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Salmonberry Trail Foundation meets in Wheeler, discusses accelerated timeline



WILL CHAPPELL
Citizen Editor

The Salmonberry Trail Intergovernmental agency held a meeting on September 27, at The Salmonberry in Wheeler to discuss progress on the trail.

At the meeting, Michael Neunzert, the chair of the Salmonberry Trail Foundation Working and Planning Committee, suggested that the group look to initially build the trail to a lower standard to speed the process along, while leaving the ability for later upgrades.

Neunzert said that this approach, known as staging, would allow the trail to open much sooner and begin generating visits and interest, which could help secure more funding for future stages.

The initial vision of the trail called for a paved path extending 82 miles from Banks to Seventh Street in Tillamook and would cost more than \$40 million. Neunzert suggested that the trail could be paved with gravel and built as narrow as three feet on the coastal

Members of the Salmonberry Trail Foundation board pose next to a historical marker commemorating the Civilian Conservation Corp's Camp Nehalem. PHOTO COURTESY OF THE SALMONBERRY TRAIL FOUNDATION

SEE SALMONBERRY PAGE A6

Neah-Kah-Nie students perform strongly on state tests

WILL CHAPPELL
Citizen Editor

The Oregon Department of Education released the results of 2023's standardized tests in English language arts, math and science in September.

Data from the Neah-Kah-Nie School District show that students in the district outperformed the state's average level of proficiency in each subject, while its scores also continued to show steady improvement.

This year marked the second year that schools returned to full-scale testing, after a two-year disruption caused by the coronavirus pandemic. Students in the third through eighth and eleventh grades are tested in English language arts and math, while fifth, eighth and eleventh graders take the science tests.

The results showed that students in Neah-Kah-Nie have recovered much of the learning lost during the coronavirus pandemic,

with scores exceeding pre-pandemic levels in science and close to those previously achieved in math and English language arts.

Students in the district showed a 54.2% grade-level proficiency in the English language arts, an improvement from the 48.5% who did so last year. That mark compared favorably with students across the state, of whom only 43% showed grade level proficiency in English language arts.

Fourth graders in the

district tested at the highest level, with 65.3% achieving proficiency, and the district is near its pre-pandemic, 54.4% proficiency rate.

Students in the district are still working to match pre-pandemic math proficiency levels, with 31.3% of students proficient for their grade level this year as compared to 38.5% in 2018-2019 and 28.4% last year. Again, fourth graders demonstrated the highest level of proficiency in the district, with 51% testing as

proficient, and the district slightly outperformed the statewide average of 30.6% proficiency.

Neah-Kah-Nie students showed a gain in proficiency versus their pre-pandemic peers in science testing in 2023, with 35% of students testing as proficient for their grade compared to 32% in 2018-19. This year also marked a nearly 20% improvement over last year's testing, when 21.7% of students tested as proficient in science.

Neah-Kah-Nie's test scores also continued to be the highest among the three school districts in Tillamook County. In Tillamook, 35% of students were proficient in English language arts, 25.5% in math and 24.8% in science, while in the Nestucca Valley School District, 28.6% achieved proficiency in English language arts, 11.8% in math and 19% in Science.

Sheriff holds outreach events

WILL CHAPPELL
Citizen Editor

Tillamook Sheriff Josh Brown held three outreach events at libraries across Tillamook County in the third week of September.

Speaking at the main branch of the library on September 20, Brown told citizens that his office's resources, especially his staff, are stretched thin leading to difficult choices about which enforcement activities to pursue.

"We need more staff, plain and simple" Brown said at the event.

The last two years have been particularly difficult for

the department, according to Brown, as department detectives are responsible for four, ongoing homicide investigations across the county. Brown said that these complicated investigations have put a huge strain on his deputies' time, reducing their ability to respond to other incidents.

Brown also pointed to tourists as a major pressure on the department's resources. He said that call volumes increase by 25-30% during the summer months while tourists do not pay any taxes that contribute to the county's emergency services.

Brown acknowledged that this was not his problem to solve but said he had been in touch with Tillamook commissioners and representatives in Salem discussing possible solutions. He said that he thought increasing the county's transient lodging tax and directing the increased revenues towards public safety was a good potential

solution and mentioned the possibility of forming a tourism improvement district.

Brown also addressed several major concerns for county residents, including the proliferation of homeless people, increasing drug activity and lack of animal control.

Brown acknowledged that recent laws and court rulings in Oregon have given homeless people expanded rights to shelter but that he still wanted to see them held responsible for property damage or other crimes they might commit.

"I don't believe we need to punish someone who is experiencing homelessness but they do need to be held accountable," Brown said.

The sheriff is working with county commissioners to craft a new camping ordinance that will set up parameters for the time, place and manner in which people are allowed to shelter in the county. The Tillamook Police Department and city

government are working on a similar ordinance and Manzanita passed one earlier this year.

Discussion of increases in drug activity was prompted by several residents' questions about how the department is addressing "drug houses" across the county.

Brown said that the passage of Measure 110 in 2020, decriminalizing possession of small amounts of drugs, "really changed the face of what drug enforcement looked like in Oregon." While possessing large quantities of drugs and distributing them is still a crime, the change in the legal landscape severely curtailed law enforcement's ability to prosecute those crimes.

Brown explained that before the passage of 110, law enforcement officers were able to extract information from drug users about their suppliers by reaching favorable plea deals in exchange for cooperation.

With the removal of penalties for possession, that tool has been removed from officers' arsenal.

Now, taking action against a suspected drug house requires a deputy to perform a stakeout or undercover operation to gather evidence of probable cause to search the premises, according to Brown. With high call volumes and other investigative responsibilities, Brown said his deputies do not have the time to perform that type of investigation.

Brown's response to a group of volunteers from Tillamook K9 Rescue asking for help handling runaway dogs was similar. Brown said that while the department had helped transport dogs to the shelter in the past, a scarcity of deputies made doing so logistically unfeasible now as patrol vehicles could not accommodate a dog and a suspect.

The county's large size also plays into that limitation as well as others for the

department, as deputies spend large amounts of time in transit to and from the sheriff's office.

Another major challenge is the compensation being offered to deputies, which Brown said is among the lowest of comparable counties in Oregon. He also said that officers at the Oregon State Police had a starting wage \$30,000 higher than his deputies and that in Washington County, deputies earn more to start than do Tillamook's highest paid officers.

Brown said that it was hard to retain deputies when nearby agencies offered significantly higher remuneration and noted that union negotiations were upcoming next year.

In response to an audience question, Brown said that his top priority was securing higher pay for his staff, followed closely by bringing on more staff.



NEWS

Tillamook County Criminal Convictions

STAFF REPORT

On August 1, Zachery Alan Mason Stegman, 31, pled no contest to one count of online sexual corruption of a child in the second degree, a class C felony, committed on or about June 3, 2022. Stegman was sentenced to 30 days in jail and three years’ probation.

On August 17, Draven Louis Hughes, 19, pled no contest to one count of criminal trespass in the first degree, a class A misdemeanor, committed on or about April 23. Hughes was sentenced to nine months in jail.

On August 18, Sky Michael Crawford, 39, pled no contest to one count of assault in the fourth degree, a class A misdemeanor, committed on or about July 9. Crawford was sentenced to 150 days in jail.

On August 28, Nicholas Cain Anderson, 33, pled no contest to four counts of menacing, a class A misdemeanor, committed on or about February 15. Anderson was sentenced to 10 days in jail and 18 months’ probation and ordered to pay \$5,103 in compensatory fines and restitution.

On September 1, Nicholas Andrew Johnson, 31, pled no contest to one count of rape in the third degree and one contest of sodomy in the third degree, both class C felonies, committed on or about April 6, 2020. Johnson was sentenced to 30 days in jail and two years on probation and ordered to register as a sex offender.

On September 5, Daniel Scott Woolfolk, 33, pled no contest to one count of

criminal mischief in the second degree, a class A misdemeanor, committed on or about July 23. Woolfolk was sentenced to time served in jail.

On September 8, Heidi Marie Faust, 62, pled guilty to one count of failure to perform the duties of a driver relating to property damage, a class A violation, committed on or about March 21. Faust was ordered to pay a \$440 fine.

On September 8, Jeremy Joseph Smalley, 42, pled no contest to one count of reckless driving, a class A misdemeanor, committed on or about August 27. Smalley was sentenced to five days in jail and 18 months’ probation and his driver’s license was suspended for 90 days.

On September 11, June R Zywicki, 32, pled guilty to one count of driving under the influence of intoxicants, a class A misdemeanor, committed on or about July 16, 2021. Zywicki was sentenced to two years’ probation and her driver’s license was suspended for three years.

On September 11, Timothy S Horner, 46, pled guilty to one count of driving under the influence of intoxicants, a class A misdemeanor, committed on or about April 5. Horner was sentenced to 90 days in jail and four years on probation and his driver’s license was revoked for life.

On September 11, Erica Snyder, 50, pled no contest to one count of theft in the third degree, a class A violation, committed on or about July 2. Snyder was ordered to pay a \$440 fine.

On September 11, Salina Gable Malynn, 28, pled guilty to one count of attempting to commit the

class A felony of unlawful sexual penetration in the first degree, a class B felony, on or about February 2, 2022. Malynn was sentenced to 20 days in jail and five years’ probation.

On September 11, Russell K Stueckle, 51, pled guilty to one count of assault in the fourth degree constituting domestic violence, a class A misdemeanor, committed on or about July 19, 2022. Stueckle was sentenced to 30 days in jail and 18 months’ probation.

On September 11, Harold E Franklin Jr., 64, pled guilty to one count of driving under the influence of intoxicants, a class A misdemeanor, committed on or about July 4. Franklin was sentenced to 14 days in jail and three years’ probation and his driver’s license was suspended for three years.

On September 11, Jacob Benjamin Gomez, 26, pled guilty to one count of criminal driving with a suspended or revoked license, a class A misdemeanor, committed on or about May 29. Gomez was sentenced to 10 days in jail.

On September 12, Kenneth Jeffry Hamilton Shepard, 35, pled no contest to one count of assault in the fourth degree constituting domestic violence, a class A misdemeanor, committed on or about August 20. Shepard was sentenced to 120 days in jail.

On September 13, Cristian Jonathan Vieyra Lobato, 25, pled no contest to one count of unauthorized use of a vehicle, a class C felony, committed on or about January 26. Vieyra Lobato was sentenced to 10 days in jail and 18 months’ probation.

On September 18, Brandon Lee Allen Reichow, 24, pled no contest to one count of unlawful possession of a firearm, a class A violation, committed on or about March 18. Reichow was ordered to pay a \$150 fine.

On September 18, Obermars Martinez Ramirez, 22, pled no contest to one count of recklessly endangering another person, a class A misdemeanor, committed on or about May 14. Martinez Ramirez was sentenced to 18 months’ probation.

On September 18, Craig Andrew Frison, 52, pled no contest to one count of criminal driving with a suspended or revoked license, a class B felony, committed on or about June 22. Frison was sentenced to two years’ probation and ordered to pay a \$200 fine and \$955 in attorney’s fees.

On September 18, Sarah Jean Horton, 38, pled guilty to one count of harassment, a class B misdemeanor, committed on or about July 27. Horton was sentenced to 18 months’ probation.

On September 18, Mason Amos, 48, pled no contest to one count of driving under the influence of intoxicants, a class A misdemeanor, committed on or about April 15. Amos was sentenced to two days in jail and two years’ probation and his driver’s license was suspended for one year.

On September 18, Jonathan Joseph Lohmiller, 36, pled no contest to one count of assault in the fourth degree constituting domestic violence, a class A misdemeanor, committed on or about July 30. Lohmiller was sentenced to 30 days in jail and ordered to pay a \$100 fine.

On September 18, Jeffrey David Peacock, 46, pled no contest to one count of driving under the influence of intoxicants, a class A misdemeanor, committed on or about January 23. Peacock was sentenced to 30 days in jail and three years’ probation and his driver’s license was suspended for one year.

On September 18, Anthony Snodderly, 27, pled guilty to one count of criminal driving with a suspended or revoked license, a class A misdemeanor, committed on or about July 13. Snodderly was sentenced to two days in jail and ordered to pay a \$100 fine and \$368 in attorney’s fees.

On September 18, Krystal Wright, 39, pled guilty to one count of driving under the influence of intoxicants and one count of recklessly endangering another person, both class A misdemeanors committed on or about May 27. Wright was sentenced to 10 days in jail and three years on probation and her driver’s license was suspended for one year.

On September 18, Taylor Aufdermauer, 35, was convicted of one count of criminal mischief in the second degree, a class A violation, committed on or about June 16. Aufdermauer was ordered to pay a \$440 fine.

On September 18, Ronald Odell Cowan, 73, pled guilty to one count of driving a motor vehicle while using a mobile electronic device, a class A violation, committed on or about June 29. Cowan was ordered to pay a \$2,000 traffic fine and \$368 in attorney’s fees.

On September 19, Charles Daniel Downie, 32, pled guilty to one count of theft in the first degree, a class C felony, and one count of possession of prohibited firearms or silencer, a class B felony, both committed on or about August 25. Downie was sentenced to 13 months in prison and two years of post-release supervision.

On September 19, Jefferie John Berger, 37, pled no contest to one count of attempting to commit the class B felony of robbery in the second degree and one count of coercion, both class C felonies committed on or about August 31. Berger was sentenced to 30 days in jail and three years’ probation.

On September 19, Morgan Joanne Grandy, 43, pled guilty to one count

of identity theft, a class C felony, and one count of theft in the second degree, a class A misdemeanor, both committed on or about February 2, 2022. Grandy was sentenced to 10 days in jail and 18 months’ probation.

On September 20, Quentin Thomas Darby, 25, pled no contest to one count of theft in the third degree, a class C misdemeanor, committed on or about June 9. Darby was sentenced to five days in jail.

On September 25, Jacob August Boquist, 31, pled no contest to one count of harassment, a class A misdemeanor, committed on or about August 27. Boquist was sentenced to 18 months’ probation and ordered to pay a \$100 fine.

On September 25, Zane Ray Crawford, 39, pled guilty to one count of assault in the fourth degree, a class A misdemeanor, committed on or about October 14, 2022. Crawford was sentenced to two days in jail and 18 months’ probation and ordered to pay a \$100 fine.

On September 25, Christian Andrew Hillman, 29, pled no contest to one count of theft in the second degree, a class A violation, committed on or about April 4. Hillman was ordered to pay a \$440 fine.

On September 25, Shelby Dee White Bear, 41, pled no contest to one count of harassment, a class B misdemeanor, committed on or about September 15. White Bear was sentenced to 18 months’ probation.

On September 25, Lance Paul Kennard, 69, was convicted on one count of theft in the first degree, a class A violation, committed on or about May 17. Kennard was ordered to pay a \$440 fine.

On September 26, Carie Morris, 37, pled no contest to one count of assault in the fourth degree constituting domestic violence, a class A misdemeanor, committed on or about August 2. Morris was sentenced to two years’ probation.



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CORRECTION

Correction to Rockaway Beach Jetty Creek working group article

WILL CHAPPELL
Citizen Editor

The print version of the story regarding the Rockaway Beach City Council’s decision to join the Jetty Creek working group in last week’s Headlight Herald inaccurately stated that consideration of the memorandum was added to the agenda late.

The item had been added to the agenda following proper procedures the week prior to the meeting, but had not come to the attention of the North Coast Communities for Watershed Protection’s membership until the Monday before the meeting.

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NEWS

Commissioners begin work on bond for radio system construction

WILL CHAPPELL
Citizen Editor

Tillamook’s Board of County Commissioners took the first step towards a November 2024 election bond question for the financing of a new radio system for the county at their meeting on September 27.

Commissioners contracted with Piper, Sandler & Co. to investigate the specifics of a bond issuance to fund the project’s estimated budget of \$27 million.

The project has already received a \$2 million commitment from the federal government, and Tillamook County Board of Commissioners Chief of Staff Rachel Hagerty said she is looking into other grants to apply towards the project.

Hagerty said that Piper, Sandler & Co. will begin looking at the parameters of a potential bond, creating packages that would complement various levels of grant funding. Payment for the company’s work will come from a fee or underwriting discount in the bond should voters approve it.

Hagerty said that she has been working on the project of updating the county’s aged radio communications system for her entire eight-year tenure. First responders rely on the system for communications in the county and the existing system has wide coverage gaps and reliability issues. Tillamook’s topographical complexity will leave gaps in the new system’s coverage, but they will be reduced and the equipment will be more dependable.

Hagerty stressed that the update was overdue and necessary, with all commissioners echoing that sentiment. “We need to make sure our sheriff’s office and first responders have access to this system,” Commissioner David Yamamoto said. Yamamoto continued that further delays in updating the system would only lead to escalations in the cost and said he hoped at least half of the funding could be secured through grants.

Commissioners also proclaimed October “Domestic Assault Awareness Month” in Tillamook County, at the request of Tides of Change, which was represented by Community Response Coordinator Beth Hope and several staff at the meeting.

Tides of Change works to support survivors of gender-based violence in Tillamook County, with advocacy and support services Almost one in four women and one in seven men in the United States are affected by domestic violence, according to data from the CDC.

Tides of Change will be marking Domestic Violence Awareness month by promoting the theme of “Shine a Light for Survivors.” Hope said that Tides of Change is encouraging residents to purchase a purple lightbulb for their porchlights to show support for combatting domestic and gender-based violence. Purple lightbulbs are available for purchase for \$5 at the organization’s office in the Masonic Building on Second Street.

Residents can also show their support by wearing purple on Thursday, October 19, and October 11 is health care workers against domestic violence day.

Commissioners also gave an update on the process to appoint a replacement for Yamamoto upon his retirement later this year. After receiving 16 applications, 15 of which met residency requirements, the commissioners had informal interviews with 14 applicants in the week prior to the board meeting.

Following those interviews, the commissioners narrowed the list to six, final candidates: Paul Fournier, Ken Henson, Jerry Keene, Paul Levesque, Doug Olson and Matt Williams. Those candidates will now be invited to participate in a candidate’s forum moderated by the American Association of University Women on October 12, from 5-8 p.m. at the PRI Building at 4506 Third Street, Tillamook.

The board of commissioners will conduct a round of public interviews with the candidates on October 16, from 5-8 p.m. at Tillamook Bay Community College. All three commissioners will publicly deliberate the selection following those interviews and Commissioners Erin Skaar and Mary Faith Bell will then need to reach a unanimous decision on whom to appoint.

The person selected will begin working in early November, allowing Yamamoto to help bring them up to speed during a transition that will last through the end of the year. The appointee will serve until the end of 2024, when by the winner of November’s election will be sworn in.

Skaar reemphasized that the selection process was set forth in Oregon statute, which does not allow for a special election for a county commissioner vacancy but said that the commissioners had chosen to make the process as public as possible.

“We’re doing that because we really believe in the transparency piece of this process,” Skaar said, continuing that they wanted the public to get to know who their new commissioner will be “right along with us.”

Bell thanked all those who had applied for the position, saying that she had initially been concerned that there might be a lack of candidates but that she had been heartened by the response.

“I just want to say thank you to the community, the 16 people who were willing to step up and be of service to Tillamook County in that way,” Bell said.

TC4 prepares for the great shakeout

WILL CHAPPELL
Citizen Editor

The Tillamook County Citizen Corps Council has been preparing for Oregon’s Great Shakeout that will take place on October 19 at 10:19 a.m.

The group held a preparatory meeting on September 28, at Bay City City Hall and discussed details for the drill and how to increase public awareness.

During the drill, participants will react as though there was an earthquake at 10:19 a.m., by dropping, covering and holding on, before proceeding to tsunami evacuation points in their local area.

The goal of the drill is to help increase awareness of the proper way to respond to an earthquake and ensuing tsunami off the Oregon coast.

When the drill begins or an earthquake occurs, residents should drop to the floor, find cover under a table or other piece of furniture and hold on until the shaking stops. They then need to proceed to their nearest tsunami evacuation assembly point, with event organizers telling participants to walk the route on the day of the drill and take note of the time elapsing.

The county will be deploying its four roadside, reader boards in support of the event, with two stationed in Tillamook and one each in Neskowin and Nedonna Beach. The Oregon Department of Transportation is also planning to put signs up along Highway 101.

The county will be announced via Tillamook County’s emergency management system, for which residents can sign up on the county’s website.

Volunteers from TC4 will be staffing the evacuation points and gathering signatures from those who arrive, to gauge the efficacy of the drill in after-action meetings.

Kotek directs Oregon State Police to crack down on fentanyl, shares few details

JULIA SHUMWAY
Oregon Capital Chronicle
Guest Article

Oregon State Police will do more to crack down on fentanyl dealers under new direction from Gov. Tina Kotek, she announced Tuesday.

Kotek shared the orders Tuesday at a second private meeting of her Portland Central City Task Force, a group that began meeting behind closed doors in August to come up with a plan to address Portland’s myriad problems, including homelessness, public drug use and a poor national reputation. She didn’t provide many details in a public news release announcing the new “strategic enforcement and disruption strategies” or in a post-meeting press conference.

“It’s about taking action, right now and not waiting,” she said. “There are criminal elements who have poisoned our city with the distribution of fentanyl.”

Kotek said the new direction isn’t about putting more uniformed beat officers on the streets – Portland Mayor Ted Wheeler last month asked the state to assign 96 Oregon State Police officers to bolster the city’s police bureau. Instead, she expects Oregon State Police detectives to lend their expertise and the state police to help the city and Multnomah County work with the U.S. Attorney’s Office to bring federal charges.

State police are already doing some of that work, she said, but she expects the agency to act with more urgency and focus more on seizing drugs and going after dealers. So far this year, Oregon State Police has seized 62 pounds of powder and 232,962 fentanyl pills, according to the governor’s office.

“We’re going to see where we can pull focus off of other jobs to focus on this, because I also believe that if we can send a message to dealers here in the Portland area, it will also benefit the rest of the state,” Kotek said.

Her directions to the agency include:

- Reallocating staff to local and regional drug enforcement teams.
- Leading interagency saturation patrols, or increased numbers of police officers in certain areas at certain times.
- Partnering with the Department of Justice to make sure law enforcement officers have training to avoid unlawful searches and biased policing.
- Continuing a program that started this summer that uses data to identify people driving under the influence of drugs or alcohol.

The task force and its community safety committee, led by Sen. Kate Lieber, D-Portland, plan to recommend that the Legislature pass bills making it illegal to use hard drugs in public. Lieber and others also want to address recent Oregon Supreme Court decisions that have made it hard to prosecute drug dealers, including the 2021 State v. Hubbell.

In that case, the court ruled that simply possessing large quantities of illegal drugs isn’t enough to prove the owner intends to sell those drugs.

The task force will present its recommendations at the December Oregon Business Plan Summit, not to the Legislature. That allows it to avoid public meeting laws and keep private meetings of both the 47-member task force and five subcommittees comprising more than 120 people.

https://oregoncapitalchronicle.com/2023/09/26/kotek-directs-oregon-state-police-to-crack-down-on-fentanyl-shares-few-details/

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Pirates still looking for first win

School.
The bad news is the winless Pirates (0-3 SD1, 0-5 overall) lost their fifth straight game 41-22 Sept. 29 to the Clatskanie High Tigers (2-1 SD1, 2-3 overall) at Neah-Kah-Nie High School

Following Friday's contest, the Pirates have three consecutive home games, including an October 13 7 p.m. Homecoming contest versus the Corbett High Cardinals (1-3 SD1, 1-4 overall).

[illegible]

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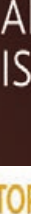
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Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps

Panel 1: A boy with brown hair and a green shirt sits on a grassy area, looking down at a smartphone.

Panel 2: A girl with black hair and a pink shirt stands next to him, gesturing and speaking. Her speech bubble says: "WHEN I SAID TO GO OUTSIDE I DID NOT MEAN TO SIT ON YOUR PHONE."

Panel 3: A pink pig with a brown mane sits on a wooden fence, looking at a smartphone. His speech bubble says: "THAT KID DOESN'T GET IT. I THINK HE'S ADDICTED TO THAT DUMB THING."

Panel 4: The same pink pig sits on the fence, looking away from the phone with a sad expression.

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H22676

OPINION

Letters of support for NCRD levy

Strong Support for the North Country Recreation District Five-Year Levy

Dear Community Members,

I am writing to express my enthusiastic support for the North Country Recreation District (NCRD) and its upcoming five-year levy,

which will be on the ballot in this November’s election. As a member of our community, I have witnessed the invaluable contributions the NCRD has made to our region, and I believe that renewing this levy is essential to ensuring the continued success and growth of our community.

The NCRD plays a pivotal role in enhancing the quality of life for residents of our region. Through its numer-

ous programs and facilities, NCRD promotes physical fitness, mental well-being, and social connections among individuals of all ages and backgrounds. Their commitment to fostering a healthy and vibrant community is unwavering, and it is evident in the positive impact they have had on generations of students.

The NCRD does incredible work when creating

and coordinating student programming. From after school activities, swimming for students at Nehalem Elementary, and hosting summer opportunities like the Missoula Children’s Theatre, the NCRD works well with community partners to provide amazing experiences for Neah-Kah-Nie students. These programs not only keep our youth engaged and active but also provide them

with opportunities to learn important life skills and values.

I strongly urge you to join me in supporting the NCRD levy renewal in this November’s election. By voting in favor of this levy, we can ensure that NCRD continues to provide the vital services and programs that make our community a better place to live, work, and play.

Thank you for your con-

sideration on this important issue. I look forward to seeing our community thrive with your support of the NCRD. Together, we can help secure a brighter future for our community through the continued success of the North Country Recreation District.

Sincerely,
Dr. Tyler Reed

Letter of support for NCRD levy

Hi, My Fellow Community Members,

I am asking you to vote “Yes” on the 5-year Optional Tax Levy for General Operations for North County Recreation District (NCRD) in November. This funding is essential to continue the ongoing programs and offerings such as: Elementary School Swim Program, Childcare, Aquatic/Therapy classes, Fitness Center/Classes, Youth Sports/Camps, Adult Activities, and the Performing Arts Center.

The core of NCRD is the Elementary School Swim

Program which is almost a century old. An estimated 12,000 children have been educated in this program and of those children there is no known drowning. This is priceless!

I believe our Community acknowledged the value of these services 5 years ago when the 5-Year Optional tax levy passed by 72.9% - a remarkable number! The Voters spoke resoundingly then, and I again ask for your passionate support this November. The tax rate is the same.

NCRD is an award-winning organization. In 2021, NCRD received the Special Districts Association of Oregon (SDAO) Outstand-

ing Program Award. The current Executive Director, Barbara McCann, received SDAO’s 2021 Outstanding Special District Service Award. These awards reflect that NCRD is a proven leader of Oregon’s 1,000 special districts. NCRD is a vital resource for North Tillamook County contributing to the wellness, quality of life, and economic vitality of the region.

PLEASE vote YES on the 5-year Optional Tax Levy for General Operations for NCRD!

Thank You!
Mary Gallagher
Board Chair
43705 Carol Dr
Nehalem, OR

More support for NCRD levy

My first use of the old grade school building was when it was just that. My daughters (now 47 and 50) took swimming lessons in the summer (we lived in 97131 postal code area, but within Seaside school district, thus no school swim program available to us).

That original formation of NCRD was inspired by the strong desire to save the pool and the school swim program. Did those folks who put the North County Recreation District (NCRD)

property tax measure on the ballot in 1996 dream that it would become a full-service recreation center with greatly-expanded offerings?

There was a swimming pool with school swim program and various summer classes, a rudimentary fitness center, and a Friday Teen Night. Today, youth, adults, seniors benefit from NCRD’s many offerings in aquatics; fitness; yoga; after-school sports; swimming; art programs; day-care center; pickleball court; Performing Arts Center with excellent lighting and audio (AND comfortable seats!).

Those original planners under-estimated both costs and growth. NCRD found itself needing more financial support to meet the community’s need for its growing services. Thus, the 5-year tax levy was put on the ballot in 2008. The approval of the community is shown by % YES votes each 5 years, growing from a whisker over 50% in 2008 to a resounding 73% in 2018.

Let’s keep NCRD funded at the same level!

Join me in voting YES for NCRD on November 7.

Lucy Brook
Nehalem resident

SALMONBERRY

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A1



segment and five feet in the wooded segments.

Neunzert said that this would allow the trail to be collocated within the Oregon Coast Scenic Railway’s right of way along the coastal segment and make use of the disused rail line running through the coastal range easier. He also said that trailheads with gravel parking areas, like the one found at Bayocean County Park in Tillamook, were good cost saving options that were proven effective for providing recreational access.

Neunzert also suggested that the foundation should start searching out non-governmental entities with whom they can partner to build the trail on the uninhabited stretches of the route and consider building segments itself.

The Salmonberry Trail Foundation has previously partnered with local governments to work on building the trail, with the intergovernmental agency coordinating those efforts. But with so much of the route lying in unincorporated Tillamook and Washington Counties and on Oregon Department of Forestry land, Neunzert said it was difficult to foresee those busy agencies having time and funding to help with the trail.

Neunzert said that the agency should increase efforts to find locals interested in building trail in the remote stretches and mentioned the possibility of partnering with the Oregon Trail Keepers.

An update was also given on work progressing on different segments of the trail. In Washington County, volunteers have cleared more than nine miles of track of foliage and debris since February.

Using a Travel Oregon

grant and matching funds from Washington County, the Salmonberry Trail Foundation contracted an inspector to examine 17 bridges along the path, finding that all were structurally sound and could support trail construction.

However, two bridges in Tillamook County, one over the lower Nehalem and one near Fall Creek Falls are currently impassable to the Oregon Coast Scenic Railroad’s trains and need repairs. There is also a seven-mile section in the mountains that was severely damaged in the 2005 storm and needs extensive repair work to tunnels, bridges and the rail bed.

In Tillamook County, Rockaway Beach is progressing with the planning stages for a section of the path that would span the length of the city. Funding is secured through the design phase courtesy of an Oregon Department of Transportation Community Paths grant.

The Tillamook Creamery Association is still interested in building a short segment of path that would later be connected to the trail north of their facility, but review of wetland requirements by the Army Corps of Engineers has bogged the project down.

A volunteer coordinator also spoke at the meeting and stressed the need for more clearance work along the entire route. They said that the work was important not only to prepare for the immediate construction of a trail, but to maintain the route’s viability for eventual trail construction. They also said that the bridge inspectors had suggested routinely clearing leaves and other debris from the bridges on the route to prevent damage.

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STIA board members hiking through Cooper Valley on a trail visit the morning of the group’s most recent meeting. PHOTO COURTESY OF THE SALMONBERRY TRAIL FOUNDATION

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H22717

PUZZLES

Super Crossword

Answers

OSHA RIFA RIF ROTHWEAVE
RAIL ROAMER OLEORESIN
BOPMAZINE HARNESSES
JOBONE ADS TED ANI
LEONS MOOTHAILING
ACIDTONGUE BRHEA DOLAN
SONS PREZMTA FEL
TNT TRADITIONALVALUES
DOTTILFBOATPTA
ACMES STILNK WONDERFUL
ERIAS SWINGBRIDGEYODA
SICILIANSDOZES PARED
ORARNESMENTYAN
PROGRESSIVELEENSES PLA
LOWMES TEARLEIS
AGNES ESPRIGOODBREEZE
FRIEADMISION FELAT
LIEUMP ORAATESTS
OLDHARITS ALLTHATJAZZ
TEENTITANERRANTBEND

H22717

PUZZLES

Super Crossword

STARTING SUBGENRES

ACROSS

1 Worker welfare gp.
5 Bark syllables
11 Perform a dynamic crowd action in a stadium
20 Hospital bed attachment
21 Nomadic type
22 Turpentine, for one
23 1983-2014 periodical for adolescents
25 Reins are parts of them
26 The first task on the to-do list
27 Help-wanted, e.g.
29 Musician Nugent
30 Musician DiFranco
31 Africa's Sierra —
33 No-problem advancement
37 What a bitingly sarcastic person has
41 Ostrich lookalike
42 Olympic swimmer Tom
43 Royal heirs, often
44 Veep's boss

45 NYC subway org.
46 Shocking fish, at times
47 Stuff causing a blowup
48 Conservative moral principles
55 Like Ikea assemblies, for short
56 Sitcom alien
57 Sloop, e.g.
58 Sch. group
59 Summits
62 Smell terrible
65 Splendid
67 Special times
68 Span rotating horizontally to allow ships through
70 Sci-fi guru
71 Natives of Palermo or Catania
73 Runs slowly
74 Peeled
75 Above, in poems
76 Meara of "Southie"
77 Photo lab blowup: Abbr.
78 Ryder vehicle
79 Alternative to bifocals
85 Naples loc.
88 Deep, as a voice

89 Month, to Manuela
90 Put a rip in
91 Luau favors
92 De Mille of choreography
95 Game-airing channel
97 Welcome wind on a hot day
99 Entry at no charge
102 Key just above D
103 Tell untruths
104 Strike caller
105 "... boy — girl?"
106 Trial blasts, for short
109 They die hard, it's said
113 Bob Fosse film title relevant to the starts of eight answers in this puzzle
117 Distributes in shares
118 Shape-fitting game
119 For — (not pro bono)
120 Young superhero of DC Comics
121 Off the mark
122 Road curve

DOWN

1 Globe
2 — Paulo
3 Coxa, more familiarly
4 Some nuts
5 Jason's ship
6 Horse hue
7 Perturb
8 Parisian bud
9 Title anew
10 One of the Corleones in "The Godfather"
11 Cry from Homer
12 City in Kansas
13 Actress Wright
14 Fit carmaker
15 Up "til
16 "Cursed" director Craven
17 Really attack
18 Capital of Austria
19 Junior naval officer
24 Assist illicitly
28 More or less
31 Keep going
32 Business coll. topic
33 Rocker Quatro
34 Lighter — air
35 Imagine
36 Laze about
38 Grand Ole —

39 Firearm rights org.
40 H.S.-level exam
45 Popular dog biscuits
46 Shirk
48 — the season ...
49 Sharp taste
50 Place to live
51 Pines
52 Willing to participate in
53 Musical exercise
54 Mixed greens
55 Lover of Lucy
59 Fable penner
60 Town shouter
61 User's shortcut
62 Relatives of geese
63 Flake parts
64 Those elected
65 Rapper — Khalifa
66 Actress Meg
68 Tendon
69 Croissant, e.g.
72 Crooner Julius
74 Dads
77 "Yeah, but still ..."
78 Noun follower, often

80 Open delight
81 Devilkins
82 School in Berkshire
83 Natal lead-in
84 Bando of baseball
85 Sense no danger
86 Oscar winner Minnelli
87 Play — (enjoy some tennis)
91 Alternative to a right hook
92 Drifting at sea
93 Car part between headlights
94 Acupuncture item
95 NFL rusher Smith
96 Savor pekoe, say
97 Certain fuel-carrying ship
98 Take a break
100 Burj Khalifa locale
101 Super-angry
106 Razor brand
107 Skinny
108 Toward dawn
110 Sweetie
111 Make a move
112 IRS ID
114 Env. insert
115 Buddhist discipline
116 Brits' alphabet ender

H22717

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H40844

'Ring of Fire' DIMS THE SKY

Don't miss the rare and otherworldly sight of
October's annular eclipse

By SARAH KELLY — For Country Media, Inc.

On Saturday, Oct. 14, 2023 grab your protective eyewear and look to the sky where you will witness an extraordinary event, weather permitting. The rare celestial phenomenon, known as an annular solar eclipse, will briefly take place above Oregon, dimming the sky. The eclipse will travel on a path through the U.S., starting at our beautiful coast and ending in Texas, before it continues to pass other parts of the world.

When and where

The first signs of the eclipse will happen at about 8:04 a.m., however, it will take more than an hour for the moon to cross over to the middle of the sun. Once there, it will briefly block a large portion of it before taking over an hour to finish moving away. The moon will be in the optimal position for viewing around 9:18 a.m., with slight time variations depending on where you are viewing from. So be sure to get out there early to watch it all happen and to ensure you don't miss any part of this awe-inspiring natural event. Once the moon is in place it will only last a few minutes.

The eclipse will take a path from the Oregon coast to the Texas

Gulf Coast, crossing Nevada, Utah, New Mexico, and parts of California, Idaho, Colorado and Arizona. After crossing North America, the eclipse will pass Mexico and Central America. It will then cross over into Colombia in South America and finish its land crossing in Northern Brazil. The annular solar eclipse will conclude at sunset over the Atlantic Ocean.

What is an annular eclipse?

An annular solar eclipse is a unique occurrence, happening when the moon is so far away on its elliptical orbit around the Earth that it appears relatively small while passing in between the Earth and the sun. The moon's orbit is not a perfect circle, therefore its distance from Earth varies. As it moves along its orbit the moon will appear slightly smaller and larger than normal.

Oct. 14 will be a new moon, which means it will appear smaller and only capable of obscuring approximately 90 percent of the sun's disk when viewed on its annular

path. The term annular refers to something that is ring-shaped. During the annular eclipse, the smaller-looking moon will cross in front of the sun. When this occurs, a ring-shaped sliver of the sun will still be visible, known as a "Ring of Fire," brightly peeking out from behind the silhouetted moon. This thin ring will only remain that way for around four minutes before it will lose its annular appearance.

People viewing the eclipse from anywhere outside of the annular path will not see a complete ring, as the moon is not covering it the same amount. As you travel farther away from the annular path, the moon will obscure the sun less and less, granting those outside of the path only a partial solar eclipse.

Oregon is first

Oregon will be the first of the states to see the annular solar eclipse, with the Oregon Dunes National Recreation Area being lucky enough to be in the perfect location to see this amazing natural phenomenon as it crosses land. A large portion of the Oregon coastline will be capable of viewing this event at its maximum, as will some other parts of the state as it travels past.

There are approximately 6.6 million people in the U.S. who are living within the path of the annular solar eclipse. Out of those millions, about 1 million of them reside in Oregon. While this time of the year does tend to be a bit cloudy in the mornings, that shouldn't stop you from going out to see the event. Should the clouds obscure the sky,

you may still be able to experience the eclipse through them.

Extra effects to watch for

The "Ring of Fire" is not the only thing to look out for. During the eclipse be sure to take a moment to look at the shadows cast on the ground, buildings and everywhere else that you can. You will notice something very unusual. The sun will be casting the moon's shadow down onto Earth and as the moon travels across the sun you will see strange crescent-shaped shadows all around, instead of the normal shapes you are used to. The strange shadows will dance across the ground as the moon moves quickly overhead, making this equally as fascinating to watch as the eclipse itself.

Philip Daly, who has worked

for more than 35 years in the professional astronomy field building instruments on major telescopes and is currently part of a research team at the University of Arizona, stated that the speed at which the moon's shadow moves "is variable as the eclipse progresses." Daly cites the Great American Eclipse website, saying that "When annularity covers most of Oregon at 9:20:06, it will be traveling at 4862 mph."

For those at the edge of the eclipse's annular path, like Siletz Bay in Lincoln City or near Floras Lake in Curry County, while watching the eclipse, try to spot something called Baily's beads. If you see what looks like a "broken ring," you've found it. Light, streaming through from the sun, passes between the gaps of mountains, valleys and uneven

surfaces on the moon, causing what looks like a broken ring. Those on the northern and southern limits of the annular path, called the "grazing zone," will be able to catch a glimpse of these "edge effects."

Proper eye protection

If you do go out to watch the eclipse, you must have proper eyewear. Sunglasses, while appearing to help decrease the sun's brightness, will not protect your eyes when looking directly at it. Looking directly at the sun without the correct protective wear could result in permanent eye damage and should never be done under any circumstances.

There is, surprisingly, a variety of protective wear available for viewing an eclipse. While glasses may be the most known, there are also handheld solar viewers. You can purchase a special solar filter for your camera lens, binoculars and telescopes. The filter secures over the optic lens on the front, allowing you to safely look through it to view the eclipse. Never look at the sun through your binoculars, telescope or camera lens while wearing eclipse glasses as they send concentrated solar rays to your eyes, causing severe eye damage. Eclipse glasses are not needed when viewing through your lens as long as you have a proper solar filter

attached.

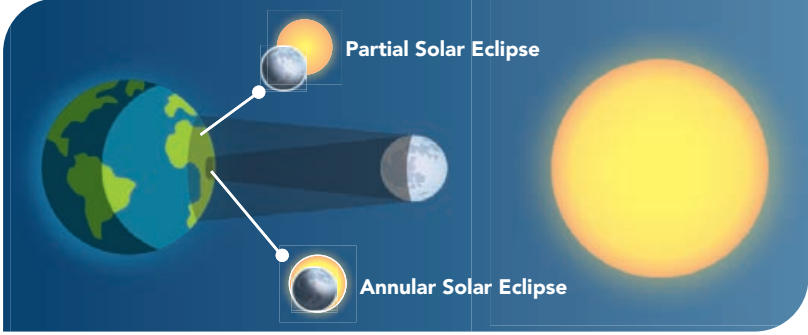
It is imperative that you ensure whatever you've picked to view the eclipse through, is safe and complies with the ISO 12312-2 international standard. Some places may print that label on their products wrongfully. Safe viewers are specially designed to be thousands of times darker than standard sunglasses and to block most of the solar UV and IR radiation. Not all products may properly comply. The best way to make sure what you have is sun-safe is to check that the supplier has made it onto the American Astronomical Society's safe filters and viewers list.

Additional means of viewing

If you are unable to get proper eye protection, you can still view the eclipse using an indirect method. You can create a pinhole projector. Punch a small hole into something sturdy like a piece of cardboard and, with your back to the sun, you can now safely look at the projected image on a nearby surface. Never look at the sun through the pinhole.

For those who may not be able to get out and experience the eclipse first-hand, NASA will be hosting a virtual viewing from their YouTube channel, where they will be showing the eclipse from locations all over the country.

Eclipse Schedule by city	Partial Eclipse Begins	Annular Eclipse Begins	MAXIMUM Eclipse	Annular Eclipse Ends	Partial Eclipse Ends
Lincoln Beach	8:05:32 am	9:17:35 am	9:18:26 am	9:19:17 am	10:38:36 am
Newport	8:05:26 am	9:16:50 am	9:18:23 am	9:19:56 am	10:38:39 am
Cottage Grove	8:05:23 am	9:16:43 am	9:18:54 am	9:21:04 am	10:39:54 am
Florence	8:05:11 am	9:15:59 am	9:18:14 am	9:20:30 am	10:38:43 am
Reedsport	8:05:06 am	9:15:56 am	9:18:12 am	9:20:28 am	10:38:47 am
Coos Bay	8:04:58 am	9:16:03 am	9:18:05 am	9:20:05 am	10:38:43 am
Bandon	8:04:52 am	9:16:25 am	9:17:55 am	9:19:25 am	10:38:32 am
Langlois	8:04:49 am	9:17:08 am	9:17:52 am	9:18:36 am	10:38:31 am



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