,” Cogley said. “What people were doing is setting their target way up the backstops in areas with a lot of vegetation to get the 100-yards. During summer that was a big safety concern since those rounds had the potential to start fires.
Cogley and Burns

are confident the new 100-yard plus lanes will greatly reduce that hazard.
“We also did a lot of vegetation management before the contractor started work,” Burns said. “Crews from South Fork Forest Camp (SFFC) cleared out brush and dry vegetation on the sides and back of the lanes to improve fire safety.”
SFFC is jointly run by ODF and the Department of Corrections and does many construction and maintenance projects in Tillamook State Forest. They also provide trained fire crews during wildfire season.
The other big improvement at the lanes was the addition of gravel.
“These lanes often were a muddy mess six-to-eight months out of the year,” Cogley said “It made it inconvenient and messy



In 2015 Wolf Creek was just a common use dispersed shooting area in the Tillamook State Forests. ODF staff and a group of volunteer target shooters developed a plan and began work in the area in 2016. Some of those volunteers formed the non-profit Trash No Land and has been working with ODF the last 10 years to make improvements and maintain the shooting lanes. (Courtesy photo)

to stand and walk out to set up and retrieve targets. So, some folks were kind of lazy and didn’t want to walk through the mud to pick up their used targets and pack out their other trash if it was wet and muddy. Now the lanes have gravel walkways out to set up the targets and gravel behind the Jersey barriers where folks shoot from. Our hope is this will

greatly reduce the trash left at the ranges.”
Although the walkways are not ADA compliant, they do provide better wheelchair access.
“One of our board members uses a wheelchair so he was an advocate for making the walkways easy to use for those with mobility issues,” Cogley said. “The compacted gravel makes that

possible now.”
The other improvement was better informational signage.
“Increased use of visuals on the signs make them quicker and easier to read and the repaired wood kiosks at each lane should make them more durable,” Burns said.
Trash No Land also repainted the concrete Jersey barriers with

a camouflage design, scrubbed graffiti off of boulders and picked up trash.
“Our hope is with all these improvements the estimated 25,000 yearly users of the lanes will take better care of them,” Cogley said. “Without a doubt these are the best public land shooting lanes in the entire Northwest which is why you see so many shooters out here.”
Cogley said he appreciates the 10-year working relationship with ODF.
“Our non-profit became official back in 2017, and we started it because of ODF’s willingness to listen, work and improve Wolf Creek in a collaborative manner. It’s truly a win-win for everyone, he said.”
For more information about volunteer opportunities, see the Trash No Land website.
For current regulations, updates and closures, visit the Tillamook State Forest target shooting website or contact the ODF Forest Grove office at (503) 357-2191.
For more information about Trash No Land and volunteer opportunities, see the Trash No Land website.

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It's Bat Week at Newport Public Library

NEWPORT PUBLIC LIBRARY

Forget about the Sharks!

Bat Week is coming to Newport Public Library just before Halloween! Newport Public Library is excited to host US Forest Rangers from Siuslaw National Forest for two special bat-themed story times for

the kids and a separate program for adults.

It's time to go batty! Have a pest problem? Look no further than your backyard! Did you know that some species of bats can eat their weight in insects in one night of feeding? From protecting crops to planting forests, bats play an important role in sustaining a healthy ecosystem.

Celebrate an early Halloween and join Siuslaw National Forest rangers to learn all about our flying nocturnal neighbors as we bust common bat myths, meet local species, and discover how to support these amazing creatures! Bats are much more than the mode of transport for vampires – learn all about them at these

bat-tastic programs

Our regular weekly Preschool Storytime at 10:30 a.m. Wednesday, Oct. 21, features engaging bat stories and a themed craft designed for little hands and big imaginations. It offers a wonderful weekly opportunity for preschoolers and caregivers to build early literacy skills, explore creativity, and enjoy quality time together.

Our weekly Bilingual Storytime at 5:30 p.m. Oct. 22, welcomes the Rangers who will share bat-related stories told in both English and Spanish followed by a bat-tactic hands-on craft. Held every week, this program celebrates language, culture, and community in a welcoming space for families of all backgrounds.

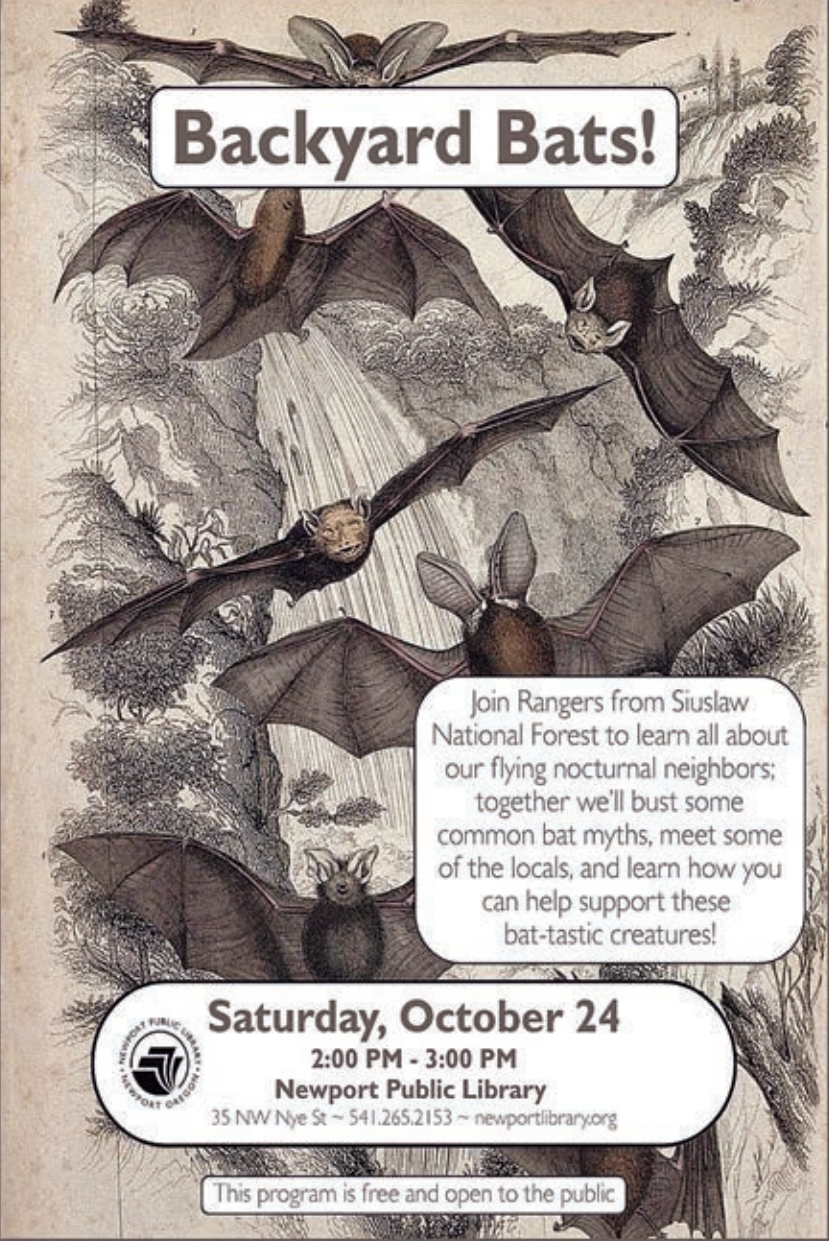
At 2 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 24 the Forest Rangers return for a Backyard Bat program that will educate and excite the audience to increase the public's knowledge about bats, their importance to the environment and the need for conservation of our natural resources. The program gives important information about bats biology, their adaptations, their habitats, and their importance within the ecosystem in which they live.

The program will also address myths associated with bats. This program is intended for adults, but teens and older children are welcome.

All supplies are provided, so bring your curiosity and excitement.

These events take place at Newport Public Library, 35 NW Nye St in Newport and are free and open to the public.

For more information, please call 541-265-2153 or visit www.newportlibrary.org



Backyard Bats!

Join Rangers from Siuslaw National Forest to learn all about our flying nocturnal neighbors; together we'll bust some common bat myths, meet some of the locals, and learn how you can help support these bat-tastic creatures!

Saturday, October 24
2:00 PM - 3:00 PM
Newport Public Library
35 NW Nye St ~ 541.265.2153 ~ newportlibrary.org

This program is free and open to the public

Celebrate an early Halloween and join Siuslaw National Forest rangers to learn all about our flying nocturnal neighbors as we bust common bat myths, meet local species, and discover how to support these amazing creatures! (Metro Creative Connection)



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2026 CHRISTMAS BAZAAR list



Fill out the form below to have your organization's holiday bazaar included in the full color bazaar listing, to be published in the Lincoln County Leader November 4th & 11th.

Cost for this service is only \$75.00.

Deadline is **Thursday, October 29, 2026 by 4 p.m.**
Each announcement is limited to 50 words.
Listing must be pre-paid to be accepted or billed to a current account.

For more information, Email Teresa Barnes at tbarnes@countrymedia.net

Please include "Holiday Bazaars" in the subject line of your email.

2026 CHRISTMAS BAZAAR list

Email your Organization, Event Date, Location, Times, and Description to: tbarnes@countrymedia.net

Get the full story delivered every Wednesday and www.thenewsguard.com www.newportnewstimes.com

CALL 541-265-8571 TO SUBSCRIBE

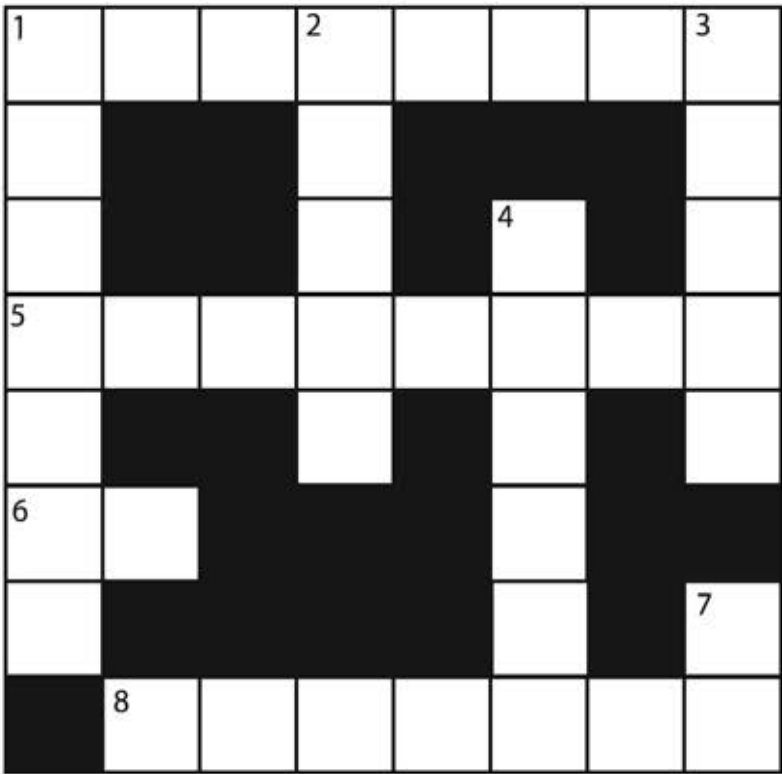


We're dishing out the news from north to south Lincoln County.

Lincoln County Leader



Crossword Puzzle



ACROSS

- 1. Slick
- 5. Casual cotton top
- 6. Negative
- 8. Loosen

DOWN

- 1. Riding on wheeled boots
- 2. Thick and soft
- 3. Children
- 4. Take control of something
- 7. Opposite of “off”

1. Skating 2. Plush 3. Youth 4. Hijack 7. On Down

1. Slippery 5. Tee shirt 6. No 8. Slacken Across

Answers:

THIS DAY IN HISTORY



1648: Boston shoemakers form the first American labor organization.

1898: The United States takes possession of Puerto Rico from Spain.

1989: The Space Shuttle Atlantis launches to deploy the Jupiter-bound Galileo space probe.

NEW WORD

AXLE

metal rod on quad skates that holds the wheels

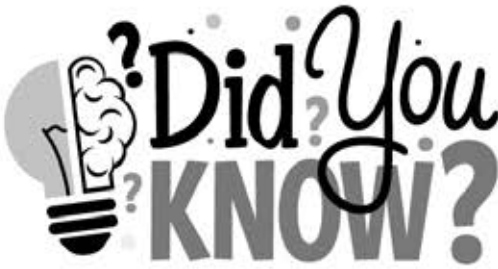
Health FACT:

This activity can burn between 300 and 600 calories per hour, depending on how fast you move.

Answer: Roller skating

How they say that in...

- English: Skate
- Spanish: Patinar
- Italian: Pattinare
- French: Patiner
- German: Skaten



Roller skates may have a toe stop, also known as a plug, which is a rubber brake attached to the front of the skates.



Get the PICTURE?



Can you guess what the bigger picture is?

Answer: Roller skate boot

SMALL BUSINESS WORD SEARCH

R Y T I U Q E H Y T I L I B A L A C S G
L M B V A H G I E U N E V E R P S P Y I
L N E O B U B S W N O E L N I C H E E F
O C S P O S U Y R O T N E V N I S C C P
R B F L I T G R P L N R Q O S F P H N G
Y D V E P V S C N U E N B C R R Y V A F
A N P A M O O T O N L N I N L L T B I H
P B I W C Y O T R E E H N L R H I R L C
Q D H V P Q U V D A P U O U T S L L P A
N Y S W Q G U O P A P Y C S F Q I M M P
O C R B F G M I R E P P C F Q R B A O T
F N O F R C L G S F S I I U S I A R C I
U W T Q P A O D Y I T I S N L P I G I A
B O E C C M N U W S T G H P G R L I R L
D L I A E Q F D I R R I O C O P O N Y V
G F R D Q F N G O W P E O H N M E A D B
C H P T L E O D N Q D U D N C A D C B P
H S O N S L N B N T Y F L G D H R S F L
D A R A Q E N O I T N E T E R W T F H U
S C P O V E C G S V D A E H R E V O U Y

Find the words hidden vertically, horizontally, diagonally, and backwards.

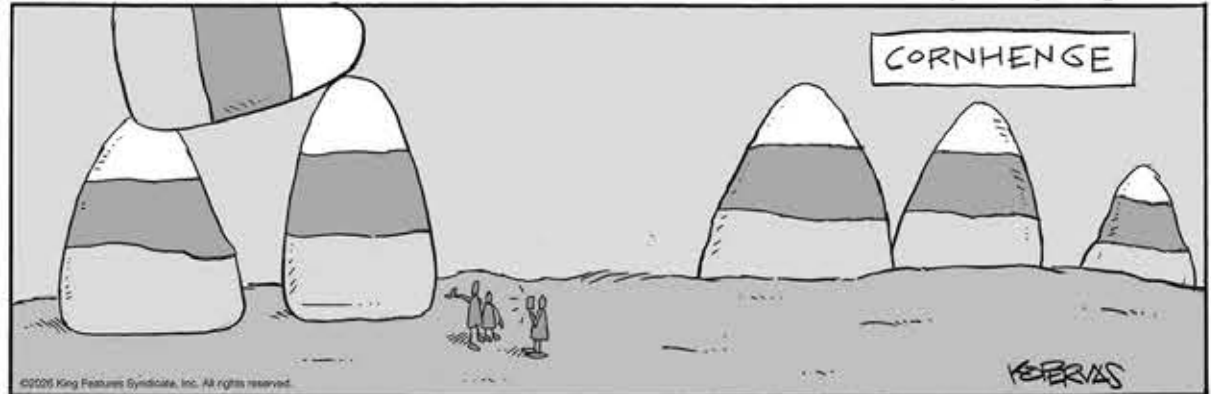
WORDS

- ACQUISITION
- BOOTSTRAPPING
- BRAND
- CAPITAL
- CASHFLOW
- COMPLIANCE
- DEMOGRAPHICS
- EQUITY
- FRANCHISE
- FUNNEL
- INVENTORY
- LIABILITY
- LOGISTICS
- MARGIN
- MODEL
- NICHE
- OVERHEAD
- PAYROLL
- PIVOT
- PROPRIETORSHIP
- RETENTION
- REVENUE
- SCALABILITY
- VENDOR

Amber Waves



Out on a Limb



The Spats



TIGER



OLIVE & POPEYE



HOCUS-FOCUS



Just Like Cats & Dogs



CryptoQuip

This is a simple substitution cipher in which each letter used stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Solution is accomplished by trial and error.

Clue: E equals F

BE EKGQWN NBAHCL YBQA
SCLC NMQLBAH VQAMKVM
FCANCN, SJKM EFWBY GBHJM
NJC WNC? VCFBAC NQFWMBQA.

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CryptoQuote

AXYDLBAAXR
is LONGFELLOW

One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the three L's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each week the code letters are different.

WQLSJ LR SJH QIS XW
JXAKLEB XE SX SJLEBR ZXVI
IHQRXE JQR XEUH QUUHGSBK,
LE RGLSH XW ZXVI UJQEBLEB
NXXKR. — U.R. AHTLR

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Trivia test by Fifi Rodriguez

1. BUSINESS: Which company produced the Frisbee?
2. GEOGRAPHY: What is the capital of Ethiopia?
3. LITERATURE: What was American poet Wallace Stevens' job aside from writing poetry?
4. HISTORY: The first atomic submarine was built in which decade?
5. MEDICINE: What is the medical name for low blood sugar?
6. MOVIES: In what year was the terrorist-threat movie "Black Sunday" released?
7. U.S. PRESIDENTS: Which U.S. president's image was featured on a dollar coin in 1971?
8. INVENTIONS: When was the transistor invented?
9. U.S. STATES: What is Wyoming's official nickname?
10. MEASUREMENTS: How many hectares are in 1 square kilometer?

Answers

1. Wham-O.
2. Addis Ababa.
3. Insurance executive.
4. 1950s.
5. Hypoglycemia.
6. 1977.
7. Dwight D. Eisenhower.
8. 1947, Bell Laboratories.
9. The Equality State.
10. 100.

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CryptoQuote
answer
Faith is the art of
holding on to things your
reason has once accepted,
in spite of your changing
moods. — C.S. Lewis

she use? Celine solution.

Cryptoquip

answer

SCRAMBLERS
Solution
1. Parson, 2. Crisp
3. Shrine, 4. Sponge
Today's Word
SHOPPING

SCRAMBLERS

Unscramble the letters within each rectangle to form four ordinary words. Then rearrange the boxed letters to form the mystery word, which will complete the gag!

Vicar
APRONS
Brisk
SCRIP
Altar
INSHER
Absorb
PENGOS

TODAY'S WORD



"We've got to stop seeing each other like this, Debra — I hate _____."

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PUBLIC NOTICES

LCL26-463 NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE PORT OF NEWPORT

claims a 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: Shack at Hoist Dock plus any Personal Property; Reputed owner: Safe Coast Seafoods; Last known address: 25447 Industrial Blvd, Hayward, CA 94545; Amount of claim of lien: \$ 3,292.06 (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

Sell your household items.
Sell your vehicles.
Sell or rent your homes.

Sell your business.
Sell your goods.
Sell your services.



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PUBLIC NOTICES

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. 10/21/26 10/28/26

LCL26-465 TS NO. OR7000122-26-1 APN R328040 I R335078 TO NO 260267960-OR-MSI TRUSTEE'S NOTICE OF SALE

Reference is made to that certain Trust Deed made by, MAX E. GLENN as Grantor to WESTERN TITLE & ESCROW COMPANY as Trustee, in favor of MORTGAGE ELECTRONIC REGISTRATION SYSTEMS, INC. ("MERS"), as designated nominee for MUTUAL OF OMAHA MORTGAGE, INC., Beneficiary of the security instrument, its successors and assigns, dated as of June 12, 2024 and recorded on June 17, 2024 as Instrument No. 2024-04033 and the beneficial interest was assigned to MUTUAL OF OMAHA MORTGAGE, INC., ITS SUCCESSORS AND ASSIGNS and

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PUBLIC NOTICES

recorded March 4, 2026 as Instrument Number 2026-001508 of official records in the Office of the Recorder of Lincoln County, Oregon to-wit: APN: R328040 I R335078 PARCEL I: COMMENCING AT AN IRON PIPE SET IN THE EASTERLY RIGHT OF WAY LINE OF THE OREGON COAST HIGHWAY, SAID POINT BEING 2998.29 FEET SOUTH AND 439.90 FEET WEST OF THE QUARTER SECTION CORNER SET IN THE EAST LINE OF SECTION 22, TOWNSHIP 14 SOUTH, RANGE 12 WEST, WILLAMETTE MERIDIAN, IN LINCOLN COUNTY, OREGON; THENCE SOUTH 74° 19 EAST, 100.27 FEET TO AN IRON ROD AND THE TRUE POINT OF BEGINNING OF THE TRACT HEREIN TO BE DESCRIBED; THENCE SOUTH 15° 41 WEST, 100 FEET TO AN IRON ROD; THENCE SOUTH 74° 19 EAST, 88 FEET TO AN IRON ROD; THENCE NORTH 15° 41 EAST, 100 FEET TO AN IRON ROD; THENCE NORTH 74° 19 WEST, 88 FEET TO THE TRUE POINT OF BEGINNING, PARCEL II: EASEMENT AS DESCRIBED IN THE DOCUMENT RECORDED MARCH 15, 1966 IN BOOK 265, PAGE 26, LINCOLN COUNTY RECORDS. Commonly

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PUBLIC NOTICES

known as: 1395 KING STREET, YACHATS, OR 97498 Both the Beneficiary, Mutual of Omaha Mortgage Servicing, Inc., and the Trustee, Nathan F. Smith, OSB #120112, have elected to sell the said real property to satisfy the obligations secured by said Trust Deed and notice has been recorded pursuant to Section 86.752(3) of Oregon Revised Statutes. The default for which the foreclosure is made is the Grantor's failure to pay: Failed to pay the principal balance which became all due and payable based upon the death of all mortgagors, pursuant to paragraph 7 under the Note, and pursuant to paragraph 10 of the Deed of Trust. By this reason of said default the Beneficiary has declared all obligations secured by said Trust Deed immediately due and payable, said sums being the following, to-wit: The sum of \$298,042.14 together with interest thereon from December 26, 2025 until paid; and all Trustee's fees, foreclosure costs and any sums advanced by the Beneficiary pursuant to the terms of said Trust Deed. Wherefore, notice is hereby given that, the undersigned Trustee will on February 3, 2027 at the hour of 10:00 AM, Standard of Time, as established by

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PUBLIC NOTICES

Section 187.110, Oregon Revised Statutes, at the south entrance of the Lincoln County Courthouse, 225 W Olive St, Newport, OR 97365 County of Lincoln, 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 thereby 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 or 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

MARTEK Real Estate 10th ANNIVERSARY

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OPEN HOUSES:

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1805 NW Coho Street, Waldport
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Sat. 10/24 - 11AM to 1PM
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Vicki Strauss
Jack Whaley
Kelley Mabbitt
Mike Burkhard
Sonja Lovas
Steve Lovas
Chantelle Charpentier
Connie Whaley
Doretta Smith
Hidi Cortes

REDUCE REUSE RECYCLE

Super Crossword

Answers

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ADVANTAGE Real Estate 26 Years of Service 541-265-2200 205 E. Olive Street Newport, OR 97365

NEW LISTING

This 3BD, 2BA Coastal Home offers 1,780sf. on private, forested 0.46-acre lot. Features include vaulted ceilings, concrete kitchen countertops, deck, & finished in-law suite w/kitchenette. Two-car garage & beach access less than 1/4 mile away!

26-2741 / Seal Rock\$495,000

NEW LAND LISTING & MORE

26-2715 NEW / Toledo, Double Lot.....R6 / 0.22 acre \$45,000
26-1799 REDUCED / Toledo, Private, wooded.....R-1 / 5.45 acre \$220,000
LC-103186 Waldport, Commercial.....A6 / 6.14 acre \$285,000
26-1487 Waldport, City, Ocean View Potential.....R-1 / 13.47acre \$325,000
LC-104003 Waldport, Bayshore Lot.....R-1 / 0.14 acre \$90,500
26-115 Yachats, 2 adjoining Tax Lots.....R-1 / 6.74 acre \$315,000
LC-104611 Newport, Ocean View.....R-3 / 0.11 acre \$69,000

NEW LISTING

Oceanview Home in gated community! Spacious country kitchen w/wood-beam ceiling, storage, pellet stove, and wraparound deck. Living rm offers fireplace & large ocean view windows. Primary suite, wheelchair-accessible deck. Fully furnished & move-in-ready.

26-2711 / Waldport\$795,000

PRICE REDUCED

Coastal Cabin w/Aviation Connection featuring 1BD, 1BA next to Wakonda Beach State Airport & ocean. Laundry rm., carport, detached garage/workshop, wrap-around deck & covered hot tub offer plenty of space for coastal getaway, or full-time living.

26-2650 / Waldport\$342,000

26-1711 / Otter Crest\$279,000

Sweeping Bayfront views from condo at The Landing at Newport, located on east end of boardwalk. This 2nd-floor unit offers semi-private balcony, is furnished, and currently in profitable rental pool. HOA fee includes all utilities & exterior maintenance. Amenities like covered parking & elevator.

26-1117 / Newport\$370,000

Gorgeous Ocean View Condo! Spacious 1BD, 2BA is located near the pool w/ front row placement for ocean views. Recently updated w/new flooring, granite counters & SS appliances. The Inn at Otter Crest is a 35 acre oceanfront resort w/ amenities & an on-site rental program.

26-1711 / Otter Crest\$279,000

Freddie Saxton Broker Owner, e-PRO, CRS, GRI, C2EX
K. Scarlett Kier Broker, CRS, GRI, C2EX
Tim Myrick Broker, GRI
Henry Weiss Broker
Randy Olsen Broker
Levi Grove, Broker
Elise Jordan Broker
Barbara Le Pine Broker, AHWID, C2EX

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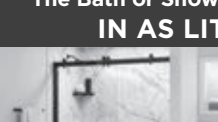
The following units will be sold at public auction on Saturday October 24th 2026 at 11:00 AM for non-payment of rent and other fees. Auction is pursuant to Auction Rules and Procedures of Lincoln Storage 4809 S Coast Hwy South Beach. Or 97366 541-8676550. Rules are available upon inquiry. Unit 220 Emma Godinez Unit 552 Dallas Aggen/Sharon Maughan Unit 573 Micheal Laub Unit 315 Joseph Cooper 10/14/26 10/21/26

TITLEHOLDERS

The Newport City Council will hold a public hearing on Monday, November 2, 2026 at 6:00 p.m. in the City Hall Council Chambers to consider File No. 5-2-26, amendments to Newport Municipal Code (NMC) Chapters 14.01 and 14.52, addressing procedural requirements for land use reviews. The principal objectives of the amendments are to incorporate process changes already adopted through Ordinance No. 2228 (limited land use decisions) and Ordinance No. 2026-04 (expedited and middle housing land divisions), and to adjust local review and appeal procedures to improve the City's ability to meet the statutory review timeline of ORS 227.178. Among other things, the amendments add a definition of "Permit" consistent with ORS 227.160; make the Planning Commission the City's final local decision-maker on appeals of Community Development Director decisions, with the City Council remaining the appeal body for decisions the Commission makes on appeals for improvement authorization (NMC 14.52.100); and make the local appeal period at 14 days rather than 15; add a summary table of review procedures (NMC 14.52.025) add cross references to the expedited and middle housing land division procedures in NMC 14.48.070, including the 63-day decision deadline; clarify mailed notice requirements for appeals; allow public comment and decision; allow website and public building postings in lieu of newspaper publication when a newspaper of sufficient frequency is not available; clarify how the 100-day and 120-day review timelines apply to continuances and open record periods; and extend the expiration period for land use approvals from 30 to 36 months. Pursuant to Newport Municipal Code (NMC) Section 14.36.010, the City Council must find that the changes are required by public necessity and the general welfare of the community in order for them to be adopted. Testimony and evidence must be directed toward the request and on other criteria, including the criteria within the Comprehensive Plan and its implementing ordinances, which the person believes to apply to the decision. Failure to raise an issue with sufficient specificity to afford the city and the parties an opportunity to respond to that issue precludes an appeal, including to the Land Use Board of Appeals, based on that issue. Testimony may be submitted in written or oral form. Oral testimony and written testimony will be taken during the course of the public hearing. The hearing may include a report by staff, testimony from the applicant and proponents, testimony from opponents, rebuttal by the applicant, and questions and answers from the City Council. Written testimony sent to the Community Development (Planning) Department, City Hall 169 SW Coast Hwy, Newport, OR 97365, must be received by 2:00 p.m. the day of the hearing to be included as part of the hearing or must be personally presented during testimony at the public hearing. Additional material for the amendments, and any other material in the file may be reviewed or a copy purchased at the Newport Community Development Department.

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Sam House
samfamshelter.org



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While we appreciate every donation, in some cases, we find that we are unable to accept certain vehicles, watercraft, and/or recreational vehicles due to the prohibitive costs of acquisition. If you have any questions, please give us a call at (866) 695-9265.

Taft lose heartbreaker in overtime

WILL LOHRE*Lincoln County Leader*

It all came down to the final play at Voris Field in Lincoln City, and it was by the merest of margins, as the Tigers came up just short on a two-point conversion, losing to Astoria 21-20 in overtime on Oct. 16.

The game was physical from the outset, with the Fishermen pounding out yards on the ground. Astoria marched downfield on the opening drive but were stonewalled at the goal line, forcing them to settle for a field goal, which they missed.

Taft's opening drive saw them advance up the field, converting on multiple third downs to reach Fishermen territory. The Tigers' drive took them into the red zone as the fog settled over the field as the first quarter expired. Lonnie West capped the drive on the ground, punching in a touchdown from a yard out, and the PAT was

good, giving the Tigers a 7-0 lead.

The Tigers kept the momentum going, holding Astoria to a three-and-out and then mounting pressure with a punt block. Despite the short field, an unfortunate fumble gave Astoria possession back. The Tigers didn't let them move the ball, forcing another punt, and this time they cashed in.

The Tigers lined up in the shotgun from the 25-yard line, and Hayden Weiss laced a back-shoulder touchdown pass to James Tolan in the back corner of the end zone. The extra point gave them a 14-0 advantage.

The Fishermen answered the second Tiger touchdown with one of their own. A long drive ended with multiple pile-driving runs to the end zone as the clock expired. Taft led 14-7 heading into the break.

The Tigers started the third with the ball. On third down, the Tigers broke free for a first. A

play-action pass to James Tolan was completed, and he broke a tackle, got into the open field, and scampered for about 20 yards. After another first down, an interception ended the drive and gave the Fishermen the ball on the 15-yard line.

Astoria drove 84 yards, but couldn't get the final three feet. Taft held strong on their goal line, halting the Fishermen at the one-yard line on fourth down to regain possession.

To start the fourth, the Tigers were deep in their own half, and a third-down deep shot couldn't be reeled in. A Tigers punt put Astoria on about the 35-yard line. Again, the Fishermen tried to break through the Tigers' defense but were held back. With Astoria closing in on the end zone, the Tigers forced a turnover on downs, shutting down a fourth-down shot with just under nine minutes left.

Taft got a first down to give them some breathing



Junior Lonnie West had a great game for the Tigers, recording both a rushing and passing touchdown in the game. (Courtesy photo from Lon French)

room, but the drive stalled, and the punting unit came back out. The Fishermen could do little with the ball and, with four minutes remaining, gave it back to the Tigers on fourth down. After a crucial first down, it looked like Taft might kill most of the clock, but a fumble gave Astoria the ball back. This time, the

Tigers couldn't stave off Astoria's physical running play, and the Fishermen evened the score with under two minutes.

Taft was forced to punt again, and the Fishermen attempted a last-second field goal to win, but it fell short, sending the game to overtime.

Astoria started with the ball and used their legs

to great effect, pushing through the defensive line for a touchdown. The PAT gave them a 21-14 lead.

Needing a score to keep the game alive, the Tigers turned to Lonnie West. He broke off a 16-yard gain, bringing them within 10 yards of the end zone. A couple of shots wouldn't get them in the end zone, and on fourth down, the Tigers went into their bag of tricks. The Tigers snapped the ball to the quarterback, but pitched it to West. Instead of taking it himself, he threw it to Corban Smith in the middle of the end zone for the touchdown. The Tigers went for two, trying to win the game, but couldn't keep pressure off the quarterback, and the resulting sack ended the game 20-21.

While it was a tough defeat, the Tigers battled from start to finish, falling just one play short of their first league win. They'll next play against Woodburn on Oct. 23 away from home.

Toldeo cross country building for the future

WILL LOHRE*Lincoln County Leader*

Coming out of COVID, Toledo didn't have enough runners to put together a cross country team. Five years later, the program is back in business, and Head Coach Jerry Marsh is excited to be part of a new beginning.

His involvement began during track and field season last spring. Marsh volunteered to help, but he noticed the team was short on distance runners. They didn't have the bandwidth to focus on endurance events, with no coaches handling the 800, 1500, or 3000. Marsh saw the need, so he volunteered to coach those specialties.

"Once I got coaching those kids, one of the dads of one of the kids was like, 'You know what? We could really use cross country here at the school,'" Marsh said. "He

was really instrumental, and he really pushed the athletic director to allow a cross country team. And he asked, 'If I get a team for the school, would you stay and coach?' I'm like, sure. That's how it started."

With support from the athletic department and the community, Marsh started laying the foundation for building the team. The reasons kids come out vary. Some want to cross-train for other sports, but some are just gung-ho about distance running.

"It's quite a mixture, and it's been really fun," Marsh said.

The Boomers have five boys and two girls in the program. The Toledo team roster includes juniors Zoey Welch and Holly Pettis on the girls side and sophomores Andrew Peters and Macky Jay alongside juniors Elijah Jones, Jim Chambers, and Chaytonn Savage. With

no seniors on the team, Marsh is excited about what this young crop can accomplish now and in the future.

The team might be small, but it has been improving steadily, and that growth shows up in the Toledo record books.

"I really hope this grows into something that we can have every year at the school. There's been good progress throughout this season, and I would love to just see it keep going," Marsh said. "If these kids come back next year, uh, more and more records will continue to fall."

Cross country is a sport that's more about the process than the outcomes. Throughout a season, incremental progress marks success, and Marsh's coaching approach is no different, rooted in his own experience. Marsh ran cross country and track for the UCLA Bruins, ran in the

Olympic Trials, and was selected for two National teams representing the USA. His process with his team incorporates many of the training methods he used as a distance runner.

"So what we look for is improvement throughout the season. Most of the people came to me, having not run all through the summer, or some not having run ever, and then you quickly have an 11-week season with some kids who have never run in their life," Marsh said. "So, we get very little time, but they're all doing great. This last race, six of my seven got personal records, and the fewest in any of the races have been three kids out of the seven getting personal records. So they continue every week to get better and better and better."

The athletes have run 28 races with 23 PRs. Peters has notched three PRs in five races, Savage has earned three

from five, Jones has run four of his five races at personal record levels, and Jay and Chambers have run PRs in each of their races. For the girls, Pettis and Welch have improved each outing, turning in personal bests in all three races.

The Boomers are committed to being the best they can be, and you can often find the team running the roads of Toledo or doing hill training on the groomed trail behind the school.

The hours pounding the pavement are paying off! At the Stayton/Regis Invitational, Chaytonn Savage ran away with the Toledo School record in the boys 3,000m, which had stood for 11 years. The entire team has made the Toledo Boomers all-time top 10; the boys now occupy places 1, 5, 8, 9, and 10, and the girls hold places 4 and 5.

Seeing those names climb the ladder of school

history has been the season's highlight.

"The most fun thing has been getting them into the record books for the school. The 3,000-meter record book for all the boys and girls, all 7 of them, is in the top 10," Marsh said. "I get excited every time they're running faster than they've ever run, and they just keep doing that."

Each of Toledo's runners seems to be getting faster each meet, and with two more races on the books for the season, Marsh hopes they can capture a few more records. As they near the end of the first season in almost a half decade, Marsh just wants his team to keep showing up mentally and physically every day, every race, and charging after it.

"They make me proud all the time with how they do, and they just need to do it two more times!" Marsh said.

Project Run Across America journey coming to an end!

WILL LOHRE*Lincoln County Leader*

A 3,000-mile journey is coming to an end in Newport.

Licensed professional counselor Devon Edwards has been running across the United States to raise awareness and support for adolescent mental health and access to care, and the finish line is in sight.

In May, Edwards set out from Boston on a seemingly impossible journey. In partnership with nonprofit To Write Love on Her Arms (TWLOHA), Edwards created Project Run Across America, a cross-country run to bring resources and attention to this critical issue.

The idea for the transcontinental journey is rooted in Edwards' history as an athlete and youth counselor. Edwards previously

worked as a counselor in Aurora, Colorado, and he enjoyed connecting with kids, and it made him reflect on the opportunities students have to get help.

"When I was out there, I worked as a high school counselor, and it was really fun. I got to do therapy with the kids and take them out of class, and for the most part, they all enjoyed it. But there were a few times I couldn't see a kid, whether because their insurance didn't cover it or their parents didn't believe in it. For one reason or another, they couldn't get services. And honestly, that really stuck with me," Edwards said. "Because when I was in high school, I didn't even know what therapy was at the time. But I wish I had done it, especially as an athlete. Being an athlete, outside looking in, I was probably doing



Devon Edwards reached Oregon, the last state on his cross-country trek. (Courtesy photo from Devon Edwards)

well and pretty well off, but in my own heart, I felt misunderstood, and I could have used help at the time, and I don't

think I was given that. So all this came to be because I really wanted to help other people." Edwards found

TWLOHA, a nonprofit that helps cover counseling sessions for people who can't afford it. He built a connection with them, and Project Run Across America was born. With support from his fiancé Amanda, Edwards set out to run across the country in mid-May.

It's been many hours and miles on the road together. Edwards is pounding the pavement, and Amanda is riding in support with the camper and trailer in tow. To help people follow along and support the cause, Edwards has a Linktree that has links to a variety of resources, including a GoFundMe. So far, his GoFundMe has raised \$4,450 for youth mental health and awareness. The Linktree address is <https://linktr.ee/ProjectRAAM>.

Edwards has been running for nearly five months, and he's gone

through every stage a grueling physical challenge can offer. At this point in the journey, with little ground left to cover, he said he's been feeling a mix of "tired, bored, hungry, angry, sad, and happy" about the effort.

"On the best days, it's like a really cool adventure. It's fun. I'm seeing so many things. I'm listening to audiobooks. I'm sometimes meeting people. I feel connected to my body. But on the majority of days, it's like, 'Wow, I'm still running.' We've been out here for 10 hours now, and I'm still running," Edwards said. "So, it's spiritual. It's exhausting. It's fun. It's so much to even try to put into words. It's like the amount of trees I see in a day, you know?"

Over the course of the trip, Edwards has