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 PAGE B1



# Lincoln County Leader

Wednesday, May 13, 2026

www.newportnewstimes.com

\$2

## Sen. Wyden conducts town hall in Newport



Senator Wyden speaking at the OCCC campus town hall in Newport May 7. (Courtesy photo)

**JEREMY C. RUARJK**  
*Lincoln County Leader*

Oregon U.S. Senator Ron Wyden conducted a town hall at the Oregon Coast Community College campus in Newport May 7.

Following the event, Senator Wyden shared his insight into his community meetings with the Lincoln County Leader.

**Lincoln County Leader:** What have been the most compelling questions and concerns you have heard at your most recent town halls and community visits?

**Senator Ron Wyden:**

See **WYDEN**, page A6

## Two arrests follow commercial sex investigation by police

**JEREMY C. RUARK**  
*Lincoln County Leader*

Two Newport residents face criminal charges following a police investigation into alleged commercial sex operations.

Newport Police Department officers served search warrants May 5, at Amazing Lotus Spa, located at 831 NE Avery Street in Newport, and at a residence in the 200 block of NE 8th Street.

The warrants were the result of an investigation that began in March 2026 after investigators

learned the business was advertising on a well-known prostitution/adult escort website and alluding to commercial sex acts being offered at the spa, according to a NPD release.

During the investigation, Newport Police officers conducted surveillance at the business and observed what investigators said was activity inconsistent with the normal business patterns of legitimate massage establishments. Based on the investigation, a search warrant was submitted and later authorized by

the court.

“During the execution of the search warrant at Amazing Lotus Spa, investigators located evidence indicating the business was providing massage services without the required massage therapist licensing,” the NPD release states. “At the NE 8th Street residence, investigators located large quantities of cash and additional evidence related to services allegedly being offered at the spa beyond unlicensed massage activity.”

See **ARRESTS**, page A7

## Museum to use grants for needed building repairs



The North Lincoln Historical Museum is located at 4907 Oregon Coast Highway in the Taft District of Lincoln City. (Photos by Jeremy C. Ruark / Lincoln County Leader)



The exhibits include a variety of items from the past, including a vintage collection of Japanese glass floats on display at the museum's first floor window.



A vintage doll collection in the museum.

**JEREMY C. RUARK**  
*Lincoln County Leader*

After searching for months to find funding for the Lincoln County Historical Museum's needed repairs, the museum has qualified for two grants to help.

A \$15,000 grant from the Ford Family Foundation and \$25,000 grant from the Roundhouse Foundation will be used to repair the building's leaking roof. “We've had several

leaks,” Lincoln County Historical Museum Executive Director Christopher Melton said. “We had the roof replaced in 2017, but the company that did it kind did a poor job, and they went out of business, and they were not able to fulfill their warranty. We'll see better quality materials with this new repair project.”

The roof repair is expected to cost about \$60,000 and funding not covered by the grants

will likely come from the museum's emergency funding.

The museum will be closed for a week July 20-25 for the roofing repair project.

A contractor will also be called in to investigate mold corrosion at the museum.

“It is an older building, built by volunteers in 1941,” he said. “It was the first fire station in the area, a city hall until

See **MUSEUM**, page A7

## Newport city councilors, mayor to receive compensation

**JEREMY C. RUARK**  
*Lincoln County Leader*

Members of the Newport City Council and city mayor will soon be paid for their work following the council's declaration of conflict of interest and approval May 4 of the financial compensation.

At the April 20, work session, council members asked staff to research the following potential

options for City Council Compensation:

- Health insurance
- A stipend or reimbursement for childcare, pet car, cell phone, or in general consideration of time spent serving on City Council
- Recreation center membership

**Health Insurance:** City staff calculated the

potential costs of the seven City Council members participating in the City's health insurance program, which includes both medical insurance and dental insurance. The City's health insurance program has a 90/10 split, which means that 90% of the costs are paid

See **COUNCIL**, page A6



The Newport City Council and Mayor. (Courtesy photo)



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Weather

Wednesday: High-56/Low-48 Mostly Sunny
Thursday: High-58/Low-48 AM Clouds/PM Sun
Friday: High-54/Low-46 Cloudy
Saturday: High-56/Low-44 AM Clouds/PM Sun
Sunday: High-58/Low-45 Partly Cloudy
Monday: High-60/Low-48 Mostly Cloudy
Tuesday: High-59/Low-47 Cloudy

Past Weather

On the Coast

Table with columns: Rain, Low, High. Rows for dates April 21-27 and Total rainfall from Jan. 1.

Tides Tables

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

WEDNESDAY, MAY 13

Tide table for Wednesday, May 13 with times and heights for Low and High.

THURSDAY, MAY 14

Tide table for Thursday, May 14 with times and heights for Low and High.

FRIDAY, MAY 15

Tide table for Friday, May 15 with times and heights for Low and High.

SATURDAY, MAY 16

Tide table for Saturday, May 16 with times and heights for Low and High.

SUNDAY, MAY 17

Tide table for Sunday, May 17 with times and heights for High and Low.

MONDAY, MAY 18

Tide table for Monday, May 18 with times and heights for High and Low.

TUESDAY, MAY 19

Tide table for Tuesday, May 19 with times and heights for High and Low.

Sunrise/Sunset

Table with columns: Date, Sunrise, Sunset. Rows for dates May 13-21.

Lottery

Friday, May 8 Mega Millions 37 • 47 • 49 • 51 • 58 • PB-16
Saturday, May 9 Powerball 15 • 41 • 46 • 47 • 56 • PB-22 • x2
Saturday, May 9 Megabucks 9 • 11 • 29 • 41 • 44 • 48

Inside

Table of contents for the newspaper with categories like News, Business, and Sports.

Lincoln County Leader

(Publication number 0888-2110) Published weekly, 52 issues per year. Postmaster: Send address changes to Lincoln County Leader mailing address, PO Box 670 Salem, OR 97308. OFFICE ADDRESS - HOURS PO Box 670 Salem, OR 97308 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. WORLD WIDE WEB ADDRESS http://www.newportwesttimes.com

Here's what you need to know about the DMV scam

If you've received text or email messages claiming to be from Oregon DMV saying you owe money, you're not alone. This nationwide scam, which began as a toll phishing scam, has been targeting drivers in several states for nearly two years, according to a release from the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT). "Oregon DMV will never send you notices, warnings or payment requests by text or email. DMV transactions should only be completed online at DMV2U, in person at a DMV office, at a self-service Express Kiosk, or by mail," the ODOT release states.

- What to look for
• These fake messages often:
• Come from international phone numbers or non-government email addresses.
• Cite fake administrative codes.
• Threaten to suspend vehicle registration or driving privileges.
• Demand payment by a certain date.
• Link to URLs that may contain the agency name but with added letters or dashes.
Past scam messages often included obvious spelling and grammar mistakes. While those are still a red flag, many of today's criminals are using artificial

- intelligence to generate realistic, professional-sounding messages, according to ODOT.
How to stay safe
• Do Not Click: Do not click on any links or scan any QR codes.
• Do Not Reply: Do not respond to the text message.
• Report: Forward the message to 7726 (SPAM) and report it to the Federal Trade Commission. When reporting, include the phone number from where the text originated and the website listed within the text.
• Delete: Delete the message.
• Verify: You can contact ODOT directly



at 1-888-Ask-ODOT or DMV directly at 503-945-5000. If you do click on a suspicious link or provide sensitive information to an unknown source, secure your personal information and financial accounts and dispute any unfamiliar charges. Oregonians can file a customer complaint with Oregon Department of Justice Protection. Learn more about fraud prevention at oregondmv.com.

Schools briefly locked down, high school student arrested

STAFF REPORT Lincoln County Leader

A 15-year-old Newport High School student has been charged with disorderly conduct following an investigation by law enforcement agents. At approximately 2:15 p.m. May 6, Newport Police officers were dispatched to area of the Newport High School, 322 NE Eads Street of a report that a school aged male was carrying a rifle. Newport Police officers and Lincoln County Sheriff's Office deputies



The incident occurred in the 300 block of NE Eads Street in Newport. (Courtesy photo)

responded to the area and began searching for the subject. Officers worked with Newport High

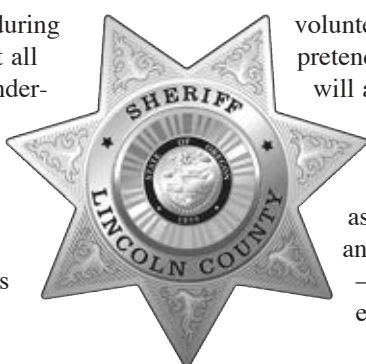
School administration and Lincoln County School District personnel to lock down the area schools until the area could be made safe, according to a release from Newport Police. "A suspect was identified and Newport Police contacted the suspect who was a 15-year-old student at the high school," the release states. "The rifle was determined to be an airsoft AR style replica gun and officers on scene quickly determined there was no threat to school or public safety."

The lock down was lifted and the schools resumed their daily operations. The juvenile student was arrested at the scene for Disorderly Conduct 1 and released to a parent. The incident remains under investigation. If you have any information regarding this case, contact Newport Police Department Officer Mangum at 541-574-3348. The Newport Police Tip Line is available at 541-574-5455, or Text-a-Tip at 541-270-1856 or tipline@newportpolice.net.

Local disaster response exercise planned in Newport

For the first time, Samaritan Pacific Communities Hospital and Lincoln County Emergency Management will co-host the Oregon Health Authority-sponsored Pathfinder exercise. This full-scale mass casualty disaster response exercise is planned for May 15-16. More than 100 military members, medical personnel, student nurses, and civilians will participate in this annual Oregon training event. This full-scale exercise simulates a catastrophic Cascadia Subduction Zone earthquake and tsunami. "It focuses on the critical window when coastal communities are isolated, overwhelmed, and operating with severely limited infrastructure, according to Oregon Health Authority (OHA) Director of Emergency Operations Dr. Eric Gebbie said. "It's

important during a crisis that all agencies understand and use a common language, align communications technologies, and build shared processes to strengthen coordination. It takes practice to make that happen. This exercise brings together hospital, local, state, and federal partners to do just that." The drill begins on Friday afternoon with lecture-based training for participants at the Samaritan Center for Health Education in Newport. Early Saturday morning, community members who have



Organizers said this full-scale exercise will simulate a catastrophic Cascadia Subduction Zone earthquake and tsunami. (Courtesy photo)

volunteered to be pretend victims will arrive at the center to receive their assignments and moulage - special effects makeup depicting injuries. The training will extend into clinical areas of the hospital (where patients are not seen on weekends), so Emergency Department staff can train on the triage process, skills, patient flows and tracking. "My staff will take turns participating in the training, so there will be no impact on care given to actual emergency patients we may have at that time," Samaritan's Regional Emergency

Services Manager Pamela Halbrook said. "We're excited to have this opportunity for hands-on training that will sharpen our skills and help us be a more cohesive team when the need arises." Local participants in the exercise include Lincoln County first responders, Samaritan Pacific Communities Hospital, Lincoln County Emergency Management, City of Newport, Lincoln County Public Health, U.S. Coast Guard, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and Life Flight Network. State participants include Oregon Disaster Medical Team, OHA's Health Security Preparedness and Response program staff and SERV-OR volunteers, Oregon National Guard, Salem Hospital, and Oregon Health & Sciences University. OHA leveraged \$25,000

of its funding through the U.S. Health and Human Services Public Health Emergency Preparedness Program to pay for the exercise, according to a release. This, along with the federal Healthcare Preparedness Program, provides states, counties, and hospitals with resources to support disaster preparedness activities. Activities covered by the funds include planning, training, and exercising. While local, state, and federal partners gather to practice response, this gives communities another reminder of the importance of personal preparedness. Take time today to review your family emergency plan or check items in your emergency kit. This disaster planning event is closed to the public. Learn more about how to be Four Week Coastal Cascadia Ready at: https://www.co.lincoln.or.us/790/Plan-Prepare

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Sudoku answers
9 6 4 | 1 2 7 8 5 3
1 5 2 | 3 8 9 6 7 4
3 8 7 | 6 4 5 2 9 1
2 7 3 | 4 5 1 9 8 6
4 1 8 | 9 7 6 5 3 2
6 9 5 | 2 3 8 4 1 7
5 4 9 | 7 6 3 1 2 8
7 2 1 | 8 9 4 3 6 5
8 3 6 | 5 1 2 7 4 9
Sudoku answers



From left to right, City Councilor Kevin Hohnbaum State Rep. David Gombert, State Sen. Dick Anderson, Mayor Susan Wahlke, City Councilor Nicole Petersen, and City Councilor Marci Baker use gold shovels to toss dirt in the air during the groundbreaking ceremony.



All that was left May 11 at the D River Wayside restroom building was rubble after construction crews removed the structure. (Photos by Jeremy C. Ruark / Lincoln County Leader)

# Dirt flies for Wayside Improvement project

**JEREMY C. RUARK**  
*Lincoln County Leader*

Armed with gold shovels local dignitaries marked the official groundbreaking for the D River Wayside Improvement Project at Lincoln City in a public ceremony Wednesday afternoon, May 6.

The multi-million-dollar project that includes new restrooms, a welcome center, and parking improvements, has been top priority for Lincoln City Mayor Susan Wahlke for the last few years.

“It’s been a long-time coming,” she said. “I am so glad to see it happening. I’m so proud that we will have a wonderful. New, clean facility. This was always my go-to

spot when I came into town before I had a home here.”

In partnership with the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department (OPRD), which has leased the D River State Recreation Site to the City, the Lincoln City Welcome Center at the D River Wayside will not only honor the area’s natural beauty and cultural heritage, but will also be accessible, reflecting Lincoln City’s ongoing commitment to making the Oregon Coast more inclusive for all, according to Explore Lincoln City Director Kim Findling Cooper.

“This project represents an exciting and meaningful investment in the future of Lincoln

City,” Findling Cooper said. “The D River State Recreation Site is one of our most visited and cherished coastal access points, and this new welcome center will allow us to better serve visitors while celebrating the unique natural beauty and cultural richness of our community. We’re thrilled to bring this vision to life.”

The project includes modern restroom facilities and improved amenities designed to better serve the approximately 1.5 million visitors who access this popular site each year. The overarching goal is to significantly enhance accessibility, infrastructure, and the overall visitor experience while investing in beautification,

facilities and economic development that benefit residents and visitors alike.

The ORPD, the City of Lincoln City, and Explore Lincoln City announced the transition of oversight of the D River State Recreation Site from OPD to the City of Lincoln City on April 27. The lease from OPD is provided at no cost to the city to support the common goal of vastly improving facilities and access.

Improvements, including the new, \$6.7 million Lincoln City Welcome Center, upgraded parking and beach access, and increased accessibility amenities, are scheduled to be completed by the City of Lincoln City in early 2027. The D River Recreation Site draws 1.5 million visitors each year.

This project will be funded through a State of Oregon Lottery Revenue

Bond Grant as a result of advocacy from local legislators, as well as the reinvestment of Lincoln City transient lodging tax revenue earmarked for tourism promotion and facilities.

Use of the D River Recreation Site area will be limited or periodically closed. Portable restrooms will be available on-site throughout much of the project duration, and a portion of the parking lot will remain open with free parking until reconstruction is required.

One beach access point via stairs will remain open as long as possible, while the ADA-accessible ramp will be closed during construction. To support accessibility, Mobi-mats will be placed seasonally at a pedestrian access point south of the property. Site hours will remain 6 a.m. to 10 p.m., with no overnight parking permitted.

Due to construction at D River State Recreation Site, the Lincoln City Summer Kite Festival will be temporarily relocated to Chinook Winds Casino Resort on June 27–28. The new location will provide ample space for kite flying and festival activities while improvements are underway at the D River site.

### HISTORY

Once home to an aquarium and later to a go-kart track, today the wayside serves as a rest stop, interpretive center, and primary access point along Lincoln City’s seven miles of beachfront. The site offers beach and river access, restrooms, with and easy access to Highway 101 in the heart of Lincoln City.

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

# Pump prices surging higher

**JEREMY C. RUARK**  
*Lincoln County Leader*

Average gasoline prices in Oregon have risen 8.1 cents per gallon in the last week, averaging \$5.27 per gallon as of Monday, May 11, according to GasBuddy’s survey of 1,307 stations in Oregon.

Lowest prices for unleaded regular in Lincoln City ranged from \$5.10 to \$5.59 per gallon, \$4.99 in Newport, and \$5.40 in Depoe Bay as of Sunday, May 10.

Prices in Oregon are 30.4 cents per gallon higher than a month ago and stand \$1.42/g higher than a year ago. The national average price of diesel has increased 0.2 cents compared to a week ago and stands at \$5.623 per gallon.

According to GasBuddy price reports, the cheapest station in Oregon was priced at \$4.59/g yesterday while the most expensive was \$6.59/g, a difference of \$2.00/g. The lowest price in the state yesterday was \$4.59/g while the highest was \$6.59/g, a difference of \$2.00/g.

The national average price of gasoline has risen 5.1 cents per gallon in the last week, averaging \$4.48/g today. The national average is up 37.3 cents per gallon from a month ago and stands \$1.40/g higher than a year ago, according to GasBuddy data compiled from more than 11 million weekly price reports covering over 150,000 gas stations across the country.

Historical gasoline prices in Oregon and the national average going back five years:

- May 11, 2025: \$3.85/g (U.S. Average: \$3.08/g)
- May 11, 2024: \$4.40/g

- (U.S. Average: \$3.61/g)
- May 11, 2023: \$4.05/g (U.S. Average: \$3.52/g)
- May 11, 2022: \$4.85/g (U.S. Average: \$4.41/g)
- May 11, 2021: \$3.33/g (U.S. Average: \$3.00/g)

Neighboring areas and their current gas prices:

- Eugene- \$5.29/g, up 14.4 cents per gallon from last week’s \$5.14/g.
- Salem- \$5.20/g, up 13.5 cents per gallon from last week’s \$5.07/g.
- Portland- \$5.36/g, up 8.6 cents per gallon from last week’s \$5.27/g.

Average gasoline prices declined in just six states over the last week, led by the Great Lakes region, where motorists in states like Michigan and Ohio saw prices fall sharply, while Indiana experienced even steeper relief after the state temporarily waived both its excise and use taxes on gasoline, according to Patrick De Haan, head of petroleum analysis at GasBuddy.

“Those declines helped pull the national average lower by roughly eight cents over the last several days after oil prices eased mid-week on optimism that the U.S. and Iran could reach a deal. However, that optimism has since largely unraveled, with talks appearing to stall and President Trump signaling the latest proposal is unacceptable, helping push oil prices higher again in Sunday electronic trade,” De Haan said. “As a result, many states could see another round of price cycling in the days ahead, potentially sending the national average toward the \$4.65-per-gallon mark if oil continues climbing.

In addition, De Haan added that diesel prices across much of the Great Lakes region are nearing

new record highs as ongoing refinery issues continue to disproportionately impact diesel production.

“Should geopolitical tensions escalate further, fuel prices could rise even more sharply in the weeks ahead,” De Haan said.

According to the latest American Automobile Association (AAA) survey, pump prices are the most expensive for this time of year since 2022, after Russia invaded Ukraine. That sent crude oil prices soaring and pump prices followed. That year, the national average for regular gas reached an all-time high of \$5.016 on June 14, while the Oregon average reached an all-time high of \$5.548 on June 15. The Washington average has soared to a new all-time high today of \$5.763. The previous record high in Washington was \$5.55 set in June 2022.

### AAA INSIGHT

The Lincoln County Leader reached out to the AAA’s Oregon/Idaho Public Affairs Director Marie Dodds for insight into the surging gasoline prices.

**Lincoln County Leader:** From the AAA vantage point, describe the overall impact of the increasing gasoline prices to our local economies. Specifically, the increasing cost of grocery prices

See **PRICES**, page A8

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# Oregon faces longer fire season due to historic heat and drought

**ALEX BAUMHARDT**  
*Oregon Capital Chronicle*

Oregon's wildfire season started early this year and is expected to last into October, according to state fire experts.

The season is made more difficult by historic heat, drought and a potentially early El Niño weather pattern that could further stir up temperatures and lightning storms into the fall, fire officials said at a Tuesday, May 5, news conference with Gov. Tina Kotek. Oregonians need to be proactive about protecting themselves and their properties from wildfire and behave far more cautiously when starting campfires

or burning debris than in recent years, they advised.

"It's not one thing that brings the wildfire season, it's many things," Kotek said.

Although May is officially Wildfire Awareness Month, the season's first Level 3 fire — meaning residents were ordered to evacuate immediately — occurred in La Pine in March, burning 20 acres.

"All indications suggest a more challenging fire season ahead of all of us," Kotek said.

Oregon's winter was among the warmest on record and snow-pack across the Northwest was one-third of normal levels, according to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric

Administration.

Last year's wildfire season burned significantly fewer Oregon acres than in previous years, in large part because the Oregon Legislature allocated hundreds of millions of additional dollars to the Oregon Department of Forestry and the Office of the State Fire Marshal. Both in turn beefed up preparation and response systems since the 2020 Labor Day Fires that became the most expensive in state history.

But most fires last year — more than 60% of wildfires — were started by humans, a disappointing reversal from years prior, which had human-caused fires trending

downward. People burning yard waste and other debris is the number one cause of human-ignited wildfires, Oregon State Fire Marshal Mariana Ruiz-Temple said.

She encouraged Oregonians who burn debris to download a new Before You Burn app developed with support from state and federal fire agencies, which will provide users information about local burn regulations, burn statuses, required safety measures and fire and weather alerts. About 700 Oregonians have downloaded it since it launched in April, she said.

Oregon's new state forester, Kacey KC, said it's likely that wildfire risk will be above normal east of the Cascades in rangeland areas beginning in June and above normal southwest of the Cascades by July, heading up further into forests that have experienced record-low snowpack this year.

### Federal partners?

Oregon's fire agencies have roughly 700 wildland fire fighters and 300 fire trucks ready to protect 16 million Oregon acres this season. They'll rely as well on more than 300 local fire departments and federal and tribal wildland firefighters to respond in an emergency.

"We are ready, we are coordinated and we are all hands on deck as we prepare for the season," Kotek said.

Oregon's congressional Democrats have raised concerns that federal support could be lacking in light of budget and personnel cuts to the U.S. Forest Service over the last year. The cuts, according to a letter from Oregon's senior U.S. Sen. Ron Wyden, included 1,400 employees who hold the necessary certifications to support firefighting operations during a wildfire.

KC said she talks frequently with the Forest Service's regional director — at least weekly as the state prepares and gets closer to the fire season — and that she's been assured no wildland firefighters working for the Forest Service or U.S. Department of the Interior in Oregon have lost their jobs.

Although federal officials have been criticized for consolidating wildland firefighting efforts at both agencies to create the new

U.S. Wildland Fire Service so close to the start of the fire season, KC said signs so far indicate that moving all firefighting efforts under the Interior as opposed to several agencies could be beneficial in the long run.

"They're working together to figure out how to do this more effectively. And so I feel confident that this year, on a fire-fighting front, they're going to be as active as they've always been, and that it may actually even be a little simpler," she said.

<https://oregoncapital-chronicle.com/2026/05/05/oregon-faces-longer-fire-season-due-to-historic-heat-drought-fire-experts-warn/>

*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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### Simple home hardening recommendations from state fire experts:

- Space trees and prune them to prevent fire from climbing up them and onto structures.
- Remove leaves, pine needles, mulch and other debris within 100 feet of structures or up to the property line.
- Clean roofs and gutters.
- Move combustible materials like mulch and firewood away from structures.
- Trim dead material from plants and trees, especially near the house.
- Do not plant directly under eaves. Leave at least a five-foot buffer between plants and structures.
- Know your evacuation routes, be two weeks ready and sign up for emergency alerts at OR-Alert.
- Know your local air quality smoke conditions by keeping up with DEQ's Air now program: About AirNow | AirNow.gov.

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\*Rate stated as Annual Percentage Yield (APY), effective January 1, 2026 and is subject to change. Minimum \$25 to open. Minimum balance of \$.01 to earn APY. Portion of balance over \$20,000 earns .25% APY. ATM fees (up to a maximum of \$25 per cycle) will be refunded if account requirements are met. If the account requirements are not met, the APY will be .10% and ATM fees will not be refunded. Limited to two accounts per primary member. Business Accounts are not eligible. Fees may reduce earnings. Choice Checking cycle is from the 25th of month to the day before the last day of the following month. Must qualify for 90 days to earn \$200 bonus.

\*\*New money only, available 90 days after opening Choice Checking.

## The truth about Oregon's mail-in ballots

**BARBARA KLEIN**  
*Oregon Capital Chronicle*

Have you ever taken a tour of your local elections office? I have, and other members of the League of Women Voters around Oregon have done the same. If I had to choose one word to describe the processes there, it would be "secure." If I were able to choose two words, they would be "secure" and "impressive."

It's difficult to imagine why those intent on escalating polarization wars for their own political gain choose to attack the Oregon vote-by-mail system that has multiple safeguards. Such naysayers who claim they only intend to stop non-citizens from voting have been accused (rightfully) of inventing an issue with little actual evidence.

A "solution looking for a problem" it is said; but it's much more dangerous than that. Data show that fraudulent ballots are extremely rare in Oregon and not a crisis. Conversely, the perilous effects of voter intimidation and suppression are becoming major concerns.

Whether you describe our country as a democracy, a republic or a democratic republic, we are in this together and want to protect our freedoms and rights. Falsehoods, half-truths and dis/misinformation are not the way



**Voters drive through a ballot drop off site in front of the Marion County Courthouse in downtown Salem on Monday, Nov. 4, 2024. Laura Tesler / Oregon Capital Chronicle**

to maintain free and fair elections; instead, they suppress the voice of fellow citizens.

We can't always be on the winning side of an election, but the process of casting ballots to express our views is how we shape the world we want. And once they are cast, our votes must be respected, no matter the results. Many county clerks have been harassed and intimidated but continue to defend your voice and your right to vote.

False claims spread misinformation, are inaccurate and misleading, and weaken the common good of our state.

Here is a Top Ten list of facts regarding Oregon's vote-by-mail

procedures.

1. Oregon safeguards mail ballots by verifying signatures, tracking barcodes, using auditable logging requirements and setting clear chains of custody for all ballots.
2. There is no connection to the internet from voting equipment, nor does tabulation ever use connected routers.
3. Pairs of bipartisan staff work together examining each ballot.
4. Both pre- and post-election tests are conducted on voting equipment. Additionally, there are opportunities for public observation of the ballot counting

processes.

5. Vote-by-mail does not favor one party over another, nor is it significantly more prevalent in urban or rural areas. Indeed, it has increased voter turnout between 2-5% since its inception. (The majority of Oregonians are automatically registered as nonaffiliated when first presenting ID for state-issued cards.)
6. Providing a paper trail, the vote-by-mail system allows for regular risk-limiting audits, permitting a double-check of the vote count and identification of any irregularities that need to be resolved.
7. Non-citizens are

already restricted from voting. Strict penalties are issued for any non-citizen, or citizen, attempting to cast a prohibited ballot or tampering with the process. Luckily, it is not a significant problem. According to the Oregon Legislative Fiscal Office report of the vote-by-mail system across 20 years of voting, and with approximately 61 million ballots cast, the voter fraud rate in Oregon was 0.00006%. (I believe this is a ratio equivalent to one drop to more than 22 gallons of water.)

8. Voters in Oregon are allowed to drop off ballots belonging to others (such as spouse, parents, neighbors). It is not "ballot harvesting."
9. Deniers who proclaim there are more people on the voter rolls than qualified voters don't report that we maintain both inactive and active voters on rolls, but only ACTIVE registered voters can receive and cast their ballot.
10. There is a reason a voter may receive 2 ballots. As the Oregon Capital Chronicle reported, you can easily switch parties in Oregon to take part in a primary. This year, Oregonians have until

April 28 to do so; however, the ballots are often printed and prepared for sending ahead of that. If you change your party and receive a second ballot, you can only vote on the one provided from your recent party change. Anyone attempting to cast both ballots will be caught.

No matter how busy our lives are, with vote-by-mail ballots we can make time to sit at our kitchen table and participate in our democracy (getting our ballots in the mail at least a week before the election). Let's get our facts straight and make sure we don't spread false claims about our convenient and safe system.

*Barbara Klein is first vice president of the League of Women Voters Oregon and the action chair for the league in Rogue Valley.*

*<https://oregoncapital-chronicle.com/2026/05/08/oregon-dmvs-regularly-pushed-to-close-because-theres-not-enough-staff-or-positions/>*

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## If You Don't Use It, or Read It, You Shall Lose It

**PAUL HAEDER**  
*Lincoln County Leader*  
*Guest Column*

Nary a word in the local news organs, or on local Facebook pages about our May 3 World Press Freedom Day.

Neil Postman was correct saying we are not in a 1984 scenario "yet," but rather in this Brave New World era where people – leaders, controllers, the average citizen – are controlled through a heightened overload of irrelevant information as well as through pleasure.

In his book, *Amusing Ourselves to Death*, Postman argued that the image-focused culture via TV and now social media truly erodes our capacity for rational, literate thought. No need to have Big Brother controlling us through pain and forbidden information when we seemingly are sliding into apathy.

Trump returned to office and kicked up his heels, insulting and attacking the press on a daily basis. His penchant for lawyering up and suing media outlets speak to his – and other powerbrokers' – fear of truth.

Restricting press freedom is an act that figuratively has the founding members of this republic turning in their graves.

Thomas Jefferson strongly advocated for "a free press" as a cornerstone of democracy, most famously writing to Edward Carrington in 1787 that he would prefer "newspapers

without government" to "government without newspapers".

Against this backdrop, Reporters Without Borders (RSF) released its 2026 World Press Freedom Index on April 30.

This scoring puts 180 countries and territories on a scale indicating their level of press freedom. The Index evaluates five indicators: political context, legal framework, economic context, sociocultural context, and safety.

Not surprisingly, the United States has declined in each of these indicators and steadily fallen on the Index over the past decade, dropping in rank from 49th in 2015 to 57th in 2025.

Trump is an inarticulate narcissist, but he's not the sole reason for this country's chronically ill and abused journalism. With both parties holding power in Washington, this steady decline points to structural deficiencies.

I might be shooting the messenger, but media ownership has become increasingly consolidated among a few media moguls, as well as local rags owned, to a smaller scale of consolidation. The fallout is that millions of Americans, especially in rural and low-income areas, now live in "news deserts."

Congress has failed to enact Press freedom protections, such as the PRESS Act, while local and state governments have chipped away at press freedom.

Violence against journalists has risen to absurdly high levels, according to the US Press Freedom Tracker. And in the last decade, eight journalists in the US were killed for their journalism or while working.

The Committee to Protect Journalists report at least 260–274 journalists have been killed in Gaza, Lebanon, and surrounding areas due to Israeli actions.

Trump's team of thugs has limited journalists' access to government buildings and initiated huge cuts in public media funding. Trump is waging an all-out war on press freedom and journalism.

Trump promised to be a dictator on "day one" of his term, but the totality of his anti-press campaign signals that the self-proclaimed "Peace President" is sinking to the depths of authoritarian regimes. His war on press freedom affects all five indicators RSF measures to compile the Index: political, legal, economic, sociocultural, and safety.

But there is Big Brother seeping through the old man's veins as Trump issued an executive order "ending federal censorship," effectively eliminating government monitoring of misinformation and disinformation. That was day one of his illegitimate start of his second administration.

His administration has scrubbed thousands of US government pages that hosted information ranging from police violence,

sacrifice zones (poor areas where pollution prevails) and climate science.

Vital resources for journalists and the public alike have been memory holed.

"Memory holed" refers to deliberate destruction, suppression, or erasure of information, records, making them vanish from public knowledge, often for political or personal convenience. Originating from George Orwell's 1949 book, 1984, the holes are chutes used to incinerate documents.

This is all bizarre, for me, a journalist since age 17 in Southern Arizona and along the Mexican border now witnessing the disappearance of digital, historical, or media content.

Memory holed or locked up, Trump's Regime is on a rampage, as journalists like Don Lemon and Georgia Fort have been arrested and threatened with criminal charges while doing their work.

Take this journalist's recent report on Democracy Now as emblematic of another aspect of degraded news in the USA. Here, Jeremy Scahill of Drop Site News:

"Well, you know, what I've been reporting over the past several weeks is that far from being in disarray, as Trump and his allies in the media have portrayed the Iranian government, it's the Trump administration that is in a state of total chaos, erratic meltdowns, that culminated with Trump

claiming that JD Vance was on an airplane en route to Islamabad to meet the Iranian foreign minister, Abbas Araghchi, then saying that Jared Kushner, his son-in-law, and special envoy Steve Witkoff, well, they're actually on the airplane. And they were claiming, 'Oh, the Iranians are begging us to talk, and we're going to go and meet them in Islamabad when Foreign Minister Araghchi is there.' The Iranians were telling me, 'We have no intention of meeting any Americans,' and that Iran is on its own tour now of Pakistan, Oman and Russia, where Araghchi met with President Vladimir Putin, and 'We're establishing our own terms for ending the war.'"

"And so, what we've seen here is the construction of a total propaganda narrative, that is being repeated by almost every Western news organization, that somehow there are these negotiations going on, that the Iranians are putting proposals in front of the Americans. That's not what's happening at all."

This is a one-two punch dangerous time for

**Trust Cathie Rigby? She hid 3 bankruptcy filings, up to 11 judgments/liens, litigation & falsely swore she already had a Master's degree in the Voters' Pamphlet. Proof at: [RigbyVerify.com](http://RigbyVerify.com)**

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journalists and pathetic lapdog corporate media sell-out editors and journalists. A sad time for real journalists is this Lede: The Corporate Media Is Head Over Heels for the Iran War.

Donald Trump's attack on Iran may be surreal, unjustified, and illegal. But that's not stopping the press from turning the propaganda dial way up. Bats in the Collective Press Belfry, I repeat.

*Paul Haeder is a novelist, journalist, educator and author of "Wide Open Eyes: Surfacing from Vietnam," Cirque Press*

### QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"If I only had a little humility, I'd be perfect."  
*Ted Turner*

### ONLINE POLL

#### PREVIOUS POLL

**How often do you take a walk along the Oregon Coast beaches?**  
20%.....Daily  
26.7%.....Weekly  
53.3%.....Not often

#### NEW POLL

**What are your Memorial Day weekend plans?**

- Backyard BBQ
- Camping
- Hiking
- Shopping

# At best, social media connections unlikely to make you less lonely, research suggests

**STEVE LUNDEBERG**  
Lincoln County Leader  
Guest Article

A first-of-its-kind study of U.S. adults suggests that all of those strangers you're friends with on social media are not helping you to feel less lonely.

On the contrary, social media connection with people you don't know in person is associated with increased loneliness, according to scientists at Oregon State University.

In a nationally representative study of more than 1,500 adults ages 30-70, connecting online with people you actually do know was not linked with greater loneliness, but neither was it associated with decreased loneliness.

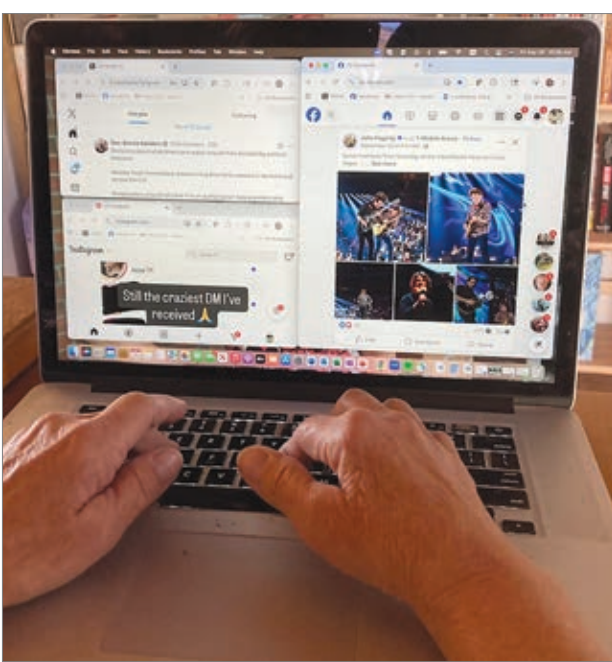
The findings suggest that "people experiencing loneliness may wish to examine critically their interactions with strangers on social media and to prioritize in-person connections over social media ones, even when those social media connections are considered

close," study leader Brian Primack said.

The research was published today in Public Health Reports, the official journal of the U.S. Public Health Service. The agency developed a deep interest in loneliness following the 2023 report on the nation's loneliness epidemic by then Surgeon General Vivek Murthy, said Primack, a professor in OSU's College of Health.

The surgeon general's report notes that even before COVID-19, about half of American adults reported measurable levels of loneliness, and that lacking connection brings health risks on par with smoking.

People who often feel lonely are more than twice as likely to develop depression. They also face a 29% increased risk of heart disease; 32% increased risk of stroke; 50% increased risk of developing dementia (for older adults); and greater than 60% chance of premature death.



**With current conditions across Oregon, fire experts are predicting a potentially difficult wildfire season. Local officials say early action and community awareness are critical to reducing risk and protecting lives, property and natural resources. (Courtesy photo)**

The research by Primack, two OSU faculty colleagues and two graduate students represents a step toward filling a knowledge hole regarding social media's role in loneliness. Most prior studies, Primack said,

have looked at teens and young adults, whereas this study examines adults in midlife and later adulthood.

"This gap in the literature is important because people who aren't teens or young adults comprise

75% of the U.S. population, these people are heavily exposed to social media, and many of the downstream health impacts of loneliness grow increasingly severe as adulthood progresses," Primack said.

The researchers note that overall, about 35% of the study group's social media contacts were people they had never met in person. They suspect that one reason interacting with "strangers" on social media is associated with loneliness is because of social media's high potential for facilitating misinterpretation.

"We know that social media interactions can result in idealization of other people's friendships with each other, which can exacerbate the effects of social comparison," said study co-author Jessica Gorman. "This idealization is possibly stronger when those friendships involve people you've never met because there is no personal experience to counter that idealization."

Research assistant professor Dawn Hyosin Kim and graduate students Geethika Koneru and Memuna Aslam also contributed to the research, which took place in summer 2023 and was supported by the National Institutes of Health. Study participants reported their personal (non-business) engagement with 10 social media platforms: Facebook, X, Reddit, YouTube, LinkedIn, Instagram, TikTok, Snapchat, Pinterest and WhatsApp.

The project builds on earlier work by Primack and Gorman linking loneliness to the amount and frequency of social media use and adds to a growing body of scholarship by OSU researchers exploring loneliness' link to conditions such as insomnia and nightmares.

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

## WYDEN

From Page A1

Here in Newport, I heard completely justified local concerns about Trump cuts to NOAA research that's so important to science and the coastal economy. At all my town halls across Oregon, I get questions often where the second word is "cost" — as in housing cost, gasoline cost, medical cost and many more.

**Lincoln County Leader:** How do you respond to such questions

and concerns?

**Wyden:** My last Lincoln County town hall back in November provides a good opportunity to show how that response works. In that case, I took back to Washington, DC the solid and resolute community opposition I heard at that 2025 town hall to the Trump administration's schemes to site an ICE detention facility in town and to rip away the locally based Coast Guard helicopter. I believe the voices I heard at that town hall helped immensely to kill both

of those inane and uninformed Trump notions.

**Lincoln County Leader:** What is your most pressing concern about the Trump Administration's impact on Oregon right now and into the future?

**Wyden:** There's sadly lots to choose from — deep Medicaid reductions devastating health care in Oregon, cuts to firefighters certified to battle wildfires just as we're facing a challenging fire season, lies about our state's proven vote-by-mail system and so

much more. Like I said, there's unfortunately lots to choose from with that question.

**Lincoln County Leader:** What steps do you recommend to citizens who share your concerns?

**Wyden:** Blow the whistle. If you hear about something that concerns you, let me and my office know. That's how we teamed up with the Newport Fishermen's Wives and others to defeat the administration's plot to build an airport Alcatraz on the central Oregon Coast and to reverse its equally dumb decision to take away a Coast Guard helicopter that regularly saves lives in the cold Pacific.

**How to reach Senator Wyden:**  
**Portland Office**  
911 NE 11th Ave., Suite 630  
Portland, OR, 97232  
503-326-7525  
**Washington, D.C. Office**



**The town hall was filled with residents and visitors. (Courtesy photo)**

221 Dirksen Senate Office Bldg.  
Washington, D.C., 20510  
Phone: 202-224-5244  
Fax: 202-228-2717  
Oregon  
Congresswoman Val Hoyle and State Rep. David Gombert joined Wyden during the Newport town hall.



Kathleen Hutchinson  
541-760-2529



Chris Watkins  
541-270-6774



Gail Stonebreaker  
541-992-4317



Deborah Allen  
907-903-1536



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## COUNCIL

From Page A1

by the employer and 10% paid by the employee. These calculations were done using the 2026 rates. We do anticipate an increase in these rates of approximately 15% or greater in 2027.

• Total Annual Cost: Between \$66,790 and \$198,076 depending on type of plan selected (i.e. Council member coverage only or Council

member and family)  
• Council Member Annual Cost: Between \$6,679 and \$19,808 annually  
• Employer Annual Cost: Between \$60,111 and \$178,268 annually  
**Stipend/ Reimbursement:** City Council discussed a stipend/reimbursement for childcare, pet care, cell phones and general consideration of time spent serving on City Council. Due to potential administrative burden, the city staff recommend the use

of a stipend. For illustrative purposes, city staff calculated two options for a potential stipend.

- Total Annual Cost of Monthly Stipend at \$100/Month: \$8,400
- Total Annual Cost of Monthly Stipend at \$200/Month: \$16,800

Following discussion at the May 4 public session, the council voted 6-1 for the compensation, which includes council a \$300 monthly stipend and membership to the Newport Recreation Center for each council member. The compensation package is set to take effect Jan. 1, 2027. City records show the package would cost the city \$25,200 annually.

The conflict of interest declaration is in accordance with Oregon public meetings and public ethics law, according to city spokesman John Fuller.

Newport Councilor Sandy Roumagoux voted against the compensation.





**OPEN POSITIONS**

- Fall 2026 Teaching Position**  
**K8 Life Skills Special Education**  
**K8 Physical Education (one year contract)**  
-\$50,051 - \$91,747 DOE -Generous benefits  
-190 day contract -Starts 8/31/2026
  - Substitute Transportation Drivers**  
-\$20.21 per hour -Training available  
-Flexible schedule - Bus or Van
  - Fall 2026 Stipend Position**  
**Middle School Athletic Director** -\$3,935 stipend  
**Middle School Football Coach** - \$2,360 stipend
- Use the QR code to apply or visit:  
[www.nestucca.k12.or.us/do/hr/index.php](http://www.nestucca.k12.or.us/do/hr/index.php)

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**MUSEUM**

From Page A1

Lincoln City incorporated, so it has a lot of history, but because our back alley has flooded for at least six years now, gutters over flowing, clogged pipes, all kinds of stuff, water has made its way into the building.”

The contractor will install drains and cut into the walls to determine the specific mold damage that has occurred. That work could begin at the museum this month.

“The work will be conducted mostly in the back rooms, so we will be able to stay open,” Melton said. “It will impact our collect and volunteer projects, and downstairs bathroom will be closed, but we have bathroom on the second floor that will remain open.”

Opening the walls for the mold investigation will cost an estimated \$6,000. It’s not yet known how much the cost would be for any mold removal. ] Melton said the mold

project would likely be funded through the museum’s approximately \$50,000 emergency fund.

The museum board of directors has been considering moving the museum to a new location.

“We are working on identifying potential properties that might be appropriate for a new facility, and we are looking for funding sources for that,” Melton said.

Melton said the museum board is also discussing potential opportunities with the City of Lincoln City.

“We have a deed restriction on our property because this property was donated by the city to the North Lincoln County Historical Museum in the 90s, so we are working with the city to figure out how best to move forward, utilize the property we have and the investments that we’ve put into this building, but we don’t have anything in stone yet, he said”

Melton expects community conversations would be conducted when and if

the board decides to move forward to seek a new location.

“It’s really important to see what the community wants in the museum,” he said. “In my vision, we’d be up on the jill outside of the tsunami zone and that we would have state-of-the-art, climate-controlled facilities, and enough room for an organized wide collect that would be safe. The exhibit halls would reflect the natural landscape, and all of the history of the community that we are connected to and that we should celebrate.”

An exhibit opening at the museum in June will include about author Martha Renfroe and her companion painter and one of the founding members of the area arts community, Ruth Grover. Another exhibit that opens in August outlines the different local communities and how they are connected to the different local waterways, plants and animals.

For more information, contact the museum at 541-996-6614.



A large exhibit on the second floor of the museum takes visitors back in the day of the former Lincoln City Pixie Kitchen. (Jeremy C. Ruark / Lincoln County Leader)

**ARRESTS**

From Page A1

As a result of the investigation, 63-year-old Jia Hui, and 67-year-old Bing Li, both of Newport, were arrested and lodged at the Lincoln County Jail on charges of:

- Prostitution
- Practice of Massage

Without a Massage Therapist License Li and Hui were no longer at the Lincoln County Jail as of Monday, May 11. The two were arraigned May 6 and are expected back in court for another hearing at 8:30 a.m. June 16, according to court records. Lincoln County District Attorney Jenna Wallace is

prosecuting the case. The Oregon Department of Justice, Lincoln City Police and Tillamook Police Department, assisted Newport Police in the investigation.

The investigation remains ongoing. Anyone with information related to this case is encouraged to contact the Newport Police Department at 541-574-5807, or text a tip to 541-270-1856.



The search warrants were conducted at 831 NE Avery Street and at a residence in the 200 block of NE 8th Street in Newport. (Metro Creative Connection)

**Trust Cathie Rigby? She hid 3 bankruptcy filings, up to 11 judgments/liens, litigation & falsely swore she already had a Master's degree in the Voters' Pamphlet. Proof at: RigbyVerify.com**

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**In Loving Memory of Vanessa BreAnne Allyn**

1977-2026

In Loving Memory of Vanessa BreAnne Allyn

1977-2026 only 49 years old

Human Rights Attorney in Washington D.C.

It is with heavy hearts that the Allyn Family needs to announce the sudden passing of Vanessa BreAnne Allyn. She was the daughter of Valerie and Richard Allyn and the best sister to Kerry Allyn and Ryan Shurtleff.

Vanessa was on her way to Physical Therapy, called an uber for a ride and collapsed while walking to the car. 911 was quickly notified. The paramedics did CPR to revive her but sadly couldn't. Vanessa was raised in Depoe Bay, Oregon. She graduated from Taft High School in Lincoln City. She continued her four years of college education in California at the University of Redlands, with her major being Political Science with a minor in Religion.

Before Law School she made the decision to go into the Peace Corps. She got her Peace Corps packet in the mail for her to serve in the "Kingdom of Tonga" for two years and four months. She was very excited! She spoke very fondly of her experience there.

On her way home from Tonga Vanessa planned to backpack places she wanted to see, starting in New Zealand, then going to Australia, Indonesia, Cambodia, Egypt where she dove the Red Sea. The home to the U.S. She loved traveling and seeing the world. She got home from her adventures, and we were so excited for her. I remember her saying to me "When I retire I plan to go back into the Peace Corps.

After serving in the Peace Corps she went to Willamette Law School in Salem Oregon graduating with honors and an enthusiasm to pursue human rights.

Vanessa began her career in Immigration Law in Washington D.C as a staff attorney



with Capital Area Immigrants Coalitions. In 2009 she joined Human Rights First.

She had a real passion for her work where she aided countless people in navigating the legal system of immigration and asylum. She was also sent to Chad Africa to document the genocide for the U.S. State Department.

For the past 11 years she worked for the "USCIS" or U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Service. She was working in Refugee, Asylum, and International Operations. She was motivated by the desire to create positive change on a National Level, she loved her "team" of great colleagues that she worked with.

Vanessa was an avid reader of a broad range of literature. She enjoyed movies with a couple of her favorites being "Contact" and "Anne of Green Gables." Her favorite places to go were Disneyland, New Zealand and the South Pacific. Her very favorite place was where she was raised, being Depot Bay, Oregon. She loved spending time with family and friends. We were so fortunate to share many life moments and adventures with her.

It is with deep love and quiet sorrow that we remember Vanessa, a remarkable soul who touched the lives of so many. Vanessa was the kind of person whose presence made the world feel a little steadier, a little warmer, and a lot more meaningful. Though she is no longer with us in the way we wish, her spirit endures in the many stories told with kindness and love that does not fade. She embodied the legacy of kindness, patience and love, and always being present for one another.

There will be a celebration of her life in her hometown of Depoe Bay, Oregon on June 27th, 2026 starting at 2 pm at the Depoe Bay Community Hall.

**Cody Gray**

November 7, 1948- March 2, 2026

Cody was born November 7th, 1948. He passed away peacefully at home on March 2, 2026, he was surrounded by loved ones.

Cody is survived by his sister, Ginger Terris (Tim). His son's Keegan Gray (Kailee), Bill Tillotson (Paula) Chris Tillotson (Carli) Rob Tillotson (Jamie) and Daughter's Lora Gray (Billie) Erica Starcher (James) Audrey Kohos (Jordan) Amanda Tillotson (Derek). Cody had 26 Grandchildren, and Four Great Grandchildren. He loved his family so much.

He was preceded in death with April Tillotson-Gray.

Cody graduated from Toledo High School in 1967. He was a lifelong Carpenter/ Contractor. He was a long-time member of the Toledo Active Group and the Toledo



Elks Lodge.

Cody enjoyed hunting, camping, socializing, dancing, live music and all you can eat buffets. What Cody loved most was being around his family and helping/lending a hand to anyone in need. Cody was a strong Christian man and prayed for every person that he encountered. He left such a positive impact on so many lives.

Please join us in celebrating Cody, Saturday, July 25, 2026, at Toledo Elks Lodge at 3 p.m. Orange was his favorite color, so if you can and would like, wear orange.

A light meal with be provided, but if you would like to bring a dessert that would be greatly appreciated. The bar will be open after 4:00 for anybody that would like to stay around and share stories about Cody.

**Karen Ann Shafer, PhD**

July 26, 1943-March 17, 2026

Karen Ann Shafer died peacefully on March 17, 2026 in Lincoln City, Oregon after a long, valiantly-fought battle with cancer. She was 82 when she left her earthly body and moved to her eternal home with Jesus.

Karen was born in Chicago, Illinois to her parents Glenn and Helen Henderson. She had two older siblings, Richard and Nancy. Karen's mom died when she was just nine years old. Her father remarried two years later to Elaine Henderson, and they moved to the mountains outside of Boulder, Colorado. Growing up, Karen had a very special relationship with her father; Karen described him as the "personification of love" and he lovingly called her "Pal." She also was a lover of dogs and was especially fond of little Tippy.

Karen went to college at Western State College in Gunnison, Colorado, where she received a Bachelor of Arts degree in 1965 in Speech, Drama and English. In 1968 she earned a Master of Science degree from the University of Oregon in Eugene. Also in 1968, Karen obtained a faculty position in the Communications Department at Southern Oregon State College (now Southern Oregon University) in Ashland, Oregon. While there Karen received her PhD degree (1988) at University of Oregon in Rhetoric and Public Address.

During her distinguished 34-year career at SOU, Karen was a Professor of Speech Communication, teaching a variety of courses, and chaired the Department of Communications for 10+ years. She also served as a debate coach and director of forensics and filled leadership roles in many state and regional organizations. Karen was described as dedicated, forward-thinking, and optimistic. She was praised for fostering stability at SOU and for putting into practice her exemplary skills of communication and leadership. She continued at SOU as Professor Emerita after her retirement in 2002 until her death in 2026.

Karen married Joe Cadman Shafer, a fellow professor at SOU, in August 1971. During their years at SOU, Joe and Karen enjoyed gardening together on their ¾-acre farm, growing all sorts of fruit and vegetables; they also had a Golden Retriever. In retirement they built and moved to a beautiful oceanfront home just south of Lincoln City, Oregon. They continued their tradition of growing vegetables and had a monthly ritual of making fresh bread together. Karen never tired of listening to Joe's beautiful piano music. She affectionately referred to Joe as, "my beloved."

Karen was active in her retirement and invested herself in people and things that mattered most to her. She immediately got involved in Gleneden Beach Christian Church and poured herself into ministry there. She faithfully attended services, led prayer meetings, joyfully volunteered for many outreaches, and served on the church board. Ever the teacher, she also delivered Sunday messages when Pastor Carl was gone. She served with humility, wisdom,



love and effectiveness.

Karen was interested in emergency preparedness and joined the Depoe Bay Fire District's Community Emergency Response Team (CERT). As an active member of the planning team, she taught some of the CERT classes and helped develop a CERT Operating Manual and Skills Certification process.

Further, Karen supported the local high school students in their Teen CERT classes, helping with their Skills Certification activities and their disaster simulation drills. She taught at the Oregon Coast Community College during retirement as well.

Karen had rich, deep and authentic friendships in every corner of her life. She was fully invested in sharing life with her neighbors, some in the daily walking group, others on the safety & preparedness committee or in the Book Club, and more. She had regular getaway adventures, camping trips and tea parties with her closest friends. She was a faithful and reliable friend and mentor to many – an encourager and a rock. She took good care of herself physically, staying active and working out at the gym.

Karen was diagnosed with cancer nearly ten years ago. She was determined to make her cancer journey benefit as many people as possible, so she participated in numerous research studies for Breast and Lung cancer patients. For many years she was a participant in the local Breast Cancer Support group, and her fellow members found her advice and guidance immensely valuable and inspirational. She will be remembered for her courage, perseverance, and strength.

Karen was a fully-devoted follower of Jesus Christ. She was a student of The Bible and was full of wisdom as a result. Karen was not only a hear-er of the word, but a do-er. She emulated Jesus' charge to his followers on the Sermon on the Mount (Matthew 5-7) to be servants and show generous love without seeking reward or acknowledgment. She gave freely of her time, skills, energy, wisdom, and resources. She lived a life of kingdom purposes and her actions were bathed in God's love. A Bible verse that she was particularly fond of was, 1 John 4:7, Beloved, let us love one another: for love is of God; and every one that loves is born of God, and knows God. Her unwavering dedication to Jesus was evident in the way she lived to the very end. (Ps 116: 15, "Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of His godly ones.")

Karen is survived by her husband of 54 years, Joe Shafer, and her nephew and niece, RJ and Cathy Mulcahy. Karen's parents and siblings all preceded her in death.

A Celebration of Life service was held on Saturday, May 9, 2026, at the Gleneden Beach Christian Church. In lieu of flowers, memorial gifts can be sent to Gleneden Beach Christian Church (PO Box 496, Gleneden Beach OR 97388) to help purchase new chairs for the new sanctuary. Karen would have loved this!

## Oregon DMVs regularly pushed to close because of short staffing

**MIA MALDONADO**  
*Oregon Capital Chronicle*

Jessica Lavery starts her mornings, sometimes as early as 6 a.m., deciding if she needs to close one of the offices she manages or shift her staff to another location.

Lavery manages the Oregon Department of Transportation's Northwest region of Oregon's Driver and Motor Vehicle Services division, which has offices across the Willamette Valley and two along the coast. On May 1, she and other agency leaders decided to close the Albany office for the day after each of the four staff members were unavailable. Two called in sick while the others had already been approved for time off, she said.

Decisions like hers are routine for DMV managers grappling with severe staffing shortages caused by outdated and limited positions within the agency, as well as a spike in employee departures following a budget crisis within the agency.

Albany's office closure marked the 34th full day that DMV offices have had to close across Oregon since Jan. 1, with smaller offices such as Madras, Prineville or Newport regularly closing because of similar staffing issues. Last year, there were 92 full-day closures across Oregon because of staffing issues, according to agency spokesperson Chris Crabb.

The Oregon DMV employs a total of 768 employees in 58 offices across the state. Its bigger offices are mostly located within the Portland metro region and typically have more than seven counter spaces.

Since late June 2025, 64 DMV employees have left their positions after state

lawmakers failed to pass a bill that would have updated the Oregon Department of Transportation's funding structure for operations and maintenance. The budget uncertainty, combined with nearly 500 ODOT workers receiving layoff notices and a hiring freeze that lasted until March, accelerated employee departures, Crabb said. Lawmakers passed a short-term funding fix this spring and avoided layoffs by eliminating vacant positions, but many transportation department workers quit or retired early because of uncertainty.

Oregon DMV offices are in the process of hiring 35 positions, but that process takes time, Crabb said.

And even if all vacancies were filled, there still wouldn't be enough employees to cover the demand for services, Crabb said, because the state has employed roughly the same number of people at DMV offices over the last 25 years despite the state's population growing by more than 840,000 people in the same timeframe.

Oregon voters this month will have a say on whether to pass a law that would raise revenue for maintenance and operations within the Oregon Department of Transportation. Measure 120, placed on the ballot for the May 19 primary, proposes raising the gas tax by six cents, doubling the payroll tax from 0.1% of a paycheck to 0.2% of a paycheck until 2028, and raising title fees and most vehicle registration fees.

### A balancing act

Lavery said she understands the community members who are frustrated by DMV office closures, particularly those living in rural areas.

"Gas is expensive, so then they have to drive however many miles to go to another DMV," she said. "I know for



**A "closed" sign sits at a counter at the DMV office in Albany. Since Jan. 1, 2026, there have been 34 full day office closures across Oregon Driver and Motor Vehicle division offices because of staffing shortages. (Mia Maldonado / Oregon Capital Chronicle)**

the community it feels really frustrating and feels like they're being left out, but that just isn't the case. It's a real balancing act."

The resulting staff shortages means DMV managers regularly ask staff to commute to a different location to help severely short-staffed offices, which isn't always efficient.

For instance, a staff member commuting from the Albany or Salem office to help in Newport, has to drive, work and take lunch and other breaks all within an eight-hour window.

"In reality, they're really only helping for four to five hours," said Mia Ravell, the Oregon DMV customer service manager for South Salem and Albany.

The alternative of doing nothing, however, would mean more DMV office closures.

"Frequently there is no amount of staff shifting that can avoid closures entirely,"

Crabb said. "We have some offices with only three, two or even one full-time staff member. We try to limit the impact on any one community, but due to staffing constraints in each geographic region, sometimes we must close one office more than others."

### Alternative ways to get DMV services

There are several ways Oregonians can get DMV services without having to go to an office in person.

The Oregon DMV last year launched 10 Fred Meyer kiosks, mostly around the Portland metro region, that let people renew their vehicle registration, print a copy of their vehicle registration and replace vehicle registration cards and stickers.

Oregonians can also go to the agency's online platform, known as "DMV2U" to take knowledge tests, renew a license or vehicle registration, schedule appointments,

update an address, file collision reports or report vehicle sales. The agency also offers informational Youtube videos explaining how to use the online platform.

"These resources are something the Oregon DMV is really trying to pour into just because we realize and understand there needs to be different avenues to assist the communities and Oregonians," Ravell said.

<https://oregoncapitalchronicle.com/2026/05/08/oregon-dmv-regularly-pushed-to-close-because-theres-not-enough-staff-or-positions/>

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

## Local unemployment inches down, state's rate steady

**JEREMY C. RUARK**  
*Lincoln County Leader*

Lincoln County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 5.9% in March, down from 6.0% in

February. It was up from 5.3% the year before. The statewide unemployment rate was 5.2% in March, and the national rate was 4.3%.

Seasonally adjusted nonfarm payroll employment decreased in March by 20 to 18,340 jobs. Seasonally adjusted figures compare expected changes with actual changes. A gain of 170 jobs was expected for the month, and the county's

total nonfarm employment increased by 150, with a gain of 150 jobs in the private sector and no change in total government employment. Leisure and hospitality added 130 jobs (+3.0%). Local education lost 20 jobs (-1.9%).

March's total nonfarm employment numbers were down 280 jobs over the year, a decrease of 1.5%.

The largest gain occurred in food manufacturing, which rose by 70 jobs over the year in March (+43.8%). Professional and business services lost 120 jobs (-12.2%). Local government excluding tribal and education added 50

jobs (+3.7%).

### STATE RATE

Oregon's unemployment rate was 5.2% in both March and February.

In March, Oregon's seasonally adjusted nonfarm payroll employment declined by 4,800 jobs, following a loss of 6,900 jobs, as revised, in February.

### GAINS AND LOSSES

March's gains were largest in retail trade (+900 jobs). Losses were largest in professional and business services (-2,400 jobs) and government (-800).

Retail trade rebounded somewhat from weak performance last year. It added 800

jobs in February and 900 jobs in March. However, it was still 1,900 jobs, or 0.9%, below its March 2025 level.

Since March 2025, motor vehicle and parts dealers cut the most jobs of the published retail component industries. It employed 24,500 in March, which was a drop of 1,100 jobs over the past 12 months.

Government employment has declined over the past six months. Peaking at an all-time high of 318,700 jobs in September, it is now down to 313,200 by March. This was a loss of 5,500 jobs.

Federal government continued to drop jobs. At 26,700

jobs in March, it is down 3,000 jobs from its recent high point of 29,700 jobs in October 2024. Local government, which employed 237,200 in March, has been trending downward over the past several months and is down 1,000 jobs, or 0.4%, in the past 12 months.

Professional and business services continued a three-year downtrend, cutting 2,400 jobs in March after a loss of 1,800 jobs in February. In the most recent 12 months, it cut 10,600 jobs, or 4.1%.

The U.S. unemployment rate was 4.3% in March and 4.4% in February.

## PRICES

From Page A3

and other consumer goods due to the extra cost to transport.

**Marie Dodds:** I can't really comment on how the high gas prices are impacting local economies. We keep tabs on oil and gas prices, and the market fundamentals that drive those prices. We don't analyze the impact on local economies and talk to local businesses. With that said, high gas and diesel prices do have a ripple effect. As you point out, higher pump prices mean transportation costs increase, and those higher costs are often passed on to the consumer.

**Lincoln County Leader:** Now that we've been facing the rising gas

prices, since February, has AAA seen a consumer shift in travel? If so, what is that shift?

**Dodds:** We are seeing a couple of camps when it comes to travel. People who are taking "big" trips to far-away destinations or with a lot of family members often book those trips weeks if not months in advance. Those folks are still going. For those who are thinking about travel and haven't made plans yet, high gas prices can and do make people change their trips.

For example, people may travel shorter distances or shorten the length of their trips. They may choose to drive instead of fly - even with high gas prices, driving with a family of four or more is often cheaper than buying plane tickets for the entire family.

Travelers may also make changes on their trip to save money - for example, visiting family and friends to cut back on lodging expenses, stopping at grocery stores to buy picnic supplies instead of eating at restaurants for some meals, limiting shopping, looking for free or low-cost activities, camping instead of staying at hotels or rental properties, etc.

**Lincoln County Leader:** What's AAA's price forecast as we move into summer? Any relief expected? What are the key factors?

**Dodds:** At this point, it's impossible to try to predict what might happen with gas prices in the coming weeks. As you know, developments in the Iran conflict have been changing day by day, if not hour by hour. If the conflict were to end soon,

oil and gas prices could stabilize or ease, but it's doubtful that pump prices would return to their pre-conflict levels this summer.

**Lincoln County Leader:** Recommendations to drivers in ways to save on the price of gasoline?

**Dodds:** AAA offers tips on how to save on fuel purchases and increase fuel efficiency:

Download the AAA Mobile app which lets you find the prices for all grades of fuel at gas stations that are close to your location. Pricing can vary widely from station to station - even gas stations that are across the street from each other can have differing pricing. The AAA Mobile App also displays the closest EV charging stations. The AAA Mobile App is free

and available at the App Store and Google Play.

Take steps to conserve fuel. Even small things can add up to savings at the pumps. Here are some fuel-saving tips from AAA.

Consider using a credit card to pay for your fuel purchases so that you can get a cash rebate. Use a card that offers cash back on fuel purchases, or even better, use a card that gives you a higher percentage for gas purchases. The AAA Travel Advantage Visa card lets you earn 5% cash back on gas & electric vehicle charging stations. Find out more at <https://oregon.aaa.com/financial/more-products/aaa-visa-credit-card.html>

Some loyalty programs offer discounts on gas. Stores such as Safeway, Albertson's and Fred

Meyer offer fuel rewards programs that let customers earn discounts on gasoline by earning points from shopping.

AAA has a program called Shell Fuel Rewards®. Members who register will get 30¢/gallon off their first fill at participating Shell stations, and all AAA Fuel Rewards members will save 5¢/gallon on their fill-ups of up to 20 gallons at participating stations with complimentary Gold Status. Find out more at [AAA.com/shell](http://AAA.com/shell).

If you're going through a drive through to pick up coffee or meals, don't idle your car while waiting - remember that going zero miles per hour means you're getting zero miles per gallon.

Find current prices here: <https://gasprices.aaa.com/>

## Cape Perpetua Visitor Center to reopen for Memorial Day weekend



The visitor center has been closed since mid-December for an interior remodel that included upgrades to the infrastructure, interpretive displays, and gift shop. (Courtesy photo)

The Siuslaw National Forest will host a reopening ceremony for the Cape Perpetua Visitor Center on May 20, 2026.

The visitor center has been closed since mid-December for an interior remodel that included upgrades to the

infrastructure, interpretive displays, and gift shop.

See VISITORS, page B6



Knight Park is located at 2341 N 3 Rocks Road in Otis. (Courtesy photo)

## Cascade Head Biosphere offers Exploriences 2026

The Cascade Head Biosphere Exploriences have returned, thanks to a partnership with Explore Lincoln City.

Join us for a 90-minute walking tour

guiding visitors through Oregon's only UNESCO Biosphere Region, providing a 10,000 year snap-shot of the natural history of this remarkable place where land

meets the sea.

Led by a trained naturalist, visitors will learn about the unique flora, fauna and geology of the

See BIOSPHERE, page B6

# Where mythology meets the modern canvas

Oregon Coast Council for the Arts (OCCA) announces the opening of Cultural Transformation, a new exhibition by renowned artist Rip Cronk, at Olive Street Gallery.

Running from May 28 through summer 2026, the showcase invites viewers to explore a unique intersection of classical theory and contemporary street aesthetics.

Fractured planes. Dynamic diagonals. A restless sense of forward motion. Cronk's paintings are not subtle – they pulse. Half-animal, half-human figures occupy canvases charged with the visual language of Cubism and Futurism, while graffiti and cartoon motifs inject irreverence and immediacy into the mix. The result is a body of work that feels as much at home on a city wall as in a gallery.

The figures that populate Cronk's canvases are symbols of what he calls "an implied but undefined cultural mythology" – archetypes that bypass rational analysis and speak directly to something older and deeper in the viewer. The aim, as Cronk describes it, is to evoke personal transformation through

See CANVAS, page B6

## Rip Cronk's "Cultural Transformation" opens



Cronk Chorus Line. (Courtesy photo)

# Neuroscience, Ancient Wisdom & the Hidden Power of Simple Words

The Willamette Writers present Neuroscience, Ancient Wisdom & the Hidden Power of Simple Words, a Presentation by Dr. Hazel Denhart from 2 to 4 p.m. May 16, at the Newport Library.

In this rich, entertaining, and interactive session, internationally recognized writing scholar Dr. Hazel Denhart guides writers through four dimensions of language for unlocking deep creative power in the unconscious. A one-hour presentation will be followed by a second hour of discussion and workshop with practical exercises. Worksheets

will be provided; however, participants are also warmly invited to bring a paragraph or two from works in progress to practice new techniques. All participation is entirely voluntary.

### WHAT YOU WILL EXPLORE

- The Neuroscience of Language: How some words open while others close down your brain's creative ability.
- Ancient Language & the Deep Creative Unconscious: Bypassing the rational mind to open your creativity using language we no longer



The presentation is scheduled for May 16 at the Newport library, 35 NW Nye Street. (Courtesy photo)

understand

- Boosting Your Creativity with Everyday Language: How simple shifts in daily speech can trigger new creative insight.
- The Role of Silence: Advancing your emotional intelligence through strategic silence.

Lagniappe: Dr. Denhart will close the presentation with a brief, lively exploration of how to knock the wind out of AI and vastly reduce society's fear of it by the language we use to interact with it.

About Hazel Denhart  
Dr. Hazel Denhart is an

author, scholar, and educator who has taught the transformative power of storytelling for over 30 years. In the 1990s, at Portland State University, she created the Universal Grammar of Story® (UGoS), a mythopoetic method and philosophy of writing that has been peer reviewed, field tested, and refined at universities across Europe, the Middle East, and Central Asia.

Her work guides writers into the depths of the personal and collective unconscious to awaken the ancient storyteller

See WRITERS, page B6





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## Home Food Preservation Program Presents:

### May-August 2026 Classes

**All Classes Held At:**  
**OSU Extension Service Office**  
**1211 SE Bay Blvd., Newport, OR 97365**

**Friday, May 15, 2026, Noon-1:30PM**

- Hands-on Sauerkraut Fermentation
- \$30

**Friday, June 12, 2026, Noon-1:30PM**

- Hands-on Water Bath-Canned Strawberry-Lemon Marmalade
- \$20

**Wednesday, July 22, 2026, 5:30-7:30PM**

- Hands-on Pressure-Canned Corn
- \$30

**Saturday, August 15, 2026, 9AM-2PM**

- Hands-on Pressure-Canned Tuna + Custom "Shop at the Dock" Tour
- \$50

To get more information and/or to register, please see our website:  
<https://extension.oregonstate.edu/lincoln>

OSU Extension Service prohibits discrimination in all its programs, services, activities and materials. Accommodation requests related to a disability should be made to Stormi Dykes, 541-648-6817 or [stormi.dykes@oregonstate.edu](mailto:stormi.dykes@oregonstate.edu)

# Mild winters can bring early rose blooms – and earlier problems



**Black spot is a serious disease that affects roses. (Courtesy photo from Jay Pscheidt)**

**KYM POKORNY**  
 Lincoln County Leader  
 Guest Column

Mild winter weather will most likely coax roses into bloom early, which means dealing with the usual diseases and pests earlier, too.

When it comes to one of the country's most popular perennials, the "big four" problems are powdery mildew, black spot, rust and aphids, according to Jay Pscheidt, a plant pathology specialist with the Oregon State University Extension Service.

Downy mildew, which looks strikingly similar to black spot, can also become an increasing problem.

"People are confusing them," he said. "It's difficult to tell the two apart."

**What you're seeing on leaves**

Black spot shows up as ragged black spots on leaves that often turn yellow and eventually drop.

The black spots caused by downy mildew are not as dark and can look angular. Under moist

conditions, you might see a gray, downy-looking growth on the undersides of leaves.

As the name suggests, powdery mildew appears as a white powder covering leaves, but without the black blotches typical of downy mildew and black spot, Pscheidt said. It usually hits roses during the transition into summer's driest time, especially when dry days are followed by humid nights.

Rust begins in spring and peaks in early summer. It appears as orange pustules that can blanket foliage in worst-case scenarios.

**Aphids: simple, effective control**

Insects are less of an issue with roses. Aphids are the main concern in Oregon and are fairly easy to control, according to Gail Langellotto, entomologist and professor in the OSU College of Agricultural Sciences.

Her first step is to squish a few aphids with her fingers to release a chemical signal that attracts natural enemies such as lacewings, ladybird beetles and parasitoid wasps. Follow with a strong spray of water from a hose to wash remaining aphids to the ground. "Aphids are poor climbers," she said, "and are less likely to reestablish because they run a high risk of getting eaten by ground-roving predators, such as spiders and beetles."

Since aphid numbers

can explode on nitrogen-rich plants, use an organic fertilizer or a slow-release synthetic fertilizer that provides less readily available nitrogen.

**Choose resistant roses and prevent problems**

As for diseases, the best strategy is to start with disease-resistant cultivars.

"Buy 'fisherman roses,'" Pscheidt said. "The types that you can plant and then go fishing. Breeders are always coming up with new plants that resist pests. Local retail nurseries will generally have a good list for you."

Older varieties can also resist disease. OSU Extension's Pacific Northwest plant disease control handbook lists classics that fight black spot, rust and powdery mildew. Longtime favorite hybrid teas 'Just Joey,' 'Chicago Peace' and 'Mr. Lincoln' are included. 'Gold Medal' and 'Queen Elizabeth' grandifloras made the cut, as did well-known floribundas 'Playboy,' 'Sexy Remy' and 'Iceberg.'

**Early-season care: simple steps that help**

- Don't crowd plants. Space roses so sun penetrates and air circulates to dry foliage quickly after rain or irrigation.
- Clean up thoroughly. When pruning in late winter, remove fallen leaves and diseased stems.
- Water wisely. Use soaker hoses when possible. If using overhead sprinklers, irrigate so foliage dries before evening.
- If desired, spray early. Use an organic or chemical fungicide or pesticide early in the season. Always follow label instructions.

*Kym Pokorny writes for the Oregon State University Extension Service.*

## Home Food Preservation workshops

**OSU EXTENSION SERVICE**

The Oregon State Extensive Service announces the May – August 2026 lineup for OSU Extension Service - Lincoln County's Home Food Preservation Program.

We're bringing back some favorites and introducing some new offerings that will allow folks to take full advantage of our local bounty – whether grown at home, purchased at a Farmers

Market or from Lincoln County's working dock, or just a fantastic sale!

There is something for everyone and new ways to learn or refresh skills to safely preserve nutritious food at home.

Friday, May 15, Noon-1:30 p.m. Hands-On Sauerkraut Fermentation (\$30)

• Friday, June 12, Noon-1:30 p.m. Hands-On Water Bath-Canned Strawberry-Lemon Marmalade (\$20)

• Wednesday, July 22, 5:30-7:30 p.m. Hands-On Pressure Canned Corn (\$30)

• Saturday, August 15, 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Hands-On Pressure-Canned Tuna + Custom "Shop at the Dock" Tour (\$50)

All classes will be held at the OSU Extension Service office in Newport, all require pre-registration and all attendees will take home items that they PERSONALLY processed. These classes are fun, engaging, hands-on experiences and instruction using the latest research-based methods for ultimate safety.

Please see our website (<https://extension.oregonstate.edu/county/lincoln/events>) for registration info and link to more information.

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## Lincoln County Leader

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**DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦♦**

## Support these Local Nonprofit Community Organizations!



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

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[samfamshelter.org](http://samfamshelter.org)

501(c)(3) nonprofit organization



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

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## 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.

# DON'T FORGET TO RECYCLE

IN THE GARDEN

# Three-Cornered Garlic

The latest In the Garden column features information from the Lincoln Soil and Water Conservation District's May newsletter concerning three-cornered garlic.

**History and Native Range:**

Allium triquetrum- commonly known as three-cornered garlic, three-cornered leek, snowbell, or onion weed- is a bulb-producing, spring-flowering plant native to the Mediterranean basin. In its native range, three-cornered garlic is widely found in meadows, forest clearings, streambanks, and roadsides below 2,800 feet in elevation.

It is a commonly cultivated plant due to its

attractive flowers, ease of care, and edibility. Through cultivation, three-cornered garlic has now been introduced to Great Britain, Ireland, Portugal, Turkey, New Zealand, Australia, California, Oregon, and South America.

**Identification:**

While three-cornered garlic bears a resemblance to a number of introduced ornamental plants, particularly the white-blooming variant of the similarly weedy Spanish bluebell, three-cornered garlic is not easily confused with any wildflower native to the Oregon coast. A. triquetrum can be differentiated from similar white-blooming plants by the triangular cross-section



Courtesy photo from Aaron Liston

of its stem, for which it is named, as well as the thin green stripes radiating from the center of its flowers. Additionally, all parts of the plant emit a characteristic garlic-y scent when crushed.

**The Problem Here:**

Being a hardy, adaptable, fast-growing plant, three-cornered garlic has grown out of control in many areas where it has escaped cultivation. In some areas it may form dense monocultures which crowd out native ground-cover species or wildflowers of similar size.

Even in gardens where three-cornered garlic has been planted as a desired species, the plant may

See **GARLIC**, page B6

## SHERIFF'S TIP OF THE WEEK

### Hiking Safety

LINCOLN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Part of the beauty of Oregon is the hiking opportunities throughout the state.

Hiking can be a fun and healthy activity for the whole family. But without proper planning, even a short hike could turn into a dangerous situation.

In 2024 our Search and Rescue Team responded to 10 reports of missing or lost individuals that needed specialized assistance. Before you hit the trails, remember these hiking safety tips.

**1. Make a Gear List**

Whether you're hiking



for three hours or three days, you don't want to forget something important. Create a gear list to make sure you have everything you need. Some items to include are:

- Water
- Water filtration such as

a filter straw or a filtration waterbottle

- Rain gear and additional climate-appropriate clothing
- Compass
- Map
- Extra food
- First aid supplies

- Cell phone or radio with backup batteries

**2. Bring a Map**

Bringing a map and becoming familiar with the area before you hike is so important. You should never rely solely on GPS technology especially with limited service and battery power. Always pack a map and make sure you know how to read it before you need it.

**3. Hike During the Day**

Whenever possible, plan to hike during the day. It is easier to get lost in the dark and the area may be home to wild animals that are active at night.

**4. Know the Area**

Exploring new hiking trails can be exciting. Unfortunately, it also means you're unfamiliar

with the territory. Before heading out, check regional hiking information for:

- Local wild animals and what to do if you encounter them
- Local poisonous plants
- Local hunting areas and seasons
- Trail closures or advisories
- Local emergency alerts
- Local weather

**5. Check the Forecast**

Check the forecast while planning your hike and keep checking it until you leave. This helps determine what gear you need to bring and greatly impacts your safety. Hiking in hotter or colder weather have different challenges that impact your trip and your health.

If the forecast does predict rain, snow, or ice, be sure the trail you're taking is passable in these conditions. Consider contacting your local Parks and Recreation Department so they can direct you to real-time information. When in doubt, reschedule your hike for better

See **TIP**, page B6

**Trust Cathie Rigby?** She hid 3 bankruptcy filings, up to 11 judgments/liens, litigation & falsely swore she **already** had a Master's degree in the Voters' Pamphlet. Proof at: **RigbyVerify.com**



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\* APY=Annual Percentage Yield and is accurate as of 4/22/2026. Minimum deposit of \$250 required. Members merits do not apply. The certificate owner may increase the interest rate one time during the term to match the current rate offered by Oregon State Credit Union on the standard 36-month certificate, not to exceed an increase of 0.50%. To initiate the rate bump, contact Oregon State Credit Union by calling 541-714-4000 or by visiting a branch. The bump can only be exercised once during the term of the certificate and does not increase the term of the certificate. The new interest rate will be applied the business day after the credit union receives the notice. The new rate will not be applied retroactively. The 33-month bump promotional certificate is for new money only. New money is defined as funds that have not been on deposit with Oregon State Credit Union at any time during the certificate promotion period, unless deposited in the 30 days prior to certificate opening. New money must originate from another financial institution or source and cannot be transferred from an existing Oregon State Credit Union account. Fees could reduce the earnings on the account, for maintenance and activity fees. A penalty may be imposed for early withdrawals. Limited-time offer. Other terms and conditions may apply.



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representative in care of the undersigned attorney at: 13100 SE Sunnyside Road, Clackamas, Oregon 97015, within four (4) months after the date of first publication of this notice or such claims may be barred.

LCL26-234 THE PACIFIC COMMUNITIES HEALTH DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS

will hold a Virtual meeting on Tuesday, May 19, 2026, at 4:00 p.m. by Microsoft Teams or in person at Samaritan Pacific Communities Hospital, Conference room 1, 930 SW Abbey St., Newport, Oregon 97365.

LCL26-233 NOTICE OF BUDGET COMMITTEE MEETING

A public meeting of the Budget Committee of the Oregon Coast Community College, Lincoln, State

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of Oregon to discuss the budget for the fiscal year July 1, 2026 to June 30, 2027 will take place May 20, 2026 at 6pm. The meeting will be held in-person at the Newport campus, 400 SE College Way and virtually via Zoom.

LCL26-232 LINCOLN CITY STORAGE

3796 SE Hwy 101 Lincoln City, Or. 97367 541-996-3555 The following unit will be sold at Public Auction Starting 6/2/2026 at 9:00am Ending 6/9/2026 at 9:00am

LCL26-231 BUDGET COMMITTEE NOTICE

A public meeting of the Budget Committee of the Lost Creek Park Special Road District, Lincoln County, State of Oregon, to discuss the budget for the fiscal year July 1, 2026 to June 30, 2027, will be held at 171 SE 126th Drive, South Beach, OR. The meeting

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will take place on Monday, May 18, 2026 at 6:00 p.m. The purpose of the meeting is to receive the budget message and to receive comment from the public on the budget.

LCL26-230 TRUSTEE'S NOTICE OF SALE TS NO.: 187877 APN: R151136

Reference is made to that certain deed made by SHIRLEY LOUISE WALLACE AND DALE C. WALLACE, JR. NOT AS TENANTS IN COMMON BUT WITH RIGHTS OF SURVIVORSHIP as Grantor to Western Title and Escrow, as Trustee, in favor of Eagle Home Mortgage, LLC as Beneficiary, dated 09/27/2007, recorded 10/01/2007, in the official records of Lincoln County, Oregon as Instrument No. 200714036 in Book xx, Page xx covering the following described real property situated in said County and State, to wit: LOT 2, BLOCK 8, J.T. VINCENT'S FIRST ADDITION TO "TOLLEDO" IN THE CITY OF TOLEDO, COUNTY OF LINCOLN, STATE OF OREGON.

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trust deed is reinstated or goes to trustee's sale; plus a late charge on each installment not paid within fifteen days following the payment due date; trustee's fees and other costs and expenses associated with this foreclosure and any further breach of any term or condition contained in subject note and deed of trust. 1. By the reason of said default the beneficiary has declared all obligations secured by said deed of trust immediately due and payable, said sums being the following, to wit: Principal balance in the amount of: \$84,730.37; 2. Interest through 4/20/2026 in the amount of: \$2,975.45 3. MIP/PMI Advances in the amount of: \$0.00 4. Recoverable balance in the amount of: \$1,584.19 5. Late Charges in the amount of: \$190.96 6. Deferred Amount in the amount of: \$12,343.79 7. Escrow Advances in the amount of: \$1,285.73 8. Together with the interest thereon at the rate 3.6250000% per annum until paid; plus all accrued late charges thereon; and all trustee's fees, foreclosure costs and any sums advanced by the beneficiary pursuant to the terms of said deed of trust. The principal sum of \$84,730.37 together with the interest thereon at the rate 3.6250000% per annum from 05/01/2025 until paid; plus all accrued late charges thereon; and all trustee's fees, foreclosure costs and any sums advanced by the beneficiary pursuant to the terms of said deed of trust. Whereof, notice hereby is given that the undersigned trustee will on 08/26/2026 at the hour of 10:00 AM, Standard of Time, as established by Section 187.110, Oregon Revised Statutes, at the south entrance of the Lincoln County Courthouse, 225 W Olive St, Newport, OR 97365, County of Lincoln, State of Oregon, sell at public auction to the highest bidder for cash the interest in the said described real property which the grantor had or had power to convey at the time of the execution by him of the said trust deed, together with any interest which the grantor or his successors in interest

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acquired after the execution of said trust deed, to satisfy the foregoing obligations thereby secured (and the costs and expenses of sale, including a reasonable charge by the trustee). Notice is further given that any person named in Section 86.778 of Oregon Revised Statutes; has the right to have the foreclosure proceeding dismissed and the trust deed reinstated by payment to the beneficiary of the entire amount then due (other than such portion of said principal as would not then be due had no default occurred), together with the costs, trustee's and attorney's fees and curing any other default complained of in the Notice of Default by tendering the performance required under the obligation or trust deed at any time prior to five days before the date last set for the sale. In construing this, the masculine gender includes the feminine and the successor in interest to the grantor as well as any other person owing obligation, including if the trustee is unable to convey title, the Purchaser at the sale shall be entitled only to a return of the monies paid to the Trustee. This shall be the Purchaser's sole and exclusive remedy. The purchaser shall have no further recourse against the Trustee, the Trustee, the Beneficiary, the Beneficiary's Agent, or the Beneficiary's Attorney. Also, please be advised that pursuant to the terms stated on the Deed of Trust and Note, the beneficiary is allowed to conduct property inspections while there is a default. This shall serve as notice that the beneficiary shall be conducting property inspections on the referenced property. Without limiting the trustee's disclaimer of representations or warranties, Oregon law requires the trustee to state in this notice that some residential property sold at a trustee's sale may have been used in manufacturing methamphetamines, the chemical components of which are known to be toxic. Prospective purchasers of residential property should be aware of this potential danger before deciding to place a bid for this property at the trustee's sale. Dated: 4/14/2026 Prime Recon LLC By: Carmen Robinson, Authorized Signer Prime Recon LLC 27368 Via Industria, Ste 201 Temecula, CA 92590 Phone number for the Trustee: (888) 725-4142 NPP0487925 TO: LINCOLN COUNTY LEADER 05/13/2026, 05/20/2026, 05/27/2026, 06/03/2026

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LCL26-229 IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE STATE OF OREGON FOR THE COUNTY OF LINCOLN In the Matter of the Estate of Richard Edward Thackeray, Deceased No. 26PB00315 NOTICE TO INTERESTED PERSONS NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT the undersigned has been appointed Personal Representative of the above-named decedent. All persons having claims against the estate of the decedent are hereby required to present the same, with proper vouchers, within four months after the date of publication of this notice, as stated below, to the personal representative at: Alden Lousky, Personal Representative C/O Jeff Pridgeon, Attorney, P.O. Box 834, Newport, OR 97365 or such claims may be barred. All persons whose rights may be affected by the proceedings in this estate may obtain additional information from the records of the court, the Personal Representative, or the attorneys for the Personal Representative. Dated and published May 13, 2026. /s/ Ryan J. Thackeray, Personal Representative Heltzel Williams PC Garret Ramsay, OSB #224741 P.O. Box 1048 Salem, OR 97308-1048 Attorneys for Personal Representative 5/13/26

LCL26-228 IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE STATE OF OREGON FOR THE COUNTY OF LINCOLN

Probate Department In the Matter of the Estate of Paulette Lousky, Deceased, 26PB00315 NOTICE TO INTERESTED PERSONS Notice is hereby given pursuant to ORS 113.155 that the undersigned attorney has been retained by the personal representative of the estate. All persons having claims against the estate are hereby required to present the same, with proper vouchers, within four months after the date of publication of this notice, as stated below, to the personal representative at: Alden Lousky, Personal Representative C/O Jeff Pridgeon, Attorney, P.O. Box 834, Newport, OR 97365 or such claims may be barred. All persons whose rights may be affected by the proceedings in this estate may obtain additional information from the records of the court, the Personal Representative, or the attorneys for the Personal Representative. Dated and published May 13, 2026. /s/ Ryan J. Thackeray, Personal Representative Heltzel Williams PC Garret Ramsay, OSB #224741 P.O. Box 1048 Salem, OR 97308-1048 Attorneys for Personal Representative 5/13/26

LCL26-224 SELF-STORAGE PUBLIC SALE

On Tuesday 5/26/26 ending 12:05pm auction will be held online at StorageTreasures.com by Safe & Sound Storage 833 NE 3rd St Newport OR 97365 for units E9-Sherene Hazah E2-Selestin Amina 5/13/26 5/20/26

LCL26-225 IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE STATE OF OREGON FOR THE COUNTY OF LINCOLN

PROBATE DEPARTMENT ESTATE OF JACK ARNOLD WILKINSON, DECEASED CASE No. 26PB04009 NOTICE TO INTERESTED PERSONS. Notice is given pursuant to ORS 113.155 that Jack A. Wilkinson has been appointed personal representative of the above estate. All persons having claims against the estate are required to present them within four (4) months after the date of publication of this Notice, or their claims may be barred. Claims are to be presented at the address of the attorney for the personal representative, set forth below. All persons whose rights may be affected by this estate proceeding may obtain additional information from the records of the Circuit Court, the personal representative, or Jeffrey C. Hollen, attorney for the personal representative. Date of publication: May 12, 2024. Jeffrey C. Hollen, OSB #761757, Attorney for the Personal Representative, 541-574-1630, P. O. Box 1167, 615 SW Hubert Street, Suite A Newport, OR 97365, Personal Representative John A. Wilkinson 2442 NE 57th Ct. Lincoln City, OR 97367 541-921-3924 5/13/26

LCL26-226 IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE STATE OF OREGON FOR THE COUNTY OF LINCOLN

PROBATE DEPARTMENT ESTATE OF NELSON EUGENE STEWART, DECEASED CASE No. 26PB03940. NOTICE TO INTERESTED PERSONS. Notice is given pursuant to ORS 113.155 that Tandra Lynn Smallwood has been appointed personal representative of the above estate. All persons having claims against the estate are required to present them within four (4) months after the date of publication of this Notice, or their claims may be barred. Claims are to be presented at the address of the attorney for the personal representative, set forth below. All persons whose rights may be affected by this estate proceeding may obtain additional information from the records of the Circuit Court, the personal representative, or Jeffrey C. Hollen, attorney for the personal representative. Date of publication: May 13, 2026. Jeffrey C. Hollen, OSB #761757, Attorney for the Personal Representative, 541-574-1630, P. O. Box 1167, 615 SW Hubert Street, Suite A Newport, OR 97365, Personal Representative: Tandra L. Smallwood, P.O. Box 155, Tidewater, OR 97390, 541-961-1072 5/13/26

LCL26-227 IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE STATE OF OREGON FOR THE COUNTY OF LINCOLN

PROBATE DEPARTMENT ESTATE OF GERALD DAVID BOYD, DECEASED CASE No. 26PB03952 NOTICE TO INTERESTED PERSONS Notice is given pursuant to ORS 113.155 that Diana C. Boyd has been appointed personal representative of the above estate. All persons having claims against the estate are required to present them within four (4) months after the date of publication

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of this Notice, or their claims may be barred. Claims are to be presented at the address of the attorney for the personal representative, set forth below. All persons whose rights may be affected by this estate proceeding may obtain additional information from the records of the Circuit Court, the personal representative, or Jeffrey C. Hollen, attorney for the personal representative. Date of publication: May 13, 2026. Jeffrey C. Hollen, OSB #761757, Attorney for the Personal Representative, 541-574-1630, P. O. Box 1167, 615 SW Hubert Street, Suite A Newport, OR 97365, Personal Representative Diana C. Boyd, 1492 Carrington Circle, San Jose, CA 95125, 650-400-9638 5/13/26

LCL26-228 IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE STATE OF OREGON FOR THE COUNTY OF LINCOLN

Probate Department In the Matter of the Estate of Paulette Lousky, Deceased, 26PB00315 NOTICE TO INTERESTED PERSONS Notice is hereby given pursuant to ORS 113.155 that the undersigned attorney has been retained by the personal representative of the estate. All persons having claims against the estate are hereby required to present the same, with proper vouchers, within four months after the date of publication of this notice, as stated below, to the personal representative at: Alden Lousky, Personal Representative C/O Jeff Pridgeon, Attorney, P.O. Box 834, Newport, OR 97365 or such claims may be barred. All persons whose rights may be affected by the proceedings in this estate may obtain additional information from the records of the court, the Personal Representative, or the attorneys for the Personal Representative. Dated and published May 13, 2026. /s/ Ryan J. Thackeray, Personal Representative Heltzel Williams PC Garret Ramsay, OSB #224741 P.O. Box 1048 Salem, OR 97308-1048 Attorneys for Personal Representative 5/13/26

LCL26-212 PUBLIC LIEN SALE - U-STORE SELF STORAGE.

Auction to be held online at storageauctions.com. Auction will run from: 05/12/2026 10am & ends 05/22/2026 10am. 105 N. 3rd St Newport, OR 97365. Steven Perry CY06. GOODS OF EVERY DESCRIPTION SOLD BY STORAGE LOT, CASH & CREDIT CARD ONLY 5/6/26 5/13/26

LCL26-211 SELF STORAGE PUBLIC SALE SAFE-LOCK STORAGE

3639 SE Ash St. South Beach, Oregon 97368. Saturday, 5/23/2026 @ 10:00am. D13 - George Gardner, F49 - Nick Kamerer, F50 - Leneve Kosmecki. Sale Subject to Cancellation. Safe-Lock Storage reserves the Right to refuse any and all bids. 5/6/26 5/13/26

LCL26-207 PURSUANT TO ORS CHAPTER 819

Notice is hereby given that the following vehicle will be sold, for cash to the highest bidder, on 5/22/2026. The sale will be held at 10:00am by ROWLEY'S TOWING, 4822 S COAST HWY 3, BEACH, OR, 2018 TOYOTA 4RUNNER VIN JTEBU5JROJ5536065 Amount due on lien \$6840.00. Reputed owner(s) > CHERYL BRUBAKER 5/6/26 5/13/26

LCL26-206 NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE #26-0375

On June 4, 2026, at the hour of 10:00 a.m., at the Lincoln County Courthouse, 225 W Olive St, Room 203, in the City of Newport, Oregon, the defendant's interest will be sold, subject to redemption, in the real property commonly known as 1000 SE Bay Blvd #M-034, Newport, OR 97365. The court case number is 22CV36792, ASSOCIATION OF UNIT OWNERS OF EMBARCADERO CONDOMINIUMS, INC., an Oregon nonprofit corporation, plaintiff(s) vs. DOUGLAS VARNER, an individual and ALL OTHER PERSONS OR PARTIES UNKNOWN CLAIMING ANY RIGHT, TITLE, LIEN, OR INTEREST IN THE REAL PROPERTY COMMONLY KNOWN AS 1000 SE BAY BLVD M-034, NEWPORT, OR 97365 defendant(s). This is a public auction to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check, in hand. For more details go to http://www.oregonsheriffssales.org/county/lincoln/ 5/6/26 5/13/26 5/20/26 5/27/26

LCL26-192 TRUSTEE'S NOTICE OF SALE TS NO.: 188481 APN: R352002

Reference is made to that certain deed made by Lucille Keith, widow as Grantor to Pacific Northwest Company of Oregon, Inc., as Trustee, in favor of One Reverse Mortgage, LLC as Beneficiary, dated 02/24/2011, recorded 03/28/2011, in the official records of Lincoln County, Oregon as Instrument No. 2011-03691 and Re-recorded on 1/8/2025 by Instrument No. 2025-00104 in Book xx, Page xx covering the following described real property situated in said County and State, to wit: See Attached Exhibit A Commonly known as: 1349 NW Arcadia Rd, Toledo, OR 97391 The current beneficiary is Onily Loan Acquisition Trust 2024-HB2 pursuant to assignment of deed of trust recorded on 05/07/2025 as Inst No. 2025-02941 in the records of Lincoln, Oregon. The beneficiary has elected and directed successor trustee to sell the said real property to satisfy the obligations secured by said trust deed and notice has been recorded pursuant to Section 86.752(2) of Oregon Revised Statutes: the default for which the foreclosure is made is the grantor's failure to: There is a default by the grantor or their person owing an

Super Crossword REGRESSION ANALYSIS. A crossword puzzle grid with 19 columns and 20 rows. The grid contains numbers indicating the start of words. The words are listed in the ACROSS and DOWN sections. The puzzle is titled 'Super Crossword' and 'REGRESSION ANALYSIS'.

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new owner will have the right to require you to move out. Before the new owner can require you to move, the new owner must provide you with written notice that specifies the date by which you must move out. If you do not leave before the move-out date, the new owner can have the sheriff remove you from the property after a court hearing. You will receive notice of the court hearing. PROTECTION FROM EVICTION IF YOU ARE A BONA FIDE TENANT OCCUPYING AND RENTING THIS PROPERTY AS A RESIDENTIAL DWELLING. YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO CONTINUE LIVING IN THIS PROPERTY AFTER THE FORECLOSURE SALE FOR: 60 DAYS FROM THE DATE YOU ARE GIVEN A WRITTEN TERMINATION NOTICE. IF YOU HAVE A FIXED TERM LEASE OR AT LEAST 30 DAYS FROM THE DATE YOU ARE GIVEN A WRITTEN TERMINATION NOTICE. IF YOU HAVE A MONTH-TO-MONTH OR WEEK-TO-WEEK RENTAL AGREEMENT. If the new owner wants to move in and use this property as a primary residence, the new owner can give you written notice and require you to move out after 30 days, even though you have a fixed term lease with more than 30 days left. You must be provided with at least 30 days' written notice after the foreclosure sale before you can be required to move. A bona fide tenant is a residential tenant who is not the borrower (property owner) or a child, spouse or parent of the borrower, and whose rental agreement: Is the result of an arm's-length transaction; Requires the payment of rent that is not substantially less

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than fair market rent for the property, unless the rent is reduced or subsidized due to a federal, state or local subsidy; and Was entered into prior to the date of the foreclosure sale. ABOUT YOUR TENANCY BETWEEN NOW AND THE FORECLOSURE SALE. RENT YOU SHOULD CONTINUE TO PAY RENT TO YOUR LANDLORD UNTIL THE PROPERTY IS SOLD OR UNTIL A COURT TELLS YOU OTHERWISE. IF YOU DO NOT PAY RENT, YOU CAN BE EVICTED. BE SURE TO KEEP PROOF OF ANY PAYMENTS YOU MAKE. SECURITY DEPOSIT You may apply your security deposit and any rent you paid in advance against the current rent you owe your landlord as provided in ORS 90.367. To do this, you must notify your landlord in writing that you want to subtract the amount of your security deposit or prepaid rent from your rent payment. You may do this only for the rent you owe your current landlord. If you do this, you must do so before the foreclosure sale. The business or individual who buys this property at the foreclosure sale is not responsible to you for any deposit or prepaid rent you paid to your landlord. ABOUT YOUR TENANCY AFTER THE FORECLOSURE SALE The new owner that buys this property at the foreclosure sale may be willing to allow you to stay as a tenant instead of requiring you to move out after 30 or 60 days. After the sale, you should receive a written notice informing you that the sale took place and giving you the new owner's name and contact information. You should contact the new owner if you would like to stay. If the

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new owner accepts rent from you, signs a new residential rental agreement with you or does not notify you in writing within 30 days after the date of the foreclosure sale that you must move out, the new owner becomes your new landlord and must maintain the property. Otherwise: You do not owe rent; The new owner is not your landlord and is not responsible for maintaining the property on your behalf; and You must move out by the date the new owner specifies in a notice to you. The new owner may offer to pay your moving expenses and any other costs or amounts you and the new owner agree on in exchange for your agreement to leave the premises in less than 30 or 60 days. You should speak with a lawyer to fully understand your rights before making any decisions regarding your tenancy. IT IS UNLAWFUL FOR ANY PERSON TO TRY TO FORCE YOU TO LEAVE YOUR DWELLING UNIT WITHOUT FIRST GIVING YOU WRITTEN NOTICE AND GOING TO COURT TO EVICT YOU FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR RIGHTS, YOU SHOULD CONSULT A LAWYER. If you believe you need legal assistance, contact the Oregon State Bar and ask for the lawyer referral service. Contact information for the Oregon State Bar is included with this notice. OREGON STATE BAR, 16037 S.W. Upper Boones Ferry

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Road, Tigard Oregon 97224, Phone (503) 620-0222, Toll-free 1-800-452-8260 Website: http://www.oregonlawhelp.org The Fair Debt Collection Practices Act requires that we state the following: this is an attempt to collect, and any information obtained will be used for that purpose. If a discharge has been obtained by any party through bankruptcy proceedings: This shall not be construed to be an attempt to collect the outstanding indebtedness or hold you personally liable for the debt. This letter is intended to exercise the note holders right's against the real property only. NOTICE TO VETERANS If the recipient of this notice is a veteran of the armed forces, assistance may be available from a county veterans' service officer or community action agency. Contact information for a service officer appointed for the county in which you live and contact information for a community action agency that serves the area where you live may be obtained by calling a 2-1-1 information service. Dated: 02/02/2026 Prime Recon LLC By: Carmen Robinson, Authorized Signer Prime Recon LLC 27368 Via Industria, Ste 201 Temecula, CA 92590 Phone number for the Trustee: (888) 725-4142 Carmen Robinson Exhibit A Beginning at a point that is North 2111.8 feet and West 94.2 feet from the Southeast corner of Section 7, Township 11 South, Range 10 West, Willamette Meridian in Lincoln County, Oregon; thence South 4 deg. East 150 feet to a point on the South line of the McNeal tract described in deed recorded in Book 132, Page 451, Deed Records,

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which point is the true point of beginning of the herein described tract; thence West along the South line of said McNeal tract 372.8 feet to the east line of the Dickinson tract described in deed recorded in Book 106, Page 221, Deed Records; thence South along the said Dickinson tract East line 85 feet; thence East to a point that is South 18 deg. West 85 feet, more or less to from the true point of beginning; thence North 18 deg. 30' East 85 feet more or less, to the true point of beginning. A-4865144 04/29/2026, 05/06/2026, 05/13/2026, 05/20/2026

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Reference is made to that certain trust deed (the "Deed of Trust") executed by JOSEPH R. BOWLBY, III, A MARRIED MAN, as Grantor, to FIRST AMERICAN TITLE, as Trustee, in favor of MORTGAGE ELECTRONIC REGISTRATION SYSTEMS, INC., AS DESIGNATED NOMINEE FOR QUICKEN LOANS, LLC, BENEFICIARY OF THE SECURITY INSTRUMENT, ITS SUCCESSORS AND ASSIGNS, as Beneficiary, dated 9/25/2020, recorded 9/30/2020, as Instrument No. 2020-10094, in the Official Records of Lincoln County, Oregon, which covers the following described real property situated in Lincoln County, Oregon: A PORTION OF U.S. LOT 4, SECTION 36, TOWNSHIP 13 SOUTH, RANGE 12 WEST, WILLAMETTE MERIDIAN, IN LINCOLN COUNTY, OREGON, MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS: BEGINNING AT A POINT ON THE EASTERLY LINE OF THE RIGHT

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OF WAY OF THE OREGON COAST HIGHWAY, FORMERLY THE EAST-ERLY LINE OF THE U.S. SPRUCE PRODUCTION RAILROAD RIGHT OF WAY, SAID POINT BEING 992.7 FEET NORTH 14°19'30" WEST FROM THE SOUTH QUARTER CORNER OF SAID SECTION 36; THENCE SOUTH 77°28' WEST ALONG SAID RIGHT OF WAY LINE 200 FEET; TO THE TRUE POINT OF BEGINNING; THENCE CONTINUING SOUTH 17°28' WEST, ALONG SAID RIGHT OF WAY LINE, 100 FEET; THENCE SOUTH 89°44' EAST, PARALLEL TO THE SOUTH LINE OF THE KENNETH W. ROBERTS AND BETTY M. ROBERTS TRACT OF LAND DESCRIBED IN DEED RECORDED IN BOOK 219, PAGE 32, DEED RECORDS, 153.9 FEET, MORE OR LESS, TO THE POINT ON THE SOUTH-ERLY PROLONGATION OF THE EASTERLY LINE OF SAID ROBERTS TRACT; THENCE NORTH 15°45'30" EAST, 100 FEET, MORE OR LESS, TO THE SOUTHEAST CORNER OF SAID ROBERTS TRACT; THENCE NORTH 89°44' WEST 153.9 FEET TO THE TRUE POINT OF BEGINNING. APN: R466603 / 13-12-36-CD-03000-00 Commonly known as: 4982 SW SENECA PL WALDPOR, OR 97394 The current beneficiary is: Rocket Mortgage, LLC Both the beneficiary and the trustee have elected to sell the above-described real property to satisfy the obligations secured by the Deed of Trust and notice has been recorded pursuant to ORS 86.752(3). The default for which the foreclosure is made is the grantor's failure to pay when due, the following sums: Delinquent Pay-

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ments: Dates: 8/1/2025 - 3/1/2026 Total: \$4,421.04 Late Charges: \$110.52 Beneficiary Advances: \$2,827.98 Total Required to Reinstates: \$7,359.55 TOTAL REQUIRED TO PAYOFF: \$117,295.55 By reason of the default, the beneficiary has declared all obligations secured by the Deed of Trust immediately due and payable, including: the principal sum of \$11,817.75 together with interest thereon at the rate of 3.375 % per annum, from 7/1/2025 until paid, plus all accrued late charges, and all trustee's fees, foreclosure costs, and any sums advanced by the beneficiary pursuant to the terms and conditions of the Deed of Trust Whereof, notice hereby is given that the undersigned trustee, CLEAR RECON CORP whose address is 3333 Camino Del Rio South, Suite 225, San Diego, CA 92108, will on 8/18/2026, at the hour of 1:00 PM, standard time, as established by ORS 187.110, At the Public Entrance of the Lincoln County Courthouse, 225 West Olive Street, Newport, OR 97365, sell at public auction to the highest bidder in the form of cash equivalent (certified funds or cashier's check) the interest in the above-described real property which the grantor had or had power to convey at the time it executed the Deed of Trust, together with any interest which the grantor or his successors in interest, if any, after the execution of the Deed of Trust, to satisfy the foregoing obligations thereby secured and the costs and expenses of sale, including a reasonable charge by the trustee. Notice is further given that any person named in ORS 86.718 has the right to have the foreclosure

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proceeding dismissed and the Deed of Trust reinstated by payment to the beneficiary of the entire amount then due (other than the portion of principal that would not then be due had no default occurred), together with the costs, trustee's and attorneys' fees, and curing any other default complained of in the Notice of Default by tendering the performance required under the Deed of Trust at any time not later than five days before the date last set for sale. Without limiting the trustee's disclaimer of representations or warranties, Oregon law requires the trustee to state in this notice that some residential property sold at a trustee's sale may have been used in manufacturing methamphetamines, the chemical components of which are known to be toxic. Prospective purchasers of residential property should be aware of this potential danger before deciding to place a bid for this property at the trustee's sale. In construing this notice, the masculine gender includes the feminine and the neuter, the singular includes plural, the word "grantor" includes any successor in interest to the grantor as well as any other persons owing an obligation, the performance of which is secured by the Deed of Trust, the words "trustee" and "beneficiary" include their respective successors in interest, if any. Dated: 3/30/2026 CLEAR RECON CORP 3333 Camino Del Rio South, Suite 225, San Diego, CA 92108 Phone: 858-750-7777 866-931-0036 Hamsa Uchi, Authorized Signatory of Trustee 4/22/26 4/29/26 5/6/26 5/13/26

GARLIC

From Page B3

rapidly take over and drown out other ornamentals planted nearby. Three-cornered garlic can be very difficult to keep contained to intentionally planted areas, as one of the main dispersal mechanisms employed by the plant is to secrete a chemical which attracts ants to its seeds, gathering and transporting them to new locations.

An additional matter of concern to note is that, like all alliums, three-cornered garlic is toxic to dogs, cats, and livestock such as cows and horses if ingested. While three-cornered garlic hasn't been on the list of noxious weed species frequently controlled by the Lincoln SWCD, in recent years populations around Lincoln County have reached concerning levels of growth, prompting discussion from local noxious weed control

specialists about beginning coordinated treatments of the species. Manual Control: Digging or hand-pulling of three-cornered garlic can be an effective method of removal, though labor-intensive for larger patches. Bulbs are shallowly rooted and form mats, which in soft soil may be lifted up with a spade to remove large numbers of plants at once. However, repeated digging or hand-pulling of the same spots is likely

required over a succession of years in order to fully eradicate a population. Removed plant material and soil should only be disposed of in landfill garbage to prevent further spread. Mowing the plant before it can produce seed is also helpful in preventing the spread of existing patches. Herbicides: If one needs to control large amounts of three-cornered garlic in a relatively short period of time, herbicide application can be an

effective method of control. Care should be taken to select an herbicide that is effective against alliums and approved for aquatic usage, due to the plant's tendency to grow in moist areas. 2,4-D and glyphosate-based herbicides have been proven effective in treating alliums. ALWAYS follow label directions when using herbicides, and consult a professional if unsure whether your chosen product or method of application is safe. Cultural Control:

Tarping over three-cornered garlic infestations for multiple growing seasons may be an effective method of eradication, but currently available information is not conclusive. Livestock animals like sheep and goats may be able to safely graze on alliums, but information on the toxicity to these animals is also not definitive. For information about the Lincoln Soil and Water Conservation District, call 541-265-2631.

VISITORS

From Page B1

"We're thrilled to reopen our doors to the public," said Reba Ortiz, Cape Perpetua Visitor Center Director. "This remodel has been a dream of mine since I began working at the Cape. We've refreshed the interior from the floor up and I can't wait for visitors to discover something new. We owe a huge thank you to our volunteers and partners. This project would not have been possible without their efforts." Doors will open to the public at 10 a.m. on May 20 after a short ribbon cutting ceremony.

During the summer, Cape Perpetua Visitor Center will be open every day from 10 a.m. to 4 pm. Winter hours will begin after Labor Day. A valid recreation pass or day pass is required for parking. Many organizations and volunteers helped make the visitor center remodel possible. Students and staff at Angell Job Corps lead the demolition of outdated infrastructure and installed the new flooring and walls. Art students at Waldport High School and other local artists sculpted and painted new display structures. Members of the Confederated Tribes of the Siletz Indians collaborated with Siuslaw staff on the

creation of several new exhibits. Additional financial support and guidance was provided by Discover Your Northwest, Cape Perpetua Marine Reserve, and current and former Cape Perpetua volunteers and interns. The Cape Perpetua Scenic Area offers 26 miles of trails featuring old growth forests, tidepools and views of the Pacific Ocean. For more information about Cape Perpetua, visit the Siuslaw National Forest website www.fs.usda.gov/r06/siuslaw/recreation/cape-perpetua-visitor-center. For additional questions, call the visitor center at 541-547-3289.

BIOSPHERE

From Page B1

Biosphere Region, the revolutionary conservation efforts on the Salmon River, and the history of the Nechesne peoples, the first inhabitants of the land.

2026 CASCADE HEAD BIOSPHERE EXPLORIENCE DATES

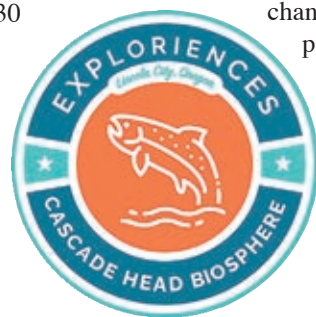
- Saturday, May 16, @ 10:30 a.m.
• Saturday, May 23, @ 10:30 a.m.
• Saturday, June 13, @ 10:30 a.m.
• Saturday, June 27, @ 10:30 a.m.

Weather conditions may impact our dates and times—when that is the case, please check back at Explore Lincoln City's webpage and on the Explore Lincoln City Facebook page for changes.

This program is free and registration is not required at this time.

LOCATION DETAILS

Cascade Head Biosphere Explorience programs meet at Knight Park located at the mouth of the Salmon River Estuary. The park is adjacent to the Cascade Head Nature Conservancy hiking trail. MAP IT ~ Knight Park, 2341 N 3



Courtesy photo

Rocks Rd., Otis, OR 97368

Knight County Park offers the only public boat launch for the Salmon River, and is regularly used by boaters, kayaks, and canoes.

Onsite facilities include concrete vault restrooms, public boat ramp, single car parking, and boat trailer parking.

HOW TO PREPARE:

- Conditions on the Oregon Coast change by the minute, so be prepared by bringing:
• Comfortable shoes (Hiking boots or Water proof boots recommended)\*
• Water
• Sunscreen
• Light jacket
\*This Explorience contains a number of areas that are off trail with potentially wet or uneven surfaces.

SAFETY AND STEWARDSHIP

A portion of the Biosphere Region is a protected wildlife sanctuary - to help preserve this delicate habitat, hunting, camping, fires, bicycles, removal of foliage, and dogs are not allowed (even on a leash). The presence or scent of dogs in a habitat such as the Cascade Head Biosphere Region, may force wild animals to leave their homes, both temporarily and permanently.

WRITERS

From Page B1

archetype each of us carries—making writers not simply creators of fiction, but catalysts of human

social evolution. She is the founder of The Invisible Press and is currently completing the first volume of Writing for the Soul of the World, a seven-volume series drawing on the

full depth of the UGoS® methodology. "The most beautifully designed, thoughtfully laid-out book on writing I have ever witnessed." Mona Lisa Saloy, Louisiana Poet Laureate

CANVAS

From Page B1

identification with the image: not to explain, but to awaken. Rip Cronk's career has been defined by a departure from the traditional art market in favor of psychological study and public engagement. After earning a Bachelor of Fine Arts from the University of Florida (1969) and a Master of Fine Arts from the University of New Mexico (1972), Cronk became a prolific street artist. His work includes extensive mural suites across Hawaii and Switzerland before he settled on the West Coast to continue his study of the "psychology of the art experience". Cronk frames Cultural Transformation within a sweeping arc of Western cultural history — from the animism of ancient Greece through the mythic mind, the



Cronk's paintings are not subtle – they pulse, according to the exhibit organizers. (Courtesy photo)

Socratic tradition, medieval mysticism, and the birth of the modern self. At each turn, he argues, art has played a central role in embedding the values of an emerging paradigm into the fabric of society. His paintings position themselves

in that tradition, as "symbols of actualization myths in this period of cultural change at the end of late modernism." The exhibition opens with a public reception on the evening of Thursday, May 28th, from 5-7pm, featuring light refreshments, music, and an artist talk by Cronk at 5:30pm. The event is free to attend, and all are welcome. "Animals and figures full of movement and performing personality will feel right at home on the walls of Olive Street Gallery," said Chasse Davidson, director of Newport's Visual Arts Center. "What more fitting place for them than within our lively Performing Arts Center?" Olive Street Gallery, located at 777 W Olive Street in Newport, is open Tuesday through Friday, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. For more information, please visit coastarts.org/events/cronk

TIP

From Page B3

weather. 6. Be Confident Not Cocky You know what you can and can't handle. When hiking in a group or with a more advanced friend, you may take risks you aren't ready for. Don't risk injury; be honest with your skill level before hitting the trail. 7. Tell Someone Before You Go Tell someone when and where you are going and when they should expect you to be back. If that person doesn't hear from you by a certain time, they can take the necessary action to begin

a search. With Search and Rescue missions, time matters. If you don't make it home on time, having a friend that can report your planned hiking activity and timeline can help searchers locate you. 8. Stay Together When hiking with a large group, it's easy to separate into groups of fast and slow hikers. Often, this happens naturally, but it isn't always safe. Keep someone at the front that hikes at a modest pace to ensure everyone stays together. For more information and tips visit www.lincolncountysheriff.net



### Amber Waves



Out on a Limb

by Gary Kopervas



The Spats

by Jeff Pickering



### TIGER

by BUD BLAKE



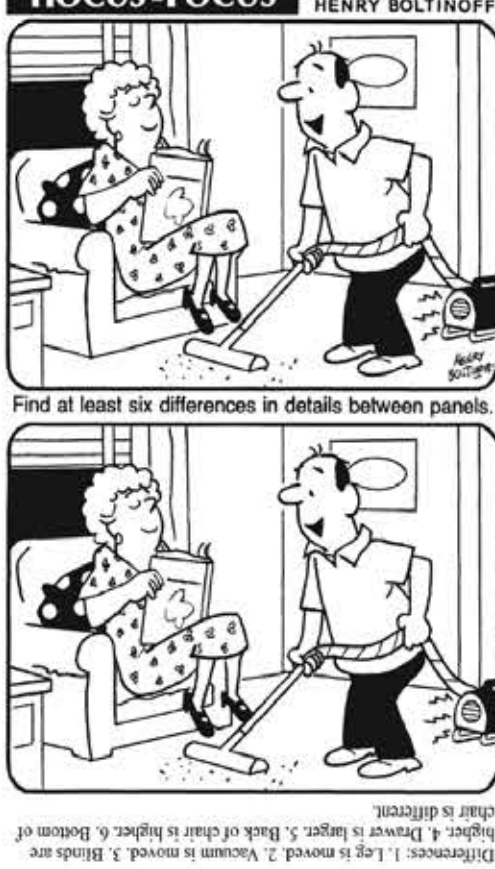
OLIVE & POPEYE

By Randy Milholland



HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTIHOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.  
Differences: 1. Leg is moved. 2. Vacuum is moved. 3. Blinds are higher. 4. Drawer is larger. 5. Back of chair is higher. 6. Bottom of chair is different.

Just Like Cats & Dogs

by Dave T. Phipps



### 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: C equals R

PT BI NCDFY CSAPKS P CSZMRS  
FD MRS FYLF YSCN ZCDB L  
JLMCSJ FCSS, ADTFCLCI FD  
KDKMJLC NLI JSLZ.

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### CryptoQuote

AXYDLBAAXR is LONGFELLOW

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

OTDID'J DUNIVNLJ GNEDI -  
ANOT VNOZSMOZNUMW MUP  
OIMUJYNIVMOZNUMW GNEDI  
- ZU WNSD.  
- AZJTNG VZXTMDW XLIH

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### Trivia test

by Fifi Rodriguez

1. GEOGRAPHY: What is the capital of Belarus?
2. LITERATURE: Which Ken Kesey novel is set in an Oregon psychiatric hospital?
3. MYTHOLOGY: Who is the Greek goddess of discord?
4. ANATOMY: What is the longest bone in the human body?
5. U.S. PRESIDENTS: Which president was a commanding general in World War II?
6. MATH: What kind of polygon has three sides?
7. BIBLE: What is the last book in the Bible called?
8. ASTRONOMY: Which planet in our solar system is closest in size to Earth?
9. CHEMISTRY: What is the newest element on the Periodic Table?
10. MOVIES: Which Canadian actor/comedian starred in the movie "Uncle Buck" and died of a heart attack at 43?

#### Answers

1. Minsk.
2. "One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest."
3. Eris.
4. Femur.
5. Dwight Eisenhower.
6. Triangle.
7. The Book of Revelation.
8. Venus.
9. Oganesson (Og).
10. John Candy.

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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!

Stoop  
DINGE [ ] [ ]  
Clang  
ONESI [ ] [ ]  
Deluge  
RAREBAG [ ] [ ]  
Social  
CAROLID [ ] [ ]

TODAY'S WORD

There's enormous power —  
both motivational and —  
transformational power —  
in love. —  
Bishop Michael Curry

In my broth recipe I refuse to use that herb from a laurel tree, contrary to popular bay leaf.

### CryptoQuip

answer

### OBEDIENCE

Today's Word  
3. Barrage; 4. Cordial  
1. Deign; 2. Noise

### SCRAMBLERS

solution



"Guess who I'd REALLY like to send to school!"

# Newport girls give it all on the greens

**WILL LOHRE**

*Lincoln County Leader*

Newport's girls golf program had a lot of fresh faces this spring, and in Head Coach Ollie Richardson's first season as their coach, there was plenty to be proud of.

There were 12 girls on this year's team, but only two were returners from 2025. Richardson said that all but two of the roster were brand-new to the sport, with many of the team being ninth-graders.

"I had 12 girls; eight of them I had to get clubs for. Six of them had never seen a golf club before; they didn't know what golf was," Richardson said. "I had six freshmen, five sophomores, and one senior. We were young. A rebuilding year for sure."

Much of the beginning of the year was spent learning the rules and the etiquette of the course. With such an inexperienced team, there was a lot to discover, and the expectations were reserved coming into the year.

One of the benefits of having a lot to learn is that improvement can happen quickly.

Richardson saw his raw group pick things up steadily throughout the year. By the time the district championships rolled around on May 4-5 at Mallard Creek Golf Course, the Cubs were a much different outfit than they were at the start of the year.

"I was really pleased with how everything ended for us. The four girls that I brought to districts, I had two freshmen, one sophomore, and my senior, so those younger girls got some really good experience," Richardson said. "The cool thing that I really liked was that all four of my girls improved on the second day, so whatever they shot on the first day, they improved by one or more strokes on the second day."

Two of Newport's golfers



**The Newport Cubs team at the Taft Girls Golf Tournament at the Salishan Golf Links. (Courtesy photos from Ollie Richardson)**

showed resolve and grit over the course of the tournament. Richardson said that after a couple of tough rounds on the first day, two of the Cubs improved their round scores by 29 and 19 strokes over their first showing.

"They didn't have a great first day, but their second day was exactly what I knew they were capable of," Richardson said.

Despite the pressure of the district tournament, Richardson said his squad rose to the occasion. Newport's four golfers at Mallard Creek were Olivia Richardson, Rhianna Silva, Audrey Schones, and Kindal Brandenberger. Out of 46 golfers, Richardson finished 16th, Silva took 33rd, Brandenberger ended at 39th, and Schones placed 43rd.

The other members of the team who played and improved throughout the season as the JV squad were Ellie Douglas, Vera Kyei, Hailey Highbarger, Nathalia Partida, Cattaleya Cline, Thaily Martinez,

Brecklyn Millet, and Grace Hassel.

Two of the team members who had exceptional moments at districts were Olivia Richardson and Rhianna Silva. They were the Cubs' top two finishers at districts, and each played some of their best golf when it mattered most.

"My most consistent golfer all season happened to be my own daughter, Olivia Richardson. She shot a 105 and 103 at districts, which was about 10 strokes better than her season best, and she's never golfed before in her life," Richardson said. "I was super proud of her. I was super proud of everybody, but seeing her consistency throughout the season, and playing about 10 strokes better than all season was really inspiring and she was never flustered."

Olivia Richardson finished 16th in the district, and Coach Richardson said that 10 of the golfers who finished ahead of her are seniors. If she sticks with it, it seems like the coming



**Head Coach Ollie Richardson with his daughter Olivia Richardson at the Princeville Makai Golf Course in Kauai. Olivia had a great season for the Cubs this year on the links.**

season will be bright for her.

Silva's district performance was made all the more impressive by the adversity she overcame to compete. Richardson described Silva as one of his most naturally talented golfers. As well as golf, Silva plays club basketball, and just days before the district championships, she jammed her finger on the hardwood.

"She jammed her pinky, and her pinky was swollen double its normal size. It was black and blue, and she couldn't bend it. So she actually played 36 holes with nine fingers, because she couldn't grip the club with that finger," Richardson said. "She shot better than she had all season, so it was pretty amazing to see her do that with nine fingers. She's a natural athlete; she's a freshman who was a soccer-sport varsity athlete for three-sport varsity athlete for soccer, basketball, and golf."

Going forward, Richardson is trying to cultivate the young talent that came out to play this season. The team also qualified for OSAA's 2026 Academic

All-State, ranking #14 with a 3.71 GPA. In celebration of the end of the season, he and the team are going to Top Golf in Hillsboro this week to have some fun.

Richardson wants to inspire his team to keep getting out on the greens, fairways, and tee boxes outside of the varsity season. If this group sticks with it, a state qualification could be something to chase in seasons to come.

"I'm really excited to build the girls golf program here at Newport High School. I have one senior, but otherwise I have all freshmen and sophomores. So, I have a really young team, and I'm just trying to inspire this group to continue to play golf outside the season," Richardson said. "If they all do that, we may have a shot at going to state if everyone keeps playing golf, because we're so young, we're all new to the sport, and we've progressed and learned so much this season. It was fun to witness and be a part of it."

# Taft girls post season best marks at golfing districts

**WILL LOHRE**

*Lincoln County Leader*

Taft's girls battled hard at the Special 3 District Championships at Mallard Creek Golf Course, May 4-5, and though they didn't qualify for the state championships, they played some of the best golf that the program has seen in more than half a decade.

The two-day score for the Tigers was 822, just 16 strokes shy of second place and a trip to state. Head Coach Heather Hatton said it was tough to be so close, but that it was a great tournament for her squad overall, and districts were the culmination of a season of growth for Taft.

"Our first tournament of the season at Creekside, we shot 480 as a team. Then we come to day one of districts and shoot a 423," Hatton said. "The course was playing hard. To come back on day two was my biggest message. They improved 24 strokes as a team on day two, under that kind of pressure. Everybody was really thinking this was a battle to the end, and I was incredibly proud of them."

Hatton lauded her group for hanging with golf superpower Salem Academy and holding their own among some of the best golfers in the



**The 2026 Taft girls golf team. (Courtesy photo from Heather Hatton)**

state.

On day two, Taft posted one of its best rounds since 2018. Having not shot under 400 as a team in eight years, the Tigers posted a score of 399 on May 5, powered by some great shooting from Abby Halferty and Maya Fresci. Competing against 45 other athletes, Abby Halferty shot a PR of 97 today for a two-day total of 199, earning her 11th place and district honorable mention, while Maya Fresci posted a two-day score (101, 100) for 12th and a district honorable mention.

"For them to push through, Abby Halferty had a PR, a 97, that was incredible. Everybody did their job. That's what I told them," Hatton said. "They all did their job. They all did what they needed to do to give us a shot."

The margins at that stage of the season are

so tight. It could be a missed put or a costly decision to go for it instead of laying up. While they ended up 16 strokes behind Santiam Christian at the end of the tournament, Hatton emphasized that over two days, that isn't much.

At the end of the weekend, the whole program walked away proud of the way they competed in the biggest moments of the season. Hatton felt there was also great camaraderie among the teams competing against each other. She said it was a really great two days, and of course, when the final shots were taken and the tournament was finished, there were even a couple of tears.

Other team totals for the weekend were Teya Kessinger, who finished 15th with a two-day score of 207 (105, 102), and Taylor Goodart, who was 18th with a 215 (115, 100). Taft also had

Katie Fairfield compete on day one, shooting a 118, and Ava Graves competed on day two, for a 106. After Fairfield had the highest score on day one, Graves came in to take her place for the final day.

"The reasoning for that is that I have four returners coming back next year, and so I need to get everybody experience. Katie Fairfield shot a 118 day one, it was a really good experience for her. I was really proud of her; she was striking the ball well," Hatton said. "Day two, Ava Graves came in, which is difficult to do; you didn't play the first day, you don't know how the greens are running. She came in on day two and shot a 106. I'm really excited about next year, because it got Katie, Ava, and Abby, and I brought Taylor Baker to see what it was like. Because we have four kids ready to come back next year."

It's a way to give young players reps in a high-pressure situation and help dispel the intimidation that may come with playing in that environment.

Despite not getting to go to the state championships, Hatton said she couldn't overstate the development the team showed from the start to the end of the season. Shooting a 399 compared to a 480 is a monumental leap.

That new benchmark wasn't achieved by accident. The Tigers put a lot of effort into every part of their game to get there. One of the highlights for Hatton was seeing the teammates come out to optional practices, work on their game, and push themselves to be better.

"The other highlight was that every day, before they could go to the range, they had to make 10 three-footers in a row, 10 six-footers in a row, and 10 up and downs before they even went to the range," Hatton said. "It really did show their dedication to that process in the end. Their short game was solid, and that's a real testament to their dedication."

Hatton said it was great to see the determination and commitment from the team, and she couldn't have gotten all

the players to where they ended up without assistant coaches Stephanie Leben and Barb Halferty. With their support, the coaching staff found ways to reach everyone on the team and continue to foster growth among the athletes.

Looking ahead to next season, Hatton is hoping they will get plenty of interest in the team next spring, and she wants to see more players come out and play. Being a golfer has some nice advantages: Hatton said it's easier to get scholarships than in other sports, teaches life skills, and is a sport you can play for the rest of your life. She wants parents to put a little more emphasis on golf as a viable option for people looking to get into athletics.

With the season wrapping up, Hatton said what she'll remember about this group is how they pushed her to be a better coach.

"I was kind of humbled by their work ethic. They pushed me to be more organized, and they pushed me to believe in them even deeper than I already did," Hatton said. "I'm a decent coach, but they pushed me to another level that I didn't think I could get to. Their exceptional dedication and commitment is what I take from this season."