

Rockaway Beach Kite Festival takes flight



STAFF REPORT

The skies above Rockaway Beach were filled with whales, bears, dragons and even an astronaut from September 15 to 17, as the Rockaway Beach Chamber of Commerce’s Kite Festival returned for its 47th year.

Relaxed flying took place throughout the weekend, while festivalgoers were treated to displays of competitive and synchronized flying on Saturday.

Kite flyers included Kirk Stickley, Craig Kite, Quad Squad Northwest, Rod Thrall, Steve Tipton, Team Kitelife, the Laser Rabbits, Alaskiters Kite Club President Kirk Stickley and the Sky Sisters.

There were also a wide variety of vendors at the wayside, offering a variety of food, clothing and, of course, kites for sale.

See more event photos on A6

Kites dot the sky above Rockaway Beach during the annual kite festival. PHOTO BY MANUEL COTA

Mudd Nick Foundation fundraiser draws record crowd



Patrons enjoying dinner ahead of the live auction at the Mudd Nick Foundraiser.

The Neah-Kah-Nie High School Choir performing Wildflowers by Tom Petty.

Sherry and Joe Atteridge (left and right) receive they Jim and Lynn Mudd Award from Lynn and Bradley Mudd (center).

Rockaway Beach joins Jetty Creek working group

WILL CHAPPELL
Citizen Editor

Rockaway Beach’s City Council approved a memorandum of understanding with other members of a working group for the improvement of the Jetty Creek watershed at their meeting on September 13.

The council also approved

the purchase of a new fire engine, awarded three community grants and heard details of a new business façade improvement grant that will be coordinated by Tillamook Coast Visitors Association.

Jetty Creek is the source of Rockaway Beach’s drinking water and much of its watershed is owned and logged by various timber companies. The North Coast Land Conservancy, Sustain Northwest and Nuveen Natural Capital, which owns around 450 acres of property in the lower watershed, formed the working group to create a plan to address those concerns and invited City Manager Luke Shepard to join.

According to Jon Wicker-

sham from the North Coast Land Conservancy, the group owns and manages about 10,000 acres of land between the Columbia River and Siletz Bay and offers its expert staff to consult with cities on watershed issues. Kevin Brown from Nuveen Capital said that his company had been working to improve the health of its acreage in the watershed since they purchased it in 2017.

Some members of the public were wary of the proposed memorandum, especially after its late addition to the meeting’s agenda.

Nancy Webster, president, and several other members

WILL CHAPPELL
Citizen Editor

A record number of attendees came out for the Mudd Nick Foundation Golf and Charity event in North County on September 15 and 16 to support the Neah-Kah-Nie School District.

Teams competed on the Manzanita Links in the golf tournament on the 16th ahead of an awards dinner and live auction hosted at the North Coast Recreation District in the evening that attracted more than 200 attendees.

“You as philanthropists to this organization are enabling and fueling possibilities for these students,” said Monica Isbell, Mudd Nick Foundation Board President.

In its 28 years, the Mudd Nick Foundation has now raised more than \$2.5 million to support various programs across the district. Those programs were highlighted at

the fundraising dinner by a performance from the Neah-Kah-Nie High School Choir and speeches from students who had gone on trips sponsored by the foundation this summer.

The event kicked off on the 15th, as the golf teams, which had traveled from at least eight different states for the event, were treated to a welcome dinner. The tournament teed off at 7:30 a.m. on Saturday and competitors, their guests and other supporters gathered at the North Coast Recreation District for dinner in the evening.

Isbell welcomed the attendees to the dinner, reiterating the foundation’s mission of providing meaningful and impactful learning experiences for every student in the district. She said that the foundations work expands minds, challenges bodies and “sparks souls to dream bigger and aim higher and raise the bar for themselves.”

The foundation begins its support of students in elementary school, offering literacy support initiatives, a plethora of education-enhancing field trips and jump rope assemblies. Its support continues in middle and high school with backing for the robotics teams and music and theatre programs and events to promote cross-cultural awareness and help students explore post-secondary opportunities, including tours of area colleges and fire school, which shows high schoolers career opportunities in the forestry and natural resource industries.

“The students in Neah-Kah-Nie School District are fortunate to have the Mudd Nick Foundation creating and funding wonderful, life-changing experiences and opportunities,” Neah-Kah-Nie Superintendent Dr. Tyler Reed said. “We are so thankful for the ongoing support of



NEWS

Tillamook District Forester discusses future harvest levels: ‘It will be very steady for Tillamook’

WILL CHAPPELL
Citizen Editor

Tillamook District Forester Kate Skinner sat down with the Headlight Herald recently to discuss conditions in the Tillamook State Forest under a transitional implementation plan that took effect in July and its outlook under a new habitat conservation plan, expected sometime early next year.

The Tillamook State Forest is in a good position to maintain recent harvest levels due to a combination of historic factors and forest management decisions made by the department, according to Skinner.

“What we’re seeing right now, what we did for the modeling for our current implementation plans moving forward is in the first 30 years of the 70-year window it will be very steady for Tillamook,” Skinner said.

Development of the new habitat conservation plan (HCP) for Western Oregon State Forests has been an ongoing process since 2018 but has descended into controversy this year as projected harvest levels have fallen.

In recent years, across all state forests in western Oregon, between 225 and 250 million board feet (MMBF) of timber have been harvested. But the new transitional implementation plan that has taken effect for this fiscal year will only allow for the harvest of 165 to 182.5 MMBF. Commissioners from the counties that rely on state forest timber revenue, officials from special districts that do so as well and representatives from the timber industry have repeatedly complained to the Oregon Board of Forestry about the dire economic consequences should those harvest levels be instituted long term under the new HCP.

However, the picture is more complex than the headline numbers. Timber revenues are distributed to the counties and special districts according to which entity owns the land being harvested in specific sales, linking local revenues with local harvests.

While other counties are seeing decreased timber sales under the new implementation plan, the harvest for Tillamook County is expected

to remain steady or increase slightly. Over the past 15 years an average of 47 MMBF has been harvested, while this year 49 MMBF is being included in sales.

Factors driving the disparity in harvest impacts across state forest districts are varied and complex, according to Skinner. The history of the Tillamook Burn and reforestation, proximity to national forest land and topography are the biggest now working in the Tillamook State Forest’s favor.

The Tillamook State Forest consists of 364,000 acres of land that was donated by Tillamook County to the state after a series of four massive fires from 1933 to 1951. Following the fires, landowners defaulted on their property tax payments and allowed their land to revert to county ownership, before the counties in turn put the land in trust to be managed by the Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF).

Following the devastation, referred to as the Tillamook Burn, ODF and members of local communities came together to replant the forest. More than a billion Douglas

Fir seeds were dropped from helicopters, while more than 72 million seedlings were planted by hand. The state forest was officially dedicated by Governor Tom McCall in August 1973.

The result of those reforestation efforts was a homogenized forest that did not reflect the one that had burned, according to Skinner. Over the past 70 years, that has created problems with Swiss Needle Cast in the Douglas Firs in the forest and caused the proliferation of zombie Alders elsewhere in the forest.

The upshot of the reforestation process is that the Tillamook State Forest is just now fully recovering as trees mature, which has played a large role in its positive outlook under an HCP.

“As I always say, we inherited this forest and the past decision of roads in bad locations and all those kinds of things,” Skinner said, “so, we’ll have a much healthier forest to move forward and to grow the same level.”

Whereas other state forests have conducted sales that relied on thinning out operations extensively in the past,

Tillamook has been limited in its ability to do the same. That has left more acres of forest in Tillamook where thinning out harvesting operations will be possible in compliance with the new HCP.

Skinner said that another factor working in the Tillamook State Forest’s favor is its proximity to portions of the Siuslaw National Forest in south Tillamook County. Skinner said that the conservation efforts that have been taking place on the national lands for decades will allow species protection areas in south Tillamook County to be smaller than they otherwise might be.

Finally, the topography of the forest has historically limited harvest activities, leading to prior, coincidental compliance with forthcoming riparian zone protections in much of the Tillamook State Forest.

Combined, these factors and the large scale of the Tillamook State Forest should allow for a relatively stable operational environment in terms of harvest under a new HCP, according to Skinner. Skinner estimated that around

half of the forest’s acreage is currently restricted from harvest operations and she expects a similar percentage to be placed into habitat conservation areas under the new plan.

For Tillamook State Forest, the biggest changes will be a shift away from an emphasis on surveying sales for endangered species and towards monitoring and reporting on designated habitat conservation areas. This will allow for more confidence in sales and forest road management for the foresters overseeing the district.

“It will give us more certainty that when we put together a timber sale that we’re able to follow through on it,” Skinner said.

Skinner also told the Herald that 2023 has been a slow year for logging activity in state forestlands in Tillamook County, with only a couple sales being cut. Skinner said that operators have focused on private lands ahead of the new Forest Practices Act going into effect in January and that she expects a busier cutting season next year.

Board of Forestry leaves HCP decision for future meeting

WILL CHAPPELL
Citizen Editor

Oregon Board of Forestry Chair Jim Kelly elected to set aside a resolution that he had added

to the board’s meeting on September 7. The resolution would have instructed staff to increase harvest levels under

a new Habitat Conservation Plan for a final draft while simultaneously approving those revisions and the plan for submission to the federal government.

Other board members expressed concern at the late addition of the proposed resolution to the meeting’s agenda and thanked Kelly for not pursuing it. They said that they supported increasing harvest levels while completing the plan development process in public meetings.

“I am committed to us being successful in getting this but I’m not committed to an HCP that isn’t appropriately well balanced, and that’s going to have to be a judgment for each of us,” Kelly said.

The resolution that Kelly considered bringing forward was authored by Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF) staff in August and added to the agenda late in the month. Kelly explained that the resolution had been written to address concerns from forest trust land counties and the public over significantly reduced timber harvest levels expected under a habitat conservation plan (HCP) that has been under development since 2018.

Kelly’s resolution would have instructed ODF staff to modify the HCP to maximize timber harvest levels as much as possible while complying with the Endangered Species Act and other applicable federal laws and guidelines. The resolution also would have given approval to the resulting document with “no need for staff to return to the Board for further direction.”

This resolution drew negative feedback from public commenters at the meeting, and particularly from Tillamook County Commis-

sioner David Yamamoto, who serves as the chair of the Forest Trust Lands Advisory Council (FTLAC). Appearing in that capacity before the board on September 6, Yamamoto complained that the proposed resolution had not been brought to the FTLAC’s attention by ODF staff either at their last meeting in August or when it was added to the board’s agenda.

Yamamoto said that after learning about the proposed resolution from a third party, he had inquired with ODF staff about the resolution and been informed that the directed changes would only add around 5 to 10 million board feet (MMBF) of annual harvest. When added to the 180 MMBF being harvested this year under a transitional implementation plan, Yamamoto said this would still be insufficient to economically support the counties and special districts that rely on the revenue. In recent years, state forest timber sales have totaled between 225 and 250 MMBF.

Yamamoto expressed concern at the process used to add the resolution and the abdication of final review it suggested. He encouraged the board to further prioritize harvest maximization and said that they should review any future documents in public, allowing for feedback.

When the proposed resolution came up on the agenda on September 7, Kelly tabled its consideration in favor of a board discussion of the HCP process, responding to the public feedback.

The board’s other members said that they were happy that Kelly tabled the resolution, saying that it had been a surprise to them and they felt that the process needed to remain in the public eye.

They said that they supported continuing the path towards an HCP. They said that they too were interested in maximizing harvest as allowed and understanding the reduction in forecast harvest levels that has occurred through the HCP process. Initial estimates for harvest levels associated with the HCP estimated that between 225 and 250 MMBF would be harvested annually and the downward trajectory of estimates was concerning to members.

Board Member Ben Deumling said that while he wanted to see the harvest levels increased, it was not his role as a board member to demand specific harvest levels from the staff and that the board needed to trust ODF’s experts.

Board Member Karla Chambers said that it was important to her that the process achieve a balance between economic and conservation goals, a sentiment echoed by other board members. “I want to find balance and perspective because I think that’s where we’ll find a good decision,” Chambers said.

ODF State Forests Division Chief Mike Wilson explained that the downward revisions to harvest projections had come as more specific data was used to develop the HCP and model harvests. He also stressed that the current transitional implementation plan, whose harvest levels have caused the concern, was regulated by both old take-avoidance approaches employed by the department and the strictures of the new HCP, potentially making harvests lower than they will be long term.

Wilson said that ODF staff will bring four scenarios to the board reflecting updated modeling for consideration at their December meeting. Wilson also said that he would more fully explain the reasons for any divergence in the projected harvest levels from earlier projections at that meeting.

Kelly cautioned that any additional modifications to the plan requested by the board would further delay the HCP’s development. He noted that similar delays had led to the failure of board attempts to develop an HCP on two prior occasions.

Board Member Chandra Ferrari also reminded the board and public that final approval for the HCP will come from federal agencies. Those agencies will determine if the HCP comports with the Endangered Species Act and other federal conservation legislation without consideration for harvest levels. Ferrari also asked Wilson to consider the financial impacts that harvest decreases would have on ODF’s budget, which receives over a third of those revenues.





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NEWS

CFTLC meets with governor’s reps to discuss HCP

WILL CHAPPELL
Citizen Editor

The Council of Forest Trust Land Counties met twice last week with representatives appointed by Governor Tina Kotek to address the potential economic impacts of a new habitat conservation plan on trust counties’ revenues.

The meetings were focused on bringing the governor’s representatives up to speed, and now they will work with the counties to come up with a plan to present to the legislature to alleviate the concerns.

“The economic impacts of that need to be brought into focus and we need to figure out how to address that,” Geoff Huntington said at the second meeting on September 13, referring to the impacts of the habitat conservation plan (HCP).

Huntington is Kotek’s senior natural resources advisor, and one of the three

people the governor appointed to work with the trust counties. The other two are Department of Land Conservation and Development Senior Policy Adviser Palmer Mason and ex-Coos County Commissioner Melissa Cribbins.

Kotek appointed the three after the development of the HCP became fraught in the first half of this year as new harvest projections showed substantial cuts, threatening the trust counties’ revenues from those sales. Huntington said that Kotek had been planning to wait until the conclusion of the process to address those issues, but when the plan was delayed and became enmeshed in controversy, she moved that timeline forward.

Huntington said that the top priority was understanding the difference in revenues that would be caused by the implementation of a new HCP before devising a legislative plan to account for any

lost revenues.

Commissioners from the 15 counties that make up the council shared their concerns about the new plan’s economic impacts on their counties as well as other issues with the process and proposed plan.

Tillamook County Commissioner Erin Skaar said that the fundamental issue was that if the HCP causes major cuts in timber revenue, the counties would be seriously challenged to replace that economic activity. Skaar noted that any new jobs created in the counties would not generate local revenues and the geographic constraints of the counties meant that significant expansions of the property tax base through new construction following development were not possible.

“We don’t want to be standing with our hands out to the state because we recognize there are limits to what the state can do,” Skaar

said.

Skaar suggested that the counties might look at creating investment funds with future timber revenues so that returns on investments might eventually replace timber revenues.

Other commissioners noted that growth in the counties’ recreation industries ended up costing the counties more money than it brought in as visitors required services but did not generate tax dollars for local governments.

Multiple commissioners made it clear that the idea of decoupling the state forests, which Huntington mentioned, was a nonstarter for them. That process, which occurred in the Elliot State Forest in southern Oregon would see the state purchase forestland from the counties with a one-time, lump-sum payment. Commissioners said that decoupling would not address the impacts on local jobs and other related

industries, which form a backbone of their counties’ economies.

Clatsop County Commissioner Courtney Bangs spoke multiple times, taking issue with the claimed benefits of the HCP and the process used to develop it. Bangs said that initial estimates of steady harvest levels provided early in the process had been “false scenarios” used to justify continuing the process and brought up questions about the plan’s impact on wildfire risk.

Bangs also expressed her doubt that the new plan would limit the number of lawsuits filed by conservation groups, a sentiment shared by several other commissioners.

Clatsop County Commissioner Lianne Thompson exhorted Huntington to encourage the governor to use this discussion as a chance to take on property tax reform writ large to help counties across the state increase and

stabilize their revenues.

Huntington concluded the meeting by telling the commissioners that he was targeting the 2025 session for the advance of a proposed legislative solution.

However, he said that he wanted to continue working hard for the next two months to develop ideas, mentioning that there was other legislation under development about state lands that might dovetail with their goals.

Huntington also said that the governor has directed the department of forestry to move sales forward in counties facing the greatest economic impact to lessen its brunt in the short term as a plan is developed.

Tillamook County Commissioner David Yamamoto, who chairs the council, asked the other members for permission to meet with the governor’s representatives as an executive committee, to which they assented.

Tillamook sheriff’s deputy and state policeman involved in shooting death in Rockaway Beach

WILL CHAPPELL
Citizen Editor

During the evening of September 7, a Tillamook sheriff’s deputy and state police trooper responded to a call about a man throwing bricks at a house in Rockaway Beach and fired their weapons at the man, killing him.

Details of the shooting are scarce, with names of

the involved officers and victim being withheld while the Clatsop County Major Crimes Team investigates the incident in conjunction with Tillamook County District Attorney Aubrey Olson.

The incident began shortly before 6 p.m. on the 7th, when the sheriff’s deputy responded to a call about a man throwing bricks through the windows of a house in Rockaway Beach.

According to a September 14 press release from Olson’s office, the suspect began throwing rocks and other objects at the deputy and armed himself with a pipe. The deputy called for backup and a state police trooper arrived within minutes.

The situation continued to deteriorate after the trooper’s arrival and both officers discharged their weapons, according to the release.

The officers tried to save the man’s life, but he expired shortly after.

Both officers were injured during the encounter, requiring medical treatment but not hospitalization, and have been placed on administrative leave per their agency’s protocols.

The sheriff’s department set up a command station at Rockaway Beach’s city hall and requested the help of

the Clatsop County Major Crimes Team to investigate the incident.

A coroner conducted an autopsy on the victim on September 9, confirming that the cause of death was a single gunshot wound.

The Clatsop County investigators are now reviewing the evidence in the case, including bodycam footage from the officers and surveillance footage. Following the

conclusion of that investigation, Olson will decide whether to present the matter to a grand jury.

Olson declined to comment further until she makes that determination. The Oregon State Police and Tillamook and Clatsop Counties Sheriffs’ Offices referred requests for comment to her.

Manzanita Council appoints new councilor, loses another member

WILL CHAPPELL
Citizen Editor

Manzanita’s City Council appointed Kathryn Stock to fill the council seat left vacant by Jenna Edginton’s July resignation on September 7, before Councilor Brad Mayerle announced his resignation

from the council at the end of the meeting.

Mayerle’s resignation took effect on September 7, and was precipitated by his decision to list his Manzanita home for sale and move out of the city.

The council interviewed five applicants for the open council position early in the

meeting, asking each of the interested parties five questions, then voted 3-1 on a secret ballot to appoint Stock to fill the seat through the end of 2024.

Stock has lived in Manzanita full time for six years and served on the city’s budget committee since 2020. In her application to the council,

Stock said that she was interested in helping Manzanita to navigate the growth that is currently taking place in the city. Stock said that she would endeavor to listen and learn when examining issues, using her best judgment to make decisions.

The council also voted to approve an increase in

stormwater system development charges, which had been set at \$174 since their establishment in 1991. After an in-depth study into the charge, the council unanimously voted to increase the charge to \$1,669.

The council named September Emergency Preparedness Month in Manzanita

and gave the city’s official recognition to the freedom flag of the Vietnamese community in America.

Finally, the council approved an event permit for the Manzanita Farmer’s Market to hold an end-of-season, thank-you event for vendors and staff on October 13, at Underhill Plaza.

JETTY CREEK CONTINUED FROM PAGE A1

from the group North Coast Communities for Watershed Protection (NCCWP) rose to voice their concerns before the council voted on the memorandum.

Webster said that she had been involved in a similar group before Covid but had left it after finding that timber industry representatives were unresponsive to citizens’ concerns. Webster said that she believed the new memorandum would have the same outcome and urged the council not to approve it.

Webster and the other NCCWP members advocated for citizen involvement in addressing the watershed issues. The group promotes a stop to clear cutting and pesticide spraying in north coast watersheds and collected over 1,600 signatures in support of those goals on a petition this summer.

Councilor Mary McGinnis, who has long been involved with the NCCWP, sought to allay the concerns expressed by the group’s members. McGinnis said that the working group was the first opportunity the city had been presented to take a seat at the table about issues in the Jetty Creek watershed. Further, she noted that the memorandum was nonbinding and the city would be able to leave the group at any point.

Councilors Kristine Hayes

and Alesia Franken both said that the public commenters’ concerns gave them pause about the memorandum, but voted in favor as it was approved unanimously.

Nan Devlin from the Tillamook Coast Visitors Association discussed the details of the business façade improvement grant that the city is introducing this year with the organization’s help.

Up to \$20,000 will be available to businesses in Rockaway Beach to help upgrade their exteriors, according to Devlin. Funds can be used to renew, replace or upgrade the exterior features of businesses, including windows, awnings, lights and walls, or to increase the accessibility of businesses for those with disabilities.

Devlin said she is finishing work on the application and it will be available before the end of the year. Businesses renting space will be able to apply for the grant with sign off from their landlords.

The council approved the first round of three community grant awards for the 2023 cycle, with Meals for Seniors receiving \$10,000, Friends of the Rockaway Beach Library receiving \$8,200 and the Rockaway Beach Volunteers receiving \$2,000. The program is funded by the city’s transient lodging tax and had a total of \$60,000 appropriated

for it this year. Three other applicants were asked to provide additional information.

The new ladder truck will cost the city a little over \$1 million and is scheduled to be delivered in December of 2024. The funds for the purchase will come from the

city’s fire equipment reserve fund, with a \$350,000 down payment and loan for the rest of the amount, with the sale of old equipment also expected to pay off a portion of the loan.

The council also gave final approval to a lease agreement

for the Lake Lytle boat launch from the county and a one-year lease for the Neah-Kah-Nie School District’s tennis courts. The city has plans to upgrade facilities at the boat launch, rehabbing the launch and adding an ADA accessible kayak put-in.

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SPORTS

Pirates almost get first win

By **MIKE WEBER**
For The North Coast Citizen

The Neah-Kah-Nie High Pirates came ever so close to getting a win in the opening matchup of their seven-game OSAA Class 2A football Special District 1 schedule.

The Pirates (0-1 SD1, 0-3 overall), guided by first-year Coach Alejandro Quintana-Rios, played well against the Vernonia/Jewell High Loggers (1-0 SD1, 1-2 overall), but they just fell a little short in a 19-14 loss Sept. 15 at Vernonia High School.

“It was a tough loss, because we definitely had our

chances to win, but we just made too many mistakes,” said Quintana-Rios. “Our defense wasn’t too bad. We only allowed them (Loggers) a passing touchdown and one rushing touchdown. I kind of expect that we’ll give up some points on defense, which is going to happen. It’s just problems on offense as we’ll get something going and then we’ll have mistakes, such as bad snaps. The boys battled hard though and they helped provide us with a chance to possibly win at the end.”

The Pirates had an impressive first offensive series as they moved down field deep into the Loggers territory to the red zone

and had a chance to get the first score of the game. The Pirates fumbled a snap though and the miscue was recovered by the Loggers, who returned it for a touchdown and led 6-0 early in the game.

A key Pirates defensive play occurred in the second half when sophomore Nanthaniel Tinnes intercepted a Logger pass, giving Neah-Kah-Nie possession with good field position and they scored on the drive to narrow the margin to 19-14.

With the score still 19-14, freshman Daniel Sargent intercepted a Loggers pass to give the Pirates possession near midfield, putting them

in position for a potential game-winning scoring drive. Unfortunately, the Loggers gained possession after a first down Pirates fumble that was recovered by Vernonia with just a few minutes remaining in the contest. It proved to be a costly Pirate turnover since it was their final possession of the game.

Pirates senior quarterback Michael Prior had a solid offensive performance as he completed 10-of-20 attempts for 72 yards passing and one touchdown. Prior also led the Pirates ground game as he had 13 carries for 97 yards rushing and a touchdown. Senior Anthony Allen had a total of 78 yards combined receiving (one catch) and

rushing yards (five carries, 38 yards). Senior John Burch had three catches for 32 yards receiving.

The Pirates will play their next game Friday at 7 p.m. versus the Gaston High Greyhounds (1-0 SD1, 1-2 overall) at Gaston High School. They’ll be shorthanded though as Allen suffered an injury versus the Loggers and he’ll be unable to play. Sophomore Dillion Bennett will replace Allen as the Pirates starting running back. The Greyhounds won their league opener at home September 15 54-20 over the Clatskanie High Tigers (0-1 SD1, 0-3 overall).

“We’ll be without Anthony, but I feel like going

forward we’ll have a chance to win every game,” said Quintana-Rios. “On defense, we just have to make sure that we shut down their quarterback runs and their outside runs. We played them (Greyhounds) in jamboree August 25 and our kids did a pretty good job against them. Our defense held them out of the end zone. I hope that since we saw them earlier, it will help provide our team with some confidence. I feel like we can play well against any team in our league. We’ve just had too many slow starting games and we’ve had too many mistakes. Hopefully, since it’s our fourth game, we’ll work some things out now.”

OPINION



ROCKAWAY BEACH
SCOTT FISHER
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At last week’s City Council meeting, the most-discussed issue involved a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) regarding the future of the Jetty Creek watershed.

Jetty Creek has been a major source of drinking water for Rockaway Beach, from Nedonna Beach south

to Twin Rocks. Over the past 20 years, due to timber harvesting and pesticide spraying, more than 95% of Jetty Creek’s upstream forest canopy has been lost, causing problems with the quantity and quality of water.

Last July, the city issued a water-conservation request citing low water levels due to lack of rainfall. While reduced rainfall is an issue, an additional concern is the elimination of the forest canopy. The loss of forest canopy typically leads to erosion of the upstream watershed, filling the downstream waterways with silt and other materials.

John Wickersham, Associate Director, North Coast Land Conservancy

(NCLC), joined the meeting remotely. NCLC works with land owners to protect important resources on the Coast, and owns or manages about 10,000 acres from the Columbia south to Nes-kowin. They have worked with Cannon Beach to help protect the Ecola Beach forest preserve, as well as with Arch Cape. “We bring experienced staff, who have experience in land transaction and doing due diligence...from an acquisitions standpoint.” He added they have experience in grant writing and in land management.

“Really,” he said, “it’s about protecting Jetty Creek and providing clean, abundant drinking water to the community.”

John was responsible for bringing the city into the working group, a key point of the MOU that City Council passed last week. Resolution 23-1005, which passed unanimously, adds

City Manager Luke Shepard to the Jetty Creek Watershed Working Group.

Citizen comment raised multiple questions about the nature and direction of that group. Nancy Webster of the North Coast Communities for Watershed Protection spoke first. Her organization represents 1400 subscribers, “who are concerned about safeguarding and restoring our drinking water sources, from here to Astoria.”

Of concern to Nancy and others was the short notice about the MOU. “Only on Monday evening did I learn that this MOU was being presented, and I feel that with short notice, there was lack of public input and lack of transparency.”

In conversations after the meeting, we learned that city council members had access to the MOU for several weeks.

Nancy went on to say, “We need to have citizen involvement. We want the

city to take the lead, not just be accepting of what the industry spokespeople are presenting. We need an independent assessment of where this watershed is, based on science.”

Sandi Johnson spoke next. “Earlier this year, the city asked if I would be interested in helping apply for a grant for water source protection, so that the city could do a water source protection plan.” This led her to John Wickersham of NCLC. “John told me about the Jetty Creek Working Group and invited me to be a part of it.”

At the group’s first meeting post-COVID, Sandi found herself asking, “Why is Rockaway Beach not here? They have a real, important interest in Jetty Creek.” This led her to city manager Shepard, “who had...input into what is in the Memorandum of Understanding.” Sandi stressed that “the Memorandum of

Understanding is nothing more than a handshake... It’s non-binding. If the city is not happy with the way it goes, we can walk away from the table. I agree with Nancy that we should have public input, but it’s important that the city get to the table.”

At the close of the meeting, Mayor Charles McNeilly spoke on ways residents can contribute:

“How to get involved? Watch the workshops,” which begin at 4:30 p.m. before City Council meetings, the second Wednesday of the month. “Workshops are the discussions that lead to decisions.”

He mentioned two other opportunities: first, the city planning commission meetings, the third Thursday of each month at 4:30 PM. And second, he invited residents to coffee with the mayor and city manager, 9 a.m. – 10 a.m. on the fourth Thursday of the month.

North Coast CITIZEN

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LETTER POLICY

The Citizen welcomes letters that express readers’ opinions on current topics. Letters may be submitted by email only, no longer than 300 words, and must be signed and include the writer’s full name, address (including city) and telephone number for verification of the writer’s identity. We will print the writer’s name and town of residence only. Letters without the requisite identifying information will not be published. Letters are published in the order received and may be edited for length, grammar, spelling, punctuation or clarity. We do not publish group emails, open letters, form letters, third-party letters, letters attacking private individuals or businesses, or letters containing advertising.

Deadline for letters is noon Thursdays.

The date of publication will depend on space.

Obituaries

The North Coast Citizen has several options for submitting obituaries.

- **Basic Obituary:** Includes the person’s name, age, town of residency, and information about any funeral services. No cost.
- **Custom Obituary:** You choose the length and wording of the announcement. The cost is \$75 for the first 200 words, \$50 for each additional 200 words. Includes a small photo at no additional cost.
- **Premium Obituary:** Often used by families who wish to include multiple photos with a longer announcement, or who wish to run a thank-you. Cost varies based on the length of the announcement.

All obituary announcements are placed on the North Coast Citizen website at no cost.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Wheeler water issues

Is this what the government is supposed to be?

Why are there so many secret meetings going on at Wheeler City Hall?

I just received my new City of Wheeler water bill for July and August for \$290 for 3 retired adults. We don’t water the lawn and because we are mostly stay-at-home therefore, we don’t need to shower but 2 times a week. A few months ago, the

citizens of Wheeler received a 3-page diatribe on how the water was going to increase, without even stating the amount. Our previous water bill was \$156. And now the city has added a Water Debt Service Charge of \$25 without notification of any kind.

After I have made 3 proposals to the city government officials, Cliff Kemp, Mayor; Karen Matthews, Council President; Walt Porter, Councilor; Deanne Ragnell, Councilor; Gordon Taylor, Councilor. I question why, If

we are sharing the well under a signed 2005 Inter-Governmental Agreement, then why is Manzanita using 110 million gallons a year not sharing the more than \$900,000 dollars it is collecting above and beyond the 200 million gallons Wheeler is using. All I have heard from the council is ‘we must be nice to those people’. I didn’t vote for ‘those people’, I voted for the City of Wheeler Council. That amounts to \$450,000 that Wheeler should be receiving for its part of the shared water which amounts to more than \$1400 A DAY that Wheeler should be receiving for its share of the water.

To highlight the sharing of Inter-Governmental Agreement, when Manzanita had fuzz or air in their water 3 years ago, an Aeration Tank was installed at the well site to get rid of the fuzz, although Wheeler had no fuzz in its water, it was required under the IGA to pay for half of the tank.

I have never received a straight answer to my con-

cerns at 3 different meetings; once with mayor Doug Hon-eycutt, on May 16th, who resigned a couple of months ago; then at the City Council Meeting on July 18th, and again with the council meeting this past August 15th.

Why is Wheeler neglecting its obligations to receive its share of the water while adding more charges on the backs of its citizens? Are they planning to give away Wheeler’s well because Nehalem is out of water? Wasn’t Nehalem not asked if they wanted to join in to finance the original well? Didn’t Manzanita plan to originally use Anderson Creek for their primary water source and that is why Manzanita built the water treatment plant at the corner of Laneda and Hwy. 101? Why so many secrets at Wheeler City Hall?

Next City of Wheeler public meeting is September 15, 2023, at 1:30 p.m. Nothing planned for Oct or Nov. on the calendar. Are we no longer going to be a city?

Garry Gitzen
Wheeler



church services by the sea
Cannon Beach to Nehalem

Nehalem
Nehalem Bay
United Methodist Church
36050 10th Street, Nehalem, OR
(503) 368-5612
Pastor Celeste Deveney +
Sunday service 11 a.m.
Food Pantry
Open Friday, Saturday & Monday
10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Wednesday

March - October 2 p.m. to 6 p.m.
November - February noon to 4 p.m.
Nehalem Senior Lunches
Tuesday & Thursday served at noon
email: nbumcns12020@gmail.com

To feature your spiritual organization on this panel:
Contact Katherine at
(503) 842-7535,
headlightads@countrymedia.net.

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Reservation deadline: November 13, 5 p.m.
Publish Date: November 21
• Tillamook Headlight Herald
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CLASSIFIEDS

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Log Yard Operator
Northwest Hardwoods, Inc.

Northwest Hardwoods Overview:

Northwest Hardwoods is the leading manufacturer of hardwood lumber in North America, as well as a leading supplier of panel products from around the world. A fully integrated, global supplier of wood products, NWH serves the furniture, flooring, cabinet, molding, and millwork industries.

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Key Responsibilities and Duties:

- Assist in the receipt, purchase, storage, transfer and sale of logs
- Safely and efficiently operate a rubber tired front end loader with forks and log clamp
- Properly handle, move, and store logs in inventory and in prepared loads
- Follow established procedures to document and track the receipt, movement, and transfer of logs
- Take part in the receiving, purchasing, storing, loading, and shipping processes

Basic Qualifications:

- Proper use, care, and maintenance of heavy equipment
- Ability to operate heavy equipment for at least 8 hours daily
- Ability to occasionally lift and move 50 pounds or more
- Ability to competently and safely operate a chainsaw
- Knowledge and experience in identifying and recognizing tree species of the Eastern US
- Ability to work outdoors year-round in all weather conditions
- Ability and desire to wear personal protective equipment at all times and follow established safety procedures
- Cognitive ability to interpret and follow establish administrative procedures

Additional Information:

Northwest Hardwoods provides competitive wages, comprehensive benefits package with medical, dental, and vision health care coverage, paid vacation/holidays, and company matching 401(k) retirement plan.

Candidates who meet these qualifications will be considered further.

Northwest Hardwoods, Inc is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action employer. All qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, gender, age, sexual orientation, national origin, disability, or protected veteran status.

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202 S. 7th Street
Garibaldi, OR 97118

H22548



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If you are interested in this position, please apply online at <http://tfcc.bamboohr.com/jobs>. Be sure to submit an online application and upload your resume. Any questions, please visit us online at <http://tfcc.org>.

H22117



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H22313



MAYBE I SHOULD GET SOME
ASSEMBLY DIRECTIONS BEFORE I
CONSIDER GETTING INTO BED.



H22657

PUZZLES

Super Crossword

NATIONAL DATA

ACROSS

1 Bumper-car carnival ride
7 TV title alien
10 Garden pond fish
13 Cause to blunder
19 Cook too long
20 Ned of NASCAR
22 Ned of "The D.A."
23 Appear gradually, as a scene
24 "No, seriously!"
25 Surrounded by
26 Mountain laurel
29 Clumsy type
30 Stocking stuffer
31 It's charged
32 Alternative to ChapStick
37 "Old Folks at Home"
44 Vital artery
45 Spellbound
47 1989-2007 senator Trent
48 Stein fillers
49 Blue spruce
53 Propose a date to
55 Author Ferber
56 Pro — (in proportion)
57 "— a customer"
59 Joe of "GoodFellas"
60 Clinton aide Myers
62 Susan of "Goldengirl"
64 Eurasian animal with antlers
66 "North to the Future"
70 Used up
74 118-Across was one
75 Printing goofs
80 Humdinger
81 Reformer Ralph
84 "OK" from Tom Sawyer to Aunt Polly
86 Workplace welfare org.
87 Fuddy-duddies
89 Topaz
92 Relative of a lutz
93 Bullfight yells
95 Israeli airline
96 Right wrongs
97 Cactus wren
101 Went in
103 To the — power
104 Savings acct. accrual
105 Hail, basically

DOWN

1 Tip politely, as one's hat
2 Human face's shape
3 Whoop- — (extravagant fanfare)
4 Expanded
5 Sedgwick of Warhol films
6 Marilyn of "Niagara"
7 In — (pronto)
8 Desktop illuminator
9 No longer being detained
10 Sax celebrity
11 Soulful Redding
12 Really tiny
13 "Saturday Night Fever" star
14 Hard Italian cheese
15 "Sure, put me down"
16 Toenail treatment, informally
17 Astral bear
18 Coffee holder
21 Rambled
27 Mexican city due south of Dallas
28 Elevate
32 Waiting with — breath
33 2013 Grammy winner for "Royals"
34 Dunne of classic films
35 Lieu
36 Chinese ideal
37 California county whose seat is Fairfield
38 Sign word after "Ye"
39 Stocking stuffer
40 Worked on a leaf collection?
41 "You beat me"
42 Tennis tie
43 Up and about
46 Gained access to
50 Refrigeration fluid
51 Workers with shingles, maybe
52 Kofi, once of the U.N.
54 Caveman's weapon
58 Scrub nurses' sites, in brief
61 Be hammy
63 Tribal pole emblem
65 — Mountain (Vermont ski resort)
67 Two fives
68 — Mary-mount
69 Stadium's kin
70 Britcom of the '90s
71 Pope before Paul V
72 Coors offering
73 Trade group
76 GPS calculation
77 1941 Oscar winner Mary
78 Scottish title
79 Emitted a contented sigh
82 Ending for golden or New
83 Arnaz of TV
85 Decide on
88 Toned down
90 Outside clearance event, of a sort
91 Quite chubby
94 Bert with lion lines
98 Not delayed
99 Diamond substitute
100 Baseball pioneer Buck
102 Came closer
105 One way to fry food
106 Chunky slice
107 Garr of films
108 Spellbound
109 Flair
110 Cocooned insect
111 Son of Seth
112 Head, in Haiti
113 Classroom Apple, often
114 Glen
115 Bard's Ireland
116 Revue sketch
117 Pill-OK'ing agcy.

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NEWS

More Rockaway Beach Kite Festival Photos



Crowds gathered on the beach and wayside to watch synchronized and competitive performances on Saturday.

PHOTO BY WILL CHAPPELL



During the synchronized performances kites choreographed their kites' movements with musical selections.

PHOTO BY WILL CHAPPELL

MUDD NICKCONTINUED FROM PAGE A1

the Mudd Nick Foundation and the community partners who so graciously give their resources and time to help our students succeed.”

Some of the most memorable experiences come in a summer trip for middle schoolers to Washington D.C. and a foreign exchange program in Costa Rica for high schoolers.

The two seniors who participated in the Costa Rican exchange program this summer spoke at the dinner and shared how their lives had been enriched by the eight-week experience. One said that the trip had given her the opportunity to conquer her fear of volcanoes and ease her fear of ants, the other said she had enjoyed the

challenge of learning French in Spanish and both said they had formed lasting friendships with their host families and other Costa Ricans.

Two of the twenty students who had gone on the Washington D.C. trip this summer also spoke at the dinner. They said that despite a stomach bug striking some of the students midway through

the trip, it had been a great experience to see the monuments and other historical sites.

All the students effusively thanked the foundation for its support for the trips and all the other programs they had experienced in their educational careers, a sentiment echoed by the volunteer, student waiters staffing

the event to express their gratitude, as well as multiple teachers who spoke.

Foundation Cofounder Lynn Mudd and her son and board vice president, Bradley Mudd, presented the 2023 Jim and Lynn Mudd award to Sherry and Joe Atteridge in recognition of their support for the PX2 One Session program, which helps middle

school students establish a positive mindset.

Awards for the golf tournament were also handed out at the dinner and the evening concluded with a live auction and included a silent auction of students’ artwork throughout the evening.

Tillamook County criminal convictions

STAFF REPORT

On June 26, Zackariah Adam Almond, 41, pled guilty to one count of driving under the influence of intoxicants, a class A misdemeanor, committed on or about February 19. Almond was sentenced to two days in jail and two years on probation, additionally Almond’s driver’s license was suspended for one year and he was ordered to pay \$2,255 in fees and fines.

On July 18, Kyle William Curtis, 34, pled no contest to one count of assault in the fourth degree constituting domestic violence and one count of assault in the

fourth degree, both class A misdemeanors committed on or about May 4. Curtis was sentenced to 180 days in jail and 15 years on probation.

On July 18, Tyran Curtis Meirow, 42, pled guilty to one count of menacing and one count of resisting arrest, both class A misdemeanors committed on or about September 25, 2022. Meirow was sentenced to ten days in jail and 18 months’ probation.

On August 2, Samuel Ernest Norton, 35, was convicted by a jury on one count of menacing constituting domestic violence, a class A misdemeanor, committed on or about December 9, 2021. On August 21, Norton was sentenced to two weeks in jail and 18 months’ probation and ordered to pay a \$100 fine.

On August 4, 2023, Ryan Thomas Alm, 36, pled guilty to one count of disorderly conduct in the second degree, a class B misdemeanor, and one count of criminal

trespass in the second degree, a class C misdemeanor, both committed on or about May 20. Alm was sentenced to 18 months’ probation. Alm also pled guilty to one count of failure to appear in the second degree, a class A misdemeanor, committed on or about July 10, for which he was sentenced to time served in jail.

On August 4, Bradley Burton Harris, 31, pled guilty to one count of criminally negligent homicide, a class B felony, one count of failure to perform the duties of a driver to seriously injured persons, a class B felony, one count of assault in the third degree, a class C felony, and one count of driving under the influence of intoxicants, a class A misdemeanor, all committed on or about October 31, 2023. Harris was sentenced to two years in prison followed by five years on probation. Harris’s driver’s license was suspended for life.

On August 14, Hazel Marie Werner, 21, pled no con-

test to one count of harassment, a class B misdemeanor, committed on or about May 29. Werner was sentenced to one year on probation.

On August 14, Maria De Lourdes Angeles Cortez, 41, pled no contest to one count of theft in the second degree, a class A misdemeanor, committed on or about January 8. Angeles Cortez was sentenced to 20 days in jail.

On August 17, Taylor James Hulburt, 28, pled no contest to one count of theft in the second degree, a class A violation, committed on or about March 21. Hulburt was sentenced to time served in jail and ordered to pay a \$440 fine.

On August 17, Jessica Esquivel, 33, pled no contest to one count of disorderly conduct in the first degree and one count of resisting arrest, both class A misdemeanors committed on or about April 7. Esquivel was sentenced to time served in jail and two years’ probation.

On August 25, Antonea P

Byrne, 72, pled no contest to one count of criminal mischief in the second degree, a class A violation, committed on or about August 19. Byrne was sentenced to time served in jail.

On August 25, Terry Allen Tate, 54, pled no contest to one count of theft in the third degree, a class C misdemeanor, committed on or about May 27. Tate was sentenced to one year on probation.

On August 25, Anthony Eduardo Ayala, 36, pled guilty to one count of harassment and one count of interference with making a report, both class A misdemeanors committed on or about January 13. Ayala was sentenced to time served in jail and 18 months’ probation.

On August 28, Daniel R Dickens, 52, pled guilty to one count of criminal driving with a suspended or revoked license, a class A misdemeanor, committed on or about April 8. Dickens was sentenced to two days in jail and ordered to pay a

\$100 traffic fine and \$368 in attorney’s fees.

On August 29, Andres Avarca Mata, 19, pled no contest to one count of harassment, a class A misdemeanor, committed on or about January 4. Mata was sentenced to five days in jail and 18 months’ probation.

On August 29, Kristin Leigh Kendrick, 37, pled guilty to one count of criminal driving with a suspended or revoked license, a class B felony, committed on or about May 17. Kendrick was sentenced to three days in jail and 18 months’ probation, her driver’s license was suspended for one year and she was ordered to pay a \$200 fine.

On September 1, Nicholas Andrew Johnson, 31, pled no contest to one count of rape in the third degree and one count 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.



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