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NEWPORT BOYS
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PAGE A6



VIOLINIST RACHEL
BARTON PINE TO
PERFORM IN NEWPORT
Coast Life
PAGE B1



Lincoln County Leader

Wednesday, January 14, 2026

Lincoln County, Oregon

\$2



Decision to replace county Commissioner Hall pending

JEREMY C. RUARK
Lincoln County Leader

The two Lincoln County Board of Commissioners have launched the process to replace Commissioner Claire Hall, who passed away Jan. 4

Flags at the Lincoln County Courthouse were at half-staff following the passing of Commissioner Claire Hall.

following an illness. Commissioner

Casey Miller and Commissioner Walter Chuck have agreed to soon begin formal discussions about the process for filling Hall's position. Until then, the two-member board will continue under the temporary co-chair arrangement.

Community members wishing to provide comments or follow the appointment process are encouraged to monitor future agendas as Miller and Chuck determine

next steps in the coming weeks.

Chuck and Miller convened the board Wednesday, Jan. 7 following the death of Commissioner Hall, who died after months dealing with health issues.

The meeting opened with a recognition of Chair Hall's service.

Commissioners Chuck and Miller both offered personal reflections.

Miller brought flowers and provided pens and paper so community

See **HALL**, page A4

Depoe Bay Bridge gets improvement project

JEREMY C. RUARK
Lincoln County Leader

A \$10,978,943 preservation and improvement project was to begin this week at the Depoe Bay Bridge along Highway 101.

Over the next several weeks, the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) crews will install temporary signs, set up scaffolding and work platforms under the bridge.

The Depoe Bay Bridge is exposed to harsh winds and saltwater, according to ODOT. The protective coating to help prevent corrosion was last installed in 1993 and needs to be reapplied.

To keep the bridge in good working order, ODOT plans to:

- Reapply the protective coating.
- Make minor concrete repairs.
- Repair the existing bridge rail.

You can expect:

- Most of the work to take place under the bridge.
- Crews working during the day, Monday through Thursday.
- Lane and shoulder closures as needed.
- Construction noise and

See **BRIDGE**, page A4



The Depoe Bay Bridge along Highway 101. (Jeremy C. Ruark / Lincoln County Leader)



The work includes concrete repairs, protective coating and bridge rail repair. (Jeremy C. Ruark / Lincoln County Leader)



The Depoe Bay Bridge is exposed to harsh winds and saltwater. The improvements are designed to preserve the structure. (Jeremy C. Ruark / Lincoln County Leader)

LCPD tracking rise in DUII arrests

JEREMY C. RUARK
Lincoln County Leader

Lincoln City Police are tracking a rise in Driving Under the Influence of Intoxicants (DUII) arrests.

"For DUII arrests in Lincoln City we have been on an upward trend for the last three years," LCPD Patrol Sgt. Erik Anderson said.

BY THE NUMBERS

In 2023, the LCPD made 64 DUII arrests, for 2024 there were 71 DUII arrests, and for 2025 there were 84 DUII arrests.

"Based on Oregon's Initial Fatal Crash Information Viewer (which launched in 2024) in 2024 Lincoln

County had eight fatal crashes involving drugs or alcohol and in 2025 we reduced that to five fatal crashes involving drugs or alcohol, each one a tragedy for those lost and their loved ones," Anderson said.

Of those DUII

See **ARRESTS**, page A4

Oregon's first 2026 measles cases confirmed in Linn County

JEREMY C. RUARK
Lincoln County Leader

The Oregon Health

Authority (OHA) and Linn County public health officials confirm two cases of measles in Linn County and want people to know about

locations where they may have been exposed to the highly infectious virus.

The affected individuals developed measles symptoms—rash, fever, cough and runny nose—on Jan. 5. OHA is not identifying the individuals' gender, age or county

of residence.

People might have been exposed if they were at the following locations during these dates and times:

- Lebanon Community Hospital Emergency

See **MEASLES**, page A4



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RACHEL BARTON PINE**

JANUARY 17 & 18

NSO

Adam Flatt, conductor

Rachel Barton Pine, violin

newportsymphony.org

Weather**Wednesday:** High-52/Low-40 AM Clouds/PM Sun**Thursday:** High-57/Low-45 Sunny**Friday:** High-60/Low-43 Sunny**Saturday:** High-58/Low-42 Sunny**Sunday:** High-54/Low-41 Mostly Sunny**Monday:** High-53/Low-42 Mostly Cloudy**Tuesday:** High-52/Low-43 Cloudy**Past Weather****On the Coast**

	Rain	Low	High
January 6.....	1.45.....	39.6°F.....	51.0°F
January 7.....	0.37.....	39.8°F.....	49.3°F
January 8.....	0.06.....	42.2°F.....	51.5°F
January 9.....	0.00.....	40.5°F.....	52.9°F
January 10.....	0.00.....	41.0°F.....	53.1°F
January 11.....	0.00.....	42.9°F.....	58.5°F
January 12.....	0.00.....	43.3°F.....	46.1°F
Total rainfall from Jan. 1.....			4.22"

Tides Tables

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 14

Low.....	2:08 a.m.....	4.6
High.....	8:24 a.m.....	8.5
Low.....	3:59 p.m.....	0.4
High.....	11:06 p.m.....	6.2

THURSDAY, JANUARY 15

Low.....	3:08 a.m.....	4.7
High.....	9:12 a.m.....	8.7
Low.....	4:40 p.m.....	0.1
High.....	11:44 p.m.....	6.6

FRIDAY, JANUARY 16

Low.....	4:00 a.m.....	4.
High.....	9:56 a.m.....	8.9
Low.....	5:18 p.m.....	0.2

SATURDAY, JANUARY 17

High.....	12:16 a.m.....	6.8
Low.....	4:44 a.m.....	4.3
High.....	10:38 a.m.....	9.0
Low.....	5:53 p.m.....	0.6

SUNDAY, JANUARY 18

High.....	12:46 a.m.....	7.0
Low.....	5:25 a.m.....	4.1
High.....	11:18 a.m.....	9.2
Low.....	6:26 p.m.....	0.7

MONDAY, JANUARY 19

High.....	1:16 a.m.....	7.2
Low.....	6:05 a.m.....	3.8
High.....	11:56 a.m.....	9.2
Low.....	6:58 p.m.....	0.8

TUESDAY, JANUARY 20

High.....	1:45 a.m.....	7.4
Low.....	6:46 a.m.....	3.6
High.....	12:35 p.m.....	8.9
Low.....	7:29 p.m.....	0.6

Sunrise/Sunset

January 14.....7:50 a.m.....5:00 p.m.
 January 15.....7:50 a.m.....5:01 p.m.
 January 16.....7:49 a.m.....5:02 p.m.
 January 17.....7:49 a.m.....5:04 p.m.
 January 18.....7:48 a.m.....5:05 p.m.
 January 19.....7:47 a.m.....5:06 p.m.
 January 20.....7:47 a.m.....5:07 p.m.
 January 21.....7:46 a.m.....5:09 p.m.
 January 22.....7:45 a.m.....5:10 p.m.
 January 23.....7:44 a.m.....5:11 p.m.
 January 24.....7:44 a.m.....5:13 p.m.

LotteryFriday, January 9
Mega Millions
12 • 30 • 36 • 42 • 47 • PB-16Saturday, January 10
Powerball
5 • 19 • 21 • 28 • 64 • PB-14 • x3Saturday, January 10
Megabucks
3 • 18 • 33 • 35 • 40 • 43**Inside**News.....A1-3
Opinion.....A5
Obituaries.....A4
Coast Life.....B1
Business.....B2
Classifieds/Public Notices.....B4-5
Sports.....B6

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High speed pursuit ends in one arrest

On Jan. 10, Lincoln County Sheriff's Office (LCSO) received information regarding a vehicle operating recklessly through an active construction zone near Milepost 106 on Highway 101, nearly hitting workers and running over traffic cones.

At approximately 8:37

a.m. a deputy located the vehicle entering Newport city limits at a high rate of speed, traveling in the oncoming lane. Deputies attempted to stop the vehicle, but the driver failed to yield. Assisted by the Newport Police Department and the Oregon State Police, deputies pursued the vehicle

south bound through Newport and the community of Seal Rock.

"The driver, later identified as Johnathan Grimm, continuously operated the vehicle at speeds between 90 and 110 mph," according to a release from the LCSO. "Grimm turned off the highway near NW Fox Creek and continued

to attempt to elude police until arriving at a residence. Grimm fled on foot and was quickly apprehended without further incident."

Lincoln City Police assisted in the investigation and confirmed the vehicle, which endangered highway workers, was the same vehicle Grimm was

driving.

Grimm was arrested and lodged at the Lincoln County Jail on charges of Reckless Driving, Reckless Endangering, Reckless Endangerment of Highway Workers, and Attempt to Elude.

Grimm's age and where he is from were not immediately available.

Citywide Water Main Flushing Program lasting through Spring

The City of Newport was to restart its annual city-wide water main flushing program the week of Jan. 12, lasting into early spring.

Flushing will take place weekly, Monday through Thursday, between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. It is advised to reduce water usage when the flushing is taking place in your area as you may see a reduction in water quality and low water pressure.

The city will provide advance weekly updates on its social media channels, @ CityofNewportOre on Facebook and Instagram, highlighting the streets in Newport that will have its water mains flushed the following week.

Water main flushing removes debris, sediment, and minerals that have naturally built up in city water mains, helping to maintain Newport's high water quality, and improving the flow of water for the community.

high water quality, and improving the flow of water for the community. Due to this, community members may experience water discoloration and decreased water pressure while the flushing is taking place in their area. The city begins flushing during winter months when the city's reservoirs have high levels of water available to be used for the flushing.

There are approximately 90 miles of water lines in the city. Flushing a water main on a single street may take up to one hour. High-pressure water is sent through the mains and discharged through fire hydrants onto local roads or other surface areas. No additives or chemicals are used for this process, and it does not pose any risks to wildlife or the ecosystem.

recommended to take the following steps and precautions:

Run a cold water tap for a few minutes up to 15 minutes or until the water runs clear.

If you inadvertently drew discolored water into your home and the staining of clothes or fixtures does occur, rust removal products are available at most home products stores.

For more information, call 541-574-0649

Newport Police launch online 'low-level crime' reporting option



Water main flushing removes debris, sediment, and minerals that have naturally built up in city water mains, helping to maintain Newport's high water quality, and improving the flow of water for the community.

Damaged Property, Theft, Graffiti, Shoplifting and other crimes right from your mobile device, tablet or desktop.

list of accepted online report types exist on the website.

• Upload Unlimited Pictures, Videos and Documents: An

unlimited number of pictures, videos and documents can be uploaded with each report to easily provide information to law

enforcement.

- Multi-Language Support: Submit the report one of the available languages such as English, Spanish, French, German, Korean and Chinese. Additional languages available!
- Instant Notification: Receive text and e-mail updates when your report has been processed and completed.

The Newport Police

Department is eager to provide additional ways for the community to connect easily with our department to report crime and receive faster service.

You may visit <https://newportpd.mydpconnect.com/index.html?lang=en> to report a crime at any time.

3	7	6	9	2	8	1	5	4
1	9	8	3	4	5	2	7	6
4	5</							

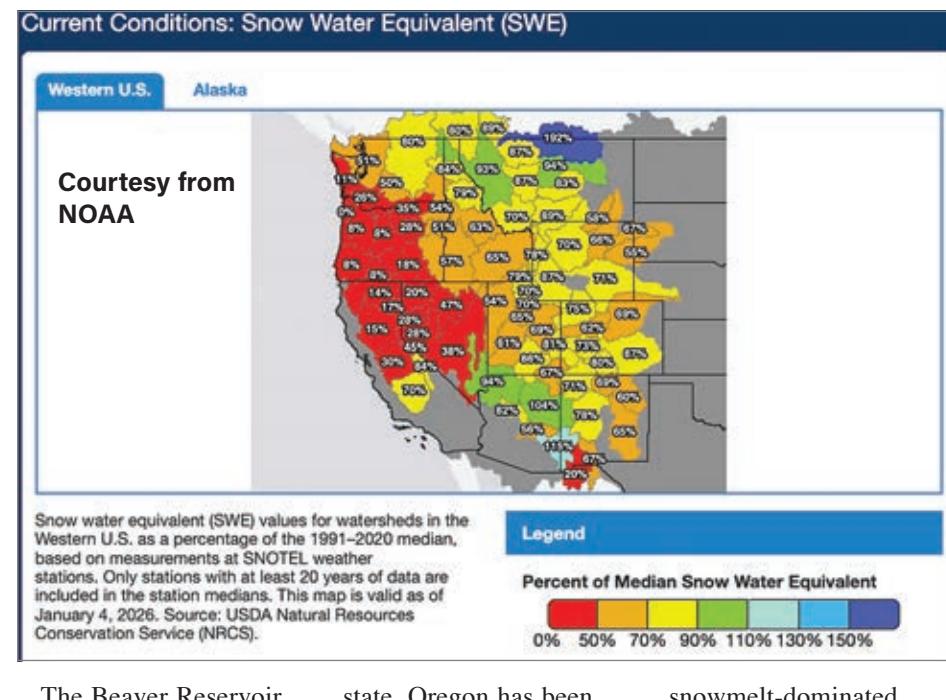
Record warmth, rain instead of snow intensifies snow drought

JEREMY RUARK
Lincoln County Leader

The latest report from NOAA shows Oregon's snowpack is "well-below normal" and could become one of the lowest on record.

Although several high-intensity atmospheric rivers impacted the region in December, most precipitation fell as rain in the mountains due to record warm temperatures. During the mid-December storm cycle, rain fell on snow in several basins, limiting significant improvements to snow.

Snow drought is generally worse and more pervasive in Oregon due to record warm temperatures in November and December. Of 72 SNOTEL stations in Oregon, 21 have the lowest recorded January 4 SWE, another 5 have the second lowest recorded January 4 SWE. None have above normal SWE.



The Beaver Reservoir SNOTEL station in north-eastern Oregon has only 56% of normal SWE for January 4, which is the highest percentage of normal of any SNOTEL station in the state. The Mt. Hood Test Site SNOTEL station, January 4 SWE is the lowest in 46 years of records. Although December was a wet month across the

state, Oregon has been comparatively drier than Washington.

Even with the mildly wet December, total SNOTEL water-year-to-date precipitation is only near normal for most basins in Oregon due to an extremely dry November. Water may become limited if current conditions persist throughout winter in

snowmelt-dominated basins.

NOAA released key points in its latest report.

Key Points

Snowpack is an important and large natural reservoir for many Western communities, storing water in winter as snow that typically runs off in spring. Shifts in the timing and amount of snowmelt or runoff can present

challenges to drought and water planning.

Snow cover

across the West on January 4 was 141,416 square miles—the lowest January 4 snow cover in the MODIS satellite record (since 2001).

Snow drought is most severe in Washington, Oregon, Colorado, Utah, Arizona, and New Mexico. Over 80% of all Snow Telemetry (SNOWTE) stations in each state are experiencing snow drought, defined as snow water equivalent (SWE) below the 20th percentile.*

So far in Water Year 2026 (October 1, 2025–January 4, 2026), more rain than snow has fallen in many areas. Every

major river basin in the West experienced near-record or record warmth through December 2025, inhibiting the accumulation of snow.

Precipitation in the Pacific Northwest was above-normal in

December but mainly fell as rain, intensifying snow drought. In the Southwest, snow drought intensified because December precipitation was below normal.

Snow is expected in parts of the West over the next few days, but the 2-week outlook shifts towards warm and dry conditions across the region. Snow drought will worsen if little to no new snow falls and existing snow melts.

Water supply concerns are increasing as snow drought in parts of the Colorado River Basin and other headwaters intensifies due to warm and dry or warm and rainy conditions.

Snow drought is impacting recreation across the West. For example, many ski areas are not able to open or have very limited terrain.

Although fresh snowfall last week gives Oregon ski resorts hope for a fairly healthy season.

Curb ramp improvements wrapping at Lincoln City



ODOT crews work to repair and replace the curb ramps along Highway 101 at Logan Road in Lincoln City. Jeremy C. Ruark / Lincoln County Leader.



The ramp work began in 2024 in Lincoln Beach and crews worked north through Lincoln City. (Courtesy from ODOT)



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Premier Business Checking Account Requirements: Minimum to open \$100. Maintenance and other service charges may be offset by the Earnings Credit Allowance. Winter Special available from November 17, 2025 – February 27, 2026.

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Wendy Birchfield
541-272-9190

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Danielle Cutler
541-961-3868

Karla Kuhlenbeck
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MEASLES

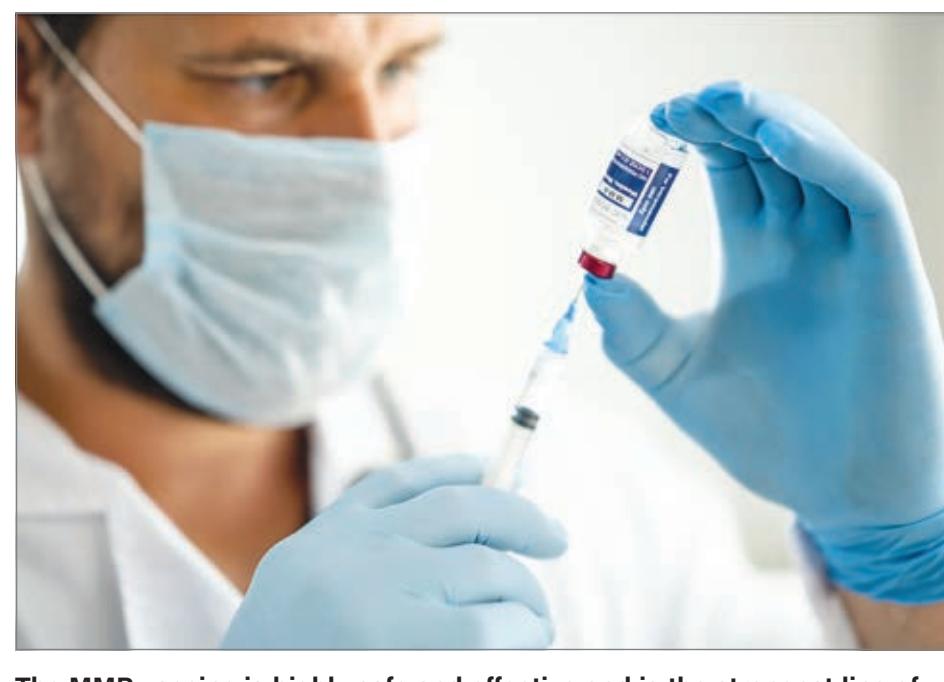
From Page A1

Department, between 8:53 p.m. Jan. 6 and 7 a.m. Jan. 7.

- Albany General Hospital Emergency Department, between 4:59 a.m. and 8:15 a.m. Jan. 7.

People who were at these locations during these dates and times should immediately contact their health care provider and let them know they may have been exposed to someone who has measles, according to the OHA. The health care provider can determine whether they are immune to measles based on their vaccination record, age, or laboratory evidence of prior infection.

"Measles is here in Oregon and rates are increasing nationally, which is why we encourage everyone to make sure they're protected by talking with their providers about being up to date on vaccinations," said Howard Chiou, M.D., Ph.D., medical director for communicable diseases and immunizations at OHA's Public Health Division.



The MMR vaccine is highly safe and effective and is the strongest line of defense, according to OHSU School of Medicine Professor of Pediatrics Dawn Nolt. Metro Creative Connection

Facts about measles

Measles spreads through the air after a person with measles coughs or sneezes. People are contagious with measles for four days before a rash appears and up to four days afterward. The virus particles also can linger in the air for up to two hours after someone who is infectious has left the area.

Measles typically starts with a fever, cough, runny nose and red eyes. A rash usually follows, beginning

on the face and spreading to the rest of the body. Symptoms begin seven to 21 days after exposure to a person with measles. Common complications of measles include ear infection, lung infection and diarrhea. Swelling of the brain is a rare but much more serious complication.

Measles can be dangerous, especially among infants and children younger than 5, adults older than 20, pregnant people, and people with

weakened immune systems. In developed countries in recent years, one or two out of every 1,000 measles cases has been fatal.

The measles vaccine is highly effective at providing protection, as two doses of the MMR vaccine is 97% effective at preventing measles. The risk of severe disease from measles for people who are up to date on their vaccines is very low.

What to do if you suspect measles in your

household

Public health officials urge people experiencing symptoms of measles not to arrive unannounced at a medical office if they:

1. Have a measles-like rash, or
2. Have been exposed to measles within the previous 21 days and have any other symptom of measles (such as fever, cough or red eyes).

Individuals planning to seek medical care should first call a health care provider or urgent care center by telephone to create an entry plan to avoid exposing others in waiting rooms.

Dawn Nolt, M.D., M.P.H., professor of pediatrics (infectious diseases) in the OHSU School of Medicine, said the MMR vaccine is highly safe and effective.

"It is our strongest line of defense and the best way to keep yourself, your children and your community safe," Nolt said. "If you have questions about the vaccine, we encourage you to talk to your health care provider about your concerns."

Anyone who is unsure about their or their child's vaccination status can

contact their medical provider to look up their record. People can also ask a child's school — schools must keep immunization records. Or call Lincoln County Public Health at 541-265-4112 to check records.

Where to get the MMR vaccine

If you or your child needs an MMR vaccine, you can make an appointment at:

- Coastal Healthcare, 541-265-4947. Appointments are available for new and existing adult and child patients.
- Walmart, Walgreens, Rite Aid, or Safeway pharmacies. Appointments are available for adult and child vaccinations.

- Samaritan Health Services Pediatrics. If your child is an existing patient, call their doctor's office directly. If you need to establish care for your child with a Samaritan, call 1-800-863-5241 to set up an appointment.

Learn more about measles at <https://www.oregon.gov/oha/PH/DISEASESCONDITIONS/DISEASESAZ/Pages/measles.aspx>.

ARRESTS

From Page A1

arrests in Lincoln City for 2025, approximately 41% were based on citizen complaints such as people calling in poor driving they observed, or area establishments calling in patrons they warned not to drive due to intoxication getting into their vehicles and driving away, according to LCPD records. Approximately 39% of the arrests were based

on officers' self-initiated field activity.

"The most common causes for stopping drivers on self-initiated activity, who later turned out to be impaired, was speeding followed by driving without headlights on after dark," Anderson noted, adding that approximately 19% of those arrests were based on officers responding to crashes and identifying an involved driver as impaired by drugs or alcohol at the time of the crash.

"We rely on our community

to be our eyes and ears, as well as continual training of our officers, to try to get that last category down to zero," Anderson said. "We would much rather get impaired drivers off the street before theirreckless decision ends up in a crash, possibly ending an innocent person's life."

Anderson pointed out that Lincoln City has taxi cabs, ride-share companies, county bus-lines, and private shuttles to safely get people home after they indulge, leaving no excuse

for people choosing to drive impaired.

"The LCPD partners with Oregon Impact, through the Oregon Department of Transportation, in various traffic grants throughout the year to help get our officers out on the street," he said. "The Oregon Department of Transportation is also instrumental in hosting DUII Training events throughout the year in partnership with the Oregon Department of Justice. We send Officers to these

events every year so as to better serve our community."

The LCPD plan to continue using Oregon Impact grant-funded High Visibility Enforcement patrols throughout the year including the month of April for Distracted Driver Awareness month.

Newport Police report one DUII arrest on Dec. 25. There were two arrests during the same dates, Dec. 25 - Jan. 1, last year, according to the City of Newport Communications Officer John Fuller.

BRIDGE

From Page A1

delays.

"Pay attention in the work zone, slow down and move over — imagine this is where you work. Always drive safely, use caution, watch for construction signs and workers," ODOT states in a release. "Remember that fines double in all Oregon work zones, whether workers and signs are present or not."

BACKGROUND

ODOT completed the Yaquina Bay Bridge \$30 million restoration project — \$2 million under budget and about six months ahead of schedule in November 2023. The extensive restoration effort to sustain the bridge's structural integrity and extend its lifespan was launched in the spring of 2020.

"The bridge, a vital route for travelers on Highway 101 through Newport, has undergone

a remarkable transformation," ODOT stated in a press release. The Newport project focused on three key areas:

- Protecting the bridge from corrosion
- Repairing damaged concrete
- Fortifying the bridge against potential earthquakes.

The restoration was crucial to keep the Yaquina Bay Bridge safe and in good working order, according to the release. The Yaquina Bay

Bridge opened to traffic in 1936. It was placed on the National Register of Historic Places in 2005.

Two bridges along Highway 101 in Lincoln City received similar improvements that wrapped up in 2022.

The D River Bridge work included:

- Extensive concrete repair
- Establishing electrical continuity for the cathodic protection system (protecting the structure from

corrosion)

- Applied zinc anode that the current flows through to protect the bridge structure from corrosion
- Bridge deck strengthening with titanium bar reinforcement
- Concrete repairs
- New railing
- Protective deck overlay
- New sidewalk
- Protective deck overlay
- Electrical portion of cathodic protection system
- Sidewalk overlay
- Paving and striping

The Schooner Creek Bridge work included:

- New bearings
- Bridge deck strengthening with titanium reinforcement
- Concrete repairs
- New railing
- Protective deck overlay
- Paving and striping
- Sidewalk overlay

The local bridge work is part of a series of bridge cathodic protection projects along the coast.

Each is designed to keep the structures in service for years to come.

DEATH NOTICES

SELMA HELEN PATRICK

April 18, 1948 –

December 26, 2025

Born in

Gloucester, MA

Died in Las

Vegas, NV

77 Years Old

Selma was cre-

mated. There will

be a celebration

of her life early in

2026.



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H26239

HALL

From Page A1

members could write messages for Hall's family. He reflected on his 14 years working as the county's public information officer, recalling both Hall's humor and the challenges she faced as a public figure.

Miller noted the "aggressive and hateful" calls that sometimes came into the office, including instances where

individuals deadnamed Hall — a gesture he said he always worked to deflect away from her.

"Despite our disagreements, Claire accomplished many good things for the community," Miller said. "She had a great sense of humor, loved Star Trek and baseball, and will be missed."

Chuck said Hall was a tireless advocate for the community.

Miller introduced a motion proposing that the Board operate

temporarily without designating a permanent Chair or Vice Chair, instead functioning collaboratively until the Commission can reassess its structure.

"I respect the Board's tradition," Miller said. "But given the loss of our colleague and the fact that we are operating as a two-member board, it is prudent to adopt a temporary, collaborative framework before making longer-term decisions. We've also never been in this situation before."

Chuck sought immediate input from County Counsel Kristin Yuille, who said the suggestion was historically

inconsistent.

After discussion, the commissioners agreed on a tentative approach in which Chuck will preside over the first meeting of each month. Miller will preside over the second meeting of each month, according to an email to the Leader from Miller. It is expected that the discussion of Hall's replacement will be discussed during the Jan. 21 meeting of the Board of Commissioners.

Hall was the subject of a recall election during the past several weeks. Lincoln County Clerk Amy Southwell said Hall's passing means the recall is now void.

Judith Ann Cashner

Judy Cashner passed away on Christmas day 2025 at her home in Lincoln City, Oregon, surrounded by family. She is survived by her children, Denise Sherman, Steven Bryans, and Michelle Bryans; grandchildren, Jody Pantiga, Amanda Iams, and Matthew Bryans; great grandchildren, Raine Estep, Nicholas Estep, Wesley Harris, Vivi Harris, and Penny Harris; and her sisters, Kate Read and Susan Cherry. She

had many friends in the community of Lincoln City. She was loved by all and will be greatly missed.

household

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1. Have a measles-like rash, or
2. Have been exposed to measles within the previous 21 days and have any other symptom of measles (such as fever, cough or red eyes).

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Anyone who is unsure about their or their child's vaccination status can

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Where to get the MMR vaccine

If you or your child needs an MMR vaccine, you can make an appointment at:

- Coastal Healthcare, 541-265-4947. Appointments are available for new and existing adult and child patients.
- Walmart, Walgreens, Rite Aid, or Safeway pharmacies. Appointments are available for adult and child vaccinations.
- Samaritan Health Services Pediatrics. If your child is an existing patient, call their doctor's office directly. If you need to establish care for your child with a Samaritan, call 1-800-863-5241 to set up an appointment.

Learn more about measles at <https://www.oregon.gov/oha/PH/DISEASESCONDITIONS/DISEASESAZ/Pages/measles.aspx>.

Dawn Nolt, M.D., M.P.H., professor of pediatrics (infectious diseases) in the OHSU School of Medicine, said the MMR vaccine is highly safe and effective.

"It is our strongest line of defense and the best way to keep yourself, your children and your community safe," Nolt said. "If you have questions about the vaccine, we encourage you to talk to your health care provider about your concerns."

Anyone who is unsure about their or their child's vaccination status can

contact their medical provider to look up their record. People can also ask a child's school — schools must keep immunization records. Or call Lincoln County Public Health at 541-265-4112 to check records.

Where to get the MMR vaccine

If you or your child needs an MMR vaccine, you can make an appointment at:

- Coastal Healthcare, 541-265-4947. Appointments are available for new and existing adult and child patients.
- Walmart, Walgreens, Rite Aid, or Safeway pharmacies. Appointments are available for adult and child vaccinations.
- Samaritan Health Services Pediatrics. If your child is an existing patient, call their doctor's office directly. If you need to establish care for your child with a Samaritan, call 1-800-863-5241 to set up an appointment.

Learn more about measles at <https://www.oregon.gov/oha/PH/DISEASESCONDITIONS/DISEASESAZ/Pages/measles.aspx>.

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OPINION

Jeremy Ruark, Opinion Page Editor

Wednesday, January 14, 2026

A5

Investigating the truth about federal officers shooting

RANDY STAPLUS
Leader Guest Column

In the 1991 book *Road Fever*, about an expedition by road from the southern tip of South America to the northern reaches of Alaska, author Tim Cahill told of advice the two-man team got from a security consultant with deep law enforcement and military experience.

In parts of the trip, the travelers were told, safety would be uncertain at best, and roads patrolled not only by legitimate police and military forces but also by bandits and guerillas. The crew should always stop and comply for clearly official stations and their officers, they were told. In other cases, that might be a mistake because stopping for the bad guys could mean unfortunate results up to and including loss of their lives.

What to do if they encountered such a situation (which, ultimately, they didn't)? Put on the gas, roar on through and outrun them, if they could. And if a vehicle was set up to block the roadway? They discussed various approaches to smashing their way through. Cahill remarked that during the discussion, "I found myself sinking deep into a kind of glowering

paranoia."

You needn't travel to such exotic locations these days to start considering this kind of security calculus: The streets of Portland or Minneapolis, will do. And properly distinguishing between the different kinds of traffic-stoppers has become important locally.

After the recent Immigration and Customs Enforcement fatal shooting of a woman in Minneapolis, the double shooting by U.S. Customs and Border Protection agents this week in Portland and numerous other incidents — such as the McMinnville teenager dragged from his vehicle through a smashed drivers' window — anyone, immigrant or not, has to think carefully about interacting with this agency.

If you're approached by local law enforcement or the state police, you know it. Their vehicles and persons are clearly marked, their faces and badges visible. But ICE officers, masked and obscured, could be just another street gang, and in too many cases that's how they've behaved.

The story from the Department of Homeland Security was of encounters with terrorists and gang members. But there's no indication that



Portland police officers stand behind police tape in front of an apartment building in east Portland. (Alex Baumhardt / Oregon Capital Chronicle)

any of the three shooting victims were armed or fought back in any way. And the questions about the Portland incident are piling up rapidly.

DHS was specific about saying both Portland shooting victims were associated with the transnational (but Venezuela-based) Tren de Aragua gang. How would they have known this before even stopping the vehicle? Portland police said there is some "nexus" between the two and the gang, but it sounds vague so far. Researchers who have looked into the gang's reach said they have found no significant evidence of it in Portland.

The two have been identified as Luis David Nico Moncada and Yorlenys Betzabeth Zambrano-Contreras, Venezuelan nationals. They were described as having criminal records. But research by the Oregon Capital Chronicle of federal and state court records, plus the massive Lexis-Nexis database, found no such cases.

One witness at the scene of the incident was said in news reports to have heard five shots. That was disputed by the Department of Homeland Security, which said just one was fired — which remarkably would have had to pass through a door and

the driver before reaching the passenger. Or if, as DHS maintained, the truck was "weaponized," that would have meant it was moving toward the shooter — who could not have hit both people from the front with a single shot.

Who was the border protection officer who shot an unarmed driver and passenger on the streets of Portland? We've not been told.

Multnomah County officials have said they plan to conduct a full investigation, and so has Oregon Attorney General Dan Rayfield.

They should get about it promptly, and they should not be deterred as pressure mounts (as

it did in Minnesota) to turn over the investigation to federal officials. At this point, the results of a federal inquiry, if released at all, would be highly unlikely to be widely believed. State and local investigations are the only way most Oregonians, or anyone, will ever get a sense of what happened.

We need an independent and credible investigation, and soon, so we know what we're dealing with when ICE comes to town. Is it in the category of a law enforcement agency, or something else?

These days, Oregon drivers are in the same position as Tim Cahill's cross-continental travelers in trying to discern one from the other.

<https://oregoncapitalchronicle.com/2026/01/09/investigating-the-truth-about-federal-officers-shooting/>

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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

RATHER HYPOCRITICAL

It seems rather hypocritical and ingenious for David Elton to purchase a half page ad extolling the virtues of Claire Hall considering the tens of thousands of dollars he spent buying multiple full page and bottom banner ads in this publication for weeks in an effort to get rid of her.

Lucy Nash
Newport

ONLINE POLL

Previous Poll

Do you favor a traditional July 4 fireworks display for your city?

38.6%.....Yes

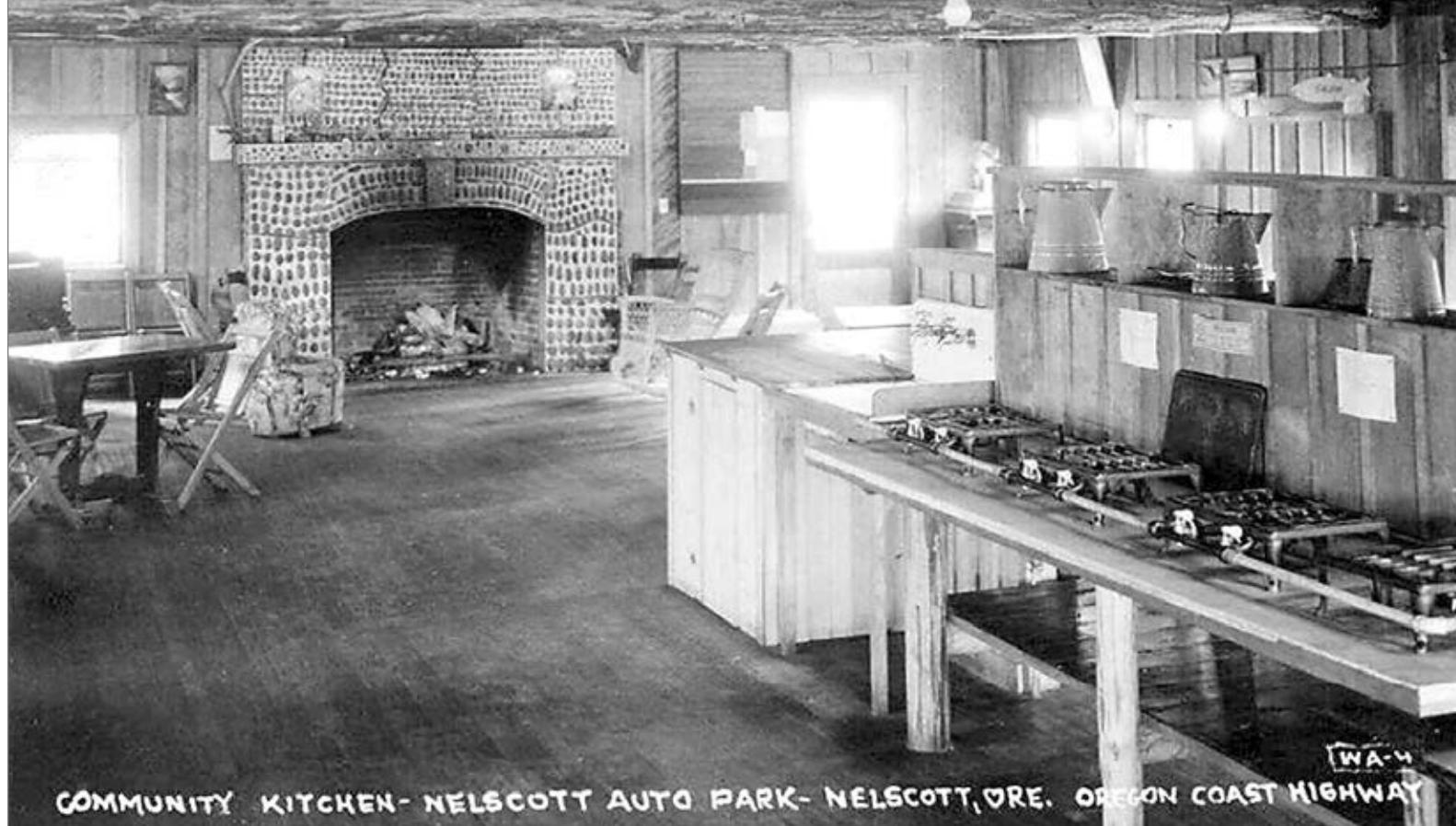
61.4%.....No

New Poll

Do you believe your personal freedoms are threatened by the Trump administration?

• Yes

• No



**ad
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Lincoln County Leader

Employee tenure still averages four years

NELSON GOMES
Leader Guest Article

How long do workers stay in a given job? Nationally, the average employee tenure was 3.9 years in January 2024, down from 4.1 years in January 2022. Data to address this question isn't available for Oregon, but every two years the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics publishes this information for the nation.

These surveys have been conducted since 1996 and data back to 2006 show little variation – job tenure has been fairly consistent over the last 18 years. A slight peak was reached in the January 2012 results, which is probably the effect of workers staying longer in the jobs they held – if they managed to hang on to them – when the nation entered the Great Recession, which lasted from late 2007 to the middle of 2009.

These figures don't suggest much about the effects of the pandemic; although tenure of public sector workers rose a bit between January 2020 and January 2022, and declined in 2024, which could reflect some workers staying in their public-sector jobs through the pandemic and waiting out the uncertainty.

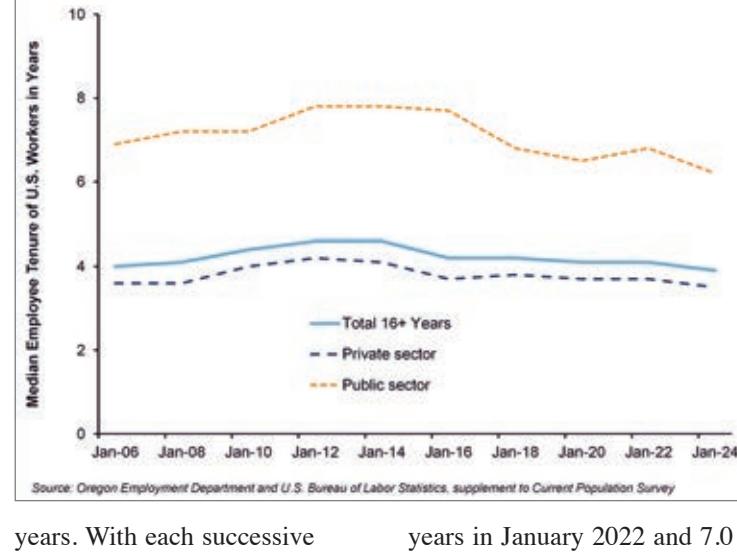
Public-sector workers tend to stay in their jobs longer than the average in the much larger private-sector workforce. In January 2024 the median tenure for public-sector workers was 6.2 years, down from 6.8 in January 2022. This is nearly twice the median for private-sector employees when compared with 3.7 years in 2022 and 3.5 in 2024.

OLDER WORKERS HAVE LONGER TENURE

Age seems to be the major determining characteristic in employee tenure. Younger workers have far shorter tenure in their jobs than older workers, which is somewhat obvious due to their shorter work histories. Younger workers face a lot of transitions in a short timespan which also reduces job tenure – from short-term summertime jobs to leaving for college in a new city or state. On average, teenagers spend less than a year in each position, and for those ages 20 to 24 the median tenure is 1.4



Age seems to be the major determining characteristic in employee tenure. Younger workers have far shorter tenure in their jobs than older workers, which is somewhat obvious due to their shorter work histories. Metro Creative Connection



years. With each successive age group the median tenure rises, topping out at a median of almost 10 years for workers ages 55 and over.

There's been very little movement in median tenure among the different age groups over the past decade. Teens are just as likely to be transitioning between jobs (and holding a lot of jobs as they gain experience) as they were a decade ago. Older workers are just as likely to have been with their employer for a much longer timespan.

The 2020 column illustrates that the pandemic didn't change the overall tenure of U.S. workers in any age group by much. Tenure changed the most for workers ages 45 to 54, dropping from the 7.5-year median in January 2020 to 6.9

WORKERS STAY LONGER IN SOME TYPES OF JOBS

It may come as no surprise that management occupations have the longest tenure among occupation groups. Workers in management occupations had a median tenure with their current employer of 6.2 years in January 2022 and 5.7 years in 2024. That doesn't mean they were necessarily a manager for the entirety of their tenure – this would include workers who began in another role and moved into management with the same employer, because the data measure a worker's time with an employer, not their time in their current role. Median tenure was also longer than five years in education,

training, and library occupations (5.3); protective service (5.2); and farming, fishing and forestry occupations (5.1).

On the lower end of employee tenure, workers in food preparation and serving occupations had been with their current employer for a median of just 2 years. Personal care and service workers averaged 2.5 years with their current employer. Health care support occupations had a median of 2.8 years. Food preparation and personal care occupations have a lot of part-time and low-paying jobs. Many workers have their first jobs in these occupations but move out of these jobs as they gain education and experience. For health care support occupations, the low tenure may speak to career pathways where workers gain health care experience in entry-level roles while pursuing more training.

EDUCATION AND SEX DON'T EXPLAIN EMPLOYEE TENURE

There's not much difference in the employee tenure of men and women, though men's tenure has consistently come in just slightly above women's tenure. Women's median in January 2024 was 3.6 years, down from the median on 3.8 years in January 2022, and men's median was 4.2 years in 2024, down from 4.3 years in 2022.

Another characteristic that doesn't hold much power over tenure is education level. Keep in mind that the youngest workers aren't included in these calculations – the data only includes workers ages 25 and over, because education levels aren't expected to change much, on average, after age 25. Workers with less than a high school diploma had a median tenure of 4.7 years. Those with some college but no degree had a slightly shorter median of 4.5 years. Workers with master's degrees had the longest tenure at 5.2 years, slightly above doctoral or professional degrees with a median of 4.8 years. All other education levels were clustered right around five years of tenure.

Overall, workers' median tenure with their current employers was 3.9 years in January 2024. About 22% of workers had been with their current employer for less than one year. This group is disproportionately young and thus more likely to be new to the workforce.

It also includes those who have lost jobs and found new jobs in the past year, as well as workers who voluntarily moved to a new job. Another 32% had worked for the same employer for one to four years. Workers who'd been at the same job for five to 14 years accounted for 30% of the workforce and 17% of the workforce had been with their current employer for 15 years or longer.

Employee tenure has been very steady on average; it averaged 3.9 in January of 2024, 4.1 years in January 2022 and has been between 4.0 years and 4.6 years over the past 15 years. Tenure for older workers is longer than for younger workers. The relationship between age and tenure has held over time and age seems to be the only individual characteristic with much power over median job tenure. Today's young workers – and older workers – are behaving much as those groups have in the past in terms of how long they stick with their employers.

Nelson Gomes is a Workforce Analyst at the Oregon Employment department. he may be reached at nelson.m.gomes@employ.oregon.gov or at 971-493-8501.

Pump prices falling, new forecast shows below \$3 per gallon

STAFF REPORT
Lincoln County Leader

Average gasoline prices in Oregon have fallen 4.3 cents per gallon in the last week, averaging \$3.26/g today, according to GasBuddy's survey of 1,307 stations in Oregon. Prices in Oregon are 34.0 cents per gallon lower than a month ago and stand 15.6 cents per gallon lower than a year ago. The national average price of diesel has decreased 2.3 cents compared to a week ago and stands at \$3.475 per gallon.

According to GasBuddy price reports, the cheapest station in Oregon was priced at \$2.49/g yesterday while the most expensive was \$4.29/g, a difference of \$1.80/g. The lowest price in the state yesterday was \$2.49/g while the highest was \$4.29/g, a difference of \$1.80/g.

The national average price of gasoline has fallen 0.8 cents per gallon in the last week, averaging \$2.73/g today. The national average is down 17.0 cents per gallon from a month ago and stands 28.9 cents per gallon lower than a year ago, according to GasBuddy data compiled from more than 11

million weekly price reports covering over 150,000 gas stations across the country.

Historical gasoline prices in Oregon and the national average:

January 12, 2025: \$3.42/g (U.S. Average: \$3.02/g)
January 12, 2024: \$3.64/g (U.S. Average: \$3.07/g)
January 12, 2023: \$3.62/g (U.S. Average: \$3.25/g)
January 12, 2022: \$3.89/g (U.S. Average: \$3.31/g)
January 12, 2021: \$2.53/g (U.S. Average: \$2.34/g)

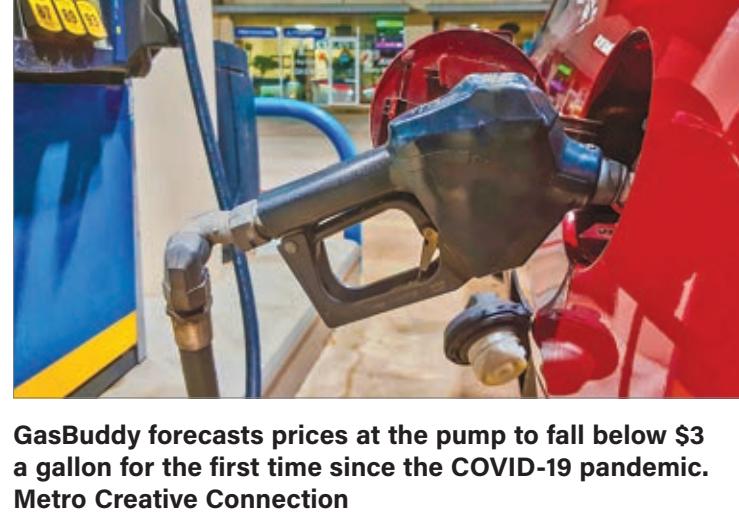
Neighboring areas and their current gas prices:

Eugene- \$3.05/g, up 4.6 cents per gallon from last week's \$3.00/g.

Salem- \$3.16/g, down 4.6 cents per gallon from last week's \$3.21/g.

Portland- \$3.42/g, down 3.9 cents per gallon from last week's \$3.46/g.

"Gas prices nationally saw little change over the last week, though several price-cycling states did experience notable jumps," said Patrick De Haan, head of petroleum analysis at GasBuddy. "The good news is that once prices rise in these markets, they often retreat for a week or longer afterward. While the



GasBuddy forecasts prices at the pump to fall below \$3 a gallon for the first time since the COVID-19 pandemic. Metro Creative Connection

situation in Venezuela has dominated headlines, it's far too early for any measurable impact on what consumers are paying at the pump – whether prices go up or down – as it would likely take years to see a meaningful increase in oil output there. For now, gas prices remain seasonally lower, but with oil prices inching higher, the national average could soon see some limited upward movement."

2026 OUTLOOK

GasBuddy® released its 2026 Fuel Price Outlook

Jan. 6, forecasting the yearly national average price of gasoline to fall back below \$3 per gallon for the first time since the COVID-19 pandemic. The yearly U.S. average is projected to be \$2.97 per gallon, down 13 cents from 2025's average of \$3.102 and marking the lowest yearly average since 2020.

Despite the welcome relief from the highs seen earlier in the decade, GasBuddy expects 2026 to still bring familiar bouts of volatility tied to seasonal demand, refinery maintenance, hurricane season

and ongoing geopolitical risks. Diesel prices are forecast to remain elevated relative to gasoline but continue easing from recent peaks, averaging \$3.55 per gallon for the year.

Key highlights from GasBuddy's 2026 Fuel Outlook:

- 2026 national average: Projected to be \$2.97 per gallon, down from \$3.10 in 2025 – the fourth straight yearly decline.
- Spring peak: Prices may briefly reach the low \$3.20s during the switch to summer gasoline.
- Second-half relief: Prices are likely to fall after June, with December forecast to average \$2.83.
- Diesel: Forecast to average \$3.55 nationally in 2026, down from \$3.62 in 2025.
- Lowest-priced regions: The Gulf Coast and South are expected to stay well under \$3.
- Highest-priced regions: California, the Northeast and Chicago remain top-cost areas, but below 2022 highs.
- U.S. gasoline spending: Motorists are projected to spend \$11 billion less on gasoline in 2026 compared to 2025.



The Yachats Lions Club annual Crab Feed in 2024. (Courtesy photo)

Yachats Lions Club announce 2026 Dungeness crab feed

The Yachats Lions Club has scheduled the annual community Dungeness crab feed for Jan. 31.

For over 30 years the Yachats Lions Club has held an annual Crab Feed event in Yachats.

The annual trek to

Yachats to eat Dungeness crab is a tradition for families and groups from across Oregon, Washington and beyond, according to the Club.

This year's Crab Feed will go back to All-You-Can-Eat and the price will be \$50 per person.

The meal will consist of Dungeness crab, baked beans, coleslaw, bread and soda. We will have four seatings this year; two at the Lions Hall at 12:30 p.m. and 4 p.m. and two at the Yachats

See CRAB, page B6

LCCC Presents: Adam Moezinia's Folk Element Trio

The Lincoln City Cultural Center invites the community to an evening of adventurous, acoustic-forward jazz with Adam Moezinia's Folk Element Trio on Wednesday, Jan. 21, 2026 at 7 p.m. in the Cultural Center Auditorium.

The show features a sound that moves easily from jazz improvisation to folk-inspired grooves drawn from West Africa, South Africa, the Caribbean, the UK, and Appalachia.

Guitarist and composer Adam Moezinia has been building the Folk Element Trio since 2017, shaping it into a tight, telepathic unit



Guitarist and composer Adam Moezinia

that explores how timeless folk rhythms and melodies can spark new directions in modern jazz. After launching the project in New York, the group hit the road for its first national tour in 2020, then released its debut album, Folk

Element Trio, in April 2021.

Moezinia's own musical path is just as wide-ranging. A Los Angeles native, he studied at LACHSA, performed and taught on

See LCCC, page B3

Violinist Rachel Barton Pine to perform in Newport

Courtesy photo



Newport Symphony Orchestra (NSO) continues their 2025-26 season with world class violinist, Rachel Barton Pine.

The performances are scheduled for 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 17, and at 2 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 18, at the Newport Performing Arts Center, 777 W. Olive Street in Newport.

Tickets are \$45-\$70 for regular seating. Students \$10 with ID.

Repertoire: Manuel de Falla: Spanish Dance No. 1 from *La vida breve*

Igor Stravinsky: Suite from *Pulcinella*

John Adams: The Chairman Dances from *Nixon in China*

Alexander Glazunov: Violin Concerto

This unparalleled concert event starts with Spanish Dance No. 1 by de Falla from his opera, *La vida breve* or "Life is Short."

The opera tells the story of Salud, a gypsy girl who is passionately in love with

See SYMPHONY, page B3

The Sunshine Boys opening Jan. 29 at Theatre West

SUBMITTED

The production of The Sunshine Boys opens Jan. 29 at Theatre West, 3536 SE Highway 101 in Lincoln City.

Athena Suckow directs this 1972 American comedy about two legendary, and cranky, comics brought together for a reunion and revival of their famous vaudeville act. This is Athena's first directorial effort, but with past experience in the assistant director chair, and support from her assistant director, all things should be great for this first-time effort.

THE STORY

Al and Willie as "Lewis and Clark" were top-billed vaudevillians for over forty years. Now they aren't even speaking. When CBS requests them for a "History of Comedy" retrospective, a grudging reunion brings the two back together, along with a flood of memories, miseries and laughs. The

story follows the attempt by a young theatrical agent to reunite his elderly uncle, a former vaudevillian great, with his long-time stage partner for a TV reunion.

Despite their celebrated reputation, the two old men have not spoken in twelve years. Besides remastering their sketch, the two men have numerous issues to work out before they are ready to return to the public eye.

"The Sunshine Boys" is presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals on behalf of Samuel French Inc. www.concordtheatricals.com

DATES

Jan. 29 - Feb. 21 at Theatre West Thursday, Friday, and Saturday evenings at 7:30 pm. Two Matinees - 2 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 7 and 2 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 15.

TICKETS

Visit <https://theatrewest.com/play/the-sunshine-boys/> or call 541-994-5663.



The Rotary Club of Newport has awarded Taft Elementary School \$1,000 in recognition of staff and students' efforts during summer beach cleanups. Shown from left are Rotary President Brian Gardner, Rotarian Mark Miranda, Taft Principal Leslie Roache, Taft teacher Bianca Dale, and Rotarian Guy Faust. (Courtesy photo)

Taft Elementary Awarded for Summer Microplastics Cleanup

Taft Elementary received a \$1,000 award from the Rotary Club of Newport this month, recognizing the school's

hands-on efforts to protect Oregon's beaches. During summer school, teacher Bianca Dale led two microplastics cleanup

field trips where more than 60 students and staff learned to identify,

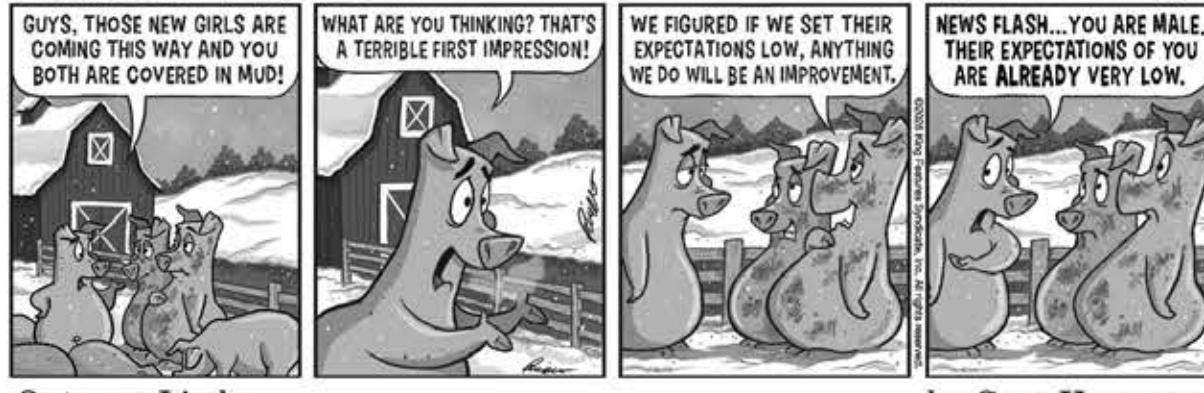
See TAFT, page B3

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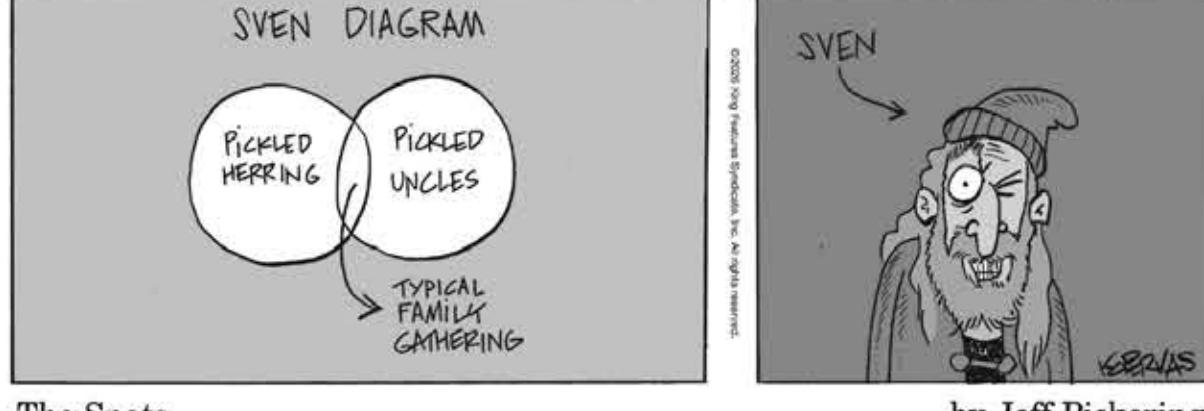
Lincoln County Leader

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Amber Waves

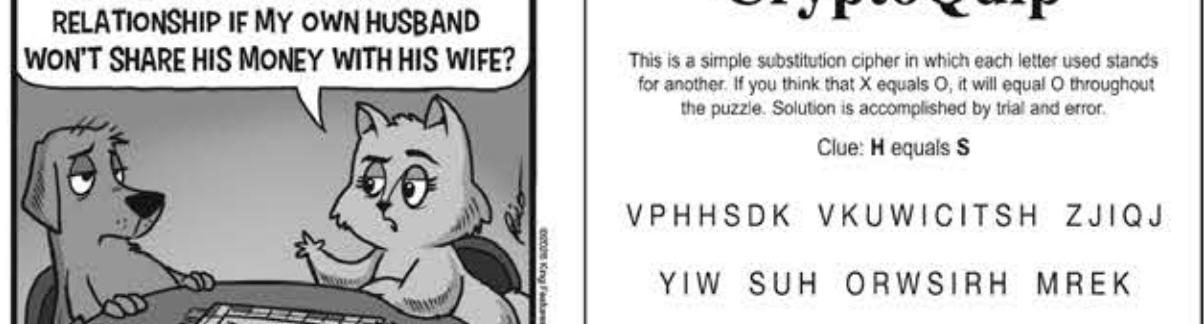
Out on a Limb



The Spats

**TIGER****OLIVE & POPEYE****HOCUS-FOCUS** BY HENRY BOLTINOFF

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: H equals S

VPHHSOK VKUWICITSH ZJQJQ

YIW SUH ORWSIRH MREK

CICRTPUSIJ IY HMPEEX NPNX

NIDSJKH: JKQ XPZ OSUX.

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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.

AWXJE YXC WSHCG ECCG

VTGHKGF SWX YG KJCY, UTH

KJCYE YXC GCQCX ECCG

VTGHKGF SWX AWXJE.

— ZWEV UKBBKGFE

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Trivia test

by Fifi Rodriguez

1. HISTORY: What is the Code of Hammurabi?

2. GAMES: Which letters in the English version of Scrabble are worth 10 points each?

3. MOVIES: What is the name of Dr. Evil's cat in "Austin Powers in Goldmember"?

4. MEDICAL TERMS: What is the common name for somnambulating?

5. TELEVISION: What is the name of the town where "Veronica Mars" is set?

6. THEATER: What is the first play written by an African American woman to be produced on Broadway?

7. LANGUAGE: What is the official language of Austria?

8. MATH: What is the smallest prime number?

9. GEOGRAPHY: What is the only U.S. state with a one-syllable name?

10. MYTHOLOGY: What is the home of the Norse gods?

Answers

1. One of the earliest and most complete written legal codes established by the Babylonian King Hammurabi.

2. Q and Z.

3. Mr. Bigglesworth.

4. Sleepwalking.

5. Neptune, California.

6. "A Raisin in the Sun," by Lorraine Hansberry, 1959.

7. German.

8. 2.

9. Maine.

10. Asgard.

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— JOSH BILLINGS

hunting for words.

ideas are never seen

hunting for an idea, but

words are often seen

answer

CryptoQuote

bovine: New York City.

population of shaggy baby

for its curious huge

massive metropolis known

answer

CryptoQuip**VOTERS**

Today's Word

3. Vintager; 4. Scheme

1. Conifer; 2. Linnet;

solution

solutions

SCRAMBBLERS

SCRAMBLERS

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

Discuss

ENFORC

Inherent

ANTENI

Classic

GIANTEV

Plod

MCHEES

TODAY'S WORD

"Frankly, I'm against aid to education — we've

got too many educated on hand as it is."

'Just Imagine: Oregon Horizons' at Newport Public Library

SUBMITTED

On Saturday, January 24, from 1 to 4:30 p.m. in the McEntee Room of the Newport Public Library, 35 NW Nye St, Newport, 30 of Oregon's most eminent poets will celebrate the spoken word with a reading from the new anthology, "Just Imagine: Oregon Horizons," edited by local author Alexandra Mason.

This is the second in a series of gorgeous poetry anthologies of work by Oregon poets about their homeland. The first is "The Grace of Oregon Rain."

From our grand shoreline on the Pacific to our volcano peaks, our lush valleys and bubbling streams, from basalt outcrops to a deep lake caldera and high deserts with colonial wild mustang

herds, our impressive waterways including the wide Columbia, and always, our prolific forest lands, poets place us in this environment along with the dreams it carries, from the past and for the future.

Copies of the book will be available. Come meet the poets and enjoy our spoken word.

Call for more information, 541-265-2153.

SYMPHONY

From Page B1

a wealthy man named Paco. He is engaged to be married to someone else and has kept this secret from her. Once the truth is known, Salud and her uncle crash the wedding party and confront the man and his new bride. Paco rejects Salud and in grand opera fashion, she dies of broken heart and collapses at his feet. And yet, in spite of the context, the Spanish Dance No. 1 is a pleasing and joyful work.

Moving from the opera to the ballet is Stravinsky's suite from Pulcinella. Stravinsky was very pragmatic in expanding his publishing rights by taking the music he was commissioned to write for the ballet and re-editing it into suites. As a result, The Firebird, The Rite of Spring, Petrushka, and Pulcinella all have stunning orchestral suites

that are standards in the orchestral repertoire. This little suite beautifully retains the playfulness of Pulcinella and his friends as they fall in and out of love depicted with music written in the neoclassical style.

From the ballet, we return again to the opera and this time, it's from the 1987 hit, Nixon in China by American composer, John Adams. As is implicit in the title, this piece was inspired by Richard Nixon's 1972 visit to China. While not an obvious choice for an operatic subject, this works extraordinarily well. This piece is a fox-trot from Act III. Madame Mao gate-crashes the presidential banquet performs a seductive dance. Chairman Mao comes down from his portrait and the pair dance a fox-trot back in time. Listen closely and you can hear a gramophone winding down and the piece comes to an end.

The program this

evening closes with Alexander Glazunov's Violin Concerto performed by the truly brilliant Rachel Barton Pine. The New York Times describe her as "striking and charismatic", and the Washington Post says she "displays a power and confidence that puts her in the top echelon."

The acclaimed American concert violinist thrills international audiences with her dazzling technique, lustrous tone, and emotional honesty. She has performed with the world's top orchestras including Philadelphia Orchestra, Royal Philharmonic, Camerata Salzburg, the Chicago Symphony, the Vienna Philharmonic, the Detroit Symphony and many more. The Glazunov concerto highlights the composer's technically brilliant style and will showcase our guest violinist wonderfully with the stunning beauty and passion of the piece.

TAFT

From Page B1

collect, and document tiny pieces of plastic pollution. Over just two days, students removed seven pounds of microplastics from local shorelines.

"I decided to make beach cleanups part of our Summer Learning program because former Taft Principal Rebecca Bostwick and I centered our theme around pollution, environmental stewardship, and art," Dale said. "We wanted students to learn about the negative effects of pollution, participate in discussions

and hands-on activities that showed how to care for the land. The goal was to turn the waste collected from our cleanups into student-created artwork, which we successfully accomplished with the help of Krista Eddy, from the Lincoln City Cultural Center."

The cleanups gave students an up-close look at just how difficult microplastics are to identify and remove. As they sifted through sand alongside Rotary volunteers, many were surprised by the scale of the problem and the persistence of these tiny pollutants.

"Students learned about

the dangers of microplastics throughout their academic lessons, but the learning truly came to life when they were in the field collecting microplastics," Dale said. "They realized how tiny these particles are, how difficult they are to remove without a screen, and how easily animals can ingest them. Several students proudly shared that they felt they had 'saved a seagull's life.'

Microplastics are small plastic fragments less than five millimeters long and are a growing environmental concern because they persist for hundreds of years and can harm

wildlife. Addressing this issue has become a major service focus for the Rotary Club of Newport. Under the leadership of environmental services director Guy Faust, Rotary offered an incentive program this summer inviting local groups to participate in daily beach cleanups from July through early September. Groups earned raffle entries based on volunteer turnout and pounds of debris collected, and Taft Elementary's teams were ultimately selected as the \$1,000 winners.

Dale hopes the award can support a future Summer Learning field trip, such as a visit to the

PRESIDENT'S LIST

LILLIBELLE BASSINGTHWAITE

Lillibelle Bassingthwaite, a SUNY Canton Legal Studies major from Toledo, earned President's List honors during the fall 2025 semester.

"Your academic achievements during the fall semester reflect your dedication, perseverance and commitment to excellence," SUNY Canton President Zvi Szafran said. "We are proud of all

you have accomplished and applaud your success on behalf of the faculty, staff and administration at SUNY Canton."

To earn a spot on the President's List, full-time students must earn a 3.75 or greater GPA during a single semester of study. A complete list of all honor students runs in the news section of www.canton.edu.

DEAN'S LIST

DOROTHY PADDISON

Dorothy Paddison of Seal Rock has been named to Texas State University's Fall 2025 Dean's List in recognition of academic excellence.

Majoring in Psychology, Paddison is

among only 18% of students named to the Fall 2025 Dean's List.

Texas State University is proud to recognize academic excellence by naming high achieving students to the Spring Term Dean's List.

This prestigious honor

recognizes students who have achieved a term GPA between 3.5 and 3.99 while enrolled in 12 or more GPA hours at Texas State University.

Earning the Dean's List is a testament to students' dedication to academic excellence.

Oregon mussel harvesting reopens



Mussel harvesting is a popular event along the Oregon Coast. (Courtesy photo)

CLOSED from Cape Blanco to the CA border.

results below the closure limit.

Bay clams:

OPEN coastwide.

Crab:

OPEN coastwide.

ODA will continue

testing for shellfish

toxins at least twice

per month, as tides

and weather permit.

Reopening an area closed

for biotoxins requires two

consecutive tests with

results below the closure limit.

For more information call ODA's shellfish biotoxin hotline at (800) 448-2474, the ODA

Food Safety Program at 503-986-4720, or visit the ODA Shellfish Food

Safety Webpage.

Contact ODFW for recreational license requirements, permits, rules, and

limits.

LCCC

From Page B1

peer-to-peer tours with the Thelonious Monk Institute, and later moved to New York to study at The Juilliard School on a full-tuition scholarship. His playing has taken him to major jazz venues and collaborations, while the Folk Element Trio continues to be his home base for weaving global influences into a singular, guitar-led sound.

For listeners curious about where those global threads begin, the trio's material often grows from specific musical sparks. One example is Moezinia's "Ivory Suite," influenced by West African folk music, which he began experimenting with after hearing Beninese jazz guitarist Lincoln Louke.

Onstage, Moezinia's Folk Element Trio feels less like a formal recital and more like being invited into the band's circle, as they connect

the dots between jazz and folk traditions in real time and "share those discoveries with audiences" along the way. Reviewers have noted the music's celebratory spirit, even pointing to the set's momentum as the kind where "the party begins" from the very first tune.

With global folk influences woven into modern jazz textures, it's an easy-going, rhythm-forward night that's as engaging as it is adventurous.

Moezinia will be joined in Lincoln City by Emiliano Lasansky (bass) and Marcello Carelli (drums). On bass, Emiliano Lasansky brings a melodic, story-driven approach shaped by a wide-ranging path through the jazz world. Raised in Iowa City and now based in Los Angeles, Lasansky is also a composer, with highlights that include a 2023 ASCAP Foundation Award in composition, studies at the Eastman School of Music, and work connected to the

Herbie Hancock Institute of Jazz Performance at UCLA. Behind the kit, Marcello Carelli adds lift, sparkle, and serious musicality, drawing on his background as a drummer, composer, and arranger. Carelli earned degrees from the University of Miami Frost School of Music

and USC Thornton, has performed with Grammy Award-winning artists, and has even taught masterclasses internationally.

Event details

What: LCCC Presents:

Adam Moezinia's Folk

Element Trio

When: Wednesday, Jan.

21, 2026 at 7 pm

Where: Lincoln

Oregon Coast Aquarium's Washed Ashore exhibit, which was beyond last year's budget. She also encourages other LCSD groups to consider joining Rotary's cleanup efforts in 2025, noting that the program offers a meaningful way for students to contribute to the health of their coastal community.

"There are two ways to look at spending two hours of volunteer time," Faust explained. "A few pounds of microplastic may seem like a drop in the bucket,

but those few pounds will no longer be floating in the ocean for the next 100 to 1,000 years, or breaking down into microfibers and

taking to the wind."

Rotary's efforts are part of a broader goal to involve both residents and visitors in preserving the health of Oregon's coast. The club hopes to expand its microplastics initiative next summer and invites additional school groups, nonprofits, and community organizations to participate.

Groups interested in volunteering can contact: ecofriendlyvolunteer rotary@gmail.com.

To learn more about the

microplastics initiative

and watch the project in

action, view the video

funded by the Economic

Development Alliance of Lincoln County.

Support these Local Nonprofit Community Organizations!

Samaritan House

501(c)(3) nonprofit organization

Samaritan House envisions a community where all families can live together in safe, affordable, and sustainable housing; and all generations are able to thrive.

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Phone: 541-574-8898

Sam House

samsfamselter.org

Please donate

City Cultural Center Auditorium, 540 NE Hwy 101, Lincoln City

Tickets: Reserved cabaret seating \$30 / \$27 / \$20 (member discounts

apply)

Tickets/Info: 541-994-9994 or the LCCC ticket link at <https://app.arts-people.com/index.php?show=306438>

Lincoln County Leader

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DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ◆◆◆

SUDOKU 数独

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

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

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Donate your car, truck, boat, RV and more to support our veterans! Schedule a FAST, FREE vehicle pickup and receive a top tax deduction! Call Veteran Car Donations at 1-866-695-9265 today!

Get a break on your taxes! Donate your car, truck, or SUV to assist the blind and visually impaired. Arrange a swift, no-cost vehicle pickup and secure a generous tax credit for 2025. Call Heritage for the Blind Today at 1-844-533-9173 today!

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Get DISH Satellite TV + Internet! Free Install, Free HD-DVR Upgrade, 80,000 On-Demand Movies, Plus Limited Time Up To \$600 In Gift Cards. Call Today! 1-866-373-9175.

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Safe Step. North

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Answers



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500 EMPLOYMENT

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999 PUBLIC NOTICES

LCL26-006 IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE STATE OF OREGON FOR THE COUNTY OF LINCOLN

In the Matter of the Estate of Bernice Pearl Gesik, Deceased. No. 25PB10865 - Probate. NOTICE TO INTERESTED PERSONS. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned has been appointed Personal Representative of the estate of the above.

999 PUBLIC NOTICES

LCL26-009 THE TOLEDO URBAN RENEWAL AGENCY (AGENCY) HAS PUBLISHED THE

FY 2024/25 Toledo Urban Renewal Plan annual report. It is on file at City Hall and with the Agency. The full information is available to all interested persons. In FY 2024/25, the Agency received \$481,633 in property tax revenue. The expenditures totaled \$352,343. The estimated current year tax revenues for FY 2025/26 are \$500,000. The FY 2025/26 budget includes \$698,096 in revenues and expenditures. The amount of maximum indebtedness remaining for the Plan Area is \$30,359,037. The impacts on taxing districts due to the Toledo Urban Renewal Plan in FY 2024/25 are shown below. Taxing District Impact Lincoln County General 96,433 Lincoln County School Unit

999 PUBLIC NOTICES

LCL26-011 IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE STATE OF OREGON FOR THE COUNTY OF LINCOLN

In the Matter of the Estate of James Marion Davis, Jr., Deceased. Case No.: 25PB10664. NOTICE TO INTERESTED PERSONS. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that John Ashley Davis has been appointed personal representative of the estate of James Marion Davis, Jr. All persons having claims against the estate are required to present them, with vouchers attached, to the personal representative, or the attorney for the personal representative, Ryan M. Johnson, Johnson & Taylor, 1193 Liberty Street, SE, Salem, OR 97302, within four months after the date of first publication of this notice, or the claims may be barred. All persons whose rights may be affected by the proceedings may obtain additional information from the records of the court, the personal representative, or the attorneys for the personal representative, or the attorney for the personal representative, Ryan M. Johnson, Johnson & Taylor, 1193 Liberty Street, SE, Salem, OR 97302. Date and first published: January 14, 2026 1/14/26

999 PUBLIC NOTICES

LCL26-012 SELF STORAGE PUBLIC SALE.

Safe-Lock Storage, 3639 SE Ash St South Beach, Oregon 97369. Saturday, 1/31/2026 @ 10:00AM. C24 - Anna, Stravalle, C37 - Angie Graham, D29 - Lucy Keith, E29E30 - Philip Meredith, F31 - Holly Torrey, N03 - Rachael Nickerson, R22F - Jose Garcia Villanueva. Sale Subject to Cancellation. Safe-Lock Storage reserves the Right to refuse any and all bids. 1/14/26 1/26/26 1/4/26

999 PUBLIC NOTICES

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

On February 19, 2026, at the hour of 10:00 a.m., at the Lincoln County Courthouse, 225 W Olive St, Room 203, in the City of Newport, Oregon, the defendants' interests will be sold, subject to redemption, in the following time share interests, which will be sold individually and all of which are located at 939 NW Highway 101, Depoe Bay, OR 97341, commonly known as THE RESORT

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Newport boys sit atop the state

WILL LOHRE
Lincoln County Leader

The Cubs have been one of the top 4A teams in the state this winter, and with a 10-1 record, Newport's boys are atop early-season rankings.

Ahead of their penultimate non-league game against Molalla on Jan. 13, Newport had won eight games in a row and won 10 of 11. In the most recent OSAA Today 4A Boys Basketball Coaches Poll, Newport was voted as the #2 team in the state behind Scappoose High School. In OSAA's 4A basketball rankings, the Cubs are ranked #1.

So what's been the secret to the success this season?

Well, for Head Coach Will Burghardt, much of the on-court excellence has been a product of the team's stick-to-itiveness and determination.

"A huge key to our success early in the season is our resiliency. We have had games cancelled, which have led to longer breaks than usual, and the guys have stayed together and shown up ready to play every game," Burghardt said. "There have been close games where we could have easily folded and given up, but instead we battled and ended up closing out games that we have not been able to do the last couple of years."

In the 10 wins they have racked up this season, the Cubs have done it in different ways. Seven of the wins have been by 13 points or more. The other three were decided by single digits. The lone loss on



Newport battling for rebounds in a win against Tillamook on Dec. 12. (Courtesy photo from Newport High School Athletics Facebook page)

Newport's record came against the #1 3A team, Westside Christian, on Dec. 11.

For a playoff team that went 16-9 last season, 2026 could not have started on a better note, and Burghardt credited the team's leaders, Aaidyn Bokuro, Collin Fierro, Easton Herrmann, and Aiden Brown, for steering the team in the right direction.

Despite graduating six seniors last year, Burghardt pointed to the squad's leadership and fundamentals as the

areas that have improved the most throughout this season.

"We are capable of doing the little things at a higher rate, such as setting better screens, finishing off two feet, and making open jump shots," Burghardt said. "The guys are understanding the game at a much higher level, they are staying connected throughout the game, and it has been really fun to coach them."

As the Cubs advance into league play in the Oregon West Conference, there are still

several facets that Burghardt wants to polish as they reach the climax of the season.

The first area of emphasis is getting multiple defensive stops in a row. Burghardt has the aim of keeping the opposition out for three possessions in a row. If they can do that multiple times each game, it will be hard for other teams to keep pace with the Cubs. Tied into that goal is the desire to clean the glass after opposing misses. If Newport can limit the number of bites other teams have at

the apple, the Cubs can exert more control over games.

Offensively, Newport wants to limit turnovers and take care of the basketball, while also sharpening their shot selection. Burghardt wants his team to value possession, and part of that is ensuring players selflessly pick the right play and take the right shots when they present themselves.

Thanks to the team's high standard of play, the Cubs are enjoying their best start to a season since 2010-2011. Amid a season that has seen so much go right so far, the most impactful standout stretch for Burghardt was the team's play at the Sisters Shootout Tournament Jan. 1-3.

Newport played three games in three days, getting impressive wins against Madras, Sisters, and Santiam Christian to win the tournament.

Burghardt was happy with the way the team played in what was a sort of primer for the state tournament.

"Our goal is to make it to Forest Grove for [the state championship], and if we make it there, we will have three games in three days to win the state championship," Burghardt said. "Knowing that we are capable of beating good teams on no days' rest gives the guys a lot of confidence moving forward into conference play."

League play begins on Jan. 20 when the Cubs host North Marion. That will be the first of 10 league games that will decide whether Newport's playoff dreams become a reality.

Boomers building into league play

WILL LOHRE
Lincoln County Leader

Toledo High School's girls have been up and down the court this season, and on the eve of league basketball, the Boomers are entering Valley Coast play with a winning record and a track record of incremental improvement.

Head Coach Bruce Marthaller has his team at 6-5 through the first 11 games, and one of the keys has been a focus on fundamentals and on discovering the squad's identity.

"Early on, our focus has been on establishing good habits like taking care of the basketball, defending, and rebounding every possession. We wanted to see who we are under pressure and get everyone comfortable in their roles before league play ramps up," Marthaller said. "Our pre-season schedule has been challenging, which should help prepare our team for league play."

Toledo's wins this season have come against Vernonia, Chemawa, Gervais, Reedsport, and Siuslaw twice. The losses came against Coquille, Santiam, Nestucca, Neah-Kah-Nie, and Pleasant Hill. Despite some tough losses, the season has had no small share of big wins! In fact, each of Toledo's wins has been by double digits! The biggest win came in the

Boomers' Jan. 8 matchup with Reedsport. Toledo came out on top 68-20, scoring their highest point total of the season against the Brave.

"I feel really good about this group. They work hard, they compete, and they genuinely care about each other and getting better," Marthaller said. "We're still growing, but they've bought into doing things the right way, and as a coach, that's something you can build on."

Headed into league play, Marthaller and his group's primary goal is to "continue improving every week and be playing our best basketball late in the season." Marthaller wants the Boomers to be a tough team to play against. One that can push other teams to the limit and compete any night.

"If we do that, the wins will take care of themselves," Marthaller said.

While the growth in the early stages of the season has been evident, it hasn't been unexpected for Marthaller from a coaching standpoint. However, Marthaller thinks the biggest surprises have been how the players have surprised themselves with their progress.

Marthaller credited junior Violette Savage with becoming a "real weapon" with a deadly combination of three-point acumen and defensive intensity. Senior Gabby Worden has been



Head Coach Bruce Marthaller with his team after their 68-20 win against Reedsport. (Courtesy photo from the Toledo Girls Basketball Facebook page)

a rock around the basket, bringing down rebounds at a high rate, and collecting 49 boards in pre-season for the Boomers. Marthaller said she has been getting into good spots on both sides of the court. Another high-impact player has been Baylie McAlpine. McAlpine has anchored the Boomers defensively, and with added reliable scoring in her game, Marthaller said, "that kind of growth is exciting to see."

One of the prominent leaders for the Boomers this season has been Kealey Coxen. Coxen has always been a strong defender and rebounder, but this season she's taken a big step by

becoming a threat offensively as well. Coxen grabbed the most rebounds for the Boomers through pre-season, collecting 70 in 11 games, while also adding 5.8 points per game to Toledo's scoring column. Toledo's leading scorer this season has been senior captain Sahaylee Mason. Mason has been hitting on all cylinders this season, leading Toledo in three-pointers, free throws, assists, steals, and points per game at 11.2.

Ahead of the league opener against Waldport on Jan. 13, the Toledo High School Boomers are not the same team they were at the start of

the season. With league play tipping off, now will be the time when playoff teams are decided, but for Marthaller, seeing the team compete and improve will be the accurate measure of success this year. The result of the game against Waldport is unknown at the time of press.

"I'm excited to see how much this group grows. We've got players who are willing to do the little things, defend, rebound, and hustle, and that's where teams separate themselves. Watching that development over the course of the season and seeing what we can become," Marthaller said.

CRAB

From Page B1

Commons at 12:30 p.m. and 4 p.m.

The \$50 per person meal tickets are available for sale online at <https://yachatslionsclub.org/>

You can select the seating and order as many meals as you

like. For more information send an email to YachatsLionsCrabFeed@gmail.com.

"We are very pleased to be offering the fund-raiser as we have done for so many years," Lion Crab Feed Coordinator David O'Kelley said. "We get great support from the community and local businesses in Yachats,

Waldport and Newport. South Beach Fish Market cooks and cleans the best tasting local crab you have ever eaten."

The Lions Club motto is "WE SERVE."

The Club provides services including eyeglasses and exams, hearing aids and exams, eye screening in Lincoln County schools, pancake

breakfasts, crab feed, lunch bunch, speaker series, peace poster and flag day events in local schools. The Club also offers its clubhouse for use by the community.

"Through community donations to the Yachats Lions Thrift Store our sales allow us to donate to local, student scholarships, food pantries,

school programs, projects, and upkeep of the clubhouse," a release from the Lions Club states. "In addition, donations are made to Oregon Lions Sight and Hearing as well as Lions Club International Foundation."

Lions Club International is the world's largest service club organization with a network of 1.4

million men and women in more than 200 countries and geographical locations.

"We serve where we live, as well as globally, and we have fun doing it," the Yachats Lions said.

The proceeds for this fund-raising event are for Oregon Lions Sight and Hearing Foundation.