



Three of the five cottages being built at the park that will house seasonal staff.

Nehalem Bay State Park on track for July reopening

WILL CHAPPELL
Citizen Editor

Work on \$11 million in infrastructure upgrades that began last November at Nehalem Bay State Park is on pace for completion in late June, which will allow the park to reopen, as planned, on July 1.

In addition to the project, work is also nearing completion on five cabins that will house seasonal staff at the park and rangers have been taking advantage of the closure to work throughout the winter on regular maintenance projects and spiffing up the park. Park Manager Ben Cox said that while the infrastructure upgrades might not excite, he hoped people would appreciate the cumulative impacts of work done during the closure.

“There will be some people

that come in and go, well, it wasn’t worth the shut down and I’m not happy, that’ll happen,” Cox said. “But I’m hoping that the majority of people will come back and see that, ok, here’s some cool stuff plus oh, that bench in that shower room was always just ragged and needed to be refinished and you know little things, and it’s the little things that people interact with on a daily basis when they’re in the campground that can make the biggest impact.”

Funding for the \$11 million in infrastructure work that is being undertaken is coming from a general obligation bond approved by the Oregon legislature in 2021 to help improve state parks. At Nehalem Bay, the primary thrust of the improvements will be to bring the entirety

See NEHALEM, Page A3



The new bathroom facility between C and D loops at the park.

See LEVY, Page A3

Bay City council raises water rates

WILL CHAPPELL
Citizen Editor

At their meeting on April 8, Bay City city councilors approved an increase in the city’s water rates, with the base rate for service to a three-quarter-inch pipe going from \$36.17 for 6,000 gallons to \$45 for 3,000 gallons.

Councilors also voted to move forward on adding a 20-acre property at the city’s southeast edge to the city’s urban growth boundary with an expedited process, as allowed by a recent Oregon state law aimed at increasing housing development.

The water rate increase comes as the maintenance costs for the city’s system have outstripped the revenue generated by the current rate, depleting reserves and necessitating a transfer of \$110,000 from another city reserve fund to cover operations last year.

Consequently, City Manager David McCall has been investigating the fee increase for most of the last year, undertaking a review of water rates on the north coast and across Oregon. McCall’s review showed that Bay City’s base rate of \$36.17 for 6,000 gallons was well below the north coast average of \$45.47 for 5,000 gallons, and the \$52.81 average for 5,000 gallons statewide.

After presenting a variety of possible increases to the council in March, councilors indicated their preference for an option that will increase the base rate for a three-quarter-inch pipe to \$45 for 3,000 gallons,

with a charge of \$5.50 for each additional thousand gallons. For users outside the city limit, the base rate for three-quarter-inch pipe will be \$61 for 3,000 gallons and \$5.50 for each additional thousand gallons.

Larger pipes will have the same coverage fee, with the in-city base rate for one-inch pipes set at \$48.50, two-inch and four-inch-plus pipes at \$52, and outside-the-city base rates of \$64.50 for one-inch pipes, and \$68 for two- and four-inch-plus pipes.

At the April meeting, several citizens raised concerns about the proposed increase and a misapprehension that the funds would be used for projects to construct a water reservoir and seismically retrofit the city’s fire station.

McCall explained that the funding for those projects was coming from separate sources and that the increased revenues from the water rates would only be used for servicing the existing system and paying back the loan from the reserve fund.

Councilor Kathleen Baker said that while she was sensitive to the impacts of

See BAY CITY, Page A5

Neah-Kah-Nie levy aims to preserve staffing, programs, performance

WILL CHAPPELL
Citizen Editor

With timber revenues declining and unstable, the Neah-Kah-Nie School District’s board of directors have decided to ask district voters to support an operations levy that would generate up to \$2 million annually to buttress the district’s budget.

Neah-Kah-Nie Superintendent Tyler Reed, Neah-Kah-Nie High School Principal Christy Hartford and Nehalem Elementary Principal Kristi Mills recently sat down with the Headlight Herald to discuss the district’s unique programs that will be able to continue with funding from the levy. Reed said that if the levy did not pass, the decreases in timber revenue would negatively impact the district’s staff and students.

“When we see that (timber revenue) go away and we see the levy not support and backfill, like we will not be as successful, our kids will not be as successful, and their opportunities and pathways will be limited,” Reed said. “And so, this is a scary time for the Neah-Kah-Nie School District because we’ve been so supported by our community in other ways and now, we’re looking to be supported again, just in a different way that we haven’t had to ask for in a long time.”

Historically, Neah-Kah-Nie has relied on property taxes, timber revenue, and grants from the state and federal governments for its funding. The district does not receive funding from the state’s school equalization fund because of its high property values and timber income.

However, over the last two years, timber revenues have taken a precipitous dip, falling from an average of over \$4 million annually between fiscal years 2021 and 2023 to \$3.9 million in fiscal year 2024 and just \$1.4 million this fiscal year. Reed explained that the decline was in part due to the locations of timber sales and operators harvesting decisions but owed more to the habitat conservation plan for Western Oregon state forests passed by the Oregon Board of Forestry in March 2024, which placed increased restrictions on timber harvests in state forests.

36th Home and Garden show set for April 26 and 27

Staff Report

Prepare for the summer at the 36th annual Tillamook Headlight Herald Home and Garden Show at the Tillamook County Fairgrounds on April 26 and 27.

Cohosted by Tillamook County Solid Waste, the show will feature an array of vendors selling goods to help get your home and garden in tip-top shape as well as the 2025 Bee Days hosted by the Tillamook Beekeepers and food from the team at Pacific Restaurant.

For Bee Days, the beekeepers will be bringing their demonstration hive and hosting a fundraising raffle, featuring a hive constructed by a member and decorated by local youth, with proceeds going

See HOME & GARDEN SHOW, Page A5

Headlight Herald

HOME & GARDEN SHOW

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Astound Broadband Completes 108-mile Fiber Construction Project Along Highway 6, enabled by Amazon Web Services

The Project Brings High-Speed Fiber Internet to rural Tillamook County

Astound Broadband today announced that it has completed a 108-mile underground fiber route along Highway 6, bringing high-speed internet connectivity to more than 270 homes in rural Tillamook County for the first time. Constructed 100% underground, the fiber route runs from a submarine cable landing station located south of Pacific City to Hillsboro, passing through Tillamook. It enables fiber-based internet service along the highway, an area that previously had limited connectivity. This project is partially funded by Amazon Web Services's, Inc. (AWS) investment in the Bifrost submarine cable system.

Area residents can sign up now by calling (503) 341-5337 for installations being scheduled in select areas. Astound is rolling out high speed service to area homes throughout 2025, according to Matt Updenkelder, Astound VP of Infrastructure Development for Oregon and a longtime area resident.

"Bringing high-speed fiber internet to the rural Highway 6 corridor is a significant milestone, as it provides much needed connectivity for underserved area residents and sets a foundation for other organizations and agencies to

further expand," said Updenkelder. "This build is an example of how investments in a submarine cable system can bring vastly improved connectivity to nearby areas. It is also testament to hard work and perseverance, as our crews encountered extremely rocky and difficult terrain along much of the route, in the process of completing all the underground construction."

Nicole Martinez and her family live in Gales Creek an isolated area that previously had no high-speed internet connectivity available. Prior to Astound, the family tried "just about everything" for connectivity: This most recently included a satellite option that required her husband to climb a tree on their property to install the needed hardware, only to have a connection that would go down every two or three minutes. In January, Astound delivered 1.5 gigabit speed, fiber-based internet access to the family's home. As one of the area's first high-speed internet households, Nicole and her family of five now regularly work and play online, ranging from full-time work and studying to utilizing Amazon's Fire TV Stick for streaming movies and video, installing apps, and playing music on any of their home TVs.

"This is amazing and life-changing," said Martinez, who works from home as an interpreter services coordinator and is attending college online, working toward degrees in addiction counseling and criminal justice. "Working and studying



from home is now a breeze and all five of us in the household are connected on multiple devices, with no interruptions. In addition, we frequently have visitors and they're enjoying the connectivity, as well. The kids love it for movies, games, as well as some schoolwork online."

"Reliable internet access is essential for rural communities to thrive in today's digital age. At AWS, we recognize the crucial role connectivity plays in enabling economic growth, educational opportunities, and access to vital services," said Courtney Lee, senior manager of public policy, AWS. "Our collaboration with local lead-

ers and Astound Broadband aims to support bridging the digital divide in the Tillamook area and along Highway 6. This project underscores our commitment to investing in the long-term success of local communities, ensuring that residents, businesses, schools, and government facilities have equitable access to the online resources they need to prosper."

Cellular Service

Along much of Highway 6, there is currently no cellular service. While the new fiber pathway project does not spe-

cifically include installation of cellular towers along the route, the availability of high-speed, high-capacity wired service may make the process of installing antennas and establishing cellular service easier than before.

"We continue to work with the State of Oregon and look forward to providing critical connectivity for our customers along this important stretch of Highway 6," said Alex Leupp, Senior Manager of State Government Affairs for Verizon. "We thank Astound for their significant work in delivering the fiber backhaul."

A portion of the new fiber route belongs to Tillamook

Lightwave, an inter-governmental agency comprised of the Tillamook People's Utility District, Tillamook County and the Port of Tillamook Bay. As part of Tillamook Lightwave's robust network, the new fiber route is anticipated to increase reliability, diversity and available bandwidth for the local community.

"Rural Tillamook County residents in the Highway 6 corridor will be able to access the same levels of reliable, high-speed connectivity that larger communities have come to expect," said Erin Skaar, Tillamook County Commissioner. "This can have positive impacts tied to both quality of life and productivity. We are especially pleased that companies operating within the county have invested in building the needed infrastructure to make this a reality."

About Astound Broadband

Astound Broadband (astound.com) is the sixth largest cable operator in the U.S., providing award-winning services, fiber-powered internet, TV, mobile, landline phone and fiber optic solutions for residential and business customers across the United States. Astound services Chicago, Indiana, Eastern Pennsylvania, Massachusetts, New York City, Maryland, Washington, D.C., Texas, and regions throughout California, Oregon, and Washington.

Commissioners approve multifamily housing grants

WILL CHAPPELL
CITIZEN EDITOR

Tillamook County's Board of Commissioners approved housing commission recommendations for awarding \$400,000 in grants from the county's Housing Production Solutions Fund to six

projects. Tillamook County Housing Coordinator Parker Sammons presented the recommendations to commissioners at the meeting after housing commissioners approved them at their March meeting.

The three-year-old Housing Production Solutions

Fund is financed by a fee on short-term rental licenses and supports below-market-rate multifamily housing projects across the county, having awarded \$1.1 million in its first two years and helping to open around 150 units so far.

Eight projects sought grants from the fund this year,

with developers presenting their projects to the housing commission in January.

The two projects that were not recommended for funding were Alder Creek Commons, a redevelopment of the Nehalem Bay House into a 24-apartment, senior-living complex, and a B'Nai Brith proposal to build 56 to 64 units in Rockaway Beach that is in its early stages. After presenting to the housing commission, the Alder Creek Commons project received state funding sufficient to support its completion and B'Nai Brith developers told housing commissioners their project would move forward with or without a county grant, leading commissioners to prioritize other projects that needed the funding.

Two grants of \$100,000 were approved, with one going to the National Bank Building project in Tillamook and the other to the Tillamook Bay Commons project, also in Tillamook.

The National Bank Building project, led by Terry Phillips, will add eight apartments affordable to residents making 100% of the area's median income (AMI) on the building's second floor. The building, which fronts the north side of Doug Henson Plaza on Second Street, will have retail spaces as well as a ninth apartment not included

in the grant process on the first floor. Funds will only support costs associated with the second-story apartments.

Tillamook Bay Commons is a 36-unit proposed complex to the east of Adventist Health Tillamook, that would contain one- and two-bedroom apartments affordable to residents making between 80% and 120% AMI. The project is being led by Maker Studios, which is in the process of becoming Oregon's first housing nonprofit and focuses exclusively on affordable and workforce housing projects in Tillamook County.

The project's \$100,000 award will be divided into two tranches, with \$50,000 awarded immediately to help with the costs of nonprofit certification and the second \$50,000 deliverable when they have paid earnest money on the project's property.

A project proposed for Anchor Street in Rockaway Beach will receive \$80,000 to help pay for four apartments located above a commercial kitchen. Garibaldi-based CB Fishery is working on the project, which would be affordable to residents making 80-120% AMI, and has also applied for an agricultural workforce housing tax credit from the Oregon Department of Agriculture. If awarded, the credit could be sold to replace the grant funding, in

which case the award would be returned to the fund for future reallocation.

Three projects were recommended for \$40,000 awards: Spruce Point in Manzanita, Alder Ridge in Bay City and Thompson Springs in Nehalem.

Spruce Point in Manzanita aims to break ground this summer on a 60-apartment complex that would consist of one-, two- and three-bedroom apartments spread across five buildings. All units in the project will be affordable to residents making 60% AMI and 12 units will be dedicated to those making 30% AMI or less.

The Alder Ridge project is still in its early stages, but property owners Lisa and Ralph McRae said that they plan to use the award to continue working towards a 20-unit apartment building affordable to residents making 60% to 120% AMI. The building would be the first step in an envisioned redevelopment of the property, which used to house a paint brush handle factory and could host townhomes and a cottage cluster for seniors in addition to the apartment building.

Thompson Springs is the only project that received an award that aims to build housing that would be

See HOUSING, Page A3

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NEHALEM

Bay State Park

From Page A1

of the park's facilities up to the same, modern standard.

The park's camping facilities consist of six loops of campsites, one with yurts, arranged north to south just east of the beach, with additional campsites available for equestrians and pilots who frequent the park's small airstrip, totaling about 300 campsites. The park previously had four bathrooms for the six loops, as well as a day-use bathroom near a beach access point.

The three northern campground loops were upgraded from 30- to 50-watt power during a 2015 project and the three southern loops have been brought up to the same standard and are awaiting the installation of new pedestals that will house the upgraded power and water hookups.

Water and sewer systems at the park were also completely redone during



Work in progress to connect the restroom facility at the paddocks used by the park's horse concessionaire to the sewer system.

the project, with PVC pipe replaced by high-density polyethylene pipe. The park's day-use restroom and one for the horse concessionaire were also connected to the sewer system while new restrooms were added at the equestrian camp and a new bathroom is being added between the C and D campground loops.

Work is currently still underway on that new bathroom and workers are waiting on electrical equipment to arrive to complete

the installation of new electrical hookups in the southern loops. Repaving of a section of the park's main road between the entrance and airstrip was completed in early April. Changes to the campground infrastructure also led to the relocation of several camp host sites and an increase in the total number from six to nine.

At the same time as the bond project has been progressing, contractors have also been working to complete five cabins that will house

seasonal staff. The cabins will be around 400 square feet and have an efficiency kitchen, sans oven, living area, bathroom and bedroom. The cabins will be available to employees, with a specific intention to dedicate them to seasonal employees.

Cox said that he has 17 seasonal positions budgeted each year, but that he struggles to fill them all, with a dozen positions filled representing a successful season. Typically, seasonal staff consist of coastal residents who live between Tillamook and Seaside, and Cox said that

he hopes having the cabins that will rent for around \$500 a month might help him to fill all his positions.

"Even though there are only five cabins and it's five people, if you take last year as an example where I hired 11 or 12 out of 17, had I those cabins last year, I might have filled my crew," Cox said.

The cabin project is slated for a mid-May completion and a sixth site that was originally intended to host a cabin will be available to site a camper or fifth wheel with hookups after cost escalations prevented the cabin's construction.

Park staff also stayed busy during the park closure, clearing trails of fallen trees after winter storms and completing a bevy of maintenance work, including regrouting and fixture replacements in restrooms and the removal of worn-out decorative features.

While Cox is optimistic about the project hitting its June 30 deadline for total completion, he is holding off on taking reservations for the entire year at this point. Cox said that he plans to reopen a

limited number of reservations once the reopening date is more certain but that he also wants to do soft opening of sorts to test the park's new infrastructure under load before returning completely to normal operations.

"We want to put some strain on the system and make sure it's all working right, that we're not having any problems," Cox said, "then I can open the dam, you know pull the lever, and let folks book a full six months out. I just don't want to pull that lever and have six months of reservations booked and then have to cancel."

Cox thanked the public for their cooperation during the closure and said that while the staff did not like having the park closed, they wanted to make sure visitors had a favorable experience when they were allowed to return.

"I think it's a better customer service option to say we're going to open when it's ready and when we really, really think that you'll be able to come and have a good experience," Cox said.

LEVY

Neah-Kah-Nie

From Page A1

The cuts in timber harvests caused by the plan have left a \$2.7-million deficit in the district's budget, according to Reed, which led the board to decide to seek a five-year operations levy at a rate of 75 cents per thousand dollars of assessed value on district properties. If approved, this levy would allow the district to limit cuts to the panoply of programs on offer to students.

Mills pointed to the district's free preschool offerings and operation of two elementary schools for just 325 students as prime examples of the high level of service that would be at risk should the levy fail.

The Neah-Kah-Nie School District currently offers free preschools, with both district elementary schools accepting 18 three- and four-year olds each year. Mills said that the program was important for families given Tillamook County's lack of childcare and gives the district the opportunity to get to know kids before kindergarten, which is invaluable.

"That's a wonderful support for families to have," Mills said. "It's not just childcare,

it's preschool and so nice because we get those kids into our system and our school and our staff earlier on than if they started at age five in kindergarten."

Mills said that the district operating two elementary schools, hers and Garibaldi Grade School, was important to community members, who valued the local schools. "It's important, there's such great traditions and it's amazing to me when I have parents and grandparents and people come in to our school and tell me about who their teacher was or which classroom they had or where the principal's office was at that time, but they're very tied into the local schools," Mills said.

At the high school level, Hartford said that the district's strong financial position meant that there was an abundance of teachers, allowing the school to offer a wide variety of dual-credit classes and club opportunities.

Hartford said that the Future Natural Resource Leaders chapter at the high school and construction and welding classes could be in line for potential budget cuts should the levy not pass. Hartford said that the school's ability to offer dual-credit classes to allow students to earn an associate's degree while in high school would also be put in jeopardy should the question fail.

"If we had to clinch down on the budget and reduce teachers, it would be in those areas that you have a lot of dual credit opportunity," Hartford said, "which means that students who are currently getting their associates while in high school, they just wouldn't be able to do that."

Mills said that she shared similar concerns about the ability to keep offering the same level of staff support for students at her school. Currently, each elementary school employs a full-time physical education teacher, counselor and instructional coach, as well as a part-time music teacher, positions that Mills said would have to be reevaluated in a budget crunch.

Beyond those staffers, the school also employs classified staff who help teachers to differentiate and evaluate the individual needs of students. Mills said that losing these staff would not only be detrimental to student performance, but also increase the difficulty of teachers' jobs, potentially leading to more turnover.

"We also have classified staff who are hired to push into classrooms to support small group, to support teachers in differentiating with kids' needs and those are the worries that I worry about," Mills said. "So, losing some of those positions makes classroom

teachers' jobs harder, which would increase turnover, and it would decrease learning because kids aren't supported in the classroom to differentiate."

Hartford shared a similar sentiment about the impacts at the high school, saying "students get more one-on-one instruction; differentiation is very easy to do right now because we have such small class sizes. So, if you increase the class sizes, meeting those individual needs would be more challenging, for sure. I think that's something that would be very impactful."

Hartford, Reed and Mills' also voiced concerns about the impact of any cuts on morale that they fear could lead to an increase in staff turnover, which has historically been low in the district. Reed also stressed that the district's teachers' demographic profile meant that any cuts would impact entire families, not just individuals.

"Typically, we don't have high turnover here with staff," Reed said. "They come here,

they move here, they live here forever, so when we talk about cutting staff, we're talking about uprooting families in their lives, and we don't want to do that."

The proposed levy would help to bridge the gap between current and historic funding levels, bring in up to \$2 million a year, though in the upcoming year further belt tightening would still be necessary as the district faces a \$2.7-million deficit. Reed explained that the difference was caused by state-imposed restrictions on the amount of levy funding school districts can seek to prevent inequities among districts.

Reed said that district leadership is already working on solutions to cover the \$700,000 shortfall that will be left and have already discontinued a contract for grant writing, instead taking on the work in house, and are evaluating positions as current staff depart to determine whether they need to be refilled.

Reed also stressed that

the levy rate would vary by year, with the district's board of directors reevaluating the rate annually. Reed pointed to a bond approved by district voters in 2004 at a rate of 94 cents per thousand dollars of assessed value that was assessed at 70 cents in its first year and never higher than 50 cents over the remainder of its term.

"We need the full amount this year because that's what we're seeing in our budgets and that's what we're asking for," Reed said. "But every year our board sets the levy rate, for the next five years, and so if timber comes back, we won't ask for the full 75 and we've shown that in the past, that we won't ask for the full amount if we don't need it."

Reed encouraged any voters who have questions to visit nknsd.org/levy, where the district has posted the school board presentations relating to the bond, a property tax calculator for district properties and a link to email Reed directly.

HOUSING

Grants

From Page A2

available for purchase, with ten one- and two-bedroom homes built on a property in Nehalem. The project is being developed by Sammy's Place, a Tillamook County nonprofit focused on individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD), and five of the houses would be reserved for people with IDD.

Houses would cost between \$72,000 and \$284,000, affordable to individuals making between 40% and 120% AMI, with all five, two-bedroom houses

for IDD residents at the \$72,000 price point.

After Sammons's presentation, Commissioner Erin Skaar, who liaises with the housing commission, praised the work of the commission and said that while it might not feel like it to residents, the housing solutions fund had been a great success. Skaar said that multifamily housing projects have a long lead time, with securing financing, developing plans and permitting often taking the better part of five years and sometimes longer.

Skaar said that the 150 units already opened at the Holden Creek and Willet apartment complexes in Tillamook, Bayside Commons in Garibaldi and Kingfisher in Pacific City represented a

major success and noted that there were another 200 in the pipeline across the county.

Skaar also said that she was excited about the diversity of projects applying for grants from the fund, noting that both local and statewide developers had applied and that projects would address both the shortage of rental inventory and barriers to home ownership.

Commissioners Paul Fournier and Mary Faith Bell concurred that the fund was doing great work and said they were grateful that short-term rentals were helping to address housing issues in the county before all three commissioners unanimously approved the recommendations.



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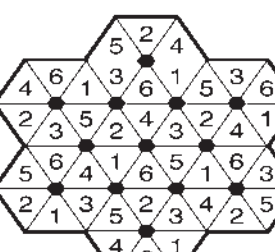
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55 Series-ending abbr.
56 "Yes, Yvette"
57 "The Revolution Will Not Be Televised" poet
62 Jeff Bridges sci-fi film
65 Glockenspiel relative
66 Frosty film
67 Planet's path
68 Trying Jenny Craig, e.g.
70 Stands up
71 Middy time
72 Treaty result
74 Impacts
77 Apt retail establishment for 57-Across to own?
80 "Kew!"
81 Daddies

83 Moose kin
84 These, in Spain
85 Alternative to laser tag
88 — buco
89 Apt item for 44-Across to keep files in?
92 Chief Cochise, e.g.
95 Garlic mayo
97 Principal
98 Apt business for 33-Across to have on the stock exchange?
101 Mimicking a crow's cry
105 Sci-fi princess
106 Alias letters
107 Pal, to Yves
110 Former chief justice Roger
111 Carrier based in Tehran
114 Apt ingredient for 23-Across to make a jiggy dessert?
119 Guevara called "Che"
120 Exhibit A, say
121 Assistant
122 Court period
123 Like the Zax and the Lorax
124 Gleeful cries

DOWN

1 Less refined
2 Au courant
3 Top medals
4 Valved brass instrument
5 Make a gaffe
6 California wine valley
7 Have — with (be favored by)
8 Lady's title
9 Assn.
10 "Norma —"
11 Writer Umberto
12 IHOP competitor
13 Prefix with -lithic or -zoic
14 — lacto- vegetarian
15 "Wham!"
16 From which a name is taken
17 Reebok rival
18 Made over
19 Au courant
24 Tourist destination that's "green"
29 Golf rarely
32 Ho-humness
34 Cruel Amin
35 Many an heir
36 Pan Am rival
37 Travel origin, generically

38 Virtual money
40 "— vincit amor"
41 Heavy drinker
44 Bar brew
45 "It's go time!"
46 Almanac, in large part
47 Ship's diary
48 Trent of Mississippi
50 Slushy drink
51 — Rica
52 Accessory near a mouse
53 Real estate transaction
54 Individuals
58 "It's too hard for me"
59 Brought on
60 More crafty
61 Comic Idle
63 "— I a stinker?"
64 "I'd rather — there" ("That topic is off limits")
67 A while ago
69 Loch —
70 Ketchup ingredient
72 Belittled, informally
73 Study of insects, informally

75 Many a monk
76 Some unofficial sci-fi stories
78 Two-gender pronoun
79 Prefix with center
82 Camera variety, briefly
86 Swiss mount
87 Bowled over
88 Gas ratings
89 Floor cleaner
90 Styled after
91 Writer Anais
92 Partners
93 Capital of South Dakota
94 Laotians and Thais
95 Just dandy
96 Likenesses
99 Leslie of "Lil"
100 "The Deep" director Peter
102 Delhi's land
103 Very poor
104 Whirls around
108 Short skirt
109 Old Peruvian
112 "Do — say!"
113 Skater Midori
115 Adam and —
116 Actress Lucy
117 TV pitches
118 Signing tool

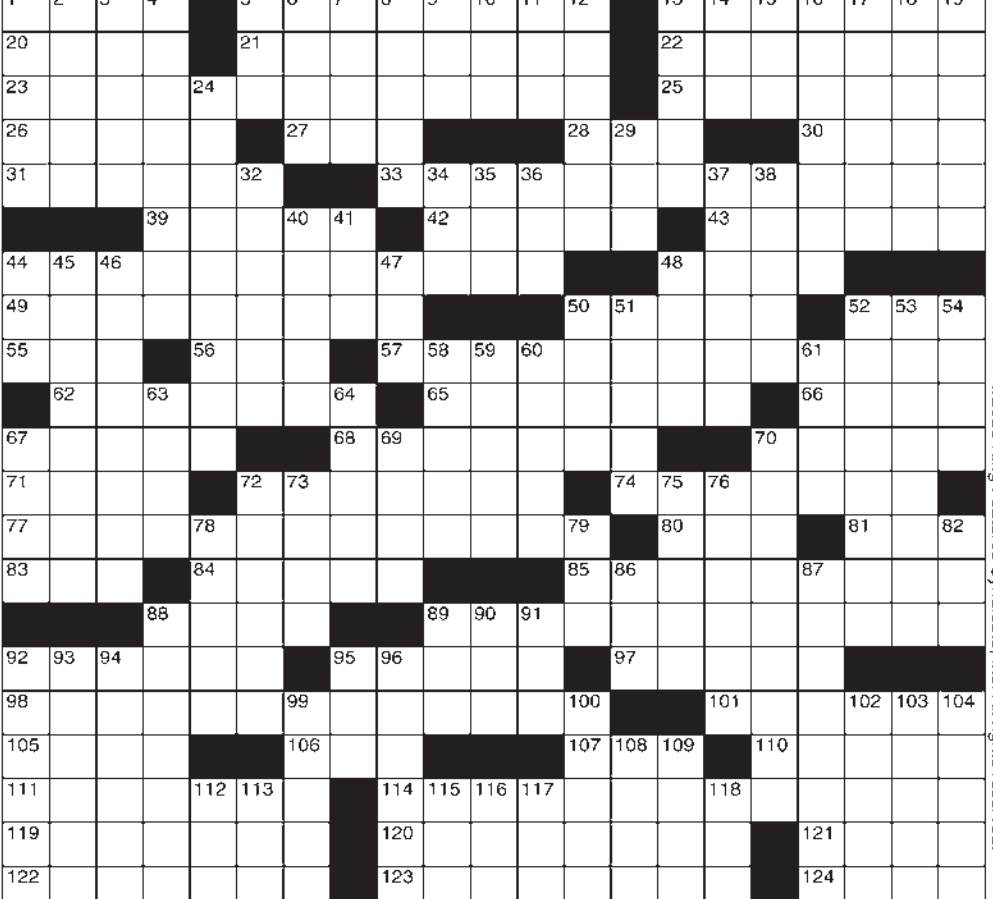


Church Services by the Sea
Cannon Beach to Nehalem

Nehalem
Nehalem Bay
United Methodist Church
36050 10th Street, Nehalem, OR
(503) 368-5612
Pastor Celeste Deveney +
Sunday service 11 a.m.
Food Pantry
Open Friday, Saturday & Monday
10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Wednesday

March - October 2 p.m. to 6 p.m.
November - February noon to 4 p.m.
Nehalem Senior Lunches
Tuesday & Thursday served at noon
email: nbumcns12020@gmail.com

To feature your spiritual organization on this panel:
Contact Katherine at
(503) 842-7535,
headlightads@countrymedia.net.



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North Coast **CITIZEN**
Serving North Tillamook County since 1996

Deadline: FRIDAYS at Noon for Advertising, News, Letters, Classifieds, Legals/Public Notices, Obituaries

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Editor: Will Chappell, email headlighteditor@countrymedia.net
Advertising: Katherine Mace, email headlightads@countrymedia.net
Office Manager: Patty Archambault, email classifieds@orcoastnews.com

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LETTER POLICY

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

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

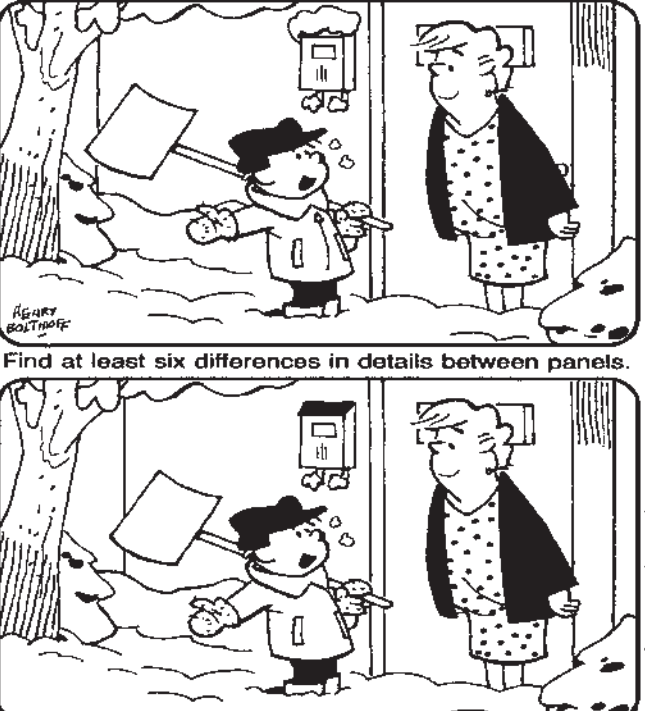
Obituaries

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 \$100 for the first 200 words, \$75 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.

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

HOCUS - FOCUS BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.

Differences: 1. Shovel is shorter. 2. Arm is lower. 3. Snow is missing from mailbox. 4. Doorknob is missing. 5. Zipper is missing. 6. House is not as wide.

Weekly SUDOKU

9	6			4	2	5	
7		8	3	2	6	1	4
	4			1			7
6		5	4			1	7
2				8			5
	7	4			5	3	2
		6			7	3	1
8			6				
			1		8	4	6

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

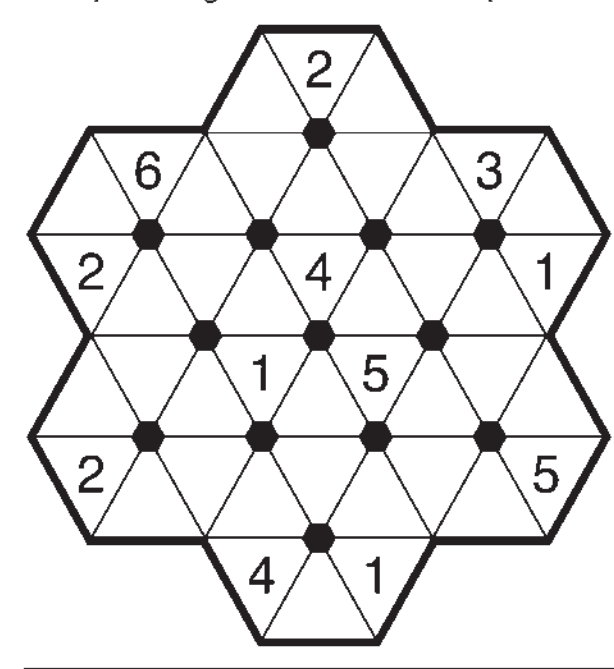
DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ◆

◆ Moderate ◆◆ Challenging
◆◆◆ HOO BOY!

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SNOWFLAKES
by Japheth Light

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



DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ◆◆◆

◆ Easy ◆◆ Medium ◆◆◆ Difficult

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Super Crossword

Answers

R	A	G	A	E	N	A	M	O	R	E	D	P	O	P	A	R	T
A	W	O	L	R	A	N	A	R	A	C	E	A	V	O	I	D	E
W	A	L	T	E	R	P	I	D	G	E	O	N	L	O	W	I	D
E	R	D	O	C	A	N	A	N	A	E	U	D	O	N			
R	E	S	H	O	T	M	I	S	T	Y	C	O	P	E	L	A	N
				O	R	E	O	S	D	O	W	S	E	O	C	A	S
A	L	F	R	E	D	M	O	L	I	N	A	L	I	A	R		
L	E	A	N	S	I	N	T	O	I	C	O	N	S	W	H	O	
E	T	C	O	U	I	G	I	L	S	C	O	T	H	E	R	I	O
S	T	A	R	M	A	N	C	E	L	E	S	T	A	R	I	M	E
O	R	B	I	T	O	N	A	D	I	E	T	R	I	S	E	S	
N	O	O	N	D	E	T	E	N	T	E	A	F	F	E	C	T	S
C	L	O	T	H	I	N	G	S	T	O	R	E	R	A	D	P	A
E	L	K	E	S	T	O	S	P	A	I	N	T	B	A	L	L	
				O	S	S	O	M	A	N	I	L	A	F	O	L	D
A	P	A	C	H	E	A	I	O	L	I	P	R	I	M	E		
L	I	S	T	E	D	C	O	M	P	A	N	Y	C	A	W	I	N
L	E	I	A	A	K	A	G	E	L	A	T	I	N	P	O	W	D
I	R	A	N	A	I	R	G	E	L	A	T	I	N	P	O	W	D
E	R	N	E	S	T	O	E	V	I	D	E	N	C	E	A	I	D
S	E	S	S	I	O	N	S	E	U	S	S	I	A	N	Y	A	Y

Hundreds protest in downtown Tillamook

WILL CHAPPELL
Citizen Editor

Throng descended on downtown Tillamook on April 5, converging on Sue Elmore Park before lining Highway 101 to protest the actions taken by President Donald Trump so far in his second term, as well as Elon Musk's involvement in the administration.

Protest organizer Don Backman said that more than 500 people from every community in Tillamook County attended the event, part of a nationwide day of protests, to send the message that they were not okay with the Trump administration's current path.

"This nationwide event was designed to send a message that Americans value individual rights and democracy," Backman said. "We do not consent to the destruction of our government, our economy and our education for the benefit of Trump and his billionaire allies. Across America, millions of people are marching, rallying and protesting to demand a stop to the chaos and build an opposition movement against the looting of our country."

Indivisible Tillamook Coast Action, a new non-partisan, grassroots organization made up of more than 800 members in the county opposed to the Trump agenda, organized the rally.

Protesters gathered at noon and carried a variety of signs protesting actions taken by the administration and encouraging others to get involved. Backman said that protesters at the event were

worried about a laundry list of concerns including cuts and disruptions to Medicare, Medicaid, social security and veterans' services, and threats to democracy and individual rights.

Backman said that the protest's number one priority had been safety and thanked volunteers who had helped elderly and mobility-challenged protesters navigate downtown. Backman also pushed back on suggestions that attendees had been paid, calling the suggestion risible.

"We have been asked if we were paid; this is laughable," Backman said. "No one is or was paid. We put out the word and people from all walks of life showed up."

Rally organizers planned for several hundred attendees, according to Backman, and were surprised by the turnout, which he said had been confirmed by a count by volunteers.

Backman said that he believed people from all political backgrounds were involved because, like him, a self-described independent, they saw the actions taken by Trump as a threat to the American constitutional system.

"Why does an otherwise moderately conservative Independent who has fought for hunting rights and gun rights support this movement," Backman asked. "Because I love democracy and the American flag and the constitution, rule of law and the individual rights it stands for. Make no mistake, this is about stopping an illegal coup and protecting the constitution."



Protesters lined both sides of Highway 101 at the north end of downtown Tillamook on Saturday, April 5. Photo credit Brian Cameron



Event organizers said more than 500 people showed up for the protest. Photo credit Brian Cameron.

HOME & GARDEN SHOW

From Page A1

towards the club's operations.

The Kiwanis Club of Tillamook will also be fundraising to support scholarships for local students and Rick Stelzig will be selling handmade, wooden American flags to benefit American Legion Post 47 and its youth programs.

Vendors at the show will include Old House Dahlias, Monkey Business 101, LP Designs, photographer TR Russell and many more.

Old House Dahlias will feature a variety of Dahlia clumps, including for the striking Hollyhill Black Widow, while Monkey Business 101 will focus on edible and bee-friendly landscaping, including fruit trees, berry bushes, heritage roses, shrubs and flowering perennials.

Pacific Restaurant will be offering cinnamon rolls, cookies and coffee from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. on Saturday and burgers, pulled pork and other more substantial items for the rest of the day.

So, head to the Tillamook County Fairgrounds between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. on April 26, or 11 a.m. and 4 p.m. on April 27, to take care of your home and garden needs.

BAY CITY Water Rates Rise

From Page A1

the rate increase, especially on citizens with fixed incomes, the system needed to be maintained and updated, and it was only fair that the cost be spread across all rate payers. Other councilors agreed and voted to approve the rate increase, which will take effect on May 8.

The step forward on the addition of the Green-Williams property between Alderbrook and Vaughn Roads to Bay City's urban growth boundary (UGB) was made possible by Oregon Senate Bill 1537, passed in 2024. The bill allowed cities to take an expedited path towards adding up to 150 residential acres to their urban growth boundaries and included a variety of other policies to decrease barriers to housing construction.

The 20.32-acre site is currently zoned rural residential two, which would allow it to be divided into ten two-acre parcels for single family homes. However, if the property is added to the city's UGB it would allow future developers to apply for a rezoning that could allow up to 111 home sites, though that number does not account for wetlands on the site which would need to be left undeveloped.

If the project is rezoned for a larger development, 30% of the units constructed will need to be affordable to residents making 80% of the area's median income if they are rentals, and 130% of the area's median income if they are for sale.

McCall said that adding that any development at the property would require significant improvements to roads in the area following a traffic study but that the city had adequate water and sewer capacity for the project.

Several residents voiced concerns about the potential development, saying that if it was built to its maximum size, they feared it would increase traffic and crime.

The property owner then spoke and said that those concerns would be addressed in the process of rezoning and approving plans for any development. The owner said that he did

not plan to develop the property himself and that he was currently working on selling it to developers with experience in building workforce and affordable housing.

The property owner said that the developers were still determining whether a large-scale redevelopment project would make financial sense, with chief questions being the ability to add multifamily units at the property's southern edge given the city's construction codes. He said that whether a larger development was feasible or not, the property would be developed.

Councilor Anthony Boatman said that he was not a fan of the potential large-scale development and did not feel it was appropriate for the area.

Baker said that she favored the property's addition to the UGB as it would help add housing stock and give the city input into the property's future development, whereas it could currently be developed in whatever way the property owner saw fit. Baker also pointed out that the units with price restrictions would not be affordable housing but rather workforce, geared at professionals making a good wage.

Councilor Colin Jones said that he appreciated the public comment but that he was supportive of the UGB expansion because the city needed housing to allow people to afford to move there.

Councilor Justin Howard said that he agreed the property needed to be developed but that he shared citizen concerns that the maximum allowed development would be too intense for the area.

Councilor Boatman said that despite his reservations he would vote in favor of the selection in order to give the city input in the development and a motion to identify the property for expedited inclusion in the UGB passed.

The property owner now has one year to apply for amendments to the UGB and the city's comprehensive plan text and map, which will undergo a typical land use process, including opportunities for public comment. If those amendments are approved, they will be submitted to the Oregon Department of Land Conservation and Development for review.

Vote for your favorites in support of your local community!



Fill out this ballot or vote online April 1st through May 15th



Best Food and Drink

- Atmosphere _____
- Baked Goods _____
- Breakfast _____
- Brew Pub _____
- Burger _____
- Chinese _____
- Clam Chowder _____
- Coffee _____
- Dessert _____
- Dinner _____
- Fish & Chips _____
- Food Cart _____
- Grilled Cheese _____
- Happy Hour _____
- Ice Cream _____
- Lunch _____
- Mexican _____
- Patio Dining _____
- Pizza _____
- Sandwiches _____
- Seafood _____
- Steak _____
- Sushi _____
- Tasting Room _____
- Thai _____
- Vegan/Vegetarian _____
- Waterfront Dining _____

Business - Best Local Place For

- A Fun Time _____
- Accountant _____
- Annual Event _____
- Appliances _____
- Art / Gallery _____
- Auto Body _____
- Auto Service _____
- Boutique Shopping _____
- Cannabis Dispensary _____
- Catering _____
- Clothing _____
- Computer Sales & Service _____
- Car / Truck Purchase _____
- Cultural Experience _____
- Customer Service _____
- Date Night _____
- Entertainment _____
- Electrician Service/Install _____
- Family Attraction _____
- Family Night _____
- Financial Institution _____
- Fishing & Hunting Equipment _____
- Fitness / Well Being _____
- Florist _____
- Gardening Supplies & Plants _____
- General Contracting / Construction _____
- Gifts _____
- Groceries & Sundries _____
- Health Spa / Fitness _____
- Heating & Air _____
- Home Furnishings / Decor _____
- Home Improvement _____

- Jewelry _____
- Kayak Rentals _____
- Kids Activities _____
- Landscaping & Lawn _____
- Live Entertainment _____
- Marina _____
- Museum _____
- Mental Health Therapy _____
- News _____
- Organic / Locally Sourced _____
- Outdoor Recreation _____
- Overnight Camping _____
- Overnight Lodging _____
- Parade _____
- Park _____
- Pet / Livestock Supplies _____
- Plumbing _____
- Real Estate Office _____
- Roofing _____
- Repairman / Handyman _____
- Senior Living _____
- Support Groups _____
- Supplies _____
- Veterinarian Services _____

People - Best At What They Do

- Include first and last names of individuals and place of business
- Bartender _____
 - Boss / Manager _____
 - Coach _____
 - Esthetician _____
 - Financial Advisor _____
 - Fishing Guide _____
 - Food Server _____
 - Hair Stylist _____
 - Health Professional _____
 - Insurance Agent _____
 - Instructor _____
 - Manicurist _____
 - Massage Therapist _____
 - Mortgage Agent _____
 - Non-profit _____
 - Pharmacist _____
 - Police / Fire / EMT _____
 - Property Manager _____
 - Real Estate Agent _____
 - Spiritual Leader _____

Headlight Herald

North Coast CITIZEN

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www.tillamookheadlightherald.com
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- **MAIL** to P.O. Box 444, Tillamook, OR 97141

Votes must be received by May 15th
Original ballots only, no copies. Please write clearly.
Only one ballot per reader.
Enter one person/business per category.
Businesses can only be voted for service they provide.





Healthcare education building takes shape

WILL CHAPPELL
CITIZEN EDITOR

Tillamook Bay Community College's future healthcare education building is a hive of activity, with 40 to 50 craftsmen working on any given day to complete the building for its late fall opening.

Jason Lawrence, Tillamook Bay Community College's (TBCC) Director of Facilities and Safety, said that the project is on track, with framing 90% complete as of last week and work underway on mechanical systems on the building's first floor.

Lawrence took the Headlight Herald for a tour of the construction site last week and showed off the new facility's features, headlined by the new event center which will be able to accom-

modate more than 350 for banquets and over 400 in a theatre-style seating arrangement. The large room will feature three double doors opening onto the courtyard between the new building and the college's current building, and will be divisible, with three temporary walls providing five potential configurations.

Lawrence said this flexibility will allow the space to host indoor-outdoor events, like the college's annual North Coast Throwdown cornhole tournament, and use the space as classrooms as needed. The event center is also connected to a catering kitchen, which will feature stainless steel workspaces, freezers, and warming and cooling boxes.

Elsewhere on the first floor are an X-Ray room, and labs for nursing and EMT

students, both of which will feature state-of-the-art technology to help with training.

In the EMT lab, an ambulance simulator will be supplemented by live ambulances, donated by Adventist Health Tillamook, which will be able to access the lab by an exterior garage door.

In the nursing lab, patient simulators will mimic various medical conditions and be controlled by instructors, while four treatment bays featuring full hospital beds will give students an opportunity to experience a clinical setting.

On the building's second floor, there will be two classrooms, three small lounges for students, a large meeting room and a new administrative suite for the college. The administrative suite will feature 18 offices and a smaller meeting room, as



well as a staff lounge. The second floor will also feature a display wall for rotating exhibits from local artists and an open walkway below skylights, allowing natural light to illuminate both the first and second floors.

In addition to mechanical work, Lawrence said

that progress was almost complete on sheathing the roof and he hoped workers would begin installing the waterproof membrane this week. Lawrence said that the project remains on pace for completion in November and to begin hosting classes in January 2026.

The project will also

see the college's entrance relocated from Marolf Loop Road to Brookfield, at the rear of campus, and parking capacity significantly expanded.

The \$23.8-million project is being supported by a voter-approved bond and Lawrence said that it is on budget.

Bell and Olson promote increase in transient lodging tax

WILL CHAPPELL
CITIZEN EDITOR

As Tillamook County seeks voter approval for a 4% increase to its transient lodg-

ing tax rate, Commissioner Mary Faith Bell and former Commissioner Doug Olson are traversing the county in support of the proposal.

Bell and Olson recently

sat down with the Headlight Herald to discuss the measure and said that it boiled down to asking tourists to pay for the impacts they have on the county.

"We're asking voters to approve for tourists to pay their fair share for the services they receive while they're here," Bell said.

The idea to seek an increase to the transient lodging tax (TLT) began percolating during budget discussions last year as county leaders pondered how to bridge a multimillion-dollar-a-year shortfall caused by stagnant property tax and decreasing timber revenues.

Approved by voters in 2013, and taking effect in 2014, the county's TLT is currently set at 10%. Under state law, 70% of that money must go towards tourism-related facilities or promotion, while the other 30% is available for discretionary use by the county.

In Tillamook County's case, voters approved the TLT with the understanding that the unrestricted funds would go to the county's public works department to fund road maintenance. The other 70% has been used to support a plethora of projects across the county, including the North County Recreation District's new pool, a new roof for the YMCA's Pastega Activity Center in Tillamook, the Cape Kiwanda corridor project in Pacific City and an ongoing partnership with the Tillamook Coast Visitors Association, which supports programs ranging from maintenance of beach wheelchairs to wayfinding signs in unincorporated communities. Currently, the tax yields around \$8 million annually, with around \$2.4 million going to the roads department, and \$5.6 to tourism projects.

When commissioners first broached the topic of seeking voter approval for an increase in the TLT last year, they floated a 5% increase to take effect on July 1 of this year. However, that proposal met with stiff opposition from owners of short-term rentals in public hearings in February, leading commissioners to reduce the ask to 4% and split it into a 2% increase on July 1, and further 2% on July 1, 2026.

Bell and Olson said that all the numbers involved in the request were making their job of explaining it to voters more difficult, but that it was important for them to understand the statutory split, current allocations, proposed increase and proposed allocation for increased revenues to make an informed decision.

"The challenge is we need to get a lot of information out to a lot of people in a very short period of time," Olson said, "and because of the percentages and other things we need to be sure that they understand the numbers."

As for the allocation of the 30% of the funds generated by the new increase that would be unrestricted, commissioners are committing to splitting the funds between three recipients.

The first, which would receive 80% of the unrestricted funds, would be the sheriff's office, with 10% going to emergency management and 10% to fund maintenance of a new emergency radio system set to be constructed in the county soon.

The sheriff's office would receive around \$800,000 annually from the increased TLT, if approved, and the money would be used to stabilize its budget. Bell stressed that while she would like to see the budget and services that the sheriff was able to offer increased, with the level of uncertainty around the county's budget forward, this allocation was designed to secure current funding.

"We're trying to stabilize our current service levels because I haven't heard from anyone who thinks we need less law enforcement, we need what we have, and in fact, we need more than that," Bell said. "But we need to protect the budget right now so that we can stabilize our current service levels. So, it'll go directly into the sheriff's office budget and hopefully we'll be able to leave it as is and protect our current service levels."

The amount contributed to emergency management would be earmarked for preparing resources to assist visitors in the event of an emergency. Bell said that she and the other commissioners were concerned about what would happen if a major disaster happened while the county was inundated with tourists and wanted to be better prepared for that possibility.

"What we're hoping is that we can direct it to emergency preparedness because where we're really lacking is to be able to prepare for if we have visitors here, how will we take care of them," Bell said. "So, we're working really hard to set up systems and cache sites etcetera for if we have a disaster here, people will have the things that people need, lodg-

ing, food, etcetera, to be able to keep them safe for a couple weeks until help arrives."

Plans for the 70% of the funds generated from the increase that would be restricted to tourism-related projects or promotion are less certain, though commissioners have invited organizations with ideas to reach out and are keeping a list of projects. Bell mentioned the addition of a park in Oceanaside and campground in Pacific City, as well as the construction of a conference center and hotel near the fairgrounds, as proposed by Commissioner Paul Fournier, as ideas that have been floated and said that if the measure passed commissioners would probably form a group to address the question.

"There are a number of excellent ideas that we haven't decided exactly which way that we'll go, but we have a working list of things we want to consider," Bell said. "So, our idea is that if voters approve this, then we'll pull together a little working group, including people in the tourism industry, and come up with a strategic plan for what's the best way to invest those funds."

Asked about potential future increase requests, Bell pointed to the decade-plus that has elapsed since the institution of the current rate and said that she was hopeful that efforts to amend the 70/30 split in Salem would be successful, which would remove the need for future increases.

Olson is leading a political action committee that is using funds leftover from last fall's successful emergency radio bond campaign to promote the increase. Along with Bell and the other commissioners, he is appearing at meetings across the county in the leadup to the election to educate voters and ask for their support.

Olson, who was also involved in the campaign supporting the original passage of the TLT, said that while there were varying opinions of the tourist industry, he is optimistic voters will see the need and logic of the requested increase and approve it.

"You've got different views of what's happening, but people in my judgment are essentially reasonable, logical and smart," Olson said. "Smarter than a lot of people give them credit for. They can see the impact and if we ask people to help pay for that, that makes perfect sense."

Tillamook County Community Health Centers

FindSupport.gov

FindTreatment.gov

Help is available

SAMHSA's National Helpline
1-800-662-HELP (4357)

988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline
988 or 988Lifeline.org

April is Alcohol Awareness Month

There is no better time to reflect on our drinking habits than the present. Whether alcohol plays a large or small role in our lives or the lives of our loved ones, it's important to be aware of the risks associated with drinking. By educating ourselves, we can build safer, more supportive spaces in our communities and among our families. Alcohol doesn't have to be the focus. Let's come together to find solutions that prevent excessive alcohol use among adults and youth and create a healthier environment for everyone.

#alcoholawarenessmonth
#healthychoices

Schedule an appointment today!

(503) 842-2356

(800) 528-2938 TTY 711

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