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Tillamook County Business Community

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SPECIAL
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Special Election Coverage **pg. 2**

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April 22, 2021

Volume 27, No. 8

One new death in Tillamook County, 17 positive COVID-19 cases

Hilary Dorsey

Staff Writer

Tillamook County Health Department reports 67 cases of COVID-19 from Sunday, March 28, through Saturday, April 10. Tillamook County is projected to remain in ‘High Risk’ for the next movement period beginning Friday, April 23. Emergency Preparedness Coordinator Ed Colson reported during a community update Friday, April 16, that from Sunday, April 4, through Thursday, April 15, there

were 44 cases of COVID-19 in the county. Oregon Health Authority (OHA) will use data from April 16 and 17 and will make a determination Tuesday, April 20.

OHA reported Wednesday, April 14, of the third COVID-19 related death of a Tillamook County resident. The 66-year-old woman tested positive March 17 and died April 13 at Oregon Health & Science University Hospital. She had no underlying health conditions.

“Our thoughts and prayers are with the family,” Colson

said. “This shows us that the risk posed by the virus is real.”

Colson said there were 19 new COVID-19 cases over the last seven days, with 17 positive and two presumptive. There are 35 individuals being monitored and one person is hospitalized outside of the area.

Adventist Health Tillamook President Eric Swanson said there are 195 COVID-19 hospitalizations across Oregon. In Region 1 – which includes Tillamook, Clatsop, Clackamas, Columbia,

Multnomah and Washington counties – there are 61 adult ICU beds available. Hospitalizations were down five on Friday, April 16, from the previous day, Thursday, April 15.

“733 primary first doses and 917 booster doses have been done this week,” Colson said. “As of April 15, 9,893 people have received at least one dose of the COVID-19 vaccine.”

At this time, 37 percent of Tillamook County residents have received at least one dose of the vaccine and 22

percent are considered fully vaccinated.

The Johnson & Johnson vaccine is on pause, while six cases are being reviewed of a rare and severe blood clot in individuals who received the vaccine. The vaccine will not be offered at vaccine clinics and the Moderna vaccine will be used in its place.

On Monday, April 19, all those 16 and older will be eligible for a vaccine. The health department and vaccine partners are working to make the Pfizer vaccine available in the county, as it is the only

vaccine authorized for those under 18.

Staff remains available to answer questions or help those with limited Internet access sign up for a vaccine appointment. Call the vaccine line at 503-842-3914.

To make an appointment for a COVID-19 test, call 503-842-3900.

Sign up for a vaccine at <https://tillamookchc.org/coronavirus/vaccines/>

Send comments to: headlightreporter@countrymedia.net

CLASS ACTION



Students work on the project in Steve Albrechtsen's photography class. Photos courtesy of Steve Albrechtsen.

NKN High School updates long-established class photos

Hilary Dorsey

Staff Writer

Neah-Kah-Nie School District is updating the class photos of the high school's graduates. Class photos have been hung in the high school halls since 1954 but came to a stop in 2013.

Neah-Kah-Nie School District Superintendent Paul Erlebach is in charge of the project. He said many of the class photos are not in good shape. The goal is to have all classes updated through the class of 2021 by the summer.

“A goal of the project is to update the class photos to 2020,” Erlebach said. “The project also includes digitizing all photos by the NKN High School photography class.”

Local framer Bonnie Lewis is helping with the project by fixing the photos or student names that have fallen down inside the current frames. Lewis is also responsible for hand lettering student names from class photos from 2013-2020.

Lewis will print the students’

names and use museum grade glass, with a wood, black frame. The mat board will include the Neah-Kah-Nie High school logo with “Class of 2020” in red or black letters using the high school's logo style lettering. The framed photo will be delivered to the school by July 1.

Stacey Dills, Neah-Kah-Nie student services/special education director, is also a graduate of Neah-Kah-Nie High School. Her mother helped for many years to organize the class photos. Erlebach said her mother was the force in keeping the tradition alive.

Dills said updates on the school photos began last year. Her mom offered to help get the process started and Erlebach stepped in to help with the project. Dills said before 2012, her mom used to oversee the pictures being put together by the students.

“People love to come see their pictures on the wall,” Dills said.

Dills was in charge of doing her class photos when she was a senior in high school. She was also class president.

“I look at them all the time actually,” Dills said of the photos.

Secretary Delpha Corwin said teacher assistants were doing the newer class photos previously. These students were



in charge of the class photos.

“It’s been an office T.A. that had some artistic ability,” Corwin said. “It takes a little bit of talent.”

Art/photography teacher Steve Albrechtsen is responsible for having his photography class digitize the photos. He said this project is a way to honor the students and keep the tradition alive. The current plan is to modernize the process and make one larger picture, taking individual photo files and putting it on one document.

“It’ll make for something that we can have a backup copy, which is great, and not have pictures fall down,” Albrechtsen said. “We’re going through bags of photos, digitizing those, trying to figure out if scanning them works best or taking a picture of the picture works best.”

The project includes a lot of outside project time for the class, Albrechtsen said. The students are now working on taking everything off the wall. All photos will be put on a

larger website. Natalya Garrett is responsible for the Neah-Kah-Nie High School website, where the class photos will be located.

Erlebach said the photos are one of the core values of the school since the 1950s.

Mark McLaughlin, current math teacher and former student of Neah-Kah-Nie School, said the photos are a great memento of students’ time at the school.

“There’s a symbol of your presence here,” McLaughlin said.

Student Melanie Booth will be graduating in 2024 with her class photo on the wall.

“I think it’s a good idea,” Booth said of the project. “When you’re walking down the halls after you graduate with your kid or whatever, they’re in high school, you just look at the memories.”

Send comments to: headlightreporter@countrymedia.net

Manzanita resident arrested for alleged child pornography

Tillamook County Sheriff’s Office (TCSO) and Manzanita Police executed a search warrant Tuesday, April 13, at a residence in Manzanita. Ared Dakota Reinke, of Manzanita, was arrested and transported to the Tillamook County Jail.

“We received a tip from the Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) Task Force that the upload and transmission of child pornography was occurring at a Manzanita residence,” said TCSO Detective Andy Christopherson.

“Manzanita Police assisted the investigation by performing surveillance and serving the warrant with us and transporting the arrestee to jail,” said TCSO Det.



Ared Dakota Reinke

Sgt. Michelle Brewer.

According to detectives, additional child pornography has been located and their investigation is ongoing.

Ared Dakota Reinke was booked into Tillamook County Jail on charges of alleged encouraging child sex abuse in the first degree and alleged encouraging child sex abuse in the second degree.

Vaccines continue, Johnson & Johnson paused

Hilary Dorsey

Staff Writer

Tillamook County’s ‘Warning Week’ data from Oregon Health Authority (OHA) indicates the county had 67 cases from March 28 to April 10 and a test positivity rate of 7.8 percent.

“There are new disease metrics,” Tillamook County Community Health Centers Administrator Marlene Putman announced during a Tillamook County Board of Commissioners meeting Wednesday, April 14. “Normally, that would put us in ‘Extreme Risk’, with the new disease metrics we are in ‘High Risk’.”

The county is projected to remain in ‘High Risk’, effective Friday, April 23, through Thursday, May 6. The statewide metrics counties must meet to move to ‘Extreme Risk’ include COVID-19 patients occupying at least 300 hospital beds statewide and a 15 percent increase in the seven-day average over the past week. These metrics were not met. Final data and risk level changes will be made Tuesday, April 20.

“As of April 13, 9,530 people have received at least one dose of COVID-19 vaccine, which is 36 percent of Tillamook County residents,” Emergency Preparedness Coordinator Ed Colson said.

Colson said the CDC, FDA and OHA have paused the use of the Johnson & Johnson vaccine as they review six reported cases of a rare and severe type of blood clot in individuals after the vaccine. Until updated guidance is received, vaccine partners will use the Moderna vaccine for vaccination events, including a frontline worker vaccine event held Saturday, April 17, which was previously planned to use the Johnson & Johnson vaccine. The health department urges everyone to keep their appointments when possible.

Planning for vaccinating 16 and 17 years olds is underway with the anticipation of those under 16 as well, as everyone 16 and older become eligible for the vaccine Monday, April 19. The Pfizer

Port of Garibaldi Commissioner pos. 2



Jaime Perez
31 years old

Occupation: I currently run a private investigations business in Tillamook County, serving clients statewide. My office is located in Garibaldi.

Education: Graduate, Tillamook High School. Bachelor of Arts, University of Oregon.

Family: I have lived in Tillamook County for nearly 20 years. My family moved here when my father got a job at Pacific Oyster in Bay City. He worked there for over a decade. My mother also worked at Pacific Oyster for a few years and has a background in the seafood industry. I have three siblings. My brother and sister both live in Rockaway and my other sister lives in Vancouver, Washington.

Why are you running for Port of Garibaldi Commissioner, position 2? I am running for Garibaldi Port

Board of Commissioners Position No. 2 because I want to help ensure that our business community remains vibrant and that our natural resources are protected. When my father was laid off from his job at Pacific Oyster, after working there for more than 10 years, I saw how quickly jobs could be lost and how important the Port economy is to residents. Likewise, watching the old mill at the Garibaldi Port close down made me realize that I needed to step in to help ensure that small businesses in Rockaway, Garibaldi, Bay City, and Idaville are supported so they can prosper. I have the drive and desire to make sure our local economy is healthy, while at the same

time being good stewards of our natural resources.

What experience/skills do you have that makes you the best candidate?

The skills and experience that make me the best candidate come from running my own small business. I've learned to manage resources efficiently, ensure clients feel heard, respond to their needs, deliver results, and continually improve. I have two employees, work with lawyers across the state, and have a diverse range of clients. Navigating the dynamics of complex situations has sharpened my ability to solve problems when multiple stakeholders are involved. As an investigator, it's crucial to

listen carefully to your clients, to ensure you're gathering all important details of a situation. Similarly, it's important to consider all sides of an issue after you have gathered the facts. I do this regularly for my job, which requires clear-headed analysis, understanding all perspectives, and clear communication. I will bring the same insight and knowledge to the Port, ensuring the needs of the whole community are heard and responded to.

What is the port's biggest challenge and how will you overcome it?

The biggest challenge the district is facing is communication with the communities impacted by Port of Garibaldi

policies. I think the best way to serve the overall community is to conduct regular quarterly meetings with officials from all four cities to ensure a consistent, robust dialogue about Port policies and the plans and priorities of our local communities. I believe that open lines of communication among those who are impacted by the Port's decisions and the Port leadership is the best way to move forward in a way that serves the needs of the community as a whole. If the Port and the cities work closely together we can have a significant impact on our local economy and quality of life.



Joe Watkins
63 years old

Occupation: Retired fish hatchery manager Nehalem

and Trask River Hatcheries, Currently a guide and commercial fisherman. Past sheet metal worker local 16, Deckhand F/V Francis Lee, Kodiak Ak. Deck hand on a tug boat Columbia river. Volunteer firefighter at Nestucca, Devils Lake, Jefferson County Fire District #1 and Hamlet FD. Past board member Nestucca Fire Protection Dist. and Lower Nehalem Watershed Council. Presently on the Tillamook Fisherman's Advisory Committee and a Technical Advisor for the Oregon An-

glers Alliance.

Education: A.S. MHCC Fisheries Technology, Various Fire Science and EMS training courses. Various state management training courses. Board member training while on the Fire board at Nestucca Fire Protection District. Master Mate 100 Ton Maritime Science Clatsop Community College.

Family: Married to my wife Karla for 30 years, we have two boys and two girls and 12 grandchildren. We also care for my 91-year-old mother.

Why are you running for Port of Garibaldi Commissioner, position 2?

I am running for the Port of Garibaldi Commissioner position 2 for a couple of reasons. The first reason is that I was asked to run by some fisherman who wanted to be better represented. The

second reason is that I want to give the patrons of the Port of Garibaldi a choice. I feel the Port does an outstanding job of taking care of the port but can use more in-site as to the effect their decisions have for port users. I feel the people's money should be guarded and appropriately spent. I also feel government entities should never be intrusive into and individual's business and that the health of any community is based upon the health of the businesses within the community. When people are productively working and earning, they generally feel better about themselves. The Port should actively help business within the port to succeed.

What experience/skills do you have that makes you the best candidate?

It is the people's choice to determine who is the best candidate. For me to say I am

the best candidate is arrogant and I am not that guy. I am an analytical thinker. I will never vote in favor of a motion unless I am convinced it is to the benefit of the patron of the port. The patron of the port should always receive the biggest bag for the buck. I will not vote in favor of a motion that I see as an infringement on a person's rights nor will I vote in favor of a motion that benefits a member of the board, port employee or family of either unless it benefits the patrons of the port, the port and businesses that depend on the port. I will always represent the port owners who are the people first and foremost.

What is the port's biggest challenge and how will you overcome it?

The ports biggest challenge is the eroding South Jetty. And the sediment load within the

navigation channels and lack of room to grow. To secure federal funding for the South Jetty we need to be able to show strong commerce. The best way to compete for jetty maintenance dollars is to be able to demonstrate import and export of goods and service across the Tillamook Bay Bar. For that we need to have the infrastructure to accommodate marine transportation.

What we need currently are State and Federal representatives who are willing to make funding the repair of the Tillamook Bay North Jetty a priority. Federal funding was secured for jetty maintenance in Oregon recently but it looks like that money will be spent on the Central coast South. Meanwhile our jetty continues to erode and endanger mariners. I will aggressively pursue getting funding for Tillamook Bay jetty repair.



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John Luquette
52 years old

Occupation: I have been the Information Technology Manager at Tillamook People's Utility District since 2003. I currently have responsibility for all information technology, facilities, warehouse operations, hazardous waste, and capital construction projects. In addition, I am currently the business manager and budget officer for Tillamook Lightwave, which provides fiber optic internet access to businesses within Tillamook County.

Education: Originally from Astoria, Oregon, after graduation from Astoria High School I joined the U.S. Army and served for 4 years as a Patriot Missile System Mechanic. After my honorable discharge, I earned a degree in Electronics Engineering whereas I then pursued a career in the high-tech field, which eventually led me to my current employment at Tillamook People's Utility District.

Family: I have been married for over 20 years to my wife Heidi, and we have two children that attend school in the Neahkahnie School District.

Why are you running for Port of Garibaldi Commissioner, position 2?

I am running for reelection because I continue to believe a strong Port and the infrastructure it supports is a driver of our local economy. Key to this is support of the fisheries and seafood industry and recreational fishing activities by maintaining the jetties, harbor, and Port owned properties. Serving in the community and being a part of the positive work happening within the Port District is important to me. I am proud of the work that has been accomplished during the past decade. Some of this work includes new restaurants, repairs to Commercial Avenue and the RV park, the addition of an event tent that supports community events like the Night Market, Crave the Coast, and live events. This work was accomplished by current and past Port Commissioners and all Port staff. I hope to keep this positive momentum that the Port has going by being reelected.

What experience/skills do you have that makes you the best candidate?

The value that I bring to the Commission is that I am an individual that looks at Port issues with an outside view and I add an analytical approach to the work of the Commission. My technical experience, project management skills, and my knowledge of intergovernmental relations provides insight to inform decision making. An example was providing initial technical recommendations into the installation of wireless broadband and security surveillance across Port properties. Another example was supporting grant writing for a state grant

through the Oregon Business Development Department to bring fiber optic internet connectivity to the Port property in 2018. I have traveled to Washington DC on behalf of the Port to meet with legislators to lobby for funding of Port projects. The view point I bring to the Commission is as a community member dedicated to meeting the needs of the district.

What is the port's biggest challenge and how will you overcome it?

One of the Port's challenges is how to deal with growth and remain an authentic fishing port at the same time. As businesses seek to expand, and additional activities are held, it is critical that both the Port and City of Garibaldi work together along with state officials to deal with issues such as traffic and parking. Critical Port infrastructure needs to be held as the highest priority. Jetty repair and dredging are needed to keep the Port an active player on the West Coast when it comes to the crabbing and fishing fleet. Without the fleet, Garibaldi would become just another coastal town that people drive through. Tillamook County residents and tourist driving by need to know that some of the freshest local caught seafood can be purchased by just turning onto Port property and stopping at one of the many seafood retailers.





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Port of Garibaldi Commissioner pos. 4



Valerie Folkema

Occupation: Since 1989, my husband and I continue to own and operate the Garibaldi Marina.

Family: My husband and I live in Bay City where we raised our two sons. We are blessed by our sons, daughters in law and four grandchildren.

Why are you running for Port of Garibaldi Commissioner, position 4?

It's my privilege to serve on the Port of Garibaldi Commission. I consider my time and dedication to the Port District and our citizens both extremely important and the best public service work I've ever done.

What experience/skills do you have that makes you the best candidate?

I have had the honor to serve on many (not a complete list) boards, committees and councils:

Bay City budget committee, Tillamook County Planning Commission, Northwest Oregon Economic Alliance, Garibaldi budget committee & Urban Renewal Agency, Visit Tillamook Coast, Tillamook Estuary Partnership and the Tillamook Bay Community College Foundation Board. I served as executive director for the Economic Development Council of Tillamook County from 1995-2002. My experience as an elected Commissioner and professional education serves me well as I advocate for resources and capital on behalf of the Port of Garibaldi district and citizens.

As a Port Commissioner, I have been instrumental in bringing over 40 million to the Port in capital improvements for the Tillamook Bay Jetty system, seawalls and the restoration of Commercial Ave located in the harbor. The Port continues with these efforts resulting in nearly 12 million for the North Jetty root system. Currently, the Port and United States Army Corp of Engineers are setting the stage for the South Jetty restoration and repair.

I have been a leader and proponent in bringing the Farm to Table concept to our fishing fleet: Boat to Table. There are many exquisite people in our county working on this effort with the Port, commonly referred to as the Tillamook Food Hub and Fish Biz. I continue to be active in the Port's efforts supporting

small business in their efforts to grow and create family wage job opportunities for our community.

What is the port's biggest challenge and how will you overcome it?

The Port is working in cooperation with the city of Garibaldi to complete the Commercial Ave project and seawall/roadbed funding. I believe in the work of the Port and am committed to building collaboration and productive relationships with our local, state and federal partners as we continue to address infrastructure, economic diversity and long term sustainability. These relationships are key to receiving attention and resources for the future of the Port's Vision and Capital Improvement Plans. The Port's web site is an excellent place to view these plans.

I hope to receive your support and your vote in May. I believe my work on behalf of the Port of Garibaldi will continue to result in both the restoration of existing infrastructure and in new business development insuring the future of the Port district and its citizens. I am dedicated to that outcome.

I believe I am the best candidate to accomplish these goals. I hope you will join me over the next few years as I continue to work towards the vision and responsibilities a port district is charged with.

**Cindy Oswald
62 years old**

Occupation: Owner of Twins Ranch LLC, Catering, Custom event planning, Family Covered Wagon and Tent Camping, Pet Grooming, Rail Riders Tillamook

Education: Retail Management, School District Administration, Vet Tech, Food Service Management

Family: Husband- Larry Oswald, Children- Angelia, Lisa, Joseph, Grand Children, Charles, Robert, Hailey, Connor, Porter, Zowie

Why are you running for Port of Garibaldi Commissioner, position 4?

I understand the challenge here on the coast with tourism and business on a seasonal basis and I believe I can help. I have years of experience building good business and promoting outstanding customer service

What experience/skills do you have that makes you the best candidate?

I understand business and customer service. I am organized and committed to improve conditions at the

port. I live right here and will continue to support our local business and activities.

What is the port's biggest challenge and how will you overcome it?

Continue to work on the Ports vision and goals, find funding and support for business and activities. Find new ways to partner with the city and others to promote events after the shutdowns due to the pandemic and continue to develop and implement new programs opportunities I believe will help the Port in the future.

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Vaccine

Continued from Page 1

vaccine, not currently available in Tillamook County, is the vaccine authorized for those under 18 years of age.

"The planning is being done in collaboration with our vaccine partners, the school districts, Oregon Health Authority and Adventist Health Tillamook, who has a super cold storage unit," Colson said. "With that, we're working on having Pfizer to become available."

The health department is working on having the Pfizer vaccine, which is used for those under 18, available in the county. As of now, those 16 and 17 years old can call 211 to find a vaccine site that offers the Pfizer vaccine.

If you have questions about the COVID-19 vaccine, call the vaccine line at 503-842-3914.

Sign up for a vaccine at <https://tillamookchc.org/coronavirus/vaccines/>

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For Immediate Release: April 16, 2021

Andretti Group Affiliate GP Energy Acquires Sheldon Oil

Grants Pass, Oregon: GP Energy is acquiring the retail fuels, wholesale fuels, cardlock and transportation assets of Sheldon Oil Company of Tillamook, Oregon. Sheldon Oil has elected to retain certain assets and elements of the lubricants and commercial fuels business. Sheldon Oil consists of eight (8) Shell branded company-owned and operated sites, twelve (12) Shell branded dealer sites, several unbranded fuel sites, four (4) CFN cardlocks, a fleet of over a dozen trucks, and a commercial and motor oil lubricants enterprise.

Sheldon Oil Company was founded in 1983 by Stan and Ruth Sheldon who started out with the Texaco brand. Sheldon Oil later switched to operate under Shell fuels and Petro-Canada lubricants. In the industry, they have been consistently recognized as a leader in service excellence. This family business has been led by second-generation brothers Mike and Shell Sheldon since 2001. The top-quality, well-managed retail assets will be an excellent fit with the contiguous Andretti Group assets and infrastructure that spans CA, OR, and WA.

Owner Shell Sheldon will remain a part of the new organization through the end of 2021 to ensure a smooth transition and effective integration of Sheldon Oil. He commented: "This is a milestone event for both our company and family legacy. We are so excited to have our life's work transitioned to such a world class growing operation. We have had a personal connection with leadership of the Andretti team for many years. This combination is a perfect fit at the perfect time for both our family and the Andretti family of companies."

Owner Mike Sheldon added: "This is the ideal path forward to our pursuing other personal interests all while giving my daughters, our third generation of Sheldons in the business, an opportunity to join a thriving organization and expand their prospects. There is no doubt that all our team members will flourish, while our customers and business partners will continue to be well served and highly valued."

The Sheldon Oil identity and brand will be an integral business unit of the Andretti Group. Likewise, the Sheldon Oil Tillamook, OR office and operation will continue, functioning as a satellite office to support retail, wholesale, transportation/logistics, and cardlock/fleet/commercial activities. In short, the company will largely maintain its existing operations as a Tillamook, OR based division of Andretti.

Andretti Group-GP Energy Managing Member M.J. Castelo noted, "We are delighted to add such a quality operation to our enterprise for both our customers and employees. Of course, it is an awesome responsibility to continue the success and tradition of Sheldon Oil--we are especially primed to deliver both to customers and employees."

Chairman Mario Andretti commented, "Our team is honored to be the steward of Sheldon Oil. I look forward to visiting Tillamook soon, and getting acquainted with everyone. It is my privilege to welcome new teammates and valued customers to our enterprise. We take great pride in a seamless transition and the ongoing prosperity of Sheldon Oil."

The Andretti Group is an integrated fuels wholesaler-retailer operating primarily under the Chevron, Shell, and 76 brands, as well as a Cardlock/Fleet operator under the CFN and Pacific Pride brands and a Logistics/Transport operator functioning as Arrow Logistics. The company footprint spans California, Oregon, and Washington. The company principals are auto racing legends Mario Andretti, Michael Andretti, along with longtime Managing Member M.J. Castelo. For more information, please visit <https://andretti1.com>.

Contacts:

Mike Sheldon 503-812-0378 – msheldon@sheldonoil.com
M.J. Castelo 650-438-2101 – mjcastelo@andretti1.com

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Nehalem City Council Vacancy

The City of Nehalem is accepting applications for
City Council Position #3 to fill an unexpired term.

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City limits for at least one year immediately
preceding the appointment.

Application deadline noon on Wednesday, May 5, 2021.
Application and more information online at:
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H63295

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The North Coast Citizen (15503909) is published
biweekly by Country Media, Inc.
1906 Second Street, P.O. Box 444, Tillamook, OR 97141

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

\$50.00 annually in county; \$67.00 out of county.
\$50.00 for online only.

Periodicals Postage paid at Tillamook, OR.

POSTMASTER

Send address changes to P.O. Box 444, Tillamook, OR 97141
Member Oregon Newspaper Publishers Association (ONPA)
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The Citizen welcomes letters that express readers' opinions
on current topics. Letters may be submitted by email only,
no longer than 300 words, and must be signed and include
the writer's full name, address (including city) and telephone
number for verification of the writer's identity. We will print
the writer's name and town of residence only. Letters without
the requisite identifying information will not be published.
Letters are published in the order received and may be edited
for length, grammar, spelling, punctuation or clarity. We do not
publish group emails, open letters, form letters, third-party
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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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wish to run a thank-you. Cost varies based on the length of the
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- Obituaries need to be submitted by Friday at 5 p.m. the
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Lower Nehalem Community Trust organizes Hwy 101 cleanup in Wheeler

Lower Nehalem Community Trust (LNCT) will hold a roadside cleanup from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. on Earth Day, April 22. Parking and check-in will be located at the intersection of Hwy 101 and Hemlock Street.

Volunteers are invited and encouraged to attend. Participants are asked to register

at <https://www.nehalemtrust.org>. Find the link on the home page under Earth Day Highway Cleanup.

LNCT has been assigned the stretch of Hwy 101 from just south of Wheeler and north to the Nehalem River bridge as part of the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) Adopt-A-Highway

program. This portion of the highway runs along several of LNCT properties. The signage provided by ODOT will promote LNCT’s presence and stewardship commitment to part of its service area. The Earth Day event will be one of four annual cleanups required by ODOT in order to participate in the program.

“We will remove trash that has accumulated over the winter before it washes into the wetlands or becomes hidden by new vegetation,” said Ben Pittenger, LNCT executive director.

Individuals, families and business groups are welcome to volunteer. Participants should be at least 16 years of

age. All participants will be required to sign a waiver and release prior to participation. Covid-19 safety precautions will be enforced. Family and household groups may work together, but otherwise participants must wear masks and stay at least 10 feet from each other.

ODOT and LNCT will

provide safety vests, garbage bags and grabbers. Masks and gloves will be available, but you are encouraged to bring your own. Participants should wear sturdy shoes for walking on uneven surfaces and dress for a full range of coastal Oregon weather.

Friends fund acoustic panels at North County Recreation District

Leslie Vipond, Youth Center director, recognized a problem and envisioned its solution. The children of North Tillamook County attend a variety of programs, camps and other learning activities in the Youth Center and Gymnasium at North County Recreation District (NCRD).

These spaces, with their high ceilings and reverberating walls, create a problem with communication and verbal instruction,

especially for children with sensory processing disorders and special needs. The solution, Vipond realized, is adding acoustic panels, which reduce echoes and provide vocal clarity for a better learning environment.

When a grant application for the acoustic panels was denied, Friends of NCRD funded the \$3,875 project and added an additional \$500 for books and educational materials focusing on diversity, equity, inclusion

and accessibility. The panel project, now underway, also benefits the larger community. NCRD hosts a variety of activities in these spaces: Fitness Center classes, community events/programs, sports practices/games, and summer camps.

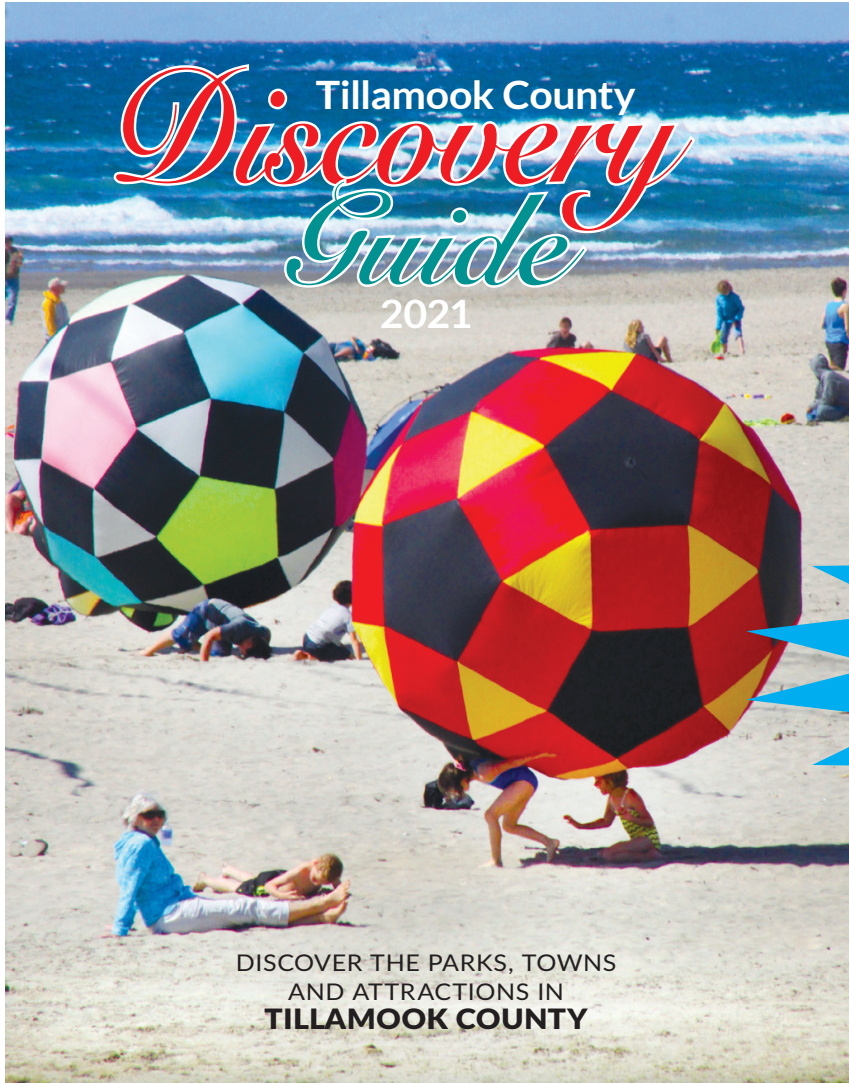
This Youth Department project is just one example of the North County Recreation District’s programs and projects which Friends of NCRD supports. Friends provide scholarships for the Youth Depart-

ment, Fitness Center, and Aquatic Program, and support the Performing Arts Center, New Pool, and Pickle Ball Club.

The mission of Friends of NCRD is to raise and distribute funds which promote and support North County Recreation District’s programs and projects. We fundraise through summer flower sales, fall and winter bulb sales, and a spring plant sale. We hold raffles and rummage sales; we apply for grants that fit the needs

of NCRD’s programs and projects. Every dollar we raise benefits NCRD. To meet our mission, we rely on Friends Board members and volunteers.


This is where YOU come in. If you’re new to the North County area and are looking for a way to make a difference in our community - or if you’ve been here a while and now have time to support NCRD - we invite you to join us. Join Friends of NCRD and make a difference.



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May Happenings

- 1 Household Hazardous Waste & Styrofoam Collection (9am -1pm)
- 8 World Migratory Bird Day
- 9 Mother’s Day
- 11 Solid Waste Advisory Committee (SWAC) meeting
- 18 Election Day
- 21 Endangered Species Day
- 22 International Day for Biological Diversity
- 30 Water a Flower Day
- 31 Memorial Day – Manzanita & Pacific City transfer stations closed



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Manzanita Transfer Station:
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Pacific City Transfer Station:
38255 Brooten Rd * Pacific City, OR 97135 (2 miles SE of Pacific City) On site phone number: 503.354.4383 Hours: 9:00 am—4:00 pm Friday, Saturday & Monday: 1:00 pm – 4:00pm Sundays



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North Coast literary journal now inviting submissions of writing, art

The Hoffman Center for the Arts will publish the eighth edition of the North Coast Squid in October 2021 and invites submissions of writing and art from May 1 to May 31.

The 72-page literary magazine showcases the work of writers and artists who live on the North Oregon Coast or have a strong connection to the region. The magazine includes works of poetry, nonfiction, including memoir and fiction.

As in previous years, submissions will be selected for publication based on blind judging by noted authors and poets: Margaret Chula for poetry; Apricot Irving for nonfiction; and Deb Vanasse for fiction.

Chula lived in Japan for 12 years where she taught creative writing and has published seven collections of poetry. She now lives in Portland, where she continues to teach and give

workshops at universities, poetry societies and Zen centers.

Irving is the author of “The Gospel of Trees,” a lyrical meditation on ecology, loss, and the tangled history of missions in Haiti, winner of the 2019 Sarah Winnemucca Award for Creative Nonfiction. She is also the recipient of a Rona Jaffe Foundation Writers’ Award and Literary Arts Creative Nonfiction Fellowship. She lives in the Columbia River Gorge.

Vanasse is the author of more than a dozen books, many of them set in Alaska. Her works for children include six picture books and two young adult novels. After 36 years in Alaska, Vanasse now lives on the north Oregon coast.


Artwork and photographs, selected for publication by the Squid editorial team, will be used throughout the magazine and on its cover.

Submit online at www.hoffmanarts.org/events/submit-to-the-squid/

A \$3 fee is charged for submissions in each category except “Young Writers” (18 and under), which is free. Full guidelines can be found on the submission page.

Between now and the submission deadline, writers can hone their skills at the Hoffman Center’s Writing Lounge, held online on alternate Tuesday mornings, and through Community Writes, which showcases short pieces of fiction, nonfiction and memoir. A writing workshop, The Devil is in the Details, will be held April 24. Go to hoffmanarts.org for additional information about the center or its programs.

Past issues of the North Coast Squid can be purchased for \$10 at the Hoffman Gallery, Manzanita News and Espresso, and Cloud and Leaf Bookstore.



TPUD awards solar power grant to EVCNB

The Emergency Volunteer Corps of Nehalem Bay has received a \$5,000 grant from the Tillamook Peoples’ Utility District to purchase solar powered ham amateur radio base stations to be located around north Tillamook County.

Coastal communities are subject to many kinds of natural disasters -- including fires, windstorms, mudslides, or a massive earthquake and tsunami -- at any time. Broken roads and downed power lines could leave the area without electricity and cut off from the outside world for several weeks. Portable generators can help but rely on a supply of fuel.

State and federal government assistance will likely focus on the big cities before reaching the smaller towns.

Members of the EVCNB Emergency Communications team have been planning to make the Nehalem Bay region as self-sufficient as possible after a major disaster.

One of the most critical aspects of disaster resilience is communication --

among neighbors, between neighborhoods, between the area Emergency Operations Center and neighborhoods, and with emergency management agencies in Tillamook and the Portland/Salem area.

The EVCNB has developed a comprehensive and flexible communication plan which is based on General Mobile Radio Service (GMRS) and ham radios.

To date, nearly 400 local citizens have trained on GMRS radios (the ubiquitous Yellow Radios), and more than 100 residents have earned their ham radio licenses. The radios are distributed widely throughout the area and tested weekly. But they will need to be recharged periodically, and the sun will be the only constant power source available.


The Emergency Communications Technical Team designed a “Solar GoBox” a portable solar-powered base station, with a 25-watt ham radio, antenna, storage battery, portable solar panel with an additional battery; and

an optional device to enable the station to transmit emails over the radio.

The TPUD grant will help fund a number of portable base stations that will be distributed among neighborhood “zones” or “clusters” throughout the Nehalem Bay area, plus a few other specific locations, depending on the nature of the emergency and communication needs.

“This project is part of an ongoing project to provide neighborhoods with the equipment, tools and training they will need to respond to disasters,” said EVC President Margaret Steele. “We received a TPUD grant in 2019 for NEST boxes (Neighborhood Emergency Supplies and Tools) for several established neighborhood clusters. This has increased overall community preparedness and resilience.”

Training on yellow radios and ham radio is available to the public and can be arranged through the EVCNB. The organization’s website – evcnb.org – provides details.



Rockaway police completes match time for traffic safety programs, officer awarded for saving life

The Rockaway Beach Police Department, as part of their Oregon Impact and ODOT traffic safety grants are required to allocate hours that are considered “match” time to the traffic safety programs they have received grants for. The match time is done while the officer is on their normal shift, but still focuses on areas covered by the grants.

This encourages officers to maintain an awareness of the traffic safety issues in their area. In the month

of March, the department completed some of our match time. There were three match shifts reported by officers, resulting in six stops. Three citations were issued and three stops ended with education/warnings.

April is designated as Distracted Driving Awareness Month. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) identifies distracted driving as a specific type of inattention that occurs when drivers divert their attention from the

driving task to focus on some other activity instead.

One of the most recognizable forms of distracted driving is the use of a cell phone. According to information provided, there were 1,193 fatal or injury crashes involving a driver reported to be using a cell phone from the years 2014-2018 in Oregon.

Officer awarded for saving life

Rockaway Beach Police Chief Charles Stewart is

pleased to announce that Officer Christopher Rondeau has been awarded his second Chief’s Lifesaving Citation. This is an award presented to a Rockaway Beach Police officer who provides substantial initial care directly leading to the prolonging of a human life.

According to the Rockaway Beach Police Department, on April 6, a 911 call was made to the Tillamook County Emergency Communications Center (dispatch). They were told an adult male

at a local business in Rockaway Beach was unconscious and not breathing. Dispatchers were able to hear people in the background talking about performing CPR.

The initial dispatch of the fire department, ambulance and police was made at 4:59 p.m. Officer Rondeau arrived on scene at 5:03 p.m., Rockaway Beach Fire Department personnel arrived at 5:04 p.m. and the ambulance, which is generally stationed in Garibaldi, arrived at 5:06 p.m.

Police said thanks to a

2017 grant from the Siletz Tribal Charitable Contribution Fund, Rondeau had an AED in his patrol vehicle. It is known that early CPR and early defibrillation greatly increase the chance that someone will survive a heart attack and suffer less long-term damage from lack of oxygen.

The police department would like to congratulate Officer Rondeau on this award.

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Since the State is not putting out a Voters Pamphlet we are publishing one for Tillamook County. Learn about each candidate in our special voters guide section highlighting contested races in the Special Districts and Boards election taking place May 18 in Tillamook County.

Be an informed voter to these districts and boards, these people are the decision makers for our Schools, Transportation District, Communications District 911, water boards and more.

This edition will be a valuable tool with great readership. Advertise your message and reach the family decision makers in Tillamook County.

This will be inserted in the Headlight Herald on May 4 and in the North Coast Citizen on May 6.

Reserve your ad by April 28



Lower Nehalem Community Trust announces annual plant sale

Lower Nehalem Community Trust’s (LNCT) annual plant sale will be held on Saturday, April 24, at Alder Creek Farm, 35955 Underhill Lane in Nehalem. Operating hours will be from 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Due to COVID-19, registration is required and can be done at <https://www.nehalemtrust.org>.

Always a favorite with local gardeners, the plant

sale is a fundraiser to support LNCT’s Community Garden program in its effort to educate and share produce with the community.

“The sale will include plants for your vegetable and fruit gardens, as well as flowers that are edible or attract beneficial insects,” said Mary Ruhl, LNCT board member and permaculture garden leader. “Plant varieties are selected to grow

well in our cool maritime climate.”

Community Garden Manager Karen Matthews said, “While this year’s sale is being planned like our more traditional sales of the past, Covid is still a reality, so we are taking the necessary precautions to provide a safe shopping experience for our customers, volunteers, and staff.”

The required registration

will regulate the number of customer arrivals every half hour and the number of people allowed in the merchandise areas will be managed to the allowable capacity. Customers are required to wear masks, maintain a safe distance from others, and will be encouraged to move through a defined path into the garden and barn to make their plant purchases quickly.

Matthews said, “We

want to thank everyone in advance for their full co-operation and we hope that next year’s sale will allow the social time that we sorely miss.”

More than 50 gardeners are involved in the 2021 Community Garden season. They gather each week in small groups to learn organic gardening techniques, share the work, share the bounty for their families, and share

produce with the North County Food Bank and Senior Meals Programs in Nehalem.

To reach Alder Creek Farm turn south off of Highway 101 at Underhill Lane between Manzanita and Nehalem. Bear left as the pavement ends to enter LNCT property and where volunteers will provide directions for parking and entrance to the sale.

OWEB awards grant for Coal Creek Habitat Enhancement Phase 1 Project

The Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board (OWEB) selected Lower Nehalem WC to receive a Salmon License Plate grant at their March 9 and 10 virtual board meeting. The “Coal Creek Habitat Enhancement Phase 1 Project” involves native plants being installed adjacent to the creek and a fish passage barrier being removed. The project will improve habitat for salmon, including Oregon coast Coho, in Coal Creek, a tributary of the North Fork Nehalem River.

Salmon License Plate revenues are generated from the extra fee Oregonians pay when they purchase

Salmon Plates for their vehicles.

“This project is a great investment of the state’s Salmon License Plate dollars,” said Meta Loftsgaarden, OWEB’s executive director. “This investment benefits salmon habitat, while also supporting local natural resource jobs.”

In addition to the Coal Creek Habitat Enhancement Phase 1 Project, the OWEB Board selected three other project(s) to be awarded Salmon License Plate funding:

- Seeley Creek Habitat (\$177,936) Project (Benton County) - Large wood structures will be installed, and

a historic log pond will be reconnected to Seeley Creek, a tributary to the Alsea River. Restoring the floodplain connection to the creek will provide habitat for salmon.

- Tenmile Lakes Watershed Beaver Analogue (\$53,668) Project (Coos County) – Beaver dam analogues will be installed on Big Creek and Johnson Creek, tributaries of Tenmile Lakes to improve habitat complexity for salmon, including Oregon coast Coho.
- Sandy River Basin Aquatic Habitat Restoration (\$213,582) Project (Clackamas County) – Stream

channels and floodplain areas will be restored in Sandy River tributaries to increase the abundance and productivity of Sandy basin salmon and steelhead populations.

Salmon License Plate income totaled \$253,655 for the grant cycle, which was apportioned equally between the identified projects. The rest comes from a combination of Lottery and federal funding.

In total, the OWEB Board awarded 85 grants totaling \$10,095,684 to local organizations statewide to support fish and wildlife habitat and water quality projects

using Lottery, Salmon License Plate, and federal Pacific Coastal Salmon Recovery funding provided by the National Ocean and Atmospheric Administration at their October meeting. Since 1999, the Oregon Lottery has provided over \$684 million to OWEB’s grant program that helps restore, maintain and enhance Oregon’s watershed along with additional investments from Salmon License Plate revenues. Combined, the Lottery has earned over \$9 billion for watershed enhancements, public education, state parks and economic development.

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