### North Coast

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**Federal funding** 

**County housing** 

A freeze on Environmental Protection Agency grants by the Trump administration in early February put the brakes on a program that would have

Sammons said he had already identified three affordable housing projects in the county that would have been eligible for the funding. The developers of those projects are now working to replace the about the time it would take to overcome the

The other thing is that when government cuts "but when the government builds stuff, it happens

The \$3.8 million in funding was part of an al-

Funds were going to be distributed to projects

The Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) was the pass-through agency at the state level for the funds and Tillamook County and three cities were selected to participate in the program. Projects would have been eligible for rebates up to \$20,000 per unit to offset ma-terial costs or systems

As he was applying to participate in the grant program, Sammons had two Tillamook projects in mind for the funding, the Spruce Point apartments that will bring 60 units of affordable housing to Manzanita and the Maker project in Tillamook that aims to bring 36 apartments to a lot adjacent to Adventist Health. The Spruce Point project would have been eligible for up to \$1.2 million in funding from the program and the Maker project \$720,000.

# freeze throws \$3.6 million in Tillamook funds into doubt

**WILL CHAPPELL** Citizen Editor

#### directed \$3.6 million to Tillamook County in support of space-efficient housing. Tillamook County Housing Coordinator Parker

shortfall and Sammons said that he was concerned setback.

stuff, it happens very, very quickly," Sammons said, really, really slowly."

location to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in the Inflation Reduction Act for Climate Pollution Reduction grants.

that included space-efficient housing, i.e. smaller units. Sammons said that studies have shown space-efficient housing helps to reduce the carbon footprint during construction and during occupancy thanks to lower utility consumption and accumulation of unneeded items.

development charges.

Another project, the proposed development of

See FUNDING, Page A3

### **Commissioners** approve TLT increase ballot question

**WILL CHAPPELL** Citizen Editor

Following a second public hearing on February 12, Tillamook County's board of commissioners unanimously approved placing a request to increase the county's transient lodging tax from 10% to 14% on the May ballot.

In response to feedback offered by owners of short-term rentals at earlier meetings, commissioners amended the proposed adjustment to be phased in over two years and delayed the ini-tial increase from July 2025 to September.

The proposed increase comes in response to budget shortfalls of \$1 million this year and \$3-4 million projected annually going forward, as one of a slew of potential solutions being exam-ined by county leadership.

Tillamook County's transient lodging tax (TLT) was approved by voters in 2013 at a rate of 10% and went into effect in 2014. 70% of the funds raised by the tax, assessed on all overnight stays in the county, go towards supporting tourism promotion or tourism-related facilities, in accordance with state law, with the remaining 30% dedicated to road maintenance.

The proposed 4% increase is projected to bring in an additional \$2.4-2.8 million annually, with \$720,000-840,000 (30%) available to the county government for any purpose and the remain-der obligated to fund tourism promotion or projects.

The unrestricted 30% of the additional funds generated by the proposed increase would be split, with 80% going to the sheriff's department to maintain current staffing levels, 10% dedi-



The 25,000 square foot warehouse that used to house the production portions of the paint-brush handle factory and that the McRaes plan to

# Locals look to build housing community in Bay City

**WILL CHAPPELL** Citizen Editor

Couple Lisa and Ralph McRae have begun the process of turning the longtime location of the family's paintbrush handle factory in south Bay City into a mixed-use development.

Ralph and Lisa said that they wanted to honor the legacy of the family factory by promoting a sense of community, which they plan to achieve by keeping space for businesses while adding a mix

of different housing types. 'That's a great way to live, you know," Ralph said, "the commute is awesome, walk to work, if your

See **HOUSING**, Page A3



The site of the proposed 20-unit apartment building that would kick off the housing development on the

# Manzanita council honors Oregon's first black mayor

**WILL CHAPPELL** 

Citizen Editor

Manzanita's city council passed a

proclamation celebrating ex-Mayor James

"Jim" Bond, who was Oregon's first black mayor, at their regular council meeting on February 5.

Bond, who served from 1995-1998, passed away in 2019, but his son, Tim, attended the meet-ing and thanked the council for honoring his father, who he remembered as a man of service who loved the beachside town.

"He was a humanist, he was a psychologist, a healer and an educator,' Bond said, "and he gave service to anyone he was around, and he was so excited to move to Manzanita when did.' Bond was born in 1924 in Lorain,

Ohio to Silas G. Monroe Bond, a truck driver, and Coloma Rus-sell Walker Bond, a homemaker. After graduating high school, Bond served for three years dur-ing World War II, participating in the campaign to liberate Italy.

After the war, Bond spent six months studying opera at the University of Florence, before re-turning to America and completing a bachelor's degree at Baldwin-Wallace College, a master's degree at Bowling Green State University and a Ph.D. in clinical psychology at New York Uni-versity.

Bond served as the chief psychologist at the Toledo State and Receiving Hospital in Toledo Ohio and vice president of student affairs at Bowling Green State University before being named president of the University of California, Sacramento, a post which he held from 1972 until 1978

Following his tenure as university president, Bond was tapped by President Jimmy Carter to serve as the deputy director and acting director of the Selective Service Administration, re-maining in that post until 1982.



Mayor James "Jim" Bond

In 1987, after working in several education consulting roles, Bond retired to Manzanita and threw himself into the city's civic life, serving on the city council before being elected mayor in 1994 and winning reelection in 1996. During his time as mayor, Bond helped to oversee the writing of the city's first comprehensive plan, the establishment of the intergovernmental agreement with the city of Wheeler for water access that continues to this day and zoning code updates regulating dune management.

"He wasn't a lover of politics, but he was a lover of service," Bond said, recalling his father's approach to civic leader-

Bond left Manzanita in 2002 to be closer to family in his later years and



Boos, Paulsen and Bailey (left to right) during their three-week deployment to southern California.



The Lincoln County strike team was one of 21 from Oregon that responded to the call for mutual aid in response to the California conflagrations.

### Garibaldi Fire helps in Southern California conflagrations

WILL CHAPPELL CITIZEN EDITOR

Garibaldi Fire District Deputy Fire Chief Blake Paulsen took a truck and crew to southern California for three weeks in January to help fight the large wildfires in the area.

The crew was part of a Lincoln County strike team, one of 21 from Oregon and 50 from across the west that responded to the fires, in what Paulsen said was a prime example of the benefits of mutual aid response systems.

"It's really amazing how the state can work," Paulsen said, "we have a very good mutual aid system within our state that in three hours that order can come out and in three hours it's filled. So, I think it's a really good testament to not only our local fire jurisdictions, but our state and how quickly that can

The call for help came fast, with Paulsen receiving a phone call from the Oregon State Fire Marshal's office at 9:30 p.m. on January 7, the first day of the fires, asking for crews. By the time Paulsen called back to volunteer a Garibaldi truck and his and Apparatus Operator Ryan Boos's time at midnight, the office had instructions, telling them to rendezvous with a Lincoln County team the next day.

Paulsen and Boos, driving a Class 3 wildlandurban engine, met up with the strike team and Firefighter Talon Bailey from the Lafeyette Fire Department in Lincoln City the next day and began the long drive to southern California.

After arriving at Zuma Beach County Park outside Malibu and undergoing a safety inspection of their

engines, the strike team was first assigned to the community of Topanga, where they placed 4,000 feet of hose along a handline in their first 24-hour

They then spent their next two shifts manning the line and protecting the homes in Topanga, a community of about 500 residences, helping to stave off the inferno and save the buildings. "It came right up to it though, I mean there was fire right up to the homes, so it was definitely a close call," Paulsen said.

After dedicating their next shift to removing the 4,000 feet of line they had placed and 3,000 placed by another crew, the strike team moved on to Los Flores, where they helped suppress fires in burned up homes that were still smoldering.

Following that assign-

ment, their last three shifts were spent with urban search and rescue teams from around southern California going through burned over areas searching for casual-ties. Paulsen said that the crews on which they were working, which had a lot of younger fight-ers, were diverted away from some of the worst areas and did not find any remains but that the experience had still been intense. "Just to walk through and looking in cars and homes, just that trying to prepare yourself for what you might find sometimes is worse, but the destruction was unreal," Paulsen said.

While they were deployed, the strike team stayed in a commercial building near the Santa Monica Airport that was under renovation, with shower and toilet trailers stationed outside. Paulsen said that the local community came together to support firefighters, with food donat-ed by In n Out burger and Paramount Pictures catering, among

other. "People just donated ca-tered food all the time; we ate really well," Paulsen said. "There are no complaints about how we were treated down there."

Paulsen said that the experience had also given him a renewed appreciation for certain aspects of firefighting in Oregon, especially the state's efforts to promote fire resiliency programs. Paulsen said that programs to create defensible space free from flammable materials around homes in Oregon had paid clear dividends, with only 50 structures lost across last year's fire season even though more than two million acres burned, while the Los Angeles area saw more than 12,000 structures destroyed across 40,000 burned acres.

"There is no fuel mitigation around homes and stuff, so we became landscapers at times and doing defensible space and mitigating fuel," Paulsen said. "But it was surreal, very surreal, how Oregon is so far ahead in certain aspects of fire prevention and so hopefully this will be a game changer for them."

Paulsen said that the geography of the region had also been notable, with narrow, steep roads presenting an obstacle to navigating engines, as were the high property values of the affected areas. "Property value isn't always like on our mind when we go fight fire, but when you see the devastation of it, and you see the celebrities and stuff, it has a little bit of a different ef-fect," Paulsen said.

The team's departure was delayed when a contractor refilled their engine with gasoline mixed with water, necessitating costly and time-consuming repairs and forcing the fighters to rent a car to return to Oregon. Luckily, CalFire was responsible for the engine's maintenance during the response and the repairs had been completed by the first week of February, with Paulsen and Boos scheduled to pick up the vehicle on the 4th.

In all, more than 8,900 firefighters from six states responded to the fires, with a crew from Nehalem Bay Fire and Rescue also deploying as part of a Clatsop County strike team.

Paulsen said that he was happy that the Tillamook County crews had been able to participate in the response, noting that the county's involvement in mutual aid conflagrations has grown in the last three to four years.

We have a really good fire defense board that is very proactive and wanting to help and kind of grow that and though we are very short staffed in this county it's nice to see that we can still kind of work together to make that happen, Paulsen said. "Hopefully that state mutual aid assistance that we're helping provide now will be in our favor in the future and anytime we need it, it'll come back around.'





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### Tillamook® Takes National Cheddar Day Overboard by Giving Away a Boatload of Cheese – Literally

In honor of National Cheddar Day, Tillamook County Creamery Association (TCCA) is giving dairy lovers a chance to win a boatload of cheese, 1909 lbs. to be exact. On this day, February 13th, 1909, at exactly 9:05a.m., our founding farmers formed the Tillamook co-operative. So yes, really, now through February 20th, 2025, one lucky cheddar enthusiast will have the chance to win (nearly) a metric ton of Tillamook Cheese.

If this takes our love of cheese overboard, we're ok with that. It all goes back to more than a century ago, when Tillamook dairy farmers embarked on their maiden voyage aboard the Morn-ing Star, a boat built out of the founding farmers' love of dairy and used solely to share full-flavored products beyond the Oregon Coast.

"For over a century, our farmer-owned co-operative has shared the same determination that in-spired those aboard the historic Morning

Star. Since the ship's maiden voyage, we've continued to deliver an unwavering commitment to quality ingredients you can taste," said Kate Boltin, Ex-ecutive Vice President of Marketing at TCCA. "Generations of dairy fans have fueled our passion for delivering premium cheddar, and that's why we are going overboard this year by gifting a lit-eral boatload of cheese.

To celebrate our birthday and make someone's dairy dreams come true, we could have stopped at a boatload. But where's the fun in that? Since 1,909 pounds of cheese isn't enough for a cele-bration this size, Tillamook is giving the first 15,000 people who enter a free cheese coupon worth up to \$6.00. Visit www. tillamook.com/boatload-ofcheese now to enter for a chance to score a boatload of cheese before the ship sails on February 20th, 2025.

As the brand sets sail on its 116th year of going overboard for dairy, it unveils the new brand campaign. Paying



tribute to the iconic Morning Star that sits proudly on packaging, the creative pays homage to the brand's origin story and to fans who share its passion for unbelievably good dairy.

"Through this new work, we've crafted a tale that connects the brand's past with its present," said Sarah Block, Executive Vice President, Creative Director at Leo Chicago. The Morning Star is

more than an origin story for Tillamook; it is core to their DNA to do whatever it takes to deliver incredible dairy."

The omnichannel campaign, developed by Leo Chicago, calls to attention the brand's foundation as a farmer-owned dairy coop and features a series of content and heartwarming creative that nods to the Morning Star. A celebration of the rich history and wide

onsite and work in another

business in the community.

everybody out here, I totally get that," Lisa said, "but I think

there's enough people that

would say, 'hey, you know

'That's not gonna fit for

range of multi-category dairy products, the creative invites the world to experience the delight that Tillamook County Creamery Association has been delivering since 1909.

#### **About Tillamook County** Creamery Association

Founded in 1909 as a farmer-owned cooperative, Tillamook County Creamery Association (TCCA) is a Certified B Corporation® (B

what, it is worth it to me to be

its commitment to bringing to market the most consistent, best tasting, highest quality dairy products possible. Guided by the belief that everyone deserves real food that makes them feel good every day, Tillamook' in-ternationally recognized, award-winning cheese, as well as exceptional ice cream, butter, cream cheese spreads, yogurt, sour cream, and frozen meals, are made with unwavering values that never sacrifice or compromise quality for profit. TCCA is owned by a group of farming families, primarily based in Tillamook County, Oregon. TCCA operates production facilities in Tillamook and Boardman, Oregon and employs more than 1,100. The Tillamook Creamery is the largest tourist attraction on the coast of Oregon and one of the most popular in the state, attracting more than one million visitors each year. For more information on TCCA and Tillamook, visit Tillamook.com.

Corp<sup>TM</sup>) and prides itself on

### Housing

Bay City

From Page A1

kids are nearby, you can spend some time with them at lunch, that's the things for me."

Ralph has a lifelong connection to the property, on which his grandfather and father built the paintbrush handle factory in 1957. The pair began the business after asking the local paintbrush factory about their handle supply and being offered a contract for 1,000 handles, which they filled by building the factory, using their machining skills to set up production.

The business employed up to 100 people at different points, and Ralph said that the remem-bers the community spirit fostered by events like overtime Saturdays, when workers would bring their families to the factory as they worked to complete an order.

By the 2010s, Ralph and Lisa were running the factory but after Sherwin Williams bought out the paintbrush factory, margins slimmed as the multinational demanded investments in costly new machinery and was sometimes slow on payments.

This led the couple to the hard decision to close the paintbrush handle operation in June 2019. The couple retooled the factory to work with a furniture company but after a year found that it wasn't a good fit and shuttered the factory.

Since then, the McRaes

From Page A1

56-64 units by B'nai Brith in

Rockaway Beach, came onto

candidate for the grant funds

from the county's Housing

when they applied for support

Production Solutions Fund in

Additionally, accessory

dwelling unit (ADU) projects

would have been eligible for

the rebates, a prospect which

particularly excited Sammons

build those units. "There was

a type of housing we need so badly and that's the thing that

I am most la-menting losing

away," Sammons said.

so far about these funds going

to be on track for an imminent

launch, with DEQ having ex-

ecuted a contract for the funds

preparing to bring an intergov-

board of county commissioners

But then, Sammons received

with the EPA and Sammons

ernmental agreement to the

an email in the first week of

saying that the agency was

that the program was being

the month from a DEQ official

unable to access the funds and

Sammons let the developers

of the impacted projects know

about the pause so they could

sources to replace the yanked

program. Sammons said that

begin looking for funding

for approval in February.

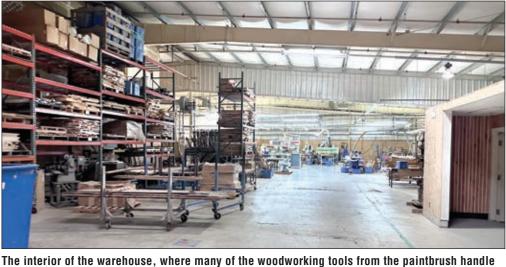
The grant program appeared

due to the lack of other funds to

Sammons's radar as a possible

**FUNDING** 

Freeze



business remain.

have opened a U-Haul business and offer storage space around the property for rent, and several locals have set up workshops in the main warehouse building. The couple also sold two nearby houses and moved into an apartment onsite, investing the proceeds from the sales into the property.

At the same time, the couple has been developing a vision for the property's future.

Lisa said that early on the couple identified housing as a good use for the property but that they had also quickly determined the property's size and history meant it should not be their sole focus.

"We need housing, we get that," Lisa said, "however, there's also a place for other things that the entire county needs. We need daycare, we need senior care or, you know, there's so many things that we need and so is there a way that we can affect that and that's

what we've been attempting to do."

So far, that has meant that the couple has taken the lead on the project, eschewing outside developers to avoid potential conflicts over maximizing profits by dedicating the whole site to housing.

The McRaes are prioritizing the preservation of the 25,000-square-foot warehouse that housed the production facility for the factory. Ralph said that it was important to him to keep his dad's legacy alive by giving local businesses a home. 'What I want to do is honor my dad's entrepre-neurial spirit and the family thing," Ralph

Lisa said that in addition to that goal, the couple was passionate about offering a different life-style option to potential future residents, envisioning a self-contained community where par-ents might be able to drop their kids off at a daycare

able to only get in my car three times a week." As for the housing portion

of the project, the McRaes envision building a variety of housing types on the property to further enrich the commu-

The first stage of that work is a proposed 20-unit apartment building that would be built at the property's far western edge, fronting 16th Street. The building's apartments would be 500 to 700 square feet in size and affordable to residents making between 60% and 120% of the ar-ea's median income, and the McRae's recently applied for \$140,000 to \$180,000 in grant fund-ing from the Tillamook County Housing Production Solutions fund to help with predevelopment costs.

Beyond that, there are three other areas of the property that the McRaes hope to dedicate to housing in the future. One, on the property's south end sporting beautiful views of the coast range, would be for seniorfocused housing, another on the property's east side would target young families with an affordable ownership model for single-family homes and the last, be-hind the apartment building site, might have market rate townhouses.

Those plans are still extremely preliminary, but Lisa said that she believed offering housing for different segments of the population would help to create a more vital and vibrant community that would foster interconnectedness and full lives for its residents.

'People feel more alive when they're connected and so how do we do that," Lisa said. "We are in a unique position where we can actually say, oh, okay, that what we want to have there."

in a field where projects take years to materialize, the loss of possible funding was disheart-'That's been a particularly believes is illegal.

devastating blow to me too because, you know, this work is hard and longsighted and most of what I do and what I participate in or projects it takes three to five years to really come to fruition," Sammons said, "but funding like that is a tangible effect that I could point to and so it's really hard to see that go

In the short-term, Sammons said the change would alter the calculus for the Tillamook County Housing Commission as they evaluate the projects that applied for county grants last month and force a onemonth delay in deciding on those awards.

Looking forward, Sammons said that he thought the change signaled that housing would prob-ably not be receiving federal funding and that he and other housing solutions specialists would have to work on finding local solutions.

Tillamook County Commissioner Erin Skaar echoed Sammons's resolve to continue local sup-port for the affected projects and voiced her commitment to continuing work to address the county's housing shortage. "Tillamook County remains committed to supporting housing pro-duction in our community and will continue to seek funding for these and other projects," Skaar said.

Oregon Senator Ron Wyden shared Sammons's concerns about the extra hurdles being

added in an already complicated field and blasted the Trump administration for blocking the funding in a way that he

"Helping Oregonians afford housing is challenging enough without this turmoil ginned up by Donald Trump, Elon Musk and their legions of lackeys running roughshod over the law," Wyden said. "This Illegal freeze on housing investments approved by Congress, per our constitutional responsibilities, hurts Oregonians in Tillamook County needing a roof over their heads that's affordable. In addition, instead of saving money, acts like these threaten all taxpayers with new and needless costs when federal commitments like these are delayed or torn up."

Despite the setback and the future uncertainty it portends, Sammons urged Tillamook County residents to appreciate the work the county government has been doing to address the housing crisis.

"I hope people realize how ahead of the pack Tillamook County is with the work they are doing in housing and for my part there are very few government officials or you know people like me staffers, whatever, that are housing production specialists, "Sammons said, "and that government just hasn't traditionally been involved with housing the way that we are trying to now and it's not always going to be perfect and pretty, but we are doing something in a way that other communities are not."





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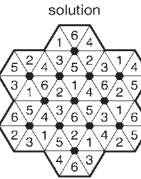
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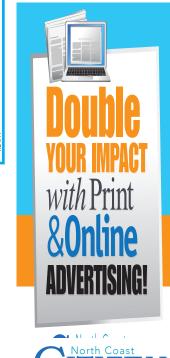
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### **SHOMELUMES**



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#### 999 **Public Notices**

#### **PUBLIC NOTICE**

The Board of Commissioners for the Northwest Oregon Housing Authority is seeking public comments on its proposed FY 2026 Annual and Five-Year Plan.

Written comments must be received no later than 2:00 pm PST on April 4, 2025 The Board will convene a Public Meeting on Saturday, April 5, 2025 at 9:00 am, where the written comments will be introduced as well as verbal comments accepted.

The public meeting will be held virtually. A copy of the plan and a link to the meeting are posted at www.nwoha.org.

To receive a printed copy of the plan, please contact us at (503) 861-0119, (800) 927-9275 (TTD) customercare@nwoha.org. Copies of the plan have also been provided to all public library branches in Clatsop, Columbia and Tillamook Counties.

_	Weekly SUDOKU
	Anewor

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#### **Super** Crossword

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SUITABLE

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# 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: nbumcnsl2020@gmail.com

To feature your spiritual organization on this panel:

Contact Katherine at (503) 842-7535, headlightads@countrymedia.net.

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> Deadline for letters is noon Fridays. The date of publication will depend on space.

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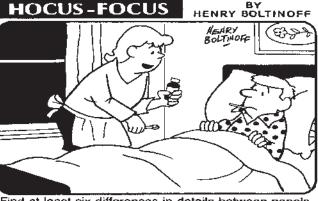
The North Coast Citizen has several options for submitting obituaries.

- · Basic Obituary: Includes the person's name, age, town of residency, and information about any funeral services. No cost.
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- · 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

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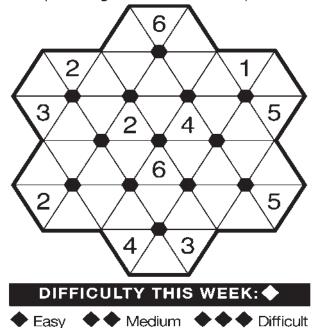


si wod ong A. Apromometer is missing. A. Apron bow is different. 3. Cap is missing from bottle. 4. Headboard is taller. 5. Fingers are moved. 6. Leaf is missing from flower.

# **NOMELTHRE(**

by Japheth Light

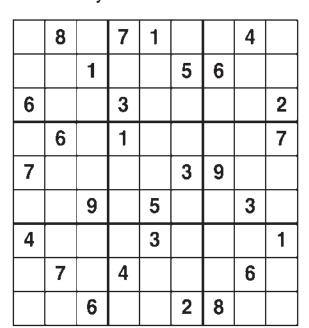
There are 13 black hexagons in the puzzle. Place the numbers 1 - 6 around each of them. No number can be repeated in any partial hexagon shape along the border of the puzzle.



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# Weekly **SUDOKU**

by Linda Thistle



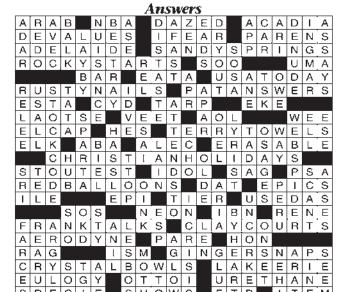
Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

#### DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ◆◆◆

◆ Moderate ◆◆ Challenging ♦ ♦ ♦ HOO BOY!

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**Super** Crossword ———



SHOWS

# Local Business Spotlight

# Garibaldi Portside Bistro's key to longevity

Nine years ago, Dennis and Amanda Cavitt opened the Garibaldi Portside Bistro and word of their mouth-watering, smoked meats quickly spread Their original location was a 30-seat restaurant; packed each day with lines out the door.

"We had people coming in from Portland, Beaverton, and Astoria to try out our little, teeny tiny res-taurant," Amanda said. "We were making a name for ourselves. But we had outgrown the space."

The couple purchased the building that formerly housed the Troller Restaurant and Lounge at the Port of Garibaldi and began the yearlong process of renovating the space.

"The building was in a lot of disrepair, so we were the lucky ones that thought it was enticing enough to put our time, energy, and effort into it. We renovated it for eleven months with friends and family helping us," Amanda said. "Even our daughter, who was four at the time, laid transition strips and sanded boards. It was definitely an all-hands-on-deck experience."

The Cavitts utilized local support systems to launch their business like Quick-Books and social me-dia classes from the Tillamook Bay Small Business Development Center (SBDC). The business utilized the Economic Development Council of Tillamook County's (EDC) Revolving Loan fund with a loan match from the United States Department of Agriculture.

"It was those funds that really allowed us to do what we've done here," Amanda said.

After relocating to their



PHOTOS COURTESY OF GARIBALDI PORTSIDE BISTRO Owners of the Garibaldi Portside Bistro Dennis and Amanda Cavitt.

new, 140-seat home, the Garibaldi Portside Bistro is still just as busy as ever.

"Weekend after weekend, we are stacked with people," Amanda said. "Dennis and I would stand there and say: 'We can't believe it. How is this happening?' There were 45-minute waitlists. People were having all their big moments here: anniversaries, birthdays, proposals and wedding parties. We started making connections and friendships with people that we didn't imagine being able to do so otherwise."

Their restaurant renovation and investment earned them "2020 Development Project of the Year" at the Tillamook Area Chamber of Commerce Community Awards.

"Looking back, we were one of the newer, bigger things happening in the county and we didn't know it," Amanda said. "I really feel like we were a catalyst for other people to be inspired to try and open, reinvent, or invest in their own things."

Since the beginning, the Cavitts have striven to differentiate themselves.

"We really did some thinking about what was already in the area," Amanda said. "Dennis thought fishers would want to get off the boat and have a good burger, some ribs or some brisket. So, we focused on smoked meats."

And those were a hit, with more than just fishers.

During peak season, the Garibaldi Portside Bistro can serve more than 3,000 people in a week.

"Dennis really thinks



most reviewed and cus-tomer photographed item on the menu.

about what customers are going to want, but he likes to get really creative," Amanda said. "We have our staples, and then we bring new things on. Just like an artist wants to create new things."

The blueberry goat cheese

burger is a staple and perennial fan favorite, remaining a top seller at the bistro for the last seven years.

"It is the most photographed and reviewed guest item. It's not going anywhere," Amanda said.

Newly added items to the menu this season include: a marinated tomato and artichoke burger, chicken teriyaki bowl, and a pork belly salad. The restaurant also works to serve products from their literal neighbors, with Oregon Seaweed grown at the port used as a garnish and topping in poke bowls, and fresh Dungeness crab and albacore tuna fresh off the boat when in season.

Garibaldi Portside Bistro

won the 2024 Tillamook Headlight Herald's Reader's Choice Awards for "Best Dinner" in Tillamook County. They also were also voted third place for restaurant atmos-phere and third place for waterfront dining.

But it's more than their menu or renovated space that the Cavitts believe has created successful lon-gevity. As a couple, they see the strengths in each other. Dennis is a professionally trained chef, while Amanda is experienced with management.

"Being business partners and being spouses, you see the best and the worst in each other. We wouldn't be where we are today if we didn't have each other," Amanda said. "You're not always going to be on the same page...but, you have to have the same end goal."

Their end goal?
"To make people feel like
they are walking into their
home when they come here

and that they're going to get good food," Amanda said. The pair also encourages

The pair also encourages new entrepreneurs starting out in the county to get take advantage of local organizations and resources.

"Reach out to your Chamber. Reach out to Tillamook Bay Community College, SBDC, EDC," Amanda said. "Don't be shy to ask people about things or for help. That's what drew us to a small community: people are always eager to help you. That's a big part of our success."

Three years ago, Dennis and Amanda purchased their second business: Barview Jetty Store. They have also invested in rental housing that is utilized by their workforce.

Garibaldi Portside Bistro is currently open Tuesday through Saturday, 11:30 a.m. – 8 p.m. Kids eat free on Tuesday. Trivia nights are the last Thursday of the month. For updated hours and infor-mation, visit portsidebistro.com or follow Garibaldi Portside Bistro on social media. The Garibaldi Portside Bistro is located at 307 Mooring Basin Drive, Garibaldi.

This series is provided by the Economic Development Council of Tillamook County to highlight thriving businesses in Tillamook County. The EDCTC works to strengthen and grow the economy of Tillamook County by working together with public and private partners. The EDCTC works to attract new business, grow and retain existing businesses while supporting entrepreneurship and innovation. For more information, or to reach out to the EDCTC. visit edctc.com.

# Tillamook prepares for recycling facelift

WILL CHAPPELL
CITIZEN EDITOR

As a July 1 deadline for standardizing recycling programs across the state approaches, Tilla-mook County Public Works and sanitation companies serving the county are preparing to accept new materials and expanding curbaids are crosses.

When the deadline arrives, residents will be able to recycle more types of plastic, and funds from producers of packaging will help the county continue to improve its facilities, according to Tillamook County Solid Waste Program Manager Justin Weiss.

The forthcoming updates were set in motion by the passage of the Recycling Modernization Act by legislators in Salem in 2021. The legislation requires all jurisdictions across Oregon with more than 4,000 residents to update their systems to accept a standardized list of recyclables, which is still being finalized, by July 1,2025.

The act also sought to shift the onus for funding recycling from localities and citizens to the producers of packaging, by requiring those producers to join a producer responsibility organization. That organization, called the Circular Action Alliance, has worked with state regulators to develop a program plan to meet the goals of the legislation and has a membership that in-cludes 20 packaging producers including Coca Cola, Amazon, Walmart,

Nestle and Pepsico.

Funds from the organization will be used for educational outreach efforts, as well as to expand covered area at the Tillamook transfer station and hopefully build a structure at the Pacific City transfer station, and to offset transportation costs for recycled material, according to Weiss.

For end users, these changes will have little impact, unlike the upcoming programmatic changes that will see an expansion in what can be recycled.

Number five, polypropylene plastic, which is found in plastic bottle tops, yogurt containers, and disposable plates, cups and cutlery, among other items, will be accepted, as will the plastic film used in grocery

bags and to package bread loafs, clamshells for produce and some plastic planting pots.

Weiss said that his team is aiming to begin accepting the new items at the Tillamook transfer station in the weeks leading up to July 1, and to be able to accept them at the Manzanita and Pacific City transfer stations shortly after. "For consistency across the county, for a clear mes-sage, for education and outreach, we don't want to have different materials taken at different transfer stations, so we're going to make it cohesive and we're going to have the same mate-rial," Weiss said.

Weiss said that the recycling center in Tillamook would likely be unable to accept all the new materials because of

space constraints but noted that residents could visit the Tillamook trans-fer station instead and that city sanitary service would accept those materials in its curbside bins in the city.

At the same time as the changes are being prepared for, R Sanitary, the hauler that serves Bay City, Garibaldi and portions of Rockaway Beach is beginning to offer its customers curbside re-cycling service.

The offering began in January, with 50 customers in Rockaway Beach and 50 in Bay City given the opportunity to participate initially before further expansions and an entrance in Garibaldi is planned over the coming months. Weiss said that the company had a waitlist of customers who wished to participate and that

any resident who wished to be added should call R Sani-tary.

Weiss said that Recology Northwest, which serves the remaining Rockaway Beach customers as well as those in Nehalem, Wheeler and Manzanita was looking into the possibility of start-ing curbside service in those cities.

Weiss also touched on the recent closure of recycling shacks located in Garibaldi, Bay City and Rockaway Beach, which he said had been motivated by their poor treatment. "They were abused, things got left, illegal dumping, garbage, people were sleeping in them during the win-ter," Weiss said. "They were just problematic from what I heard from the haulers, the communities."

# TLT INCREASE Ballot Question

From Page A1

cated to the maintenance of the forthcoming emergency radio system and 10% to the county's emergency management department.

Initially, commissioners were planning to seek a 5% increase in the TLT rate effective on July 1, but feedback from short-term rental (STR) owners at two open houses and the first public hearing led commissioners to reduce the ask and take a phased approach.

At those meetings, STR owners complained that they were already being squeezed financially by high fees from

third-party booking sites, increasing costs for cleaning and other services, and updates to the county's requirements of their properties approved in 2023. Owners also said that their revenues had been falling this year and that they did not believe their customers would be willing to pay the increased taxes and that their bottom lines would take a hit. They also expressed concern over the impacts the change would have on existing stays already booked for this summer, whose contracted rates include the current tax rate.

Tillamook County Chief Administrative Officer Rachel Hagerty started the second public hearing off by detailing the updates made to the proposed ordinance amendment. Hagerty said that per commissioners' request, the first increase to 12% would take effect on September 1, 2025, while the increase to 14% would take place on July

Public comment was then welcomed, with a handful of STR owners and operators renewing their objections to the proposal. They complained about the demands made of STR owners in recent years, bemoaned the cap instituted on the properties in 2023, renewed their contention that visitors would not bear the increased costs and admonished the county to cut its costs rather than burden them further.

After the comments, Commissioner Mary Faith Bell said that she had learned a lot about the challenges facing STR owners during the process. Bell said that she was particularly concerned about the high fees being charged by third-party book-

ing sites, like AirBnB and VRBO, which can range up to 30%, and wanted to work with owners to address the

Commissioner Paul Fournier said that he wanted to see the county do more to directly support STRs with the 70% of TLT funds that have to be dedicated to tourism-related expenditures. He also echoed Bell's concerns about third-party booking platforms, saying that he believed they might be keeping money from the county that it was owed.

Fournier said that he felt an important discussion had begun during the meetings and that he was committed to continuing it and working to address the issues facing STR owners. He also said that he was hopeful that the 70/30 split might finally change,

noting that representatives of the Oregon Restaurant and Lodging Association (ORLA), who have historically opposed any update, had reached out to him to discuss the issue.

Commissioner Erin Skaar then weighed in, saying that it was ORLA's fault that the parties were at this juncture because of its staunch resistance to amending the split. Skaar said that in the absence of a change to the split the county needed to address its budgetary issues and that this was one of their best options. Like Bell and Fournier, she also said that she was committed to continuing the discussion and addressing the issues raised by STR owners during the meetings and working to help them increase their occupancy rates.

Fournier chimed in again, clarifying that the county was

still looking at a host of other options to address its budget crunch and that the TLT increase would only be one

lever they pulled.

Bell concluded the discussion by saying that she believed there was an inherent logic to using the funds from the proposed increase to support various public safety services, as tourists were super users of the system, and this would be a way for them to contribute to the services they need with their tax dollars. Bell also clarified that the proposal would not increase funding for the sheriff's office, only be used to guarantee a portion of its budget to maintain current ser-vice levels.

Commissioners then voted unanimously to place the proposed ordinance amendment on the May ballot.

#### **MAYOR** Bond

From Page A1

passed away in Seattle in 2019

Last year, the Nehalem Valley Historical Society invited Oregon Black Pioneers Executive Direc-tor Zachary Stocks to address the group. While at the coast, Stocks told the group's members, including Councilor Tom Campbell, that Bond had been Oregon's first black mayor. "For me, it was a light-

ning bolt," Campbell said.
"I had no idea that our little town could have been quite so progressive as to have the first black mayor in the state of Oregon."

Inspired to increase awareness of Bond's accomplishments, Campbell reached out to Mayor Kathryn Stock and City Manager Leila Aman and suggested that the city consider a proclama-tion honoring Bond in February 2025, to coincide with Black History Month.

Campbell got in touch with Bond's surviving family and worked with them and Stocks to craft the proclamation. Campbell said that he had been moved by his conversations with Bond's family and that he could tell how important he had been to them.

"One of the things that I could feel in this communication going on is what high esteem his family has for him," Campbell said. "We can look at the accomplishments that the man had while he was a mayor, but it doesn't really tell us who he is as a man, and I can tell that they loved him dearly."

Mayor Kathryn Stock read the proclamation into the record on February 5, and Bond's son, Tim, spoke on behalf of the family, saying that hearing the proclamation had made him emotional. Tim said that his father had loved Manzanita and that it had been a special place for the entire family, with Tim and his wife, Nancy, getting married on the beach in the city.

Tim said that his father.

Tim said that his father had never highlighted his trailblazing status as the first black president of a college west of the Rockies

or first black mayor in Oregon and that he had simply set out to be of service to his community.

"He was a person that broke barriers by being a humanist and simply by caring," Bond said.

#### CryptoQuip answer

When the flea market offered free low-quality aquariums, a huge sign said "Tanks for nothing!"



Payton White completes a contested layup in the first half of the game against Rainier.

# Lady Pirates down Columbians on Feb. 11

**WILL CHAPPELL** CITIZEN EDITOR

Neah-Kah-Nie's girls' basketball team celebrated senior night with a 45-33 win over the Raini-er Columbians on February 11.

Payton White led the Pirates with 22 points and Jasmine Jones chipped in 11, as the Pirates relied on stout defense to steadily build a lead over the course of the game.

White put Neah-Kah-Nie ahead 2-0 with a layup on the first possession of the game, but after that both defenses forced repeated turnovers and after four minutes, the score was 2-1. The teams' offensive woes continued for the rest of the quarter until a Lorelai Keefauver three with just over a minute left stretched the Pirates' lead to 7-3, before the Columbians

to cut the margin to 7-5 after one.

Two White threes in the early going in the second quarter were the only baskets netted by ei-ther team, leaving the score 13-5 with four minutes to go in the half. Rainier ended their drought moments later with three points from the line across two possessions and Keefauver responded with a layup, but after that both offenses again went cold, with the only points com-ing on trips to the line as both teams entered the bonus. At the half, Neah-Kah-Nie led 19-11.

The Pirates came out confidently to start the second half, with a 6-3 run pushing their ad-vantage to 11 before Rainier responded with an 8-2 run of their own to trim the lead to 27-22 with one minute

answered back with a layup left in the quarter. But a Jones and one, and White three quickly pushed the advantage back to double digits, 32-22, heading into the fourth.

Jones took over in the early moments of the fourth quarter for the Pirates, scoring eight of the team's first nine points in the frame, leaving Neah-Kah-Nie with the 38-26 lead with four minutes left to play. A hard foul and head injury sent Jones to the bench with 2:45 remaining, but Neah-Kah-Nie's tough defense allowed them to hold the Columbians in check for the 45-33 win.

With the win, Neah-Kah-Nie improved to 12-10 on the season and 4-7 in league play heading into their last game of the season at Corbett on February



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### Pirates notch win against Columbians WILL CHAPPELL

CITIZEN EDITOR

Neah-Kah-Nie High School's boys' basketball team notched an easy win against Rainier High School on senior night on February 11, downing the Columbians

Clayton Dante led the Pirates with 16, Jordan Lewis nailed four three pointers en route to 14 points and Ethan Hanson chipped in 12, as Neah-Kah-Nie dominated the entire game.

The first few minutes were slow for the Pirates but around two and a half minutes in, their of-fense came to life and quickly went red

hot as they reeled off a 20-0 run, only stopped by a Columbian free throw with 20 seconds left in the quarter, which the Pirates responded to with a late layup.

Dante scored five straight for Neah-Kah-Nie to start the second quarter and Rainier's offense continued its abysmal performance, allowing the lead to ballon to 38-3 halfway through the quarter, before the Pirates cooled down somewhat and took a 43-3 lead to the locker

Neah-Kah-Nie's offense came out of the gates slow to start the second, but as their defense continued to give Rainier fits, their lead

inched up to 50-6 halfway through the third. Hanson sparked another offensive run with seven points late in the quarter and Dylan Sigman chipped in six to send the game to the fourth with a 65-16 margin.

As the clock ran and Neah-Kah-Nie Coach Erick White rotated in his bench unit, scoring slowed for the Pirates in the fourth and the game ended with a score of

The Pirates improved to 13-8 on the season and 8-3 in league play with the win, heading into their final regular season game at Corbett on February 17.



Dante lines up for a corner three against the Columbians.

#### **Adventist Health Tillamook Announces Winners** of the 2025 Art for the Heart Exhibition

Adventist Health Tillamook announces the winners of the 2025 Art for the Heart exhibition, a communitydriven event celebrating creativity and well-being through art. The exhibition, open through February 28 at the North County Recreation District (NCRD) Gallery, showcases diverse works from local artists of all ages. This year's winners, selected by a panel of judges and community votes at the reception event on Sunday, February 2, 2025, include:

• 1st Place: Connie Vincent, Bosch: U.S. Fancy, \$500 prize

• 2nd Place: Hannah Hood, Piers End Version 1 – Perspective, \$250 prize • 3rd Place: Lisa Miska,

Evard, The Sunset Bull, \$175 • Youth Award: Kayla Bak-

ker, Fish, \$150 prize

• People's Choice Award: Jack Ryser, Shimmer, \$250 prize

Each of these outstanding works reflects the depth of talent and artistic vision within our community. The exhibition remains open for public viewing during NCRD business hours, offering visitors the chance to experience art that inspires, uplifts and connects us to the importance of heart health and wellbeing.

"We are thrilled to recog-

nize these incredible artists and their contributions to this meaningful event," said Gina Seufert, Physician and Clinic Services Executive and Privacy Officer at Adventist Health Tillamook. "Art for the Heart is a testament to the power of creativity in fostering health and community spirit."

Community members are encouraged to visit the exhibition before it closes on February 28 to explore the artwork and support local artists. Many works are available for purchase benefiting NCRD and each artist. For more information about NCRD business hours and inclement weather announcements visit: ncrd.org



Shown above, top left,1st Place: Connie Vincent, Bosch: U.S. Fancy, top middle, 2nd Place: Hannah Hood, Piers End Version 1 – Perspective, top right, 3rd Place: Lisa Miska, Evard, The Sunset Bull, bottom left, Youth Award: Kayla Bakker, Fish and bottom right, People's Choice Award: Jack Ryser,



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