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TIGERS READY TO BUILD OFF
 IMPRESSIVE 2025
Sports
 PAGE B8



NATIONAL THEATRE LIVE
 RETURNS TO THE PAC
Coast Life
 PAGE B1



Lincoln County Leader

Dangerous mix of conditions heighten local wildfire season

JEREMY C. RUARK
Lincoln County Leader

While the majority of the historic summer wildfires in Oregon have been on the east side of the Cascades, continued hot, dry weather, drought conditions, and the threat of lightning, will heighten the fire danger in Western Oregon, including Lincoln County.

“Our fuels are very, very uncharacteristically

See **WILDFIRE**, page A6



The Wasco County Grasshopper Fire on Wednesday, Aug. 13, reached 83,642 acres. At that time, the fire was 20 percent contained with 1,832 personnel assigned to the incident. (Courtesy from the Oregon department of Forestry)

Newport to receive \$20,000 in the fight against ICE detention center

JEREMY C. RUARK
Lincoln County Leader

The city of Newport is getting financial help in its lawsuit over a potential ICE detention center.

The City of Portland will send in \$20,000 to Newport to help with legal fees.

Portland Mayor Keith Wilson is committing \$10,000 from his non-operational budget and Portland City Councilor

See **ICE**, page A6



A group of local pilots staged a No ICE demonstration at the Newport Airport in December 2025, the day Oregon U.S. Senator Ron Wyden conducted a town hall in Newport to hear residents' concerns about the potential federal facility. (Jeremy C. Ruark / Lincoln County Leader)

Annual Police Citizens' Academy canceled

JEREMY C. RUARK
Lincoln County Leader

The Lincoln City Police Department (LCPD) Administration has made what it calls “the difficult decision” to cancel plans for this year’s annual Police Citizens’ Academy, possibly moving to a biennial program moving forward.

The LCPD had not given a reason in its social media post about why the academy was being canceled.

The LCPD Citizens’ Academy has been an ongoing opportunity for members of the community to learn more about law enforcement and the wider criminal justice system.

“Offering the Citizens Police Academy allows our citizens to learn firsthand about law enforcement in general, as well as policies and procedures specific to our agency, and understand why we do things a certain way,” Academy Coordinator Tammy Williams said in a published interview with the Lincoln City News Guard in 2024. “The knowledge and experience they receive creates an understanding about

See **ACADEMY**, page A7



While the academy does not sanction the participants use of weapons or carrying out actual police duties, the attendees were offered enforcement weapons training. (Courtesy photos)



During the academy classroom sessions, each participant was offered an opportunity to understand specific police procedures, policies, and standards.



Specific law enforcement forensic techniques offered the academy participants insight about crime investigations.

Oregon to start testing ropeless crabbing gear next spring to stop whale entanglements

MIA MALDONADO
Oregon Capital Chronicle

Oregon fishermen will begin testing ropeless crabbing technology next spring in an effort to save whales from often-fatal entanglements.

The state since 2021 has taken steps to reduce whale entanglements,

including requiring additional late season crabbing tags and limiting how many crabbing pots fishermen can use and how deep they can place them, Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife Marine Resources Program Manager Justin Ainsworth told the Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission in a meeting Friday.

But with whale entanglements increasing, commissioners are turning to two new tools to reduce whale

deaths. Rules the commission adopted Friday will require fishermen to share their vessel location with state fishery managers and allow them to test ropeless crabbing gear already allowed in California.

Traditional commercial crabbing gear requires hundreds of traps to sit on the ocean floor, each attached to a vertical line connected to a buoy on the surface. Whales can easily get entangled and injured, often fatally,

See **GEAR**, page A7



Traditional crabbing gear sits at a dock in Newport, the Dungeness Crab Capital of the World. Next spring, fishermen across Oregon can begin experimenting with pop-up gear, a ropeless alternative to crabbing that prevents whale entanglements. Courtesy from Jaime Karnik / Oceana



Weather

Wednesday: High-64/Low-52
AM Clouds/PM Sun

Thursday: High-63/Low-53
AM Fog/PM Sun

Friday: High-61/Low-55
Cloudy

Saturday: High-62/Low-54
Cloudy

Sunday: High-64/Low-53
Partly Cloudy

Monday: High-64/Low-53
Partly Sunny

Tuesday: High-64/Low-53
Mostly Cloudy

Past Weather

On the Coast

	Rain	Low	High
11-Aug.....	0.....	50.95 °F...	67.22 °F
12-Aug.....	0.....	55.57 °F...	67.45 °F
13-Aug.....	0.....	57.36 °F...	66.57 °F
14-Aug.....	0.....	56.23 °F...	64.52 °F
15-Aug.....	0.....	55.44 °F...	69.13 °F
16-Aug.....	0.....	51.38 °F...	67.02 °F
17-Aug.....	0.....	54.98 °F...	58.04 °F

Total rainfall from Jan. 127.14”

Tides Tables

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 19

High.....	6:04 a.m.....	4.8
Low.....	11:06 a.m.....	2.7
High.....	5:36 p.m.....	6.6

THURSDAY, AUGUST 20

Low.....	12:55 a.m.....	1.0
High.....	7:25 a.m.....	4.5
Low.....	11:55 a.m.....	3.4
High.....	6:26 p.m.....	6.4

FRIDAY, AUGUST 21

Low.....	2:06 a.m.....	1.0
High.....	9:04 a.m.....	4.5
Low.....	1:07 p.m.....	3.8
High.....	7:31 p.m.....	6.3

SATURDAY, AUGUST 22

Low.....	3:15 a.m.....	0.8
High.....	10:28 a.m.....	4.7
Low.....	2:34 p.m.....	4.0
High.....	8:42 p.m.....	6.4

SUNDAY, AUGUST 23

Low.....	4:14 a.m.....	0.5
High.....	11:17 a.m.....	5.0
Low.....	3:46 p.m.....	3.7
High.....	9:44 p.m.....	6.6

MONDAY, AUGUST 24

Low.....	5:02 a.m.....	0.1
High.....	11:51 a.m.....	5.3
Low.....	4:41 p.m.....	3.4
High.....	10:36 p.m.....	6.9

TUESDAY, AUGUST 25

Low.....	5:41 a.m.....	-0.2
High.....	12:20 p.m.....	5.6
Low.....	5:27 p.m.....	2.9
High.....	11:20 p.m.....	7.1

Sunrise/Sunset

August 19	6:23 a.m.....	8:17 p.m.
August 20	6:24 a.m.....	8:15 p.m.
August 21	6:25 a.m.....	8:14 p.m.
August 22	6:27 a.m.....	8:12 p.m.
August 23	6:28 a.m.....	8:10 p.m.
August 24	6:29 a.m.....	8:09 p.m.
August 25	6:30 a.m.....	8:07 p.m.
August 26	6:31 a.m.....	8:05 p.m.
August 27	6:32 a.m.....	8:03 p.m.

Lottery

Friday, August 14
Mega Millions
3 • 23 • 27 • 46 • 60 • PB-11

Saturday, August 15
Powerball
5 • 8 • 27 • 29 • 63 • PB-13 • x2

Saturday, August 15
Megabucks
4 • 18 • 41 • 44 • 47 • 48

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Lincoln County Leader

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Newport Police Department issue scam warnings

JEREMY C. RUARK
Lincoln County Leader

The Newport police Department has issued two scam warnings to residents and visitors.

The first warning involves an Apple Pay scam.

If you receive a text from Apple Pay with a message like this, it’s a scam, according to the police warning.

“Apple Pay has found a payment originating from a device awaiting clearance. A device with incomplete verifications was used to submit a [dollar amount] request in Cupertino, CA. processing has been paused as a result, and the payment will stay pending until the necessary identity check is cleared. Clearance case [number]. Did you authorize the payment made through this device? If yes, nothing further is expected from you. We’ll complete the remaining clearance and resume processing automatically. If you did not authorize it, contact 877-389-**** [or other phone number] promptly. We’ll examine the activity and help protect your account. For billing assistance, call [same



Newport Police are warning of an Apple Pay scam. (Courtesy photo from Newport Police)

number as the previous number mentioned].”

First, know that Apple does not text or call users about suspicious activity or unauthorized charges on Apple Pay. Any text message claiming to be an Apple Pay fraud alert with a phone number to call or a link to click is a phishing scam, the Newport Police state in a social media post.

“The sense of urgency to contact the sender is the tactic used to cause your panic,” the post states. “Telling you that the charge will automatically go through if you do not call them right away is their scare tactic

to get you on the phone so they can begin the process of asking questions to gain your personal information.”

Newport Police urge anyone receiving such a text to examine the wording in the text. It isn’t how Apple normally communicates. Phrases such as device awaiting clearance, incomplete verifications, necessary identity check is cleared, and processing has been paused sound deliberately technical and official, but they don’t resemble Apple’s normal terminology for Apple Pay transactions, Newport Police explain.

“Did you also notice the

contradiction? The text clearly states processing has been paused but then states if you authorized the payment (but doesn’t explain HOW you authorized it), nothing further is expected of you, and they will complete the transaction automatically,” the post states.

Newport Police urge anyone who receives such a text to never call the number provided, reply to the text, or click any links.

“If you have Apple Pay, open the Wallet app on your device to review your actual Apple Pay and Apple Cash transaction history, or use Apple’s official support channels.”

Newport Police urge in the post. “If there is an actual issue with a credit or debit card linked to Apple Pay, contact your bank – not Apple – and your bank will handle the fraud protection and alerts. If you wish, you may also take a screenshot of the fraudulent message and email it to reportphishing@apple.com. Then block the number that sent you the original text.”

Employment Scam
Another scam that has appeared in many Facebook community groups, usually posted by someone who has just joined the group, is fake employment offer. The text comes with an attached image which has been used in multiple groups across the county with a link to a form to fill out on Google docs.

Newport Police caution that anyone seeing such a post should be aware of employment posts that do not list the name of the employer, where the job is located, what the job duties entail, etc.

“Do not fill out forms online that ask for your personal information if you cannot verify the employer,” the Newport Police post states.

New bear encounters prompt state, local agency warnings

JEREMY C. RUARK
Lincoln County Leader

Bear encounters have forced the closures of an Oregon campground and prompted warnings from the Bureau of Land Management (BLM and the Lincoln County Sheriff’s Office).

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) has issued a bear encounter warning

A mother bear and her cub have been aggressively looking for food in and around Fan Creek Campground, on the Nestucca River Corridor, roughly twenty-five miles west of McMinnville. In the interest of public safety, Bureau of Land Management officials have temporarily closed the campground.

“The bears have been threatening to visitors, and they do not seem to be afraid of humans,” BLM Tillamook Field Manager Janet Satter said. “For everyone’s safety, the campground is closed for the time being. We are reaching out to visitors with impacted reservations, and we thank them for their flexibility and for respecting this temporary closure.”

The BLM offers alternative camping options along the Nestucca River Corridor, at Dovre and Alder Glen campgrounds. Both sites take reservations.

BLM officials are working with the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife to address the public safety risk.



A bear’s strongest sense is smell. This means everything from trash cans to grill drippings can bring them to your property, according to the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW). (Courtesy photo)

The BLM always urges visitors to take extra precautions in bear country. Simple actions—like giving bears space, securing food and knowing what to do before you enter public lands—can protect visitors and bears. If you encounter a bear, stay calm, speak in a steady voice, back away slowly and do not make sudden movements. Visitors should report bear encounters to BLM field offices as soon as it is safe to do so.

A bear’s strongest sense

is smell. This means everything from trash cans to grill drippings can bring them to your property, according to the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW).

Bears also have a great memory when it comes to food. They remember where they have found food before, including trash. Female bears will also pass this knowledge down to their young. Intentionally or accidentally feeding bears can negatively affect multiple

generations of bears, the Lincoln County Sheriff’s Office (LCSO) states in its weekly Tip of the Week.

Feeding bears (intentionally or accidentally) will not only bring unwanted visitors to your community but can also be harmful. Wildlife have specialized diets that coincide with seasonal changes. Food provided by humans can negatively impact their health, lead to conflict and safety issues with people, and in some cases, have fatal consequences for the animals. For the sake of Oregon’s wildlife and their health, do not feed them.

Living responsibly with black bears is possible and it’s up to everyone to do their part to keep people safe and bears wild. The LCSO and ODFW urge the public to follow these recommendations:

- **Never feed or approach bears.** Feeding bears, intentionally or unintentionally, will cause them to associate people with food. It is also against the law in Oregon (ORS 496.730).
- **Secure food, garbage and recycling.** Please ensure that your trash and dumpsters are secure from bears by using commercially available garbage cans, metal bars over dumpsters, fully enclosed trash storage, or by storing garbage inside. Take trash out immediately before pick-up, not the night before. Wash garbage cans with bleach

to reduce their smell. Food waste is one of the strongest attractants for black bears and allowing bears access could qualify as illegal feeding if appropriate steps are not taken to prevent the issue.

- **Remove bird feeders in bear habitat when bears are active.** Birds have plenty of naturally available food sources during all seasons which is why some species migrate in winter. Bears can be food rewarded from bird seed and suet in feeders leading to habituation and food conditioning, destroyed birdfeeders, and public safety issues.
- **Never leave pet food outdoors.** This practice can easily attract bears and other wildlife, putting your pets and wildlife at risk.
- **Clean and store grills** after each use.
- **Alert neighbors and ODFW to unusual bear activity** (continued sightings during daylight hours, lack of wariness around people or pets, etc.).

The LCSO and ODFW urge residents to share these tips with your neighbors, friends and family.

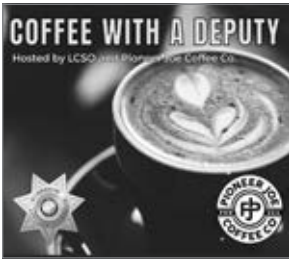
“A community effort is vital to preventing problems with bears,” the two agencies state. “One person who feeds or attracts bears, intentionally or not, can pose a risk to everyone in the neighborhood.”

Find out more about living responsibly with black bears at <https://myodfw.com/articles/help-keep-bears-wild>.”

Coffee with a Deputy event at Pioneer Joe Coffee Company

The next Quarterly Coffee with a Deputy event with the Lincoln County Sheriff’s Office (LCSO) is scheduled from 9:30 a.m. to 11 a.m. Monday, August 24, at Pioneer Joe Coffee Company’s 51st Street, 869 SW 51st St., Lincoln City, OR 97367).

Every three months the LCSO office partners



with a local coffee shop in Lincoln County to provide a time, space, and coffee for community members to meet the law enforcement team and share what’s on their minds.

“Coffee with a Deputy events are a friendly and relaxed way for our

communities to connect with the deputies that serve them” the LCSO states in a release. “These events offer a unique opportunity for community members to directly engage with law enforcement, ask questions, voice concerns, and build positive relationships.”

Whether you’re a regular coffee drinker or simply curious about the work of law enforcement, the LCSO said the coffee events are a chance to connect with the LCSO team on a personal level, learn about each other’s experiences, and share local feedback.

Wyden gets ‘clear, consistent message’ at health care hearing

JEREMY C. RUARK
Lincoln County Leader

Oregon Senator Ron Wyden conducted an online health care hearing to gain Oregonians concerns and experiences as patients, consumers of long-term care, family caregivers, nurses, doctors and pharmacists.

The Lincoln County Leader spoke with Sen. Wyden following the event conducted Sunday, Aug. 16 in Medford.

Lincoln County Leader: What was the range of questions/comments during your hearing?

Senator Ron Wyden: Sunday’s online health care field hearing for rural Oregonians generated personal and painful stories of medical anguish from every nook and cranny of our state. And the clear and consistent message I heard from those accounts — along



Oregon Senator Ron Wyden taking public comments during the online health care hearing event. (Courtesy photo)

with others delivered at similar hearings statewide over the past week — is that Americans are suffering from a health care nightmare. It’s a nightmare that includes crushing expenses, denied

coverage, delayed treatments and mind-numbing bureaucracy throwing up roadblock after roadblock between patients and their caregivers.

Lincoln County Leader: How will you address those concerns?

Wyden: As the top Democrat on the Senate Finance Committee, I will keep leading the fight when Democrats regain the majority to make Congress wake up, end this health care nightmare and turn the dream of universal health care into a tangible reality. Medicare for All would lower costs and ensure Americans’ health care can’t be yanked away.

Lincoln County Leader: What will be the challenges in addressing those concerns?

Wyden: Donald Trump and Republicans made the health care nightmare worse, and Democrats will build the system

Americans deserve. There’s no doubt that powerful special interests like Big Pharma and Big Insurance will keep scheming to defend the failed health care status quo. I am more convinced than ever after these initial “reimagining health care” field hearings across Oregon that ‘people power’ can and will defeat those special interests.

Wyden is holding multiple statewide “Reimagining Health Care for America” field hearings during the August congressional work period to take testimony ahead of what he cited as upcoming massive changes inflicted on Oregonians by Donald Trump and congressional Republicans. Wyden has conducted in-person field hearings during this month in Eugene, Salem, Portland and Medford. Additional in-person hearings are planned throughout 2026 in additional

Oregon cities. “My goal throughout all these hearings is to advance a fresh plan to reimagine the American health care system that makes good on the promise that health care is a basic human right,” Wyden said. “Essential elements of that fresh health care plan must deliver a home-care guarantee for all Americans to get ahead of the long-term care crisis, keep reining in Big Pharma, hold insurance companies accountable and provide every American with a public Medicare choice for their health care that is affordable and high-quality.” Starting in January 2027, nearly 250,000 Oregonians will be at risk of losing their health insurance, a huge blow that will hurt all Oregonians by making health care even harder to access for everyone, according to Wyden.

Measles cases in 2026 surpass Oregon’s peak measles year

MIA MALDONADO
Oregon Capital Chronicle

Oregon has officially surpassed the number of measles cases it had during its peak outbreak year two years ago.

Oregon reported having 45 confirmed measles cases since the start of 2026, according to the Oregon Health Authority’s latest count Wednesday, Aug. 12. That’s 14 more than in all of 2024. In 2025, there was just one confirmed measles case in Oregon.

Oregon, like the rest of the country, is experiencing a rise in measles cases as the Trump administration overhauls longstanding pediatric vaccine recommendations for children and after years of falling childhood vaccination rates.

As of Aug. 6, there were 2,465 confirmed measles cases reported in the United States, nearly 200 more than there were in all of 2025, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Nearly half of those cases occurred in people between 5 and 19 years old.

Most measles cases in Oregon have been reported in Multnomah County, though public health officials have tracked measles in the wastewater of at least four other counties since Aug. 1, including Washington, Polk, Marion and Klamath.

That indicates that there was at least one person with measles living in that area recently, said Dr. Dean Sidelinger, state health officer and epidemiologist for the Oregon Health Authority.

Local health departments are feeling the strain of more measles cases, as many lost funding following the expiration of federal COVID-19 dollars.

“Traditionally, a measles case was an immediate emergency,” Multnomah County spokesperson Dennis Theriault said. “With the sustained increase in cases and reduced funding for public health, we do not have the resources to respond in the same way.”

The Oregon Health Authority implemented changes to its measles

investigation guidelines to reduce the burden on local health departments. The changes allow local health departments to focus less on the active monitoring of cases and finding the source of infection, Theriault said.

State epidemiologist criticizes federal government for promoting ‘false narratives’

Measles was declared “eliminated” from the U.S. since 2000, meaning the country hadn’t seen large outbreaks for at least 12 months or more.

Now, that status is at risk.

There have been 38 new outbreaks reported in the U.S. in 2026, according to the CDC. The states with the largest measles outbreaks are South Carolina, Texas, Utah, Arizona, Virginia and Florida.

“It is more than likely that come this fall, we will officially lose our measles elimination status as a country,” Sidelinger said.

Sidelinger said he encourages parents who initially held off on the measles vaccine for their children to talk to their health care providers again.

“The risk of potential exposure to measles and the complications that could happen for your child are much greater today than they were a few years ago, and the vaccine is incredibly safe,” he said.

Sidelinger criticized

federal officials for minimizing the need for vaccines and promoting what he said are false narratives.

Last summer, U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services Robert F. Kennedy Jr. overhauled the CDC’s vaccine advisory committee with people who have a history of questioning the efficacy of the COVID-19 vaccines. Six months later, the CDC cut back on recommendations for all children to receive vaccines such as hepatitis A, hepatitis B, rotavirus, meningococcal disease, influenza and COVID-19 — recommending the vaccines only for high-risk children.

Additionally, President Donald Trump signed an executive order Monday recommending separating the measles, mumps and rubella (MMR) vaccine into three different shots and administering all childhood immunizations at separate appointments whenever possible. During the signing, Trump and Kennedy repeatedly suggested vaccines could be linked to autism, despite decades of studies finding no connection.

“Do we need to invest resources as a country to try and identify the genetic and environmental causes of autism? Absolutely. Is it vaccines? No,” Sidelinger said.

Federal health officials should be promoting policies that prevent suffering, hospitalizations and death



Measles rashes usually appear as flat red spots that appear on the face at the hairline and spread downward to the neck, trunk, arms, legs and feet. (Courtesy from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention)

FREE EVENT

FREE EVENT

FREE EVENT



AUGUST 22 - 23, 2026

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FRIDAY, AUGUST 21

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THE SEADOGS



Saturday August 22

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BON JOVI

FOO FIGHTERS

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BAD MEDICINE

7PM-9PM

FIGHTING FOOS

4PM-6PM

TOMBSTONE SHADOW

1PM-3PM

PNW BANDS

MERCURY COAST

HOPE MONTGOMERY & THE INVASIVE SPECIES

STAY CONNECTED

baycitypearlandoysterfest

LOCATION

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BAY CITY, OREGON



KIDS DAY

11 AM - 4 PM

SUNDAY AUGUST 23rd

Face Painting Games Bubbles

TALENT SHOW * PET PARADE * ICE CREAM SOCIAL

Headlight Herald











See MEASLES, page A4

Wildfire smoke and evacuation threats can take a toll on mental health

OREGON HEALTH AUTHORITY

Wildfires can affect more than the air we breathe.

The uncertainty of an approaching fire, evacuation warnings, disrupted routines, loss of property or community, and prolonged exposure to wildfire smoke can create stress, anxiety, grief and other emotional responses.

As wildfires and smoke continue to impact communities across Oregon, Oregon Health Authority (OHA) is reminding people that supporting mental health is an important part of wildfire preparedness and recovery.

“It’s completely understandable to feel uneasy when wildfires are threatening our communities or when smoke is affecting the air we breathe,” said

Dean Sidelinger, M.D., M.S.Ed., OHA health officer and state epidemiologist. “These conditions can take a real toll on our physical and mental health. Taking care of ourselves, staying connected with others and knowing where to turn for support can help us cope during these difficult times.”

Wildfire stress can affect anyone.

People may experience a range of emotions during and after a wildfire, including fear, sadness, anger, grief, helplessness, trouble sleeping or difficulty concentrating. Children and teens may also have strong emotional reactions, even when they do not directly experience a fire or evacuation.

People who have experienced previous disasters or wildfire losses may



Staying informed is important during an emergency, but continuously monitoring wildfire coverage can increase stress and anxiety. Check trusted sources for updates, then give yourself permission to step away. (Courtesy photo from the Oregon Department of Forestry)

find that a new fire or smoke event brings back difficult memories.

OHA recommends several ways people can support themselves and others:

Check in with neighbors, friends and coworkers

A simple conversation can help people feel less alone. Reach out to people who may need additional support, including older adults, children, people with disabilities and those who may have difficulty evacuating or accessing resources.

Create space to express emotions

Give people permission to talk about what they are experiencing at their own pace and without judgment. This can be especially important for children and teens.

Encourage rest and recovery

Healing takes time. Maintaining routines

when possible, getting enough rest and reconnecting with people and activities that bring comfort can help restore a sense of stability.

Take breaks from the news and social media

Staying informed is important during an emergency, but continuously monitoring wildfire coverage can increase stress and anxiety. Check trusted sources for updates, then give yourself permission to step away.

Prepare for evacuation

Having a plan can reduce some of the uncertainty that comes with a wildfire threat. Know your evacuation zone and routes, sign up for emergency alerts, keep important medications and documents accessible, and have a go-bag ready.

Protecting mental health during smoke events

People do not have to navigate the emotional effects of wildfire alone.

- 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline: Call or text 988 for free, confidential crisis support.
- Lines for Life: 800-923-HELP (4357) provides emotional support and help connecting with resources. Oregon’s wildfire recovery resources also direct people to Lines for Life for emotional support, with interpreters available.
- YouthLine: Young people can call 877-968-8491 or text teen2teen to 839863 for support.
- The AgriStress HelpLine is a free, 24/7 hotline for Oregon’s agricultural and forestry communities, including farmers, ranchers, fishermen, foresters, and their families. Call or

text: (833) 897-2474.

Helpline operators are trained to understand the unique stressors and situations of agriculture, forestry, and fishing. All calls are answered within 30 seconds.

People affected by a wildfire who need help finding food, shelter, health care, emotional support or other services can also connect with 211 for local resources.

Support for children and teens

Parents and caregivers can help children feel safer by providing reassurance, maintaining routines when possible and giving children opportunities to ask questions and express their feelings.

During a wildfire or evacuation, children may need additional reassurance and opportunities to reconnect with familiar people and routines. Adults can model healthy coping behaviors by taking breaks, getting rest, talking with others and asking for help when needed.

Additional resources:

- Wildfires and smoke: Oregon Health Authority wildfire resources
- Crisis and trauma resources: OHA Resources for Crisis and Trauma Response
- Wildfire recovery assistance: Oregon Department of Human Services – Get Help After a Wildfire
- Oregon wildfire preparedness and evacuation information: Oregon Department of Emergency Management





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Social Media

MEASLES

From Page A3

from preventable illnesses in childhood, he said.

What to know about back to school

Oregon requires that children entering kindergarten have two doses of the measles vaccine, though parents can opt-out by obtaining a medical or nonmedical exemption. Measles vaccination is also required for children attending child care facilities and for students in post-secondary colleges or universities.

Exemption rates, particularly for nonmedical exemptions, have risen in recent years. In the 2025-26 school year, nearly 11% of kindergarteners held nonmedical exemptions. Combined with students who received medical exemptions for conditions like severe allergies to vaccine ingredients or weakened immune systems from chemotherapy, the rising nonmedical exemption rate meant only 85.6% of kindergarteners were up to date on required vaccines, well below the 93% vaccination rate doctors say is necessary to prevent outbreaks.

Oregon law also mandates that any

WHAT IS MEASLES?

Measles is airborne and highly contagious from about four days before symptoms appear. Symptoms typically start with a fever, runny nose, cough, red watery eyes, followed by a blotchy rash that starts on the face and spreads downward.

Most people recover from measles, though complications can form causing pneumonia, brain damage, blindness and death.

Before the vaccine was introduced, an estimated 48,000 people were hospitalized and up to 500 people died in the U.S. each year, according to the CDC.

unvaccinated person exposed to a preventable infectious disease stay away from schools, child-care facilities and health-care settings for 21 days.

Parents can look up vaccination rates by school on the Oregon Health Authority’s website.

Sidelinger said parents whose children are fully vaccinated and don’t have a disease that causes problems with their immune system shouldn’t be worried.

One dose of the measles vaccine provides 95% protection against the disease. A second dose boosts effectiveness to 97% for the remainder of a person’s lifetime

“If you’re a parent who’s chosen not to vaccinate your children,

or you’re a parent who has a child who may be immunocompromised because they’re receiving chemotherapy for a cancer diagnosis, there is a chance of being exposed to measles,” Sidelinger said.

<https://oregon-capitalchronicle.com/2026/08/13/measles-cases-in-2026-surpass-oregons-peak-measles-year/>

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LITERACY

From Page A8

Mountain Early Learning Hub and Tribal partners of the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation are also working together to include the Tribe’s written stories to the Reach Out and Read campaign at the health center.

To read the Birth Through Five Literacy Plan or for more information about the Birth Through Five literacy grants, visit the Birth to Five webpage on the DELC website.

About the Oregon Department of Early Learning and Care

The Department of Early Learning and Care’s mission is to foster

coordinated, culturally appropriate, and family-centered services that recognize and respect the strengths and needs of all children, families, and early learning and care professionals. More information about DELC is available at [Oregon.gov/DELC](https://oregon.gov/DELC). You can also connect with DELC on Facebook or sign up for news alerts and updates.

Trump hates your ailing relatives and our floundering adult neighbors with disabilities

PAUL HAEDER
Lincoln County Leader
Guest Column

Crisis after crisis is unfolding, yet this wrecking ball and his crew enjoy box seats at the World Cup while bombing neighborhoods in Iran and sending ICE goons into our own communities. Yet another story gets lost in the chaos and terror of the Hateful Regime’s daily misanthropy. Who’s taking care of our aging, frail, sick, disabled, dying, many of whom are often frightened, sometimes angry and unappreciative? Who’s bathing their clients/loved ones, changing adult diapers, supervising medications, and providing companionship in relationships that are intimate as well as professional? Mostly immigrants. This compassionate care comes from people who have left Haiti, Mexico, the Dominican Republic, Uganda, Jamaica, the Philippines, and dozens of other nations. The jobs they take start at \$20 an hour or less, and max out at around \$25 for experienced people. Most readers will have encountered a care worker, and the operative word is “care” or “caring” or better yet, “compassionate

care.” They come in many forms, including nurses, aides, CNAs, DSPs, PSWs, and they are skilled, well-trained and kind. Generally, we see them as personal care attendants (PCAs). Make no bones about it: care work is heavily funded by government. Few people can self-pay for these services. Hospice care is financed by Medicare. Long-term nursing home care is mostly reimbursed by Medicaid. Care that supports independent living for people with disabilities is funded by Medicaid or the VA. Home care is underwritten by myriads of agencies. My own work – while teaching part-time college – included many forms of care work: Independent Living Program case worker for foster youth; as a house manager for adults with disabilities; as activities director for a memory care facility; as a job developer for clients with developmental disabilities; as a personal support worker signing on to navigate adults living in our communities; as case manager for veterans who were houseless, fighting addiction and looking for VA benefits. I’d teach Shakespeare at night and assist clients

with adult diapers and colostomy bags during the day. In Seattle, the icing on my cake was working with SEIU, the union that organizes workers, including care workers. I’d met with compassionate, smart folk from Somali, Nicaragua, Ethiopia and dozens of other countries. Spanish, Amharic, Somali, or other Afro-Asiatic languages were common. Seattle represents over 150 languages, and of course, that’s what makes the city amazing. The sources of public funding are barely adequate to meet basic threadbare needs need, and that grossly limits the room for better pay. All that inadequate funding is under threat from Trump’s budget cuts as well as mass deportations. In heavily Democratic Washington State, our labor movement strategy is to demand the state allocate larger budgeting for reimbursements, typically through Medicaid. This barely translates into better pay. I organized workers directly. This strategy has had only limited success because of other financial demands on Medicaid. This Epstein Class and its pied piper Trump are

responsible for cutting deeply into the care workforce. ICE is deployed like shock troops/Gestapo, intimidating immigrant workers into self-reporting, even when they currently have legal work status. New York City Mayor Zohran Mamdani recently told an interviewer, “I went to a Dominican barbershop in Harlem, and the owner was telling me that everyone in the barbershop had legal status. And yet most of them were terrified of coming to work because they know that for so much of ICE’s operations, it has little to do with legality. It has to do with profiling, and it has to do with a vision of creating the largest deportation machine this country has ever seen.” While we might be enjoying the last days of summer and preparing our kids and grandkids for school, the story of this crisis deepens. Trump’s regime has been chopping away at a legal immigration system called Temporary Protected Status. When this war monger’s second term began, TPS was protecting some 1.3 million people facing various perils in their home countries. However, Trump has already ended TPS for

people from Afghanistan, Cameroon, Honduras, Liberia, Nepal, Nicaragua, and for most Venezuelans. There has been push-back, yet immigration advocates are not optimistic. Stephen “Goebbels” Miller’s agenda is one of demonizing immigrants. Well, except for those white South Africans. The Supreme Court decided with Trump that targeting Haitians while favoring South Africans isn’t overtly racial. It is obviously racist. Ai-jen Poo, the founder of the National Domestic Workers Alliance and the coalition Caring Across Generations, states: “The end of Haitian TPS will be devastating for hundreds of thousands of families who rely upon Haitian care workers. Providers will close their doors, jobs will be lost—for citizens as well as immigrants. The entire industry was already buckling under the pressures of cuts to Medicaid, and high workforce turnover due to low wages. At a moment when the need for care is surging, particularly on the part of our growing aging population, we should be expanding and strengthening our care workforce, not gutting it with cruel and misguided policy.” The warmongering,

crypto-dripping and data center-loving Trump’s impact on this shortage of care workers hits both clients and the workers in different ways. The bottom line is families left to provide care are under more pressure juggling work and fulfilling this demanding home care. To bring sanity back to our aging and vulnerable relatives, the first step is congress should revise the law so that admission of asylum seekers and refugees is mandatory. Immigration is a civil matter, and ICE should be abolished permanently. “Your voice matters for other working-class people to understand themselves as a political force that can actually transform society when organized,” Karina Garcia, VP candidate last go-round, said on how we can actually fight to end the ICE terror wreaking havoc in our communities. The answer? Get organized. America has plenty of immigrants who want to work in the care economy. We should welcome that workforce and pay them decently. Paul Haeder is a novelist, journalist, educator and author of “Wide Open Eyes: Surfacing from Vietnam,” Cirque Press

The math on Kotek lawsuit doesn’t add up for salmon or power bills

KEITH TYMCHUK
Lincoln County Leader
Guest Column

I’ve been fly fishing Oregon’s rivers much of my life. This summer, like every summer for the last three decades, I will spend weeks on the North Umpqua, wading out at first light in search of summer steelhead. So when people hear I oppose Gov. Tina Kotek’s support for a federal lawsuit that’s caused more

dam spillage, a move billed as help for salmon, some assume I’ve made peace with fewer fish in our rivers. What I want is honesty about the price tag this policy has for our rural community. Just this month, Gov. Kotek said Oregon must “keep working families and small businesses from absorbing” costs that aren’t theirs to bear. I couldn’t agree more — which is exactly why her hydropower litigation is

so hard to square with her stated priorities. Here’s what almost nobody talks about: This is already a low-water year across the Northwest. That matters twice. It means less water for affordable, carbon-free power generation right now, and even less water will be available by September when both power demand and our state’s wildfire season peaks. That’s because the outcome of this lawsuit is that more

water is released now over the spillways instead of through the power generation turbines. The tradeoff is that Bonneville Power Administration (BPA), which Central Lincoln and most Oregon utilities purchase power from, must then buy power on the open market where it’s more expensive. BPA estimates this will cause a significant rate increase in the next year, and much of that will be passed onto ratepaying

customers. Central Lincoln PUD is known for keeping the lights on and rates predictable — as a consumer-owned utility, we have no shareholders to absorb rising costs. That’s gotten harder every year, and Gov. Kotek’s support for this litigation makes it harder still. The governor is effectively asking families already stretching to pay their bills to absorb a rate increase for something that might not even help

the fish. If the Governor is serious about affordability, the answer is working with the people paying the cost of this lawsuit every day — not more litigation that guarantees higher bills with no promise of higher fish counts. Keith Tymchuk is the board president for Central Lincoln Electric Cooperative, which serves portions of Lincoln, Lane, Douglas, and Coos counties.

Proposed change coming to the Northwest Forest Plan

KEN MCCALL
Lincoln County Leader
Guest Column

The United States Forest Service is proposing to amend the Northwest Forest Plan (NWFP) to allow cutting older trees across the western portion of Washington, Oregon, and Northern California. As a hunter, fisherman,

recreationist and fifth generation native of the west coast, I have spent a lifetime in these forests as a private citizen and a 40 plus year career as a U.S. Forest Service employee specializing in forestry and forest engineering. The primary proposed change in the 19.4 million acres of forestlands is to allow cutting trees up to 120 years old compared to the current cutting age limit of 80 years. Conservatively speaking, 90 or more percent of the old growth forests in the NWFP area were clearcut in the logging and road building boom from 1950 to the mid 1990’s. The result leaves those same acres of forest as predominantly single species conifer tree plantations lacking in diversity that is

beneficial for wildlife. The U.S. Forest Service likely lacks the experienced staff needed to carry out the proposed increase in timber harvest. Years of NWFP implementation, combined with recent federal workforce reductions, have significantly weakened the agency’s institutional knowledge. With that loss of experience, the kind of harvest increase envisioned in this proposal would be difficult to achieve. Over the past two decades, I have observed many western forests shifting single-species conifer plantations toward more diverse forest conditions through selective logging. While these actions have shown some benefits, western Oregon forests currently yield a dearth of early seral habitat on which hundreds of wildlife species rely. It is possible to retain old growth stands, while actively managing landscapes which will produce economic benefits and provide quality early seral

habitat. USFS should focus on landscape-scale projects that reduce tree canopy cover, increase forage for wildlife, retain old growth forests and refrain from replanting monocultures of tree species after treatments. Models of this management approach can be found where the agencies and local communities have partnered to build

coalitions of people who support smart resource management in the communities directly affected by forest management. This type of forest planning requires collaborative involvement in local communities directly connected to these forests, from agency representatives to recreation interests, woods workers, local business and more. One example

tested is the forest stewardship program on the Siuslaw National Forest on Oregon’s central coast; others can be reviewed with minimal research. Please get involved in the process to shape the NWFP amendment over the next year by following the process and engaging to represent your interests. Ken McCall is retired from the US Forest Service.

ONLINE POLL

PREVIOUS POLL

Do you believe global warming is contributing to Oregon's wildfire SEASON?

76/5%.....Yes

23.5.....No

NEW POLL

If the Oregon gubernatorial election were held today, who would you vote for?

Tin Kotek

Christine Drazan

Other

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

“Conquering the world on horseback is easy; it is dismounting and governing that is hard.”

Genghis Khan



WILDFIRE

From Page A1

dry and with the possibility of late summer dry lightning and strong winds, makes it potentially dangerous,” Oregon Department of Forestry Eastern Lane Unit Forester John Flannigan said. “A big east wind with warm to hot air, low humidities, and dry fuels is when we can have lots of problems.”

The lightning strikes can be deceptive, according to Flannigan.

“It can sit and wait for a surprisingly long time. Especially if we get a little bit of rain with the lightning,” he said. “Sometimes, like in old growth, it will sit there, and it will smolder. As it dries out, the humidity gets lower and it gets

wind on it, the fire can flare up.”

“Along the Oregon Coast, ground fuels are dry, the fuel load is so heavy, and the area is pretty subject to winds most afternoons, and those winds can drive a fire fast,” he said.

Flannigan said the concern is also about embers from fires.

“That’s one of the main ways that fires grow and that’s one of the main ways that homes get caught,” he said. “Especially if there is a wind, embers are raised up with the heat of the fire column, and they go up ahead of the fire. When the fires are really moving, that is often one of the main reasons why. It’s not just a wall of flame, it’s often times embers dropping, so you can get a mass ignition

of embers and that can be pretty serious.”

Taking steps now to protect homes and properties is important, according to Flannigan.

“We’re definitely not out of the woods,” he said. “So, it’s important now to make sure your roof is cleared off your roof, clear your gutters, clean up any dead materials around your house and make sure that first five-foot next to the house is pruned up and cleared.”

Flannigan cautions people about using chain saws, mowing, and towing with chains that are dragging, especially in the warm afternoons.

“There are fire restrictions and closures at different times of the day during the wildfire seasons to prevent the fires, so you should definitely pay attention to the

closures,” he said. “In fire, there are so many variables between the fuels, the wind, lightning, topography, it makes it difficult to predict.

According to Flannigan, the biggest unknow, is what people do.

“People leaving campfires unchecked, deciding to cut some rebar in the middle of a dry field, you never know when someone is going to something like that,” he said. “They don’t mean to start a fire, but they are not thinking things through.”

Under Oregon law, those found responsible for starting a wildfire can be held financially responsible.

“Besides the cost of putting the fire out, you can also be held liable and be sued if you damage your neighbor’s

property,” he said. “It can be very expensive, into the millions of dollars.”

Flannigan said firefighters are also challenged by the Oregon Coast topography.

“Its steep everywhere,” he said. “It’s always an adventure to get in. A lot of those forest roads are narrow. It can be a challenge to navigate.”

Oregon has experienced a historic record 2.3 million acres charred by wildfires this summer, stretching local resources.

“We always retain enough for initial attacks, but we’re definitely thin with the number of firefighters,” he said.

The Oregon Department of Emergency Management (OEM) urges everyone to prepare for wildfires and other emergencies by knowing evacuation levels, staying

informed, having a plan, and having a go-kit ready.

The Oregon Evacuation Levels

- Oregon follows a three-level evacuation notification system, each structured around safety threat level. Be Ready. Be Set. Go Now.
- Oregonians should become familiar with “Be Ready, Be Set, Go!” evaluation levels to make informed decisions when receiving evacuation notices.
- OEM urges people to evacuate whenever they feel unsafe, conditions can change rapidly; individuals should always make the best decision for their safety.
- Following evacuation, people should not return to the area until public safety officials state it is safe.

ICE

From Page A1

Novick is doing the same.

“Newport’s fight is Oregon’s fight,” Mayor Wilson said during a news conference in Portland Aug. 10.

Newport Mayor Jan Kaplan said the lawsuit is ongoing and the current cost for the legal effort is approximately \$375,000.

“On behalf of the City of Newport, I want to extend my sincere thanks to Portland Mayor Keith Wilson and City Councilor Steve Novick for their extraordinary support of Newport and our ongoing legal effort to ensure that an ICE detention facility is not sited in our community,” Kaplan said. “Their decision to each contribute

\$10,000 from their office budgets toward Newport’s legal expenses sends a powerful message that this is not simply a Newport issue. It is an issue that communities across Oregon recognize and understand, and I am grateful that they recognize the financial burden such a legal fight becomes for a city of our size. When one Oregon community is faced with a challenge of this magnitude, it is meaningful to know that other cities are willing to stand beside us.”

In December 2025, lawyers for the state sought an injunction from U.S. District Judge Ann Aiken in an amended complaint filed as part of an ongoing lawsuit challenging the U.S. Coast Guard’s

removal of a rescue helicopter from the Newport Municipal Airport facility in late October.

The lawyers argued that the federal government is skirting federal environmental and coastal land use regulations which would require more notice for Oregon leaders should an ICE facility be constructed in the area.

“Defendants have engaged in these efforts behind closed doors, with no transparency or public process, ignoring direct requests for information from local officials and members of Congress,” the new filing reads. “As a result, the state has been forced to piece together defendants’ plans for the ICE detention facility based on public reporting,

inquiries to and information from federal contractors, the second-hand account of a U.S. Coast Guard witness, and related evidence.”

“We will not allow federal agencies to sidestep the law or build detention facilities where they don’t belong, including along our coast,” Oregon Attorney General Dan Rayfield said in a statement. “The federal government has to follow the same laws everyone else does when operating in our communities.”

Newport’s lawyers earlier filed a similar lawsuit in federal court asking a judge to require compliance with federal environmental regulations mandating impact assessments before any construction of an ICE detention facility in the city. The U.S. Coast Guard’s deed from 1992 for its Newport Municipal Airport facility specifically mentions its purpose as an aviation site, a purpose the suit says should be honored.

Oregon is one of a few states in the nation that does not have a large-scale, long-term immigration detention facility. People held by ICE in the state are allowed to be detained in processing facilities in cities such as Portland for up to 12 hours, often transferring to a center in Tacoma, Washington, for longer detentions.

In a published report in the Lincoln County Leader in March of this year, The U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) stated it was asking a federal court to dismiss the City of Newport’s lawsuit against the federal agency concerning the development of an immigration detention facility at the Newport Airport.

In the court filing, the DHS states:

“Environmental compliance activities had only just begun when USCG withdrew the Newport AIRFAC site from consideration. No construction has taken

place and there had been no irretrievable commitment of resources during their initial assessment of the site.

ICE has made no decision to begin construction of a temporary holding/processing facility. At present, ICE has no plan or intention to begin construction or to open a temporary holding/processing facility in or around the City of Newport, Oregon or anywhere within Lincoln County, Oregon.”

Following the Department of Homeland Security statement in March, Kaplan issued the following:

“While this statement represents a positive step for our community, we must remain vigilant and carefully consider its language. Previously, ICE offered only that it would not build a detention facility in Newport or at the Newport Municipal Airport before May 2026. We have not yet received assurances that ICE will not attempt to establish a facility in our community in the future. That’s why we are pursuing further assurances that ICE will not construct any detention facility, temporary or permanent.

For months, ICE has left our community in a state of uncertainty. We will remain actively engaged until ICE has made a decision, and we will only be satisfied when that decision is to make a permanent commitment not to establish a detention facility in Newport.”

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

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GEAR

From Page A1

in those lines, as was the case with a humpback whale freed about 20 miles off the Oregon Coast in late July that wasn't expected to survive because the entanglement left it unable to feed.

The pop-up gear the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife can begin authorizing as soon as spring 2027, however, stores the rope and buoy with the trap on the seafloor. Fishermen can set a timer or trigger a release mechanism that allows the line to uncoil and buoy to surface to retrieve the catch, ensuring whales and other creatures have a clear path most of the time.

Pop-up gear is currently unlawful because all pot and trap gear must be marked at the surface with a buoy. The proposed rule would allow the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife to issue some experimental fishing gear permits as soon as spring 2027, and the commission could consider wider authorization if the tests prove effective.

Humpback whale entanglements on the rise

Fishing gear entanglement remains the largest threat to serious injury and mortality of whales off the West Coast.

At least 400 whales have been caught in fishing gear off the coast of Washington, California and Oregon between 2015 and 2025, according to the National Marine Fisheries Service.

Humpback whales

are the most commonly entangled whale species because their feeding season coincides with crabbing season, and warming ocean waters push their feeding grounds closer to shore where commercial crab traps are posted.

Oregon has two humpback whale populations that feed off its coast. One breeds off the coast of Mexico and is listed as threatened under the Endangered Species Act. The other, which breeds off the Pacific coast of Central America, is listed as endangered.

At least four humpback whales were entangled in 2025 in Oregon commercial Dungeness crab fishing gear — the highest number of humpback whales confirmed entangled in Oregon crab gear in any single year to date.

California's already familiar with pop-up gear

California began issuing experimental permits for pop-up gear in 2023. Earlier this year, the state authorized it for more widespread use during times and areas when the fishery is closed to conventional gear due to entanglement risk.

Brand Little, a commercial fisherman based in San Francisco, said he was "dead set" against pop-up gear until he tried it.

"It was the first year they closed salmon in California," Little said, referring to 2023 when California canceled the salmon season after seeing historically low population numbers. "We didn't have anything else to do... so we went out to prove (pop-up gear)

wouldn't work, and it did work. So we're like, 'Well, what the hell?' And it's just kind of been a snowball since then."

Now, Little has enough pop-up gear to use his 450 pots, and buying the equipment wasn't as expensive as he originally thought.

The units themselves are expensive, Little said. They cost about \$1,000 per pop-up unit. Little wasn't willing to spend \$450,000 for all his pots, but he was willing to spend money to put two \$1,000 pop-up units on both sides of a string of 25 crab traps — a technique known as longlining.

"I think the average price spent to do it was \$30,000," Little said. "Every single person that invested their \$30,000 had a return on investment in the first couple of weeks of using the gear."

Oregon is positioned differently than California, where shortened seasons have left fishermen with a narrow three-month window when whales pass by. Only fishermen using pop-up gear can fish for Dungeness crab between all of California's crabbing season, which typically lasts from mid-November to the end of June. Oregon hasn't reached that point as its crabbing season remains largely unchanged.

Stephen Melz, an early pop-up gear adopter also based in San Francisco, said the gear gives California fishermen the alternative to keep fishing even when whales move close to the coast.

"If given the option to

fish or not fish, I think they're going to want to fish," Melz said. "That's what it comes down to, right?"

Oregon fishermen push back against vessel monitoring but stay open to pop-up gear

While the pop-up gear is optional, the commission would require fishermen in February to adopt a monitoring system that shares their vessel location via cellular networks with state fishery managers so they can enforce closed areas and understand fleet locations.

The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife has secured federal funding to help reimburse permit holders up to \$800 for equipment. Still, several Oregon fishermen argued the program would place new burdens on small businesses.

"Our boats are routinely hit by waves and sometimes completely underwater," said Ray Monroe, a Pacific City fisherman. "Electronics on these dories are constantly destroyed, and space is extremely limited.

Installing another device that is expensive, fragile and exposed to the harshest conditions on the coast is not reasonable."

The technology is designed to resist harsh weather, Ainsworth rebutted, pointing to similar vessel monitoring systems in Washington and California.

Cary Johnson, a fisherman in Astoria, asked the commission to exempt

small vessels from the requirement.

"None of us want to see whales entangled in our gear," Johnson said. "It's a bad look for our industry. We're trying to do whatever we can to avoid that."

Conservation groups applaud ropeless gear, push for more whale protections

Conservation advocates supported the new rules but said Oregon still needs to do more to protect whales.

They're opposed to the department's draft conservation plan, which outlines measures the state will take to protect whales. It proposes allowing the entanglement of up to 67 humpback whales over a 15-year period, or roughly four humpback whales a year.

Conservationists argued the plan would normalize the worst year for humpback whales rather than advance conservation measures and gear modifications to reduce whale entanglements.

And those are just the

confirmed entanglements, said Ben Enticknap, a senior scientist and the Pacific campaign director at Oceana, an ocean advocacy nonprofit.

"The National Marine Fisheries Service scientists are estimating only about one in five entanglements are detected," he said. "The department is not recognizing that piece right now that there's these unobserved entanglements, and that needs to be made clear and incorporated into the conservation plan."

<https://oregoncapitalchronicle.com/2026/08/17/oregon-to-start-testing-ropeless-crabbing-gear-next-spring-to-stop-whale-entanglements/>

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ACADEMY

From Page A1

both law enforcement and our agency and builds and strengthens the essential partnership between LCPD and our community. Most importantly, it provides the opportunity for the participants to not only interact with the members of LCPD, but to get to know the person inside the uniform."

Academy history

The academy was launched in 2016 by former LCPD Officer Jayne Johnson, who had participated in an academy at

the agency she previously worked for.

"Johnson wanted to implement the program in Lincoln City as an important tool to build a bridge of understanding between LCPD and the community," Williams said.

Due to the COVID pandemic, LCPD community-involved programs were stopped for two years but returned in 2022. Approximately 60 people have graduated from the academy since it began.

Since it began, the academy offered free classes and was funded from the community

programs portion of LCPD's annual budget.

In the Aug. 13 social media post the LCPD stated:

"We appreciate all who applied for the 2026 Citizens Academy. We look forward to more Community engagement opportunities in the coming months and continue to be thankful for the support shown to us by our fellow citizens of Lincoln City."

The LCPD also offered a resource for anyone who had questions, recommending that they call LCPD's Tami Williams at 541-994-3636.

PAYMENTS

From Page A8

mortgage lenders should not be able to force homeowners to lock away significant amounts of money without paying interest."

The coalition also includes the attorneys general of California, Connecticut, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Rhode Island and Vermont — all of whom represent states with interest-on-escrow laws.

In Rhode Island, Attorney General Peter Neronha said the law results in borrowers recouping thousands of dollars each year.

"In the midst of a national affordability crisis, those who have scraped together the money to buy their own home and stay in it can't afford to lose money they are entitled to under state law," he said in a statement. "These state consumer protection laws have been in place for decades to ensure that Rhode Island borrowers receive every penny they

are due, and the administration's attempt to pull a fast one on consumers is uncalled for and unlawful."

The states filed their suit in U.S. District Court in Portland and are seeking a court order declaring the rules illegal and preventing their implementation.

The case marks Oregon's 74th lawsuit against the Trump administration, Rayfield told reporters in a virtual press conference Tuesday afternoon.

Interest-on-escrow laws vary per state

Under Oregon law, lenders must pay homeowners 2.6% in monthly interest on the money held in their escrow accounts — a rate calculated using the floating interest rate of U.S. Treasury bills minus 1%.

Each state has a different set-up, with some mandating a 2% flat rate and others requiring lenders to pay out the rate they offer on a typical savings account, according to Oregon Department of Justice spokesperson Jenny Hansson.

There are 703,000 mortgage holders in Oregon, and the amount they receive in interest varies depending on where they live and their property's value.

"Because we barely look at that statement that comes in the mail every month, frankly, I think the Trump administration thought they could get away with this because most of us probably wouldn't notice," Rayfield said.

The lawsuit is a simple way to keep money in citizens' pockets, Rayfield said.

<https://oregoncapitalchronicle.com/2026/08/11/oregon-nine-other-states-sue-trump-admin-to-protect-interest-payments-to-homeowners/>

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

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Sudoku answers



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Thomas Robinson

December 8, 1944 - June 17, 2026

Thomas Perry Robinson passed away on June 17, 2026. He died peacefully at home with his loving wife, Bernadette and family around him. He died from the complications of Parkinson's Disease. Tom was born in Portland, Oregon to Helen and Donald Robinson on December 8, 1944. Tom loved his family so much. He stated in a letter to his family, "the older I got the more sweet was family life." He was the father of five children: Anne (deceased), Jeffrey, Jeremy, Devin, and Roseena. He was called Tompa by his grandchildren: James, Nyla, Nye, Ona, Greyson, Indigo, and River. He had a brother, Scott (deceased) and a sister, Donna (deceased). Tom was a caring uncle of many nieces and nephews. It broke his heart when he lost his daughter Anne in 2015 to cancer. It was a deep sorrow that he carried with him for the rest of his life.

Tom graduated from Clackamas High School in Portland, Oregon. He received his bachelor's degree in English and Drama from Pacific Lutheran University in Tacoma, Washington. He continued his post-graduate studies in Theater Arts and Literature at Portland State University.

Tom was intense about life. He was very adventurous and brave. So, when the ocean called him, he built a dory, F/V Free Breeze, and moved to Newport, Oregon in 1971. He became a commercial salmon fisherman. Fishing was his lifelong obsession. In one of his poems, he wrote, "Then maybe five miles out, past the whistle buoy with the sunrise hot on my back, only time in my life I would sing on the way to work." Later in his life, he was still involved in the fishing industry, and he became the manager of the Oregon Salmon Commission. He did his best to introduce Oregon Troll Caught Salmon to the public's attention. In 1985, he wrote a poem about his belief: "the food is special, unique in the world, it tastes of storms and deep water. It stirs inside the soul." In 1993, with the Salmon Commission, he was invited by President Clinton and Vice President Gore to attend a Forest Conference to inform them about the need to protect salmon



habitat in Oregon.

Tom was kind and generous with his spirit. When his long-time friend, Mark Erlander, asked him to help search for a mutual friend that was travelling across the country with a mysterious group of people. Tom said "yes" without hesitation. He then authored a story about the event in 1975 entitled "I Found Waldport's Missing U.F.O. People."

During the very turbulent politics of the 1970's Tom turned his passionate beliefs and ideals into a deep connection to the arts. He helped create, along with many other extraordinary, passionate and talented artists, the Red Octopus Theater Company. He was an actor, director, and a tech director, as well as wearing many other hats to bring exceptional theater to the local area. Tom put his heart and soul into the characters he portrayed: Shakespeare's, Hamlet; Death of a Salesman, Willy Loman; One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest, R.P. McMurphy, as well as so many other memorable roles. In 1985, he became the producer, writer, and host for The Oregon Coast Show. The show was popular with local audiences, especially the feature segment "Backroads of the Oregon Coast." Tom soon found himself back as an educator. He taught Language Arts and Drama for the Lincoln County School District at Newport High School until his retirement in 2006. It was there that he created a very vibrant theater department. He got a lot of satisfaction from inspiring young people to discover literature and theater and therefore make their own discoveries about themselves.

Please join us in remembering Tom at the Fisherman's Memorial Sanctuary at Yaquina Bay State Park on Saturday, September 12, 2026, from 1:00-4:00 pm. You are invited to share memories, pictures, etc. If you can, bring a flower to share with the ocean during the out-going tide. Donations to the Fisherman's Wives Organization would be greatly appreciated.

A gathering of family and close friends will be held at a later date.

Support surfaces for Newport NOAA Marine Center

STAFF REPORT
Lincoln County Leader

Oregon’s U.S. Senator Jeff Merkley has led Oregon Congressional delegation to urge the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and General Services Administration (GSA) members to renew the NOAA Marine Operations Center – Pacific (MOC-P)’s fleet lease in Newport.

The delegation includes Senator Ron Wyden and U.S. Representatives Suzanne Bonamici (OR-01), Val Hoyle (OR-04), Andrea Salinas (OR-06), Maxine Dexter (OR-03), and Janelle Bynum (OR-05)—

“Newport is the ideal location for MOC-P. Situated on Yaquina Bay, Newport provides direct and quick access to the Pacific Ocean. Newport’s location provides low operational costs for the MOC-P compared to more inland ports and ensures that the fleet sits in the middle of the West Coast – providing efficient access to Alaska, Washington, Oregon, and California. It is also home to Oregon State University’s Hatfield Marine Science Center, which has facilitated a collaborative partnership between the agency and university,” the Oregon lawmakers state in a letter to NOAA and GSA. “Further, Newport is committed to investment in the infrastructure needed to support



NOAA Marine Operations Center in Newport. (Courtesy photo from Wikimapia)

MOC-P and its workers to ensure the community remains an affordable and accessible place for NOAA employees.” Since NOAA selected Newport to house MOC-P in 2011, the operations center has provided critical administrative, maintenance, engineering, and logistical support for the

agency, supporting training and ship operations too. the law-makers said. The lawmakers also highlighted the Port of Newport’s potential to house additional ships and the Port’s role as a hub of maritime activity, both key factors for the continued success of the MOC-P and

bolstering NOAA’s maritime capacity along the West Coast. They emphasized, “Rather than continuing to survey additional waterfront sites along the West Coast that meet the extensive requirements for rebasing this fleet, we encourage you to further capitalize on the initial investment and keep

MOC-P in Newport,” the law-makers emphasized. “Keeping the fleet in Newport will be the most efficient, lowest cost option for maintaining NOAA’s fleet directly on the Pacific Coast.” See the full text of the letter with this story at the Lincoln County leader website.

Oregon joins suit to protect interest payments to homeowners

MIA MALDONADO
Oregon Capital Chronicle

A coalition of 10 Democratic-led states, including Oregon, sued the Trump administration Tuesday, Aug. 11, over a new rule that could cost homeowners hundreds or even thousands of dollars by preempting state laws that require mortgage lenders to pay interest on the money borrowers deposit into escrow accounts to cover taxes and insurance.

Mortgage lenders generally require borrowers to make monthly payments into savings accounts, called escrow accounts, to cover the cost of annual property taxes and home insurance premiums. Because homeowners pay monthly but taxes are due once a year, those escrow accounts generate interest for the lender.

At least 12 states since the 1970s enacted laws requiring mortgage lenders to pay homeowners interest for the money they have in their escrow accounts to prevent

predatory lending practices. The Oregon Department of Justice estimated the state’s law results in the state’s mortgage holders receiving an average of \$200-\$300 per year in interest payments.

However, the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency, a federal agency that supervises and examines banks, issued two new rules in May to prevent those state laws from applying to national banks and federal savings associations, thus slashing the interest many homeowners receive for the money in their escrow accounts.

The rule does not apply to state-chartered banks, which plaintiffs say leaves smaller banks at a competitive disadvantage.

Oregon Attorney General Dan Rayfield and New York Attorney General Letitia James are leading the lawsuit alleging the federal agency is violating the limits Congress placed on it when it passed the Dodd-Frank Act, a massive consumer protection law passed in the wake



of the 2008 financial crisis aimed at curbing risky financial industry practices. “At a time when

homeownership is more expensive than ever, the Trump administration is trying to make it even more costly with these

unlawful rules,” James said in a statement. “Big banks and See **PAYMENTS**, page A7

Innovative family supports launch to improve early literacy

OREGON DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

The Department of Early Learning and Care (DELIC) is ramping up Oregon’s efforts to boost early reading skills through a statewide network of over 100 partner organizations, driving a major push to improve literacy outcomes for the state’s youngest learners.

This work is driven by the Early Literacy Success Initiative (HB 3198), championed by Governor Tina Kotek, which directed DELIC to develop Oregon’s first Birth Through Five Literacy Plan and Fund.

“We are thrilled to see grant recipients turning these funds into real momentum for families,” said Alyssa Chatterjee,

DELIC Director. “Local communities are driving powerful early literacy work, and the early years remain our greatest opportunity to shape a child’s long-term success.” Through the Birth Through Five Literacy Fund, DELIC awarded grants to Tribes, early learning programs and regional Early Learning Hubs across Oregon. Funded projects range from sharing literacy resources during home visits with new parents and caregivers, to mobile book programs, to lending libraries designed for young children and their families.

These strategies reflect decades of research showing that literacy begins at birth, as children build listening, speaking, and early writing

skills long before they enter kindergarten. “Literacy begins long before a child enters a classroom. These investments are helping rural Oregon families access books, build positive reading habits, and strengthen the relationships that support early relational health from birth,” said Marissa Loiland, Director of Early Learning Initiatives, Blue Mountain Early Learning Hub, InterMountain Education Service District. “We are proud of the innovative partnerships taking root across Eastern Oregon and hope the work happening here can help lead the way for early literacy efforts across the state.” This summer, Blue Mountain Early Learning Hub launched an impactful partnership with

Reach Out and Read to expand and sustain pediatric early literacy services from the current four clinics in Morrow, Umatilla and Union counties to 22 clinics. Pediatric clinicians are now distributing books and encouraging shared reading during more than 5,000 well child visits, giving families simple, proven tools to nurture early literacy and healthy development. Seven more clinics will come on board in late fall after model training, doubling the number of well-child visits integrating Reach Out and Read. “Our partnership with Reach Out and Read has been a cornerstone of a place-based expansion spanning three counties, bringing together

organizations committed to improving early literacy outcomes for children and families,” said Tiffany Copeland, Early Learning Services Coordinator, InterMountain Education Service District, Blue Mountain Early Learning Hub. “As a truly collaborative effort, this work is part of a broader strategy to connect families with literacy experiences and resources in a variety of trusted community settings.” One of the clinics, Yellowhawk Tribal Health Center is using the same model to support caregivers in fostering early literacy and healthy relationships with infants and young children. The Blue See **LITERACY**, page A4

Out in L.C. Invites Community to ‘Drag Bingo: Houseplants & High Heels’

SUBMITTED

Out in L.C. invites the community to an evening of laughter, entertainment, and botanical fun with Drag Bingo: Houseplants & High Heels on Saturday, August 29, at the Lincoln City Cultural Center.

Hosted by Seattle performer Sativa the Queen, the 21+ event brings together lively bingo games, a dazzling drag performance, houseplants, and local vendors for a unique evening celebrating community while supporting Out in L.C.’s work.

Doors open at 5:30 p.m., giving guests time to browse a curated



The event is hosted by Sativa the Queen. (Courtesy photo)



Since launching the first statewide program in 2015, MRC’s programs have recycled more than 15 million mattresses, saved 14.9 million cubic yards of landfill space and diverted 575 million pounds of material, according to a 2025 MRC report. (Courtesy photo)

Mattress, box springs recycling events

STAFF REPORT
Lincoln County Leader

Residents can recycle mattresses and box springs for free, thanks to an Oregon state law and the Mattress Recycling Council’s Bye Bye Mattress program.

Two events are scheduled in Lincoln County from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 22.

Eligible Items: Mattresses and box springs only. Any type of construction or condition.

Ineligible Items: Air mattresses, crib mattresses, and other bedding-related products and furniture are not eligible for recycling.

Participation: These events are limited to Lincoln County residents and/or property owners

See **RECYCLE**, page B2

National Theatre Live returns to the PAC



Inter Alia. (Courtesy photo)

OREGON COASTAL COUNCIL FOR THE ARTS

Oregon Coast Council for the Arts (OCCA) will present the National Theatre Live filmed production of Inter Alia at the Alice Silverman Theatre inside the Newport Performing Arts Center (‘The PAC’) at 7 p.m. Wednesday, September 2.

Inter Alia centers on Jessica Parks, a woman navigating the many roles that define her life, including judge, mother, wife, and friend. Her career exists, as the title suggests, “among other things.” The play asks how a single unthinkable event can upend every corner of a person’s world, offering a searing look at modern motherhood and masculinity.

The production, recorded live in London, reunites the creative team behind the global stage phenomenon Prima Facie:

playwright Suzie Miller and director Justin Martin. Inter Alia stars Olivier Award winner Rosamund Pike, known to audiences for her roles in Gone

See **THEATRE**, page B2

Walter Parks to perform at the Pacific Maritime Heritage Center

SUBMITTED

Walter Parks will bring his swampy North Florida sound to the Pacific Maritime Heritage Center for a KYAQ Concert at 7 p.m. on August 28.

Parks is a singer songwriter, blues and jazz guitarist with deep roots in the music, hollers, and stories from North Florida and the Okefenokee Swamp. He also was the sideman for Woodstock legend Richie Havens. Tickets for this KYAQ concert are available at www.kyaq.org for \$20 in



For more information about Parks, and to hear his music, go to www.walterparks.com. (Courtesy photo)



American Goldfinch. (Courtesy photo from Ruth Shelly)

Perch & Pour happy hour Aug. 19

SUBMITTED

Seven Capes Bird Alliance has teamed up with Salishan Coastal Lodge to host “Perch & Pour” on Wednesday, August 19.

This bird-oriented happy hour is open to everyone and starts at 3 p.m. on the third Wednesday of every month in The Attic.

Salishan opens The Attic an hour early for birders of all levels to gather in conversation and sip on a craft cocktail or non-alcoholic beverage in a cozy setting. In addition to sharing recent bird sightings, this

See **POUR**, page B2

CONCERT

From Page B1

advance or \$25 at the door.

Walter Parks is a unique performer with stories and music that moves from Appalachian reels to hollers, spirituals, Delta blues, work songs, swamp jazz and even bits of opera. His delivery has a northeast Florida swampy feel, with banjo-like fingerpicking and mild distortion. Vocally you can hear the influence of black gospel and roadhouse music as he goes from raspy lows to operatic falsettos in almost a mystical way.

As Judy Collins has said, “Walter Parks is an extraordinary singer whose songs can break your heart as well as get you dancing. Lyrical and political, personal, and otherworldly at the same time, transcendent as well as down to

earth, Walter is a musical treasure, an artist of the highest caliber. To hear him is to be lifted into a mystical sphere. I adore him.”

Parks has had an interesting life. He grew up in northern Florida, where the Okefenokee Swamp is thick with palmettos, alligators and snakes. He went to business school at the University of Georgia until he “became disillusioned with the mentality of making important decisions only in allegiance to the bottom line.” He had his own clothing store in Jacksonville, formed the successful Nudes Duo in New York, took a year off to live in Plum Village,

Tich Nat Han’s Buddhist monastery in southwest France, and in 2001 accepted Richie Haven’s invite to be his sideman which he did for 10 years, up to Haven’s retirement. Since

then, he has focused on the neo-southern rock group Swamp Cabbage, The Unlawful Assembly and solo performances. Recently he was honored by having his collection and recordings of the hollers and songs from southeast Georgia’s Okefenokee Swamp achieved by The Library of Congress/American Folklife Collection.

For folks on the Oregon Central Coast, this is a rare opportunity to hear an evening of swampy Southern roots music, reimagined spirituals, reels, hollers, and songs drawn from the deep cultural history of the Okefenokee. A master guitarist and songwriter, Parks will bring the music of North Florida’s swamp homesteaders into something vivid, modern, and entirely his own.

For more information about Parks, and to hear his music, go to www.walterparks.com.



Emergency Preparedness Fair to be held in Waldport

SUBMITTED

People in various parts of the country and the world have witnessed the consequences of wildfires, flooding, landslides, and earthquakes.

For coastal residents, the possibility of a Subduction Zone earthquake looms in their minds, as well as the subsequent tsunami that will follow. Are you prepared for any catastrophic events? A community Emergency Preparedness Fair on Saturday, August 22, can help you prepare for the effects of catastrophic events.

This free event is open to everyone in the community. It will take place on August 22, from 11 a.m. to 3 pm, at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, located at 1006 SW Range Drive, Waldport, Oregon. There will be free hot dogs, chips, and bottled water available for people attending.

Representatives from the State and Lincoln County Emergency Management agencies, Central Oregon Coast Fire and Rescue (COCFR), Red Cross, Community Emergency Response Team (CERT), and Lincoln County Amateur Radio Club (LCARC) will

be present to answer questions and provide handouts. There will be informational table displays on topics such as:

- 72- hour survival kits
- Water purification and water storage
- Wilderness survival techniques
- Food storage tips and tasting freeze dried fruits.
- Car Emergency Kits
- Estate Planning/Legal Advice

Bring a friend, bring a neighbor, come to the Emergency Preparedness Fair to learn, get ready, and enjoy lunch and prizes with a drawing every half hour.

POUR

From Page B1

month we’ll have some summer fun with new bird trivia.

In addition to beverages, The Attic presents a farm-to-fork dinner menu crafted from sustainably sourced ingredients. Perch & Pour participants are welcome to stay when The Attic opens to the public at 4 p.m. And don’t miss out on live music

every Wednesday from 5–7 p.m.—come for the birds, stay for the tunes!

Salishan Coastal Lodge is easily accessible at 7760 US-101 in Gleneden Beach. Join us to share your latest bird sightings and stories!

Seven Capes Bird Alliance (sevencapes.org) was founded as Audubon Society of Lincoln City in 2005. A nonprofit membership organization and chapter of the National Audubon Society, Seven

Capes is active in education and advocacy for protection of birds, other wildlife, and their habitats in Lincoln and Tillamook Counties.

With over 200 acres of all-season activity, Salishan Coastal Lodge (salishan.com) invites visitors and coastal residents alike to recalibrate among hospitality, holistic wellness, coast-to-table dining, and empowering eco-adventures infused with nature.

RECYCLE

From Page B1

only.

LOCATIONS

TOLEDO

Dahl Toledo Main Office
380 NW First Street in Toledo

Please note: The Toledo event is at the Dahl Office, located at 380 NW First Street in Toledo. It is not at the Toledo Transfer Station on Hwy 20.

WALDPORT

Dahl South Lincoln Transfer Station
235 SW Dahl Avenue in Waldport

EVENT CONTACT INFORMATION:

541-336-2932 (Dahl main customer line, available Mon-Fri 8:30 am to 4:30 pm) or info@dahl disposal-service.com

(No contact will be available on the day of event.)

- Toledo Event: <https://byebyemattress.com/recycling-locator/free-mattress-recycling-collection-event-toledo/>

[com/recycling-locator/free-mattress-recycling-collection-event-waldport/](https://byebyemattress.com/recycling-locator/free-mattress-recycling-collection-event-waldport/)

BACKGROUND

Oregon’s Mattress Stewardship Act enacted in 2022 established the program. It began Jan. 1, 2025, and is funded through a \$22.50 fee that is collected when a mattress or box spring is purchased in Oregon. The fee is used to establish free drop-off locations and collection events throughout the state, transport collected units to recyclers that dismantle the discarded products and prepare the materials for use in other products.

Oregon’s mattress recycling law is similar to those in California, Connecticut and Rhode Island, where MRC also administers programs.

Since launching the first statewide program in 2015, MRC’s programs have recycled more than 15 million mattresses, saved 14.9 million cubic yards of landfill space and diverted 575 million pounds of material, according to the MRC.

To learn how to recycle your mattress or to find a collection location or event near you, visit ByeByeMattress.com.

Mattress Recycling Council

The Mattress Recycling Council (MRC) is a nonprofit organization that operates recycling programs in Oregon and other states that have passed mattress recycling laws. MRC was founded by the bedding industry and recycles nearly 2 million mattresses each year.

Additional mattress recycling events and sites are available around Oregon. Residents can search for a location near them at ByeByeMattress.com.

THEATRE

From Page B1

Girl and Saltburn, with original music by Erin Le Count and Jakwob. The Financial Times called the production “simply superb,” while Radio Times described it as a “raw, nuanced must-see.”

The PAC’s Alice Silverman Theatre, equipped with Ultra HD projection and a state-of-the-art Meyer Constellation Acoustical Sound System, ensures that every nuance of the performance is seen and heard with better-than-first-row cinematic clarity.

Tickets range from \$14 to \$22 when purchased in person or by phone. An additional fee applies to tickets purchased online. Call 541-265-2787, stop by the Newport Performing Arts Center box office at 777 W Olive Street (Tuesday through Friday, from 10 am to 3 pm), or visit coastarts.org/events/ntl-inter-alia

Audiences should note that this production



Inter Alia. (Courtesy photo)

contains flashing lights and references to sensitive subject matter, including sex, violence, rape, and other criminal activity.

Enjoy mid-week magic as Oregon Coast Council for the Arts brings National Theatre Live to Newport. Each production

is filmed in front of a live theatre audience, utilizing state-of-the-art techniques and masterful angles, then presented on the big screen. It’s a theatre experience like no other, and a chance for local audiences to enjoy performances direct from London.

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.

DRAG

From Page B1

selection of local vendors offering handmade goods,

plant-themed items, and other unique products before the show begins at 6:15 p.m.

Every \$22 ticket includes five bingo

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.

715 SW Bay St., Newport OR 97365

Phone: 541-574-8898

Sam House

samfamshelter.org



Please donate

games, one raffle ticket, and a free plant to take home. Throughout the evening, guests will have opportunities to win botanical-themed prize baskets featuring houseplants, books, and other items generously donated by local businesses.

“One of Out in L.C.’s goals is to create opportunities for LGBTQIA2S+ community members, allies, and visitors to connect in welcoming spaces throughout the year,” said Tawni Ferguson, Chair of Out in L.C. “Drag Bingo is a fun way to bring people together, support local businesses, and celebrate our community. Whether you’re coming for the bingo, the drag performance, the plants, or simply a night out with friends, we hope everyone leaves smiling and with a new plant in hand.”

Founded to increase inclusivity and foster

queer joy in Lincoln City, Out in L.C. coordinates events and partnerships that celebrate LGBTQIA2S+ culture, community, identity, and expression. The organization believes LGBTQIA2S+ people deserve to feel safe, welcome, and included, and to create opportunities for community members and allies to gather and connect throughout the year.

“Drag Bingo: Houseplants & High Heels” is one of several community events planned by Out in L.C. as part of its year-round efforts to strengthen community connections through inclusive programming and partnerships.

Tickets are available now at: <https://app.arts-people.com/?show=351172>

For more information, follow @out_in_lc on social media.

One Year In: Oregon’s new recycling system

STAFF REPORT
Lincoln County Leader

One year after Oregon launched the nation’s first recycling system funded in part by companies that produce paper and packaging, more Oregonians have access to recycling than ever before, according to a report from Circular Action Alliance (CAA) Oregon.

An estimated 295,000 tons — or 590 million pounds — of waste has been collected through the program and delivered to recycling facilities across the state as of July.

Since launching in July 2025, RecycleOn Oregon has:

- Expanded curbside recycling to communities that never had it before.
- Opened 34 RecycleOn Centers across the state, giving residents convenient places to recycle items that don’t belong in curbside carts.
- Funded more than 36,000 new recycling carts, 11 collection trucks and approximately \$30 million in upgrades to recycling sorting facilities.
- Supported the collection and delivery of



Recycling drop-off and transfer stations are managed by local regional haulers. The main facilities include the North Lincoln Sanitary Service Recycling Center in Lincoln City (1726 SE Hwy 101), Thompson’s Sanitary Transfer Station in Newport (7450 NE Avery St), Dahl Disposal in Toledo (5441 W Hwy 20), and Dahl Disposal in Waldport (235 SW Dahl Ave). (Courtesy photo)

approximately 530 million pounds of materials to recycling sorting facilities across Oregon in its first year. Oregon’s Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) selected CAA Oregon to launch and administer the new system, following a first-of-its-kind law requiring companies that sell products in paper and other packaging to help pay for the recycling of those products. “Five years ago, the Legislature created a new vision for recycling

in Oregon. Today, we’re seeing that vision move from policy into progress,” CAA Oregon Executive Director Kim Holmes said. “There is still more work ahead, but this first year showcases real-world results and what’s possible when we invest in a better recycling system.” **More Communities, More Access**
Lincoln County: Approximately 359.28 tons collected
Lincoln City: Approximately 538.62 tons collected

City of Newport: Approximately 746.52 tons collected
In Pendleton, residents and businesses now have curbside recycling for the first time, supported by approximately 6,300 new recycling carts and two new collection trucks. New curbside recycling service has also launched in Baker City, Boardman, Hermiston, Roseburg, Umatilla and The Dalles, with additional communities — including Cottage Grove, Winston, Coos Bay and Umatilla and Morrow counties

— expected to launch or expand recycling service in the coming months. “For many rural communities, recycling access has depended on whether the local infrastructure was available,” Southern Oregon Sanitation Recycling and Education Outreach Coordinator Theresa Strandquist said. “These investments are helping bring new services and resources to communities that have wanted recycling options for years.” Funding from the companies that make and sell paper and packaging is helping improve recycling systems while providing greater transparency into how recyclable materials are managed after they are collected. These investments are part of a multi-year effort to make recycling more accessible and consistent statewide. By the end of 2027, the goal is for 95% of Oregonians to live within 15 miles of a RecycleOn Center. Oregon is also implementing a statewide list of accepted recyclable materials, making it easier for people and businesses to know what belongs in the recycling bin no matter where they

live. The first year of RecycleOn Oregon laid the foundation for a better recycling system in Oregon while delivering meaningful improvements for communities across the state. As the program continues to grow, residents can stay informed about new recycling services, RecycleOn Centers and accepted materials in their communities at RecycleOn.org/Oregon. **About Circular Action Alliance Oregon**
Circular Action Alliance (CAA) is a U.S. Producer Responsibility Organization (PRO) dedicated to implementing effective Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) laws for paper and packaging. As a nonprofit, producer-led organization, CAA is committed to helping producers comply with EPR laws, delivering harmonized best-in-class compliance services and to working with governments, businesses and communities to reduce waste and recycle more. CAA was founded in 2022 and is led by producers representing the food, beverage, consumer goods, foodservice and retail industries.

Gleneden Beach Aloha Bingo Aug. 22

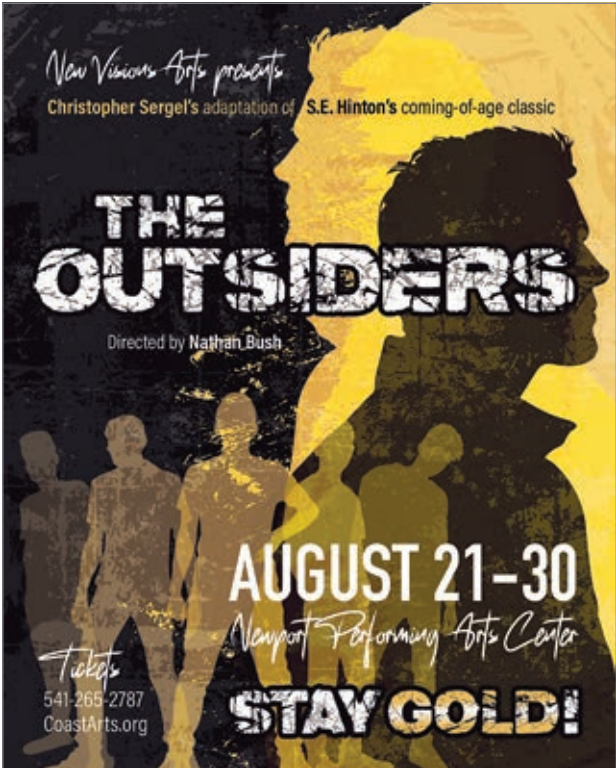
SUBMITTED
The public is invited to Aloha Bingo from 6:30 p.m. to 9 p.m. Saturday, August 22, at the Gleneden Beach Community Hall, 110 Azalea Street in

Gleneden Beach. Entry fee (\$20) includes two Bingo cards (more are available for purchase), two tropical drink tickets, appetizers and desserts. There will be an Aloha shirt contest and hula

events during Bingo breaks. Door prizes. Proceeds go toward the kitchen renovation at the Gleneden Beach Community Hall. *For more information, visit glenedenbeach.org.*

The Outsiders at the PAC

SUBMITTED
New Visions Arts is thrilled to announce its upcoming production of The Outsiders, adapted by Christopher Sergel from S.E. Hinton’s seminal American novel. This powerful, timeless story of youth, rebellion, and the search for belonging will run from August 21st through August 30 at The Newport Performing Arts Center, 777 W. Olive Street in Newport. Written when Hinton was just 16-years-old, The Outsiders explores the bitter rivalry between two socio-economic teenage groups in 1960s Oklahoma: the working-class “Greasers” and the wealthy, privileged “Socs.” Seen through the eyes of the poetic, fourteen-year-old Ponyboy Curtis, the play navigates the harsh realities of gang warfare, family loyalty, and the universal struggle to survive in a world



This powerful, timeless story of youth, rebellion, and the search for belonging will run from August 21st through August 30 at The Newport Performing Arts Center, 777 W. Olive Street in Newport. (Courtesy photo)

divided by class. “We are incredibly excited to bring this iconic American story to life on our stage,” said Nathan Bush, Director of the production. “While The Outsiders was written nearly sixty years ago, its core themes—empathy across social divides, the chosen families we create, and the fragile innocence of youth—remain fiercely relevant to audiences of all ages today. It’s a raw, high-energy show that promises to be deeply moving.” The Outsiders plays Fridays and Saturdays, August 21, 22, 28, 29 at

7:30 p.m. and Sundays, August 23, 30 at 2:30 p.m. and an Arts-for-All/Pay-What-You-Can evening, Thursday, August 27 at 7:30 p.m. at The Newport Performing Arts Center, 777 W. Olive Street in Newport. For tickets: Call 541-265-2787, come to the box office, or on-line (except for the Thursday show) at coastarts.org. Due to intense thematic elements and simulated violence, this production is recommended for audiences aged 12 and older. *For more info, visit newvisionsarts@gmail.com*

The Pacific Coast Wind Ensemble concerts

STAFF REPORT
Lincoln County Leader
The Pacific Coast Wind Ensemble presents “Once Upon a Time: Music from Broadway to the Silver Screen,”

featuring memorable music inspired by great stories. The program includes selections from The Sound of Music, West Side Story, The Wizard of Oz, Bizet’s Carmen,

Gershwin’s Porgy and Bess and Rimsky-Korsakov’s Scheherazade. Two concerts are scheduled. The first, at 2 p.m. Saturday September 5, at the Presbyterian Community Church, 3996 Highway 101 in Florence and the second concert is set for 2 p.m. Monday, September 7, at the Yachats Commons, 441 Highway 101 N, in Yachats. Admission is free to both concerts. Donations are suggested, with complimentary refreshments available during intermission.

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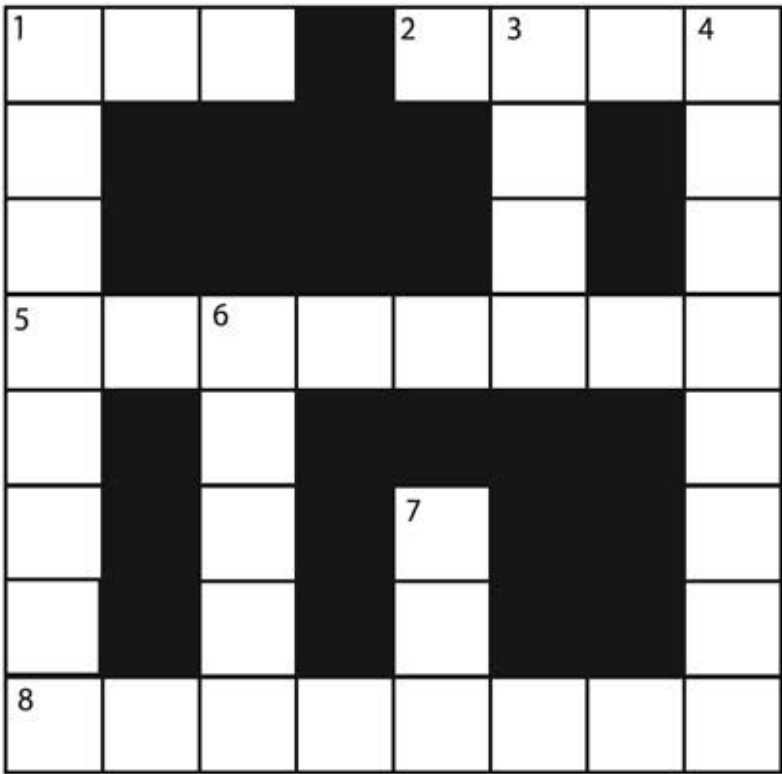
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NEWS TIMES



Crossword Puzzle



ACROSS

- 1. Feline
- 2. Neatens hair
- 5. A citizen from a particular country
- 8. Site or monument

DOWN

- 1. Traveling fair
- 3. Not closed
- 4. Baseball stadium
- 6. Bird’s claw
- 7. Precious stone



1807: The world’s first commercial steamboat service starts when it leaves New York City for Albany, NY.

1907: Pikes Place Market opens in Seattle.

1945: The novella *Animal Farm* is first published.



This food is popular at fairs and carnivals. It features a common barbecue food in the middle of a batter coating.

Answer: Corn dog

Down
1. Carnival 3. Open 4. Ballpark 6. Talon 7. Gem

Across
1. Cat 2. Comb 5. National 8. Landmark

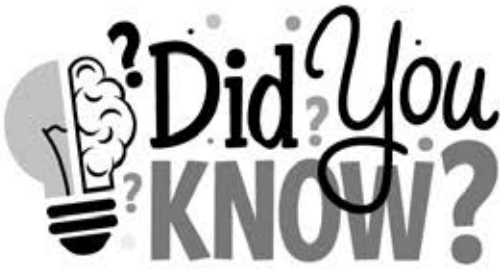


CARNIVAL

a public event or celebration that is typically held outdoors



- English:** Prize
- Spanish:** Premio
- Italian:** Premio
- French:** Prix
- German:** Preis



Many fairs have competitions that locals can enter, including events that recognize people who are good at raising livestock.



Can you guess what the bigger picture is?

Answer: Ride ticket

ON THE ROAD

WORD SEARCH



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

WORDS

- AMBULANCE
- BOTTLENECK
- BOULEVARD
- COMMUTER
- CONGESTION
- CONSTRUCTION
- CROSSWALK
- GRIDLOCK
- HIGHWAY
- INTERSECTION
- MOTORCYCLE
- OVERPASS
- PEDESTRIAN
- POLICE
- ROUNDBOUT
- RUSH HOUR
- SPEEDING
- STOP SIGN
- TAILGATING
- TRAFFIC LIGHT
- TURN
- VEHICLES

Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps

GERALD, DEAR, YOU ONLY EAT MAC & CHEESE AND FISH STICKS. TRY THIS CASSEROLE I MADE.

MMPHH...

GULP! CHOAK! ACKK!

YEAH, MY TASTE BUDS HAVE A STRICT "2-INGREDIENT POLICY."

Out on a Limb

by Gary Kopervas

RUNNING WITH THE BULLS. PAMPLONA, SPAIN

POWER WALKING WITH THE BICHONS, PALM BEACH, FLORIDA

The Spats

by Jeff Pickering

GULP

I WISH I WAS A BANANA...

...I'D REALLY LIKE TO SPLIT!!

TIGER

by BUD BLAKE

YOU'RE CROWDING ME, STRIPE

LEMME PAST, STRIPE

OUTTA MY WAY, STRIPE

NOT SO CLOSE, STRIPE

BACK UP, STRIPE

MOVE! I CAN'T SEE, STRIPE

SEE IF YOU CAN FIND STRIPE ANYWHERE

OLIVE & POPEYE

By Randy Milholland

WOT'S WIT' THESE UGLY MONSKERS?

PLAIDFOOT SAID THE TREASURE WAS GUARDED BY TWISTED BEASTS.

PERHAPS THEY ARE DEPICTIONS OF THEIR LEADERS.

THEN HOW COME THE MONSKERS ALL GOTSK PLAID FEET?

I FEAR PLAIDFOOT GROSSLY MISUNDERSTOOD WHO THE MONSTER WAS.

HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF

Find at least six differences in details between panels.

Differences: 1. Arm is raised. 2. Poster is smaller. 3. Weight is missing. 4. Cap is reversed. 5. Line in sidewalk is moved. 6. Leg is moved.

Just Like Cats & Dogs

by Dave T. Phipps

I DON'T THINK YOU UNDERSTAND. WHEN IT COMES TO TEAM BUILDING YOU ARE NOT THE COACH BUT MORE A BACKUP WATERBOY.

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: L equals Y

EXFSXFHIG AF EXLA MKXM'Q

XJJFAZHEXMGPL KXPTOXL

MAOXFV HMQ GZJHFXMHAI

VXMG: EHVVPG-XSG QJFGXV.

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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!

Alarm

SNORES

Ripe

RUMATE

Truth

POGLES

Heir

ICONS

TODAY'S WORD

"When Stanley speaks, everyone

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.

KHYO HU WDD UGDCW WD

LHUU DXW DP WGO

EOFXWHYXK WGHPNU, KHRO

F TDXEKO BGOOUOEXCNOG.

BGFPPHPN WFWXL

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Trivia test

by Fifi Rodriguez

1. TELEVISION: Which musical instrument does Leonard play in "The Big Bang Theory"?

2. MUSIC: In what year did the Woodstock music festival take place?

3. MOVIES: Which horror movie features a character named Ellen Ripley?

4. HISTORY: When did the French Revolution begin?

5. FOOD & DRINK: What is carpaccio?

6. U.S. STATES: How many states border Mexico?

7. GAMES: How many wooden blocks are in the game of Jenga?

8. GEOGRAPHY: What is the longest mountain chain in the world?

9. ART: Who painted the "Mona Lisa"?

10. MATH: How many sides does a hexagon have?

Answers

1. Cello.

2. 1969.

3. "Alien."

4. 1789.

5. Thinly sliced raw meat or fish.

6. Four: California, Arizona, New Mexico and Texas.

7. 54.

8. The Andes in South America.

9. Leonardo da Vinci.

10. Six.

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CryptoQuote

Life is too short to miss out on the beautiful things, like a double cheeseburger. — Channing Tatum

SCRAMBLERS

Solution

1. Sensor; 2. Mature

3. Gospel; 4. Scion

Today's Word

LISTENS

CryptoQuip

answer

Margarine or mayo that's approximately halfway toward its expiration date: middle-age spread.

Tigers ready to build off impressive 2025

WILL LOHRE
Lincoln County Leader

Last year, the Tigers had one of the program’s best volley-ball seasons in two decades, narrowly missing the playoffs. In 2026, they’re looking to ride that momentum to a competi-tive season in a new league and classification.

For more than a decade, the Tigers have competed at the 3A level, and their growth has been evident in recent seasons. After finishing 4-12 in the league in 2024, they leaped in 2025, going 10-6. As they get ready for the season, the goal is to build the right squad and prep for their first 4A season since 2013.

Head Coach Boone Marker and his team have been hard at work this summer, host-ing open gyms from June to August and even playing some friendly matches with neigh-boring Newport in July.

“Our biggest focus is assem-bling our teams for this sea-son. Coming off one of the more successful seasons in 20 years, we would like to be more focused, goal-oriented, and outwork our opponents,” Marker said. “Taft is returning to the Oregon West 4A divi-sion this year, one of the most competitive leagues in the 4A classification.”

The program has solid pre-season participation numbers, with 30 players registered to play and around 24 trying out for the varsity team. Taft will have both a JV and varsity team this season.

Off the back of their winning campaign in 2025, the Tigers have six returners back on the varsity squad, bringing plenty of battle-tested experience. Also coming into the fold are some “skilled players” Marker expects to step up this fall.

With that in mind, Marker hopes to harness the potential that helped make last year’s PacWest run such a success.

“I hope to build off the momentum from last year and capitalize on a year of growth from our players,” Marker said. “After missing the playoffs by a few points, I want our players to be determined to compete this season and play in the postseason. We have the ath-letes this year to be competitive and win some games.”

Jumping up a level always brings some challenges, but the Tigers have a promising group ready to make the transition. During summer workouts, Marker noted the leadership demonstrated by senior setter Katelyn Hatton, defensive specialist Layla Jones, junior middle blocker Aida Lupo, and junior hitter Ari Hunter. Each of those players played a key role in Taft’s success last year, and Marker hopes they can replicate some of that success with an infusion of a promising freshman class.

“We have an outstanding group this season and a big group of freshmen this season. I hope we can stay competitive for the next few years,” Marker said.

After years of competing against the likes of Santiam Christian, Dayton, Scio, and the rest of the PacWest, the jump into the Oregon West will bring with it a host of new opponents. The team will play league games against Stayton, Philomath, Cascade, Central, and Newport. The season will open with a non-league dou-bleheader against familiar foes Santiam Christian and Salem Academy on Aug. 27.

As they get ready to get the season underway, Marker is excited to be back on the side-lines. The group on the court is



The Tigers are ready to build off an impressive 2025 this fall. (Courtesy photo)

ready to show their stripes, and with a solid braintrust calling the shots, it will be an exciting year for the Tigers as they take on a new challenge.

“I feel lucky to have a cohe-sive group of players in our

program. They have a strong bond on and off the court, and that is something every coach hopes for,” Marker said. “Our coaching staff have been work-ing together for a few years, and I’m thankful to have the

help of Felicia Lambie and Heather Hatton, and we’ve added two other volunteer assistants, Vivian Light and Hailey Weaver. Together, we make a great team and look to have a very successful season.”

All about Oregon mushrooms of the Oregon Coast

MIDCOAST WATERSHED COUNCIL

Mushrooms of the Oregon Coast: which ones to eat, and which ones to leave be. Plus some of the more interesting and beautiful mushrooms in our area!

MidCoast Watersheds Council’s September Community Meeting

WHEN:

Thursday, September 3
6:30 p.m. - 8 p.m.

WHERE:

Pacific Maritime Heritage Center
333 SE Bay Blvd., Newport OR
Online via Zoom by register-ing at the link below:
<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/79Vg4YWSlusGTcroqQqzg#/registration>

WHAT:

Join the MidCoast Watersheds Council for our September Community Meeting! This event will fea-ture a presentation by Jon Sommer from the Lincoln County Mycological Society to learn about mushrooms of the Oregon Coast.

This event is free and open to the public. Community members can join either in-per-son at the Pacific Maritime



Heritage Center or online via Zoom. To learn more about the event, visit our website:
<https://www.midcoastwatersheds.org/events/2026/september/communitymeeting>

ABOUT THE PRESENTATION

Ever wonder which mush-rooms are safe to eat, and which ones will send you to the emergency room? We will look at the important edible species

in our area, and some of the poisonous ones. As we tour through some of the various coastal habitats, we will get a sense of the enormous diversity and beauty of our coastal fungi.

This talk will be engaging and informative for everyone from the novice mushroom hunter to the seasoned pro.

ABOUT THE SPEAKER

Jon Sommer is a mycologist that has led mushroom for-ays, given lectures on a range of mycological topics, and taught mushroom identifica-tion across the U.S. for more than 5 decades. He is a well-known speaker and presenter for mycological Societies and Forays across the country. He received a Bachelor’s degree in Botany at Humboldt State University in Arcata, CA and two Master’s Degrees from the University of California, Davis (Botany and Plant Pathology).

A resident of Colorado for 30 years, and now living on the Oregon coast, Jon has in-depth knowledge of fungi across the US and particu-larly northern California and Oregon. He is the immediate Past President of the Colorado Mycological Society and is the current President of the Lincoln County Mycological Society in Oregon.

EVENT CONTACT:

Megan Hoff
Outreach and Communications Specialist
MidCoast Watersheds Council
megan@midcoastwc.org
541-265-9195

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