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EMERGENCY RESPONSE

Two found dead after boat capsizes near Nedonna Beach

For the Citizen

Tillamook County Sheriff’s Office deputies responded to a reported capsized sailboat at 8:20 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 3, north of Rockaway, near Nedonna Beach, just south of the south Nehalem Jetty. Rockaway Fire-Rescue, Garibaldi Fire-Rescue, Nehalem Bay Fire-Rescue, Tillamook Ambulance and the US Coast Guard responded as well.

According to the sheriff’s office, fire personnel located an unconscious/not breathing woman on the beach and CPR was initiated. Unfortunately, the woman could not be resuscitated. U.S. Coast Guard crews continued searching the area for survivors with two motor lifeboats.

The capsized sailboat, registered out of Astoria, became partially beached and coast guard personnel were able to gain access to the vessel and located a deceased man, the sheriff’s office reported.

The two victims, husband and wife, were believed to be the only people on board the vessel at the time of the incident. Thanks to the efforts of Tillamook 911 Dispatchers, the victims were identified and immediate family has been notified.

This investigation continues.



County’s Housing Commission looks for ways to help housing crisis

For the Citizen

Renters, home buyers and employers looking for employees are well aware of our county’s housing crisis. Shortages of attainable housing cause problems for all of us, residents and visitors alike. The Housing Commission, a 15-member advisory committee to the Tillamook County Board of County Commissioners, is working to understand what is causing this crisis and to help find solutions. The goal of the Housing Commission is “To collaboratively advocate for attainable and equitable solutions that impact Tillamook County’s greatest housing needs”.

The Housing Commission began its learning curve about the housing crisis through a professional Housing Needs Analysis and from a Housing Summit, co-sponsored by the Housing Commission and the Department of Community Development. Now the Commission wants to hear about people’s housing experiences.

Housing Stories

Stories illustrate the first-hand accounts of real people, a valuable and important avenue that is key to creating housing solutions. The Housing Commission needs your housing story!

Do you have a story about housing? Are you

- A person who has had trouble finding a place to call home?
- An employer who can’t find employees because they can’t find a place to live?
- A landlord who is providing long term housing?
- A developer who has built or wants to build homes here?
- Someone who has ideas about what could work?

If you have a housing story to share send an email to TillamookCoHousing-Commission@gmail.com

Housing Needs Analysis

In December 2019 the Housing Commission completed a comprehensive formal Housing Needs Analysis to get the hard facts needed to look at the next 20 years of housing needs based on population growth, available buildable lands and economic analysis. Key findings include:

- From 2014 to 2019 home prices rose by 40% but wages rose only 21%.
- Most new housing stock has been aimed at our “resort towns” where the majority of homes are owned by part time residents.
- Vacancy rates for renters and owners plunged to near zero, pushing rents and home prices to record highs.
- The median home price is not attainable by households earning the median income. To be affordable to households with incomes of \$54,000 or less, home sales prices need to be under \$300,000. The median home price in Tillamook County in 2019 was \$323,000.
- One in four workers must commute over 50 miles each way to work.
- These severe housing affordability challenges are exacerbated by land use, environmental, and infrastructure issues as well as limited family wage jobs.

If anything, the housing crisis has worsened under the pandemic. Current data for Tillamook County puts the 2021 Median Income for a family of four at \$64,400, a 19% increase over 2019. Realtor.com shows that the July 2021 median home sale price was \$399,000, an increase of 23%. This makes housing even less attainable by households earning median income.

The link for the 2019 Tillamook County Housing Needs Analysis can be found below.

Housing Summit

A Housing Summit held in October 2019 generated significant momentum for creating housing solutions. The

■ See **HOUSING**, Page 5

COVID-19 Update

Death toll at 24, Pfizer booster shots available

Hilary Dorsey
Staff Writer

Tillamook County Health Department reported during a Tillamook County Board of Commissioners meeting Wednesday, Sept. 29, 11 COVID-19 cases for the weekend case count from Friday, Sept. 24, through Sunday, Sept. 26. This is a decrease from the previous weekend, which saw 19 cases from Sept. 17 through Sept. 19. There were 44 cases in the 7-day case count from Sept. 19 through Sept. 25.

“Our 14-day case count is 134 positive COVID-19 cases,” Administrator Marlene Putman said.

The month to date – Sept. 1 through Sept. 26 – is 374 cases. The county has seen a total of 1,861 positive cases since March 2020.

The death toll for COVID-related deaths is at 24, with 21 of those individuals unvaccinated, one with no vaccine record and two fully vaccinated.

“Our Tillamook County number for breakthrough cases is 25 percent,” Putman said. “Of people who are vaccinated, 25 percent of those have still become infected with COVID-19.”

Putman said most of these breakthrough cases include minor symptoms. The health department encourages people who are immune-compromised to receive a third dose of the vaccine.

Putman said the third dose – different from the booster dose – of the vaccine is to help

boost the immune system for those immune-compromised. The extra dose is needed if your body cannot fight off disease. Putman added the vaccine seems to be very effective for the rest of the population.

“Our test positivity rate, we’re also seeing a decrease, which is good news,” Putman said. “The previous 7-day period, it was 11.2 and for Sept. 19 through Sept. 25, it is 7.5 percent.”

Tillamook County has 25 total COVID-19 outbreaks under monitoring, Putman said. “We have 15 that are confirmed and 10 that are pending investigation,” Putman said.

Oregon Health Authority confirmed workplace outbreaks as of Wednesday, Sept. 29, at Fred Meyer with 31 cases, Tillamook County Creamery Association with 19 cases, Adventist Health Medical Office – Plaza location and Adventist Health Tillamook Hospital with a total of 23 cases, Tillamook Country Smoker with 14 cases, Hampton Lumber Company with eight cases, and Misty Meadow Dairy with six cases.

The health department continues to caution people not to use ivermectin as treatment for COVID-19. Seek immediate medical attention or call poison control if you ingest this medication.

The Food and Drug Administration has approved monoclonal antibody therapy for emergency use for COVID-19 treatment. A patient must have a referral from their health care provider. Adventist Health administers the treatment through an IV infusion.

There are updated hours for drive-up testing from Oct. 1 through Oct. 17. Hours will be 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday, Wednesday and Friday. There is signage for entrances. Hours will change again Oct. 18 through Oct. 31. Hours will be announced closer to those dates.

Emergency Preparedness Coordinator Ed Colson said the health department has seen an increase in vaccine requests throughout August and September. Pfizer booster shots have been approved for Oregonians who have completed the Pfizer vaccine series at least six months ago and are ages 65 and older and those who live in a long-term care facility, as well as those 18-64 who have underlying medical conditions and persons in occupational or institutional setting that put them at higher risk of COVID-19 exposure and transmission. This includes health care workers, teachers and grocery workers.

K-12 employees and health care workers must be fully vaccinated by Oct. 18 or have filed a medical or religious exemption, Colson said. Talk with your health care provider if you have any questions about the vaccine.

For October, walk-in vaccine clinics will be available from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays at the Tillamook County Fairgrounds. Adventist Health, Rinehart Clinic and local pharmacies also have vaccines available.

Send comments to: headlightreporter@countrymedia.net

Webinar looks at human impact on coastal landscapes

Hilary Dorsey
Staff Writer

An online panel discussion, hosted by Oregon Shores



Conservation Coalition Thursday, Sept. 30, discussed human impact on Oregon coastal landscapes. Moderators discussed how the coast has been transformed by human impact over the course of history to present day.

William Robbins, a professor of history from Oregon State University, discussed how market-related values reshaped the ecology and landscape of the coastal environment. This began with the Europeans’ presence becoming dominant

around 170 years ago.

“On the Oregon Coast especially, there is a plethora of language groups and tribal peoples,” Robbins said. “It’s that indigenous world that was relatively stable that was abruptly disrupted beginning in 1800 but especially in 1830s and 1840s.”

The reoccurring malaria epidemics, around 1830, were devastating to Native Americans along the lower Columbia River, in the Willamette Valley and in

the villages on Oregon’s coastal estuaries, Robbins said. Around 90 percent of the indigenous population was killed from 1830 to 1833.

The Euro-Americans brought values of trade. In the 1840s through the 1880s, systematic changes were brought to the valley and coastal regions. Euro-Americans realized the market value of fish and timber. This led to the development of the lumber business.

Wheeler leaders add volunteers to workers compensation policy

Hilary Dorsey
Staff Writer

Wheeler City Council agreed in a meeting Tuesday, Sept. 21, to add the city’s volunteers to the workers compensation policy.

In the past, the city’s insurance carrier has provided the city’s worker compensation insurance. They discontinued this line of insurance earlier this year and are now acting as broker for SAIF and providing the same coverage.

During the meeting, Council President Jim King said the only volunteers currently

covered by the workers compensation policy are the council and mayor. The proposal is to cover all volunteers in Wheeler equally.

“Emergency volunteers especially are the ones that deserve special treatment and deserve that coverage,” King said.

Cost for emergency response volunteers would be \$2.62 per \$100 of payroll. Since they are volunteers, they are unpaid, so the payroll is based on Oregon’s minimum wage of \$12.

“The number of hours

based on \$5,000 of coverage is 416 hours,” King said.

Based on these hours, the annual cost would be \$9.50 for volunteers and elected officials and \$131 for emergency response members.

All volunteers are covered by the city’s liability insurance if they are signed up and approved as volunteers. If while performing volunteer duties, the volunteer injures someone else or damages their property, the insurance would defend the city, and pay a claim, if there is negligence on the volunteer’s part.

King said the liability protects the city but not the volunteer if they are injured. Once the city agrees for coverage, the insurance will give \$5,000 assumed coverage.

King said Manzanita covers their emergency volunteers and Nehalem recently agreed to cover theirs. King proposed to include all volunteers as long as they are signed up and approved by the city.

“I think we need a little bit more information about the true costs of providing this for all our volunteers, what

the ramifications are,” Councilor Mike Glowa said. “I just think it’s premature to do this tonight, to approve it.”

King said the councilors have the information about the cost. Each volunteer has to report when the start and stop, which is the responsibility of the lead of the volunteer team.

“Each volunteer reports the time to the team leader,” King said. “In the case of the emergency response volunteers, it doesn’t matter what they’re doing, whether a meeting or responding to an

emergency, workers compensation companies charge the same.”

The city has all the documents showing all the hours, King added. The insurance company performs a yearly audit on the workers compensation, King.

“One time a year, we do paperwork,” King said.

The council approved to add all volunteers to the workers compensation policy.

Send comments to: headlightreporter@countrymedia.net

COVID-19 vaccinations for children could be available soon

JEREMY C. RUARK
Country Media

Children in Lincoln County, across Oregon and the United States may soon be able to receive COVID-19 vaccinations.

According to a report in the American Academy of Pediatrics, children account for more than one in five new COVID-19 cases.

As of September 16, over 5.5 million children have tested positive for COVID-19 since the onset of the pandemic. Nearly 226,000 cases were added the past week, the third highest number of child cases in a week since the pandemic began, the American Academy of Pediatrics reports.

Oregon health officials have been closely monitoring the cases of COVID-19 in youth in the state and have said the virus is less severe in children.

Pfizer-BioNTech has announced that its coronavirus vaccine is safe and effective for children aged 5 to 11 years. The companies have applied to the Federal Food and

Drug Administration for emergency use authorization. The use of the drug for children could be available within 30 days.

School districts across the state are developing specific protocols and procedures if they have to quarantine students and staff that may have been exposed to COVID-19.

The News Guard reached out to Kati Moseley, Oregon Department of Education (ODE) Ready Schools Resiliency Manager, for insight into the COVID-19 impact at the schools.

The News Guard: Is it surprising to the ODE to see the outbreaks at our schools, given the procedures and protocols that had been established for in-person instruction and approved by the state for the new school year?

Kati Moseley: It is unsurprising to see cases in schools, given schools are implementing layered COVID-19 mitigation protocols to slow transmission. These protocols may include things like symptom screening, reminders to families to keep children home if they have symptoms, and of course diagnos-

tic testing. Having access to rapid testing in schools means that schools will find cases.

The success of these layered mitigation measures also means that we are seeing very few instances of COVID-19 spread in schools. Schools that are implementing layered mitigation protocols rigorously are not seeing spread in schools.

The News Guard: With the outbreak of COVID-19 cases at schools in Oregon, what ODE policies and procedures are in place now and what more needs to be done to help guide school districts as they navigate through this latest pandemic challenge?

Moseley: Since the pandemic started in spring 2020, ODE, in collaboration with the Oregon Health Authority, has been providing guidance to schools and districts. All of our guidance is on the ODE website. ODE and OHA are in constant discussions about current conditions and when conditions change and warrant additional guidance, our framework is updated and schools notified.

The News Guard: What are you telling parents that they need to do to ensure that their children stay safe and to prevent COVID-19 from spreading in their school?

Moseley: Parents can role model and support wearing a face covering when interacting with people outside of your household and practice keeping a 3’ distance so kids can learn what it looks and feels like. For the start of the school year, ODE and OHA developed these five tips for families to help reduce the chances of getting or spreading COVID-19. We also shared that information and a helpful infographic in a press release to Oregon media.

The News Guard: At what point would the ODE and/or Gov. Brown decide that schools must return to distant learning to ensure the health and safety of our school children, or is that now up to local school districts?

Moseley: The instructional model a district uses is a local decision.

By the numbers

The Oregon Health Authority’s COVID-19 Weekly Report, released

Sept. 22, shows decreases in daily COVID-19 cases and hospitalizations and an increase in deaths.

OHA reported 11,655 new cases of COVID-19 during the week of Monday, Sept. 13 through Sunday, Sept. 19. That represents a 10% decrease from the previous week.

There were 579 new COVID-19 hospitalizations, down slightly from 592 last week.

There were 148 reported COVID-19 related deaths, up from 120 reported the previous week.

There were 140,538 tests for COVID-19 for the week of Sept. 12 through Sept. 18. The percentage of positive tests was 10.5%, down from 12% the previous week and the lowest level of test positivity in six weeks.

Local, state and federal health officials continue to stress that vaccinations, wearing face coverings and social distancing are key factors in slowing the COVID-19 pandemic. Free COVID-19 vaccinations are available at most pharmacies and health clinics.

Oregon adds 7,900 jobs in August as more go back to work

STAFF REPORT

Oregon’s unemployment rate dropped to 4.9% in August from 5.2% in July.

It is first time Oregon’s unemployment rate dropped

below 5% since March 2020, when the rate was 3.6%. Oregon’s unemployment rate was below 5% in only two other periods since 1976 when comparable records began, according to the Oregon Em-

ployment Department.

During 14 consecutive months in the mid-1990s when the rate dropped to as low as 4.5%; and during the 51 consecutive months during 2016 through March 2020



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when the rate dropped to a record low of 3.3% in late 2019.

The U.S. unemployment rate dropped to 5.2% in August from 5.4% in July.

In Oregon, nonfarm payroll employment grew by 7,900 in August, following monthly gains averaging 10,300 in the prior seven months. Gains in August were largest in government (+3,500 jobs); wholesale trade (+1,400); leisure and hospitality (+1,200); and professional and business services (+1,000). Only one major industry cut jobs: retail trade (-1,900 jobs).

Since the low point of April 2020, at the economic depths of the COVID-induced recession, Oregon has recovered 204,700 jobs, or 72% of the jobs lost during the recession.

Leisure and hospitality added 1,200 jobs in August, following a gain of 6,100, as revised, in July. Despite these gains, it still accounts for the bulk of Oregon’s jobs not recovered since early 2020, with 44,300 jobs left to recover to reach the prior peak month of February 2020. The industry has regained 60% of jobs lost early in the pandemic.

Employment in health care and social assistance has been relatively flat all year. This major industry recovered substantial jobs in mid- through late-2020, but is still down 10,400 jobs, or 4%, since its pre-recession peak of February 2020. Over the past year, nursing and residential care facilities has been especially weak, having lost 1,300 jobs since August 2020. Meanwhile, two component industries have expanded in the past 12 months: ambulatory health care services (+3,100 jobs) and social assistance (+1,100 jobs).

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Cosby finished Oregon Coast Trail, dreams bigger

Diana Bosetti
Country Media

Traversing the 402-mile Oregon Coast Trail, dubbed OCT by seasoned hikers, involves disconnected and sometimes unsafe routes that require the navigation of tidal flows in order to proceed. Add to that a diagnosis of cystic fibrosis - a condition that mimics breathing through a straw - and 25-year-old Colton Cosby's ambition might best be described as not a challenge, but rather a struggle.

Not that Cosby, or "CJ" as short for Colton James Cosby, saw it that way. He completed the trail solo on September 20, carrying a portable nebulizer in his 30-pound backpack in case he needed supplemental mist to open his airways. Ironically, when asked what was most challenging about the expedition, Cosby's response was downright common - "My feet hurt," he said.

The entire venture took 29 days to complete, or as Cosby described it: four miles per hour; 26 nights of pitching a tent; one night in a hiker hut; one night in a Motel 6 (to shower and wash some clothes), and some unfortunate road walking along the 101 where 10% of the trail isn't rooted in nature.

"That's when my feet would hurt," said Cosby, who at a stature of 210 pounds talked about the trek with a

boyish nature. "But I needed to do this first. I plan to do the Ice Age Trail in May or June of next year, and that's 1,200 miles over the entire state of Wisconsin."

A quick Google search pegs the Oregon Coast Trail at 362 miles. But that doesn't account for the road walking that Cosby said he had to trudge between established walking paths and camp sites - hence the extra and arduous 40 miles that Cosby said he wished the Oregon state park system would invest funds towards, in the interest of not only his feet, but the safety of those who tackle the trail.

Cosby, who lives in Douglas County and finished his trek at the Oregon/California border in Curry County, is used to obstacles, however, and isn't easily deterred. Near the age of 5, Cosby had not yet begun to speak. His adoptive parents learned sign language to connect with the active toddler, and his dad said he's been adapting to his son's unique obstacles and ambitions ever since.

"CJ can be hard to keep up with," said David Cosby, who works in the logging industry as a security and fire watcher in the field for Dancer Logging, Inc. "Even more so when trying to keep up with his mind, because he has so many hopes and ambitions of things he wants to do with his life."

The junior Cosby said his ultimate goal is to cross



the Pacific Crest Trail, a behemoth 2,650-mile jaunt that begins at the small town of Campo at the Mexican border and reaches north to Manning Park in British Columbia. Cosby hopes to master this and other trails while pursuing a degree in documentary filming between excursions. This could also mean a lot of travel time for Cosby's dad, who walks with him during day trips on local trails but opts to travel from a

distance in his 32-foot travel trailer during the longer hauls. It's obvious the duo is close. Cosby finished the Oregon Coast Trail on September 19, but decided to spend the night at Crissey State Park so that he and his dad could walk the last mile together, ceremoniously touching the state park sign with the palm of their hands.

While Cosby noted he has the support of his dad, he is also inspired by another: Nick Talbot, a County Durham, England-based climber who also has cystic fibrosis. Talbot was the first man with cystic fibrosis to summit weather-fickle Mt. Everest - on his third attempt. On his second attempt, he suffered cracked ribs and hypothermia after an 8.7 magnitude earthquake caused an avalanche that killed many climbers, including his friend and Google Executive Dan

Obituary

Deanna Hendricks

Dec. 7, 1939 - Aug. 2, 2021



On August 2, 2021, Deanna Hendricks lost her valiant battle with Parkinson's. She passed in her sleep in her home, in Las Vegas. She leaves her husband, Richard, children Kim, Kaye, Kelly and Kathi. As well as five grandchildren and two great grandchildren to carry on,

supported by her formidable spirit. She was born in Prairie City, Oregon on December 27, 1939. She excelled in her career with the US Forest Service in Pendleton and Vancouver Washington, including working overhead teams on forest fires. After retirement from USFS she moved to Wheeler, Oregon where while assisting in her husbands contracting business took over management of the local Chamber of Commerce. Throughout her life, all who worked with her, called her Mom or were simply able to call her friend enjoyed her fierce support and valuable council. Private family service is planned.

Fredinburg.

The climbing community, though vast, is nonetheless close knit. Talbot responded to a request for comment from the Curry Coastal Pilot about Cosby's achievement.

"First of all, a big congratulations to Colton," Talbot said. "402 miles is impressive for anyone to do, let alone someone with CF (cystic fibrosis). He must have overcome so much to achieve this. I'm happy that my Everest challenge has encouraged Colton to push impressive new boundaries, and I hope all CFers get to live their best life and push their own personal boundaries whatever they may be."

"That has made my day," responded Cosby, who was eating his first post-hike, home-cooked breakfast when notified of Talbot's words.

Talbot echoed Cosby's drive to keep pushing forward.

"I was inspired to climb by the desire to push boundaries and raise profile and money for CF charities around the world," he said. "It's really tough having challenging

goals with CF because it is so much harder to become as fit as other people, deal with lower lung capacity and potential infections and continue treatments. Sometimes, you have to develop special techniques to deal with CF to achieve your goal."

As for his next excursion? Cosby conceded he will need to give up his penchant for junk food, opting instead for a high-protein and nutrient rich diet.

"This time I was able to complete the trip with a basic outline that was loosely planned," he said. "But the next time I will need to eat healthier in order to meet the 10-20 miles of walking a day."

The senior Cosby, perhaps still recuperating from the month prior, was more inclined to reflect on the day's one-mile walk to the finish line.

"It was a very emotional time. He's got a disease," David Cosby said. "He's gonna die with it sooner or later, we just don't know when. Until then, he wants to get as much out of life as possible."



Impact

Continued from Page 1

Saw mills were established to capitalize on timber. "Nothing was more disruptive to weaken systems in the coast range than logging," Robbins said. "This was especially true with the advances in technology."

Robbins said the steam donkey, a steam-powered engine, quickened the pace of logging and increased production. He said this increased production escalated disturbances in

coastal areas, including landslides and erosion. Estuaries filled over time for commercial development.

Scott Burns, professor of geology at Portland State University, discussed forestry practices and their impact on the slopes of the mountains and the sediment in the streams.

The coast is continuously moving from the Cascadia Subduction Zone, causing erosion, Burns said. Landslide sediments go into the streams. Sediment from rivers will move back and forth between headlands.

Burns said there is extensive erosion because of logging.

Now, forest practices say loggers cannot log areas that are highly prone to landslides. Along the coastline, there is a better understanding of sediment movement.

As climate is warming with increased storms, there will be more landslides and sediment movement, Burns added.

Congress passed the National Landslide Hazard Map and are commissioning all landslides to be mapped. With time, we will know what the problematic areas are.

Send comments to: headlightreporter@countrymedia.net

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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
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Letters and Columns

Manzanita Citizen's Petition not worthy of discussion

Mayor Scott's promise of a discussion at the September Council meeting of the 260 citizen signature petition on our new City Hall was instead passed off to Council President Kozlowski for a one sided rebuttal. No discussion by Council and no discussion or questions allowed by citizens. The City's approved procedures establishing the Council's conduct of the public's business is the latest casualty on the march forward to building our new City Hall.

Councilor Kozlowski: "We have performed our due diligence including preliminary budget development; when we compare apples to apples for new versus renovation, they are actually pretty close. The proposed savings suggested in the petition did not actually include the tenant

improvements needed to complete the building, site work or the soft costs." The revelation that the City has developed a "preliminary budget" for their new construction and that it was used to compare costs and allow Council Kozlowski to make her conclusions prompted me to make a public records request from the City to see this new information and ask some follow up questions. A copy of the documents in question can be found at <https://tinyurl.com/6bmpp-kem>

When I asked when the "preliminary budget" was completed and compared to the petition rebuild costs, the answer was "There was no comparison of this budget to the rebuild option."

When I asked when the "preliminary budget" was submitted to the Mayor and Council for their review the answer was "The draft preliminary budgets were not presented to the full City Council."

In a subsequent follow up with the City Manager, I confirmed that both estimated seismic upgrade and tenant improvement costs produced by a consultant to the City who had previously inspected the School were indeed included in the estimated rebuild petition budget cost.

Starting this latest campaign to complete our City Hall project with this performance should trouble citizens that value transparency in how their elected officials communicate important policy decisions to their constituents. Claims of comparisons that were not made with omitted facts and relying on a document that some Councilors apparently had no knowledge of makes one wonder who is in charge of our Council.

It's World Series time for this project and it appears that the City has lost the rules book, the Mayor has placed himself on the injured reserve list and is looking down the bench for help wherever he

can find it to secure the win.

*Randy Kugler
Manzanita*

Open letter to Congressman Schrader

The Tillamook County Democratic Central Committee (TillCoDems) is writing to you with an extreme sense of urgency regarding the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act bill and the Build Back Better Act reconciliation bill that Congress will be voting on this week and in coming weeks.

While we understand that the issues associated with the bills are many and complex, we do not feel that the programs funded in the bills indicate unnecessary spending. The bills address and defend the health and well-being of all Americans, our planet home, and our nation's democracy and require

and deserve the proposed funding.

The bills address needs and actions that we as Democrats value, and we expect you to represent those values in Congress. Volunteers canvassed door-to-door on your behalf and assured voters that you would support our Democratic values and have a Democratic voice in Washington. For example, it is inconsistent with Democratic values that fellow citizens must make the painful choice between affording essential medication and affording food for their table.

This is a matter of conscience and your commitment to the people you represent and who you say are your priority: everyday working and retired Americans who are struggling to lead healthy, safe, and economically secure lives. It is not a matter of political concerns related to moneyed interests that would play a part in a

re-election campaign or any fear related to being labeled a "tax and spend" Democrat. It's a profound opportunity for you to be celebrated for courageously standing up for the needs and desires of your district's citizens. You play an immensely critical role at this point in time and your supporting vote will speak loudly for and be remembered by your constituents of all political viewpoints.

The TillCoDems implore you to join with the majority of Democrats in the House in supporting all parts and voting in favor of both the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act bill and the Build Back Better Act reconciliation bill, to act now with courage and a compassionate and proud Democratic voice.

*Sincerely,
Tillamook County
Democratic Central
Committee*

Flu and COVID shot clinics hosted by NCRD

NCRD is teaming up with the Reinhart Clinic to host a Flu and COVID shot clinic, from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Thursday Oct. 7 at the recreation district.

FLU SHOTS

Pre-registration is highly recommended.

Please call 1-800-368-5182, Ext. 100 to register. (Rinehart Clinic patients: No need to pre-register.) Your appointment will

go faster if you fill out the paperwork in advance. You can download registration paperwork from the Reinhart Clinic's website.

Please bring your insurance card. (We will charge a flat fee of only \$20 for those without insurance.)

Please wear a mask. If you do not have one, a mask will be provided.

COVID-19 VACCINES

Please call 1-800-368-

5182, Ext. 100 to register so we know how to plan.

Please bring your insurance card. (There is no charge for COVID-19 vaccines but we will submit for insurance reimbursement if available.)

Both Moderna and Pfizer vaccines will be available. 2nd doses will be given at Rinehart Clinic.

Please wear a mask. If you do not have one, a mask will be provided.

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Housing

Continued from Page 1

Housing Commission and the Department of Community Development were joined by over 70 local community stakeholders to collaborate in addressing critical housing issues.

Three proposed solutions were endorsed by the majority of Summit participants:

- Create a tax abatement program for multifamily housing.
- Establish a nightly fee from short terms rentals to provide funding to address housing issues.
- Promote the allowance of accessory dwelling units on single family home lots in unincorporated Tillamook County.

The first two proposals became reality with ordinances passed by the Board of County Commissioners in late 2020:

- Property Tax Exemption Ordinance #85: Provides tax abatement for certain multifamily housing which is affordable to households making up to one hundred twenty percent (120%) of the Area Median Income.
- Short-Term Rental Operator License Fee Ordinance #86: Provides for the collection of fees from short term rental establishments based upon gross revenue receipts of the rental each quarter. 75% of fees collected will be used for housing initiatives and 25% for public safety initiatives.

Importantly, these ordinances were co-designed by the parties impacted, including school districts, cities and private property owners. This collaborative support demonstrates that workforce housing is a recognized priority for

Tillamook County. See the links below for the text of the ordinances.

The third proposal to promote accessory dwelling units got a boost from the passage of SB391 in the last session of the Oregon State Legislature that "Authorizes counties to allow owner of lot or parcel within rural residential zone to construct one accessory dwelling unit on lot or parcel, subject to certain restrictions."

According to Erin Skaar, Tillamook County Commissioner,

"The Housing Commission has worked hard this year focusing on relationship building with local, private, public, state partners to better

understand the crisis, why it happened and now knows what the effective steps are to help address it. Not all of the accomplishments can be highlighted in an action like the property tax exemption, but I think sharing with the communities what's coming next is exciting. 2021 and 2022 are really going to be the years of action."

Tillamook Housing Commission meetings are open to the public and ideas and input are welcome. Meetings are on the first Thursday of each month at 9am. Due to COVID-19, Tillamook County has taken extra measures to ensure the safety of its community members. For the time being, members

of the public are invited to participate by calling in to a conference line before meetings. Please dial +1 (971) 254-3149. You will be prompted for a Conference ID number: 887 242 77#

Send an email to TillamookCoHousingCommission@gmail.com if you would like to contribute story ideas.

This story is brought to you by the Tillamook County Housing Commission's outreach effort to increase workforce housing in Tillamook County. For more information, visit www.co.tillamook.or.us/bc-hc.

Joining the team at Rinehart Clinic



Caitlin Simons, FNP
Family Nurse Practitioner

Rinehart Clinic welcomes Caitlin Simons, our new Family Nurse Practitioner.

Caitlin received her Masters in Science of Nursing from Yale University and worked in the Acute Care and Inpatient Care unit of Yale Health before joining the Rinehart Clinic team. She has special interests in pediatric care, youth development, and rural community health.

Caitlin's primary focus will be supporting NKN Student Health & Wellness Center (the new school-based health center on-campus at Neah-Kah-Nie High School). She will also offer care to patients at Rinehart Clinic. If you would like to schedule an appointment with Caitlin at Rinehart Clinic, please call 1-800-368-5182.

The mission of the Rinehart Clinic is delivering compassionate health care and wellness education to improve the lives of ALL in our community.

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