

City council updated on transportation and development changes

Will Chappell
Reporter

Manzanita's City Council approved funding for additional investigatory work for the new city hall project and heard reports on multiple projects and ordinances on earlier this month.

Mayor Deb Simmons also made three appointments to the planning commission, after rejecting the recommendations of a selection committee in January, drawing the ire of other councilors.

Simmons named John Collier and Thomas Crist to four-year terms on the commission and Frank Squillo to a two-year term. She apologized to the candidates whose names had

been advanced and rejected in January.

At the time, Simmons expressed misgivings about the search committee's process and said she wanted to review the candidates herself.

The mayor holds sole discretion over committee appointments, per the city's charter, so despite objections from council members, the search was reopened.

Simmons said that she had since reviewed all submitted applications, discussed the interviews that had taken place with committee members and interviewed those candidates who had not been previously.

Concurrently, the council reviewed the process

for appointing committee members, adopting finalized updates to that process at the February 8 meeting. That process had been implemented in August 2022, specifically for the planning commission search.

After Simmons made the appointments, Councilmembers Jenna Edginton, who served on the selection committee, and Jerry Spegman expressed concerns about Simmons's handling of the matter.

Edginton said that the mayor had never detailed her concerns about the process used by the committee. She said that the updated process did not differ substantially from the one it replaced and would not have led to different appointment recommendations.

Spegman said that he was concerned that the mayor had neglected to speak with her predecessor about the process, instead opting to seek advice from mayors of other cities.

Both were displeased with the embarrassment caused to applicants and time wasted by search committee members.

Edginton said that the process had been designed expressly to prevent the appearance of mayoral cronyism in appointments and that

this imbroglio had drawn concern from community members.

The updates to the search process for future selection committees are interviews and rankings of all qualified candidates, rather than a short list, the posting of applications to the city's website and the inclusion of two city councilmembers on the search committee.

The new procedure will apply to all committee searches, except those for the budget committee, which are regulated by state law.

In addition to those updates, the council approved budget increases to pay for expanded investigatory work at the school site designated for the proposed new city hall.

At a special meeting on January 18, the council directed Bearing Architecture and Kloss Group, the company managing the project, to examine the costs associated with preserving the Quonset hut on the site.

This request came after the project team had recommended demolition of both the school building and Quonset hut after preliminary studies showed they had major asbestos, structural and foundational concerns.

Councilmembers ap-

proved \$7,000 in additional funding to Bearing and \$3,000 to Kloss to complete the work.

City Manager Leila Aman sought approval and was granted funds for contracts with two outside contracting firms. 3J Consulting will be consulted on work related to city planning, for an amount not to exceed \$150,000 this year, while Grand Peak Consulting will provide \$10,000 in accounting support.

Aman explained that Manzanita's small city staff meant the city needed to rely on outside consultants to achieve efficient operations.

Aman also updated the council on proposed system development charges increases.

After council approved fee increases at the last meeting, Aman and the city's attorney discovered that the code required a methodology be used to update the charges. However, the code did not provide that methodology.

Aman said that she was working on drafting methodology to allow the increases to proceed, but that it would require the adoption of a new ordinance.

In anticipation of the ordinance, Aman began public noticing in early February, but the requisite notice

period will push the hearing for the new ordinance to the council's June meeting.

The council also received an update on the in-development transportation system plan (TSP) for Manzanita, Wheeler and Nehalem.

Kara Hall from Fehr and Peers, the firm that has been helping the cities with the plan, detailed the first draft that they have developed.

The TSP will contain an inventory of the cities' joint transportation infrastructure and list of projects needed to upgrade and update it moving forward. Having an updated plan will allow the city to qualify for new grant opportunities to expand funding for transportation needs.

Hall said that the firm has completed its first draft after receiving much public feedback. They are now ready to receive further comment from the council, planning commission and public ahead of final adoption in the summer.

The draft TSP identified upgrading pedestrian and bike infrastructure and connections between the businesses, beaches and parks of Manzanita, and improving safety on Highway 101 throughout the north county as priorities.

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County’s short-term rental committee begins drafting revisions

Will Chappell
Reporter

Tillamook County’s short-term rental advisory committee began revising the first draft of the ordinance they are developing on February 14.

The committee started working through the different sections of the proposal, discussing edits and changes they would like to see to the draft.

Director of Community Development Sarah Absher helped to facilitate the discussion. She also gave the committee an update on the county commissioners’ goals for the ordinance, which is overhauling the existing ordinance 84.

She said that the commissioners had held an executive session in recent weeks and discussed the possibility of legal challenges to any new ordinance.

Absher said that the commissioners had told her to direct the committee that the ordinance should not be designed as a land use regulation.

She said that the commissioners were not in consensus on reducing the number of short-term rentals in the county, only managing their growth. She said that the commissioners had

asked her to direct the committee to table discussions on quantity limitations as part of the ordinance.

She noted that even if the committee did not adopt specific limits in the ordinance, they could include language calling for the development of working plans for that purpose. This approach would allow the question of restrictions to be addressed at a later date and on a community-by-community basis.

Absher also addressed community concerns about Daniel Kearns, the lawyer who is helping the committee draft the ordinance update.

Kearns has been a magnet for criticism from short-term rental proponents, who contend that he is staunchly opposed to the properties. Kearns was absent from February’s meeting.

Absher assured committee and community members that Kearns’s personal opinions were not relevant. His directive in the process is to incorporate the committee’s directions into the new ordinance while confirming that the proposed legislation is in compliance with state and federal law.

Finally, Absher reminded the

committee of their timeline. She said that the final draft of the ordinance needs to be presented from their May meeting, so that it can be publicly heard and voted on by commissioners before the current moratorium on new licenses expires in July.

After the update from Absher, the committee began the work of revising the draft of the ordinance they had been presented in January.

They first took up the issue of events being held at short-term rentals, which had been prohibited in the first draft. Committee members agreed that the general prohibition was overbroad and needed refinement.

A lively discussion ensued, with short term rental proponents arguing that the event prohibition should be struck entirely, while others were in favor of modifying it.

The committee eventually reached a consensus around keeping the language but making it subordinate to other parts of the ordinance, allowing for events that complied with noise, parking and garbage rules.

The committee then discussed the signage to be displayed on the exterior of properties.

Signs required by the ordinance will need to list the property’s address, approved number of parking spaces and contact information in case of a problem.

Committee members had diverging opinions on whether the number of the property manager or owner should be listed on the sign, or just the number of the forthcoming short-term rental hotline.

Some argued that putting a direct contact on the sign would allow for more neighborly relationships between residents and short-term rental operators. Others voiced concerns over the invasion of privacy and volume of calls an owner or manager might receive if their number was posted.

The committee quickly formed a consensus around the latter opinion and said that the sign should only be required to include the number of the hotline.

They then quickly agreed to the proposed 20-minute remote, 30-minute in-person response times to hotline complaints, as well as the once-weekly garbage collection requirement.

With time running short in the

meeting, the committee took up a discussion of the scope and purpose section of the ordinance.

The short-term rental supporters on the committee felt that the section expressed a negative tone towards short-term rentals as written. They argued that it incorrectly conflated short-term rentals with the lack of affordable housing in the county and should be amended.

Other committee members pushed back that short-term rentals had a general inflationary pressure on the housing market in the county. But they compromised by changing language saying that the ordinance aimed to “limit” short-term rentals to “manage,” an edit that helped form a working consensus.

Before hearing public comment and adjourning, the committee lengthened their meeting time from two and a half to four and a half hours for March and expressed a desire to do the same in April.

Please send any comments to headlightreporter@countrymedia.net.

County residents updated on recycling modernization act from Oregon DEQ

Will Chappell
Reporter

Tillamook County residents were updated on the recycling modernization act by an Oregon Department of Environmental Quality official at a February 14 meeting at Tillamook Bay Community College.

At the meeting, Tillamook County’s Solid Waste Program Director David McCall also began efforts to coordinate the various cities and county government in responding to the opportunity the act presents.

Gretchen Sandau, materials management specialist for the state’s northwest region, told the assembled group about the Recycling Modernization

Act passed in 2021.

Salem legislators passed the act in response to China stopping importation of recyclable materials in 2018. That ban caused a major fall in worldwide recycling markets and forced many Oregon localities to restrict their recycling programs or increase charges, according to Sandau.

The new act will standardize the materials accepted for recycle across Oregon and implement an economic model designed to share the costs of recycling between producers and consumers.

Price sharing will be achieved by the formation of Producer Responsibility Organizations, or PROs, that will be funded by the producers of waste materials. These non-profits will manage money collected from those companies and use it to fund parts of recycling programs across the state.

PRO funding will mostly be dedicated to infrastructure investments and to offset the costs incurred by local governments in running recycling programs. End users who wish to recycle will still pay for the collection of their recyclables.

Currently, DEQ is in the process of surveying leaders from every city and county across Oregon to gauge the infrastructure needs of their communities. Once the survey period has ended in April, DEQ will use those responses to start building plans to

direct funding from PROs.

The plans will be implemented beginning on July 1, 2025, at which time all cities and counties across Oregon will be required to collect a uniform list of recyclables.

McCall followed Sandau’s presentation with a call to action to the city leaders from Nehalem, Bay City and Garibaldi present at the meeting, as well as those from other cities who were not in attendance.

He strongly encouraged them to respond to the survey seeking support for expansion of their local recycling programs.

He also said that he thought the cities and county should begin meeting regularly to develop a plan of their

own to present to PROs for funding after DEQ tells them about Tillamook’s needs in a more general sense.

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NKN selected for GEAR UP

The Neah-Kah-Nie School District has been accepted into a program that will send \$95,000 to the district annually for the next seven years to help promote post-secondary education.

The Oregon Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs, or GEAR UP, program is funded by U.S. Department of Education dollars and administered by Oregon State University and aims to promote low-income students’ access to higher learning.

“I think it helps with that equity issue to expose low-income students to the process of post-secondary education and their parents,” said Paul Erlebach, superintendent of the Neah-Kah-Nie school district.

The district is one of fourteen that was selected from among 50 applicant districts across the state to participate in the program. GEAR UP has been helping districts with low-income students since 2002 and is beginning to help its fourth group of schools this year.

Funding is allocated to allow the district to hire a full-time coordinator who will help students with all aspects of post-secondary education preparation from sixth grade through their first year of post-secondary education. It will also pay for campus visits for students and their families.

Erica and Ryan Keefauver, both of whom work in the district, had experience with

GEAR UP in their previous positions in the Hermiston School District.

Mrs. Keefauver, the Student Services and Special Education Director for the district, said that the program does a good job of involving families to help lower the intimidation factor of post-secondary education.

“A lot of what we saw were students hesitant to move on because they didn’t have anyone in their family who had attended a post-secondary education program,” Mrs. Keefauver said, “going beyond their own experience was a scary thing.”

She also mentioned the program’s continuing support for students as a strong point. GEAR UP requires the coordinator maintain contact with students in their first year of post-secondary education, which Mrs. Keefauver said is a critical element of the program.

Erlebach emphasized that the program is not only intended to promote students going to four-year university programs. It is meant to support students attending community college or trade schools as well.

Mr. Keefauver, the Associate Principal and Athletic Director at Neah-Kah-Nie High School, said that exposure to a wider variety of options starting at a younger age was “invaluable” for students.

He said that the district has already been doing good work supporting students, praising

High School Guidance Counselor Esther Troyer in particular, but that the grant and dedicated staff-member would enhance their efforts greatly.

“That is going to allow for more one-on-one time between that person and our students in developing their career plans, providing us both on-site and off-site opportunities for those students, and connection to the family,” Mr. Keefauver said.

The full-time staffer will help students explore the different post-secondary education opportunities that are available and which match their needs before aiding in the application process, from testing to applications to securing scholarships.

GEAR UP funding is paired with participation in the Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID) teaching program. AVID helps to standardize different aspects of the educational experience across schools and the district, like note taking, to optimize students’ learning.

Erlebach was excited about the opportunities that GEAR UP and AVID present for the district to supplement the work it is already doing for students.

“I think the district’s goal with GEAR UP and without it is to increase our on-time graduation rate and the post-secondary graduation experiences for students,” Erlebach said.

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Nehalem Valley Care Center receives OCF grant to Address nursing staff needs

Health care staff shortages have become a chronic problem across the country and nowhere is the challenge of staffing health care facilities more pressing than in rural Oregon. Yet, thanks to a generous competitive grant from the Oregon Community Foundation (OCF), the Nehalem Valley Care Center in Wheeler has received valuable financial assistance to establish its own in-house nurse aide training program.

The \$15,000 grant is

supplied from OCF’s “Better Nursing Home Care Fund” that is designed to improve senior health care and the overall quality of life in Oregon nursing homes.

“This important funding will allow us to jump start our program and begin immediately training certified nursing assistants in our own building,” said Erica Knepper, RN, of Canyon Wren Consulting who provides nurse training and consulting services to the Care Center.

The Care Center offers long-term skilled nursing care, as well as skilled rehabilitation services from its facility in Wheeler. The Care Center is one of the few such facilities on the Oregon coast, and the only skilled nursing facility between Astoria and Newport. The Care Center employs registered nurses, licensed practical nurses, certified nursing assistants, certified medication aides,

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FROM STATE SENATOR SUZANNE WEBER

Broadband for all: County takes a giant leap forward

Suzanne Weber
State Senator Dist. 16

Tillamook County is a hidden gem, a rural county lodged between the coast and the city, defined by its rocky coastline, charming coastal towns, and picturesque mountain forests. There’s a reason those who visit want to stay. The quality of life here is hard to beat.

While the rustic nature of this corner of Oregon paradise is a key to its charm, in some ways we have failed to keep up to modern standards. One case in point is Highway 6, a stunningly beautiful two-lane road joining Banks in Washington County to Tillamook and the coast beyond. Known as the Trees to Sea Scenic Byway, Highway 6 winds through sharp and sometimes blind turns, along steep forest slopes, usually with limited shoulders. As beautiful as it is, it can also be dangerous, especially at night and in bad weather. In a single treacherous week in

August 2021, three accidents left four people dead.

As challenging as Highway 6 is for drivers, it poses even greater difficulties for our first responders, as cellular service is almost non-existent along these 37 miles of wooded highway. Without cell service, emergency response is severely compromised. In the wake of traumatic injury, where minutes can spell the difference between life and death, that lack of cellular service is no small matter. Neither are the road closures that can take hours to clear up in the wake of major crashes.

Now we may be close to a solution. As part of a plan to land a new, 9,400-mile fiber-optic cable at the Winema Christian Camp in Cloverdale, Ore., Amazon Web Services (AWS) is helping to fund a new fiber-optic line along Highway 6 to Hillsboro. This project will enable wired internet service along a 39-mile stretch of Highway 6 that has no cellular service



at all. While this project does not specifically include installation of cellular towers along the route, the availability of high-speed, high-capacity wired service means installing cellular antennas will be relatively simple and affordable compared to what would have been necessary before.

Adding cellular service will benefit everyone who traverses this beautiful part of the county, from drivers bound for the coast to hikers seeking solitude on mountain trails. For police, firefighters, and other emergency workers, though, the promise of reliable cell service will mark a major improvement in their ability to respond to emergencies.

The new Highway 6 fiber optic link funded by AWS will also benefit those who live in this more remote part of the county where internet

service is often unavailable. As we learned during the COVID-19 pandemic, when working people and students were asked to stay home and do their work remotely, young students in rural homes were disproportionately disadvantaged.

An independent study conducted for the public-private Tillamook Lightwave consortium found that about one in every 27 people in our county—some 1,000 people in all—lack access to wired internet service. Tillamook Lightwave’s recent broadband study found that three-quarters of survey respondents said their internet service did not meet student needs or did so in only a limited way during the pandemic; only one quarter of respondents who worked from home said their internet service was adequate.

Capitol Address: 900 Court St. NE, H-483, Salem, OR 97301 – Phone (503) 986-1432

District Address: PO Box 983, Tillamook, OR 97141 – Phone: (503) 300-4493 – rep. suzanne.weber@oregonlegislature.gov

Improving connectivity across regions and demographics is a national problem. But here in Tillamook, we are well on the way to solving a major portion of

our challenge. The proposed Highway 6 fiber-optic cable project will provide “last mile” connectivity that will bring the kind of high-speed internet service businesses and homeowners rely on throughout the Portland metro area directly to the property lines of 273 homeowners who currently have no such service here in Tillamook County. Of course, not all those homeowners will want that connectivity; but at least now every one of them will have the option—now or later—to connect.


Critically, this cable will also enable cellular services to be deployed along the highway corridor. My 2022 priority bill, OR House Bill 4053, required the Oregon Department of Transportation to study Highway 6 and provide recommendations to the Oregon Legislature on improvements and efficiencies. That study is currently underway. The addition of this cable landing will enhance public safety by eliminating an unsafe and dangerous dead zone on Highway 6. With cellular phone and data services, motorists will be able to report disabled vehicles; police and firefighters will be able to access their networks from the road, meaning they can more rapidly respond to dangerous road conditions,

such as downed trees, or to forest fires, missing person emergencies, and other matters where timeliness can spell the difference between life or death.

These benefits will accrue to the county as a result of the Bifrost data cable, one of the longest and fastest data links across the Pacific. The Bifrost Trans-Pacific cable will connect Singapore to Grover Beach, California, but also include branch lines diverting to Indonesia, the Philippines and Oregon. Cable landings are nothing new. As of 2019 there were 75 submarine cables connecting the West Coast of the United States to other parts of the world and nine others under construction. Tillamook County already hosts the largest hub of transcontinental undersea fiber cables on the west coast. Yet community members and fishermen won’t even notice the new branch landing in Cloverdale, as it will be located far below the surface, traversing under the seafloor to a terminus adjacent to a parking lot.

In a modern economy, broadband access is as necessary as electricity. With projects like this one, Tillamook moves significantly forward in ensuring broadband access for all.

Senator Suzanne Weber



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H21629

Tillamook County’s recycling programs getting major overhaul

Will Chappell
Reporter

Tillamook County’s recycling program is in the process of receiving a complete overhaul thanks to an Oregon Bill that is revamping the way recycling is handled across the state.

Tillamook’s Solid Waste Program Director David McCall told county commissioners that the bill offers a once-in-a-generation opportunity and that his department will be gathering public input at a meeting on February 14.

“It’s an incredible opportunity but we need to take advantage of that opportunity in the right way,” McCall told commissioners.

Oregon’s 2021 Recycling

Modernization Act was passed in response to tight import restrictions on recyclable materials imposed by the Chinese government in 2019.

Prior to the implementation of the so called “Chinese Green Fence,” American recyclers had relied on exporting materials to the Chinese market for processing.

The clamp down led to a free fall in the market for recyclable materials, according to McCall, drastically affecting the cost structure of Tillamook’s program, though not its scope.

The recycling modernization act will standardize the recycling program across the entire state of Oregon and shift costs for recycling to the producers of waste products.

By 2025, Oregonians will be able to recycle the same materials in any locality in the state and the cost of recycling will be borne by producer responsibility organizations, or PROs.

PROs are non-profits formed by the producers of recyclable and disposable waste, as well as some advertisers. Those companies fund the PRO, which in turn works with local governments to

fund the costs of collection and recycling.

This model aims to remove the cost to the public and governments, shifting it instead to the producers, according to McCall, who noted that the city currently loses money when recycling glass.

The updated program will also reclassify many items as recyclable that have been excluded in recent years. It will go into effect in July 2025.

The February 14 meeting will be held at 2:30 p.m. at the Tillamook Bay Community College in the building at 4506 3rd Street. Attendees will be updated on the program’s development to date and be offered a chance to offer input for state officials working on it.

County commissioners approved \$15,000 to permanently turn the Old Wheeler-Mohler Road into a fire lane at the same meeting. The funds will pay for installation of a permanent fence with lock at the Highway 101 turnoff for the road and maintenance work to clear the right of way of brush.

The road, which connects Highway 101 to Highway 56, has been close to its intersection with 101 since a 2016 mudslide, though residents

maintained access from 56. FEMA paid for repairs to the road that were completed in December 2022.

Commissioners also approved a survey by Gallup to gauge county employee attitudes about workplace dynamics that will take place in mid-March.


Finally, they signed a letter of support for the Tillamook Bay Watershed Council in its application for funding from the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board (OWEB).

The council has not received funding from OWEB in several years after issues with the council’s management and had become fallow.

It has since reformed its board and hopes that its new structure and leadership will allow it to secure funding this year.

All three commissioners were enthusiastic in praising the work of Hawken Smith (?) who is chairing the new board and appeared at the meeting, and enthusiastically endorsed his work.

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H21583

NVCC

Continued from Page 3

and personal care assistants who provide 24-hour, day in and day out care to patients.

Nehalem Valley Care Center employs approximately 45 staff members, half of those in the nursing department. Certified nursing assistants tend to be the most difficult position to recruit and therefore an

in-house training program will allow the Care Center to help local talent pursue a career in healthcare. The goal is to have five enrollees in the first class, and the center will schedule further sessions as the need arises. The facility will also continue to partner with Tillamook Bay Community College’s nursing assistant program in order to help serve the healthcare community at large.

The Care Center is actively recruiting staff for a variety of positions that offer competi-

tive salaries and benefits for important careers with a focus on helping others.

The Care Center is owned by the Nehalem Bay Health District and operated under a management agreement with Canyon Wren Consulting, an Oregon nursing home management provider.

The health district will soon announce plans to undertake a major renovation and modernization of the Care Center in the interest of enhancing care and overall patient experience.



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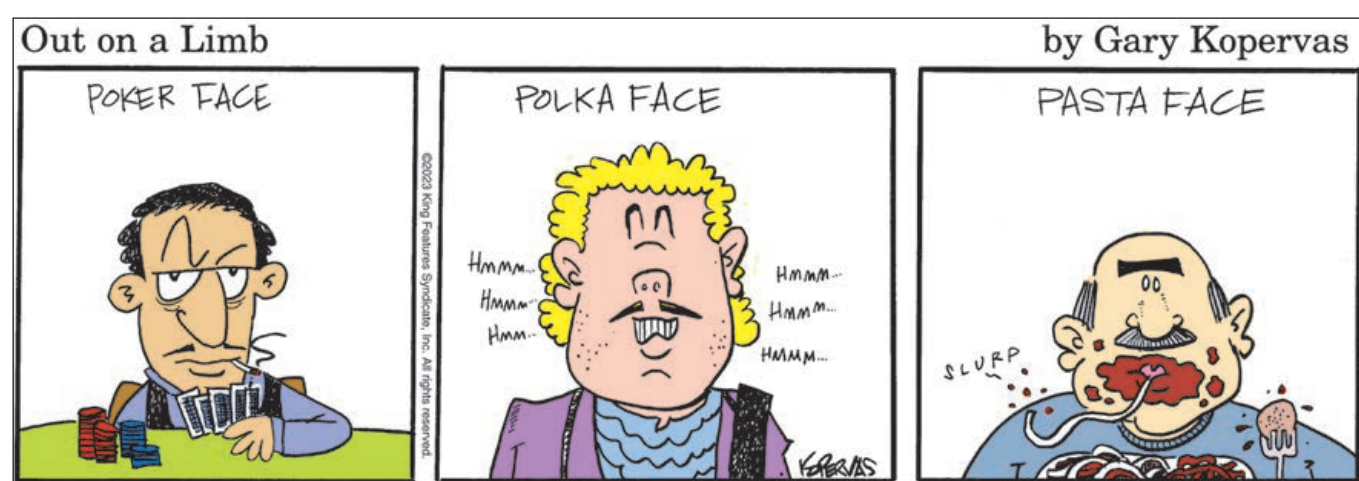
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Super Crossword

Answers

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

Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

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

Business & Service Directory

To advertise contact Katherine Mace at 503-842-7535 or Email headlightads@countrymedia.net

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- Crushed Rock • Fill Material • Rip Rap
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Neah-Kah-Nie Boys Basketball advances to State Championships

Samantha Swan
News Intern

The Neah-Kah-Nie High School Boys' Basketball team will advance to the State Championships following last week's loss to the Riverdale Mavericks and a win against the Yamhill Tigers. The team scored 48 points against Riverdale's 60 and 62 points against Yamhill's 53 points. Despite their loss to Riverdale, Neah-Kah-Nie is third in the 3A Coastal League, meaning they will advance to the State Championships, where they will play against larger schools for the title of State Champion. Prior to the Riverdale game, players like Jacobee Wilkinson, 23, were "nervous," as Riverdale is second in the 3A Coastal

League. Following the Riverdale match, Coach Erick White stated that "it doesn't feel great right now, but [the players] need to be proud." Indeed, the team's advancement to the championships is an uncommon feat for the Neah-Kah-Nie Pirates. This is the team's first time at the State Championships in twelve years. Coach White has been working with some of the players since they were in elementary school for this very moment. The team has made tremendous progress this season, with some players achieving personal records during the playoffs. Espen White, 0, scored a whopping 21 points during the Yamhill game, a third of Neah-Kah-Nie's total. White attributes his high scoring to his three-point shots,

of which he scored four. White was "nervous" going into the Yamhill game, but Coach White says the rest of the team was "confident" going into the game. Neah-Kah-Nie bested Yamhill twice in the regular season, but it was a close game both times. Ivan Dante, 13, is one of Neah-Kah-Nie's posts and has greatly improved upon his rebounds. Of his progress, Dante states that he has become "more aggressive" on the court, having started the season "intimidated by varsity." Coach White believes Neah-Kah-Nie's success is due to their good man-to-man defense and teamwork. The boys were "covering for each other," allowing the team to block Yamhill from scoring. Coach White also believes Neah-Kah-Nie has improved upon their

first-quarter energy. He states that the team has experienced "slow starts" throughout the season, with their playing improving throughout the game. Indeed, these slow starts were seen in the match against Riverdale where the Pirates scored 8 points in the first quarter. When asked about what the Pirates will be working on approaching State, Coach White replied "consistency." Specifically, the team will work on a more consistent defense. Indeed, repeating the Pirates' impressive showing against Yamhill would only improve their chances in the championship. *Look for state coverage in next week's Headlight Herald and the next issue of the North Coast Citizen.*



Super Crossword

- ACROSS**

1 Four-string guitar

5 Bits of land in el agua

10 Luca Brasi in "The Godfather," e.g.

16 Soft infant food

19 Life — know it

20 New Mexico or Colorado county

21 Useless

22 Division of history

23 Start of a riddle

26 Mantra syllables

27 Old-time cleaning cake

28 Tennis' Safin

29 Not skilled in at all

31 Heavy weight

32 All — sudden

35 Spoken

37 French movie theater

38 Riddle, part 2

44 President Biden

45 Speaks

46 Singer Turner

47 Tell el — (Nile excavation site)

50 It fills la mer

51 Riddle, part 3

57 Becomes familiar with anew

59 Per-unit price

60 Mortise insertion

61 Ambulance VIPs

62 Decorative dashboard finish

66 Chain in biology

67 Riddle, part 4

73 China's Chou En- —

74 Like many soda bottles, volume-wise

75 Purposely ignore

76 Book of charts

79 IRS form IDs

80 "— is a virtue"

84 Riddle, part 5

87 In honor of

89 Small river

90 — -mutuel betting

91 Oxygen-requiring bacterium

93 Start for center or Pen

94 End of the riddle

102 Square yardage, e.g.

103 Instant replay option

104 Expressive rock genre

105 — Leppard (rock band)

106 Mythical man-goats

109 "In the red," e.g.

111 Division of history

115 Concorde, e.g., in brief

116 Riddle's answer

120 Grassland

121 Henner of "Taxi"

122 — Island (Providence's state)

123 Old TV's — May Clampett

124 Work unit

125 Workout wear

126 Planted

127 Some deli loaves

DOWN

1 Cry noisily

2 Ghostly pale

3 Real bargain

4 Electric eye, e.g.

5 "The Tall Corn State"

6 Leave for a short time

7 Spy novelist

8 Exhibit works

9 "... or — told"

10 Drag racer

11 New York home of Cornell

12 Relative of a stickpin

13 Raging crowd

14 PDQ's cousin

15 Emperor after Claudius I

16 City on the Illinois River

17 Ralph Lauren competitor

18 Pale hue

24 Actress Skye

25 Main parts of churches

30 Fuel rating

33 Galas

34 On the Red, e.g.

36 Former senator Trent

38 Open slightly

39 City in Alaska

40 Four-piece band

41 Writer Capote, to pals

42 Org. in many spy novels

43 Make a ski mask, maybe

48 Lagoon surround

49 Christen

51 Core group

52 Frisky swimmer

53 Uncool sort

54 About

55 Lower-class, to Brits

56 Growl threateningly

58 Warning initials above an internet link

59 Hair bases

62 Actress Kate of "Grey's Anatomy"

63 Of sheep

64 "Casablanca" woman

65 Prized buy for a coin collector

67 Nail on a paw

68 Pledge

69 Brand of sneakers

70 Didn't win

71 Hang it up

72 App that asks "Where to?"

77 Frolicking

78 Move back and forth

80 Open tourney, often

81 Necessarily

82 Sleeveless cloak

83 Arabian chief

85 Pooch noise

86 Misters

87 Agent's cut

88 "... there — square"

91 Something hilarious

92 Fabric with raised designs

94 Grapple with, slangly

95 Slate clearer

96 Attachment to a dog or cat collar

97 "House" actress Wilde

98 Old-time Ford

99 NASA countdown term

100 Ferber of fiction

101 — regions (Hades)

107 Crater edges

108 Novelist Irwin

110 Corp. VIPs

112 Squeezed (out)

113 Be in power

114 Jubilant cries

117 Exist

118 "So that's your trick!"

119 Wrecker's job

Rockaway Beach council approves contract for trail consultant

Rockaway Beach's City Council approved a contract with Destination Management Advisors to help coordinate the initial design phase of a new trail that will be part of the Salmonberry Trail. The \$60,000 contract is for services that will set Rockaway Beach up to apply for further funding for the project from ODOT's Community

Paths Program. ODOT has already committed \$750,000 in grant funding to complete the design phase of the project, which will run from north to south along Highway 101 in Rockaway Beach. Destination Management Advisors will be leading the public outreach portion of the project, helping city leaders determine what stakeholders and community members want from the trail.

After gathering feedback, the firm will prepare a design memorandum for the city, which it can then use in applications for further funding. Destination Management Advisors will also help the city to liaise with ODOT, serving as project manager throughout the design phase of the project.

Jon-Paul Bowles will be leading the project for Destination Management Advisors. He told council that he hoped to have the design phase mostly completed this year so that construction funding could be applied for in 2024 and 2025.

Council approved repairs to the boardwalk at the old

growth cedar trail that were caused by a January storm. The repairs will cost \$25,000 and be performed by the contractor who originally completed the boardwalk. The city will be fully reimbursed for the cost by insurance after the work is completed in late February. Council also approved a memorandum of understanding with the Oregon Coast Scenic Railroad for a project to improve the crossing at South First Street. The memorandum stated that the city will pay for the materials for the crossing, while the railroad will pay for labor and project management. Councilmembers discussed the search process for the city council seat left vacant by Cindy Kay Gregory's recent resignation at the work session preceding the meeting. Applications will be accepted until March 1, at which point the council will select three candidates to interview, before voting on a selection.

Please send any comments to headlightreporter@countrymedia.net.

Tillamook County Development Committee meeting to host expert on mass timber

Tillamook County's Development Committee will be hosting an industry expert to talk about mass timber on February 27.

The relatively new building material has economic, ecological and seismic benefits over existing materials for coastal building.

The meeting will take place from 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. at the main conference room at the Port of Tillamook Bay's main conference room located at 4000 Blimp Boulevard. There is also a virtual option.

The Tillamook County Building Official will also be in attendance to discuss local development challenges and the way the material can help to address those.

Puzzle answers on page 5.

	2	3	4		5	6	7	8	9		10	11	12	13	14	15		16	17	18	
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115					116		117							118	119						
120					121													123			
124					125													127			

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