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Manzanita discusses next steps in new city hall project

Hilary Dorsey
Staff Writer

northcoastcitizen.com

The city of Manzanita conducted a survey in November and December regarding the city's new city hall project. Manzanita City Council discussed updates during a city council meeting Wednesday, Feb. 3.

Council President Linda Kozlowski said the next phase of the project is to take the information obtained from the survey and take it to the citizens of Manzanita.

"The issues we're really focusing on primarily are funding and funding options," Kozlowski said.
"What does the community see as a good funding model and what are the pros and cons."

The other issue the city is focusing on is emergency preparedness. This includes an emergency operations center at city hall. It would be the utilization of the police area and additional

resources.

"An operation that [impacts] just the city of Manzanita would be managed out at that function," Kozlowski said. "It's not a heavy expense. It's essentially taking what is already there and expanding it slightly so it can be utilized as an emergency operations center."

Kozlowski said the other area discussed was mass care, which is the food, water, shelter and medical supplies for individuals in a shelter or assembly area.

"That's a work in progress," Kozlowski said. "That has nothing really to do with the funding of the city hall."

The funding alone will take years before mass care is set up, Kozlowski added.

Kozlowksi said the city relies on Nehalem Bay Fire and Rescue for regional emergencies. For emergencies in Manzanita, citizens often go to city hall when they do not know what to do.

"The focus groups are

going to be talking about that [and] getting information from the community," Kozlowski said. "The next step will be to go to public meetings."

Kozlowksi said there will be public meetings in March that will involve discussions with a broader group of people in the community. After these meetings, Kozlowski hopes they can come to city council with a recommendation for funding for the new city hall. The city hopes to have an idea of how much they have to spend for the

project in April.

"We'll then go to architects and put designs together," Kozlowski said.

"We'll again take public input."

Kozlowski added that she expects any city hall plans discussed will be scalable, with room to grow.

Send comments to: headlightreporter@countrymedia. net



HOFFMAN CENTER SHOW



Hoffman Center's Feb. show Features the works of Chayo Wilson, Frankie White, and Paul Polson. Hoffman Center is open Friday through Sunday, February 5-28 from 1 to 4 p.m. Courtesy photos



THE GALLERY PRESENTS HOFFMAN CENTER'S FEBRUARY SHOW

Chayo Wilson

I am inspired each day by the leaf I pick up on my morning walk, the colors of the sky, texture of bark, bringing divine to Earth through our Vessel, Age and Beauty, Journey and Story, and the highly charged emotional climate of our Present Time.

I love to collaborate with other artists and other mediums. My recent work is a collaboration with metal artists Bill Leigh and Laurie Vail. We inspire and stretch each other, resulting in art that offers a diversity and richness only possible through that collaboration. Each artist's palette is enriched exponentially. See Chayo Wilson exhibit online here: https://hoffmanarts.org/artist-portfolio-chayo-wilson/

Frankie White

I consider myself a landscape painter. I am drawn to the environment and the spirit of the natural world. These works complete a project of 24 paintings inspired by the varied landscapes between Eastern Washington and the Oregon Coast. The scenes are diverse, ever

changing and always inspiring.

While two prior exhibits represented the fields of the Palouse and the beauty of the Columbia Gorge, these paintings are primarily of the Oregon Coast. My goal is to capture the essence, intimacy and grandeur I find here. The hope is the viewer can enter the landscapes to experience the composition of space, the subtle or dynamic colors, the complimenting textures, lighting, and ultimately the tranquility and relationship with nature. See Frankie White exhibit online here: https://hoffmanarts.org/artist-portfolio-frankie-white/

A Touch of the Northwest Paul Polson

For this show at the Hoffman Center for the Arts, I want to present the sights that have most influenced me in this beautiful area. This opportunity will allow me to share it with the community. There are many amazing artists here, and I hope to present a view and choice of subject matter that is unique to my style and vision.



Although I have worked with many mediums, oil painting has always allowed me to produce the colors and permanence I strive for. Having painted for at least fifty years, this medium and palette has become a part of me.

While drawing and water base paints have been a constant vehicle to study and explore the world, oil painting enables me to bring everything together into a finished piece. See Paul Polson exhibit online here: https://hoffmanarts.org/artist-portfolio-paul-polson/

Emergency crews respond to person trapped in building due to fallen tree

Staff

Nehalem Bay Fire & Rescue units were called Friday, Feb. 5, to 36505 Hwy 101 N., Coast



Real Estate Professionals, for report of a person trapped in a building due to a large tree falling. Units arrived to find a large tree across the roof, with branches and limbs blocking the stairs.

The building consisted of a business on the ground level, with a residence on the second floor. Personnel on scene were able to extricate the occupant from the upstairs balcony with ladders.

dders.
There were no injuries.



Emergency crews responded to Coast Real Estate Professionals, for report of a person trapped in a building due to a large tree falling.

Photo by Hal McMahan

COVID-19 update: cases, county risk level, vaccines

Hilary Dorsey
Staff Writer

As of Thursday, Feb. 4, Tillamook County has a total of 346 confirmed positive COVID-19 cases, according to Oregon Health Authority. The Tillamook County Health Department is monitoring 12 individuals currently, the health department reported during a community update Friday, Feb. 5.

Administrator Marlene Putman said Oregon Health Authority's Warning Week data indicates Tillamook County will remain in the Low Risk category for an additional two weeks.

"If cases arise above 30 over the next two weeks, we would be at risk of moving to a higher risk category, which would be effective on Feb. 12, but we're keeping the numbers down," Putman said.

Final risk status and data will be announced Tuesday, Feb. 9.

"Our first dose distribution for vaccines for Group 1A – that includes a defined list of Groups 1-4 – total first doses for that group are 1,744 doses," Putman said.

This includes first responders, long-term and group living facilities, daytime/outpatient care, all other health care providers and public health settings, and more. Some who had been hesitant in these groups before have now decided to get the vaccine.

The health department hopes to complete doses

for public and private schools by the end of the week of Feb. 1. They will work on child care providers and early learning afterwards. The county receives doses in separate allocations for the first and second doses.

Putmen said vaccine partners will start with

Putman said vaccine partners will start with Phase 1B, Group 2, the week of Feb. 8. Eligibility for those 80 years old and older begins Feb. 8. The first vaccine event will take place during the week for those in this group.

See **COVID**, Page 4

State to speed up vaccination timeline

Staff

Oregon seniors may receive doses of the COVID-19 vaccine faster than previously

Thanks to additional planed doses of the vaccine to come from the federal government, Oregon has plans to speed up its statewide vaccination timeline, state health officials announced during a conference Feb 5.

The state's now projecting three quarters of health care workers educational staff and seniors to become eligible within the next four weeks will have received a first dose of the vaccine by early April, about a month ahead of the state's previous projection.

month ahead of the state's previous projection.

"This is really good news. However, we still have a long way to go," said Oregon Governor Kate Brown.

A quicker timeline for vaccinating seniors means the state will be able to reach other groups sooner too, according to Oregon Health Authority Director Patrick

"That's good news for seniors. It's also good news for frontline workers, people with underlying health conditions, and others who are next in line," Allen said.

The new projection comes after federal health officials promised the state an increase in vaccine doses in the coming weeks, Allen said. He laid out the three factors which impact how quickly the state can distribute vaccine: The number of available doses, the size of the eligible population and the rate at which vaccination sites across the state could be distributing vaccine.

See **VACCINE**, Page 4

Pandemic: Tillamook, Columbia, Clatsop, to share \$250,000 in relief

As Oregon communities and social services agencies continue to struggle under the strain of the multiple waves of the COVID-19 pandemic, CareOregon announces it is investing an additional \$500,000 to support communities served by its coordinated care organizations Jackson Care Connect and Columbia Pacific.

Each organization will distribute \$250,000 to community based organizations serving their communities.

"The cumulative stresses of this pandemic are adding up and people are hurting," Care-Oregon CEO Eric C. Hunter said. "That's why we are working in partnership with our coordinated care organizations to get resources out in a way that can really make a difference on the ground. Our coordinated

care organizations know their communities best and I'm excited to support their efforts to address the most urgent needs of those they serve."

Columbia Pacific and Jackson Care Connect teams will work to identify where these funds will have the greatest impact in their regions, which include Tillamook, Columbia, Clatsop, Columbia, and Jackson counties.

"This is one of many ways that CareOregon's connection to Columbia Pacific helps empower our local communities to determine the best direction for this COVID-19 related funding grant," Columbia Pacific Executive Director Mimi

"This additional infusion of funding from CareOregon will help us provide continued support to organizations that are filling critical needs in

our community, where we are seeing the dual impacts of both COVID-19 and the disastrous fires from last summer," Jackson Care Connect CEO Jennifer Lind said.

Since the pandemic hit, CareOregon has mobilized financial resources to ensure access to health services. This included offering both provider support and community-based grants to address Social Determinants of Health. This funding will allow both Columbia Pacific and Jackson Care Connect to continue to offer support where most needed in their communities.

Columbia Pacific CCO coordinates health services for Oregon Health Plan members in Columbia, Clatsop and Tillamook counties. For more information about Columbia Pacific, please visit www. colpachealth.org.



Indoor visits take place at long-term care facilities

Hilary Dorsey Staff Writer

Tillamook County, being in the Low Risk category as of Jan. 29, is now able to offer indoor visitation for long-term care facilities. The county had previously been in Extreme Risk, which allowed only outdoor visitation.

Tillamook County had been in Extreme Risk since Dec. 18.

Kilchis House will be receiving their second dose of the COVID-19 vaccine Feb. 12 and Feb. 15. Residents and staff will be split in half in case of side effects, said Tracy DeLano, regional program director of CARE, Inc.

DeLano said they had purchased a table to enforce physical distancing. There is no sharing of food of any kind. Visitors can bring a beverage for them-

"Visitations by Zoom or outdoor visits are still offered," DeLano said.

DeLano said they were surprised to

not see a high number of people wanting indoor visitations at this time. Many people are still being very cautious.

DeLano said Compassionate Care came out during Extreme Risk when facilities could not allow indoor visitations. Compassionate Care visited with those residents who were highly affected by the no indoor visitations rule, such as those on hospice care with a short time

A table is outside for outdoor visits with signage of physical distancing. Outdoor visitations remain active. The facility is also screening visitors as they walk in. Visitors get their temperatures taken and are asked a series of questions.

'We're so proud of our team and staff," DeLano said.

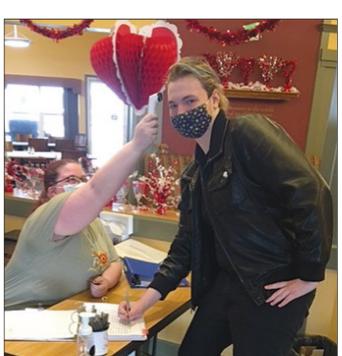
DeLano said there have been no positive COVID-19 cases in their building. Staff has been cautious when outside of work to keep the residents safe.

Prestige Senior Living Five Rivers has implemented a visitor policy, which included all visitations scheduled in advance. Scheduled appointments will be limited to one hour. One scheduled visit per resident per week is allowed, to allow all residents to have time for a

All visitors are screened before their appointment and are required to wear face masks and maintain six feet of

"Inside visitations are subject to change as we continue to monitor the situation and prepare to protect the health and well-being of our residents and staff, which remains our top priority," Prestige Care stated in their policy. "If any staff members test positive as part of our routine weekly testing, or if a resident has pending test results or tests positive, visitation restrictions will be put back in place until all staff and residents test negative for two consecutive weeks."

Send comments to: headlightreporter@countrymedia.net



Health department provides COVID-19 vaccine update

Hilary Dorsey Staff Writer

As of Wednesday, Feb. 3, Tillamook County is at 381 positive COVID-19 cases, Tillamook County Community Health Centers reported during a Tillamook County Board of Commissioners meeting. The health center

is currently monitoring 18

Emergency Coordinator Ed Colson said Oregon Health Authority's (OHA) "Warning Week" data indicates Tillamook County will remain in Low Risk for an additional two weeks beginning Friday, Feb. 12. Final numbers for the two-week period will be

available Tuesday, Feb. 9.

The current vaccine total for Tillamook County is 1,179, as of Jan. 28. Vaccine partners expect to vaccinate 390 more people in Phase 1A this week, Colson said. Groups 1 and 2 are complete. This includes first responders, hospitals, long-term and group living facilities and

foster care, among others.

Colson said OHA plans to notify the health department of vaccine allocations for a three-week period. They were previously notified four days before vaccines were delivered. This will help them plan to vaccinate more members of the public.

Vice-Chair David Yama-

moto said he sees some angst in the community about side effects of the second vaccine dose. Colson said with some side effects from the booster shot may come up, such as elevated temperature or fever. The health department will have more information on side effects as people receive their booster shots and are

working on their messaging. Keep undated on the COVID-19 vaccine at the health department's website at

https://tillamookchc.org/coro-

navirus/vaccines/

Send comments to: headlightreporter@countrymedia.

Medicare Advantage open enrollment available until March 31

Jan. 1 marked the beginning of the 2021 Medicare Advantage open enrollment period for Medicare beneficiaries with an existing Medicare Advantage plan. Beneficiaries who take advantage of this open enrollment period will have coverage that starts the first day of the month after the enrollment action.

Before March 31, beneficiaries who already have a Medicare Advantage plan can:

- Change to a different Medicare Advantage plan, either with or without drug coverage.
 - Enroll in a stand-alone Part

D (prescription drug) plan, which returns the beneficiary to Original Medicare.

"This is a helpful time period for beneficiaries that are not satisfied with the new Medicare Advantage plan they chose for 2021 or for beneficiaries currently enrolled in a Medicare Advantage plan, but who missed the annual Dec. 7 deadline to compare and change plans," said Lisa Emerson, program analyst for the Senior Health Insurance Benefits Assistance (SHIBA) program.

Beneficiaries can make only one change during this enrollment period



and cannot change from one standalone Part D prescription drug plan to another stand-alone Part D prescrip-

Other enrollment opportunities if someone missed the Dec. 7 deadline:

• Oregonians have one five-star plan through Kaiser Permanente that will accept enrollments at any time throughout the year.

• Anyone affected by COVID-19 or Oregon's wildfires may still have time to enroll in a plan under a fourmonth special enrollment period, which begins the date affected. There are other guidelines to qualify.

• Anyone affected by nonrenewing plans (e.g., Moda Med-Advantage) still has time to choose a plan.

Oregon's SHIBA program is

available to help beneficiaries understand their options. To find free, local Medicare counseling help, go to dcbspage.org/SHIBALOCAL or call 800-722-4134 (toll-free) to speak to a

state-certified Medicare counselor. SHIBA counselors can help Oregonians navigate the Medicare.gov Plan Finder tool to enter prescriptions and compare the cost and benefits of individual drug plans, provide enrollment guidance, and answer any other questions related to Medicare benefits. All of these services are available remotely statewide to ensure the safety of both clients and counselors.



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TILLAMOOK PUD

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ODOT to begin repairs to slide area, expect delays

Travelers using U.S. 101 on the North Coast are reminded that a two-week project to repair a slide that is impacting the highway between Sunset Beach and Camp Rilea (milepost 11) is beginning Monday, Feb. 8..

A contractor working for the Oregon Department of Transportation will be applying soil nails to the slide area. In order to do the work, the southbound lane will be closed during construction. Flaggers will be controlling two-way traffic from 7:30

a.m. to 6 p.m. for the two

weeks.

There will be no work on weekends and on President's Day, February 15. Construction will resume on Tuesday, February 16. Travelers should expect

as much as 20 minute delays especially early and later in the day. Travelers should be prepared by adding travel time, and checking Trip-Check.com for the latest traffic updates.

Access for pedestrians, including those with disabilities, will be available and identified through or around work zones.

northcoastcitizen.com

Opinion / Letters

Let's Start to have Productive Conversations around Timber

Ellie Hilger Special Education Teacher Forester Wife Mother

nyone who has been Amarried for more than two minutes knows that the fastest way to destroy a relationship is when there is a communication breakdown. The situation gets a whole lot worse when one or both people begin to use language that dehumanizes the other. We see this being done all over our country. It is no wonder that Americans are more divided than ever. Unfortunately, there is a communication breakdown on a topic of importance in our community: forestry.

r community: forestry.

I often hear dehumanizing

language being used about foresters. I would like to humanize these mysterious people that work in the woods in order to help fix the communication breakdown so that perhaps we can begin to have valuable and balanced conversations about forestry that include all parties, including families like mine that depend on it.

My husband, Jake, and I are raising our family on the Tillamook coast. He is the reforestation manager for Stimson Lumber, and I am a special education teacher in Tillamook county. We welcomed our little girl, Ruth, into the world almost a year ago. She is the light of our life, and we plan to have more children in the future.

Thankfully, I have been able to work part time during our baby's first year. This would not have been possible for us financially if it were not for Jake's steady, family wage income. We are so grateful to be one of the more than 60,000 family wage jobs provided by the timber industry. If it weren't for these jobs, there is no way we or our friends could raise our families in Tillamook.

We love where we live and care deeply for the environment. We hike, hunt, fish, and collect mushrooms and berries from our forests. Those of us who work and play in the woods see the outcomes of proper forest management with our own eyes: we dip our hands in cold clean forest streams, we see wildlife browsing in openings created through harvest, and we hear the birds when we hike. Our forests produce some of the best water quality in all of Oregon; we know because we drink it every day. Since we are raising our family here, we have a vested interest in preserving the environment. We want our children to be able to drink the water and play with us out in the woods. Why on earth would we want to destroy that future for them?

They say a picture is worth a thousand words. We have taken a picture every year in the same spot in one of Jake's first reforestation sites to document our care

and passion for forestry, the beautiful life cycle of our forests and the growth of our family. It starts in 2015 when we planted the seedlings and continues through our engagement in 2016, wedding in 2018, pregnancy in 2019 and finally when we welcomed our little girl Ruth into the world in 2020. We plan to continue this photo series yearly until the trees are ready to be harvested, in about 2055 when we plan to retire. It will be something we look back on with pride.

We are not an anomaly in the forestry industry. We are close with other families of forestry professionals in Tillamook who are dedicated, passionate and responsible about their work in the woods. They are as connected to the environment and the community as we are, and this guides every decision they make on the job.

It's families like ours that make up the forestry industry. It truly hurts my heart when I hear the negative conversations being had around forestry. One sided conversations that do not take into consideration families like ours only create a further divide between the people that work in the woods and everyone else. Let's begin to bridge that divide by seeing foresters for what they are; human beings with families that responsibly manage the forest with pride and care.

North Coast Communities for Watershed Protection needs your help

We were all shocked and angered about the recent clearcut logging by Stimson Lumber in the Jetty Creek watershed, and that has motivated us to take strong actions. In addition to that example of industrial forestry, we have been particularly dismayed by the following: the large clearcuts on steep slopes above Wheeler plus those on steep slopes near the fish habitat of Foley Creek, as well as pesticide spraying of clearcuts that are less than a half mile from Nehalem Elementary School.

We were both humbled and energized by the strong response of so many of our members who wrote letters and made phone calls to the Oregon Department of Forestry, public officials, and news media to try to stop that recent clearcutting of one of the last vestiges of older trees in the Jetty Creek watershed. In response, NCCWP is embarking on a new effort to shine a brighter light on what is happening to many of the watersheds on the Oregon Coast. Even though many of us are very aware of what has been happening to these vital sources of drinking water and fish habitat, there are still many people who are not. It is imperative that we get the word out to a larger group. In order to make this happen, NCCWP is developing a Strategic Communications Platform that will place both state-wide ads produced by groups affiliated with us and our own locally-produced ads in local print and digital media. (A campaign

to encourage more people to write letters advocating better forestry practices is also a part of our plan.) Our intention is to use local media outlets to inform more Oregonians about what is going on around the state behind the "beauty" strips that are left next to highways after clearcut logging.

Please make a donation to support this new and important effort to protect our forest waters and the true beauty of the places in Oregon that we all love.

If you wish to make a tax-d-eductible donation to NCCWP, please make your check payable to Fulcrum Community Resources and write NCCWP on the memo line.

Send your check (payable to Fulcrum Community Resources with NCCWP on the memo line) to: North Coast Communities for Watershed Protection

PO Box 345 Wheeler, OR 97147

Fulcrum Community Resources is a local 501(c)3 organization created to support local non-profit organizations such as North Coast Communities for Watershed Protection. For more information, visit the Fulcrum Community Resources

Or if you would like to make a non-tax-deductible donation, you can donate directly to North Coast Communities for Watershed Protection by sending a check payable to NCCWP.

Send your check to: North Coast Communities for Watershed Protection
PO Box 345
Wheeler, OR 97147
Peter Karnig
pkarnig@gmail.com
Nancy Webster rockawaycitizen.water@gmail.com 503-355-

North Coast Communities for Watershed Protection (formerly Rockaway Beach Citizens for Watershed Protection) is a grassroots group working, through education and advocacy, for better protections of the water we drink, the air we breathe, and the forests that sustain us. healthywatershed.org www.facebook.com/NCCWATERSHED-PROTECTION

New forest herbicides law will expand buffers, improve transparency

Jake Thiemens Silviculture Area Manager Hancock Forest Management

As we kick off a new year with hopes of unity and progress, it is worth recognizing the significant changes to forest practices forest herbicide use.

Forestry professionals and environmental leaders worked together in a collaborative manner to craft new forest practices legislation that passed with nearly unanimous bipartisan support in the Oregon legislature last June

Oregon's new herbicides law

The law—parts of which went into effect January 1, 2021—significantly expands existing no spray zones for aerial (ie: helicopter) applications of herbicides on forestland to 300 feet from homes, schools and drinking water sources. It also directs the Oregon Department of Forestry to create the first electronic notification system

for real-time communication of aerial pesticide applications, available to neighbors within a mile of planned applications. The bill also requires aerial applicators to submit post-application records to the Oregon Pesticide Application Record Center within 24 hours and supporting GIS (map) documentation within five business days. The forest industry professionals, including Hancock Natural Resource Group- A Manulife Investment Management Company who worked together with environmental leaders on this new legislation support the outcomes described here.

Herbicides key to reforestation

Many forestland owners use herbicides to control weeds and brush, which may be noxious (introduced species not native to Oregon) that can out-grow newly planted trees and use up all the available sunlight and nutrients, or potentially cause the newly planted trees to

perish. It is an important part of getting an area reforested quickly and successfully.

Aerial herbicide use by professional applicators is the safest and most efficient way of using herbicides. Typically, herbicides are only applied 1-3 times in a working forest's 40-60 year lifecycle and at the minimum quantity to get effective control of weeds and brush.

Foresters take great care in using herbicides, ensuring applications are done in an environmentally sound manner that ensures the safety of our neighbors. As a reforestation forester, I take great care to ensure applications are conducted when safe to do so. This includes taking into consideration weather conditions so that applications can be done in a safe manner (ie: low wind speed, appropriate personnel on site).

State, federal laws protect

waterways
In addition to Oregon's
new herbicide law (described

above), forest herbicide use is subject to many other strict state and federal regulations. Discharge into streams or waterways is strictly forbidden. All forest applications are carefully planned, approved by the state, and conducted by licensed professionals. Further, every application is subject to compliance monitoring by the Oregon Department of

Agriculture. While forest herbicide applications have been thoroughly reviewed over years, we foresters recognize our neighbors may have concerns. With the passage of this new law, Oregon has significantly expanded no spray zones for aerial applications of herbicides on forestland. The foresters who manage timberlands, like me, take our work very seriously. As a member of the community, protecting water quality is both a personal and professional priority.

We all expect a high level of rigor, thoughtfulness, and



transparency when it comes to forest management. I hope this new set of regulations

provides that to all who call Tillamook County home.

Manzanita does a great job protecting people during pandemic

Dear Everyone Responsible,

My deep appreciation to everyone responsible for creating and maintaining the gracious and engaging mask "campaign" for Manzanita.

I live in Wheeler, in the "elderly" category. Each time I come to Manzanita for the library, bank, groceries, post office, bookstore, coffee shop, or to walk on the beach, I am thankful for the policy, the signs, the cautions, the friendly tone of the materials, and the masks worn.

To all who were and are behind the campaign. Thank you every so much. Sincerely,

Edith Rohde

Manzanita

Limit your time on social media

Tired of having relatives, friends, and acquaintances you no longer talk to or avoid because of their politics? Ever wonder why we never used to have this problem? Watch The Social Dilemma on either Netflix or YouTube?

This docudrama reveals and clarifies the connection between social media and, basically, the disintegration of society as we know it. Or knew it. Humans become products, Your clicks and viewer time the substrate of existence. You get fed whatever gives the corporate overlords what they want. Clicks and your time. That's how they're going to extract money from you. And its relentless.

relentless.

Grim but not hopeless.

The makers of The Social Dilemma urge regulation of social media and huge corporations. We do it in other areas. Why not social media? Personally, I see no other solution and the rami-

fications are huge.

What to do? First time or no, write that email or letter to your Congresspeople.

The government is far from perfect but it's all we've got. Start to talk to those relatives, friends and acquaintances again? They're good people. They've just been fed craziness to get their attention and clicks.

Limit your time on media

CCB# 222261

and be careful when it has you clicking away over nonsense.

Peace and good luck to all.

Ken Baxter Nehalem

When will the vaccinations happen in Tillamook County

Why is Tillamook Country near the bottom in receiving vaccinations? As of today, January 19th, accord-

ing to the Oregon Health COVID - People Vaccinated by County website, Tillamook ranks fourth from the bottom with 422 vaccinations per 10,000 population. Only Douglas, Malheur, and Columbia counties have a lower ranking. While the number of deaths is interesting and scary, I am more interested in the process of vaccinating this county's population. When will it be happening, how will we be notified, where will it occur? Headlines about vaccinations continuing to occur are too vague and provide no

useful information. Neither my pharmacy nor my doctor know, and all of my friends and family are asking the same question. The Headlight Herald should investigate and report, and our county commissioners should step forward and get involved.

PS: Thanks to the mask wearers for keeping this 80-year-old alive.

John Tenny Pacific City





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CITIZEN

CLASSIFIEDS/ NEWS

Network pursues creative solutions for tourism impacts

Thirty-seven individuals representing communities from Astoria to Neskowin gathered virtually on Thursday, Jan. 28, to continue the work of the North Coast Tourism Management Network.

Following the last convening in November, the network identified six key tourism impacts amplified by visitation trends in 2020: trail congestion, human and pet waste, trash management, public health and safety, parking, and business resiliency. This latest installment of the quarterly meeting series focused on sharing work that action teams and partner organizations have already accomplished in these areas, and collaboration on creative solutions to these challenges.

The meeting brought together

network members, partner organizations, and coastal community members interested in sustainable destination management. In addition to the network's ongoing goals -- to improve and diversify visitor transportation options, enhance outdoor recreation experiences, encourage stewardship practices, and champion the value of tourism -- key focus areas that emerged from presentations, breakout ses-

and trash management. Participants represented 30 partner organizations and businesses, including Astoria-Warrenton Area Chamber of Commerce, Built Oregon Marketplace, Cannon Beach Chamber of Commerce,

sions, and large group discussions

included stewardship messaging

City of Manzanita, City of Seaside Visitors Bureau, Columbia River Maritime Museum, Escape Lodging Company, Garibaldi Museum, George Vetter Photography, Heartfelt Hospitality, Lewis & Clark National Historic Park, Lower Nehalem Community Trust, Manzanita Visitors Center, North Coast Land Conservancy, Oregon Coast Visitors Association, Oregon Parks & Recreation Department, Oregon Restaurant & Lodging Association, RARE (Resource Assistance for Rural Environments), Regional Solutions, SOLVE Oregon, Sunset Empire Transportation District, Tillamook County Emergency Management, Tillamook County Parks Department, Tillamook County Sheriff's Office, Tillamook Estuaries Partnership, Tillamook People's Utility District, Travel Oregon, Visit Garibaldi, and Visit Tillamook

The next quarterly meeting will be held from 2-4 p.m. Thursday, April 29, and will focus on solutions to trash and recycling issues in tourism on the North Coast. Details and registration information will be shared with network partners and on the network's Facebook page at https://www.facebook.com/ NCTMN. Those interested in conversations around waste management leading up to the next quarterly meeting can contact network manager Karen Olson at northcoastmanager@thepeoplescoast.com.

North Coast Tourism Management Network

The North Coast Tourism Management Network seeks to enhance healthy, collaborative, sustainable relationships between coastal visitors, residents, businesses, and the environment. We champion the value of tourism for our local economies while striving to minimize negative impacts of visitation and help guests become excellent stewards of the coast we call home.

The network was formed in 2019 following the North Coast Destination Management Studio program developed and offered by Travel Oregon. It is a formalized network funded by grants and contributions from partner organizations and housed within a nonprofit 501(c)(6) sponsor, the Oregon Coast Visitors Association.

Vaccine

Continued from Page 1

That third factor isn't an issue, as Allen said the state could be vaccinating twice as many people as it currently

"That leaves supply and demand as the limiting factors," Allen said.

According to Allen, new dose allocations announced by the federal government mean the state will see more than 75,000 doses of the vaccine a week. The increase includes 11,600 more doses

a week in the state's standard allocation, and 12,000 new doses a week through a federal pharmacy partnership program.

Starting the week of Feb.

8, Allen said the state will begin using 5,000 doses a week to vaccinate adults in custody in state prisons and county jails, as well as eligible youth in custody of the Oregon Youth Authority, in line with a federal court order issued Feb. 3 mandating the state vaccinate prisoners.

There could be more improvements on the horizon. too, as Allen said the state's timeline doesn't take into account the possibility of a third vaccine, produced by Johnson & Johnson, which could enter the supply chain by early March pending federal approvals.

Still, despite the accelerated distribution projection, Friday's press conference wasn't all good news. The announcement came the same day the state announced its 2,000th virus-related death.

"Each life lost to this

horrible virus is one too many. I know each number here is someone's mother or father, child, best friend or colleague," Brown said. "It's difficult, and it's heartbreaking, and my thoughts are with each of these families."

What's more, the health officials are preparing for difficulties over the next several weeks, when hundreds of thousands more Oregonians are in line for a relatively short supply of vaccines.

'Next week, when seniors begin to become eligible, we will see some degree of chaos," Allen said Friday. "Next week, many older adults will inevitably voice frustration. Next week, you will not have to look hard to see people experiencing confusion. We will fall short."

The smooth rollout of vaccines to Oregon's elderly will require patience and understanding, he emphasized. He noted that not everyone who becomes eligible will get a vaccine right away, but may have to wait several weeks to move to the front of the line.

"As we've said all along, our limitation isn't capacity," Allen said. "It's supply."

Some pharmacies across the state will soon have doses of the vaccine to administer to eligible individuals, Allen said. That'll be one option for seniors to get vaccinated, alongside vaccine clinics, local public health authorities and longterm care facilities.

According to the state's vaccination timeline, individuals 80 and older will be eligible for vaccines Feb. 8. Those 75 and older will be eligible on Feb. 15, and those 70 and up will be eligible on Feb. 22. On March 1, anyone 65 or older will be eligible for a vaccine.

Health officials have developed several methods for getting information about getting a vaccine. The state's covidvaccine.oregon.gov website contains general information about the vaccine and vaccination eligibility.

Starting Feb. 8, that website will be home to a "Get Vaccinated Oregon" tool developed to help individuals determine their eligibility for

a vaccine, find vaccination events across the state and register for alerts about their eligibility.

The tool won't guarantee a place in line, as vaccination appointments are made by vaccine providers.

People call also text "ORCOVID" to 898211 to get text updates about nearby clinics in English and Spanish, or email OR-COVID@211info.org with questions.

As a last resort, statewide vaccine eligibility information is available by calling 211 or 866-698-6155, though officials caution that wait times may be very long given the high call volume, and Allen suggested seniors should wait until their age group is eligible before reaching out for more information.

"I'm asking older Oregonians for patience, in exchange for this promise: While it will take time, every senior who wants to get vaccinated will get a vaccine in the coming weeks," Allen

Serving North Tillamook County since 1996

Publisher Joe Warren

Reporter Hilary Dorsey,

email headlightreporter@countrymedia.net Sales Katherine Mace, email headlightads@countrymedia.net

Ad Production Stephania Baumgart **PHONE** 503-842-7535 • **FAX** 503-842-8842

EMAIL editor@northcoastcitizen.com WEBSITE northcoastcitizen.com

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

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

Obituaries

The North Coast Citizen has several options for submitting obituaries.

- · Basic Obituary: Includes the person's name, age, town of residency, and information about any funeral services. No cost.
- Custom Obituary: You choose the length and wording of the announcement. The cost is \$75 for the first 200 words, \$50 for each additional 200 words. Includes a small photo at no additional cost.
- Premium Obituary: Often used by families who wish to include multiple photos with a longer announcement, or who wish to run a thank-you. Cost varies based on the length of the announcement.
- Obituaries need to be submitted by Friday at 5 p.m. the week prior to publication.

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

Covid

Continued from Page 1

ity form for the COVID-19

The health center has

launched an online eligibil-





- Location: City of Garibaldi Oregon
- Salary Range: \$80,000.00 \$85,000.00
 - Deadline Date: 3/5/2021

See full job description details at www.ci.garibaldior.us

H63019

older to gather information of those interested in being vaccinated. You can fill out the form or, if you cannot access the form, call 503-842-3914. The form is available at https://bit.ly/3tspnxo

Putman said the county will keep getting vaccinations but it will be in small amounts. By filling out the form, the health department will call you when a vaccination site is available. If you have questions, call the health center's vaccine information line at 503-842-

The health department is

still waiting for more information from the state about vaccinations for the general population.

Adventist Health Tillamook President Eric Swanson said 261 people are currently hospitalized in Oregon with COVID-19 and 764 ventilators are available. Adventist Health Tillamook Hospital has given a total of 989 vaccines, to date. Over 75 percent of the hospital's medical staff have been vaccinated.

"Eighty percent have actually received their second shot," Swanson said. "We're continuing to get people vaccinated."

Send comments to: headlightreporter@countrymedia.net

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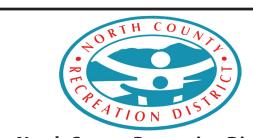
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Senators Wyden, Merkley introduce legislation to protect Oregon rivers

A local coalition of clean water advocates, local elected officials, hunters and anglers, small business leaders, veterans and other community members are thanking Senators Ron Wyden and Jeff Merkley Wednesday, Feb. 3, for introducing the River Democracy Act of 2021, which will designate rivers across the state as part of the National Wild and Scenic

Rivers System. The legislation is a direct result of a nomination process where Oregonians recommended their favorite rivers for permanent protection. Wyden's office received over 15,000 nominations for thousands of miles of rivers from residents across the state, showing both the key role these rivers play in our communities and the strong local support for protecting them for the benefit of future generations.

Currently, only two percent (2,173 miles) of the state's 110,000 miles of rivers are protected as wild and scenic. The River Democracy Act of 2021 is a testament to Oregonians' commitment to conservation, healthy living and outdoor recreation. From meandering streams through quiet old-growth forests like

Drift Creek, to short but incredibly scenic streams sheltered by Sitka spruce trees that see thousands of visitors each year like those in the Cape Perpetua Scenic Area, the proposed rivers on the Central Oregon Coast offer important scenic, recreational, fisheries, wildlife and ecological values.

Kate Crump, owner of Frigate Travel, and coastal resident, stated: "Senator Wyden has been a champion for Oregon rivers his entire career, helping to protect many of the places my family's fishing guide business relies upon. His historic move today will help salmon and steelhead in a warming climate and make Oregon The Wild and Scenic Capital of the World!"

The River Democracy Act of 2021 comes at a critical time during the COVID-19 pandemic as Oregonians have turned to public lands and rivers for their physical, emotional and mental health. The senators' legislation is a recognition of the restorative value of nature, especially during an unprecedented health crisis. In addition, millions of Oregon residents rely on Oregon's rivers and streams for clean drinking

water waters for their families, farms and businesses. This includes tributaries to the Nestucca River, vital to salmon and other native fish production for the region. Protecting rivers as wild and scenic will ensure that these streams continue to provide excellent fish habitat and fisheries to sustain coastal

communities. Bob Rees, a professional fishing guide of 25 years on the Oregon coast, said, "I've spent my career navigating these unique rivers, helping Oregonians and visitors experience the thrill of catching a wild salmon or steelhead. I strongly support Senator Wyden's leadership to expand Wild & Scenic River designations along the coast to protect and recover our pristine rivers and preserve access for future generations.'

The bill is also a recognition of the role that outdoor recreation, tourism and other businesses supported by rivers will play in getting local, rural economies back on their feet. Wild and scenic river designations will protect these waters, while allowing traditional activities like hunting and fishing to continue. Outdoor recreation in the state supports 172,200 jobs



and generates \$16.4 billion in consumer spending.

For example, the North Fork of the Siletz River boasts rapids that attract whitewater kayakers from near and far. Its watershed contains the Valley of the Giants, a BLM-designated outstanding natural area with ancient Douglas fir and western hemlock trees, many over 400 years old and over 200 feet tall. The North Fork

is home to spring chinook

salmon, cutthroat trout,
Pacific lamprey and the only
known native run of summer
steelhead on the northern
Oregon coast.

"Thank you Senator
Wyden for your continued
leadership to promote and
preserve access to Oregon's
beautiful outdoor areas. Tourism and outdoor recreation
are so important to the Oregon Coast and its businesses
and your bill will help these
critical economic sectors in

our coastal communities," said former state Senator Arnie Roblan, whose district included much of the coastal region.

Protecting rivers like the North Fork Siletz, Drift Creek, and the Siltcoos River on the Oregon Coast is a commitment to future generations that they will be able to paddle, hike, fish, boat, and see the same wild rivers current residents have been able to enjoy.

2020 in Kindsight: OCVA recognizes 20 of the kindest coasties

Glass art made from wildfire ash, free books sent to your quarantined door, a peaceful gathering held to honor Black History Month and the list goes on. In what has repeatedly been called difficult, divisive and pivotal, the past year also highlighted the resilience of the Oregon Coast and its communities. The Oregon Coast Visitors Association (OCVA) set out to prove that by recognizing 20 of the kindest people along all 363 miles of the coast.

Perhaps your kindsight binoculars have been sitting idle in your new 'working from home' office. Allow us to help you dust those off. Audrey Long and Kirista Trask opened an art gallery to focus on underrepresented artists in rural Oregon, Harv Schubothe helped raise over \$300K for furloughed caddies at Bandon Dunes, and Carrie Oldright used her crafting expertise to coordinate hundreds of handmade masks donated to the Lower Umpqua Hospital. What else can you find through your lens?

"Taking time to shift our eyes from the uncertain horizon to the abundance of creativity and innovation that already exists in our region has been an inspiring reminder of how strong and diverse our tourism industry is," said Deputy Director

Arica Sears.

The OCVA team had the opportunity to call each individual, thank them for their contributions this past year and gift them their own 'Be Kind' t-shirt.

This recognition was part of OCVA's larger 'Be Kind to the Coast' campaign which includes coordination with land management agencies, ongoing stewardship messaging on social media channels and a new clothing line to accompany these messages. All messaging (and proceeds from the Be Kind products) educate visitors on how to behave appropriately and safely while on the Oregon Coast. Check out the final "2020 in Kindsight" list for inspiration from the past year and do not forget to use those kindsight binoculars every now and

The 2020 in Kindsight

Jenee Pearce-Mushen (Clean it)

Nothing says 'dedicated' quite like picking up trash on your favorite beaches. Pearce-

Mushen has served as a Zone Captain for SOLVE's beach cleanups for many years. In 2020, she hosted six beach cleanups of Cannon Beach using SOLVE's COVID-19 Event Guidelines. She led a July 5 Cleanup, a cleanup for the Summer Beach Cleanup Series as well as cleanups that were part of the Beach & Riverside Cleanup in September. Her positive "can do" attitude is inspiring and her passion for clean beaches is incomparable.

Victor + Jennifer Troxel (Offer it)

The Troxels own Troxel's Gem and Jewelry Shop in the heart of Rockaway Beach. They are actively involved in community efforts including organizing the Rockaway Beach Merchants Association and creating a free mini-golf course that families love, with a theme of the "yellow brick road." This year, they have also helped improve beach access by providing beach wheelchairs for those with mobility issues. They have one of three wheelchairs funded by Visit Tillamook Coast and maintain the chair as well as manage its use for

æ.
David McCall (Recycle it)



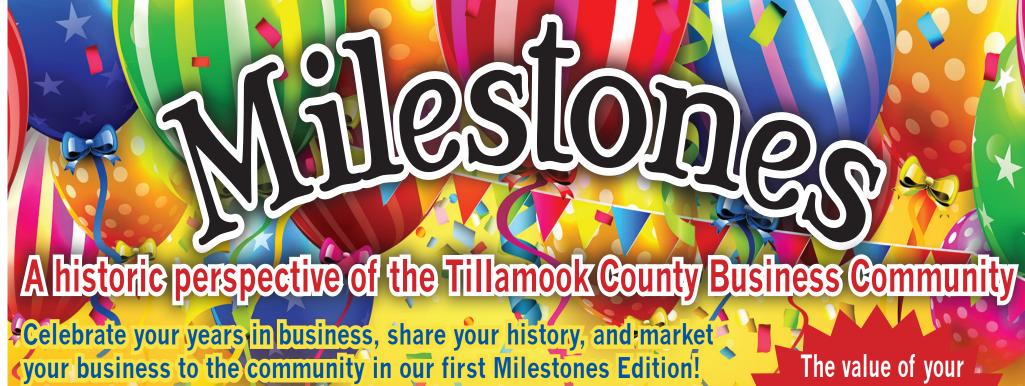
David McCall has worked tirelessly during 2020 to ensure that recycling and solid waste management continued to be available to all Tillamook County residents. He personally worked the transfer stations in both North and South County to ensure all residents had the ability to recycle. During the fires in Bay City when garbage services could have been interrupted, he worked with the haulers

to ensure and help craft an emergency plan where there was none, so that no residents would be without service.

Ingrid Henrickson (Build it)

As a top notch volunteer for Trailkeepers of Oregon, Henrickson was a big part of the outstanding trail infrastructure that provides incredible outdoor experiences on the Oregon Coast. Since January of 2020 Henrickson has participated in dozens of trail stewardship events on the North Coast. Working on projects ranging from trail repair and maintenance, to new trail construction, she always exhibits a positive attitude and a hungry spirit to learn and grow.

See the full Kindsight list at https://visittheoregoncoast. com/industry-news/2020-inkindsight/



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