



Ocean debris Art

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Manzanita citizens comment on city hall petition

Hilary Dorsey
Staff Writer

Manzanita citizens provided input about the city hall petition during a council meeting Wednesday, July 7. The petition circulated in May.

A petition signed by 260 Manzanita residents in May asked the council to give the remodeling option of the Underhill Plaza a fair evaluation as an option for the new city hall. Citizens who submitted their names on the petition had the opportunity to speak during public comment and

discuss the city hall project and how their input could be utilized.

Carol Kennedy, on behalf of Will Stone, conducted a presentation on the petition.

"A petition of the citizens of Manzanita was presented at the May 5 city council meeting," Kennedy said. "The petition respectfully requested that the city council provide citizens with more options for the city and police department headquarters."

Kennedy said the citizens asked for a remodel option of the Underhill property. The

petition came about after the Manzanita Listens workshops, as citizens were told any remodel option was off the table.

"The petition was signed by 260 Manzanita residents," Kennedy said. "It was accompanied by a letter from Will Stone, whom I'm representing, relaying the history and rationale for the request."

Interim City Manager John Kunkel had placed the petition on the July agenda, Kennedy added. The petition was removed from the agenda. The citizens com-

ment portion of the meeting was utilized for citizens to address their concerns. Each citizen had three minutes, although Kennedy, being the presenter of the petition, was given 10 minutes to speak.

Randy Kugler said Manzanita Listens found that citizens said cost was the top priority in building a new city hall. Repair and remediation of the school on the Underhill Plaza would be \$1.3 million. This includes \$400,000 in contingency for unexpected work.

Susan Soto said the petition does not represent her

and she had not heard about it until several days ago. She believes the Underhill property and city hall building should be demolished.

"This is one of the most important towns and places on the Pacific Ocean," Soto said. "We're not acting in this way and its very concerning to me as a citizen here that we're not operating from a place of what is our future."

Linda Ballard was one of the signature gatherers of the petition. She said the people she met with enthusiastically signed the petition.

"They were all very worried about the cost for the new city hall," Ballard said. "They welcomed the opportunity to express their concern by way of the petition."

Gerald Wineinger said new construction of a city hall might not be the most practical and affordable option. A remodel can provide a lower cost option.

Mayor Mike Scott said the city would be having some discussions from the input.

Send comments to: headlightreporter@countrymedia.net

RESTING IN PEACE



Long desired beautification project completed at historic Nehalem cemetery

For the Citizen

The City of Nehalem is pleased to partner with the community and local cultural organizations, Tillamook County Cultural Coalition and Nehalem Valley Historical Society, to support and fund the restoration of 17 plots within the Nehalem American Legion Cemetery.

Cemetery volunteer coordinator Valerie Vines Magee recently completed work with Manzanita landscape contrac-

tor LeRoy Heppner of Eagle Landscape Services and his talented crew to carefully restore historic plots in one of the oldest blocks in the cemetery.

The historic Nehalem American Legion Cemetery was established in 1901 and is a memorial to area residents born in the early to mid 1800's and local veterans. The cemetery continues to be operational under the management of the City of Nehalem.

This summer will be the sixth season

volunteers have supported restoration and beautification of historic monuments. Individuals and groups are welcome to participate by adopting a section or plot or participating in monthly clean up sessions. For more information on how to participate, email volunteer coordinator Valerie Vines Magee at vinesmagee@gmail.com.

"Many volunteers have learned to love the history and beauty of this place. Residents and visitors are welcome to participate this summer," Magee says.

Increase in delta variant cases now expected among unvaccinated groups

Hilary Dorsey
Staff Writer

Tillamook County Health Department relayed during a Tillamook County Board of Commissioners meeting Wednesday, July 7, 11 new COVID-19 cases from June 27 through July 3.

The health department reported Friday, July 9, from June 20 through July 3, the county has seen 20 recorded

COVID-19 cases. All but one case of these 20 was unvaccinated.

"Most recently, according to the Oregon Health Authority, we're seeing more cases of the delta variant and we are cautioned to expect rapid increases among unvaccinated groups with the delta variant," Administrator Marlene Putman said.

To date, Oregon Health Authority has tracked 14 cases of the delta variant in region 1, which includes Tillamook, Clatsop, Clackamas, Multnomah and Washington counties. County level data is not available for variant tracking at this time.

Putman said in general, primarily those unvaccinated populations are the ones contracting the virus. With the lifting of restrictions, there is an uptick in

other respiratory illnesses, such as influenza.

"If you're feeling ill, stay home," Putman said. "If you are experiencing COVID-like symptoms, and you just don't know for sure, call your health care provider, and give us a call."

You can call the health center for same day COVID-19 testing, Putman added. Call 503-842-3900 to schedule. For more information about the vaccine or COVID-19 in general, call the nurse information line at 503-842-3914. Testing is also available at Rinehart Clinic and Adventist Health Tillamook.

"The state had a goal of 70 percent being vaccinated with at least one dose of a COVID-19 vaccine," Emergency Preparedness Coordinator Ed Colson said. "That goal was reached on

July 2."

At the end of June, Tillamook County was at 64.9 percent, with a goal of 65 percent. Colson said the county is likely to hit 65 percent by the weekend.

Vaccine appointments are available at the health center's 8th Street Annex on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Pfizer and Johnson & Johnson are offered on Tuesdays. Moderna and Johnson & Johnson are offered on Thursdays. Call 503-842-3914 to schedule.

"We do have our local pharmacies that offer the vaccines, as well as your routine health care provider," Colson said.

Send comments to: headlightreporter@countrymedia.net

Burn Ban issued

County enters burn ban effective July 15

For the Citizen

The Tillamook County Fire Defense Board, in conjunction with the Oregon Department of Forestry, will enter into a countywide total burn ban of all burning, including burn barrels and all open debris pile burning, on July 15. Residents are encouraged to plan ahead and complete all burning prior to the ban.

In Tillamook County, for the general public, burning permits are required for residents that live within a city fire department district or rural fire protection district; they will need to contact their local fire department for burn permit requirements.

In the remainder of Tillamook County, the Oregon Department of Forestry issues burning permits once fire season has been declared.

There is no fee for the burn permit, but an onsite inspection with the landowner is performed prior to issuing a permit. Information about burning permits and how to obtain a permit for Tillamook District is available by calling the Oregon Department of Forestry at 503-815-7056 (24 hour line), or you may contact your local fire department.

It is also a good reminder that fire can be a hazard at any time of year if steps are not taken to use fire safely. Whenever you use fire, whether for debris burning or enjoying a campfire, use these

See **Burn**, Page 6

Garibaldi denies 66-unit apartment complex

Garibaldi City Council on Thursday, July 1, voted to deny a land use decision that was remanded by the Land Use Board of Appeals (LUBA). The case was a conditional use request by Coastal Housing Solutions, LLC, for construction of a 66-unit apartment complex.

Following LUBA's remand in *Kopacek v. City of Garibaldi*, on April 9, Coastal Housing Solutions requested the city proceed with remand proceedings. The council held a public hearing on the remand on June 16. The remand directed the city to adopt a decision that sets out and addresses the criteria and explains the justification for the decision based on the criteria.

Each councilor was given the opportunity to make a statement at the July 1 meeting.

"I believe the comprehensive plan is the soul of the Garibaldi municipal code," Councilor Laurie Wandell said. "It's intent speaks to the quality of life of our community."

"Under the Garibaldi comprehensive plan policies, encourage development of housing and locations that are easily accessible through walking and bicycling to municipal and commercial services and facilities," Councilor Katie Findling said. "Neither, there's no multimodal access to the area in the application through the city or through ODOT that I could find in any of

See **DENIES**, Page 6



Coastal art gallery focuses on art from ocean debris

David Rupkalvis
Country Media

A Bandon art gallery with a mission far greater than just art reopened its door last week after being closed for 15 months due to COVID-19.

Washed Ashore opened its gallery at 325 2nd Street SE in downtown Bandon after using the time off to make some improvements to the gallery.

"We're super stoked, super excited for it," gallery Manager Cameron McGrew said last week. "We're getting a few new additions. We're getting the walls painted, and the carpets have already been cleaned. It's exciting to have a fresh start."

Washed Ashore opened in 2010 when Angela Haseltine Pozzi came up with an idea to make art out of trash that washes up on beaches in the area. Pozzi, who also serves as artistic director, joined with artist Steve Wright to create masterpieces that are made almost fully out of trash.

Washed Ashore collects trash that has been removed from breaches through volunteer cleanup efforts as well as trash collected by park rangers. The items are then cleaned and used to make massive sculptures.

"We will definitely pick up whatever they find and turn it into some awesome sea creatures," McGrew said.

And by doing so, Washed

Ashore hopes to spread a bigger message about keeping trash out of the ocean.

"We're an education-based nonprofit," McGrew said. "Our goal is to educate the public. We've actually done viewings in Canada. We've been all over



the United States. Right now, we're in Norfolk, Virginia, Green Bay, Wisconsin and Turtle Bay in Redding, California."

Washed Ashore also has pieces in the Smithsonian, Florida Aquarium and different aquariums and zoos across Oregon.

But the home base is and has always been in Bandon. It is there where Pozzi and Wright come up with their ideas and it is there where volunteers help put together the sculptures piece by piece.

The end result is larger than life sculptures, all showcasing sea creatures and all made from trash.

"We're cleaning the

beaches, we're educating the public and trying to engage the community," McGrew said.

While most of the sculptures or made of plastic, some include Styrofoam, nets from fishing boats and more. The biggest problem, though,

remains plastic. The issue is plastic never fully degrades, so it can remain in the ocean for years and years. And during that time, it can cause havoc on animals that live and rely on the sea. Washed Ashore is trying to spread the message that most plastic use is not necessary. At the gallery, they offer water in biodegradable milk cartons.

"Plastic is necessary to an extent," McGrew said. "But the single-use plastic is what we're trying to avoid, things like single-use soda bottles, plastic wrapping around food that you'll just take off and throw away."

To make the point, McGrew likes showing a

sculpture in the museum. Made largely of plastic water bottles, the majority of the bottles came from the Olympic games in Beijing, China. They washed ashore near Bandon several years later.

"Everything you buy is a vote," McGrew said. "So, if you choose to buy boxed water, for example, you're voting with your wallet every time you make a purchase. If we were to all just stop buying plastic soda bottles, they would get the message."

Instead, McGrew said, buy aluminum, glass and paper products that can be easily recycled.

When visitors come to Washed Ashore, McGrew or other docents will start conversations with visitors to showcase the importance of voting with their wallets.

And, once again, Washed Ashore is opening and spreading that message.

As a nonprofit, the gallery relies on donations, volunteers and grants. It is also now making decent money loaning its finished products to museums and other places around the country.

Inside the gallery is still the best place to get a look at the work. There are over 85 sculptures in the gallery, with the largest probably a parrot fish that is 9-1/2 feet tall, 14 feet long and six feet wide.

The Washed Ashore Gallery will be open from noon to 5 p.m. Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday and 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday and Saturday.



Wyden urges locals to get involved in fire watch

David Rupkalvis
Country Media

As much of the nation prepares for what could be a disastrous fire season, Oregon Senator Ron Wyden is urging local residents to be watchdogs in an effort to protect communities for major blazes.

During a conference call with the media Saturday, Wyden said people in neighborhoods across Oregon and the western part of the nation could stop the biggest threats before they start.

"Folks that are out in the community, when they see any signs like dropped matches, burns in their neighborhoods, the really important thing for people to do is not take but a minute and call the local fire officials. What the public can say is we can be the watchdogs over some of these threats."

Wyden said it important for every person to play a role this year, saying he expects the fire season to be unprecedented. Because of the threat, Wyden has been working closely with the Biden administration, the U.S. Forest Service and others to come up with a plan to handle the potential of a fire season no one has seen before.

"For several weeks, I have been working very closely with the White House and the Forest Service to make sure they are prepared to deal with the unprecedented fire

season in the west," Wyden said. "Specifically, the danger of multiple big fires, infernos, taking place simultaneously across the western states. The fires are going to stress local, state and federal resources to the breaking point unless we are prepared. Millions of westerners this morning are collectively holding their breath about the prospect of one of these infernos ripping through their town."

Wyden said after his continued discussions in D.C., he expects announcements to be made this week outlining federal plans for the fire season.

"I expect the Biden administration will have more to say publicly about this threat, this grave threat, in the next few days," Wyden said. "I've been raising this in public hearings and private conversations every single day."

While Wyden said he has not seen the White House plan, he expects the federal government to explain how it might fight multiple large fires at one time.

"Specifically, what I think we'll hear is about making sure there are personnel available in the west to fight multiple fires, the big fires, at the same time," he said. "The reason I emphasize this is because this is a departure from the past. Usually, we have one big fire, and other western states will chip in for the state that was hit the hardest. Now, we're talking about something that's unprecedented, which

is big fires simultaneously throughout the west."

Wyden said during a recent public hearing, the Forest Service admitted it could be a very difficult year.

"Vicki Christiansen, the head of the Forest Service, said she felt resources are already at the breaking point," Wyden said. "What we're going to hear about this week is make sure there's more personnel available to fight multiple fires at the same time, there's equipment to back that up and that local, state and federal firefighters are going to be tightly coordinated in order to deal with this."

In addition to more firefighters, Wyden said more funding will be needed.

"I do believe it's going to take additional resources to deal with this especially grave situation, the possibility of fires all over the west at the same time," he said. "I expect this will take additional resources."

Wyden said there are two fronts where the threat of dangerous fires must be attacked. The first is have firefighters and equipment available when blazes erupt. The second is an effort to thin out millions of acres of forest that are a tinderbox right now. Wyden said it will cost up to \$20 billion to thin out the forest, which will ease the threat in the long run.

"Right now, my biggest concern is it is do dry," he said.



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Garibaldi council taps Hyams for City Manager

The City of Garibaldi announced it has hired Juliet Hyams as its new city manager. She will plan and direct the operations of city departments and oversee the proper administration of all city business. Hyams began work on June 22, immediately tackling the city's stalled budget process successfully.

"Garibaldi is extremely fortunate to gain the experience, skills and professionalism Juliet brings to our city," said Mayor Tim Hall. "We were in need of someone of her abilities to address long-standing real public concerns over the city's finances and budget, support for business and

tourism, and most of all restore trust in our local government. She will help put the city on the right path forward."

Hyams had served as city manager for the City of Wheeler. Prior to that, she worked for the City of Portland as a budget outreach consultant, marketing coordinator for Harsch Investment Properties, research assistant for DHM Research, and contract feature writer for The Oregonian.

She has shown community leadership as a current board member of the Tillamook Coast Visitors Association and Columbia-Pacific Economic Development District, and

as a member of the League of Oregon Cities and NW Oregon Area Commission on Transportation.

Hyams previously served as a volunteer vice president of the Neighbors West/NW Coalition of Neighborhoods, president of the 42nd Avenue Business Association and Northwest District Association, all in Portland.

Hyams earned an Executive Master of Public Administration degree from Portland State University and a B.A. degree in Journalism from the University of Oregon.

Mayor Hall added that Hyams' experience working with the Oregon

Department of Transportation (ODOT) will be most beneficial, as Garibaldi, after more than 20 years of city delays, will move forward in phases with a \$10.6 million renovation of Hwy 101/Garibaldi Avenue funded largely by federal and state dollars. ODOT officials say it will be transformative to the city once completed.

"Juliet's ability to analyze projects like transportation was extremely helpful to the development review process on several ODOT north coast projects," said Ken Shonkwiler, ODOT senior regional planner. "Juliet is a rockstar."



Juliet Hyams

Agencies recap busy Fourth of July weekend



For the Citizen

Tillamook County Sheriff's Office (TCSO) and the public safety community at large in Tillamook County are breathing a collective sigh of relief following a very busy Independence Day weekend, which saw tens of thousands of visitors descending on our small coastal communities.

"The number of calls for service were larger than Memorial Day, but we actually saw less real emergencies and significant incidents during the July 4 weekend than occurred the weekend after Memorial Day. We were very lucky," said Sheriff Joshua Brown.

Law enforcement partners in the northern part of Tillamook County were also relieved that their small department was not overburdened with emergency calls.

"It was probably the quietest Fourth of July weekend I have seen in my 19 years with Manzanita Police," said Police Chief Erik Harth.

Harth attributed the relative calm in his town to the fact that the city chose not to host a parade or fireworks display this year.

"We really had no activities to draw that many people here, and with Rockaway having an official fireworks show, I think most people went there instead," Harth said.

Another community that hosted fireworks was Pacific City. While they were fortunate to avoid most of the usual mayhem that occurs on Independence Day, the Cape Kiwanda area still probably witnessed the worst behavior that celebrants brought to Tillamook County, the sheriff's office said.

"We had one person severely injured and was a trauma system entry after an illegal firework went off in his hand. He had severe injuries to his arm," said

Nestucca Fire Chief Jim Oeder. "He was transported to Tillamook Hospital, but I have no information on his condition or were he might have been transported after that."

Oeder also watched as people were unsafe lighting off their own fireworks, but was grateful for the three TCSO deputies that were working the area and were able to respond when needed.

"People just weren't using common sense," Oeder said. "I saw people firing roman candles at each other and thinking was fun."

The area also saw two dumpster fires complete with exploding fireworks. One was a three-yard dumpster at Tierra Del Mar on the morning of July 4. The second was a 10-yard dumpster fire at Cape Kiwanda late in the evening

the same day.

When Oeder responded to the large dumpster fire, he faced a large aggressive crowd that was intent on him not extinguishing it, he reported.

"There were 20-30 people that wanted to sit there in the middle and watch it burn. I was on the radio asking for deputies to respond code three. Deputy Wallace was there in minutes, the fire engines arrived, and two other deputies were en route when the crowd dispersed," said Oeder. "I'm very grateful for that kind of police assistance when it's needed."

Deputies Billy Cloud and Evan Wallace were assigned to the Cape Kiwanda area, and Deputies Tom Mayne and Dennis Greiner patrolled Sand Lake Recreation Area on July 4.

Twenty miles to the north,

the communities of Netarts and Oceanside are typically the site of some spectacular, if not illegal, unsanctioned fireworks displays on the Fourth of July. These tiny villages historically attract large crowds who often leave large numbers of smoldering beach fires and tons of firework debris for local first responders and volunteers to take care of the next day. This year was a bit different.

"We only had to put a few small campfires out on the beach on the morning of the 5th, and maybe picked up three trash bags of debris," said Netarts-Oceanside Fire Chief Tim Carpenter. "This is not much more than a normal summer Sunday, so we do appreciate that at least in Netarts-Oceanside, people were careful."

The Tillamook County community that received the most Independence Day visitors had to be the city of Rockaway Beach, the sheriff's office said. This was most likely due to the promise of a huge official fireworks display - it was rumored that the fireworks stash that was allotted for the 2020 show (which was canceled due to COVID-19) were combined with this year's cache. This meant spectators would be treated to the largest display ever put on by the city.

Rockaway Fire Department staff and volunteers patrolled the beach all weekend, controlling fires and helping with water safety. Rockaway Fire Chief Todd Hesse had one word to describe the weekend - "Busy!"

"Our crews were running medical calls and patrolling the beach for fire safety and advising people about the dangerous riptides that exist here," said Hesse.

Tillamook Ambulance and Rockaway Fire's Quick Response Team (QRT) responded to several medical emergencies, but none were fireworks related.

"We were also lucky that we had no fire calls that were fireworks related," Hesse said.

Garibaldi Fire Chief Jay Marugg was able to take advantage of the absence of issues in his city and helped light off some of the fireworks for Rockaway's official show.

"We made it through alright, other than just a lot of people on the beach also lighting fireworks," said Marugg. Although he witnessed sev-

eral cases of stupidity related to the public lighting fireworks and with fire in general, he was pleased the show went off without a hitch.

"It was a blast," Marugg said.

"This year marked the first July 4th that law enforcement services in Rockaway Beach were provided by the Tillamook County Sheriff's Office," said Sheriff Brown.

Sheriff Joshua Brown, Undersheriff Matt Kelly, Deputy Ben Berger and Detective Chase Ross all patrolled Rockaway during the Rockaway celebrations.

"We also had Deputies David Bartlett, Mike Reeves, Ethan Ault, Yonty Urrutia, Sam Cummings and Chris Rondeau patrolling the rest of the county and available to assist wherever needed. Although it's probably impossible to ever entirely stop the use of illegal fireworks, our deputies did confiscate a large number of illegal fireworks while patrol-

ling a large area, with tens of thousands of people, while still having to respond to regular calls for service," said Brown.

"We had cars parked along 101 from the bus barn all the way to Nedonna Beach," said Undersheriff Matt Kelly. "We were patrolling the area anticipating problems, yet we had very few emergency calls or serious problems. It was the first time TCSO provided sole coverage for this celebration, and I'm happy to report that it was a relatively peaceful and fun family event."

Fortunately, the same can be said for the entirety of Tillamook County.

"I appreciate the fact an overwhelming majority of people that came to our community to celebrate the Fourth of July mostly did so with respect for our local residents, our landscape and our neighborhoods," said Brown.

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Joe Wrabek Songwriting Contest: Finals Concert July 17th at the Fairview Grange

Tillamook’s Fairview Grange and the Bay City Arts Center (BCAC) are pleased to present the 2021 Joe Wrabek Memorial Songwriting Contest Finals Concert to be held Saturday, July 17 at the Fairview Grange Hall, 5520 Third Street, starting at 6:00PM. Of the 12 participating songwriters, five finalists have been chosen to perform at the concert, including Lauren Sheehan, Mojo Holler (Missy Hasting & John Baker), Hope Montgomery, Karyn Ann and Kayla Cooley. Each finalist will perform three songs at the concert, and a panel of judges will decide the winners. This year’s contest has three cash awards—\$250 for 1st Place, \$150 for 2nd Place, and \$100 for 3rd Place. Tickets are on sale now with a suggested donation of \$25 each. The event is a fundraiser, with all proceeds going to the

Fairview Grange’s COVID relief fund. “This year’s Finals Concert promises to be one of the coolest musical events to hit Tillamook in a long time,” said Eric Sappington, Worthy Master of the Fairview Grange and past winner of the contest. “The line-up of performers is incredible this year, and we have a few fun surprises in store. It’s going to be an unforgettable night. It’s also good timing for a fundraiser. The Grange hasn’t had many opportunities to raise money since COVID, and the bills keep coming in.” The Joe Wrabek Songwriting Contest is an annual collaboration between the Fairview Grange and the Bay City Arts Center, dedicated to giving local artists an opportunity to perform to grateful audiences, in the spirit and memory of Joe. Finals Concerts alternate

between the two venues every year, although the COVID pandemic prevented a performance in 2020. “We hope the community will come out to hear these stellar songwriters and show their support for Tillamook’s Grange,” said Rob Russell, BCAC President and organizer of the event. “This Finals Concert is shaping up to be something very special. It’s going to be one of those nights you remember for the rest of your life, guaranteed.” The Bay City Arts Center and the Fairview

Grange are local not-for-profit organizations dedicated to sustaining a thriving community of artists, musicians and audiences in the Tillamook Bay area. Joe Wrabek was a prolific songwriter and performer who served as a devoted board member of both organizations. Many of Joe’s songs can be heard on his ReverbNation page: <https://www.reverbnation.com/joewrabek> For concert tickets or more information, call Rob at 503-523-8387 or email: chaveecha@gmail.com

Central Oregon Coast opens for razor clamming

The Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA) and the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) announce the opening of the central Oregon coast for recreational razor clam harvesting. Razor clamming is now open from Cape Lookout (just south of Netarts Bay) to the California border. Recent shellfish samples taken from the area indicate levels of the marine biotoxin domoic acid have fallen below the closure limit. Razor clam harvesting remains closed from the Columbia River to Cape Lookout because domoic acid toxin levels are above the closure limit. Mussel, bay clam and

crab harvesting remain open along the entire Oregon coast. Coastal scallops are not affected by biotoxin closures when only the adductor muscle is eaten. ODA does not recommend eating whole scallops. Commercial shellfish products sold in stores and restaurants remain safe for consumers. Paralytic shellfish toxin and domoic acid toxin are produced by algae and originate in the ocean. ODA will continue to test for shellfish toxins twice per month, as tides and weather permit. Reopening is area closed for biotoxins requires two consecutive tests with results below the closure limit.

Razor clamming conservation closure on Clatsop beaches July 15 – Sept. 30

The annual summer conservation closure for razor clams begins Thursday, July 15, through Sept. 30 on Clatsop beaches (from Tillamook Head in Seaside to the mouth of the Columbia River). The annual conservation closure allows newly set young clams to establish themselves on the 18 miles of Clatsop beaches. Protecting the clams on these beaches is vital to their population and future clamming opportunities

as more than 90 percent of the total razor clam harvest in Oregon occurs here. The annual closure was established in 1967. When razor clamming reopened Oct. 1 last year, a good harvest season was expected as stock assessments showed high abundance with many clams over four inches. However, due to very high levels of domoic acid, razor clamming on Clatsop beaches closed Oct. 30 and remain

closed due to continued toxin levels above the closure threshold. ODFW staff assesses razor clam stocks during the conservation closure. The 2020 assessments showed the third highest abundance since 2004 when assessments began. Razor clam harvesting is open on other state beaches from Cape Lookout (just south of Netarts Bay) south to the California border. The best opportunities outside

Clatsop beaches are in the Newport area, with the most consistent producers being Agate Beach, North Jetty, and South Beach. Other razor clam harvest areas include Winchester Bay, Bandon and Gold Beach, among others. Bay clam harvesting is currently open coast-wide. Always check for toxin-related closures before harvesting clams or crabs by calling the shellfish safety hotline 1-800-448-2472.

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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.
 • Obituaries need to be submitted by Friday at 5 p.m. the week prior to publication.
 All obituary announcements are placed on the North Coast Citizen website at no cost.

Oregon Department of Forestry engaging on wildfire in Tillamook State Forest

Firefighters from six Oregon Department of Forestry offices are engaged this morning, July 14, along with crews from South Fork and industrial forest landowners providing water tender support on a wildfire burning in the Tillamook State Forest about 22 miles northwest of Forest Grove. The fire is estimated at about 70 acres. The Game Hog Creek Fire is burning in timber and slash north of Hwy 6. Drift Creek and Idiot Creek forest roads are closed as is the Fear and Loaming mountain bike trail due to fire activity in the

area. Elk Creek campground is currently open but smoke is likely in the area. To avoid exposure to possible smoke, campers may choose not to camp there. The fire was originally sparked on July 3 within the Tillamook State Forest. Cause of the fire is still under investigation. The fire was soon contained at 6 acres with control lines completely encircling it. Due to the steep, inaccessible terrain, the fire was being patrolled and monitored. The patrol last night at 5:30 p.m. reported the fire was quiet. Rising winds later that evening apparently

caused the fire to jump the control lines. ODF responded to reports of fire spread in the area sometime after 7 p.m., with ground crews engaged on the fire overnight. This morning more than 100 personnel are engaged on the fire. These include firefighters and support personnel from ODF offices in Tillamook, Columbia City, Astoria, North Cascades, Forest Grove and the West Oregon District in Polk County as well as Hampton Lumber and Stimson Lumber Company.



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LNCT organizes Highway 101 cleanup Saturday

Lower Nehalem Community Trust will hold a roadside cleanup on Saturday, July 17, 2021 beginning at 8:30 AM and is expected to be done no later than Noon. Parking and check-in will be located at the intersection of Highway 101 and Highway 53. The section of the highway between the check-in location and just north of the Nehalem River bridge is the focus

of this clean-up event. Community members and visitors are encouraged to volunteer and can register at <https://www.nehalemtrust.org/events/>.

As a participant in Oregon's Department of Transportation (ODOT) Adopt-A-Highway program, LNCT is responsible for trash removal along the stretch of Highway 101 from just south

of Wheeler to just north of the Nehalem River bridge. "We will remove and bag trash to prevent it from washing into the wetlands or rivers," says Ben Pittenger, LNCT Executive Director.

Individuals, families, and business groups are welcome to volunteer. Participants should be at least 16 years of age. All participants will be required to sign a waiver

and release prior to participation. ODOT and LNCT will provide safety vests, garbage bags and grabbers. Gloves will be available, but you are encouraged to bring your own. Participants should wear sturdy shoes for walking on uneven surfaces and dress for a full range of coastal Oregon weather.

Lower Nehalem Community Trust, a non-profit organization,

has been protecting and stewarding land in the lower Nehalem watershed since 2002. Community donations support our work in land acquisition, restoration projects, and community education programs. For more information about LNCT call 503-368-3203 or visit <https://www.nehalemtrust.org>.

Look back at the history of Oregon coastal conservation

The Oregon Shores Conservation Coalition is celebrating its 50th anniversary this year. One of the anniversary activities is a series of online talks, relating to both the history and the future of the Oregon coast. The next event in this series, coming up on Wednesday, July 21,

7 p.m., is a look back at the history of Oregon coastal conservation.

Chuck Johnson, author of Standing at the Water's Edge: Bob Straub's Battle for the Soul of Oregon, will speak on: "The Roots of Oregon's Coastal Conservation Legacy: Opportunities Taken, Oppor-

tunities Missed." This virtual event is free and open to all.

Johnson will explore Oregon's heritage in preserving coastal environments, with a focus on what was considered and accomplished in the 1960s in the fight over access and control of Oregon's beaches and coastal land-

scape, and what was ignored or neglected - and the implications of these choices and decisions on today's efforts to conserve our coastal heritage. There will be a discussion afterwards.

Charles K. (Chuck) Johnson currently serves as Program Director for International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War (IPPNW), based in Boston, after nearly four decades as an activist, writer, and fundraiser at the local, national, and


international levels. He is responsible for coordinating the international federation's work on the medical and humanitarian consequences of nuclear weapons and is also currently serving as administrative co-chair of the International Steering Group of the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons (ICAN).


Chuck spent more than a decade working in the Oregon State Legislature and for Oregon non-profits in the 1970s

and 80s. He was present while much of Oregon's coastal environmental legacy was being created.

To learn more and access a registration link, go here: <https://oregonshores.org/events/talk-coasts-environmental-history>

For more information, contact Phillip Johnson, Oregon Shores' executive director, at (503) 754-9303, phillip@oregonshores.org





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Denies

Continued from Page 1

the minutes."

Findling said because of the lack of multimodal access, it does not fit the comprehensive plan in this aspect.

Councilor Judy Riggs said she is aware there is a problem with housing in the community and the town is turning into a second home community. The town has lost schoolteachers and there are children who are homeless, she said.

"I know most of you sitting in this room do not want the

apartments," Riggs said. "I understand part of the reason why but we have people in this community that don't have a place to live."

Hall said for him as a resident of Garibaldi, it is important for the city to be able to accommodate the populations. He spoke about the importance of affordable housing.

"I don't want to see the city of Garibaldi, the residents of Garibaldi, to have to fund a major expansion of our water and wastewater systems to accommodate 66 new units," Hall said.

Ron Halter, a partner with Paul Daniels on the application, said he would propose 18 one-bedroom units in a

subdivision. The city would have to fast track it through the approval process so building can begin in a timely manner.

"There is no question this city needs apartments for people," Halter said. "There's no question it needs single family homes. We'll try to do both."

Hall said if Halter or Daniels submit a new application, he will work to fast track it. It will be a conditional use and will have to go through the planning process.

The council voted to deny the 66-unit apartment application.

Send comments to: headlightreporter@countrymedia.net

Burn

Continued from Page 1

steps to prevent your fire from turning into the next wildfire.

Never leave your fire unattended.

When burning debris, always have a hose and shovel at the fire to prevent the fire from spreading.

Check with your local fire protection agency prior to burning. (Most rural fire protection districts require a burn permit year round.)

If camping, ensure your campfire is in a designated area.

Always make sure your campfire is out cold before leaving.

On the beach, keep your campfire far from beach grass and drift wood piles.

Forest users may obtain information about state forestlands and industrial fire restrictions in our area and public fire restrictions by calling the Tillamook District public information line at 503-842-2548. For other information call the Oregon Department of Forestry at 503-842-2545, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday. The ban does not include permitted campfires and campfires in designated sites. Campfires on the beach must be at least 50 feet away from vegetation, and any driftwood concentrations.

For further information please contact your local fire district or the Oregon Department of Forestry.

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