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VSGuard

March 14, 2023

Lincoln City's Largest and Most Trusted News Source Since 1927

Sign of the times Wayfinding monuments on the horizon

JEREMY C. RUARK Country Media, Inc.

> incoln City 's infamous octopus branding image is about to go sky-high. New city entrance signs, called wayfinding monuments, are in the works to update the city's image and help to get people from here to there.

> > Project start, stop, on again

The Lincoln City entry monuments are part of a Lincoln City wayfinding system that was designed prior to the pandemic, according to Explore Lincoln City Director Ed Dreistadt. "Fabrication and installation were postponed like a great number of other projects," Dreistadt said. "We are just now getting back to taking the comprehensive wayfinding system that was designed in '19 and putting it into place. The first three

projects will be the new City Hall sign, which is currently being fabricated, followed by the north

and south entry monuments." Through a 2019 competitive bid process, the city of Lincoln City selected Colorado-based, Avia, to design the wayfinding monuments. The project was put on hold, then restarted in 2021

\$1.50

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"The wayfinding system, with the entry monuments being a key element, will place the Lincoln City brand along the entire length of the City," Dreistadt said. "Currently, anyone coming in from the north doesn't know they've entered Lincoln City. Even those that do think that they have left and are coming up to the next town when they go through the Nelscott Gap. With consistent colors, graphics and typeface, the wayfinding system will give visitors (as well as residents) a sense of place that goes from one end of town to the other."

Location, location, location

Lincoln City Public Works Director Stephanie Reid negotiated for locations within the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) right of way near Streetcar Village on the south and just past the Chinook Winds Golf Resort, near the City line on the north. The locations were chosen from an ODOT safety standpoint combined

with a long reading distance leading up to the signs, according to Dreistadt. The City allocated \$150,000

for the entry monuments during the '21-'22 budget sessions, using money from the Explore Lincoln City contingency budget.

See SIGNS, Page 9

Courtesy from the City of Lincoln City

Safety improvement project at 3rd Street and Highway 101

WELCOME TO

JEREMY C. RUARK Country Media, Inc.

cling safety on Highway Taxes.

Stephanie Reid: Im- street capital fund which is proving pedestrian and cy- largely from Transient Room



Work to improve pedestrian safety has begun at SW 3rd Street and Highway 101 in Lincoln City.

The project will add a rectangular rapid flashing beacon at the existing crossing.

This project will additionally convert the section of SW 3rd Street, from SW Ebb to Highway 101, to a pedestrian only plaza. This section of roadway will be replaced with concrete and closed to vehicle traffic.

The News Guard reached out to Lincoln City Public Works Director Stephanie Reid to find out more about this project.

The News Guard: Why is this intersection getting this crossing signal?

101 through town was the highest priority identified in the City's 2015 Transportation System Plan. A pedestrian crossing Highway 101 at South 3rd Street requires navigating five lanes of traffic and limited visibility for motorists

The News Guard: Do you have counts of any collisions between motorists and pedestrians? Any fatalities, at this intersection?

Reid: There aren't any fatalities or a history of collisions between motorists and pedestrians.

The News Guard: How much does this crossing signal cost and how is it funded?

Reid: The construction cost is \$480,000.00. The funding is from the City's

The News Guard: Specifically, what is being done to adjust the intersection for this crossing signal?

Reid: The extent of the project goes from SE 3rd Street and Highway 101 west to the City right of way on the bluff west of SW Ebb. The highway crossing will be relocated to the south with a rapid flashing beacon island in the center lane. SW 3rd Street to SW Ebb Avenue will be a pedestrian and bicycle only plaza. There will be a raised pedestrian crossing at SW Ebb and a plaza area constructed on the bluff to overlook the ocean.

Construction has begun so please remind motorists to be cautious in the construction zone

Jeremy C. Ruark / Country Media, Inc.

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Traffic was routed around the project along Highway 101 at SW 3rd Street during the construction.

The News Guard: When will this signal be in operation?

Reid: The project is scheduled to be completed June 1, 2023.

The News Guard: Are there and other intersections along Highway 101 in Lincoln City where other safety

measures are being conducted, if so why and what are the safety measures?

Reid: The City continues to work with the Oregon Department of Transportation to fund sidewalks and bike lanes and add crossings where possible and most needed

The News Guard has followed several Lincoln City Police pedestrian safety and traffic enforcement operations over the past several years at the 3rd Street and Highway 101 intersection. See those stories at thenewsguard.com.



I think ending of the public health emergency is more a signal that we will start to treat COVID like a routine illness, such as Influenza or RSV.

Dr. Katie Sharff, Kaiser Permanente Northwest Chief of Infectious Disease



Is Oregon's COVID pandemic over?

WILL LOHRE

Country Media, Inc.

Feb. 28, 2020, was the date of the first COVID diagnosis in Oregon

Three years later, we are still navigating the waters of the pandemic, but the storm has calmed considerably. After three years of uncertainty, lockdowns, masks, and immunizations, a return to normalcy seems within grasp.

To find out the state of the pandemic and where we go from here, The News Guard spoke with Kaiser Permanente Northwest Chief of Infectious Disease Dr. Katie Sharff.

"COVID is never really over. I mean, we're anticipating that this virus will be here, circulating for the next several years, decades; it just may not be at the forefront," Sharff said.

ing back

On Jan. 30, 2023, the Biden Administration announced its intent to end the national emergency and public health emergency declarations on May 11, 2023, related to the COVID-19 pandemic. This cessation of the state of emergency does not mean COVID will resolve itself completely, but it marks a new stage for dealing with the virus

"I think the ending of the public health emergency is more a signal that we will start to treat COVID like a routine illness, such as Influenza or RSV," Sharff said. "I think that what will happen is that this pandemic will transition to what we call the 'endemic phase,' which means that the infection will impact a stable number of individuals but not be causing substantial illness across the globe all at the

ratory virus that we manage along with all of the other respiratory viral infections that we're already currently managing.'

Oregon is seeing policy changes that also reflect the decreasing threat of COVID. On Mar. 3, the Oregon Health Authority announced that it would rescind the mandate that requires workers in healthcare settings to wear masks. The requirement had been in place since August 2021. In some ways, Dr. Sharff feels that these official changes reflect the sentiments of the public.

'I think the U.S. population has kind of declared COVID over just by our own behavior. We're focusing our attention on other risks. other things, and accepting a certain level of disease and risk within

See COVID, Page 9

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COAST MOMENT



Sunset at Siletz Bay. See more Coast Moments at www.thenewsguard.com.

Jeremy C. Ruark / Country Media, Inc.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

March 14 Library **Board Meeting**

The Lincoln County Library District Board meeting will be held at 12 p.m. via Zoom and at the District office, 132 NE 15th in Newport. The meeting will include discussion of director recruitment and the 2023-2025 budget calendar. The agenda and packet is available on the District website: www. lincolncolibrarydist.org For more information, including Zoom log-in information, contact MaryKay Dahlgreen at marykay.dahlgreen@ lincolncolibrarydist. org.

3:30 p.m. to 5 p.m. in the Lincoln City Council Chambers at City Hall, 801 SE Highway 101. The public is welcome to attend the meeting. The public may observe, but there is no public comment in this committee meeting. This committee reserves the right to add or delete items as needed, change the order of the agenda, and discuss any other business deemed necessary at the time of the meeting. See the agenda at, http:// lincolncityor.iqm2. com/citizens/calendar. aspx?view=calendar

County Sheriff Curtis Landers that will include a questions and answers session and sharing of information. 6 p.m.-8 p.m. at the Gleneden Beach Community Hall, 110 Azalea Street in Gleneden Beach. For more information, visit www.glenedenbeach. org.

April 20-22 Commu-

10:30 a.m. Mondays.

Tai Chi 9 a.m. Mondays and Wednesdays. No membership required. Donation to instructor suggested.

Chair Yoga 11:30 a.m. Mondays. No membership required. Donation to instructor

suggested.

On Going

Free Meal For Veterans

Homemade soup and sandwiches every third Wednesday from 12 p.m. to 2 p.m. at the Lincoln City B.P.O

Elks #1886 at 1350 SE Oar Avenue in Lincoln City.

If you have a community event coming up, send brief details with the date, time, location and contact phone/email to jruark@countrymedia. net.

March 15 Nelscott **Plan Meeting**

The Nelscott Plan Advisory Committee's third meeting from

March 21 Meet Your Sheriff

A free presentation by the Gleneden **Beach Community** Club featuring Lincoln

nity Days

Community Days is a celebration of Lincoln City. Read more in upcoming printed issues of The News Guard and online at thenewsquard.com.

Lincoln City Senior **Center Events**

Weekly walk on LCCC track. No charge or membership required.

Taylor & Taylor Hometown Realty Co. Dream Makers! Salmon River Lot High above Slick Road Creek, panoramic mountain view, flat building site, possible river view and well house on the road. MLS#22-1307 \$99,999 Blanchard



Commercial Lot Opportunity for live/work combo, two tax lots provide ample parking. Sold as land only and concept design available. MLS#23-84 \$299,000



New Construction Efficient engery star rated, brand new home, oversized private lot, beautiful flooring, lots of

windows, natural light, great yard space and large storage shed. MLS#22-1506 \$295,000



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POLICE BLOTTER

The police blotter relates to the public record of incidents as reported by law enforcement agencies.

Lincoln City Police February 12

11:08 a.m. A non-in jury traffic crash reported in the 4200 block of N Highway 101. Information was exchanged and a report taken.

6:48 p.m.

A traffic crash was reported in the 4700 block of SE Highway 10. One driver was cited for Driving While Suspended. Vehicle was impounded by South County Towing.

February 13

8:16 p.m.

A traffic crash was reported at NW Highway 101 and NW 21st Street. Driver as cited for Reckless Driving, Driving While Suspended, and No Insurance. Vehicle was impounded by Menefee Towing.

February 14

1:37 a.m.

Extra patrols conducted in the 6200 block of SW Jetty Avenue due to reports of unauthorized people inside. One person was taken into custody for Trespass 2 ID Theft, Forgery X 2 and PCS Meth. That subject was transported to jail, cited and released. Another subject warned for Trespass and left the property.

2:23 a.m.

Report of a front door kicked in and subject fled in the 2100 block of NW Highway 101. Couple of water pipes taken. Police took a report about the incident.

8:35 a.m.

Report of a death in the 2800 block of NE 46th Loop. Medical examiner and district attorney notified. Pacific View responded. Report taken.

9:16 a.m.

Report of a deceased subject in the 3000 block of NE West Devils Lake Road. Medical examiner and district attorney notified. Pacific View responded. A report 11:29 p.m. Criminal mischief reported in the 800 block of SW Highway 101. Unidentified subject reportedly defecated in the courtyard.

February 15

3:15 p.m. Caller reported a stolen vehicle from the 900 block of SE 32nd Street. Daughter suspected of taking the vehicle.

4:49 p.m.

Caller reporting he is following stolen vehicle with juvenile step daughter driving it. Vehicle eluded law enforcement, hitting another vehicle. Speeds up to 50 mph. Juvenile taken into custody and transported to Linn County detention center and charged with UUMV, Felony Elude, and reckless driving.

February 16

8:52 a.m. Extra patrols requested on the 1500 block of 40th Place. Caller reported there was a swastika drawn in the sand. Caller kicked sand over it and requested extra patrols in the area.

9:31 a.m.

Report of a non-injury traffic crash, blocking in the 400 block of NW Highway 101. One driver cited for Driving Uninsured and Improper Lane Change.

9:44 a.m.

Caller reported two large patches of graffiti on the sea wall stairs in the 21st Street Public Access Area. Report taken.

12:01 p.m. Caller reported vehicle break-in in the 100 block of SW Highway 101. Personal property missing.

12:53 p.m. Report of an injury crash at SW 32nd Street and SW Highway 101. One driver was cited and released for DUII an Reckless Driving.

Oregon State Police

February 13

Around 3:58 p.m. trooper was dispatched to a single vehicle crash at milepost 125 on Highway 101 at the entrance of North Fogarty Creek State Park. Unit #1, a car was negotiating a curve to leave the park when the driver lost control and crashed into a tree. No one was injured and the driver arranged to remove her vehicle.

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AW GROUP

Hiker dies after fall from cliff into ocean

STAFF REPORT *Country Media, Inc.*

On Saturday, March 4, 2023, at approximately 5 p.m. the Oregon State Police (OSP) responded to Cape Kiwanda State Natural Area to assist with the rescue of a male who was swept out into the ocean after falling from a rocky bluff.

OSP reported that 25-year-old Henry Minh Hoang, of West Covina, Calif., was hiking beyond a safety fence in an area known to locals as "the punch bowl" (not to be confused with Devil's Punch Bowl State Park) when he slipped and fell approximately 20-feet to the water's edge.

Then victim was reportedly knocked unconscious from the fall and was swept into the ocean by the waves. Witnesses lost sight of the victim and the rescue operation later transition into a likely recovery operation.

The recovery operation was suspended until Sunday morning, March 5, to allow



First responders at the scene of the search and recovery.

searchers to safely resume their efforts.

At approximately 4:30 Th p.m. on March 5, the victim's body was located de-

ceased on the shoreline, at the bottom of a nearby cliff. The body was recovered and transported to a local funeral home. The Tillamook County Sheriffs Office, Nestucca Fire and the United States Coast Guard, assisted OSP at the scene.

Courtesy from TCSO

Two surfers rescued near Ecola State Park

JEREMY C. RUARK *Country Media, Inc.*

Two surfers are safe on land following a rescue effort near Ecola State Park Sunday, March 5.

A U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) aircrew from Astoria rescued the two surfers near Ecola State after a good Samaritan heard the men shouting for help. The Samaritan called 911, to alert authorities, according to a Tweet by the USCG.

The two men eventually grabbed onto rocks in the water. The helicopter crew was able to hover above and hoist them out of the ocean and back to land.

The subjects were subsequently transferred to a local EMS crew with no medical concerns. The names of the surfers had not been released at the time of the USGS report.

Cannon Beach Fire & Rescue also responded



Courtesy photo from the USCG One of the two surfers being pull up into the hovering USCG helicopter.

during the incident.

This incident follows a USGS operation Feb. 12 near Agate Beach in which three other surfers were rescued. See video of the rescue with this story at thenewsguard. com.

Watchstanders at Coast Guard Sector North Bend received a report just before 2 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 12, of two male surfers in distress who were being pushed up against rocks near Agate Beach, just north of Newport along Highway 101.

A 47-foot motor lifeboat crew from Coast Guard Station Yaquina Bay was diverted to the scene and directed the launch of an MH-65 Dolphin helicopter aircrew from Coast Guard Air Facility Newport to assist the people. The boat crew arrived on

scene at approximately 2:15 p.m. and located one surfer on the rocks and one in the water.

The aircrew deployed a rescue swimmer, hoisted two people to the helicopter and transported them to shore. The helicopter returned on scene and hoisted the third person from the rocks and transported him to shore. A rescue crew from the Newport Fire Department was waiting to aid the rescued surfers.

The identity of the surfers and their conditions had not been immediately released by the U.S. Coast Guard.

First responders continue to urge anyone recreating in the ocean to be aware of the dangers, including changing weather and rapid moving currents.

Port of Garabaldi's stolen boat recovered

STAFF REPORT *Country Media, Inc.*

about the stolen boat alerted authorities to the whereabouts



was taken.

- -

2:19 p.m. Subject reported his wallet was stolen in the 1500 block of NW 40th Place while he was waiting in line to check in. A report was taken. Law enforcement agents in the central Willamette Valley have recovered a stolen boat from the North Oregon Coast.

At approximately 1:07 p.m. March 5, Marion County Sheriff's deputies assisted with stopping a vehicle, in Woodburn, which was towing a stolen boat.

Authorities said the boat had been stolen at about 3:30 a.m. the same day out of Garabaldi.

The traffic stop was initiated after an observant citizen who saw a Facebook post on a neighborhood watch page of the vessel, according to the Marion County Sheriff's Office release.

Deputies were able to coordinate the whereabouts of the truck towing the stolen boat and initiated a traffic stop.

The boat belongs to the Port of Garibaldi. It was a former law enforcement vessel that had recently been transferred from Klamath County to Tillamook County.

At the conclusion of this incident three subjects were arrested and lodged at the Marion County Jail. The names of those arrested were not immediately avail-



Courtesy photo

The former law enforcement boat belongs to the Port of Garibaldi and was recently transferred from Klamath County to Tillamook County.

able with the Marion County Sheriff's Office release.

The Port of Garibaldi has recovered the boat.

Tillamook Family Counseling Center

Bilingual Certified Peer Support/Recovery Mentor (English/Spanish)

F.T. 40-Hours/week Position

Tillamook Family Counseling Center is currently looking to add a bilingual peer specialist to our Prime+ program. The mission of the Prime+ program is to prevent acute life-threatening outcomes of substance use which include reducing overdose morbidity and mortality by providing harm reduction centered overdose prevention education and facilitating access to Naloxone. We also strive to reduce injection-related infections by providing harm reduction centered infection prevention education and facilitating access to safer use supplies. The Prime+ program supports linkage to care, diagnosis and treatment of substance use related conditions and substance us related infections.

This position includes training that leads to state certification according to OAR 410-180-0305 (12) and (13). As a certified Peer Specialist, you will be a living example and role model of recovery life. As a peer you will be a provider of the life wisdom gained through your own lived experience of recovery as well as a change agent for hope.

Benefits:

Dental Vision and Medical-prescription coverage. HSA and FSA plans. 9 paid holidays a year, paid sick leave and vacation time. Vacation starts out at 8 hours a month with increases over time. Generous retirement program: non-contributory 403(b), we put in 9% of your salary and you are vested after 6 months.

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MEDICARE 101 PRESENTATION, Q & A 10 A.M. - 11 P.M. MARCH 21 LINCOLN CITY COMMUNITY CENTER

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For more information call 541.994.2884 or email charlotte@insurancestores.com or visit our office at 4270 NE Highway 101, Lincoln City

THE INSURANCE STORE In



Dale Gorman, Employee of the Year at Samaritan North Lincoln Hospital, posing with CEO Dr. Lesley Ogden, left, and COO Virginia Riffle, right.

Samaritan North Lincoln Hospital Employee of the Year

SUBMITTED BY SNLH

4

Working for a hospital's plant engineering department requires varied skills, organization, responsiveness - and a helpful smile.

For displaying these attributes, Dale Gorman, maintenance engineer lead at Samaritan North Lincoln Hospital (SNLH), has been named Employee of the Year for 2022.

Gorman joined the Samaritan team in September 2008 as a dietary cook, earning Employee of the Month honors in December 2010. In April 2013, he transferred into a maintenance assistant position, then became a maintenance engineer in 2015. He was promoted into his current position in January 2022 and received Employee of the Month honors for the second time in February 2022.

All employees selected for Employee of the Month were in the running for the top award, which was decided by a vote open to all hospital and clinic employees in north Lincoln County.

Hospital CEO Lesley Ogden, MD, announced Gorman as the winner. She and Virginia Riffle, chief operating officer, read words of praise from those who nominated him earlier in the year, as follows:

"Dale keeps our equipment running well and never complains about how he does. He is always smiling and positive! Thank you, Dale, for always being awesome."

"Dale is absolutely terrific. He responds quickly with every request. He is always respectful, kind, and timely. He is a great team-player and a go-getter. Thank you for all you do, Dale."

"Dale is always so quick to respond and follow through on problems we are having in our department. He is always pleasant and efficient at answering questions. We so appreciate him and all the hard work he does every day! We would be lost without him."

"Dale is a shining example of Samaritan's PRIDE values (passion, respect, integrity, dedication and excellence). Dale keeps our wheels turning quite literally. No matter the issue he steps forward and is willing to help fix it, he does it with a great attitude and smile on his

face. Dale works quickly and efficiently. He is kind and resourceful. Dale is also quick to appreciate his peers when they lend a hand. Dale is the best and we are so lucky to have him."

"Dale is so helpful and happy to assist our departments in running smoothly, operating safely to meet our quality standards and patient needs. We know you have a lot on your plate and appreciate you. You're awesome. Thank you!"

Gorman was presented with the traveling trophy for the year, a glass float created with the Samaritan colors of blue and gold, a certificate of appreciation and a monetary gift, during a celebration on Tuesday, March 7, at the hospital.

• \$391.5 million national settlement – led in part by Oregon – with Google over its location tracking practices. The settlement is the largest attorney general-led consumer privacy settlement ever.

• \$2.1 million from TurboTax (Intuit Inc.) to Oregon consumers who were deceived into paying for tax services that should have been free.

• \$805,799.88 returned to Oregon consumers who filed complaints with the DOJ Consumer Protection Sec-

Meet the sheriff

Event is set for March 21

Lincoln County Sheriff Curtis Landers will visit the Gleneden Beach Community Club for a "Meet your Sheriff"get-together from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Tuesday, March 21.

The event will be held at the Community Hall, located at 110 Azalea Street just off Gleneden Beach Loop Road in Gleneden Beach.

All interested citizens are invited to attend and this free event. Coffee and cookies will be served. The event format is designed to provide a chance for questions, concerns, and opinions to be shared. In addition, Landers will share what's new in law



Sheriff Curtis Landers

enforcement and how that impacts Lincoln County residents.

For more information, visit www.glenedenbeach.org.

SHERIFF'S TIP OF THE WEEK

Help is available for grambling addiction

SUBMITTED BY THE LINCOLN COUNTY **SHERIFF'S OFFICE**

March is Problem Gambling Awareness Month (PGAM)

The impact that problem gambling has on our communities makes it an important topic to discuss, according to the release below from the Lincoln County Sheriff's Office (LCSO).

Gambling can be an activity that is used for recreation and fun, but gambling interacts with our brains in the same way alcohol, drugs, and other "low-effort, high-reward" activities do. Because of this, gambling can become an addiction. Problem gambling is the continuation of gambling activities despite personal, social, or financial consequences, according to the LCSO release.

Gambling problems are more than just a money issue, the LCSO release states. Each year problem gambling effects our communities with social impacts and costs such as gambling-related crime which can include embezzling money or burglaries and thefts to help pay gambling debts. Aside from the financial and criminal consequences, problem gambling also negatively impacts relationships.

homecare.

Problem gambling is often referred to as the "hidden addiction" because it is easy to hide and can be difficult for others to notice, but there are some warning signs you can look for.

Problem gambling warning signs:

• Distracted with thoughts of gambling

 Spending more time and money gambling

· Lying or hiding gambling activity

· Risking or damaging important relationships

• Being irritable when not gambling

· Gambling to win back losses (chasing losses)

· Exaggerating wins and minimizing losses

Borrowing money

• Gambling debts

· Missing work or other responsibilities

If you choose to gamble, there are ways to reduce the risk of gambling becoming a problem. Setting a time limit, balancing life with other social and recreational activities, and avoiding alcohol while gambling are some of the recommended responsible gambling guidelines. In Oregon, free problem gambling treatment and support is available for someone with a gambling disorder and those that may be affected by someone's problem gambling.



STAFF REPORT Country Media, Inc.

Attorney General Ellen Rosenblum has released the Oregon Department of Justice's (DOJ) list of 2022's top 10 consumer complaints.

For the third year in a row, auto sales and repairs, telecommunications and imposter scams took the top three spots.

2022 Top Ten Consumer **Complaint** List

• Auto Sales and Repairs (1.050 complaints) •Telecommunications (778 complaints) · Imposter Scams/Fraudulent Entity (697 complaints) • Financial, Credit and



We hope this lawsuit will send a message to all towing companies around the state that they'll be held accountable for violating the law.

Ellen Rosenblum, Attorney General



Courtesy photo

Lending (554 complaints) · Health and Medical

(475 complaints) • Travel Services and

Products (191 complaints) • Towing (190 complaints)

· Construction Contractors (187 complaints)

· Grocery, Food and Beverage (184 complaints)

• Real Estate (178 complaints)

This year includes — for the first time - a new category: Towing.

In 2017 the Oregon legislature passed towing reforms that prohibit towing vehicles from parking facilities, with limited exceptions like blocking an emergency vehicle, unless the towing company received signed authorization to tow the specific vehicle from the owner of the parking facility or the owner's agent.

Earlier this year, the DOJ Consumer Protection Section filed a lawsuit against one of the largest towing operators in Oregon, Retriever Towing. The lawsuit alleges the company illegally towed vehicles from parking facilities without signed authorization from the owner of the parking facility.

'We hope this lawsuit will send a message to all towing companies around the state that they'll be held accountable for violating the law," Rosenblum said. "Especially when it snows. — as it recently did — tow trucks are out in force due to the number of abandoned vehicles. If your car was towed during this time and you feel you were overcharged or otherwise unfairly treated, please call our consumer hotline at 1-877-877-9392 for help."

The Top 10 List issued was in association with National Consumer Protection Week March 5-11.

Rosenblum also issued the following highlights concerning the state's consumer protection work in 2022.

• \$1.85 billion national settlement with one of the nation's largest student loan servicers, Navient. In Oregon, that means 5,488 federal loan borrowers received \$1,462,937 in restitution and 864 borrowers received \$22,454,017 in private loan debt cancellation.

• \$701.5 million for Oregon to fund opioid abatement and recovery from eight settlements with opioid manufacturers, distributors, and pharmacies.

\$4.6M available for Ukraine immigrants, refugees

STAFF REPORT

Country Media, Inc.

Lincoln City and Newport, as well as other Oregon communities now have a funding source to help Ukraine immigrants and refugees.

Since February 2022, over 3,100 individuals from Ukraine have resettled in Oregon

The Oregon Department of Human Services (ODHS) Refugee Program is inviting community partners to apply for a portion of \$4.6 million in funding that is available to provide services and support to certain individuals from Ukraine or those who entered through the Uniting for Ukraine program.

The deadline to apply is March 17, and the application can be found online.

The U.S. Resettlement Program is operated by the U.S. Department of State through contracts with national non-profit organizations called resettlement agencies. The ODHS Refugee Program is responsible for some of the services that are outside of the initial resettlement provided by the resettlement agencies. The Refugee Program provides cash, medical, employment and acculturation services to refugees who are within 60 months of gaining their eligible immigration status

State officials said the purpose of the request is to ask for applications from culturally and/or linguistically responsive organizations who provide services to immigrants or refugees (and those eligible for refugee services) to increase services and supports.

Funding is available to support:

· Housing and food assistance services: \$2 million

Statewide outreach, sponsor • coordination and connection to existing case management services: \$200,000

 Employment services assistance: \$221,800

• Health and mental health services: \$675,000

• Child care: \$100,00

• Legal services: \$800,000 •Youth mentoring: \$100,000

School assistance: \$515,000

Senior services: \$50,000 Organizations may express interest in supporting more than one service area. Community organizations are eligible to submit proposals for the funding.



tion. • \$309,234 in data breach

settlements to Oregon with Avalon, Carnival Cruise, T-Mobile and Experian.

• 10,032 phone calls to the DOJ Consumer Protection Hotline.

• 7,791 written consumer complaints received.

In addition, DOJ travels the state to teach Oregonians how to stay safe from fraud and scams.

If you feel you may have fallen victim to a fraud or scam, contact the Oregon Department of Justice online at www.oregonconsumer.gov or call our Consumer Complaint Hotline at 1-877-877-*9392*.

The LCSO said for every one person with a gambling disorder, it is estimated that an additional eight to ten others are affected.

Workplaces may see a decrease in productivity, an increase in absences, and other issues if an employee has a gambling disorder. Family and friends often feel replaced by someone's gambling and can bear the burden of picking up additional responsibilities -both financially, like paying bills on time, and socially, such as increased responsibilities with family, pets, or

Free problem gambling treatment and support

 Lincoln County Problem Gambling Treatment

Phone: 541-265-6611 Ext 3324

· Oregon Problem Gambling Resource

Phone: 1-877-695-4648 Text: 503-713-6000 Chat website: OPGR.org

For more information and tips, visit www.lincolncountysheriff.net



MEWS Guard

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WRITE TO US:

We want to hear from you and encourage you to write letters to the editor. Because of space limitations, shorter letters have a better chance of being printed. We may edit your letter for style, grammar and clarity, although we do as little editing as possible. Letters longer than 300 words will not be printed. Letters can be on any topic, but letters on local issues will be given preference.

Letters to the Editor that attack or challenge private individuals or private businesses will be refused. Challenges to public officials may be permitted. Only one letter per writer will be published on a single topic each month.

Thank you letters are limited to mentioning individuals and non-commercial organizations and cannot exceed 200 words. Paragraph here on deadlines for each paper.

We also welcome longer guest columns. These might be columns written by newsmakers, public officials or representatives of local organizations. These can run a little longer in length, usually between 450 and 700 words. To verify authenticity, all letters and guest columns must be signed and include your address and daytime phone number. We won't print your street address of phone number. Any guest opinion may appear on the (newspaper name) website. While we strive to publish all viewpoints, The News Guard and Country Media reserve the right to refuse to publish any letter or guest editorial. Letters to the Editor or guest columns can be sent to: newsguardeditor@ countrymedia.net or P.O. Box 848, Lincoln City, OR, 97367-0848. Letters can also he submitted at thenewsguard.com.

Admin@CountryMedia.net TheNewsGuard.com/opinion

IN THE GARDEN

Where and when to plant your vegetables

CHIP BUBL

News Guard Guest Column

First, what is the right place for vegetables?

The more sun you have, the better. We ask these plants to grow quickly and give us lots to eat and preserve. The more sun vegetables have, the better. Lettuce and a few other greens can stand a little shade, but no vegetables do well in deep shade.

Time to plant some vegetables is dependent on last frost date. But timing for all vegetables is dependent on how wet and cold the soil is.

If you have raised beds, your soils will warm faster and are easier to prepare for planting. Working wet soil can create an ugly, cloddy mess. We used to get a week of nice weather in February but not this year! And March isn't starting out too nice either. But here we go:

Early spring plantings are asparagus, lettuce transplants, onions from sets or transplants started from seed, radishes, peas, and spinach if soil temperatures are at least 40 degrees, and rhubarb. Some farmers and savvy gardeners cover the soil with clear plastic to warm and dry out the soil earlier. Then they plant. Row covers on a "hoop" framework can help all the outside planted vegetable (seed or transplanted)



get a better start. Cold frames (see picture) can be used to grow good transplants.

Mid-spring plantings include lots of crops, all the cabbage family including broccoli, cabbage, kohlrabi, cauliflower, turnips, kale, and arugula; carrots; parsnips (be patient with parsnips- they can take almost 30 days to emerge after planting); chard; and early potatoes.

Be ready to protect from a "killing" frost (28 degrees) if needed. Most of these can be planted again for extended harvest. Warming the soil and/or using transplants that are acclimated to being outside before transplanting.

Late spring, the heat loving crops are planted: green

beans, corn, cucumbers, summer and winter squash, and tomatoes. Peppers do best if it is warmer so hold off transplanting until mid-May or later depending on how what kind of weather we are getting. Last year, it was cold all the way to early June (I have described it as three straight months of March) but once it warmed, it stayed warm well into October, so most gardens fared quite well. And gardeners have learned that green beans can be successfully transplanted. They can be started when the soils/weather is a bit cool in containers either in a cold frame, greenhouse, or sunny window in your house.

Early summer plantings



transplanting in the morning. Attention to watering the new transplant or seed beds is needed. **Important notes**

squash, and sweet potatoes).

Transplanting in the evening seems to work better than

You can get up-to-date and accurate answers to your food preservation questions by calling our office at 503-397-3462 and ask to speak to Jenny Rudolph.

Donate extra garden produce and/or money to the food bank, senior centers, or community meals programs. .

The Extension Service offers its programs and materials equally to all people.

The Oregon State University Extension office in Columbia County publishes a monthly newsletter on gardening and farming topics. All you need to do is ask for it and it will be mailed or emailed to you. Call 503-397-3462 to be put on the list. Or go online at http:// extension.oregonstate.edu/ columbia.

Questions? Contact Chip Bubl, Oregon State University Extension office in St. Helens at 503-397-3462 or at chip.bubl@oregonstate.edu. To reach the Lincoln County OSU Extension office in Newport, call 541-574-6534.

Local credit union shares its community partnership impact

SUBMITTED BY TLC

can include replanting of

are for crops that will be

ings of green beans.

some of the cabbage family,

later potatoes, and later plant-

Mid-summer plantings

eaten in the fall and can stand

a frost. These include beets,

carrots, radishes (plant often

if you like them), rutabagas,

It is important to note that

Warm soils are good. Get

the actual weather leading up

to a planting cycle and what

is projected for the following

several weeks afterward is

a soil thermometer and test

the top two inches of your

soil. Blistering heat is not

(except for peppers, many

turnips, chard, lettuce, and

spinach.

important.

TLC, a Division of Fibre Federal Credit Union, serves 11 counties in Oregon and Washington with financial services and community support projects.

In 2022, TLC donated \$219,000 to 194 organizations across its service areas and awarded \$11,000 in scholarships. The credit union provided free financial education courses and materials to 834 adults and 2,462 K-12 students. Additionally, 156 TLC volunteers made an impact throughout the year at 68 events. These volunteers contributed more than 1,727

hours supporting 90 organizations across the credit union's service areas.

TLC also empowered its employees to give back in a meaningful way by allotting donation budgets to individual departments.

Staff utilized donation funds in a variety of ways to impact their local communities. This resulted in more than \$6,000 in donations to local organizations including schools, support shelters, animal shelters, senior centers and other groups.

Opinion NEWS Guard

ADVERTISING DEADLINES:

Advertising: Wednesday, 5 p.m. Legals, Community news and listings: Thursday at 12 p.m. Sports information and Letters to the editor: Friday at noon.

POSTMASTER:

Send address changes to The News Guard, P.O. Box 848, Lincoln City, OR 97367-0848. Periodicals Postage paid at Lincoln City, OR 97367 and at additional mailing offices. © 2020 The News Guard.

Options for submitting obituaries:

• Death notice: Includes the person's name, age, town of residency, and info about any funeral services. No Charge. Add a photo \$25.

• Standard Obit: The cost is \$75 for the first 200 words, \$50 for each additional 200 words. Includes a small photo at no extra cost. Add \$25 for each additional photo.

• Option for a 50% off pickup (no changes) for an obit within 2 weeks of original publish date.

• Display Obit: \$9.50 pci. Add color for \$5.00 pci. Includes a small photo at no extra cost.

• Obit includes placement online.

Fibre Credit Union is located at 2004 NW 36th Street in Lincoln City and may be reached at 866-901-3521.

State's jobless rate holding steady at 4.8%

STAFF REPORT Country Media, Inc.

The state unemployment rate is a key economic indicator of the Oregon economy.

Oregon's unemployment rate was 4.8% in January, matching Oregon's revised 4.8% unemployment rates for October, November and December 2022, according to the Oregon Employment Department.

The last time Oregon's unemployment rate was more than 4.8% was in July 2021 when the rate was 5.1%. In January, the U.S. unemployment rate was 3.4%, its lowest level in more than 50 years. Annual revisions to

the data, released this month, indicate that Oregon's unemployment rate was higher than originally estimated last year, and payroll employment growth was slightly slower.

Nonfarm payroll employment rose by 9.900 jobs in January, following a gain of 5,600 jobs in December. Monthly job gains in 2022 averaged 5,600.

Gains and losses

The gains in January were largest in health care and social assistance (+2,200 jobs); professional and business services (+1,800); and leisure and hospitality (+1,400). The

only major industry with a job loss in January was private educational services (-600)

Health care and social assistance expanded its workforce rapidly during July 2022 through January 2023. During that time, it added 4,500 jobs, to reach a total of 271,800 jobs. Prior to that there had been little net job change compared with early 2021. Over the most recent 12 months, social assistance was the component industry that grew the most, adding 5,000 jobs since January 2022.

Professional and business services continued its rapid expansion of the past more



than two years. It added 13,000 jobs, or 5.0%, since January 2022. Job gains in this broad industry—that makes up 14% of Oregon's total nonfarm payroll jobshave been relentless and consistent throughout 2021 and 2022.

Leisure and hospitality rose in January, consistent with its steady expansion and

partial recovery from the recession of nearly three years ago. It added 12,500 jobs, or 6.5%, in the 12 months to January. Despite these gains, it is still 10,600 jobs below its pre-recession peak reached in February 2020.

Private educational services slipped to 34,800 jobs in January, following stability since May 2022.



EMAIL YOUR LETTERS TO: NEWSGUARDEDITOR@COUNTRYMEDIA.NET

To Your Health Respiratory virus hospitalizations, positive tests continue to decline

My sense of optomisim is growing.

Dr. Dean Sidelinger, OHA

STAFF REPORT *Country Media, Inc.*

Following the worst respiratory virus surge Oregon has ever seen, the state's top health official today painted an optimistic picture for spring, explaining conditions with COVID-19, RSV and influenza are better overall than they have been in months.

"As we prepare to move into spring in the next couple weeks, my sense of optimism is growing," Oregon Health Authority (OHA) Health Officer and State Epidemiologist Dr. Dean Sidelinger said during a media briefing Thursday, March 9. "Today, I'm here to report that the near-term outlook for our state in the battle against COVID-19 and the other respiratory pathogens is good."

By the numbers

Sidelinger said his encouraging outlook is driven by high vaccination rates – nearly 87% of adults 18 and older received at least one dose of the COVID-19 vaccines, and more than 25% got the bivalent booster shot – and downward-trending test positivity rates for COVID-19, influenza and RSV. He said, "rates for influenza and RSV (are) now consistently below the thresholds at which we would consider circulation to be a growing concern."

"And although hospitalizations for respiratory infections in Oregon have stubbornly remained above 200 per day – with a brief increase in the last month driven by a rise in COVID-19 activity – they, too, are declining overall," Sidelinger said. "Even with recent increases in community transmission of COVID-19, we are not seeing a subsequent increase in hospitalizations."

Sidelinger pointed to recent state actions as a reflection of the strong outlook for respiratory viruses, including:

Lifting Oregon's mask requirement for health care settings effective April 3, which OHA announced March 3. Sidelinger called it "a positive step in our ongoing response to COVID-19. Indicators of COVID-19, RSV and influenza spread have significantly decreased in the last several months and continue to de-

cline." The March 6 expiration of Executive Order 22-24, which former Gov. Kate Brown issued Dec. 7, 2022, expired this past Monday, March 6.

"We're relieved to have gotten through this very challenging period, but grateful to have had the opportunity to support our health care partners in ensuring continuity of care for their sickest patients," Sidelinger said.

A shift from a state-level response to a focus on individual risk assessment, as Oregonians move forward in living with COVID-19 and "manage the constant, but low-level presence of the virus in our

communities," Sidelinger said.

Next steps

People in Oregon "now have access to tools we didn't have at the start of the pandemic," he said, including safe and effective vaccines; antiviral medications for preventing severe illness; information on how the virus affects people with certain medical conditions; and resources for understanding the level of transmission in communities.

Sidelinger said it's especially important for people with chronic conditions or who are immunocompromised – therefore at higher risk for severe illness from a COVID-19 infection – to continue to take steps to protect themselves. That goes for caretakers and household members of people with these conditions as well.

'As Oregon's health care system prepares for the end of the state's mask requirement, I want to ask everyone in Oregon to show support, acceptance and kindness for workers, patients and visitors in health care settings, regardless of whether they require masking or choose to wear a mask in these settings," he said. "The same goes for anyone, in any indoor or outdoor public space. Wearing a mask offers significant protection and should never be stigmatized."

OHA to launch new hospital capacity tracking data system

HOSCAP, Oregon's web system used for tracking hospital capacity and COVID-19 hospitalization data, is being replaced this month by the new Oregon Capacity System (OCS).

OHA's hospital capacity dashboards will begin using

data from OCS instead of HOSCAP April 1. Because OCS categorizes some types of hospital beds differently from HOSCAP, the adult non-ICU bed counts OHA reports from OCS will reflect adult medical/surgical and adult progressive care unit beds. The adult non-ICU beds currently reported reflect the medical/surgical and "other" bed categories in HOSCAP.

With the transition to OCS, and in response to the changing needs of hospitals, OHA will no longer report hospital personal protective equipment (PPE) data. The final update to the COVID-19 PPE summary dashboard will be published March 29. The remaining hospital capacity dashboards will continue to be updated weekly on Wednesdays. These changes will be seen on the dashboards April 5.

For more information about the transition from HOSCAP to OCS, visit www. oregon.gov/oha/PH/PRE-PAREDNESS/PARTNERS/ HEALTHALERTNETWORK/

High opioid overdose risk for former prisoners

STEVE LUNDEBERG *News Guard Guest Article*

People recently released from prison in Oregon face a risk for opioid overdose 10 times greater than the general public, according to a new study led by an Oregon State University College of Pharmacy scientist.

The research by Dan Hartung of OSU, Elizabeth Needham Waddell of the Oregon Health & Science Universitv-Portland State University School of Public Health and Katherine A. Kempany of the Oregon Department of Corrections underscores the need to help adults formerly in custody stay safe - especially during the first two weeks after release from incarceration when their opioid overdose risk is double that of any other time period.

Death rate

Drug overdose, particularly opioid overdose, is a leading cause of death among people who have recently been in prison, not just in the U.S. but around the world. The new study is one of the few that takes into account not just fatal overdoses but also non-fatal ones, which often are accompanied by burns, seizures, neuropathy, infections and fall-related iniuries, the authors note. The findings, which showed women were more at risk of opioid overdose than men, were published in the Journal of Substance Use and Addiction Treatment. Hartung, Waddell and Kempany analyzed a dataset that combined Oregon death statistics from 2014 to 2018 with corrections, Medicaid, and hospital admission and discharge information.

Fast Fact

In Oregon, more than 18,000 people left prison from 2014 through 2017. More than 80% of those people were males in the 26-64 age range, two-thirds had a documented substance use disorder treatment need, and one in five demonstrated the need for mental health treatment.

of detecting overdose events identified in the emergency department or through a hospitalization," Hartung said. "Nearly 90% of people released from the Oregon Department of Corrections are enrolled in Medicaid."

Medicaid is a state-administered health insurance program for low-income and disabled individuals, and the Oregon Department of Corrections submits Medicaid enrollment applications for almost all adults in custody prior to their release, Kempany said.

By the numbers

The integrated data enabled the scientists to estimate the number of opioid stance use disorders end up in the criminal justice system, and prisons and jails have historically not been equipped to manage the health care needs of high-risk individuals."

Nearly two-thirds of all adults in custody in the United States have a documented substance use disorder, Kempany said. According to data from 2019 cited in this research, roughly 1.4 million people in the United States are housed in state and federal prisons, and more than 600,000 are released from custody each year.

"There is a lot of research that provides insights into specific factors that might modify overdose risk, but much of it is based on vital statistics data – i.e., fatalities – and those make up a minority of all overdoses," Waddell said. "The objective of our study was to estimate risk of both fatal and non-fatal opioid overdose, and also to examine differences in the risk profile by sex."



Courtesy photo from OSU

Drug overdose, particularly opioid overdose, is a leading cause of death among people who have recently been in prison, not just in the U.S. but around the world. This photo shows the Oregon State Penitentiary in Salem.

cluding 65 that were fatal.

"The overdose risk was highest in the first two weeks – 2,286.7 per 100,000 person years," Waddell said. "The risk was highest among

tionally."

In recent years, Kempany said, the Oregon Department of Corrections has significantly expanded its medication program to include conto develop, implement and expand strategies and interventions to protect those individuals when they are at their most vulnerable, the researchers say.

"We used Medicaid claims data as our main way

overdoses among people recently released from prison, and the researchers found the frequency of overdose was "exceedingly high" -1,086 overdoses per 100,000 "person years," a statistical metric for describing rate of incidence within a population.

The rate of 1,086 per 100,000 person years far exceeded that of the general public in Oregon – 93 overdoses per 100,000 person years – and also a Medicaid population of new prescription opioid users, whose rate was 247 per 100,000 person years.

"And taking everything into account, the risk estimates we developed for the recently incarcerated are likely conservative," Hartung said. "Many people with sub-

What the research shows

In Oregon, more than 18,000 people left prison from 2014 through 2017. More than 80% of those people were males in the 26-64 age range, two-thirds had a documented substance use disorder treatment need, and one in five demonstrated the need for mental health treatment.

The adults released during that span experienced a total of 579 opioid overdoses, inwomen and those with mental health or substance use disorder treatment needs."

Women who had been incarcerated suffered opioid overdose at a rate of 1,582.9 per 100,000 person years, and the rates for those with mental illness and substance use disorder were 1,624.3 and 1,382.6, respectively. Among women released from prison, the higher rate is related to a greater mental health burden, Waddell said.

"There is wide consensus that medications for opioid use disorder are highly effective at reducing the risk of overdose and other addiction-related negative health outcomes," she said. "However, providing those medications for individuals in prison is still fairly uncommon natinuing established treatment upon incarceration and offering eligible patients a medication protocol when they are within 13 months of their predicted release date.

"Studies indicate that type of medication program contributes to improved outcomes," Kempany said. "Evidence from several randomized clinical trials suggests that people treated with medications for opioid use disorder while in prison are substantially more likely after release to engage with treatment in the community."

What's needed

The heightened risk of opioid overdose among people recently released from prison highlights the need "Prisons and jails need to do more to ensure incarcerated individuals have access to lifesaving medications for opioid use disorder, and other harm-reduction interventions such as Narcan, during and after their release into their community," Kempany said.

This research was funded by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Also participating in the study were Caitlin McCracken of the OSU College of Pharmacy and Thuan Nguyen of the OHSU-PSU School of Public Health.

Steve Lundeberg is a researcher and writer for Oregon State University Relations and Marketing. He may be reached at steve.lundeberg@oregonstate.edu

Oregon to receive \$17M for treating substance abuse

STAFF RTEPORT *Country Media, Inc.*

Two key resources in Oregon for preventing and treating substance use disorder and overdose will receive a total of \$17 million over the next two years.

The funding has been approved by the Opioid Settlement Prevention, Treatment and Recovery Board Board (OSPTR).

"Oregon's share of the national opioid settlement funds is intended to provide better tracking of substance use disorder and support harm-reduction programs — which have never been more vital than in this time of accelerating fentanyl-driven overdoses," Oregon Attorney General Ellen Rosenblum said. "I am grateful to know the Board has designated the first allocations of these funds for these purposes."

An allocation of \$4 million funds the development of a unified statewide data system to collect, analyze and publish data on substance use prevention, treatment, and recovery services, with a focus on their availability and effectiveness.

The remaining \$13 million goes toward the Save Lives Oregon (SLO) Harm Reduction Clearinghouse to keep people alive and support safer communities. This ensures SLO's ability to provide lifesaving supplies to entities and local harm-reduction programs. These may include:

• Overdose prevention supplies such as naloxone

Wound care suppliesSafer-use supplies for

Personal containers
specifically for needles and sharp items

These tools support statewide harm reduction practices, which are effective strategies that lower drug-related harms, including overdose deaths and infections such as HIV and hepatitis C according to the OSPTR Board.

"These supplies come at no cost to qualifying partner organizations that serve people who use drugs." The OSPTR Boar states in a release.

The funds awarded will allow the Harm Reduction Clearinghouse to continue and expand its support for schools, Special Districts, and public buildings.

Background

In 2022, the Oregon Legislature created the OSPTR Board, administered by Oregon Health Authority and overseen by a board of health policy experts and state and local government representatives. The board will administer the state's 45% share of opioid funds exclusively for addressing substance use. The remaining 55% will go to local cities and counties with populations larger than 10,000 people.

The money comes from monumental multi-state settlements in 2022 involving pharmaceutical companies, pharmacies and distributors that either produced, sold or distributed opioids. This was the result of a years-long effort by Oregon Department of Justice (DOJ) and its investigative team working opioid-related cases.

"For the most part, settlements will be paid out over several years, and the state anticipates getting \$149.7 million through 2038, all of which goes to the OSPTR fund," the release states. "Under House Bill 4098, the OSPTR Board can then use that money to support statewide or regional programs identified in settlement agreements or applicable judgments. Additional funding from at least five other opioid-related settlements is anticipated."

The OSPTR Board members are scheduled to continue discussing both the data system and clearinghouse in upcoming monthly meetings in April, May, and June.

To learn more about SLO, visit its official page. Those who are part of an organization looking for harm-reduction resources can apply "

Oregon's share of the national opioid settlement funds is intended to provide better tracking of substance use disorder and support harm reduction programs.

Ellen Rosenblum, Oregon Attorney General



for the SLO harm-reduction www.savelivesoregon.org/ clearinghouse at https:// apply-form/.





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Public Notices ΤS

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place a bid for this property at the Trustee's sale. In construpursuant to the terms of said ing this notice, the masculine Trust Deed. Wherefore, notice gender includes the feminine is hereby given that, the un- and the neuter, the singular in-AM, Standard of Time, as es- interest to the Grantor as well coln County, Oregon to-wit: him of the said Trust Deed, to- c/o TRUSTEE CORPS 17100

erence is made to that certain tablished by Section 187.110, as any other persons owing an Trust Deed made by, STEPH- Oregon Revised Statues, at obligation, the performance of ANIE ALLISON BOSCH as the Olive Street entrance to which is secured by said Trust Grantor to TRUSTEE SER- the Lincoln County Court- Deed, the words "Trustee" and VICES, INC. as Trustee, in house, 225 W Olive, Newport, "Beneficiary" includes their refavor of RED CANOE CREDIT OR 97365 County of Lincoln, spective successors in inter-UNION as Beneficiary dated sell at public auction to the est, if any. Dated: 3/1/2023 By: as of February 18, 2021 and highest bidder for cash the Nathan F. Smith, Esq., OSB recorded on February 19, interest in the said described #120112 Successor Trustee 2021 as Instrument No. 2021- real property which the Grant- Malcolm & Cisneros, A Law 02048 of official records in the or had or had power to convey Corporation Attention: Nathan Office of the Recorder of Lin- at the time of the execution by F. Smith, Esq., OSB #120112

G23-454 F	LINCOLN COUNTY INVITATION TO BID OR PUBLIC IMPROVEMENT PROJEC	т
Bid No: 8089 p.m.	Close Date: 3/31/2023	Close Time: 2:00
Project Name: COUGAR CRE	EK AOP (AQUATIC ORGANISMS F	PASSAGE)
Owner's Contact: Andrew Blair 574-1212 ablair@co.lincoln.or.us	, P.E.	Phone: (541)
Lincoln County is soliciting bid precast concrete bottomless co	Public Notice s for the removal of an existing culvert a livert at the following location:	nd its replacement with a
East Buck Creek Road,	'Buck Creek Road at Cougar Creek, Linco	oln County, Oregon 97390.
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Newport, Oregon 97365 (ph: \$	ed at the office of Lincoln County Road E 541-265-5747). The Bid Package will be <u>.us/publicworks</u> . Bidders may also obtai	posted on the County's web
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be directly notified dums and clarifica	l of addendums or clarifications that mig tions will be posted to the County's web	ht be issued. Adden- site (<u>http://www.co.lin-</u>
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NG23-434 TRUSTEE'S NO-	deed immediately due and	the Trustee, the Beneficiary,	behalf of the applicant, and	131129CA00105 and	property, except: NONE Noti
TICE OF SALE T.S. No.: OR-	payable, those sums being the	the Beneficiary's Agent, or the	applicable criteria are avail-		is further given that any pers
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nade to that certain deed	ments of principal and interest		and will be provided at rea-	trustee, ZBS Law, LLP have	right, at any time prior to fi
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A, A MARRIED MAN AND	1/1/2022, and all subsequent		at Lincoln City Planning and	referenced Trost Deed and	for sale, to have this forec
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ENANTS BY THE ENTIRE-	interest through the date of	in which case this letter is in-	SW Hwy 101. For additional	satisfy the obligations secured	and the Trust Deed reinstat
Y as Grantor to FIRST	this Notice, plus amounts that		information, please contact	by the Trost Deed and a No-	by payment to the beneficia
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RONIC REGISTRATION	ance premiums, advances	law, you are hereby notified	541-996-1228. Failure of an	ant to ORS 86.752(3). All right,	principal as would not then
YSTEMS, INC., AS NOMI-	made on senior liens, taxes	that a negative credit report re-	issue to be raised in a hearing	title, and interest in the said	due had no default occurre
EE FOR COUNTRYWIDE	and/or insurance, trustee's	flecting on your credit record	in person, or by letter/email, or	described property which the	and by curing any other of
ANK, FSB., A FED SVGS	fees, and any attorney fees	may be submitted to a credit		grantors had, or had power to	fault complained of herein th
ANK, ITS SUCCESSORS	and court costs arising from or	report agency if you fail to fulfill	or evidence sufficient to afford	convey, at the time of execu-	is capable of being cured
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y, dated 11/16/2007, recorded 1/26/2007, in official records	ries efforts to protect and pre-	tions. Without limiting the trust- ee's disclaimer of representa-	or City Council an opportunity to respond to the issue pre-	with any interest the grantors or their successors in interest	quired under the obligation of the Trust Deed, and in ad
f LINCOLN County, Oregon	serve its security, all of which must be paid as a condition of	tions or warranties, Oregon	cludes appeal to the Oregon	acquired after execution of	tion to paying said sums or te
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00716416 and modified as	ing in this notice shall be con-	trustee's sale may have been	colncity.or- g or mail to Lincoln	the obligations secured by the	actually incurred in enforc
er Modification Agreement		used in manufacturing meth-	City Planning and Community	Trust Deed and the expenses	the obligation and Trust De
ecorded 9/13/2021 as Instru-	owing to the Beneficiary under	amphetamines, the chemical	Development, PO Box 50, Lin-	of sale, including the compen-	together with the trustee's a
ent No. 2021-11666 and	the Deed of Trust pursuant to	components of which are	coln City, Oregon 97367. All in-	sation of the trustee as provid-	attorney's fees not exceed
ubsequently assigned or	the terms of the loan docu-	known to be toxic. Prospective	formation for these meetings is	ed by law, and the reasonable	the amounts provided by O
ansferred by operation of law	ments. Whereof, notice hereby	purchasers of residential prop-	available on the City of Lincoln		86.778. The mailing addre
U.S. Bank Trust National	is given that QUALITY LOAN	erty should be aware of this	City website at www.lincolnc-	default for which the foreclo-	of the trustee is: ZBS La
ssociation, not in its individu-	SERVICE CORPORATION	potential danger before decid-	ity.org. This meeting will be re-	sure is made is: The monthly	LLP 5 Centerpointe Dr., Su
capacity but solely as trust-	F/K/A QUALITY LOAN SER-	ing to place a bid for this prop-	broadcast on Charter Channel	installment of principal and	400 Lake Oswego, OR 970
e for Legacy Mortgage Asset	VICE CORPORATION OF	erty at the trustee's sale. NO-	4 Lincoln City at various times.	interest which became due on	(503) 946-6558 In const
rust 2021-GS5 covering the	WASHINGTON, the under-	TICE TO TENANTS:	This meeting will also be avail-	11/1/- 2018, late charges, and	ing this notice, the mascul
bllowing described real prop-	signed trustee will on	TENANTS OF THE SUBJECT	able for viewing at www.lin-	all subsequent monthly install-	gender includes the femin
rty situated in said County,				ments of principal and interest.	and the neuter, the sing
nd State. APN: R508528 /	,,			You are responsible to pay all	lar includes plural, the we
			is accessible to persons with		"grantor" includes any succ
	Oregon Revised Statues, At		-	under the terms and condi-	sor in interest to the grar
	the south entrance to the Lin-	SIBLY UNDER FEDERAL	interpreter for the hearing im-	tions of the loan documents	as well as any other perso
	coln County Courthouse, lo-	LAW. ATTACHED TO THIS	paired, for a hearing impaired	which come due subsequent	owing an obligation, the p
OUTH, RANGE 11 WEST		NOTICE OF SALE, AND IN-	device, or for other accom- modations for persons with	to the date of this notice, in-	formance of which is secu
	Newport, OR 97365 County of	CORPORATED HEREIN, IS A NOTICE TO TENANTS THAT	disabilities, should be made	cluding, but not limited to, fore-	by said trust deed, the wo
	LINCOLN, State of Oregon, sell at public auction to the	SETS FORTH SOME OF THE	at least 48 hours in advance	closure trustee fees and costs, advances and late charges.	"trustee" and ' beneficiary" clude their respective succ
-	highest bidder for cash the in-	PROTECTIONS THAT ARE	of the meeting. To request	Furthermore, as a condition	sors in interest, if any. With
IVER; THENCE SOUTH 00	terest in the said described	AVAILABLE TO A TENANT OF	information in an alternate	to bring your account in good	limiting the trustee's disclair
EG. 09'00" WEST, 224.37		THE SUBJECT REAL PROP-		standing, you must provide the	of representations or warr
	had or had power to convey at		please contact the City's ADA	undersigned with written proof	ties, Oregon law requires
NE OF SAID SECTION 27	the time of the execution by		Coordinator, Kevin Mattias, at	that you are not in default on	trustee to state in this no
D A 5/8 INCH IRON ROD;		MENTS THAT MUST BE	541- 996-1013 or kmattias@	any senior encumbrance and	that some residential prope
IENCE NORTH 90 DEG.		COMPLIED WITH BY ANY		provide proof of insurance.	sold at a trustee's sale r
000" EAST, 117.01 FEET TO	the grantor or his successors	TENANT IN ORDER TO OB-		Nothing in this notice should	have been used in manuf
	in interest acquired after the	TAIN THE AFFORDED PRO-		be construed as a waiver of	
HENCE SOUTH 00 DEG.		TECTION, AS REQUIRED	NG23-439 TRUSTEE'S NO-	any fees owing to the benefi-	the chemical components
0'00" EAST, 369.75 FEET TO	satisfy the foregoing obliga-	UNDER ORS 86.771. TS No:	TICE OF SALE TS NO.: 21-	ciary under the deed of trust,	which are known to be to
5/8 INCH IRON ROD ON	tions thereby secured and the	OR-22-943870-RM Dated:	62706 Reference is made	pursuant to the terms and pro-	Prospective purchasers
E NORTHERLY BOUND-	costs and expenses of sale,	2/2/2023 Quality Loan Service	to that certain Deed of Trust	visions of the loan documents.	residential property should
RY OF THE ALSEA HIGH-	including a reasonable charge	Corporation f/k/a Quality Loan	(hereinafter referred as the	The amount required to cure	aware of this potential dar
AY; THENCE NORTH 89	by the trustee. Notice is further	Service Corporation of Wash-	Trust Deed) made by Edward	the default in payments to	before deciding to place a
EG. 02'45" EAST, 110.00	5 71	ington, as Trustee Signature	F. Turner Jr. and Julie L. Turn-	date is calculated as follows:	for this property at the truste
	in Section 86.778 of Oregon	By: Jeff Stenman, President	er as tenants by the Entirety	From: 11/1/2018 Total of past	sale. Dated: 12/28/2022 2
	Revised Statutes has the right	Trustee's Mailing Address:	as Grantor to Western Title,	due payments: \$94,536.50	Law, LLP By: Bradford I
	to have the foreclosure pro-	Quality Loan Service Corpora-	as trustee, in favor of Mort-	Late Charges: \$1,780.74 Ad-	Klein, OSB#165784 ZBS L
	ceeding dismissed and the	tion f/k/a Quality Loan Service	gage Electronic Registration	ditional charges (Taxes, In-	LLP Authorized to sign on
CRIBED IN LINCOLN	trust deed reinstated by pay-	Corporation of Washington	Systems, Inc. ("MERS"), as	surance, Corporate Advanc-	half of the trustee A-4770
	ment to the beneficiary of the	2763 Camino Del Rio South	designated nominee for West	es, Other Fees): \$5,693.53	02/28/2023, 03/07/20
	entire amount then due (other	San Diego, CA 92108 Toll	Coast Bank, beneficiary of the	Trustee's Fees and Costs:	03/14/2023, 03/21/2023.
ORTHERLY, PARALLEL TO	than such portion of said prin-		security instrument, its suc-	\$588.00 Total necessary to	
HE WEST LINE OF SEC-	•		cessors and assigns, as Ben-	cure: \$102,598.77 Please note	
ON 27 ALONG THE WEST		Loan Service Corporation f/k/a	eficiary, dated 12/18/2008,	the amounts stated herein	NG23-443 IN THE CIRC
NE OF SAID ULREY TRACT	-	Quality Loan Service Corpora-	recorded 12/23/2008, as In-	are subject to confirmation	COURT OF THE STATE
D THE MEAN HIGH WATER	and attorney's fees and curing		strument No. 2008-14349, in	and review and are likely to	OREGON FOR THE CO
NE OF THE ALSEA RIVER,		no Del Rio South San Diego,	mortgage records of Lincoln	change during the next 30	TY OF LINCOLN In the M
HENCE WESTERLY ALONG	of in the Notice of Default by		County, Oregon covering the	days. Please contact the suc-	ter of the Estate of: SAND

THENCE WESTERLY ALONG SAID HIGH WATER LINE TO THE WEST LINE OF SEC-TION 27; THENCE SOUTH-ERLY ALONG SAID WEST LINE TO THE POINT OF BE-GINNING. Commonly known as: 3251 E Alsea Hwy, Waldport, OR 97394 The undersigned hereby certifies that based upon business records there are no known written assignments of the trust deed by the trustee or by the beneficiary, except as recorded in the records of the county or counties in which the above described real property is situated. Further, no action has been instituted to recover the debt, or any part thereof, now remaining secured by the trust deed, or, if such action has been instituted, such action has been dismissed except as permitted by ORS 86.752(7). Both the beneficiary and the trustee have elected to sell the said real property to satisfy the obligations secured by said trust deed and notice has been recorded pursuant to Section 86.752(3) of Oregon Revised Statutes. There is a default by grantor or other person owing an obligation, performance of which is secured by the trust deed, or by the successor in interest, with respect to provisions therein which authorize sale in the event of such provision. The default for which foreclosure is made is grantor's failure to pay when due the following sum: TOTAL RE-QUIRED TO REINSTATE: \$10,998.74 TOTAL RE-ΤO QUIRED PAYOFF: \$107,012.32 Because of interest, late charges, and other charges that may vary from day-to-day, the amount due on the day you pay may be greater. It will be necessary for you to contact the Trustee before the time you tender reinstatement or the payoff amount so at the sale shall be entitled that you may be advised of the only to a return of the monies exact amount you will be required to pay. By reason of the default, the beneficiary has declared all sums owing on the obligation secured by the trust recourse against the Trustor,

of in the Notice of Default by tendering the performance required under the obligation or 3/7/2023 3/14/2023 3/21/2023 trust deed, at any time prior to five days before the date last set for sale. Other than as shown of record, neither the beneficiary nor the trustee has any actual notice of any person having or claiming to have any lien upon or interest in the real property hereinabove described subsequent to the interest of the trustee in the trust deed. or of any successor in interest to grantor or of any lessee or other person in possession of or occupying the property, except: Name and Last Known Address and Nature of Right. Lien or Interest Nathan Inglima 3251 E Alsea Hwy Waldport, OR 97394 Original Borrower Dannella Inglima 3251 E Alsea Hwy Waldport, OR 97394 For Sale Information Call: 916- 939-0772 or Login to: www.nationwideposting.com In construing this notice, the singular includes the plural, the word "grantor" includes any successor in interest to this grantor as well as any other person owing an obligation, the performance of which is secured by the trust deed, and the words "trustee" and "beneficiary" include their respective successors in interest, if any. Pursuant to Oregon Law, this sale will not be deemed final until the Trustee's deed has been issued by QUALITY LOAN SERVICE CORPORATION F/K/A QUAL-ITY LOAN SERVICE CORPO-RATION OF WASHINGTON. If any irregularities are discovered within 10 days of the date of this sale, the trustee will rescind the sale, return the buyer's money and take further action as necessary. If the sale is set aside for any reason, including if the Trustee is unable to convey title, the Purchaser paid to the Trustee. This shall be the Purchaser's sole and exclusive remedy. The purchaser shall have no further

CA 92108 Toll Free: (866) 925-0241 IDSPub #0183882 3/28/2023

NG23-448 NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS CITY-INITIATED ZONING CODE AMENDMENT ZOA 2023-01 The Lincoln City Planning Commission will hold a public hearing to consider ZOA 2023-01 on Tuesday, March 21, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. The Lincoln City City Council will hold a public hearing to consider CPA ZC 2023-01 on Monday, April 10, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. The public hearings will be held in the Council Chambers at City Hall, 801 SW Hwy 101, Lincoln City, Oregon. Persons who may be affected are invited to participate in the hearing and present written and/ or oral testimony concerning the project. ZOA 2023-01 proposes amending Lincoln City Municipal Code (LCMC) Title 17 to revise Chapter 17.08 Definitions; simplify zone titles and abbreviations by eliminating the hyphen; simplify setback language; consolidate development restriction of all city services to Chapter 17.04 and add exception for houses; clarify exemption of residential from design standards; and add exemption of accessory structures from design standards. The applicable criteria are: Lincoln City Municipal Code (LCMC) Chapter 17.76 Procedures and Section 17.77.130 Text Amendment, A copy of the staff report will be available for inspection at no cost at least seven days prior to the hearings and will be provided at reasonable cost to individuals who request it. The complete file may be reviewed online at www.lincolncity.org by going to Departments in the top bar, then Planning & Community Development, then NELSON WAYSIDE DRIVE, Zoning Code Ordinances, and then ZOA 2023-01. The application, all documents and ID for the Real Property is evidence submitted by or on purported to be: R381909/

County, Oregon covering the following described real property situated in said County and State, to-wit: Beginning at an iron rod set in the center of an existing road that is South 717.83 feet and West 2108.85 feet from the Southwest comer of the Robert Newton tract as described in Volume 208, page 503, Deed Records (said Newton comer being South 2229.15 feet and West 1396.75 feet from the Northeast comer of Section 29, Township 13 South, Range 11 West, Willamette Meridian, in Lincoln County, Oregon); thence along the center line of said road North 26° 55' West 42.82 feet: thence North 13° 23' West 293.35 feet; thence North 25° 55 West 135.30 feet; thence North 33° 39' West 95.10 feet: thence North 23° 32' West 63.05 feet; thence West 150.76 feet, more or less, to the West line of the Southeast quarter of the Northwest quarter of said Section 29; thence South 0° 03' 30" East along said West line 218.92 feet to the Northwest comer of the Northeast quarter of the Southwest guarter of said Section 29; thence South 2° 27' West along the West line of said quarter 504.34 feet; thence East 301.59 feet; thence North 35° 01' East 177.64 feet to the point of beginning. EXCEPT the Easterly 25 feet for roadway and utility purposes; and EXCEPTING that part thereof conveyed to the City of Waldport by deed recorded June 30,1965, in Volume 256, page 487, Deed Records of Lincoln County, Oregon. ALSO EXCEPTING any portion that may overlap that parcel deeded to the City of Waldport for water tank placement. The street address or other common designation, if any for the real property described above is purported to be: 3328 SE WALDPORT, OREGON 97394 The Tax Assessor's Account

cessor trustee ZBS Law, LLP, to obtain a "reinstatement' and or "payoff' quote prior to remitting funds. By reason of said default the beneficiary has declared all sums owing on the obligation secured by the Trust Deed due and payable. The amount required to discharge this lien in its entirety to date is: \$374,182.92 Said sale shall be held at the hour of 10:00 AM on 5/- 12/2023 in accord with the standard of time established by ORS 187.110, and pursuant to ORS 86.771(7) shall occur at the following designated place: At the front entrance to the Lincoln County Courthouse located at 225 West Olive, in the City of Newport, OR 97365 Other than as shown of record, neither the said beneficiary nor the said trustee have any actual notice of any person having or claiming to have any lien upon or interest in the real property hereinabove described subsequent to the interest of the trustee in the Trust Deed, or of any successor(s) in interest to the grantors or of any lessee or other person in possession of or occupying the

ter of the Estate of: SANDOR G. BRANCZEISZ, Deceased. Case No. 23PB00750 NOTICE TO INTERESTED PERSONS NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that SUSAN M. SCHOFIELD has been appointed personal representative. All persons having claims against the estate are required to present them, with vouchers attached, to Personal Representative, SUSAN M. SCHOFIELD, at the address below, within four months after the date of first publication of this notice, or the claims may be barred. All persons whose rights may be affected by the proceedings may obtain additional information from the records of the court, the personal representative, or the attorneys for the personal representative. ADDRESS FOR PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE: c/-o Attorney Joshua D. Zantello. OSB #121562, Zantello Law Group, 2941 NW Highway 101, Lincoln City, OR 97367. DATED and first published: February 28, 2023. Joshua D. Zantello, Attorney for Personal Representative.





Jeff Evans, Science Majic

Signs _

Continued from Front Page

Mayor's support

Lincoln City Mayor Susan Wahlke revealed a graphic with the new city entrance signs diuring her State of the City presentation Feb.

28. She told The News Guard that the new wayfinding monuments are critical to the city's economic efforts and the well-being of residents and visitors.

"I have been talking about wayfinding signs for many years," Wahlke said.

COVID -

Continued from Front Page

the community," Sharff said. "So, I think the U.S. population has already moved on, and the end of the public health emergency is really just catching up with the current opinion of the U.S. population."

The current scope of COVID

Currently, the most common variant is the XBB1.5 Omicron variant. According to Sharff, the CDC is actually reporting that transmission numbers are up through their detection of wastewater and case counts. However, case count data is not as reliable as it was earlier in the pandemic.

"In the beginning of the

pandemic, we really paid such close attention to case counts, but as people are testing at home, or not even testing, or not reporting, those case

counts have really lost accuracy," Sharff said. "But based on wastewater and what is being reported, it appears that case counts have gone up, but I guess the silver lining is that hospitalizations have been very stable; they've plateaued at about 250 per day and are

forecasted to stay at this rate." Sharff attributed this drop in hospitalization rates to the increased immunity to COVID through vaccination or prior infection. Sharff said that experts are not sure what the future of the virus will look like. One of the concerns would be a variant that evades immunity from immunization

2023 Festival of Illusions returns March 23-April 1

STAFF REPORT County Media, Inc.

The Lincoln City Cultural Center announces the 2023 Festival of Illusions will offer nine days of family-friendly festivities.

New acts, returning magicians, concerts, workshops, photo opportunities and a mobile escape room will be held March 23 through April 1 with both daytime activities and evening performances for all ages.

The event takes place at the Lincoln City Cultural Center (LCCC), 540 NE Highway 101 in Lincoln City.

This year's festival will feature what is being described as "reality-bending performances" from The Amazing Bubble Man, Jeff Evans Science Magic, Alex Zerbe the Zaniac, the Magical Mr. *Courtesy photo* B, Peter Irish the Foot Juggler, Dr.

Delusions Illusions, and Carisa

Hendrix.

Daytime activities include Shaky Grounds Café (mobile escape room), the all ages Magic Art Studio, Paint a Pufferfish ceramic workshop, The Princess Dress Up Tea and Photo Shoot, a Balloon Twisting Workshop with the Magical Mr. B., a free morning concert with Harmonica Pocket and a Cookie Decorating Class.

The Fiber Arts Studio Gallery at the LCCC will host "Filaments" by the Weaving Guild of Oregon. This show will display multicolored, high-quality filaments during the center's special Festival of Illusions.

Themed Art Kits made by volunteers and the LCCC Artistic Director Krista Eddy will be available while supplies last. Art Kits are by donation.

The Festival of Illusions began in 2011 to provide weather-proof, affordable family entertainment

during Oregon's public school spring break. It was cancelled during the COVID pandemic in 2020 but resumed in 2021.

"This is always such an excit-ing time of year," LCCC Execu-tive Director Niki Price said. "The Festival of Illusions kicks off the busy season at the LCCC. We love the excitement these performances bring for all who attend. The audience arrives expecting some light-hearted entertainment, and they leave smiling ear to ear.'

The Lincoln City Cultural Center is located at 540 NE Highway 101, Lincoln City. The LCCC galleries will be open 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. throughout the festival week. All evening shows are reserved seating only. Those wanting to attend must call ahead for tickets.

For inquiries or ticketing details, visit lincolncity-culturalcenter. org, or call 541-994-9994.

wanted to wait until that process was completed. I am not sure if signs to businesses will be added at this time, but we definitely need signs indicating where parking lots and restrooms are.'

Wahlke said the wayfinding monuments also will be key in highlighting the city's unique areas.

Uniform signage throughout our city, beginning at the entrances, will help to show that when you travel through town you are still in Lincoln City," she said. "Our city is unique

and has several "downtown" areas. Wayfinding signs with our "new" branding will show Lincoln City as one city with many areas to explore."

Construction dates were pending at press time.

or prior infection. However, Sharff said this has not happened yet, and so the next steps are difficult to predict.

"When the Oceanlake public

parking lots were created,

there were some fun signs

indicating the direction to

some businesses. Many of

these businesses closed or

moved and the signs began to

deteriorate. Then we decided

to change our branding and

Sharff said what health officials expect will be handling COVID on a more seasonal basis. Like a seasonal Influenza vaccine, an updated shot may be administered to help address the ebbs and flows of illness.

In the future

In terms of vaccines, there's this shift toward an annual COVID vaccination, similar to an annual Flu shot. [The advisory committee] are actually evaluating this right now," Sharff said. "I think for high-risk populations, so those who are elderly, or those who are immunocompromised, or those who have significant medical conditions, it makes sense to have that boost in immunity each vear with an updated COVID shot. Although the timing, should it be in the fall or should it be in the spring, or when it should be administered, is still uncertain."

As COVID becomes more embedded in our society, Sharff wanted to ensure people that the measures our health systems have put in place do work. Vaccines provide good protection against the disease, according to Sharff. Additionally, anti-viral medications like Paxlovid are good measures for preventing severe illness.

"If you haven't been infected, you will probably get infected at some point, and if

you've already been infected, there's a very high likelihood that in the future, you will get reinfected; that's just the nature of this virus. But the tools we have through vaccination and anti-virals do work," Sharff said.

Takeaways from the first three years

Three years into the pandemic, Sharff wanted to draw attention to the loss of trust in public health messaging. As a result, there has been a dip in routine childhood vaccinations such as Flu, Measles, and Polio. Sharff wants the public to know that these routine childhood vaccines are 'safe and important."

"Despite the polarized discussions that we've had, with all of the politics of COVID, that it's really important to stay up-to-date on your routine vaccinations," Sharff said. "We don't want to see a resurgence on some these diseases that we've finally gotten control of, like Measles, like Polio, like Pertussis."

As a worker on the front lines, Sharff said that the pandemic has taught us about "humility, and constantly learning new information, and flexibility to shift our thinking as new information arises." Despite issues with bed shortages or lack of healthcare workers, this pandemic has been an exercise in "humility and collaboration" for Sharff and our public health systems.

1. D - 10



Buy local. Shop local. We're in this together!

Robyn Smith 509.304.7208 rsmith@countrymedia.net



Sea stars protecting ocean kelp forests

STEVE LUNDEBERG *News Guard Guest Column*

Scientists from Oregon State University are among a research team that is providing the first experimental evidence that a species of endangered sea star protects kelp forests along North America's Pacific Coast by preying on substantial numbers of kelp-eating urchins.

The study, published in Proceedings of the Royal Society B, is important because kelp, large algae with massive ecological and economic importance around the world, are under siege from environmental change and overgrazing by sea urchins.

The findings by a collaboration that also featured scientists from the University of Oregon and The Nature Conservancy suggest that the sunflower sea star likely plays a much stronger role in kelp forest health than had been previously thought.

Lab experiments showed that sea stars, known scientifically as Pycnopodia helianthoides, consume urchins at rates sufficient to maintain and perhaps reset the health of kelp forests. The authors are calling for active management and a coordinated sunflower sea star recovery.

"What we saw suggests a clear link between the crash of sea stars, the explosion in sea urchin populations and the decline in kelp," Oregon State College of Science research associate Sarah Gravem said.



Courtesy from OSU Lab experiments showed that sea stars, known scientifically as Pycnopodia helianthoides, consume urchins at rates sufficient to maintain and perhaps reset the health of kelp forests.

"It also points to sea star recovery as a potential key tool for kelp forest recovery."

Kelp are a foundation species that occupy nearly 50% of the world's marine ecoregions. They especially thrive in cold water, where they form large aquatic forests that provide essential habitat, food and refuge for many species. Their sensitivity to certain growing conditions means climate change and a warming ocean are particularly problematic for them.

Kelp are often harvested for use in products ranging from toothpaste and shampoos to puddings and cakes, and they also help support nutrient cycling, shoreline protection and commercial fisheries such as rockfish.

Economists place kelp's value in the range of billions of dollars annually.

In 2020, the sunflower sea star was listed as critically endangered by the International Union for Conservation of Nature following a population study led by OSU and The Nature Conservancy.

Populations of the sunflower sea star suffered dramatic downturns because of a marine wildlife epidemic event, referred to as sea star wasting syndrome, that began in 2013, Gravem said.

In the population study, scientists used more than 61,000 population surveys from 31 datasets to calculate a 90.6% decline in sunflower sea stars and estimated that as many as 5.75 billion animals died from the disease, whose

cause has not been determined.

Moreover, the research produced no indications of population recovery in any region in the years since the outbreak.

Sunflower sea stars are now nearly absent in Mexico as well as most of the contiguous United States, the scientists say. No stars have been seen in Mexico since 2016, and only a handful have been found in Oregon and California since 2018.

Researchers have thought that the sea star decline helped fuel an explosion in the urchin population in many regions, with an overabundance of urchins placing added pressure on kelp forests already being challenged by marine heat wave events. But prior to the latest study, the relationship between sea stars, urchins and kelp had not been quantified, Gravem said.

"This study addresses that gap, and the findings are significant and somewhat surprising," University of Oregon Institute of Marine Biology principal investigator Aaron Galloway said. "We found that these stars are eager consumers of purple urchins and, most importantly, they even eat the nutritionally poor, starving 'zombie' urchins."

Other important predators of purple sea urchins, such as sea otters, are generally known to avoid eating starving urchins from "barrens" – massive underwater carpets of urchins that have devoured their food supply and can live for years in an emaciated state until kelp grow back.

The new study, funded by The Nature Conservancy and the National Science Foundation, shows that a sunflower sea star on average eats about 0.68 sea urchins per day, and that they eat starved urchins, the ones associated with barrens, 21% faster than they consume the well-fed urchins typical of healthy kelp forests.

"Eating less than one urchin per day may not sound like a lot, but we think there used to be over 5 billion sunflower sea stars," Gravem said. "We used a model to show that the pre-disease densities of sea stars on the U.S. West Coast were usually more than enough to keep sea urchin numbers down and prevent barrens."

Because sunflower sea star recovery is unlikely to happen in the near term without intervention, Gravem said, researchers have developed a "Roadmap to Species Recovery" that includes the world's first captive breeding program for the species and a pathway to re-introduction.

Also collaborating on the study were scientists from the University of Washington and Florida State University.

Steve Lundeberg is a researcher and writer for Oregon State University Relations and Marketing. He may be reached at steve.lundeberg@oregonstate.edu

New OSU research shows climate urgency

STEVE LUNDEBERG *News Guard Guest Column*

An international collaboration led by Oregon State University scientists has identified 27 global warming accelerators known as amplifying feedback loops, including some that the researchers say may not be fully accounted for in climate models.

They note that the findings, published today in the journal One Earth, add urgency to the need to respond to the climate crisis and provide a roadmap for policymakers aiming to avert the most severe consequences of a

emissions."

The paper makes two calls to action for "immediate and massive" emissions reductions:

Minimize short-term warming given that "climate disasters" in the form of wildfires, coastal flooding, permafrost thaw, intense storms and other extreme weather are already occurring.

Mitigate the possible major threats looming from climate tipping points that are drawing ever-closer due to the prevalence of the many amplifying feedback loops. A tipping point is a threshold after which a change in a component of the climate system becomes self-perpetuating. "Transformative, socially just changes in global energy and transportation, shortlived air pollution, food production, nature preservation and the international economy, together with population policies based on education and equality, are needed to meet these challenges in both the short and long term," Ripple said. "It's too late to fully prevent the pain of climate change, but if we take meaningful steps soon while prioritizing human basic needs and social justice, it could still be possible to limit the harm.' Ripple, Wolf and co-authors from the University of Exeter, the Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research, the Woodwell Climate Research Center and Terrestrial Ecosystems Research Associates considered both biological and physical feedbacks. Biological feedbacks include forest dieback, soil carbon loss and wildfire; physical feedbacks involve changes such as reduced snow cover,



warming planet.

In climate science, amplifying feedback loops are situations where a climate-caused alteration can trigger a process that causes even more warming, which in turn intensifies the alteration. An example would be warming in the Arctic, leading to melting sea ice, which results in further warming because sea water absorbs rather than reflects solar radiation.

OSU College of Forestry postdoctoral scholar Christopher Wolf and distinguished professor William Ripple led the study, which in all looked at 41 climate change feedbacks.

"Many of the feedback loops we examined significantly increase warming because of their connection to greenhouse gas emissions," Wolf said. "To the best of our knowledge, this is the most extensive list available of climate feedback loops, and not all of them are fully considered in climate models. What's urgently needed is more research and modeling and an accelerated cutback of

An example would be warming in the Arctic, leading to melting sea ice, which results in further warming because sea water absorbs rather than reflects solar radiation.

increased Antarctic rainfall and shrinking arctic sea ice.

Even comparatively modest warming is expected to heighten the likelihood that the Earth will cross various tipping points, the researchers say, causing big changes in the planet's climate system and potentially strengthening the amplifying feedbacks.

"Climate models may be underestimating the acceleration in global temperature change because they aren't fully considering this large and related set of amplifying feedback loops," Wolf said. "The accuracy of climate models is crucial as they help guide mitigation efforts by telling policymakers about the expected effects of human-caused greenhouse gas emissions. While recent climate models do a much better job of incorporating diverse feedback loops, more progress is needed."

Emissions have risen substantially over the last century, the researchers note, despite several decades of warnings that they should be significantly curbed. The scientists say interactions among feedback loops could cause a permanent shift away from the Earth's current climate state to one that threatens the survival of many humans and other life forms.

"In the worst case, if amplifying feedbacks are strong

enough, the result is likely tragic climate change that's moved beyond anything humans can control," Ripple said. "We need a rapid transition toward integrated Earth system science because the climate can only be fully understood by considering the functioning and state of all Earth systems together. This will require large-scale collaboration, and the result would provide better information for policymakers."

In addition to the 27 amplifying climate feedbacks the scientists studied were seven that are characterized as dampening – they act to stabilize the climate system. An example is carbon dioxide fertilization, where rising concentrations of atmospheric CO2 lead to increasing carbon uptake by vegetation.

Courtesy from OSU

The effects of the remaining seven feedbacks, including increased atmospheric dust and reduced ocean stability, are not yet known.

The paper in One Earth has a corresponding website that features more about climate feedback loops, including infographics and interactive animations.

Steve Lundeberg is a researcher and writer for Oregon State University Relations and Marketing. He may be reached at steve.lundeberg@oregonstate.edu

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How to track your Oregon tax refund

STAFF REPORT Country Media, Inc.

The Oregon Department of Revenue is now issuing refunds due to taxpayers who have filed their 2022 tax returns.

Through March 3, the department had received and processed 681,099 returns and had issued 495,606 refunds.

The agency began processing returns January 23 in the order they were received. However, each year, the department waits until after Feb. 15 to issue personal income tax refunds as part of its tax fraud prevention efforts. The delay allows for confirmation that the amounts claimed on tax returns match what employers report on Forms W-2 and 1099, according to a release from the Oregon Department of Revenue.

Where's My Refund on Revenue Online to see the status of their refund. To check the status of their refund, taxpayers will need their:

• Social Security Number (SSN) or Individual Taxpayer Identification Number (ITIN) • Filing status

• The exact refund amount shown on Line 46 of their Form OR-40, or Line 71 of their Form OR-40-N, or Line 70 of their Form OR-40-P

The Department of Revenue recommends that taxpayers wait one week after they have electronically filed their return to use the Where's My Refund tool.

Where's My Refund will tell taxpayers whether their refund has been issued electronically, a check has been mailed, their refund has been adjusted, there are questions

Taxpayers can check return is being manually processed.

E-filing and requesting direct deposit is the fastest way for a taxpayer to get their refund. On average, taxpayers who e-file their returns and request their refund via direct deposit receive their refund 34 days sooner than taxpayers who mail their paper returns and request paper refund checks.

All Oregon resident taxpayers preparing their own returns in 2023 can file electronically at no cost using one of Oregon's free file options.

Taxpayers can check the status of their federal tax refunds on the IRS website.

Six common reasons refunds take longer and what to do about it

Filing a paper return. Paabout their return, or their per returns take longer to

process and, as a result, it takes longer to issue related refunds. File electronically instead.

Filing electronically and requesting to receive a refund via a check takes longer. Request direct deposit instead. Filing more than once.

Sending a paper return through the mail after e-filing will a delay a refund. Taxpayers should file just once.

Filing during peak filing periods. Refunds are also issued slower during peak filing periods, like the last few weeks before the April 18 deadline. Filing well ahead of the deadline will help taxpayers get their refunds sooner.

Refunds can also be delayed when errors are identified on returns. Taxpayers who receive a letter requesting additional information are urged to respond promptly through Revenue Online to



Metro Creative Connection

Taxpayers can check Where's My Refund on Revenue Online to see the status of their refund.

speed the processing of their return.

Taxpayers who check Where's My Refund one week after they file and receive a message saying their return is being manually processed should watch their mailbox for correspondence from the department.

If it has been 12 weeks or more since they filed their return and they haven't received a letter from the department, taxpayers should call 503-378-4988 or 800-356-4222 to speak with a customer service representative.

New council will address Oregon's housing needs

JEREMY C. RUARK Country Media, Inc.

As Oregon take steps to meet the challenge of homelessness, a new leadership council is in place and was scheduled to conduct its first meeting March 10.

The Council is scheduled to provide a recommended framework for their action plan by April 1. Former Lincoln City Mayor and now State Senator Dick Anderson is one of the council members.

Background

On her first full day in office, Gov. Tina Kotek signed an executive order that set an ambitious housing production goal of 36,000 homes per year and established a council of leaders charged with developing an action plan to meet the new construction targets.

Kotek announced her appointments to the Housing Production Advisory Council (HPAC) March 6.

"I know too many Oregonians are struggling to find stable housing or on the verge of losing it," Kotek said. "Employers, particularly in rural and suburban areas, are struggling to hire and keep staff because there is nowhere for them to live or they are commuting from hours away. This is not sustainable. We must build more housing.'

The HPAC will bring robust experience in a broad set of disciplines and represent Oregon's diverse demographics and geography, according to Kotek.

"We had an incredible list of qualified Oregonians interested in serving on the Council, which reflects not only a shared concern about our housing crisis, but more importantly, the dedication to solve it," Kotek said. "I am grateful for their willingness to serve and look forward to their recommendations."

The order established an annual housing production goal of 36,000 additional housing units at all levels of affordability across the state to address Oregon's current housing shortage and keep pace with projected population growth.

That's an ambitious target,



Metro Creative Connection

The governor's order established an annual housing production goal of 36,000 additional housing units at all levels of affordability across the state to address Oregon's current housing shortage and keep pace with projected population growth

according to Kotek – about an 80 percent increase over current construction trends – and would set Oregon on a path to build 360,000 additional homes over the next decade. This goal was accompanied by the establishment of the HPAC to help get the job done.

The members include a range of housing leaders, local government representatives, bipartisan legislators, a Tribal member, and relevant state agency directors:

Appoint-Gubernatorial ments:

Co-chair J.D. Tovey - rural Oregon and an enrolled member of the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation - land use, building codes and housing development

Co-chair Damien Hall -Metro- land use, and affordable and market housing development

Daniel Bunn - Southern Oregon - land use and financing market housing

Thomas Cody - Metro area - affordable and market housing development

Deborah Flagan - Central Oregon - market housing development and construction

Ernesto Fonseca - Metro area - affordable and market housing development and financing affordable housing

Elissa Gertler - Oregon Coast - land use and financing affordable housing

Riley Hill - rural Oregon land use and market housing development

Natalie Janney - Willamette Valley area - land use. market housing development

Robert Justus - Metro area - affordable and market housing development

Joel Madsen - Columbia Gorge - affordable housing development and financing

Ivory Mathews - Metro area - affordable housing development and financing

Erica Mills - Southern Oregon - financing affordable and market housing Eric Olsen - Willamette

Valley area - construction, market housing development

Gauri Rajbaidya - Metro area - affordable and market housing development

Karen Rockwell - Oregon Coast - affordable and market housing development

Margaret Van Vliet - Metro area - financing market and affordable housing, and affordable housing development

Justin Wood - Metro - construction and market housing development

Legislative appointments and agency members:

Senator Dick Anderson (R Lincoln City)

Senator Kayse Jama (D -Portland)

Representative Jeff Helfrich (R - Hood River)

Maxine Representative Dexter (D - Portland)

Andrea Bell, Oregon Housing and Community Services Director

Brenda Bateman, Oregon Department of Land Conservation and Development Director



LOCAL SPORTS



Tigers Girls Track and Field kick off their new season this month.

Taft spring sports season begins

WILL LOHRE Country Media, Inc.

Spring is just around the corner, and while improving weather is expected, it also means the return of spring sports at Taft High School.

Student athletes are preparing for Softball, Baseball, Track and Field, and Boys and Girls Golf competition this month.

The programs enjoyed competitive success last season, with each of the programs sending athletes to state competitions. Athletic Director Zach Lillebo detailed how the programs fared in their 2022 seasons.

"Baseball and Softball made state playoffs, Softball were league champions, Track and Field took 13 kids to the state track meet, and Boys Golf Team participated in State and one Girl Golfer attended state," Lillebo said.

While every season brings new challenges, Taft hopes to build off the successes from last year. Lillebo said his goals go beyond on-field success, and are "to continue to recruiting students to engage in athletics and build our character and core covenants here at Taft."



Courtesy photo **Taft boys pass the baton as the new season gets underway.**

Track and Field

Last season, the track and field program sent 13 representatives to the state tournament, and Head Coach Pete Doll is excited about this year's team.

"We had some success last year and I'm excited to see us continue and improve upon that success," Doll said. "We have several returning athletes that have the ability to qualify for the state meet and possibly medal. We also

have several young athletes that are looking to develop and gain some experience."

and gain some experience." According to Doll, participation numbers are "good" this year, and the program has about 45 participants, with Doll hoping to build off that number in the future. When asked if there are any standout members of the squad, Doll said there are "too many to mention!" Doll's goal for the team is to sharpen their skills and better understand what it means to be a track and field athlete.

"Understanding how to compete and train as a track athlete, while gaining confidence in their skills," Doll said about what he wants his athletes to take away from their experience.

Doll said he is excited about a sponsored school record board as an incentive for the track and field program.

"We are excited to have created, with the financial support of several community businesses and members, a school record board that will help give athletes a sense of Taft history and goals to strive for," Doll said.

With sponsorships from Les Schwab, Pelican Brewing Company, Beachcrest Brewing, Lincoln County Sanitary, and Morris Excavation, among others, Taft's athletes will have real rewards for achieving on-field excellence.

This season, Taft High School hopes to compete at a high level while building strong community connections.

See Taft High School





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Courtesy photo

Spring Sports schedules and follow results at osaa.com. Read featured spring sports stories at thenewsguard.com.



To register a child or learn more about the camps and instructors, visit www.coastarts.org/camps

Visual Arts, Performance summer camp registration starts

enced teaching artists. Stu-

dents entering grades 1-8 are

invited to explore their cre-

ativity and meet new friends,

STAFF REPORT

Country Media, Inc.

Oregon Coast Council for the Arts has opened registration for Summer 2023 Performing and Visual Arts day camps.

Students entering grades 1-12 (in the fall of 2023) are invited to take part.

Tuition ranges from \$175-\$450, based on camp length, and scholarships are available for all camps. If funds are a barrier to learning, parents/ guardians are encouraged to request scholarship information when registering, or by calling 541-574-3364.

Before and/or after-camp care is also available, during some camps, for an additional fee. Full information at www. coastarts.org/camps.

Shakespeare Camp

Led once again Rod Molzhan, with assistance from Milo Graamans, this year's camp runs June 18-29 at Newport Performing Arts Center and will culminate in a performance of the bard's classic comedy, A Midsummer Night's Dream, on stage at the Newport Performing Arts Center. Students entering grades 6-12 are invited to join the company and help bring this wonderful show to life!

Visual Arts Camps

OCCA's own Arts Edu-

cation Manager, Sara Siggel-

kow, will lead these camps at

Newport Visual Arts Center,

along with a team of experi-

ance as they combine their own vision and imagination with the building blocks of art – line, Arts shape, form, value, space, color, and texture. Camp 1 (for students entering grades 5-8) will take place July 10-14 with full-day

place July 10-14 with full-day and half-day options. Camp 2 (for students entering grades 1-4) is a half-day camp, with morning or afternoon options, and will take place July 24-28.

Theatre Camp

Director Jennifer Hamilton and Associate Director Anna Zimmerman invite students entering 3rd-8th grades to take part in the ultimate performing arts experience July 17-28 at Newport Performing Arts Center. Participants will audition for, be cast in, and mount a full production as they make new friends, find out about the Happy Box, enjoy camp dress-up days, and earn prizes from the camp treasure chest in this enjoyable summer offering.

Students will be cast in one of two shows based on age. The younger group will perform the musical Disney's Newsies Jr., and the older group will perform in the hilarious play The Greek Mythology Olympiaganza.

To register a child or learn more about these camps and instructors, visit www.coastarts.org/camps



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