



Tillamook County  
Graduation Keepsake

Inside

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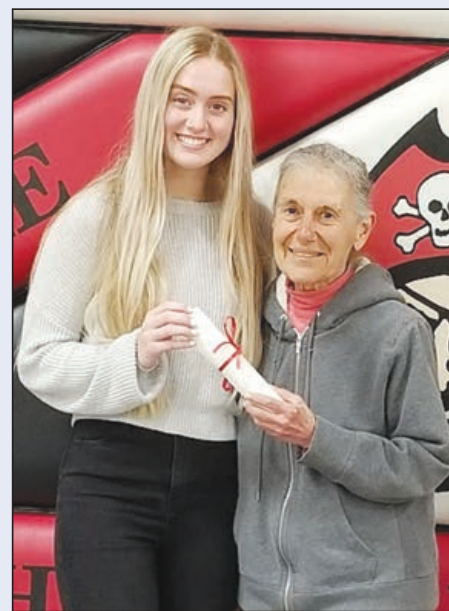
## NKN High School celebrates Graduation



Neah-Kah-Nie High School seniors sit in their caps and gowns as they prepare for commencement exercises. See all seniors and Valedictorian and Salutatorian messages inside this issue. *Courtesy photo*

### STUDENT SUCCESS

## Salutatorian awarded many scholarships



Emma Miller being presented with the coveted North Tillamook County Women's Association Scholarship. *Photo provided*

Emma Miller, senior at Neah-Kah-Nie High School, has received the 2022 North Tillamook County Women's Association Scholarship.

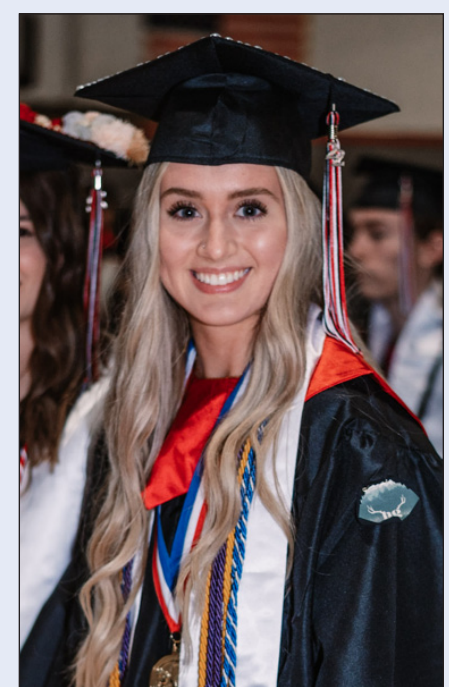
Emma is an exceptional student, leader, and athlete. She plans to attend Ohio State University to study dental hygiene.

Emma is a recipient of the President's Education Award, which recognizes outstanding academic excellence. She is the Chapter Secretary of the National Honor Society and Leo's Club. In student government, Emma served as the Junior Class Representative. She is 7-year band member and now first trumpet chair, and has been selected for honor band performances. Emma is also an accomplished athlete, earning recognition on the track, volleyball, basketball and cross country teams.

As observed by one of her teachers, "Managing high levels of success in each of her activities is no easy feat."

The North Tillamook County Women's Association Scholarship was originated in 2007 by Jan Markle to support the educational plans of a woman graduating from Neah-Kah-Nie High School. Although traditional fundraising events have been curtailed, the scholarship fund has been sustained through generous donations from members and individuals in this community.

Miller is also Neah-Kah-Nie High School Graduating Class of 2022 Salutatorian. Emma graduated with a GPA of 4.329. Emma received the Senior Pirate Athlete Award. Emma was also a member of National Honor Society including holding position of secretary. Emma also earned the Rotary Club of Tillamook Scholarship, Kiwanis Scholarship, Rockaway Beach Lions Scholarship, Thomas John Hoeffert Memorial Scholarship, Eugene Schmuck Foundation Scholarship, and the RTI—Nehalem Telecom Scholarship. *To contribute to the 2023 Scholarship Fund, please contact the North Tillamook County Women's Association at PO Box 73, Manzanita, OR 97130.*



## NKN School Dist. highlights upgrades

Hilary Dorsey

Staff Writer

Neah-Kah-Nie School District will hold two ribbon cutting ceremonies Thursday, June 16, for covered play areas and play equipment, solar projects and emergency management projects at Nehalem Elementary School and Garibaldi Grade School. The ceremonies will take place at 12:30 p.m. at Nehalem Elementary School and at 2:15 p.m. at Garibaldi Grade School.

Neah-Kah-Nie School District Superintendent Paul Erlebach said the idea of covered play structures had been a dream of Nehalem Elementary School and Garibaldi Grade School Site Councils and Parent Teachers Organizations for decades. This dream became a reality when the school board voted to fund both projects at around \$1.5 million per site.

Kristi Woika, principal of Nehalem Elementary School, said the new covered play area and play equipment has made it possible for students to be outside for recess every day. This was not possible in the past when it rained.

"Our students get outside, rain or shine, and run around in the fresh air to play with each other," Woika said. "We are able to use this space for outdoor assemblies and meetings too."

Each year, RTI Nehalem Telecom gives the school money from each long-distance phone call that is made through their company, Woika added. Nehalem Elementary School has been saving that money for years and spent the \$20,132 in funds to invest in a high-quality play structure and "10 Spin" Merry Go Round.

Many hours of planning were involved in the design of each covered play structure. What was not include in the design was

ing the structures as cafeterias and outdoor classrooms during the pandemic.

"We also used the new area as a spot for our students to gather when arriving at each school to be screened prior to entering the building when that was required during the pandemic," Woika said. "I'm not sure how NES would have made it through the pandemic without that area to use for screening students, recesses, lunches, parent meetings, staff gatherings, hosting parent, school and family events, end of year celebrations and staff trainings. The covered play area is used all day long in various ways and [is] integral to our school program."

Garibaldi Grade School Principal Janmarie Nugent said the covered play structure and equipment has been a wonderful addition for students and staff for recesses and for students to be outside throughout the day. In the past, the school had to share the gym with the PE class and students would often have to have inside recess in the classrooms when the gym was not available.

"We have been able to use the outside play structure for different classroom lessons when we have partnered with other agencies," Nugent said. "It has provided a place for many of our summer enrichment activities for families and students, which was a much safer option than being indoors all the time."

Erlebach said the idea of placing solar panels at each school was the dream of Manzanita resident and architect Tom Bender. Bender worked with Oregon Clean Power, Tillamook PUD, Neah-Kah-Nie School District, and others to secure grant funding for the solar project.

"Initially, the solar panels were designed for school roofs, however, once the outdoor play structures were funded, solar panels were included in the design on the play structure roofs," Erlebach said.

Architect Jim Fanjoy said the district saw the project as a collaboration with the two communities where they are located. The two schools are community



Garibaldi Grad School has a new covered play area. *Photos courtesy of Neah-Kah-Nie School Dist.*

hubs, where people gather to recreate and socialize.

"We added user-controlled lighting with timers so that the basketball courts can be used after hours by community members," Fanjoy said.

The school district worked with Nehalem Bay Emergency Volunteer Corps, City of Nehalem and the City of Garibaldi to develop plans for each covered play structure to serve as earthquake/tsunami reunification sites.

"In the event of a community-wide emergency or natural disaster, the 5,000 square feet of dry space in the buildings provided can be used for gathering, shelter and supply distribution," Fanjoy said. "We integrated solar panels and a small battery system so that we can keep the lights on and charge cell phones and radios."

Bonneville Environmental Foundation provided partial funding and in-kind support from Clean Energy. Bright Futures. (CE), the foundation's national clean energy, career-connected program. CE collaborated with Tillamook PUD and Neah-Kah-

Nie School District to hold student solar car challenges where students from Garibaldi Grade School and Nehalem Elementary School worked with utility professionals to build and race solar cars.

"CE is currently working with Neah-Kah-Nie School District to design a teacher professional development workshop to support integration of renewable energy and electricity content into engaging STEM lessons for students," said Chaun MacQueen and Parker Mullins of Bonneville Environmental Foundation. "Teachers will have access to CE curriculum resources and the district will receive durable STEM kits that will facilitate hands-on activities for all students to work on place-based educational lessons that link the real-world solar and resilience project to hands-on lessons in the classroom."

"I would like to express my gratitude to the NKN School Board and all agencies and individuals who worked on this project," Erlebach said. "Special thanks to Tom Bender, who was instrumental in advocating for the solar panel project."



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# NKN Grad experienced an amazing senior year

**Mike Weber**  
*For the Citizen*

Matt Spellman of Bay City, enjoyed an absolutely amazing senior year, culminated by his graduation along with 36 other classmates on June 3 at Neah-Kah-Nie High School in Rockaway Beach.

Matt certainly experienced a number of other memorable events this year as well. The highlight of course was when he fulfilled his goal and earned a roster spot on the Pirates OSAA Class 2A boys varsity basketball team last winter. It truly represented the thrill of a lifetime for Spellman.

For most teenagers, competing on their high school's varsity basketball team might not really seem like that big of a deal. For Spellman, it meant everything to him. When you consider that Spellman overcame the physical challenge of having cerebral palsy, it was undoubtedly an incredible and awesome accomplishment that likely ranks second to none in the history of Neah-Kah-Nie High School athletics.

Spellman has always enjoyed basketball and he started playing competitively as a young boy of age six on a YMCA team in Tillamook. Prior to his senior year, Spellman played on the Pirates junior varsity basketball team for three seasons. When he was informed by second-year Coach Erick White last November that he earned his selection to the Pirates varsity squad, it represented the culmination of years of hard work for Spellman and he was definitely on cloud nine at that particular moment.

"It was a lot of work for me to get up to the level to compete on the varsity squad," said Spellman, a 6-foot-1 wing. "The highlight of my basketball career was definitely making the varsity team for sure. There were some games that I would get in and play well where I would score points. There's games against certain teams, like Nestucca in an area rivalry game, that I felt like I would really like to score against them. Starting back-to-back games for the first time ever during

the season was a pretty big highlight too."

Despite his physical limitations, Spellman courageously overcame the disability of having cerebral palsy and he played on the football team at Garibaldi Grade School in fifth and sixth grade. Spellman played defensively as a safety and he also played on special teams.

Spellman came off the bench as a substitute last season for the Pirates, who had a 6-10 Northwest League record and they were 8-10 overall. Spellman scored a varsity career-high six points Feb. 7 in a 77-34 win over the Gaston Greyhounds (0-20) at Gaston High School. During his sophomore year, Spellman scored a career-high 12 points during a Pirates JV contest.

The Feb. 7 contest was one of two late season games in which he had a very special opportunity to experience when he was a member of the Pirates starting five lineup for the first time ever. Spellman was also in the starting lineup for a Feb. 3 Neah-Kah-Nie home game (a 63-41 loss) on Senior Night versus the No. 11 ranked Mannahouse Christian Academy Lions (21-7).

On Feb. 24, Spellman was able to have a once-in-a-lifetime and unforgettable experience. Matt and his parents Cheryl and Brandon Spellman attended the Portland Trailblazers NBA basketball game versus the Golden State Warriors at the Moda Center in Portland. The Warriors have been Spellman's favorite team for a long time and his favorite player is All-Star guard Steph Curry.

"It was awesome to meet



the people from the Warrior's organization," said Cheryl Spellman. "To be honest I really have to say that Steph Curry was absolutely genuine. It was so cool to watch him and Matt talking and meeting each other. Seeing how happy Matt was, it was obvious that it was absolutely the highlight of his lifetime. One of the coolest things as a mom to watch is knowing how much work and effort your kid has put into this thing. Seeing him keep plugging away at it and then getting to the point where people recognized how hard of a worker he was and how dedicated he was, it was pretty amazing."

A Warriors public relations representative made arrangements for Spellman to deliver the game ball to NBA officials on the court prior to the start of the contest (a 132-95 Warriors win). Following the game, the Spellman family had the opportunity to meet Curry and get his autograph and have photo's taken with him.

"It was pretty crazy and

it was just a very awesome experience," said Matt Spellman. "I'm a huge Warriors fan. I like the Blazers too and the only time that I would root against them is when they're playing the Warriors."

It's been a pretty spectacular year for Matt with Pirate basketball, graduation and meeting his hero Curry. Spellman also recently started a new job working at the Barview Jetty Store in Rockaway Beach.

"Matt started playing basketball at age four while wearing orthotics," said Cheryl Spellman. "I setup a plastic hoop in the living room of our home for him to play on. He's loved playing basketball for his entire life. His goal throughout his life was to play on the varsity basketball team. When he came home after the coach gave him the varsity jersey, he was jumping up and down and he was so excited. It was one of the coolest moments ever for him to show us his varsity jersey and it was so amazing."

In the fall, Matt is going to attend Tillamook Bay Community College and then he'll focus on later transferring to Oregon State University in Corvallis, where he'll be pursuing a marketing degree.

I'm going to work throughout the summer and then I'll just consider all the different ways to go on with my life," said Spellman. "I just started my job four weeks ago and I really like it and I like dealing with people out in a public atmosphere like that. In the fall, I'll be pursuing my marketing degree while taking a program at Tillamook Bay, which is the first step for me."

Spellman has certainly enjoyed a tremendous amount of success as a young man. Judging by his first 18 years, it seems very likely that Spellman will continue to experience even more success as he begins life's next chapter in adulthood following his graduation from Neah-Kah-Nie High School.



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## ODF Tillamook District Firewood cutting sales will end Friday, July 8, 2022

Oregon Department of Forestry, Tillamook District will stop selling Personal Firewood Permits on July 8, 2022. All permits purchased after June 17th will have a shorter cutting time and will expire no later than July 8th.

You may purchase your permit over the phone or in person with cash or credit card. For more information call 503-842-2545.



## Lee Hiltenbrand honored as Manzanita Citizen of the Year

Lee Hiltenbrand was named Manzanita's Citizen of the Year at the June 8 meeting of the city council.

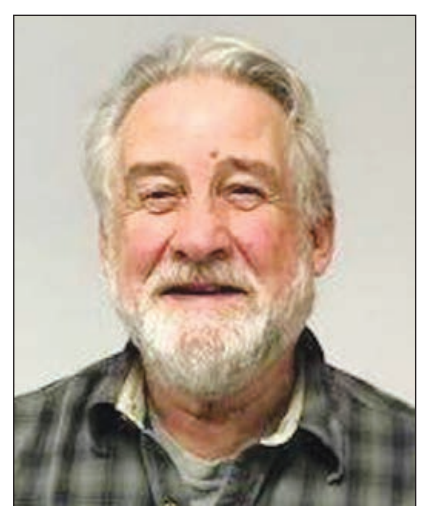
Announcing the honor, Mayor Mike Scott said Hiltenbrand "brought considerable professional technical background to the corps of volunteers who serve our city, its citizens, and the surrounding communities."

Scott added, "Knowledge, humor, and commitment have been the hall-

marks of that service."

Hiltenbrand has participated on the Emergency Volunteer Corps of Nehalem Bay, the Friends of the North Tillamook County Library board, the Short-Term Rental Oversight Work Group, and the Planning Commission, and the Public Works Augmentation Team.

Manzanita's Citizen of the Year is selected annually by a committee of previous honorees.





## Letters and Columns

### THE BUZZ ABOUT BEES: UPDATES AND CHALLENGES

**Claire Moody**

Tillamook Beekeepers Assoc.

Did you see the front-page Headlight Herald story about the two million honey bees that arrived a month or so ago? There were 154 nucleus colonies and we were so pleased. Most colonies had about ten thousand live bees plus at least two of their five frames covered with 6,000 unborn bees, bees ready to eat their way out of their cell. The colonies have doubled or tripled in size since they arrived.

But things have been quite challenging in ways we aren't used to. With rain day after day after day, bees can't forage enough to bring in what they need to survive. We've had to do a lot of feeding. Mostly it's one part sugar to one part water with a few additives so that it's

not totally junk food. But better junk food than death. The sugar syrup goes into a feeder at the top of the hive. The bees move it down amongst the combs especially where the nurse bees are busy feeding the young larva.

When you solve one problem it sometimes creates another. Feeding so much sugar water in a damp climate creates mold in the hive. Without good ventilation the bees get wet and wet bees are dead bees. We prop up the corners under the cover with popsicle sticks or coins just to let a little of that wet air out.

As if those challenges weren't enough. Who would have thought that one of our new beekeepers in Bay City would lose a colony, ten days into its stay, to bears! Bears don't just go for honey. They also like to eat the bees and the larva for protein. The



sight of a huge bear patiently digging out tiny larva is sort of like us trying to get at a single caviar egg with a tablespoon. Quite a challenge. The bees sting the bears faces but the reward must be worth it. Someone in the Bay City neighborhood where the incident occurred taped FIVE bears with a motion activated camera. If you live anywhere near woods and want to have bees, an electric fence is essential and even that isn't

guaranteed protection.

I heard a story yesterday about a young elk that took a hive that was ratched onto cinder blocks and threw it up in the air. Youngsters at play...

May and June are normally swarm months. Any colony that survived the winter builds up the bee population strong enough to split. I've written a long article on swarming last month. It can be found in our website: [www.tillamookbeepers.org](http://www.tillamookbeepers.org) in the section "About Bees". I encourage you to go read it. You'll learn how bees put the existing queen on a diet and chase her around the hive so she can fly away with the swarm. Also fascinating is the way scout bees look for a new home for the swarm. They actually have to get the other scout bees to 'vote' for the best find and don't move in until there's a convincing evaluation of the options.

Because of the rain, swarming is going to be late this year. We've only had one hive swarm so far and it ended up hanging in a tall hedge for a couple days because of rain before it was successfully enticed into a hive box.

What I want you to know is that only 20% of the swarms find a good home, raise enough brood, and bring in enough honey to survive the first winter. People who want to help save honey bees will be making a huge contribution by saving a swarm. We have "bait hives" available to make that a safe and viable option. The bait hive is a sealed box with a tiny opening. Inside is a frame of old comb and lemongrass oil which are strong attractants for a swarm. You would put this bait hive in your yard and when bees move in you would immediately call a beekeeper. The

beekeeper will move the bees to a new, better, permanent home, feed and care for them. We could even name the new colony after you, and, of course, you would get some honey in return in the fall! Your empty bait hive would be returned to you. It's all about location, location, location. Properties near the edge of woods and rivers are superior. Bait hives cost \$60. To learn more or purchase a bait hive please click on "Store" on the website. For additional questions, cash purchases, and delivery please email me at [clairemooody503@gmail.com](mailto:clairemooody503@gmail.com).

Bait hives not only catch swarms, they can be made into a great family art project and a unique gift for your ecologically minded friends!

Thanks for taking the time to read The Buzz! Perhaps we will eventually become "The Land of Milk and Honey"!

### GUEST COLUMN

## July 4th in Rockaway will be 'Celebrate Together Again'

**Sugar Brosius**

Rockaway Beach

Oh my, oh my gosh! The updates to our Rockaway Beach July 4th celebration "Celebrate Together Again" are coming in quickly!

July 4th is a holiday that is near and dear to my heart, no matter where I am, but July 4th in Rockaway Beach is dazzling and everybody needs to experience one at least once in their lifetime. Ours is a town where you get a taste of small town patriotism and lots of Americana.

This column is going to be a long one, but it is information that definitely needs to be shared ASAP. Hold on to your hats, here goes. Ready, set, sparkle!

First off, for the most perfect celebration ever, we need volunteers, lots of them. Speaking from personal experience, Dale and I have done this in the past. It is so much fun, and we have met so many folks from our community, plus you are serving the community and hardly notice that it is work. The Parade Volunteer Coordinator is Robin Swain. She has many duties, but mostly she will answer any questions you have.

There are three volunteer stations. 1. The Wayside Information Booth, 2. Parade Check-in/ Start Booth and 3. Parade Route (Traffic Monitors.) They also need volunteers for the Solve Beach Cleanup which will be Tuesday July 5th. Does any or all of that sound good to you? If it does, don't be shy, just raise your hand and jump right in. Contact Robin for all the details. She will schedule you and the rest will be loads of fun! Email Robin at [rockawayvolunteers1@gmail.com](mailto:rockawayvolunteers1@gmail.com).

Okay, hopefully that is covered. Now onto getting your parade applications in! I want to thank our City Council for approving our July 4th

parade and Laura Schmitt for taking on the task to coordinate our parade and events of the day. The parade theme is "Celebrate Together Again." The city is seeking parade entries for our Fourth of July parade, which begins at 11 am. The applications are online. You can download your PDF at [tinyurl.com/2022Parade-App](http://tinyurl.com/2022Parade-App). Fill it out and email it to [oregoncoasteventco@gmail.com](mailto:oregoncoasteventco@gmail.com). If you have questions, call Laura at 503 606 6094. I know, I am old fashioned too. I prefer to just do my applications in person, but this is the new way of doing things. Hopefully Laura can help you through the process if you find it difficult. Dale, Amber and I had the award winning Rockatooter Kazoo Band for 16 years in our Rockaway Beach Parade. Oh my gosh, the fun we had! Put on your thinking cap. Do something fun and join the parade folks. It is really rewarding.

Just a little preview of July 4th. The parade will be the same route as in the past. Check-in will be at the Neahkanie District Office on N. 3rd. The parade will travel down 3rd to Coral, Coral to Anchor, Anchor to the US Bank parking lot, through the lot to Hwy 101, 101 down to City Hall, turn left, and disband at the Lions Club.

NO CANDY THROWING IS ALLOWED FROM VEHICLES! The parade entries may have 'walkers' with them that pass the candy out individually. Keep our kids safe folks!

There is an addition to our community events this Fourth of July. Laura Schmidt is the creator of this delightful contest. There is a "Porch Parade!" You may ask what that means. I know I did. Well, it is simply a porch-decorating contest. Rockaway Beach residents and businesses are being asked to decorate your porches, front yards and storefronts. The judging will take place on July 1st, so plan to



decorate before then. The rules of the Porch Parade are as follows.

#1 Register! And it's free. Register online. The email and phone number I wrote above is where to register. Once you have registered, you will be added to the Porch Parade Map. The website for this map is <https://tinyurl.com/RBPorchParadeMap>. (Boy, I sure hope I am getting all these websites and emails right.)

#2 Decorate your porch with red, white and blue... super patriotic. The decorating must be done by noon on Friday, July 1st and remain decorated until Tuesday, July 5th. Please folks, be family friendly. (That should be a no-brainer... giggle) If you don't have a porch, decorate whatever you do have; a lawn, the sidewalk, your window. Well, this is a time to be creative.

#3 Explore, Celebrate, Share. Walk around town and enjoy. Take pictures of your favorites and email them to the above email. Tag your faces on social media and share our town's patriotism with the world. Let's get the entire community involved.

The Porch Parade Rules are as follows. "On July 1st judges will individually drive through the city to review the best and most creative porches. Unleash your creativity, bring a smile to the community, and show your red, white and blue spirit!"

I mentioned our Volunteer of the Year in my last guest

column. It is Cindy Gregory. I haven't met Cindy, but if anyone needs help or any help needs to be done, Cindy is there. She was responsible for starting Hunter's Helpers to benefit Jeff Hunter and his wife during his battle with ALS. Cindy also takes care of the flowers at the caboose. She started up the Rockaway Renaissance Artists. Yup, Cindy is the perfect Volunteer of the year.

I just got the update on who our Grand Marshal is. Congratulations to Annie Lowman, retired Neahkanie School Secretary and Lions Club member whose nickname is the "Carmel Corn

Queen." She also volunteers her time to the Lions Weenie Wagon where you can get a hot dog, giant kielbasa, caramel corn or giant dog while supporting our local Lions Club! And you can also catch her in the Lions kitchen on Bingo nights. Congrats again Annie! (Hmmm, I need to get more involved! What an awesome honor!)

The Lions Club kids games on the beach begin at noon. Their "Fun Day at the Beach" is simply a plethora of fun! And speaking about the Weenie Wagon in the last paragraph, their wagon will be at the wayside Friday through Monday, July 4th weekend.

Another fun event, my daughter's personal favorite, is the entertaining and hilarious 15th Annual Weiner Dog Nationals. It is held at the Phyllis Baker City Park. They don't just have Weiner Dog Races but they have All Breed Races. There will be hot dogs T-shirts and more. This is a charity event that will benefit the Tillamook Animal Shelter. Registration is at noon and the races begin at 1pm. It is such a riot and great family fun!

And now, most important of all! The Rockaway Beach

■ See Sugar, Page 4

**Tillamook County Community Health Centers**

### Love the skin you are in

Skin cancer is the most common cancer in the United States and worldwide. There's more than what meets the eye when it comes to skin cancer, so make sure you have the facts:

- One in five Americans will develop skin cancer by the age of 70.
- More than two people die of skin cancer in the U.S. every hour.
- Having five or more sunburns doubles your risk for melanoma.
- When detected early, the five-year survival rate for melanoma is 99%.

It's important to do self-exams of your skin regularly, you can learn more at [www.cancer.org/latest-news/how-to-spot-skin-cancer.html](http://www.cancer.org/latest-news/how-to-spot-skin-cancer.html). If you have any concerns, please check it out with your primary care provider.

#skincancerawareness

To schedule an appointment  
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# Kotek may become the nation's first lesbian governor in true-blue Oregon

**Ellis Conklin**  
*For the Citizen*

Tina Kotek is trying to make political history – again.

If elected in November, she will become America's first lesbian governor, this, after becoming the nation's first lesbian speaker of a state House of Representatives in 2013, a job she held longer than anyone in Oregon history.

The 55-year-old Kotek also seeks to keep one of the country's longest streaks by electing a Democrat to a state's highest office.

Not since incumbent Gov. Victor Atiyeh crushed Ted Kulongoski in a landslide 40 years ago has the Republican Party won the governorship in Oregon. That's 10 gubernatorial elections ago.

Utah is tied with the Beaver State, having also chosen a governor from the same party – albeit the GOP – since 1982.

In an interview last week [June 8] at a picnic table in northeast Portland's Columbia Park, not far from the home she shares with her wife Aimee Kotek Wilson, Kotek said, "I am running because I want things to work in Oregon."

A public advocate for the Oregon Food Bank before being elected to the state House, Kotek went on, "None of us are outsiders. We've all worked for a longtime in Oregon politics, but the question is, 'Who has style and the persistence to get things done?'"

She added: "Housing and homelessness are by far the biggest concerns Oregonians have," and will likely be the driving force – particularly finding solutions to building affordable housing, as well as workforce housing in the heavy tourist-driven areas of the state – when the campaigns move into high gear after Labor Day.

Kotek, gets high praise

for her legislative know-how. Under her leadership, Democrats were able to pass a school funding increase they had been looking to do for 30 years.

Born and raised in York, Pennsylvania, Kotek headed west in 1987, attending the University of Oregon, where she earned her degree in religious studies.

Asked how being a lesbian might influence her governing if elected, Kotek said, "I know what it feels like to be left out, and I want to send a message to our young people that you can do anything. I want every child in this state to feel like they can celebrate their authentic selves."

Kotek realizes that Portland and her deep ties to the embattled city will be on the ballot. Recent polling for Oregon Public Broadcasting says less than 20 percent of voters think the state is headed in the right direction.

Having left office in April to concentrate fulltime on the governor's race, Kotek knows she'll face stiff headwinds in her quest to replace term-limited and hugely unpopular Kate Brown.

In addition to a challenging national environment, Kotek is confronted by many voters, mainly rural ones, who pillorize her Portland homebase as a mismanaged eyesore.

Worsening matters is independent Betsy Johnson's credible candidacy, which has opened up a lane for Republican Christine Drazan to break the Democrat's long hold on the governor's office.

A poll of likely Oregon voters conducted at the end of May showed Drazan in a virtual tie with Kotek – almost 30 percent for Drazan to nearly 28 percent for Kotek – with the unaffiliated Johnson drawing more than 19 percent support. Almost a quarter of Oregon voters remain undecided.

"It's the most interesting governor's race in the country



this year. You have three women representing the full ideological spectrum – Kotek, the progressive, Johnson, playing the middle, and Drazan, the conservative," observed Marc Johnson, who, from his home on the north Oregon coast, writes an influential political and history blog entitled "Many Things Considered."

"Tina needs to be concerned about being labeled Kate Brown 2.0," Johnson added. "Betsy's problem is that she's held elected office [since winning a seat in the state House in 2000], and until six months ago, was a Democrat. And Drazan's biggest problem is that if she comes off as too moderate, it will offend the Trumpian wing of the party."

Betsy Johnson has another problem, too – her hardline stance on guns. Unlike many of her former Democratic colleagues in the House and Senate, she has opposed most gun control measures in Oregon. In 2018, she received an

A rating from the NRA.

During an unannounced TEDxPortland interview with Johnson at the Moda Center on May 28 – four days after 18-year-old Salvador Ramos used an AR-15 rifle to kill 19 students and 2 teachers at an Uvalde, Texas elementary school -- the so-called political maverick was booed when she blamed the on-slaught of mass shootings on a "shitty mental health care system."

At one point, Johnson said, "People in this country are going to have guns. The style of the gun doesn't dictate the lethality."

Johnson was born in Bend and grew up in Redmond, Oregon, but has lived more than two decades in the Columbia County city of Scappoose (pop. 6,592), 22 miles southeast of Vancouver, Washington.

"I worry about both of them (Johnson and Drazan)," said Kotek. "When it comes to climate change and guns, I have big differences. The

number one job of being governor is to keep Oregonians safe."

The Oregon electorate, according to Salem-based pollster John Horvick is 35 percent Democrat, 25 percent Republican, and almost the remaining 40 percent are independent or unaffiliated.

In handicapping the contest, pollster Horvick said Kotek is associated with the status quo, but held the Democratic base, garnering almost 58 percent of the Democratic vote in the primary over state Treasurer Tobias Read's 32.4 percent, as of June 8.

Drazan, meanwhile, collected just 23 percent of the GOP vote, though in an extremely crowded field.

As for Betsy Johnson, who ran a helicopter company in Oregon for 20 years, Horvick mused, "Look at the website and you'll find nothing from her on issues. She's just the feisty lady on TV who is playing to the frustrated."

Christine Drazan is a former House minority leader and lives in Canby, Oregon, in Clackamas County, a bellwether county southeast of Portland.

"She's no RINO: Drazan is pro-life and opposed climate legislation. She also returned a level of savvy and fundraising skills to House Republicans," wrote Willamette Week when it endorsed Kotek and Drazan for their respective party nominations.

"Drazan faces criticism from the right for failing to obstruct every piece of legislation unpopular with conservatives that came before the House. Firearms activists, for instance, blame her for letting Democrats pass a pretty innocuous gun safety bill last year.

"They wanted her to order her caucus to deny Democrats a quorum and are now blasting her for that. Drazan stuck around, perhaps because she knows walkouts are

unpopular with the electorate."

The race for governor of Oregon could well be the most expensive one in the state's history.

Betsy Johnson has already raised close to \$9 million and has proven she can get big checks from major Republican donors, including Nike co-founder Phil Knight. She has about \$5 million on hand. Drazan spent \$2.7 million during the primary while Kotek spent \$2.5 million.

Said political blogger Marc Johnson: "I don't see that any of the candidates are talking substance. They are still introducing themselves because none of them are well-known to most Oregonians."

In the endorsement front, Kotek managed to get the backing of Yamhill's Nick Kristof, whose brief gubernatorial campaign was mainly spent railing against entrenched Oregon Democrats, like Tina Kotek. He endorsed her two days after she won her party's nomination.

Earlier this year, the well-known former New York Times columnist was considered a leading candidate for the Democratic nomination but was forced out for failing to meet the state's three-year residency requirement for governor.

Betsy Johnson, meanwhile, is ringing up endorsements from the old guard. Two high-profile endorsements came shortly after the primary when former Republican U.S. Senator Gordon Smith and former Democratic Governor Ted Kulongoski announced their support in a joint statement.

Ahead of the primary, Kotek and Drazan each secured endorsements from a large number of current and former lawmakers as well as county and local officials.

It is anyone's guess as to who will win in November. As Marc Johnson put it: "It's a real crapshoot."

# Hoffman Center for the Arts Gallery highlights painter and ceramics artists

Hoffman Center for the Arts Gallery is thrilled to present new paintings by renown artist Laura Ross Paul and an exhibit of expressive bottles by Ceramicist Diana Crain.

Laura Ross-Paul is a Portland based artist and teacher with a second home in Manzanita where she paints in the summer. She has been painting professionally for over four decades and has

been represented by nine different galleries on the West Coast from Seattle to Laguna Beach. She has exhibited her work throughout the Pacific Northwest and California and New York in such venues as the Portland Art Museum, the Seattle Art Museum, the Tacoma Art Museum, the Arnot Museum (NY), the Palm Springs Art Museum, the Art Gym and Portland Institute of Contemporary Art.

Her figurative paintings with mystical and psychologically compelling environments are in private and public collections throughout the United States. During her career, Laura has received an Oregon Arts Commission Individual Arts Fellowship, the Bonnie Bronson Fellowship and the Susan Cooly-Gillion Artist residency. Her work has been awarded juror prizes in biennials at the Portland and

Tacoma Art Museums. Laura has taught art at Portland State, Pacific Northwest College of Art, Lewis and Clark College, and the Oregon College of Arts and Crafts, and Hoffman Center for the Arts, amongst others.

Diana Crain has been creating ceramics professionally for 50 years. Her works have been sold and exhibited throughout the west in galleries and retail stores. Diana

has won numerous awards and also teaches ceramics at her own studio in California and also at the Hoffman Center for the Arts.

The Hoffman Gallery is open 1-5pm, Thursday through Sunday, June 30 through July 31.



## Sugar

Continued from Page 3

fireworks begin at dusk. There will be dazzling explo-

sions of glittery fireworks! Grab a seat on the beach and know that your July 4th 2022 is complete!

And, now for other newsy tidbits.

Former 'Chief Ed' of the Rockaway Police Depart-

ment let me know that if you visit the Tillamook County Library between now and June 27th, you will be able to enjoy the International Police Museum's display honoring the Tillamook County Sheriff's Posse. It is located on the second floor. Drop by when you go shopping in Tillamook. It looks awesome!

Last but not least. There is a birthday party for John Luce. He is celebrating his 90th. If you know John, drop by the Lions Club Hall on Sunday, July 3rd from 1-4pm. This is the year to

celebrate and party. Yeah!

The community as well as my husband and I have lost a good man, Ole Olsen. Dale and I got to know Ole and his wife through mutual friends, Phyllis and Ruth at The Float.... You must remember, the little pink house in downtown Rockaway. I asked his daughter, Deb Gates Lafave Weissenfluh, for a bit of information on Ole, and it is so perfect that I decided not to sugarcoat it.

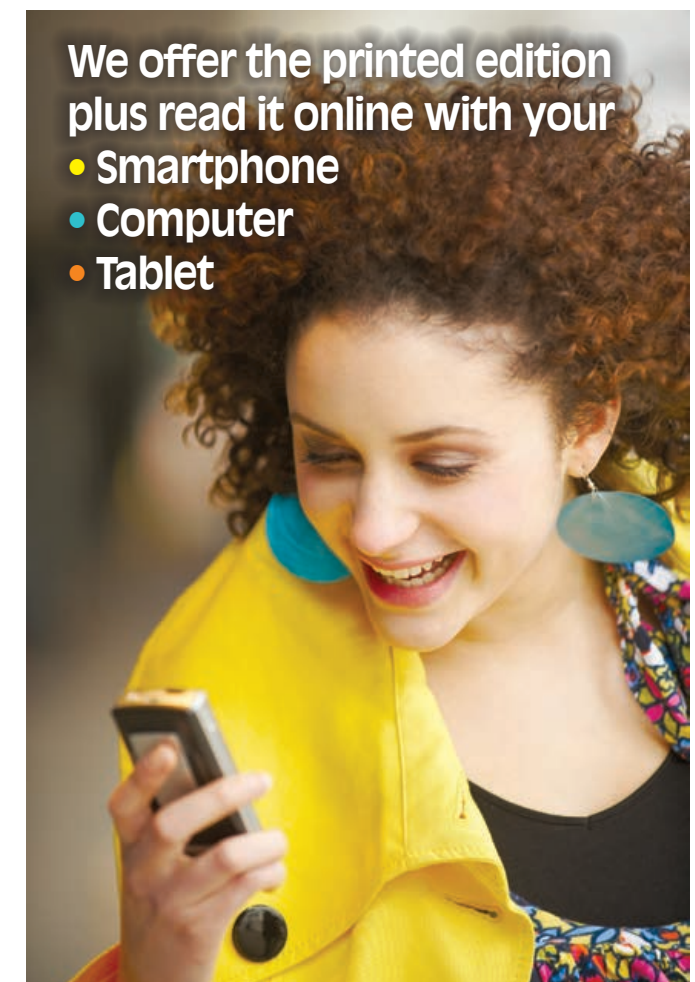
"After retiring from more than 31 years in the USCG, Ole and Deanna made their home in Rockaway Beach in

the early 80's. They moored their boat, the Deanna K in the Garibaldi Marina where they were active in sport and commercial fishing. Ole spent a great deal of time taking friends and family fishing. Crossing the Tillamook Bar always made those trips a special adventure for all! To say Ole was very active in selling advertisements for the East West Shriner publication is indeed an understatement (as many friends and business owners know!) Ole was a staple at the morning coffee group and often times at the afternoon coffee. His

stories were legendary and he will be missed by all his Rockaway Beach friends and neighbors!" RIP Ole.

As I finish this guest column, I just got a bit of last minute news from Mayor Sue Wilson. Our retired Chief Charlie Stewart just passed away. Please keep him and his family in your prayers. May you rest in peace. Thank you for all you did for our community.

That's just a small taste of Rockaway Beach, "Sugar Coated!" (Boy, writing this felt so good!)



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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.

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The North Coast Citizen has several options for submitting obituaries.

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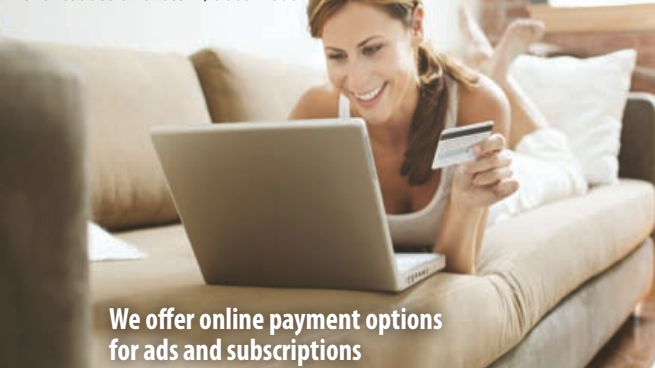
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## City Election News

# Deb Simmons announces run for Manzanita Mayor

Manzanita residents are tired of not being heard. They want fact-based information to undo the numerous and serious problems facing this city that means so much to all of us. They want and need services that address the specific needs of a community with a median age of 65.5 years.

As a long-time Manzanita resident, I have these same desires. And I believe that it's time for us to

step up and make positive change happen. For these reasons, I am announcing that I will run for mayor in the November election.

As a retired educator and former business-owner who has lived in this area since 1992, I would like to implement policies with advisory support and input from the community.

I envision Town Hall Meetings where residents ask questions and receive

thoughtful answers. I envision a long-term plan that includes sidewalks and bike paths. I envision affordable housing that brings in a vibrant work force. I envision a Planning Commission that is well-trained to maintain the natural characteristics of our neighborhoods defined by our founding fathers.

I envision a return to the Comprehensive Plan, a compassionate plan that is the law of our city — with

clear policies to support our future plans. I envision a city where residents' needs outweigh those of special interests. I envision a balanced view that looks ahead ten and twenty years, and addresses environmental concerns as well as how we want our neighborhoods to be developed, serviced and maintained. I envision a balanced budget that is sustainable.

I look forward to dis-

cussing your concerns over the next several months and sharing my views with you. It's time the residents' voices are heard.

**Deb Simmons announced this week her intentions to run for Manzanita Mayor.**  
Photo provided



# Donna Miller, educator, volunteer running for Manzanita City Council

*"When the winds of change blow, some people build walls, and others build windmills." (Chinese proverb)*

Donna Miller, a retired teacher with the NeahKahnie School District and a 32-year resident of Manzanita, has announced her candidacy for a seat on the Manzanita City Council.

The Mayor's position and two City Council seats are open in the

Nov. 8 election.

Miller worked as a Special Education teacher for 30 years and has been involved in many community programs and activities since her retirement in 2011. She served as a leader in GardenBuds and Jr. MuddNicks, two organizations that exposed elementary children to the rewards of community service. She coordinated programs and events for the MuddNick Foundation, volunteered at Nehalem Care



Center, Friends of the Library, Schmuck Foundation Tournament and Hoffman Center for the Arts.

She currently is a host at the Hoffman Clay Studio and delivers meals for the Nehalem Bay Methodist Community Meals Program. "I am a strong believer that it really does take a village to build a thriving community," Miller said.

She decided the time was right to seek public office, noting that her breadth of

experience, her ability as a thinker and a doer, and her strong relationships with many local citizens will be an asset to her community.

"Why am I choosing to run for city council at this time? Manzanita, where I plan to live out my life, is changing quickly, losing its feel of community," she said. "There is a great need for a proactive council to study and guide this transition, to protect its citizens, plan to keep the environ-

ment healthy and encourage sustainable growth. Too many of the decisions being made benefit developers at the expense of residents.

We need a better balance. A strong council will recognize the need to break down walls of doubt and closed-mindedness, instead harnessing the thoughts, ideas and experience our citizens have to offer to bring this community back together. I hope to help build the windmills to generate this energy."

# Conservationists challenge logging plan; Federal agency plan would intensively log remaining spotted owl reserves

Oregon-based conservation organizations Cascadia Wildlands and Oregon Wild challenged the Bureau of Land Management's (BLM) Siuslaw Field Office's plan to log public lands west of Eugene across seven watersheds. The agency's "N126 Late Successional Reserve Landscape Plan Project" is one of the largest logging proposals on public lands in Oregon in decades. The targeted forests are home to at least three federal Endangered Species Act (ESA) listed species: northern spotted owl, marbled murrelet, and Oregon Coast coho salmon, along with the red tree vole, which is currently a candidate for ESA listing. The agency failed entirely to consider impacts to these species, amongst other errors.

"BLM has purposely hidden the specifics about this massive logging project from public review," said John Mellgren, General Counsel at the Western Environmental Law Center. "Federal law demands the government fully disclose its plans and prepare a robust Environmental Impact Statement before proceeding with the logging contemplated by the BLM's N126 project."

The agency's proposed project authorizes commercial logging in areas that were designated as off-limits to commercial logging in the BLM's governing 2016 management plan. 14,227 acres of Late-Successional Reserve ("LSR") lands would be logged—nearly all of it commercially. The agency's primary management objective for LSRs is to promote the development and maintenance of foraging habitat for the northern spotted owl, including creating and maintaining habitat to increase diversity and abundance of prey for the owl, regardless of whether owls are present.

Additionally, over 2,000 acres of Riparian Reserves are slated for commercial logging. Akin to LSR purposes, Riparian Reserves' primary management objectives are to contribute to the conservation and recovery of ESA-listed fish species and their habitats; maintain and restore natural channel dynamics, processes, and the proper functioning condition of riparian areas; and maintain water quality and streamflows to protect aquatic biodiversity and to provide quality water for recreation and drinking water

sources.

"Public trust in federal agencies is undermined when those agencies do not follow their own management plans developed via a public process," said Nick Cady, Legal Director for Cascadia Wildlands. "The last remaining reserved areas should remain just that: protected for wildlife and fish from the commercial logging at the root of these iconic species' decline."

The project also authorizes the addition of 50-90 miles of new roads to the already bloated public lands road network, and 300-420 miles of existing roads would be rebuilt or renovated. The plan is designed to generate 380 million board feet of lumber.

"This project demonstrates that BLM's narrow pursuit of timber makes them unable to see that logging harms many other public values we obtain from our public forests, such as clean water, fish and wildlife, recreation, and carbon storage," said Doug Heiken, Conservation and Restoration Coordinator for Oregon Wild.

The lawsuit alleges violations of the National Environmental Policy Act, including

failure to take the requisite "hard look" and failure to conduct any site-specific analyses or prepare an Environmental Impact Statement, and that BLM's failures to follow its own management plans violate the Federal Land Policy and Management Act. Cascadia Wildlands, Oregon Wild and hundreds of their members and supporters participated in the project development, submitting detailed public comments raising these concerns at every opportunity, but the agency failed to remedy the serious flaws in their decision, resulting in today's lawsuit.

The organizations are represented by attorneys from the Western Environmental Law Center and Cascadia Wildlands.

Eugene-based Cascadia Wildlands is a 501c3 non-profit with over 12,000 members and supporters whose mission is to defend and restore Cascadia's wild ecosystems in the forests, in the courts, and in the streets. We envision vast old-growth forests, rivers full of wild salmon, wolves howling in the backcountry, a stable climate, and vibrant communities sustained by the unique landscapes of the Cascadia bioregion.

The Western Environmental Law Center uses the power of the law to safeguard the public

lands, wildlife, and communities of the western U.S. in the face of a changing climate.

## Letter to the Editor

### Our library thanks the community

On behalf of North Tillamook Library Friends — which provides the building and grounds that house our library in Manzanita — I extend heartfelt thanks to everyone in the community who made our annual Memorial Day book sale one of our most successful ever. This year's sale produced just over \$8,000 in total revenue, which will enable Library Friends to keep our Library in tiptop shape. Our annual book sale truly was a community effort, from the hundreds of book buyers who came out on a rainy Saturday to snap up book bargains and make additional donations to Library Friends, to the three organizations that opened their doors to house the sale — Calvary Bible Church, Hoffman

Center for the Arts, and Pine Grove Community House, to the more than 175 volunteers who worked on sale day and during the year preparing for the sale. Overseeing all those volunteers was the volunteer-in-chief, book sale director Madeline Olson. The book sale exemplifies the exceptional community spirit in North Tillamook County, and underscores the motto of North Tillamook Library Friends: Building a Community of Learners Since 1987.

On a related note, thank you to everyone who voted to renew the five-year property tax levy that will keep our library — and all Tillamook County branches — operating at full strength through 2027. With deepest gratitude,

Steve Brier  
President, North Tillamook Library Friends



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