

One of a kind 'Tsunami' hits Nehalem Bay area

Food and donations collected to help those with food insecurities

Debbie Moberly EVCNB Volunteer

ust as predicted, at 10 a.m. on Saturday, April 30, the Nehalem Bay region bore the impact of a rare tsunami. According to local experts in Wheeler, Nehalem, Manzanita, Neahkahnie and the surrounding area, a wave of this type has never been recorded prior to last weekend. Unlike other tsunamis that these small coastal communities prepare and routinely practice for, witnesses report their eagerness to see such an event happen again.

Through coordinated radio communication, evacuees were monitored as they left their homes and until arrival at their neighborhood gathering sites. Those that were unable to leave their homes were also in contact and support was dispatched to their locations. After two hours, the event was over, and life went back to normal on this gray-sky, drizzly Saturday.

In the aftermath, John Beaston of Emergency Volunteer Corps of Nehalem Bay reported, "This was a tsunami of the best kind because it delivered much needed support for our North County Food Bank. It allowed participants to practice what they have prepared for, should a real tsunami occur." With 30 volunteers and over 100 donors participating, Beaston was both pleased and grateful for the outcomes.

North County Food Bank board member, Dave Flemming and three volunteers were on hand to receive the 2,300 pounds of canned and packaged food and \$3,225 collected during the 2-hour event. He summed it up with, "Words cannot express our gratitude for the generosity of our Nehalem Bay communities. The outstanding communication and organization demonstrated in this exercise speaks volumes for the training that the **Emergency Volunteer Corps** of Nehalem Bay brings to our area and residents."

Will there be another food can tsunami in the future? Our local experts aren't ready to predict another occurrence, but they do caution us to be prepared.





(Top) Volunteers of the day's event stop for a photo. (Bottom) Food Bank Highlanders cluster neighborhood gathering site. Photos courtesy of Debbie Moberly.

Timber ruling overturned: \$1 billion involved

Staff

A group of counties, of which Tillamook County is involved, originally sued the state in 2016, arguing that the "greatest permanent value" of more than 700,000 acres of state forest land is by maximizing timber production revenue, revenue that by state law gets shared with the counties.

The Oregon Court of Appeals has overturned a \$1.1 billion verdict in a case involving 13 counties, taxing districts and the state, County of Linn v. State of Oregon, over how the state manages timber harvests on state forest lands.

"I am disappointed by the decision from the Oregon Court of Appeals," Tillamook County Commissioner David Yamamoto said. "It is sad that the Court did not address the facts clearly detailed in the case about the devastating effects on our rural communities."

In the decision issued Wednesday, April, 27, the court found that Oregon did not violate a state and local agreement over timber harvests when the state balanced the financial benefits of timber production with other benefits like water quality, wildlife habitat, and recreation opportunities, according to a release from the Oregon Attorney General.

"In Oregon, we manage our forests not only for the benefit and prosperity of this generation but those to come," Gov. Kate Brown said. "Today's decision by the Oregon Court of Appeals is a validation of the fact that a balanced, science-based approach to public forest management will produce the greatest long-term outcomes for all Oregonians, including the counties and taxing districts that receive revenue from state forests. Working together, I am confident the state and the counties can find a sustainable approach to supporting critical services for Oregonians."

State law has long required the Oregon
Board of Forestry to manage the state forests



to "secure the greatest permanent value of those lands to the state." In 1998, the Board adopted a rule explaining what the "greatest permanent value" of the state forests means, agreeing that the Oregon Department of Forestry would balance multiple values and uses of the forests. The rule also said that although environmentally sound timber production was important, it was not exclusive of other uses that provide a full range of social, economic, and environmental benefits to the people of Oregon.

A group of counties originally sued the state in 2016, arguing that the "greatest permanent value" of more than 700,000 acres of state forest land is by maximizing timber production revenue, revenue that by state law gets shared with the counties.

They sought more than a billion dollars in damages based on what they claimed was the difference in how much timber would have been and would in the future be harvested if revenue-maximization was the rule and how much was and was projected to be harvested under the 1998 rule. A Linn County jury agreed with the counties, and awarded them \$1.1 billion, including more than \$160 million for attorney fees.

"The consequences of the State's decisions to change harvest policies have direct impacts on our timber economy which, in turn, cause irreparable harm to the proud men, women and children residing in rural areas," Commissioner Yamamoto added. "It is apparent to me that urban values continue to widen the chasm of the urban/rural divide and we must begin to focus on healing this rift. I do not think it comes as any surprise that this is now headed to the Oregon Supreme Court. I am confident that Linn County, with the support of the other Trust Counties, will prevail and restore the trust and determination of the hard working people of our rural counties."

BOCC discuss potential pause of short term rental permits

Ashley Tike
Staff Writer

A potential pause in the dissuance of short-term vacation rental permits was being discussed and considered at the



BOCC meeting held April 27 in response to a study showing high percentage numbers of these permits in beach communities.

high percentage numbers of these permits in beach communities.

According to a presentation provided by Sarah Absher, the Director of Community Development in Tillamook County, 23% of dwellings located in the unincorporated area of Pacific City, most in areas close to beach with a scenic value, can be considered a short-term vacation

rental property. In Pacific City

there are a total of 1,288 dwell-

ings and 278 of those have been

issued short-term rental permits by the County.

"So far for the year 2022, we have received 59 applications for short-term vacation rental permits and it is my understanding that the majority of the permit applications submitted since the beginning of 2022 are located in South County," Absher said.

In Neahkahnie, 18% of dwellings have short term rental permits; 69/385.

In Barview/Twin Rocks/Watseco, 16% of dwellings have short term rental permits; 37/234.

In Oceanside, 16% of dwellings have short term rental permits; 109/672.

In Netarts, 12% of dwellings have short term rental permits; 75/609.

In Cape Meares, 13% of dwellings have short term rental permits; 27/205.

In Neskowin, 17% of dwellings have short term rental permits; 138/874.

Absher added, "Anecdotally, the increase in south county

See **PERMITS**, Page 3

Virtual Presentation: Marine Heatwaves and their Effects on Coastal Fishes

On May 12th, 2022 Jessica Miller, OSU Professor of Fisheries, Wildlife, and Conservation Sciences, will talk about a very pertinent issue, Marine Heatwaves. Marine heatwaves are increasing in frequency and intensity around the world. From 2014 to 2016, anomalous atmospheric conditions resulted in the largest known marine heatwave in the northeast Pacific Ocean, and another heatwave occurred in 2019. These extreme ocean warming events impacted all levels of the food web, resulting in reduced condition of many marine species. The abundance of Pacific Cod in the Gulf of Alaska declined by more than 75%, leading to the closure of the fishery and a disaster

Jessica Miller and her colleges are documenting how this heatwave affected the growth and condition of Columbia River Spring Chinook salmon and the growth and phenology – or timing of life history events - of Pacific Cod in the Gulf of Alaska. They combine field studies with laboratory analysis of fish ear stones, which are balance and orientation structures that lay down daily growth rings, to age fish, determine their hatch date, and reconstruct their growth and migratory history. Jessica will provide an overview of what we are learning about how these ecologically and economically important species responded to these extreme ocean temperatures, which are predicted to occur regularly under future climate change scenarios.

Jessica Miller is a Professor in Fisheries, Wildlife, and Conservation Sciences at Oregon State University. She is also a member of the Coastal Oregon Marine Experiment Station and leads the Marine and Anadromous Fisheries Ecology Lab in Newport, Oregon. Her research focuses on ecology of marine and anadromous fishes, with an emphasis on how environmental and climate variation affect their growth and survival. She received a BA in Zoology from the University of Montana, a MS in Fisheries from University of Washington, and a PhD in Biology from the University of Oregon.

The talk will be on May 12th at 7 pm, hosted on Zoom, and is free to the public. The zoom link is https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83353175742 or on the Faceboook event at www.facebook.com/lnwc1. You can also contact the watershed council at info@nehalemwatershed.org. A recording of this presentation will also be posted on the LN-WC's YouTube channel with our other recorded presentations. Just search for "Lower Nehalem Watershed Council" on YouTube.

Stay posted for the Lower Nehalem Watershed's Speaker Series other great talks coming up:

 November: Kellie Carim (USDA), eDNA Tracking Lamprey in the Pacific Northwest

Event Information: This event is FREE and open to the public. Find more information on our speaker series and the links for access on our Facebook page (https://www.facebook.com/lnwc1).

Nehalem Bay State Park to host volunteer work party May 21

Nehalem Bay State Park rangers and Oregon Equestrian Trails members need 40 volunteers May 21, 8 a.m.-3 p.m., to expand and revitalize the horse campground.

Volunteers will cut and remove invasive scotch broom and blackberry bushes. The undergrowth surrounding the campsites is thick and your help will help tidy the sites.

Participants must register in advance by May 15, 2022. Volunteers of all ages are welcome, although volunteers 15 and under must be accompanied by an adult. Be prepared to work with hand tools and move on gravel and uneven surfaces. Tools and other equipment will be provided, but volunteers will need to bring their own gloves. Bring drinking water and wear clothing suitable for the weather conditions.

Local News

Oregon legislature awards \$1M to Tillamook County to form a coordinated homeless response system

Ashley Tike

Staff Writer

Oregon Legislature passed House Bill 4123, which awards \$1M to Tillamook County and seven other counties in Oregon, for a coordinated homeless response system; declaring an emergency. The other counties are Polk, Benton, Coos, Deschutes, Lincoln, Mid-Colombia and Umatilla.

The bill states that the lack of available housing, high rents and high home prices are driving rapid increases in housing instability and homelessness in Oregon. It adds that Oregon has experienced a significant increase in the number of people experiencing homelessness. Adding that funding, resources and services to address the issue are not scaled to

Tillamook County will take a lead in project this alongside Peter Starky with CARE and Tillamook Housing Coordinator Thomas John "TJ"

'We're excited to be selected as one of the rural counties to help the state of Oregon understand how to address homelessness issues in rural areas," Fiorelli said. "There's no

how-to manual on exactly how to do this, we're helping them build it."

The bill goes on to add that the lack of housing affordability and availability in Oregon cannot be addressed without a collaborative effort; and communities require coordinated leadership to identify local needs to end homelessness.

The Oregon Department of Administrative Services will provide the \$1M grant funding given that Tillamook County creates a coordinated homeless response system that consists of; an established coordinated homeless response office, an advisory board, plans for coordination with any local continuum of care, and establishment of a centralized point of contact for the

In the County Commissioner meeting Commissioner Erin Skaar said, "I'm glad we have a path forward; Lieutenant Troxel actually planted this seed and it has grown into what we are seeing today so thank you to him and everyone else who worked on this.'

Lieutenant Nick Troxel has been working closely on the homelessness issue in Tillamook County for



A homeless camp on the Hoquarton Interpretive Trail in Tillamook. Photo by Ashley Tike

years now.

"I've seen young kids sleeping on couches and in cars and I've seen people living on the streets, at the end of the day it's all about taking

an empathetic approach to finding a solution without pointing fingers," Troxel said.

Troxel is hopeful that this plan and this funding for the county can open the door to even more housing solutions in the future.

Comments: headlightreporter@ countrymedia.net

Barbara Trout honored with 2022 Oregon Heritage Excellence Award

Ashley Tike Staff Writer

The Oregon Parks and Recreation Department announced the 2022 Oregon Heritage Excellence Awards given to individuals, organizations, and projects that have made outstanding contributions to preserving Oregon's heritage will receive Oregon Heritage Excellence Awards.

Awards recognize action taken to preserve and share Oregon's heritage over and above the call of duty. "This year's award recipients represent projects that serve as inspiration and models for preserving Oregon's stories, especially the lesser told and untold stories," said Katie Henry, coordinator for the Oregon Heritage Commis-

This year there is a new award category for standout heritage volunteers and recognizing their critical contributions to heritage preservation efforts in Oregon. The 2022 Standout Heritage Volunteers being recognized included Barbara Trout for her fantastic work at the Tillamook County Pioneer Museum and Kilchis Point Reserve.

Trout said that she is honored to be part of a team of hard-working staff, dedicated volunteers and

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generous supporters who work to preserve, promote and enhance Tillamook county's natural and cultural heritage.

She is currently the Museum Board President, and has served on the Board since December 2002.

"This past summer due to staffing shortages I volunteered to open and close Kilchis Point reserve daily, cleaning restrooms, collecting garbage, and offering tours of the reserve," said

Comments: headlightreporter@countrymedia.net

TCSO begins new communication efforts

Joshua Brown Tillamook County Sheriff

TCSO is beginning a new series of messaging to help keep the public informed and educated about the happenings at their Sheriff's Office. The "Community Roll Call" series comes straight from Sheriff Joshua Brown and will be appearing regularly on our social media. We hope you find it helpful and infor-

Tillamook County Jail All Sheriffs are required to provide and maintain a jail per Oregon Revised Statute. The Tillamook County Sheriff's Office operates a 96-bed facility. Recently there has been a lot of questions about our jail and whether or not it is open. Our jail is open, but we are currently limiting the number of intakes coming into our facility.

When I was sworn into office on January 4, 2021, under pandemic restrictions and rules and the census count was very low. Today, our census count remains low due to following guidelines and recommendations from the Oregon State Sheriff's Association (OSSA), Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and Oregon Health Authority (OHA).

Jails and prisons are considered congregate living and as such they have their own unique set of guidelines that must be followed. Guidelines that offer direction for cleaning, sanitizing, laundry

Using the transient lodging

tax (TLT) to benefit the com-

munity has been the primary

goal of the county commis-

sioners since the TLT was

first collected in 2014. One

plished is through a tourism

facilities grant process. From

2015 through 2022, nearly \$4

million has been distributed through grants to help with

local projects. In this year's

from throughout Tillamook

County were approved

the following projects:

\$890,048.

Griffin Park

for tourism-related facili-

ties grant awards, totaling

TLT funds will support

City of Bay City for a

hiker/biker campground at Al

• City of Tillamook for

· Hoffman Center for the

Oceanside Community

Oregon Department of

lighting of gateway signs

Arts for an expansion plan

Club for a roof replacement

Aviation for repairs at the

Pacific City Airport

grant round, 16 organizations

of the ways that is accom-

service, meal preparation, and most importantly, quarantine. Until recently the CDC was recommending the full 14-day quarantine for all intakes regardless of symptoms, known exposure, or test result.

In a very best-case scenario, our facility has 8 to 10 cells available for quarantine. Just as part of normal dayto-day operations, we must separate our female population and male population and maintain cell space for unique situations such as disciplinary segregation, self-isolation, or medical isolation. These factors all reduce the number of cells available to use for quarantine.

That 14-day quarantine has now been reduced to 10 days and in the coming days, will be reduced to 5 days with no quarantine for some asymptomatic individuals that meet specific criteria. The Tillamook County Jail was never built to be a facility that could easily quarantine r for multiple days.

Additionally, like with many businesses, we are also approaching critical staffing numbers. Although we're actively recruiting new corrections deputies, our low staffing level puts a strain on our ability to safely manage a high number of adults in

Because of this, we were forced to narrow down the criminal charges we would be able to house people for focusing on the more serious and person-to-person crimes. We have been able to make

exceptions in certain situations when the need for public safety was overwhelming.

The reason why I and most all Oregon Sheriffs are still honoring the quarantine guidelines is to protect our staff and adults in custody health and to reduce the possibility of costly lawsuits. Our actions throughout this pandemic have been successful. Unlike several other correctional facilities, I am proud to say that we have not had a single inmate test positive for COVID in our jail and have avoided an outbreak so far. It is our goal to continue this.

Although it can be frustrating to the public when it appears that criminals are simply being cited and released after committing crimes, I can assure you it is even more frustrating for law enforcement officers. However, we must remember that pre-trial custody is only a small piece of the entire judicial process, and that except in ca very serious crimes, all suspects must be offered a bail

option per Oregon law.

Even if a person is not immediately brought to jail, or bails out, they are still held accountable as the judicial process continues with charges, indictments, hearings and trials. I hope this helps explain some of what we are dealing with, as well as answers some of your questions. I will continue to update as the situation evolves.

-Sheriff Joshua Brown

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Tillamook County HHW 1315 Ekloff Rd (503) 815-3975

on this date: Saturday, May 7, 2022 https://www.co.tillamook.or.us/solid-waste

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^a Pine Grove Community House for Phase II construc-

supports Tillamook County projects

Close to \$900K in TLT funds

tion improvements Port of Garibaldi for restroom renovations

• Rockaway Beach Chamber of Commerce for decking on the visitor center caboose

• Shorepine Village HOA

for repairs on the public beach dune ramp Sitka Center for Art and Ecology for electric and wall

 South Tillamook County **Emergency Volunteer Corps** supply shed project

 Tillamook Chamber of Commerce for development of a public meeting and workspace

• Tillamook County Pioneer Museum to create a host

site at Kilchis Point Reserve • Tillamook County Transportation District to remodel

the downtown Transit Center Tillamook Estuaries

Partnership for a design of the **Estuary Exploration Center** Tillamook School Dis-

trict for a parking lot at the Port of Tillamook Bay for the new Disc Golf course "Visitors invest in our

county by spending their

vacation dollars at our

hotels, house rentals and campgrounds, and paying the lodging tax," said Nan Devlin, executive director of Tillamook Coast Visitors Association (TCVA). "The county reinvests those dollars into projects that benefit our local communities. Tillamook County has been a state leader in reinvestment programs since the TLT was implemented."

TCVA managed the tourism facilities grant process this year, working with the Tourism Advisory Council (TAC), a group of community volunteers from throughout the county who are charged with reviewing and scoring applications. Their recommendations were presented to the Tillamook Board of County Commissioners for approval on April 13 at the weekly commissioners

Questions about the grant can be directed to Amy Blackburn, TCVA Deputy Director and Grants Administrator at amy@tillamookcoast.com

Local News

Tax-Aide program helps lots of people in our county

Garibaldi

I am writing today for three reasons. First, to share the impact of the Tax-Aide program on the community the numbers of folks we have helped along with statistics on program results. Secondly, to encourage volunteer participation; we cannot serve without preparers - volunteers who we train and certify. And, finally, to commend our wonderful community resource, the Tillamook County Library, who has continued to partner with this program in so many ways.

Tax-Aide is one of several service programs under the AARP Foundation, operating in conjunction with the Internal Revenue Service. It is a nation-wide volunteer driven program that provides free

tax preparation services to individuals and families.

This service has been available in Tillamook now for seven years. The first year we filed 35 returns for community residents. The second year it was 75. In year three we had three more volunteers and we completed and transmitted 125 returns for individuals and families. We continued to grow each year, even throughout the pandemic, bringing this service to our community.

This year, our seventh, we prepared and transmitted 231 returns. Refunds generated totaled over \$220,000, with an average refund of \$958. We served 153 individuals and 78 families, and obtained child tax and additional child tax credits, earned income credits and education credits for those who qualified for them. We

helped our clientele understand how to save tax dollars on their Oregon returns. These folks are our friends and neighbors and we are happy to help.

We have created a very

congenial, collegial team of volunteers, with diverse backgrounds, who train together and put this program on each year. As with any volunteer program, the numbers of volunteers ebb and flow, so we are always open to adding new volunteers. To reach more of the community we need to add two more volunteers for the next tax season. We start training in November, preparers become certified through a testing process in January and begin tax season in February. Greeters have less training requirements. It does

require the ability to use a computer, study from on-line and hard copy resources, and have a desire to help others. Go on-line to AARP.org to register to volunteer and to find additional details about the program.

Come join our group of dedicated volunteers and see how much fun you can have preparing taxes! We need greeters for the next tax season, as well as preparers.

Now, I come to the best part, at least for me. Imagine trying to start a volunteer program like this, with no budget. First you have to find a space. A free space. Not just any space, but one that has the internet. A secured internet. Not just that, but with room for privacy for all the tax preparers and clients. Sight and sound.

Imagine my surprise when I walked into the Library's main desk and asked "do vou have any spaces that I might use for the Tax-Aide program?" The answer was "yes, you can sign up here with your Library card." Welcoming, smiling, happy to help out. I will never forget that moment.

The Tillamook County Library has community room spaces available based on your Library Card! And they provide internet, tables, chairs; a private space, with ample room for this programs volunteers to provide the service. And they take our appointments! They help us provide this service that has helped so many in our community!

What a blessing the

Library has been for this program and for so many others. Library staff have helped us in so many ways, not just in taking the appointments, but with our computers and a bit of technical internet assistance. They "partnered" with us around year 3 with some advertising and occasionally the loan of paper for the printer. And they continued to provide assistance during the pandemic while they were closed to the public. It's the Library – the Library staff - that have made this all happen.

My thanks go to the Tillamook County Library for their assistance in providing this program.

So, of course, I'm voting for the Library levy and hope you do, too.

TPUD approves resolution to acquire easements and properties however necessary

Ashley Tike Staff Writer

On April 19th the Tillamook People's Utility District (TPUD) approved a resolution to acquire easements and properties to move forward with their Tillamook to Oceanside Transmission Line Project and the substation property in a vote 4 to 1. Board member David Burt representing subdivision #2 voted no.

This approval authorizes TPUD staff to continue collaborating with property owners to secure easements along the Tillamook to Oceanside transmission line route.

The meeting was held at Tillamook Bay Community College, instead of at the TPUD meeting room, as a large crowd was expected. More than 130 fired-up and passionate people were in attendance, the room was full and people were spilling out into the hallway.

The meeting started with public comments; Kurt Mizee a 4th generation Tillamook County dairyman and Netarts / Oceanside homeowner spoke, "The proposed line would cut right through my family's land, I have a duty to speak up on behalf of my family and as someone who has been involved and following this process for the past 10

Mizee went on to say that what they are proposing is

Permits

simply overkill, adding that building the transmission line to fix the electrical problems in Oceanside is like using a semi-truck for a job when a wheelbarrow would work just fine

"If I didn't speak up about this and there was a forest fire caused by this line or if there was damage caused to farmers property I would feel bad that I didn't say anything," said Mizee.

Don Aufdermauer is another landowner affected by the transmission line.

"I thought the TPUD board represented the people; look around this is a room full of people upset about this," he said "No one wants this route; 70% of the problems out there are from vehicles, trees and wind if you'd move some trees, fix the poles, fix the line the way it is we'd be able to get this taken care of in a much less expensive way."

Among the minority of people in attendance there to support the proposed transition line was Jerry Keene of the Oceanside Neighborhood Association. Keene said,

'We completely understand the frustration and anger of the Tillamook county residents whose lives will be affected by the new transmission line; and would remind the people that we have endured 20 years of anger and frustration resulting from what the PUD admits is the county's least reliable electric

Every time the lights flicker in our homes because of a storm or someone drives into a power pole, we are the ones who look at each other and wonder if that flicker means we are about to spend the evening or night hours with candles and blankets while the PUD's incredible repair team braves the weather to restore our heat and lights.

The TPUD said in a statement, "It is the responsibility of Tillamook PUD to deliver safe and reliable electricity to all of our customers. This is achieved through continual system maintenance, infrastructure improvements, designing for resiliency, and planning for future growth in our community.

The Tillamook to Oceanside transmission line and substation project is necessary for Tillamook PUD to continue to fulfill our responsibility to our customers and community.

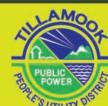
The scope of this project work has been identified as the most effective approach to resolving three significant issues within our system which include meeting system capacity demands, improving reliability to the customers served in Whiskey Creek, Netarts, and Oceanside, and solving operations and maintenance issues in this area."

Comments: headlightreporter@countrymedia.net

MAY IS NATIONAL

ELECTRICAL SAFETY MONTH





Stop by the Tillamook PUD office every Wednesday during the month of May from 3 to 5 p.m. to check out one of our electrical safety board demonstrations. While you are there, get double entries in our Electrical Safety Month Giveaway Basket drawing!



TILLAMOOK PUD

P.O. Box 433 1115 Pacific Ave. Tillamook, OR 97141 503-842-2535 • www.tpud.org



Vote YES on May 17 to support a \$14.4 million bond measure for Tillamook Bay Community College. These funds will provide a new education building and training for students in nursing and other healthcare careers for jobs right here in Tillamook County.

permits is possibly a result

Continued from Page 1

of the Lincoln County short term rental regulation ballot measure 21-203."

Absher said, "The department of community development is asking the Tillamook BOCC for a pause, starting in June or July, of the issuance of short-term vacation rental permits; we recognize action

by the board could have consequences, but essentially this is just pumping the breaks, allowing real estate transactions to continue and finish and we wouldn't issue more permits until the short-term rental

committee work is finished." In addition, Absher recommended that the methodology be the same for how the county moves forward with issuing new permits but the percentage cap for each community be different to ensure each different community is met with their specific needs.

Commissioner Yamamoto said, "It's a lot to think about, this becomes very complex

and very serious discussion." The BOCC agreed that some conversation moving forward in regards to shortterm rental regulation should be held in a meeting where public comment is allowed and taken into consideration before potentially pausing or applying caps on permits for these beach communities.

Comments: headlightreporter@countrymedia.net

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Opinion / Letters

We're supporting Bell for Commissioner

I am writing to urge voters to join us in voting to reelect our Tillamook County Commissioner Mary Faith Bell. Mary Faith is intelligent, respectful, honest and a gifted problem solver. The role of County Commissioner is all about relationships and Mary Faith has the skills and character to work with diverse groups to find creative solutions to the challenges we face in Tillamook County. She has support from individuals in all walks of life throughout the county. Mary Faith has a long list of the qualities needed to bring those of competing views to the table to find common ground. In the last four years, she has proven herself an exceptional leader. Her work ethic and broad knowledge base are unsurpassed. But the single most important

quality she brings to the table

is her ability to listen. If you have ever had the pleasure of spending time with her, you will see she has the ability to truly listen to others. In today's world this is a quality that is often in short supply. Tillamook County is very fortunate to have Mary Faith as our County Commissioner. Please join us in reelecting Mary Faith Bell.

> Norm and Frances Hartwell Rockaway Beach

Public Access to Information!

My personal history with the Tillamook County Library began in 1978. We learned the bookmobile would stop at our dairy farm every other week for 20 minutes. It was an amazing resource for a somewhat isolating lifestyle. The bookmobile librarian provided everything the county

system had at that time. In the

mid 1990s I was offered the opportunity to serve as Branch Lead Librarian in Manzanita. For many years I was part of and witness to the amazing breadth of service our system offers. The programs and offerings have grown as technology and our society has changed. As always, the books, plus the amazing volunteer Friends groups who make the branches possible, Story Hour, Computer access, internet, public meeting rooms, social interactions, offering help to all who walk through the door.

The Tillamook County Library System is an extremely positive and valuable community resource. Please vote YES to allow our library system to continue providing public access to information and so much more.

> Charlotte Forster Nehalem

See Letters, Page 4

- · Flexible and accessible education opportunities for local students
- · Offers healthcare career pathways with
- increased income earning potential · Living and learning locally creates affordable

pathways to brighter futures

STRONGER COMMUNITIES

- ·\$8M in state funding match, which must be matched within five years
- · Supports local economic growth and stability
- · Ensures local access to quality healthcare · Enhanced community meeting space

VOTE YES ON MEASURE 29-165 FOR LOCAL EDUCATION & TRAINING!

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Obituary

Weston Johnson

Sept. 15, 1940 - March 23, 2022





Weston (Tony) Johnson II was a good man, a kind, generous and thoughtful man who cared deeply for his family and friends, his country and his community.

He left us on March 23, 2022, at the age of 81.

Weston MacLeod Johnson II, known since childhood as Tony, was born in San Francisco on September 15, 1940 to Weston MacLeod Johnson and Doris Corum Johnson. His father was a civil engineer in the US Navy, and his mother was a homemaker.

His early life followed the course of his father's postings across the country, and he attended schools in San

North Coast

Serving North Tillamook County since 1996

Publisher Joe Warren

Reporter

email headlightreporter@countrymedia.net Sales Katherine Mace, email headlightads@countrymedia.net Ad Production Stephania Baumgart

PHONE 503-842-7535 • **FAX** 503-842-8842

EMAIL editor@northcoastcitizen.com

WEBSITE northcoastcitizen.com

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LETTER POLICY

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

Deadline for letters is noon Thursdays.

The date of publication will depend on space.

Obituaries

The North Coast Citizen has several options for submitting obituaries.

- · Basic Obituary: Includes the person's name, age, town of residency, and information about any funeral services. No cost.
- Custom Obituary: You choose the length and wording of the announcement. The cost is \$75 for the first 200 words, \$50 for each additional 200 words. Includes a small photo at no additional cost.
- Premium Obituary: Often used by families who wish to include multiple photos with a longer announcement, or who wish to run a thank-you. Cost varies based on the length of the announcement.
- Obituaries need to be submitted by Friday at 5 p.m. the

week prior to publication.

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

Francisco, Lake Oswego, Seattle, San Diego, Honolulu (Punahou), and Charleston, SC. He graduated from high school in Long Beach, CA, and then from the University of Oregon in 1963. Certainly it was his father's influence that steered Tony into his own 30-year history with the US Navy, first through two tours aboard the USS Rowan (DD-782) in Vietnam and then through 26 years of reserve service with two command tours, including one aboard the USS Rogers (DD-876) based in Portland. He retired as a Captain in 1994.

He carried the discipline and the commitment of those days throughout his life. Tony knew that there was a right way to treat people, and it centered on kindness, respect, generosity, and in always trying to do the right thing

Definitely it was that belief as well as his paternal grandparents' missionary hearts that led him into volunteer work throughout his professional life. During his 33-year career with US Bank, he found his

service during the day as a lender and advisor to small businesses. Outside the office, he focused on his family and his volunteer work. Especially close to his heart was Outside In, an organization in Portland that helps homeless youth find a path towards health and independence. He served for more than 20

years as a mentor and Board member. Tony kept a steady bearing on what was right and what was wrong. He did the right thing in 1988 when he helped an off-duty police officer to detain an assailant on a Portland light rail train. He did the right thing in 1961 when he drove straight to the Eugene police station in a truck that he had 'borrowed' from a remote logging road when he was the subject of a University of Oregon fraternity prank.

And, he did the right thing for many summers when he signed summer camp medical forms as "Dr. Johnson" for more than a few forgetful parents (and upset children). He definitely did the right thing

in 1963 when he proposed to Sarah E. Avery, the woman he had fallen for at the University of Oregon.

They were married a year later in San Diego, and began their 57-year journey together. Tony and Sarah raised their two sons, Chris and Michael, in Lake Oswego and then later relocated to SW Portland for another two decades.

During these years, they renovated the family home at Neakahnie Beach, which became their year-round home in 2016.

They loved the winter storms, the long summers and the friendships that flourish among those who share a commitment to and a respect for life in a rural community. Tony involved himself in the nearby village of Manzanita, where he appropriately found a niche with the North Tillamook County Library Friends, the organization that owns and maintains the community-financed library.

He served as Treasurer of the Board more than once, spare hand for the annual

book sale, advisor on flag protocol and all-around helper and listener. Tony cherished the people and landscape of the north coast and especially his home at Neahkahnie Beach.

He loved filling it with the work of Northwest artists, good food and warm conversation. There was nothing better than sitting at the table during a long meal with family and friends, watching the sun near the horizon.

He is survived by his wife Sarah, sons Chris of Medford and Michael of Portland, and his beloved Scottish Terrier Willy. The family suggests that his friends remember him with a few glasses of wine and perhaps a donation to the North Coast Land Conservancy or the Lower Nehalem Community Trust; two organizations dedicated to preserving the region that he loved so much.

A service is planned for May 21 at 1 p.m. at St. Catherine's of Alexandria Episcopal Church in Nhalem.

Celebrating 50-year Anniversary

Dayle and Juanita Gardner May 7, 1972 - May 7, 2022

ayle and Juanita (Doty) Gardner of Tillamook are celebrating their 50th Wedding Anniversary. The couple was married on May 7, 1972. Dayle was a meat cutter

until his retirement.

Juanita was mostly able to stay home and raise their five children: Sons; Adrian Gardner of Tehachapi, Calif. and Chadrick Gardner of Colorado. Daughters; Coral Villarreals, Milwaukie OR, Clover Casey, Gaston OR, Chelsie Gallagher, Cedar City, Utah. Doyle and Juanita have

11 beautiful Grand Children: Shana Capri Gardner, Inara Villarreals from Coral Villarreals, Savanna Gonzales, Denim Gonzales, Kara Casey from Clover Casey, Cyrus Gallagher, Alexander Gallagher from Chelsie Gallagher, Hannah Gardner and Elijah Gardner from Adrian Gardner, Sawyer Gardner and Lily Gardner from Chadrick Gardner.

Family and friends may join them for an anniversary celebration at 1:30 p.m. Sat. may 7, at Bay City Community Hall.



Letters and Columns

Look at Bell and Hallock's record when deciding who should be our commissioner seat 3

While national elections often receive the most attention, local officials have more impact on our daily lives it's important to pay close attention to local races. I am impressed with County Com-



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Church Services by the Sea Cannon Beach to Nebalem



Manzanita

candidates, so I went to learn more about Graydon Hallock. passing in a no-passing zone. While Mr. Hallock's concerns about affordable housing are admirable, his support of the badly written ballot measure preventing enforcement of gun laws is not. I share his desire for cost-effective spending, but he offers no specifics. He also objects to

public health measures. It's Mr. Hallock's criminal record that concerns me most. At a recent forum, Mr. Hallock acknowledged a plea deal eight years ago. There's more to the story. Publicly available information turned up a troubling list of interactions with the courts. He has two convictions, including for harassment in 2011 and two counts of recklessly endangering a

missioner Mary Faith Bell's

performance, and I believe she

deserves re-election. However,

it's important to look at all the

person in 2015 (Tillamook Headlight Herald: https:// tinyurl.com/2p8fanyw). He has been subject to restraining orders and required to complete domestic violence and nurturing parent classes.

Documents show that he was charged with, but not convicted of, other crimes in connection with the 2011 and 2015 incidents, including assault, harassment, and failure to perform the duties of a driver. He was also charged, but not convicted, of menacing and harassment in 2018. Taken together, these incidents form a troubling pattern. I wonder about his abilities to communicate and compromise, both important when dealing with the public and the complex issues facing our county.

Most recently, Mr. Hallock was cited in January and convicted in March 2022 in Umatilla County for passing in a no-passing zone. According to the complaint, he passed the complainant on a corner marked no passing while driving a double-trailer commercial truck. While it is understandable that a truck

driver might get a speeding

ticket here and there, this is a troubling information for anyone who drives our local nighways and regularly reads of fatal accidents caused by

Many of us have committed a "youthful indiscretion" or two, and it's hard to know what goes on in people's personal relationships. However, Mr. Hallock not has demonstrated the level-headedness and maturity that we expect from our county commissioners. I believe in redemption though, and I think Mr. Hallock is sincere. I encourage him to try again in a few years.

Fortunately, it is easy to endorse Ms. Bell for a second term. She has proved herself a quick study, a good listener, and a hard worker willing to engage in learning about and managing the many departments and agencies that make up Tillamook County government. She exudes a quiet competence, is humble, and displays a sincere empathy for her constituents. Please join me in voting to re-elect Ms.

> Jenny Greenleaf Manzanita

The Ol' Bait and Switch

Imagine the scene: You're at the Fair. It's the first big event you've been to in over a year. Maybe you're holding the hand of someone you care about. Maybe you got the elephant ear that you'd been craving. You're happy and doing something normal feels good. Then someone shouts out "Hey, do you want to sign a petition to protect the Second Amendment?"

It's an obvious yes for a lot of people. Maybe even me. But then I would ask what were they doing with the petition. I'm always wary of the ol' bait and switch.

Good people take things at face value and sometimes not-

See **LETTERS**, Next Page 5

Nehalem Nehalem Bay United Methodist Church

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nehalembayumc@gmail.com The Reverend Steve Wolff Worship Service: Sunday 11:00

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Tillamook Family Counseling Center is seeking to hire:

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UA COLLECTION SPECIALIST: [Part-Time Benefitted] To collect urine and saliva drug screens from individuals involved in substance abuse treatment services, and other individuals referred by community partners as requested, processes the lab forms and results, and packages the specimens for mailing to the lab. Requires HS Diploma/GED plus QMHA/PSS/CAN/CHW current or

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Public Notice

NOTICE OF BUDGET COMMIT-TEE MEETING:

A public meeting of the Budget Committee of the City of Nehalem, Tillamook County, State of Oregon, to discuss the budget for the fiscal year July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023, will be held at Nehalem City Hall at 35900 8th Street, Nehalem, Oregon, and online through Zoom. The meeting will take place on May 24, 2022 at To access the meeting on Zoom:

Join online: https://us02web.zoom.

us/j/81563277181, or Call Toll-Free: (888) 788-0099, Meeting ID: 815 6327 7181.

The purpose of the meeting is to receive the budget message and to receive comment from the public on the budget. This is a public meeting where deliberation of the Budget Committee will take place. Any person may appear at the meeting and discuss the proposed programs with the Budget Committee. A copy of the budget document may be inspected or obtained on or after May 17, 2022 online at nehalem. gov/budget or at City Hall between the

hours of 10:00 a.m. and 12:00 p.m.; and 1:00 p.m. and 4:00 p.m. Contact us to request a paper copy of the budget or to submit questions or comments in advance. Subsequent meetings of the Budget Committee may be held if necessary.

If you need accommodations for disabilities to access the meeting, please contact us at least 48 hours prior to the meeting. Contact: Melissa Thompson-Kiefer,

Phone: (503) 368-5627, Email: mthompson@nehalem.gov



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Letters

Continued from Page 3

so-good people take advantage of that. I can believe that folks

signed the petition to get Measure 29-161 on the ballot based on a false promise that it protects the Second Amendment. It doesn't and there is every chance that signers weren't given the opportunity to read the ordinance before

If they had they would see that it had no power to affect the Second Amendment and that the real question should've been "Hey, do you want to sign a petition that limits local law enforcement on basically all firearm regulations?"

That question is not as

obvious of a yes. They wanted the signatures so they didn't ask that wav.

With transparency Measure 29-161 would've never made it on the ballot.

It's up to voters to right this wrong. Vote NO! on the false promises of Measure 29-161.

> Yevette Clark Nehalem

Thank you for the news!

There is such great need for support in Ukraine, and children are uniquely impacted by the war there. The sunflower is the national flower of Ukraine, and Mindy Claflin of Nehalem was inspired to start a group fundraiser. At the Home and Garden show this weekend the booth "Sunflowers for Ukraine" will offer more then 5 types of sunflower

seedlings at \$2 each. The seedlings include the American Giant Hybrid, which can grow to 14-16 feet high, as well as smaller types such as Dwarf Teddy Bear and Dwarf Sunspot, which are container varieties. A 3-dimensional sunflower wall quilt. created and donated by Michelle Vinciguerra of Neahkahnie will be offered as a silent auction. The quilt is valued at \$750. Bids start at \$300, with increments of \$25. The booth will also feature T-shirts, stickers, buttons, bracelets and other small items. All proceeds from the booth will go directly to the Ukraine campaign of the nonprofit Save the Children. The team ID# is TRT-4128, "Sunflowers for Ukraine." With that ID on the memo line, checks can also be sent directly to Save the Children, PO Box 97132, Washington DC 20090. This

is a highly rated charity which has been operating in Ukraine since 2014. Donations support survivors of this crisis, protecting children from harm and helping families rebuild their lives. Photo shows 1 to r Terri Maragos, Jann Claflin and Mindy Claflin.

Terri Maragos

I support the Library

The North Tillamook Library in Manzanita is one of the beauties of the area that first attracted us to Manzanita. Years later when I retired, I made my first volunteer commitment to the library. Libraries are the heart and soul of communities and are reflective of the community they serve.

Our Library serves the three villages and the surrounding rural area in north County. It makes available books, movies, free wifi, computer and printer access, assistance in finding resources, the next great read and the use of free community space and programs. With your free library card, you have access to digital books, movies, magazines, out reach programs and the Bookmobile. It continued to safely provide these services during COVID restrictions.

The library system in Tillamook County receives 95% of its operating support from a 5-year levy which expires June 2022. Measure 29-164, on the May Ballot, will renew the operating levy for another 5 years. The current rate of 65 cents per \$1,000 assessed value will be the same for the next 5 years. The libraries are a widely recognized asset by

mean the loss of libraries and

Failure of the levy will

the people who live here.

the programs they provide. Programs such as literacy for preschoolers, summer reading activities designed to sustain readers between school years and online homework and tutoring services. The bookmobile brings books to residents of nursing homes and rural families. Libraries provide resources for job-seekers including access to computers, assistance and instruction for seeking employment.

I urge you to join me in voting Yes for Libraries by voting yes for Measure 29-164, keep open our library in Manzanita, as well as those in Rockaway Beach, Garibaldi, Bay City, Pacific City and Tillamook. Thank you.

> Madeline Olson Manzanita

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Mental Health Awareness Month: Building connections

Janeane Krongos Tillamook Family Counseling Center

Each year, people across the nation recognize the month of May as Mental Health Awareness Month. This month-long health observance is a great time for community members to focus on mental health. A few ways community members can observe Mental Health Awareness Month are by learning about mental health topics, identifying local mental health resources, supporting local prevention and treatment efforts, and highlighting behaviors that may help to keep yourself mentally healthy.

Connections can help a person stay mentally healthy. These connections have benefits including increased self-esteem, increased happiness, reduced anxiety, increased empathy, improved relationships, and a greater life purpose. Connections can take place both internally within yourself and externally by interacting with those around you. Three types of connections that are important

are connections to yourself, connection with friends and family, and connections to local resources.

Connect with Yourself: Self-care is the act of taking intentional steps to provide yourself with care. Self-care is accessible to anyone, can cost as much or as little as you would like, and does not have to be time consuming. Health screenings, health checkups, eating a balanced diet, staying hydrated, getting quality sleep, grooming, exercising, writing in a journal, breathing exercises, meditation, time management, spending time in nature, and practicing mindfulness are all forms of self-care that you may consider.

Connect with Friends and Family: Connecting with friends and family is a great way to get emotional support, learn from others' experiences, and to have fun. Community members can maintain their current relationships by keeping in touch, whether that's by sending a text or email, setting up a video conference meeting, making



a phone call, sending a direct message on social media, or

meeting up to spend time together. Community members can develop new connections to expand their social circle by volunteering, attending a class or training, joining a club, going to a community event, going to a health center, joining a committee at work, or by joining one of the Tillamook County Wellness walking groups.

Connect to local resources: Four resources to consider are the Tillamook County Wellness's This Way to Well-Being, Tillamook County Wellness's website, 2022 Best of Health and Wellness Guide, and prevention programs presented by the Tillamook Family Counseling Center.

• This Way to Well-Being: Tillamook County Wellness's "This Way to Well-Being" map activity is an activity for both individuals and families. The points of interest on this map are health-focused and divided into categories that represent different aspects of well-being, including activities centered on connecting with yourself and others. These include attending a training, getting an annual check-up, checking in on a loved one, starting a daily

Molly Sappington

gratitude routine, volunteering, and attending a community event. To view the map and learn about how you can win a prize for participating in one of these activities, visit www.tillamookcountywellness.org.

• Tillamook County Wellness Website: The Tillamook County Wellness (TCW) website is reliable place to get health and wellness information. The website features blogs, a community calendar, and information about local resources. Community members can find resources in the connect-well section of the website. This section includes resources for mental health services, chronic disease management, child development, childcare, community education, financial assistance, access to food, and so much more. The TCW website address is www.tillamook-

• The 2022 Best of Health and Wellness Guide: This guide has a health and wellness directory, short bios of select local health providers, articles, and other resources. The guide can be downloaded at www.tillamookheadlightherald.com.

countywellness.org.

• Tillamook Family Counseling Prevention Programs: Throughout the year, the Tillamook Family Counsel-

ing Center offers a variety of programs including underage substance use prevention, problem gambling prevention, suicide prevention, and parent supports. Two programs that will be offered in May are "Introduction to Underage Substance Use and Gambling Prevention" and Question, Persuade, and Refer Gatekeeper training (suicide prevention training). The "Introduction to Underage Substance Use and Gambling Prevention" presentation will be offered virtually May 9th from 10:00-11:00AM. The Question, Persuade, and Refer Gatekeeper training will be offered virtually May 11th from 10:00-11:30AM. For more information about these trainings email janeanek@

To stay up to date on the latest wellness news be sure to sign up for the TCW newsletter and follow TCW on Facebook and Instagram.

tfcc.org.

Other wellness questions? Email us at info@tillamookcountywellness.org. For more local health and wellness information, visit www. tillamookcountywellness.org or follow Tillamook County Wellness on Facebook and Instagram.

in the refrigerator up to 2

• Mix the dry ingre-

dients ahead of time and

• No eggs? Replace

them with 2 Tablespoons

Whole wheat – use

whole wheat pastry flour

or replace about half the

all-purpose flour with

or milk if batter is too

whole wheat flour. Add

1-2 Tablespoons of water

half the flour with rolled

oats. Soak the rolled oats

in the milk for 5 minutes

before mixing the batter.

sugar, replace up to half

the flour with cornmeal

Buttermilk - replace

the milk with buttermilk;

reduce the baking powder

to 2 teaspoons and add ½

Apple – Add ½ cup

apple shredded or cut into

small pieces to the liquid

Berry – Try blueber-

ries, raspberries, blackber-

ries or a mix. After batter

is poured on the skillet or

griddle, sprinkle the tops

with berries, before turn-

No need to thaw frozen

canned pumpkin.

ing to cook the other side.

Pumpkin - Add 1/2 cup

Zucchini - Try 1/2 cup

grated, squeezed, zucchini.

teaspoon baking soda.

and add 1/2-1 cup of

cooked corn.

ingredients.

berries.

Corn Cakes - Omit the

Oatmeal - replace about

• Replace the milk with

store in a sealed container.

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Measure 29-164

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Georgeanne Zedrick

H20226

Favorite Pancakes

Prep Time: 10 minutes Cook Time: 5 minutes

Ingredients

- 1 ¼ cups all-purpose

powder

- 1 Tablespoon sugar - ¼ teaspoon salt

- ¼ teaspoon spice such

as cinnamon, nutmeg, or

milk (add 2 Tablespoons

1 teaspoon vanilla

(optional)

soap and water.

2. Mix together flour, baking powder, sugar and salt in a medium bowl.

beat egg until well blended. Add milk and oil. Add the vanilla, if desired.

4. Add liquids to dry ingredients and stir just until lumps disappear.

skillet or griddle with non-stick cooking spray or lightly wipe with oil. Heat skillet or griddle over medium-high heat (350 degrees F in an electric skillet). The skillet is hot enough when a few drops of water sprinkled on it skitter and bounce around.

6. Pour about ¼ cup of batter per pancake onto the hot skillet or griddle. Cook until bubbles come to the surface of the pancake and the edges start to look dry. Turn over. Cook until cooked through and the

bottom is golden brown. 7. Refrigerate leftover pancakes and enjoy them

Combine wet ingredients ahead of time. Store

days.

buttermilk.

thick.

Variations:

1 Tablespoon baking

pumpkin spice (optional)

- 1 egg - 1 cup non-fat or 1%

for thinner pancakes) 2 Tablespoons vege-

table oil

Directions 1. Wash hands with

Add the spice, if desired. 3. In a separate bowl,

5. Lightly spray a large

reheated for up to 2 days.

Waffles - This batter also works great in waffle makers!

Recipe Source: https:// www.foodhero.org/recipes/ favorite-pancakes-eggs

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