

Local business owner seeks funds to build 10 ventilators for Adventist Health

Hilary Dorsey
headlightreporter@countrymedia.net

Jeremy Saldate, a small business owner of Harmonium, LLC in Tillamook has started a GoFundMe account to raise funds to build 10 ventilators for local use. To try to combat an anticipated upcoming ventilator shortage, he hopes to create stopgap devices based on designs provided by the MIT Emergency Ventilator (E-Vent) Project to support Tillamook County Regional Medical Center.

Harmonium, LLC has been in Tillamook since 2015. Harmonium, LLC provides comprehensive network penetration testing services, aiding clients in discovering vulnerabilities, repairing those vulnerabilities, conducting threat modeling, updating infrastructure to mount a proactive defense, and forming an incident response plan, including a disaster recovery plan.

“I focused on the health care sector,” Saldate said. “My customers right now, none of them are primary care physicians. They all practice different specialties.”

Most of Saldate’s clients are in the Portland area, with some in Tillamook. Because of the Centers for Disease Control order sent out in March, they have all shut down. Some are open for emergency only. These clients are worried about whether they will be a business after the crisis.

“As little as six weeks ago, I was looking at booking up my entire calendar for 2020,” Saldate said. “A lot of that was referral work, a lot of that was through networking, and now all of that within the last few weeks has dried up.”

A vast majority of the projects have been put on hold or cancelled.

“The Health and Human Services has issued a freedom from liability,” Saldate

said. “It’s a liability waiver, for any kind of interventions, which is what makes this possible.”

Saldate has first-hand experience with manufacturing devices. He also has 20 years of professional programming experience. He will be manufacturing the ventilators in this project.

“Because this is within my ability, I found this open source design that MIT has produced and I’ve talked to people at the local hospital about the project and they’ve got a lot of interest in seeing this come about,” Saldate said.

Saldate said Adventist Health is worried about the supply chain supplying the number of ventilators they need.



Photos: Jeremy Saldate

everyone can be affected.

Saldate’s goal is to raise \$25,000. He said it is difficult to know the exact cost; this is just an estimate of what he needs. He does not need the full amount to get started. The initial allocation of funds is intended to cover the cost of material to complete assembly of a prototype, and up to 10 emergency ventilators, to supplement existing ICU ventilators and combat the COVID-19 pandemic as it progresses through Tillamook County.

Providing additional ventilators would be supplementing the hospital’s efforts, Saldate said. The way the development process is expected to unfold starts with the plans released by MIT. The ventilator will operate at a similar level as

a traditional ventilator.

Saldate said he will take the MIT design and improve upon it for safety and bring it to the respiratory team at Adventist Health to consult with them. The prototype will have multiple revisions. The process will continue until Adventist Health gives Saldate the green light. Then he can start making copies of the design.

Saldate is volunteering his time to this project. He is not in a financial position to cover the costs himself and need funds from the crowdsourcing campaign in order to complete the project.

Saldate said he would like to have the prototype completed within one month. The projected peak of the pandemic in Oregon

overall is May 5, he said. Tillamook is trending a little behind that.

“If we can meet that timeline, supplementing the existing resources that the hospital already has in place, we should be able to save additional lives,” Saldate said.

Saldate has a consulting engineer, some additional people helping circulate the campaign, is consulting with the respiratory team at Adventist Health, and is the primary hands-on person in Tillamook County, he said.

Saldate said there has been interest in the project as far away as Los Angeles.

The project cannot move forward without donations. If you would like to donate, you can do so at <https://www.gofundme.com/f/event-manufacturing>

Cases

Continued from Page 1

to maintain. Masks help prevent those who may have COVID-19 and not know it from transmitting it to others. Cloth masks fashioned from household items or made at home from common materials at low cost can be used as an additional, voluntary public health measure.

A significant portion of individuals with coronavirus

lack symptoms (asymptomatic) and that even those who eventually develop symptoms (pre-symptomatic) can transmit the virus to others before showing symptoms. This means that the virus can spread between people interacting in close proximity even if those people are not exhibiting symptoms.

The cloth face coverings recommended are not surgical masks or N-95 respirators. Those are critical supplies that must continue to be reserved for healthcare and medical workers.

The goal of this project is to minimize the loss of human life where possible, by supplying qualified clinicians with the tools they need during the COVID-19 crisis, to free up ICU ventilators to support the most critical patients, or support patients in life or death situations when there is no other option.

“The timing on this is really critical,” Saldate said. “In talking with Tillamook County Regional Medical Center, they expect a full force of the pandemic to hit Tillamook County within the next few weeks.”

Saldate said it is difficult to know when that will happen and the severity. It depends on the community’s willingness and ability to self-isolate. If resources become overwhelmed, ev-

Burning

Continued from Page 1

can increase the risk of contracting infectious respiratory disease such as COVID-19, increase the severity of existing respiratory infections, and worsen underlying chronic

respiratory conditions.

There is a severe shortage of personal protective equipment to reduce smoke exposure at this time.

First responders and other emergency services are operating at a reduced capacity and have limited resources to respond to out-of-control burns.

COVID-19 affects the

respiratory system. Fever, cough and difficulty breathing are the most common symptoms. While some people with COVID-19 are hospitalized, most patients recover at home, where smoke from a nearby outdoor burn could worsen their condition. To avoid additional health impacts, all people in Oregon are asked to voluntarily re-

frain from conducting outdoor burning activities until further notice.

Burning that can be delayed includes:

- Debris burning around one’s property
- Burn barrels
- Industrial burning
- Slash and forest burning
- Agricultural burning that

would impact neighbors and can be delayed

Local officials may already have prohibited outdoor burning in your area. If you must conduct outdoor burning, please first check with your local fire agency to see if outdoor burning is still allowed. If it is, please follow best burn practices, which can be found on the website of the Office of

the State Fire Marshall.

DEQ, ODF, OSFM, and ODA encourage the public to use the following alternatives to burning when available:

- Recycle paper products when possible
- Compost or chip yard debris on site
- Haul to a yard debris composting or recycling site
- Reuse old lumber

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March 27, 2020

Dear Festival Participants,

We recognize the seriousness of this Coronavirus pandemic. We know that you have been impacted by the disruption of your lives and also financially with the shutdown or reduction of your businesses. We pray that this letter finds you and your loved ones in good health.

We want you to know that we are proceeding with the Pearl and Oyster Music Festival, with the hope and expectation that businesses will be open and events will be proceeding as planned.

We will be continuing to work from home on The Pearl and Oyster Music Festival to be held on August 21-22. Unless we do this, we would not be ready to open when the restrictions are lifted. At this time we have signed all of the bands, food vendors, and the majority of the craft vendors and community resource organizations. All fees received to this date have been deposited and are being held by our fiscal agent, the Bay City Art Center and will be returned, should the festival be canceled. If the event is postponed until later in the fall, you will have the option of a refund or attending the rescheduled event.

I personally would like to thank you for your support of the 2018 and 2019 festivals and your continued support for 2020.

Our mission was to create a destination music festival in Tillamook County as a vehicle to bring tourists and local guests to Bay City and beyond. As the chairman of the Pearl and Oyster Music Festival, I am dedicated to do all that I can to help our local businesses and all the Pearl Festival participants, so they can revive financially, renew their spirit, and move beyond the Coronavirus pandemic.

Thank you and be safe.
Jody Daily, Chairperson
Bay City Pearl and Oyster Music Festival
P.O. Box 3514, Bay City, OR 97107

For more information contact Jody Daily, Pearl Festival Coordinator
at (503) 931-9721 or email jodydesign@hotmail.com.

H48896

County discusses community reaction to tourists

Hilary Dorsey

headlightreporter@countrymedia.net

The Tillamook County Board of Commissioners held a County Leadership Team Teleconference with elected officials and department heads Friday, March 27. These meetings are being held to discuss updates related to COVID-19. One of the topics discussed was the community's reaction to tourists.

Lieutenant Gordon McCraw said residents are verbally assaulting

people with out of state license plates and one car was egged. Many people are coming into the county to take care of elderly parents.

"I had word that a military spouse with a different plate was verbally assaulted at a convenience store," McCraw said. "In the military, when you transfer to another state, you are not required to change your plates."

Commissioner Bill Baertlein said there are a lot of health workers in the county with out of state license plates.

"Don't harass these people," Baertlein said. "They may be the ones that are going to save your life."

There has been concern in the community about people coming in from out of the county to their second homes. Baertlein said the county cannot tell them not to go to their second home. Sarah Absher, director of Tillamook County Department of Community Development, said they have encouraged people to be kind and polite.

"We are making sure people are educated on the intent of the order," Absher said. "If people are coming to visit their own home, they can."

Absher said these people can bring any family members with them. It is their property and their right. The intent of the order is not to displace people.

Tillamook Mayor Suzanne Weber said she is getting emails from people who are concerned about people coming to their homes in the county. She is forwarding those emails to

the board of commissioners.

Commissioner Mary Faith Bell said there is a lot of tension in the community about visitors. Someone was delivering food at an RV park and people were telling her to leave, not recognizing that she is a local.

"I recognize the feeling because we want to protect our own," Bell said. "This situation will bring out the best or the worst in us."

Bell asks people to be compassionate.

Tillamook County unemployment claims skyrocket

Tillamook is among the hardest hit in the state for unemployment numbers in the wake of the coronavirus pandemic.

During the week starting March 22, the Oregon Employment Department received 92,700 initial claims for Unemployment Insurance Benefits. That represented a 21 percent increase from the previous record during the week starting March 15.

By comparison, the agency received 4,900 initial claim filings during the week starting March 8. The Employment Department continues to take proactive steps to meet the unprecedented need for unemployment benefits, which is largely due to reduced hours and layoffs related to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Sen. Jeff Merkley spoke out after national unemployment claims shot up to a record-shattering 6.6 million, showing the eco-

nomie devastation of the coronavirus crisis. He said Oregon workers and small business owners are terrified about what the crisis means for their families and their futures.

"Behind these historically bad numbers are millions of real people whose lives have been thrown into chaos through no fault of their own," Merkley said. "We need to throw lifelines out to struggling families, and we need to get those lifelines out now."

Merkley said as the federal government works to implement its first relief package and Congress works to write the next one, there should be a priority on people and small business rather than the wealthy and powerful.

"We need to make sure that help gets to every state and territory across this great nation—not just red states or blue states," Merkley said.

"And we need to do much more to help the working families who are the backbone of America, and who are facing a crisis the likes of which most of us have never seen."

Sen. Ron Wyden said he advocated for helping workers replace lost wages. He urged modernizing the unemployment system to include the self-employed and gig economy workers.

"My provision in the COVID19 relief bill supercharges unemployment to provide workers with an additional \$600 a week," Wyden said. "This will be a lifeline for the millions of workers who have been hit by this economic wrecking ball."

Initial Claims

The Employment Department has detailed information for 45,800 of the claims processed during the week starting March 22. The leisure and hospitality sector,

which includes hotels and restaurants, saw the greatest number of initial claims for unemployment benefits (15,500).

This reflects impacts of additional public health and safety measures related to the COVID-19 pandemic. Many initial claims also came from workers in health care and social assistance (7,600) and retail trade (4,600).

Multnomah (10,900), Washington (5,300), and Lane (4,200) were the counties with the largest number of claims. The largest percentage increases in initial claims over the week occurred in Harney and Tillamook counties.

More initial claims data by industry and area can be found on the QualityInfo.org COVID-19 page.

Helping Oregonians

Over the past two weeks the Employment Department doubled the number of staff dedicated to taking

claims and is in the process of tripling it. The agency employees processing claims are doing so at a record rate. They also continue adding secure phone lines to take more calls while also protecting the personal information of those filing claims.

Still, the truly unprecedented and sudden level of initial claims has caused delays and frustration for Oregonians who need help, especially by phone.

The Employment Department encourages anyone who can file an online claim to do so. The agency's website includes a video with step-by-step instructions for filing online claims specific to COVID-19 situations. Filing an initial or weekly claim online helps those who must file their claim by phone.

Calls to follow up on the status of successfully filed claims also allows fewer new initial claims, which require the most time and work, to

be received by phone. The Employment Department has started sending automatic confirmations for successfully filed claims with an e-mail address provided. Other automatic fixes and guidance have been implemented to address common online claim errors and reduce the need for follow-up.

To file an online claim for unemployment benefits, go to Oregon.gov/employ or call 1-877-FILE-4-UI. For help finding jobs and training resources, contact your local WorkSource Oregon center or go to WorkSourceOregon.org.

Equal Opportunity program — auxiliary aids and services available upon request to individuals with disabilities. Contact: (503) 947-1794. For people who are deaf or hard of hearing, call 711 Telecommunications Relay Services.

Nehalem Bay Fire & Rescue makes changes in response to pandemic

In an effort to protect its responders and the public, Nehalem Bay Fire & Rescue has made significant operational changes. Effective immediately, office hours have been suspended for the duration of Gov. Kate Brown's "Stay in Place" Order.

In addition, full-time responders have been

moved from 10-hour shifts to 48-hour shifts. Despite the scarcity of supplies, all responders will be using a higher level of personal protection equipment (PPE) on all calls for assistance, regardless of the nature. Also, the number of personnel responding will be limited to the greatest extent possible in order

to minimize the risk of exposure.

During this pandemic, EMS responders must take extraordinary measures to ensure their safety. If one responder is exposed, or even potentially exposed, it could put the majority of personnel out of commission due to illness or quarantine protocols.

"Without these extraordinary measures, all of our people could be at risk," Fire Chief Chris Beswick said in a press release. "I want to assure our community that their firefighters and medical personnel are still here to respond, but we have to take action to protect both our members and our citizens."

Tillamook PUD Community Support Grants awarded

Tillamook People's Utility District (PUD) is delighted to announce the local organizations that have been selected to receive funding through the Tillamook PUD Community Support Grant program in 2020.

A total of 20 grant requests were received. With so many important community projects submitted for consideration, and limited funds budgeted annually, the selection decision was challenging for the Board of Directors once again this year.

After an extensive review

process, the Board awarded funds to the following entities for their valuable community projects:

- Camp Makuala- for camp facility repairs.
- Helping Hands Reentry Outreach Center- for facility electrical improvements.
- Nehalem Senior Lunch- for a meal-sealing machine.
- North County Recreation District- for the Rex Champ Baseball Field renovations.
- Rockaway Beach Visitors Center Chamber of Commerce Caboose- for electricity at the visitors' center.

- The Hoffman Center for the Arts- for new electrical service at the Hoffman Wonder Garden.
- Tillamook County Composite Flight, Civil Air Patrol- for cybersecurity, robotics, and search & rescue equipment.
- Tillamook County Historical Society- for the Cloverdale revitalization project.
- Tillamook Early Learning Center- for cold kitchen and lighting upgrades.
- Tillamook High School- for exterior lighting improvements.

ments.

- Tillamook Pilots Association- for the Tillamook Airport weather camera project.
- White Clover Grange- for facility electrical upgrades.


Tillamook PUD developed the Community Support Grant program nearly 19 years ago to assist local nonprofit organizations in funding projects that promote economic development in Tillamook County and enhance community livability.

Tillamook PUD is pleased to support the outstanding work of these organizations

and looks forward to another year of beneficial community projects.

- List of grants awarded:
- Camp Makuala \$7,050
 - Tillamook County Composite Flight, Civil Air Patrol \$2,868
 - Helping Hands Reentry Outreach Centers \$10,000
 - The Hoffman Center for the Arts \$10,000
 - North County Recreation District \$8,058


- Nehalem Senior Lunch \$3,236
- Rockaway Beach Visitors Center Chamber of Commerce Caboose \$9,222
- Tillamook School District \$1,476
- Tillamook County Historical Society \$6,300
- Tillamook Early Learning \$3,205
- Tillamook Pilots Association \$3,585
- White Clover Grange \$10,000



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All Veterans are invited to contact CARE at 503-842-5261 to receive an assessment and learn what benefits they may qualify to receive.

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Letters & Columns

In response to David McCall's March 31, Op/Ed: Democracy and Public Service,

I appreciate the opportunity to set the record straight.

The Tillamook Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) is bound by Oregon Public Meetings Law and there are rules we are required to follow in a declared emergency. In the past two weeks things have been happening so fast with the COVID-19 public health crisis that the BOCC has called emergency meetings in order to provide strong leadership in a timely way. For example, when we were inundated with visitors on Saturday, March 21, we called an emergency meeting for Sunday, March 22 to address the issue and make decisions to protect our community. Things were evolving so fast that some of our meetings were only known a couple of hours before we needed to act. In every case we followed both the letter and spirit of the law. Our meetings were available to attend in person or by teleconference. Let me reiterate that we did not violate any Oregon Open Meetings Laws.

Our 8:00 a.m. meetings occur on Monday, Wednesday and Friday and are live streamed on KTIL. We have followed and continue to follow the open meeting law requirements for notice. Currently, to comply with the Governor's order of social distancing and limits of 10 people in a group, we are not able to accommodate live attendance at our regular meetings. We allow the public to phone

in and listen and to e-mail questions or testimony during the meeting.

I want to take this opportunity to thank all those in the community that are working so hard to support each other. The decisions we made the past two weeks were difficult. Closing the motels, short term rentals, parking lots and boat launches was one of the hardest I have had to make. There were sleepless nights in the decision, but it was correct for the protection of our residents. I am heartened by the fact that all seven cities in Tillamook County, our lodging providers, restaurants and residents understand the need to protect everyone in our community over the next couple of months. In this time of unprecedented crisis our communities have come together in the 'Tillamook Way': we fight, we argue, we jump up and down then we come together and do the right thing.

*Bill Baertlein, Chair
Tillamook County Board
of Commissioners*

City Council needs to listen to voters

Just four months ago, Manzanita voters surprised City Council with a resounding NO to Council's plan for a new City Hall building with 30 year bond funding. In response, Council members pledged to listen to citizens' concerns and reformulate their plan to move City Hall with an expensive plan to the Underhill Property and to consider renovating the existing Underhill building as an alternative at lower costs.

Initially, Council members were surprised by the strong voter turnout and

68% negative vote. Voters were saying in a loud clear voice that they did not want to go into debt for a too large, too expensive new structure. Council pledged to listen to the voters and reconsider the plan including the remodel design and cost estimate circulated as an alternative.

Sounds good?

Actually the City Council is tone deaf. Council paid lip service to the remodel plan and have not completed a full cost estimate or even completed an inspection of the Underhill property. Now, they seem to be reformulating their own new build plan: adopt a smaller building, use different funding, maybe even complete their plan without a vote of the citizens for the new debt.

Justification? To keep the staff happy? Because a bank knows the credit from a City is always good because our taxes can be raised to pay the debt? Because it will be their legacy?

At a minimum this is bad faith with their citizens they represent. True leadership by City Council is to open their ears and listen to their constituents. Doing an end run around the voters is poor leadership.

City Council should conduct a true study of a new building plan versus a remodeling plan with competitive designs, cost estimates and options to fund. After publicizing the results, let voters weigh in on the results.

*Will Stone
Manzanita, OR*

Healthcare in the Time of Coronavirus

This is a very stressful time for healthcare personnel, they're on the frontlines of an unprecedented public health crisis, putting

their own health at risk in order to care for ours. I would like to shout out to local healthcare providers as the heroes they are.

Recently my mom received personal and compassionate healthcare services in our home from Adventist Health, which was a great reassurance and a service to us both.

My mom moved in with me a month ago, because her health is in precipitous decline. She moved from the valley, and we needed to establish healthcare for her with local providers.

As mom's first appointment with August Fineout from Adventist Health Manzanita approached, staff called and asked to reschedule, in order to minimize mom's risk of exposure to the Coronavirus.

I appreciate that level of caution and concern; however my mom is not well and getting worse and we need help.

Rather than having us come to the clinic, August Fineout and Dacia, her medical assistant, came to our house and cared for my mom, thoroughly masked and gloved, practicing Coronavirus safety protocols. It was above and beyond the call of duty, and I am grateful.

It is a strange time for all of us, navigating Coronavirus, and I am very thankful to have excellent healthcare available for my mom, and for everyone in our community. I am grateful to healthcare providers for the risks that they are taking by caring for others and I appreciate the accommodations they are making in order to provide care in the safest manner possible. Thank you.

*Mary Faith Bell
Nehalem*

Keep our water safe

Concurrently with the

coronavirus public health emergency that is going on, many people who live in rural communities near the Oregon Coast are also concerned about their ongoing exposure to smoke and pesticide spray. One concern is the smoke and pesticide spray caused by outdated industrial forestry practices that put the health of the public at risk. Smoke from prescribed burning of wood is a major source of dioxin and other toxic emissions, damaging both our health and our environment. Exposure to smoke and pesticides can have both short and long-term adverse health consequences. Those of us living on the Coast are concerned that with potential exposure to the novel coronavirus, which can result in serious respiratory infections, toxic chemicals in the air from smoke and pesticide spraying puts our health at even more risk. We are requesting that the Governor issue an executive order banning all prescribed burning and aerial pesticide spraying. As it is, people who live and work at the Coast are already adversely affected by existing policies that allow burning and pesticide spraying,.... policies that can endanger public health by sending harmful substances into the air we breathe and the water we drink.

As someone associated with North Coast Communities for Watershed Protection recently wrote, "At a time of sheltering at home, those who have sought spray notifications in the past [notification prior to the spraying of pesticides by timber companies so that nearby residents can evacuate the area] will not be able to go elsewhere without additional virus exposure. So, can we please ask that the State impose a spray ban when folks are supposed to stay at home?" There currently is no vaccine against this coronavirus; so,

we have been told to "stay home and stay safe." At the same time, it would be possible to stop slash/prescribed burning and aerial pesticide spraying, both of which are not essential activities. Even during this State of Emergency, the application of pesticides both from the air and at ground level continues across rural Oregon. In many rural areas, aerial spraying is done near highly vulnerable populations, including near health care facilities, long-term convalescent homes, and communities with many people older than sixty.

Please inform your friends and neighbors. Share the message you send to Governor Brown with local news sources, other elected officials, and government agencies.

Call Governor Brown, it only takes a minute, it's painless, and it will make you feel like you are doing something to help, because you are!

Here is contact information for the Governor of Oregon:

Gov. Kate Brown, Office of the Governor, 900 Court Street NE, Suite 254

Salem, OR 97301-4047

Phone: (503) 378-4582

<https://www.oregon.gov/gov/Pages/contact.aspx>

Our name, North Coast Communities for Watershed Protection (formerly known as Rockaway Beach Citizens for Watershed Protection), reflects our working together on a regional basis to insure that the air we breathe and the water we drink are safe.

<https://healthywatershed.org/>

<https://www.facebook.com/rockawaybeachcitizens>
rockawaycitizen.water@gmail.com

*Nancy Webster
Rockaway Beach*



Our heroes wear scrubs!



Part of our COVID-19 rapid response team, Dove Rainbow, PA-C, is a Physician Assistant in Primary Care providing services to patients of all ages. She has been an integral part of our team, helping with tests and treating patients both in our clinic and in the mobile clinic.

In 2019 Rainbow completed her Master of Physician Assistant Studies at Idaho State University.

Join us in sharing appreciation for our health care providers, who are working to protect the health of our communities.



#ourheroeswearscrubs

COVID-19 Nurse Advice Line

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H48880



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Community News

Vacasa

Continued from Page 1

with sick patients. Vacasa employees have been instructed to stay home if they are feeling ill to minimize the risk of spreading illness.

Vacasa notified employees at the end of March that it is laying off an unspecified number of workers, cutting the hours of others in half, and reducing executive pay.

The Oregonian reported that Vacasa was Oregon's most promising company in a generation, raising more than \$500 million in outside investment that valued the business at more than \$1 billion.

lion. But the hospitality and lodging industry has been walloped by the coronavirus outbreak, with vacation travel all but ceasing as people seek to protect themselves from infection.

"With rapidly evolving travel restrictions and closures in popular vacation destinations like ski resorts and beaches, we are seeing a significant decline in reservations and revenue," Vacasa said in a written statement. "To preserve the longevity of our business, we have to make proactive and significant cost adjustments, including staffing changes across the organization."

Privately held Vacasa also maintains vacation homes

for property owners. It has 6,000 employees worldwide. While Vacasa did not say how many employees would be laid off or how many would have hours cut, the company did say that interim CEO Matt Roberts would take no pay through the end of the year and that other executives will have their compensation reduced by half.

Gov. Kate Brown has urged Oregonians to stay home. She said people should "stay home, stay healthy," and she has banned large gathering and closed schools because of the coronavirus.

City of Manzanita staff issued a press release Tuesday, April 7, outlining staying at

home guidelines for second home owners. The press release said Manzanita city staff have received a number of complaints from citizens over the past week regarding those who own second homes in the area choosing Manzanita over their primary residences.

"We highly encourage everyone with homes in Manzanita to please stay home at their permanent or primary residence," the press release said. "Manzanita, and the rest of Tillamook County have limited resources, including food, general supplies, and an extremely limited amount of hospital beds and medical care facilities."

"In addition, there is the

added concern about those traveling from a more highly infected area bringing the virus to Manzanita that has, thus far, been effective in preventing wide-spread infection," the press release said.

Manzanita does not have the authority to force a second-home owner to leave or to enter homes and enforce social distancing mandates, count occupants or issue tickets if multiple cars are legally parked outside a home, the press release continued. Street closures and identity checkpoints are also out of the question.

It was asked that residents do not contact city staff because of strange people or vehicles in town to

ensure limited resources are used only to pursue serious complaints about stay home mandates. Contact 911 for emergencies; for non-emergency situations you can call and leave a message at the Manzanita Police Department 503-368-7229.

"The City is standing ready to aid in gaining compliance during this emergency and will follow-up with reported violations," the press release said. "The city will follow up on complaints by first attempting to educate potential violators. If education fails to gain compliance, the City may, by the language in the executive order, cite individuals with a Class C Misdemeanor."

Tillamook County receives second delivery of protective equipment

Lt. Gordon McCraw, the Tillamook County director of emergency management and incident commander for the Tillamook County COVID-19 Incident Command Team, accepted a shipment of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) from the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) on Saturday, April 4. This was the second delivery that week.

"This was not as much as I was hoping for but was more than we had so I am still grateful," McCraw said in a press release.

The PPE is to be distributed within the county in accordance with a directive outline to the county by OHA.

OHA developed its PPE distribution process in partnership with the COVID-19 Medical Advisory Group

(MAG). Through Monday, March 23, PPE Allocation from OHA was based on population and distributed through resource requests from each county. This process was not optimal in that counties that had COVID-19 positive patients were running out of PPE allocation and the request process was too lengthy.

Upon approval by the MAG, OHA changed to regular PPE bulk shipments of received, purchased and donated items to all counties and tribes. This new process does not require counties and tribes to submit requests for individual locations. The shipments are made to one location in each county or tribe.

If allotment is too small to ship, it may be delayed to the next shipment. The

state will retain 30 percent for state agencies, life safety (urgent hospital or EMS requests over and above the distribution a county is able to provide) requests and OHA Operations missions (such as responding to a specific outbreak). If counties identify an urgent need, those are handled separately.

The MAG plans to meet as needed to update the allocation. A reallocation could account for any additional supplies received from federal or other sources, or for greater impact of COVID-19 in some communities compared to others.

McCraw said he hope to have additional deliveries but is uncertain as to when or how much will be received.



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ODOT Rest Areas open statewide

Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) rest areas along the interstates and state highways remain open during the COVID-19 public health emergency.

"We have no plans to close the rest areas as long as we have the staff and cleaning supplies," said Vivian Payne, ODOT Interim Maintenance and Operations Branch Manager, in a press release.

But Payne said the public has a key role in ensuring the rest areas will not be infection points for the virus.

"Everyone plays an important role in limiting its spread by keeping their distance and practicing good hygiene," Payne said.

Rest areas managed by the Oregon Travel Information Council or funded by ODOT will remain open, including the Interstate 5 Rest Stop at Canyonville, managed by the Cow Creek Band of Umpqua Tribe of Indians.

Cleaning of most rest areas has been

doubled, and signs have been added warning those using the facilities to keep at least six feet apart at all times.

The I-5 Siskiyou Rest Area south of Ashland remains open to all northbound traffic, except commercial trucks. The Siskiyou Welcome Center, managed by Travel Oregon, closed last Friday, March 20, due to concerns over the virus and public safety.

All state parks are closed at least until May 8, but the rest area portion of a state park will remain open, according to Oregon State Parks and Recreation spokesman Chris Havel.

Barricades will separate a state park's open rest area from the closed recreation area.

ODOT reminds travelers that the best choice is to not use the rest areas at all, but avoid unnecessary travel. Governor Kate Brown's Executive Order says to "Stay Home, Save Lives".

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ERIN SKAAR

FOR COUNTY COMMISSIONER

Proven Community Leadership



I am a lifelong Oregonian raised in Maupin, a rural town where my family owned a small business dependent on tourism and fishing in a farm community. This gives me a first-hand understanding of the challenges we face in Tillamook County blending our strong farm and forest heritage with our expanding tourism market.

As the Executive Director at Community Action Resource Enterprises (CARE) I have demonstrated my community leadership skills and my ability to build partnerships and coalitions to address complex community issues. As the manager in a not for profit business, I have a strong commitment to ensuring that public money is used wisely, and I look for efficiencies and ways to cut costs at all times.

I look forward to bringing my experience and leadership to serve you as your next county commissioner.

I hope you will vote for me, Erin Skaar. Thank you!

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H48886

Camping closures at parks, forests, wildlife areas

Three Oregon state agencies will suspend camping to help reduce the spread of COVID-19.

The Oregon Parks and Recreation Department (OPRD) will accommodate current overnight guests through Thursday, April 2. Reservations for all state park stays from April 3 to and including May 8 will be canceled and site fees refunded. Before May 8, the department will review the state park campground closure to decide whether it should be extended.

The decision affects all individual and group overnight facilities: campsites, yurts, cabins, tepees, and services operated by concessionaires. The suspended

service also affects reservations for group day-use areas.

The Oregon Department of Forestry maintains campgrounds in the Clatsop, Santiam, and Tillamook State Forests. Most campgrounds are currently closed for the season and will not reopen for individual or group use. Year-round campgrounds will close starting on Monday, March 23.

All day-use and campground restrooms are temporarily closed due to limited janitorial services. A reopening date for all restrooms and state forest campgrounds has not yet been determined. During this time, trails, forest roads and trailheads on state

forestlands will remain open to the public.

The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) is closing its Wildlife Areas to overnight camping effective Sunday, March 22. The closure affects both dispersed camping and established campgrounds. Several wildlife areas are also currently fully or partially closed to all visitors as part of annual seasonal closures to protect wintering wildlife.

While camping will be prohibited, wildlife areas that are currently open remain open to visitors for day-use activities including wildlife viewing, fishing, hunting and other outdoor recreation. See the ODFW

Wildlife Area Visitor Guide for more information.

The Tillamook County Parks Department suspended overnight camping in its campgrounds to minimize close contact between individuals. The parks department strives to ensure the safety of its employees, volunteers, and visiting public, the agency said in a press release. Refunds will be given for cancelled reservations, less the non-refundable transaction fee.

State park, forest, and wildlife area camping areas are built into relatively small areas by design. Maintaining social distance is difficult. Working with fewer staff and volunteers is becoming a reality, making it difficult

to maintain proper cleaning procedures.

OPRD said to support the state goal of reducing transmission of COVID-19, temporary campground closures are necessary. The details of these actions—such as dates and affected programs—are under constant review and will change as new information develops.

This will reduce long-distance travel for many people, but all state natural resource agencies remind Oregonians that a local outdoor experience can improve our mental and physical health, especially now. Daytime activities are still widely available and encouraged. The usual reminders, plus the new COVID-19

guidelines, apply:

- Prepare for your visit with the clothing, supplies, and knowledge you need to have a safe visit.
- If you're ill, stay home.
- Cover sneezes and coughs with a tissue (then throw it away) or inside of your elbow.
- Avoid touching your face.
- Wash regularly with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. It's up to you to practice good personal hygiene, and not every place at every park can be kept clean all the time.
- If place is so crowded you can't maintain a healthy social distance—at least six feet—find a different place to go.

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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.

Tighter social distancing measures: 'Stay home, save lives'

Gov. Kate Brown Monday, March 23, issued Executive Order 20-12, directing everyone in Oregon to stay at home to the maximum extent possible and adding to the list of businesses that will be temporarily closed to stem the spread of COVID-19 in Oregon. The order is effective immediately and remains in effect until ended by the governor.

Brown's remarks follow: "We are learning more about this virus and how people react to it every day. Not just from a medical standpoint, but from a social and behavioral standpoint.

"I started by asking Oregonians to stay home and practice social distancing. Then I urged the public to follow these recommendations. Instead, thousands crowded the beaches of our coastal communities, our trails, our parks, and our city streets, potentially spreading COVID-19 and endangering the lives of others across the state. Now, I'm ordering it. To save lives and protect our community.

"Today, I am issuing a new executive order further requiring social distancing measures because we know this is the most effective way to flatten the curve and slow the spread of this virus. I hope everyone in Oregon abides by its core message: stay home unless absolutely necessary.

"Staying home both keeps you safe from infection and ensures you do not unknowingly infect others.

"We've already put a number of measures forward specifically aimed at increasing hospital capacity, such as cutting down on non-emergency care, so we conserve masks, gloves, and gowns to save the lives of the health care workers who are working so hard to save others. All of these things add up, and by slowing the infection rate, we preserve hospital beds so that there will be one available if and when you need it.

"None of us have ever been through this before, and that means there is no way to know exactly what lies ahead. We don't know yet when this outbreak will end, or what changes this will bring for our state and for our country. But I want to make sure that we've done all we can to end it as quickly as possible."

About the order:
All non-essential social and recreational gatherings of individuals are prohibited immediately, regardless of size, if a distance of at least six feet between individuals cannot be maintained. Gatherings of members

of the same residential household are permitted.

It closes and prohibits shopping at specific categories of retail businesses, for which close personal contact is difficult to avoid, such as arcades, barber shops, hair salons, gyms and fitness studios, skating rinks, theaters, and yoga studios.

It requires businesses not closed by the order to implement social distancing policies in order to remain open and requires workplaces to implement teleworking and work-at-home options when possible.

It directs Oregonians to stay home whenever possible, while permitting activities outside the home when social distance is maintained.

It closes playgrounds, sports courts, and skate parks, among other types of outdoor recreation facilities. Those that remain open are required to strictly adhere to social distancing guidelines.

It outlines new guidelines for child care facilities, setting limits and rules on amounts of children allowed in care, and outlining that child care groups may not change participants.

Failure to comply with the order will be considered an immediate danger to public health and subject to a Class C misdemeanor.

The governor's office said following the order would save lives while still allowing businesses to function if they can protect employees and customers through social distancing.

While many businesses and organizations that are heavily dependent on foot traffic and in-person interactions have already closed or will close under the expanded order, other businesses that make robust plans to meet social distancing requirements—and enforce those requirements—may remain in operation, preserving jobs while ensuring health.

This distinction from closing all businesses except for those categorized as essential as mandated in other states, aims to minimize unintended consequences and add clarity for businesses who can adjust their business models to accommodate vital social distancing measures.

"This order is designed to flatten the curve over the coming weeks, preserving scarce hospital space and equipment. It will also ensure that any place of business that remains operational does its part to enforce social distancing rules," Brown said. "It is designed to be more sustainable over time, to allow Oregonians to keep their jobs when their work does

not add to the growth of COVID-19 in Oregon."

Retail businesses closed by Executive Order 20-12 include:

Shopping: Outdoor and indoor malls and retail complexes, although individual types of businesses not subject to the measures may stay open.

Fitness: Gyms, sports and fitness centers, health clubs, and exercise studios

Grooming: Barbershops, beauty and nail salons, and non-medical wellness spas

Entertainment: Theaters, amusement parks, arcades, bowling alleys, and pool halls

Other retail businesses will not be able to continue to operate unless they can implement strict social distancing measures and designate an employee or officer charged with ensuring compliance. Retail businesses able to adapt to take-out style shopping experiences can also remain open.

If businesses can have employees work from home, then they must do so. Many of the businesses outlined in the order have voluntarily closed their doors already, to do their part to protect Oregon's communities. In addition, non-retail businesses like manufacturers and the construction industry must ensure that their employees are maintaining social distancing measures.

Please read the full details on all businesses listed in the executive order here.

In addition to businesses, Executive Order 20-12 also orders state executive branch offices and buildings to close to the public and provide public services by phone to the extent possible. When public services require in-person interactions, the order requires social distancing measures to be implemented and enforced.

State agencies must also facilitate telework and work-at-home for state employees whenever possible. While the order does not apply to local, federal, or tribal governments, those governments are strongly encouraged to follow these directives.

The order also directs state agencies to close parks and other outdoor spaces where social distancing cannot be maintained—expanding on actions already taken by the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department.

All coronavirus executive orders will be posted on the Oregon Coronavirus Information and Resources Page after they have been issued and signed.

Bravo Pool-A-Thon participants and benevolent donors

Sue Dindia-Gray
NCRD Aquatics

students of District #56.

Many thanks go to the 75 student participants. Because of their enthusiasm, hard work, and passion for swimming, the event was a SUPREME ACHIEVEMENT.

To the parents and families of these kids, we are truly appreciative for the time and energy you gave to your child throughout the Pool-A-Thon. Thanks for being the backbone of the fundraiser. You all are WONDERFUL.

An extended thank-you to all the generous donors. By pledging a swimmer, you have validated the importance of this vital program which enhances the lives of over 200 children. We are fortunate to have the support and encouragement of a caring community.


The legacy of the 90-year-old Nehalem School Swim Program lives on.

The 30th Annual Pool-A-Thon held Feb. 22, 2020 was extremely prosperous. \$18,720.00 has been raised so far with additional donations still trickling in. 2,474 lengths (35 miles) were swam by 57 enthusiastic swimmers. In addition, there were 18 participants who were not able to swim but were kind enough to solicit donations towards our cause.

This event raised funds to help keep the NCRD/ Nehalem Elementary School Swim Program afloat. All proceeds from the Pool-A-Thon go directly towards the School Swim Instruction & Water Safety Awareness Program which impacts the lives of all students, kindergarten through 5th grade, as well as the adaptive swim

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Questions? Contact Marissa Durrer at 503.815.8621.

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Some local companies still making it work

Hilary Dorsey
For The Gazette

Businesses continue to serve Manzanita and the surrounding areas during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Clark Miller Therapy

Clark Miller, a licensed clinical social worker at Manzanita's Clark Miller Therapy, has implemented telehealth sessions for his clients. It involves interacting with a client over a video/audio connection from a distance, as with Skype, FaceTime and Zoom, for example.

"Like many other behavioral health providers, I've started using telehealth to provide some level of supportive counseling and assistance through the crisis for individuals who are at elevated risk of contracting or spreading the virus," Miller said.

"It's easy to use from the patient's home, and insurance payers are adjusting to cover the session as they would face-to-face sessions."

If clients want to access a telehealth session, Miller said, he can be messaged through the portal or retrieve a voicemail at 971-324-0061.

He added that if clients are not having symptoms indicating risk of infection, have not traveled out of the area, have not been exposed and are without other risk factors, sessions are likely to continue face-to-face in Manzanita, with social distancing as prevention.

If a client does have an indication of risk factors, they can set up a telehealth session from their home. All is needed is a good internet connection, and a laptop or other device that provides two-way video and audio.

Miller's home community is the Nehalem Bay and Wheeler/Manzanita area. He said he started his practice about a year ago and also has been commuting to work full-time four days a week in Forks, Washington.

"I left that position this week to return to this area, again full-time, where I will expand my hours at Clark Miller Therapy and will join a practice group in Astoria - Lagom - seeing patients there Thursdays and Fridays," Miller said.

Current practice hours in Manzanita are all day Saturday through Monday, and Tuesday mornings. New clients can use the website to schedule a free initial meeting.

As a licensed behavioral health provider, Miller is a

member of the Nehalem Bay Emergency Volunteer Corps and Medical Reserve Corps.

Sea Level Bakery + Coffee

On March 19, Cannon Beach's Sea Level Bakery + Coffee made the decision to temporarily close for regular service. Co-owner Jason Menke said he needed to take a step back and evaluate the best course of action for the staff, community and business.

"We love sharing our space with the community and pride ourselves on doing our best to minimize the use of disposables," Menke said. "The thought of going to carry-out was, and continues to be, tough to stomach."

Menke said he began imagining what it might look like to open the doors again in a takeout-only format. He brainstormed with the team about ways to keep the staff and the community safe.

"Friends in our community offered to help," Menke said. "Cannon Beach local Micah Davis offered to dig in and set up our online ordering system, a key component in our ability to minimize touchpoints."

Davis, who runs e-commerce for Danner Footwear, updated the entire website, which had not received much



Clark Miller Therapy is operating via video/audio connections from a distance.
Photo by Hilary Dorsey.

tuning since it was created in 2014, Menke said.

Cannon Beach local Jen Yih added fresh photos to the site. "Jen's a multi-talented freelance marketer, who happens to have a passion for food/beverage photography," Menke said.

"She was also in a Honda Super Bowl commercial."

Aided by Cannon Beach's newly found sleepiness caused by the temporary ban on short-term rentals, Menke said they felt cautiously opti-

mistic about giving the new system a trial run.

Changes to internal operations included no public access to the building, order fulfillment via curbside pickup or at the door with greater than six feet of distance from staff members, reduced hours to limit the number of employees working at any given time, increased handwashing, and increased cleaning and sanitizing.

Customers can order ahead for curbside pickup

through sealevelbakery.com/order, order cashless at the front door with one at a time using the ramp, or call 503-436-4254 to place an order.

"In a culture gripped by fear, it's brought such joy to see our team rise to the occasion and find a way forward," Menke said. "We're moving forward the best and safest way we know how, while taking the situation seriously. We're more grateful than ever to be serving our community."

Off-site county offices closed until further notice

The Tillamook Board of County Commissioners voted unanimously on Wednesday, March 25, to prioritize employee health and close the courthouse and off-site county offices until further notice to all but essential personnel in response to the COVID-19 crisis. The order is effective at 5 p.m. March 25.

"People are our greatest asset," said Tillamook County Commission Chair,

Bill Baertlein, in a press release. "The health of our staff and their families and by extension, the entire community, is our top priority. We have the opportunity right now to encourage people to stay at home before they get sick, and that's what we're going to do."

The county will continue providing essential services. The Tillamook County Health Department will remain open.

Other county offices providing essential services will be closed to the public and remain open for business via phone and email.

"We want to take this opportunity to encourage our community to stay home and continue socially isolating," Baertlein said. "We all know and love people who might not survive this virus. It will take all of us to prevent it from spreading in Tilla-

mook County. Let's all take this seriously and look out for one another. We're in this together."

The commissioners will hold public county leadership meetings via conference call on Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings at 8 a.m. You can find the call-in number and access code on the county's website on the 'COVID-19 Updates' page.

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H44179

Tillamook County Library closes all libraries, programming

Oregon Gov. Kate Brown issued Executive Order No. 2005 on Thursday, March 12, prohibiting large gatherings due to the coronavirus (COVID-19). The order prohibits large social, spiritual and recreational gatherings of 250 people or more across the state.

Brown has ordered the implementation of social distancing measures recommending the cancellation of events hosting more than 10 persons in high risk populations. She has also closed all schools in

the state of Oregon.

In compliance with these measures, and in following recommendations by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), and the American Library Association, the Tillamook County Library has decided to close all its facilities effective immediately, as of 5:30 p.m. Saturday, March 14. This includes libraries in Tillamook, Manzanita, Rockaway Beach, Garibaldi, Bay City, Pacific City, and the county Bookmobile.

In lieu of services at library locations, take advantage of their large "virtual library" online. Through their website (www.tillabook.org) you can access much information and entertainment from the comfort of your own home. They have audiobooks, e-books, movies, TV shows, music, graphic novels and more for you to enjoy without even stepping out of your house. You can even learn a foreign language using their Mango language learning system.

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