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# THE NEWS Guard

February 23, 2021

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## The Show Goes On

NEWS GUARD PHOTO/MAX KIRKENDALL

The Lincoln City Playhouse is planning four performances of *Alyse in Wonderland: Steampunk Style* on April 2-4 at the Cultural Center.

### Lincoln City Playhouse preps for upcoming shows

MAX KIRKENDALL  
newsguardeditor@countrymedia.net

About a year ago, the Lincoln City Playhouse was preparing for several performances in March 2020. But the local youth theatre group quickly learned that performances of any kind would not be possible do to the

COVID-19 pandemic.

Now, a year later, the Playhouse is ready to get back on stage as they prep for a full weekend of shows this April.

Over the past year, Lincoln City Playhouse Director Karen Sanquist said she has keeping in contact with her theatre members through texts and Facebook chats. Sanquist said she even hosted a socially distant Halloween party with the theatre crew in

their new home in Otis.

"We just wanted to make sure the kids knew that they weren't forgotten," Sanquist said.

With schools across the state of Oregon preparing to get back in the classroom and into extra curricular activities, Sanquist felt it was a great time to get kids back on stage.

See **PLAYHOUSE**, Page A7



## Sheriff's office investigates possible homicide

THE NEWS GUARD

On February 20, 2021, at approximately 6:15 a.m., Lincoln County Sheriff's Office Dispatch received a call reporting an unconscious male laying alongside the road near Government Hill Road in Siletz, Oregon.

Lincoln County Sheriff's deputies responded to the scene and located Richard Allen Mann, 36, of Logsdens, deceased. Evidence at the scene suggested foul play.

The Lincoln County Major crime team was activated, and the investigation is ongoing.

The Sheriff's Office is being assisted by the Oregon State Police Criminal Investigation Unit (CID), Oregon State Police Forensics, Toledo Police, Newport Police, Lincoln City Police and the Lincoln County District Attorney's Office.

The Sheriff's Office is requesting anyone with information please contact Detective Abby Dorsey at 541-265-0777 and refer to case 21S-00358.

# Public Health awaits COVID-19 vaccine shipment

MAX KIRKENDALL  
newsguardeditor@countrymedia.net

Last week, Lincoln County Public Health learned that the Moderna COVID-19 vaccines still have not shipped from the production facility in Tennessee due to weather.

Lincoln County was expecting 1,200 doses of the vaccine last week (500 prime and 700 second doses). In addition, Public Health was expecting 1,300 vaccines for this week (900 prime and 400 second doses).

The Oregon Health Authority is in close contact with the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) regarding the vaccine shipments and as of last Friday, Public Health was still unaware of when the vaccines would be shipped.

The delay caused five clinics this week to be rescheduled to next week. Here is the most recent update for the clinics:

- Tuesday February 23, Lincoln County Commons (Fairgrounds) first dose clinic – (rescheduled from 2/16/21).

- Tuesday February 23, St. Claire (Taft) Fire Station first dose clinic – (rescheduled from 2/18/21).

- Wednesday February 24, St. Clair (Taft) Fire Station first dose clinic – (rescheduled from 2/16/21).

- Wednesday February 24 Lincoln County Commons (Fairgrounds) second dose clinic – (rescheduled from 2/18/21).

- Thursday, February 25 Lincoln County Commons (Fairgrounds) second dose clinic – (rescheduled from 2/19/21).

- Senior Living or Nurs-

ing Homes: Lakeview, Sea Aire, and Oceanview second dose vaccines will be administered at the facility.

"The software systems used to schedule and send reminders had technical issues and reminder notices were confusing or incorrect," Health Department Director Rebecca Austen said in the weekly report.

Late last week, Public Health staff worked to send correct notices to over 1,500 people, including calling all of those who had emails that bounced back.

"Lincoln County was a leader in the state in getting vaccines to people as quickly as possible after receiving weekly allotments," Austen said. "This ambitious effort by our community partners was working, but also had some unforeseen repercussions. One



COURTESY PHOTO

Lincoln County Public Health continues to wait for the delayed shipment of the COVID-19 vaccine doses.

week our allotment was reduced to zero vaccines so other counties could catch up, and then this week we had to postpone clinics be-

cause we did not have any extra vaccine on hand."

As a result of these events, the multi-agency coordinating (MAC) group

has made the decision to refrain from scheduling new clinics until Public Health receives the vaccines. The county will keep some vaccine in reserve each week so they can avoid rescheduling clinics if there are delays in delivery again.

There is no concern with the effectiveness of these vaccines after a delay," Austen said. "They have been kept in cold storage at the production facility. Also, the CDC guidance states the second dose should be given at least 28 days after the first dose, and there is no maximum interval between the first and second dose."

To learn how to get a vaccine you can call 211, or 541-265-0621, or visit our website at <https://www.co.lincoln.or.us/hhs/page/covid-19-vaccine>.

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WEATHER

TUE.	WED.	THU.	FRI.	SAT.	SUN.	MON.
47/36°	48/39°	47/43°	47/43°	48/40°	49/40°	47/37°

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# State plans for more equitable vaccine distribution

ZACK DEMARS  
Country Media

Oregon is faring better than other states during the COVID-19 pandemic — but not by every measure.

During a press conference Feb. 19, state health officials discussed plans to address racial and ethnic disparities in who's getting the COVID-19 vaccine, as well as other news about the status of the pandemic across the state.

"At a minimum, we need to make sure our vaccinations proportionately reflect the faces of our communities," said Oregon Health Authority Director Patrick Allen. "But we want to do more. Our COVID-19 efforts should be a model for how we're eliminating health disparities in Oregon."

Allen pointed to a few statistics which show the inequities in Oregon's vaccine distribution. He said the state's Latino population has the most pronounced disparities: While Latinos make up 13% of the population and 26% of the state's COVID-19 cases, Allen said it only accounts for about 5% of the vaccines administered to date.

On the other hand, white people make up 75% of the population and about half of the state's virus cases, but 74% of the vaccines distributed, Allen said.

Allen went on to say that the effects of the pandemic have hit communities of color the hardest, particularly because those communities tend to see higher rates



STOCK PHOTO

**People over 70 will be eligible for the vaccine starting Feb. 22, and those over 65 will be eligible March 1, OHA said last week.**

of underlying conditions due to uneven access to care and a history of unfair treatment.

"I want to be perfectly clear, health inequities are the product of systemic racism, toxic stress, the targeted marketing of harmful products like tobacco and sugary beverages, and other factors. This is not about personal choice," Allen said. "This is about the weight of larger social inequities that cut short lives and opportunity more often for people in communities of color."

In response, Allen said the state would promote a more equitable distribution of COVID-19 doses across the state by prioritizing pharmacies and federally quali-

fied health centers which serve communities disproportionately impacted by the virus.

OHA officials also expect those rates to become more equitable as vaccine eligibility expands: Most of the groups already eligible for vaccines skew whiter than the rest of the population yet to be eligible, Allen said.

"Just by simple virtue of who's eligible, we'll begin to be able to start addressing that," Allen said.

#### Doses up, cases down

State officials on Friday shared a number of positive data points which suggest Oregon is trending in a better direction in the

pandemic than many other states across the country.

Governor Kate Brown pointed to the number of schools which have reopened in Oregon as a positive. Over 130,000 students are back in classrooms, more than double the number than eight weeks earlier when Brown directed officials to prioritize school reopenings, the governor said.

"Our kids will benefit greatly from these efforts," Brown said. "It's my expectation that more schools will bring students back for in-person learning in the coming weeks."

Those classroom returns have largely been driven by significant decreases in the state's rate of new virus cases, hospitalizations and deaths in the past several weeks.

According to State Epidemiologist Dr. Dean Sidelinger, the seven-day rolling average of daily cases is down by two-thirds since the beginning of the year, and virus hospitalizations have dropped by more than half in the same time.

The state's test positivity rate is down to its lowest point since the state changed how it calculates the figure in mid-November, too, Sidelinger said.

"The downward data trends in cases, hospitalizations and percent positivity reflect the shared sacrifice of Oregonians, and the collaborative efforts of Oregonians to protect their families and their communities by wearing masks, limiting indoor gatherings and keeping physical distance," Side-

linger said.

One number is steadily increasing, through: The state's expected allocation of COVID-19 vaccine doses. Despite delays in doses of the Moderna vaccine due to winter storms across the country, OHA officials said the state remains on track with its vaccination timetables.

That means people over 70 will be eligible for the vaccine starting Feb. 22, and those over 65 will be eligible March 1, according to Allen.

"I want to ask people who are newly eligible the same thing I've asked everyone who's come before them: Please be patient," Allen said. "Vaccines remain limited. We're getting more doses, but we still don't have enough to vaccinate everyone on demand."

Allen said the state expects to receive about 107,000 total doses per week starting next week, up from around 83,000 the week before (not accounting for weather-delayed shipments).

As always, the state officials said there's still risk of the virus spreading faster across the state with new variants or reduced precautionary measures.

Individuals should continue wearing masks, social distancing and staying home when sick, and anyone who escaped power outages or winter storms by sheltering in someone else's home should be vigilant for virus symptoms and get tested if they appear, Brown said.

## Sen. Anderson introduces 'Stimulus Check Protection Act'

#### THE NEWS GUARD

Last week, Senator Dick Anderson (R-Lincoln City) is drafting legislation that would prohibit the state of Oregon from taxing federal economic impact payments.

"The sole purpose of federal stimulus checks was to give people help when they needed it the most," Sen. Anderson said. "There is no justification for the

state to be taking some off the top. Helping people get back on their feet means helping them keep more money in their pockets."

An estimated 870,000 Oregonians will be sending part of their federal stimulus checks to the state government because of a reduced federal tax subtraction on state returns. Because federal subtractions are phased out at higher income levels and not ap-

plicable for low-income earners with no federal tax liability, middle-class families are hit hardest by the loophole.

"Struggling working families need our help, not for the government to be taking more money from them during these challenging times," Sen. Anderson continued. "It's an issue of fairness. Should the state be taking money that was intended to help people? I

don't think so, and most my constituents from the coast don't think so either."

An average family of four would see nearly \$300 of their federal stimulus money go to the state in personal income taxes, bringing over \$110 million over the next few years in state revenue, according to a Legislative Revenue report.

"\$300 can make a big difference for families who are struggling to afford groceries, childcare, or making rent," Sen. Anderson said. "While we will be dealing with the impacts of the economic devastation the pandemic has brought for years, this is a good first step. I look forward to finding more ways to help our small businesses and working families recover."

Per state law, the earli-



COURTESY PHOTO

**The new legislation would prohibit the state of Oregon from taxing federal economic impact payments.**

est bills that affect state finances can go into effect is 91 days after the end of the legislative session. Thus, filers may opt to amend this year's tax filing or apply for a tax credit on next year's taxes. Other

provisions included in the legislation would also exempt any future stimulus checks from state taxes. The bill is currently being drafted with Legislative Counsel and a bill number will follow.

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# Rescue crews save juvenile fisherman from Drift Creek

**MAX KIRKENDALL**  
newsguardeditor@countrymedia.net

On Feb. 15, around 11:21 a.m., North Lincoln Fire and Rescue (NLFR) crews were dispatched to locate and rescue a 16 year old male who had gone fishing in Drift Creek and was unable to get out of the water.

In the morning, the juvenile had crossed the creek while the water was low. By noon, when he tried to get back, the water had risen significantly. Between the high tide and significant rain run off, water had become a deep, fast

running river.

The male attempted to cross the water but fell in and was able to get out on his own. He was still on the opposite side of the river, according to NLFR.

He had a cell phone, however, the battery was extremely low. He was able to call his family, who then called 911 asking for assistance. Lincoln City Dispatch was able to get him to call 911 and they were able to "ping" his cell phone for an exact location. That location picture was sent to NLFR and they were able to use mapping to find him quickly.

NLFR deployed rescue swimmer Brandon Lauritson who made his way across with equipment, then roping across an inflatable rapid deployment craft (RDC) and safely moving the young man across the river. He was evaluated by EMS and returned to a grateful family.

"I want to remind everyone going out for recreational activities: dress appropriately, let your family know where you are going and when to expect you to return, have a fully charged cell phone," NLFR crews said. "Excellent teamwork by dispatch and NLFR."



COURTESY PHOTO

North Lincoln Fire and Rescue was able to locate and rescue a juvenile fisherman who was struggling to get out of the Drift Creek.

# Local man arrested after crashing into house near Otis

**JEREMY C. RUARK**  
Country Media

A Lincoln City man faces numerous criminal charges after he allegedly crashed his vehicle into a house in the 5000 block of NE East Devils Lake Road near Otis.

On Feb. 18, at approximately 3:29 a.m., a Lincoln County Sheriff's deputy was dispatched to the scene after it was reported that a vehicle had left the roadway and struck a house.

Members of the Lincoln City Police Department, North



COURTESY PHOTO

LCPD arrested the man who was under the influence of intoxicants.

Lincoln Fire & Rescue and Pacific West Ambulance also responded to the crash.

According to a release from Lincoln City Police, the driver of the vehicle, later identified as Andrew D. Ainslie, of Lincoln City, had initially fled the scene of the crash on foot. Lincoln City Police officers were able to locate Ainslie and detain him near the location of the crash. The residents of the home struck by the vehicle were not injured as a result of the crash.

Ainslie was transported to Samaritan North Lincoln

Hospital by Pacific West Ambulance. The investigating county deputy determined that at the time of the crash, Ainslie was under the influence of a controlled substance while operating his motor vehicle. Ainslie did not sustain injuries from the crash.

Ainslie was issued citations for Criminal Mischief in the First Degree, Reckless Driving, Failure to Perform Duties of a Driver (Property Damage) and Driving Under the Influence of Intoxicants. Ainslie's vehicle was later towed from the location.

# USGS announces Pacific Northwest earthquake system

THE NEWS GUARD

Starting March 11, 2021, ShakeAlert-powered earthquake early warning alerts will be available for delivery directly to wireless devices in Oregon.

In May 2021, Washington state will follow suit and complete the ShakeAlert public alerting rollout across the entire West Coast. California enabled ShakeAlert-powered alerts in October 2019.

As massive slabs of Earth squish into and grind past each other off the coast of the Pacific Northwest, many people may wonder when they will feel ensuing earthquakes, according to the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS).

Although the USGS cannot predict where and when future earthquakes will occur, the bureau, along with a team of organizations, helped create a system that can provide vital seconds of warning that an earthquake is happening and shaking is imminent.

### How it works

The ShakeAlert Earthquake Early Warning system is a network of sensors that collect and share real-time information about the magnitude, location and expected shaking from earthquakes on the West Coast to distribution partners who then deliver alerts via cell phones and the internet. Partners can also initiate automatic protective actions such as stopping trains to prevent derailments and closing water valves to protect infrastructure.

ShakeAlert can save lives and reduce injuries by giving people time to take protective actions, such as moving away from hazardous areas and making sure to drop, cover and hold on, according to the USGS. ShakeAlert complements existing products from the Advanced National Seismic System that contribute to earthquake risk reduction.

For the first time, ShakeAlert-powered alerts will be delivered directly to wireless devices in Oregon starting on March 11, 2021. Oregon will be the second state to "go live," following California on Oct. 17, 2019. Washington state will join Oregon and California in May 2021, which will complete the wireless alert delivery rollout across the entire continental West Coast.

For more than two years, a growing number of ShakeAlert technical partners in all three states have been using the ShakeAlert system for triggering automated actions to support public safety. Although ShakeAlert is operational in all three states, the USGS and its university and state partners are working to finish building the seismic network to support prompt earthquake detection. The network is now 70% complete for the West Coast, with 1,132 out of 1,675 seismic stations installed as of Jan. 31, 2021.

"The rollout of public alerting for ShakeAlert in the Pacific Northwest is a major milestone in the evolution of this critical system and has the potential to provide users

with life-saving warnings seconds before they experience damaging shaking in future earthquakes," Gavin Hayes, USGS senior science advisor for earthquake and geologic hazards, said. "This represents a major achievement for the USGS, the ANSS and for our state and regional partners."

### Upcoming events

To help residents of the Pacific Northwest learn how to use ShakeAlert, a team of organizations is rolling out various events and resources over the next few months.

February 18: Pacific Northwest ShakeAlert Ask Me Anything on Reddit

February 25: Washington state ShakeAlert Wireless Emergency Alert (WEA) demonstration

March 11: ShakeAlert-powered alert delivery to wireless devices goes live in Oregon

May: ShakeAlert-powered alert delivery to wireless devices goes live in Washington Pacific Northwest ShakeAlert Ask Me Anything on Reddit

On Feb. 18, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. PST, ShakeAlert

partners will host a Reddit Ask Me Anything focused on ShakeAlert in the Pacific Northwest.

Representatives from the USGS, Oregon Office of Emergency Management, Pacific Northwest Seismic Network, University of Oregon and Washington State Emergency Management Division will answer questions related to the Washington State WEA demonstration, Oregon and Washington alert delivery rollouts, and anything else that relates to ShakeAlert earthquake early warning in the Pacific Northwest.

ShakeAlert Wireless Emergency Alert demonstration in Washington

On Thursday, Feb. 25 at 11 a.m. PST, the Washington Emergency Management Division and the USGS will jointly deliver a ShakeAlert-powered WEA test message through FEMA's Integrated

Public Alerting & Warning System across wireless devices in King, Pierce and Thurston counties. This test coincides with the 20th anniversary of the Feb. 28, 2001, Nisqually earthquake, which was Washington's most recent damaging earthquake. WEA is one of multiple methods used by the ShakeAlert earthquake early warning system that will provide public alerting in Washington state beginning in May of this year.

The Washington Emergency Management Division is excited to test the ShakeAlert earthquake early warning system and complete it for the West Coast.

"There are a lot of people who remember the Nisqually earthquake and testing our earthquake early warning system is a great way for us to get ready for the rollout of public alerting to wireless devices in May," said Maximilian

Dixon, geologic hazards supervisor for the Washington Emergency Management Division. "Testing WEA distribution of ShakeAlert-powered alerts on Feb 25th is an important step before rolling out public alerting to wireless devices in May. This is all part of a monumental effort to reduce our state's earthquake and tsunami risk."

To participate in this test, members of the public in these three counties will need to OPT IN. The device may vibrate and/or make a distinctive sound and a message will appear in a text window on the screen. The WEA test message will say the following, depending on your phone's language setting:

English: TEST of the Earthquake Alert System. (<https://mil.wa.gov/alerts>) TEST -USGS ShakeAlert



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NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that DAVID W. JOHNSON and JAMES R. JOHNSON have been appointed co-personal representatives. All persons having claims against the estate are required to present them, with vouchers attached, to Co-Personal Representatives, DAVID W. JOHNSON and JAMES R. JOHNSON, 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 David V. Cramer, OSB #992479  
Andrews Ersoff & Zantello  
2941 NW Highway 101  
Lincoln City, OR 97367  
DATED and first published: February 23, 2021 /S/ DAVID V. CRAMER  
David V. Cramer, Attorney for Personal Representative

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Public Notices

County Circuit Court Case No. 21PB00989. All persons having claims against the estate are required to present the same within four months from the first date of publication of this notice to the Personal Representative, Roy J. Bade c/o Harrington Legal LLC, 142 W. 8th Ave., Eugene, OR 97401.  
Any person whose rights may be affected by these proceedings may obtain additional information from the records of the above-titled Court or from the Personal Representative or from the Personal Representative's attorney, Connor J. Harrington, of Harrington Legal LLC, 142 W. 8th Ave., Eugene, Oregon 97401.  
DATED and first published: February 16, 2021. /S/ Connor J. Harrington  
Attorney for the Personal Representative

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

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions forward, backward, up, down and diagonally  
Unlisted clue hint: ENGLISH PUBLIC HOUSE

Bar Cider house Lounge Saloon  
Barroom Gin mill Nightclub Taproom  
Beer hall Honky-tonk Ratskeller Tavern  
Cantina Inn Roadhouse

**HOCUS-FOCUS** BY HENRY BOLTIHOFF

Find at least six differences in details between panels.

Differences: 1. Sweater has decoration. 2. Doorknob is missing. 3. Boots are taller. 4. One shovel is gone. 5. Fence is higher. 6. House is missing.

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**Weekly SUDOKU**  
by Linda Thistle

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

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

**DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦♦**

♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging  
♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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**More Fun & Games**  
@ TheNewsGuard.com/games

**SNOWFLAKES**  
by Japheth Light

There are 13 black hexagons in the puzzle. Place the numbers 1 - 6 around each of them. No number can be repeated in any partial hexagon shape along the border of the puzzle.

**DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦♦♦**

♦ Easy ♦♦ Medium ♦♦♦ Difficult

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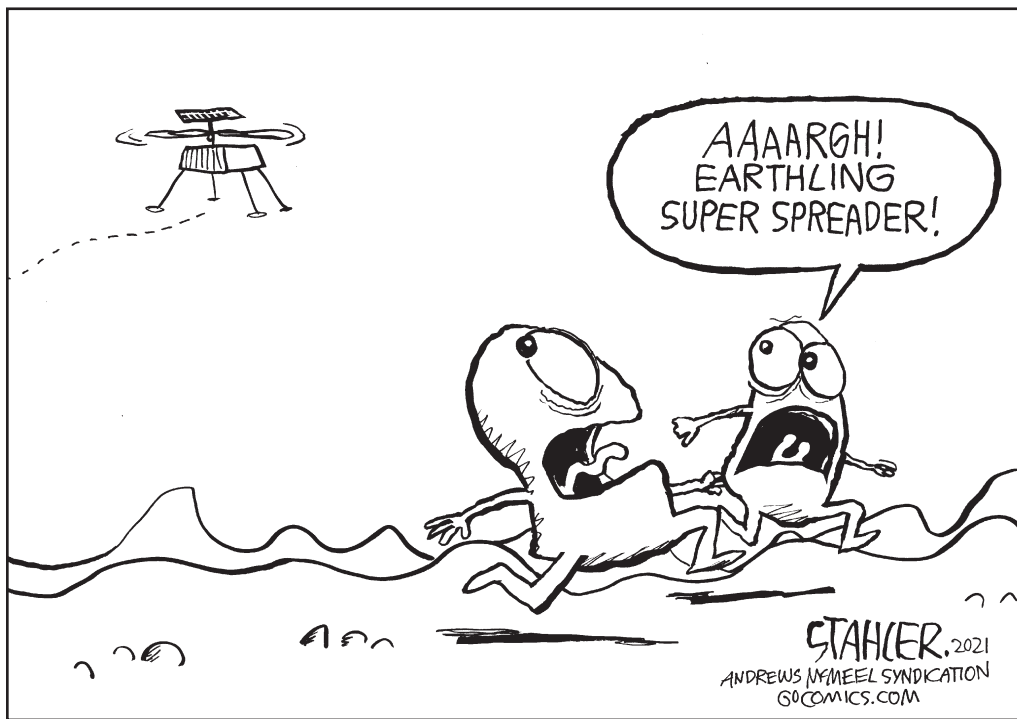
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ONLINE POLL

*This week*  
**Are you happy with the state's plans for vaccine distribution?**

- Yes
- No

*Last week's results*  
**Do you think school sports should be starting this month?**

**52% Yes**  
**48% No**

Vote online at [thenewsguard.com](http://thenewsguard.com) see how your opinion compares.

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**VOICES OF THE COMMUNITY**

**Response to "Myths About STR's"**

Being workers who live and really enjoy Lincoln City, my wife and I were surprised to learn from our neighbor to the south, Kelly Gresh, that "many workers and families don't even want to live on the coast."

I wonder if my neighbors who work at Safeway and the contractor who lives

across from us knows about how little appeal Lincoln City has to workers. I didn't realize that we lived in such an unappealing place. Lots of sun in Toledo you say?

In all seriousness, Ms. Gresh is correct in her assessment of how housing costs prohibit working people from living on the coast, but would those housing prices be so high if buyers looking for an actual house to live in didn't have to compete with wealthy in-

vestors from Orange County buying up properties and turning them into vacation rentals?

I would also like to know where Lincoln City is supposed to sprawl out into the countryside. To the north there is a National Forest, to the east a giant lake, timberlands and more national Forest, and to the south the Siletz River Delta.

The area that the city can grow, up the Salmon River, is in a low lying flood

plain, and what can be used for housing is being rebuilt after the catastrophic wildfire. Maybe where we could agree is that there should be some rezoning in Lincoln City so more housing can be built.

In addition to providing an equitable distribution of space, denser communities would cut down on traffic on Highway 101 and Highway 18. There are many empty commercial structures in Lincoln City.

What is keeping the council from zoning these areas for apartments and small homes? Of course, because working people really don't like living on the coast anyway, maybe we ought to get the state to build little shacks in Salem and shuttle workers in, making sure of course, that the help is back on the bus to the Valley by sundown.

Michael Edwards,  
Lincoln City

**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 World 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](mailto:newsguardeditor@countrymedia.net) or P.O. Box 848, Lincoln City, OR, 97367-0848. Letters can also be submitted at [thenewsguard.com](http://thenewsguard.com).

**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:**

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**IN MEMORY**

Submission deadline for Obituaries is 12 p.m. on the Friday before publication.

**Michael Lee Davis**

Mike was born in Redding, CA, on March 31, 1951. Much of his childhood was spent getting into mischief with younger brothers, a total of five after his mother, Betty, married Marty Davis.

While spending time with his maternal grandparents, Glen and Virgi Showalter, he discovered a love of working on cars with his Grandpa Glen. He spent lots of time motorcycling in the desert outside their home in Barstow, CA.

After graduating from high school, Michael joined the Navy rather than waiting to be drafted. He became a "shooter" on the USS Coral Sea, spent time in the Tonkin Gulf during the Vietnam War, and he was honorably discharged from active service in 1972.

Upon discharge, Michael started working for the California Department of



Forestry in Redding, while serving out his Naval commitment in the Reserves. He was introduced by a co-worker to single mom Betty Stone and her son, Robbie. Mike and Betty married in 1973. Michael spent the next 47 years devoted to making Betty happy.

In 1974, they moved to Pierce, ID, for a job at the Potlatch mill; when it closed, Michael moved to Lewiston's Potlatch. They moved across the river to Clarkston, WA,

where, in 1975, Michael and Betty welcomed their son, Michael Damien, into the family.

Michael had many hobbies over the years. He loved hunting for deer and elk, fishing, and camping. After retirement, he loved camping getaways with his brother, David. He also enjoyed winter pursuits like cross country skiing, sledding and tubing with his kids, and snowmobiling. He loved motorcycling as a teen, and he took up four-wheeling as an adult.

Mike maintained his lifelong passion for automobiles by working on a steady rotation of new-to-him cars. He had luck from time to time in casinos, and he always joined in the yearly Super Bowl pool.

He especially loved family activities.

Michael worked a job he didn't like for 33 years in order to provide for his wife and kids. They sent two sons

to the University of Washington, a great sacrifice in Cougar Country.

After retiring, Mike and Betty moved to Betty's favorite place, the Oregon Coast, which they had been to many times during their sons' school breaks.

Michael loved playing with his grandkids more than anything, and he was so happy that he got to teach his grandson how to fish and his granddaughter how to drive the golf cart.

Somehow, while working a gruelling three-shift rotation and taking care of his family, Michael carved out time to study something he'd always wanted to do.

Of his personal achievements, Michael was probably most proud that he mastered math and physics to teach himself aerodynamics, and he learned to fly.

And fly away he did, gently, surrounded by family, the night of February 6, 2021.

Michael is survived by

wife, Betty Joy Davis; son Robb Davis and spouse Elizabeth; son Michael Davis, spouse Stacie, and their children, Nora and Em; mother, Betty Baughman; five brothers; aunts and uncles; many nieces and nephews on both sides of the family; and many friends from wherever he lived, especially the Lewiston/Clarkston Valley and the Central Oregon Coast.

Because he disliked being the center of attention, there will be no formal services. In lieu of flowers or other gifts, please send your favorite memory or story about Michael. These stories may be sent via email to [michaelmemories5121@gmail.com](mailto:michaelmemories5121@gmail.com). Please include pictures if you have them! If you would rather send via USPS, please send to:

Robb Davis  
4875 N. Hwy. 101, #77  
Depoe Bay, OR 97341  
Attn: Michael Memories.



**Donald R. Jenkins**

July 3, 1944 -  
February 15, 2021

Donald R. Jenkins passed away after a lengthy illness with his family at his side.

He was born in Quincy, Illinois to Hercules and Edith

Jenkins. Don grew up in the village of Columbus, Illinois where he attended a one room schoolhouse through the fourth grade. He spent his summers riding his bike on the nearby country roads of Adams County, fishing local streams and ponds, and avoiding many chores by practicing the piano.

His mother, the local postmistress was his first music teacher. He played his first church service at the Columbus Christian Church at the age of 9. He received a Conservatory degree from the Quincy School of Music at age 16.

Don attended Illinois State University, graduating with a Bachelor of Music in 1966. He taught in the Chicago area, Griggsville, Illinois, and Annawan Illinois schools.

While teaching in Annawan, he became the organist at the Episcopal Church in Geneseo, Illinois, playing a tracker-based pipe organ that had traveled to the church via a covered wagon. He met his wife, Susan, at the church. He enlisted in the US Navy in 1969; they were married on Dec. 25, 1969 in Griggsville while he was home on leave.

He served as a tutor at the Navy School of Music in Norfolk, VA and as part of the USPACNAV band based in Coronado, Ca.

His eldest son, Matthew, was born while Don's band was stationed in the South China Sea on the USS Ranger. Their second son, Nathaniel, was born while Don was stationed at Coronado.

After leaving the Navy, Don studied at San Diego State, receiving a MS in Music with a specialty in keyboard instruments. He taught in Riverside, California, serving several area churches as

Director of Music during that period.

In 1978, Don brought his family to the Oregon coast so his boys could enjoy the best air in the world as well as the freedoms of small-town childhoods. He taught music for many years in the Lincoln County Schools from Rose Lodge to Eddyville to Waldport.

He served as the Organist Choirmaster at the First Presbyterian Church in Newport, Oregon for 42 years, only recently giving up service support as his illness gradually depleted his strength. While at the church, he directed several choirs over the years, playing piano, harpsichord, and the "mighty" Bond pipe organ which, he designed for the sanctuary there, working with the custom builders of the Bond Organ Company of Portland Oregon.

Don was highly regarded locally as a keyboardist and his generosity towards other

musicians, especially beginners, was well known. He served as Dean of the Salem chapter of the American Guild of Organists, giving several master classes in hymn playing as well as individual recitals.

Don loved to garden and was justly proud of his perennial garden in Depoe Bay which he developed after retiring from the local public schools. Don was deeply loved by his family, respected by his colleagues, and adored by his church community as well as the generations of students he taught over his long career. His great sense of humor saved many a rehearsal from collapsing into chaos. He enjoyed his grandchildren's summer visits and was justly proud of his sons.

He is survived by his wife Susan, sons Nathaniel and Matthew, daughter-in-law Adriana, grandchildren Sofia and Cyrus, brother Ron Pieper and sister Rhonda Tymeson.

He was preceded in death by his parents and his eldest sister Dorothy Knight. The family wants to thank the staff at PCH for their loving care during his last days.

Bateman Funeral home oversees all arrangements. A celebration of his life will be held at a later date. The family ask that you please hold any flower arrangements until that time.

See more on Page A8

**The News Guard has several 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 pick-up (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.
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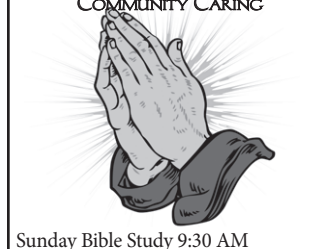
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# Police Blotter

The police blotter relates the public record of incidents as reported by the Lincoln City Police. All individuals arrested or charged with a crime are presumed innocent until proven guilty. Information printed is preliminary and subject to change.

## LINCOLN CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT

### MONDAY, FEB. 15

12:59 a.m. Impound Tow, 2224 NE Hwy 101, Dairy Queen. Vehicle was stopped for initial traffic violation. Driver was cited

for driving while suspended, driving uninsured and warned for operating without required lighting. Car Care responded for the tow and impounded the vehicle.

1:57 a.m. Impound Tow, 2000 Block NW Hwy 101. Officer initiated a traffic stop. Driver cited for driving while suspended and driving uninsured. Car Care responded for impound tow.

4:16 a.m. Assist on Arrest/DUIL, NE East Devils Lake Rd./NE 50th St. LCPD responded to assist Lincoln County Sheriff's Office with a vehicle crash with a vehicle on its top, down an embankment. Driver was

the only occupant and was uninjured. Driver was taken into custody and transported to LCPD where LCSO assumed the investigation.

12:58 p.m. Found Property, 95 SW Hwy 101, D River. Subject at LCPD turned in a Mexican passport found on the beach.

2:03 p.m. Assault, 5001 SW Hwy 101, Snug Harbor. Caller reported a male rolling around on the sidewalk. Officer responded, subject was taken to hospital by ambulance and reported that he had been assaulted.

6:34 p.m. Assist on Arrest, 801 SW Hwy 101, McKays. Subject detained for LCSO for harassment. LCSO

responded to the scene.

### TUESDAY, FEB. 16

11:27 a.m. Theft, 1609 NW 30th St. Caller reported theft of a Sony DVD and Miscellaneous equipment.

11:58 a.m. Domestic/Restraining Order, 1551 SE 3rd St. Caller reported a physical domestic at location. Restraining order was confirmed on both subjects. Both were taken into custody and transported to LCPD. On subject charged with Assault IV, violation of restraining order. Second subject charged with interfering with making a report, Domestic Harassment and violation of restraining or-

der. Both taken to Lincoln County Jail.

1:46 p.m. Hit and Run, 4157 N Hwy 101, Pub Fish and Chips. Caller reported a vehicle was hit while parked in the parking lot over the weekend.

3:03 p.m. Found Property, 4702 SE 51st St. Anonymous subject found a shellfish license, brought it to LCPD.

7:42 p.m. Interfering With Police, SE 3rd St./Hwy 101. Officer warned passenger about interfering with police during a traffic stop. Driver cited, passenger warned.

8:18 p.m. Warrant

Service, 1777 NW 44th St., Chinook Winds Casino. Subject cited and released on Lincoln County warrant charging possession of meth.

11:05 p.m. Assist on Arrest, 800 SE Hwy 101, Lincoln City Sporting Goods. Caller reported males walking around outside of business checking doors. Suspect was cited and released for a Marion County warrant. Both suspects were trespassed from the location.

11:39 p.m. Fight, 3517 NW Hwy 101, Motel 6. Caller reported a physical fight in a vehicle parked in the upper parking lot.

# Playhouse

From page A1

The Lincoln City Playhouse held auditions for their next performance a few weeks ago, and much to the delight of the director, Sanquist said they had 28 kids audition, which was a little above their average.

"I was really hoping for maybe 10-15 kids," Sanquist said. "I know a lot of it is parents wanting to get their kids involved in things again and the kids as well. They've all missed not being in school and seeing their friends."

For their first play of 2021, the theatre group will be performing *Alyse in Wonderland*: steampunk style. The play was written by Jo Storm Lane, a theatre teacher and director at Roosevelt High School in Portland. Jo Storm Lee also happens to be a close friend of Sanquist who made several costumes for the original performance in which her daughter played mini Alyse.

"As soon as (Jo Storm Lane) found out we were starting the Playhouse up, she offered it to us. Because we are kind of starting over again and don't have a budget at all, we felt that it would be the perfect time to take it on," Sanquist said.

The Playhouse has started some fundraising for costumes and props and hosts rehearsals two days a week, one virtual and one in person at the Lincoln City Cultural Center.

"Our original plan with this play was to do everything over Zoom and then have all the kids come to our house individually to record it and do a Facebook event," Sanquist said. "But after talking with the Cultural Center, who was allowed to reopen to limited capacity, we decided to do a one week-end show."

"The Cultural Center offered us a time slot one day a week to rehearse, and we thought it was great because it's so much easier to do rehearsals on the stage that you will be performing on."

As of right now, the Lincoln City Playhouse is planning four shows starting April 2 with two shows on April 3 and one show on April 4. Tickets will be on sale March 1 for \$10 for adults and \$5 for kids. They will be available on the Cultural Center website.

Right now, the group is planning to have 25 audience members per performance, but that number is subject to change based on the CO-

VID-19 guidelines. But for those still at home, the Lincoln City Playhouse will be offering tickets to a live stream of the performance in a private facebook group. It'll be the group's first live streamed performance.

"We're hoping that will get us a little more participation within our audience so grandparents and family wherever can watch it," Sanquist said.

### New Guidelines

Currently doing one virtual and one in person rehearsal a week, the Lincoln City Playhouse has had to adjust to the new restrictions and guidelines that pertain to the COVID-19 pandemic. Guidelines include mandatory face covering use, doing temperature checks, asking health related questions before each meeting and of course, frequent clean-

ing. The Cultural Center also has a 24 hour period in between events.

"We also turn on Zoom during the in person meeting so that way even if a someone can't be there that day they can still watch and participate," Sanquist said.

Although all the speaking roles have been filled, Sanquist said there are still supporting roles available and other options for anyone looking to get involved.

"We can always take on a few more kids," Sanquist said. "The big thing is that we make sure we have space on stage to keep everyone socially distanced."

Sanquist said anyone interested can reach out to her personally or on the Lincoln City Playhouse Facebook page. The public can also reach out to her to make donations for costumes and sets.

"I think having the-

atre right now is important for several reasons," Sanquist said. "One is to make sure they know that they have friends and kids their own age to reach out to. Also, with kids being isolated and being at home, being able to get involved in an activity can really push them past their boundaries to get to know people who are going to support them and be there for them."



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## COMMUNITY

## Lakeview Senior Living celebrates Program Director

## THE NEWS GUARD

Lakeview Senior Living congratulates Michelle O'Neil, Program Director of their memory care program, on her employment anniversary and on continued successes in The Gardens, Lakeview's secure memory care unit.

"Memory Care is not easy, glamorous or mundane," says O'Neil. "It is hard work, messy and full of the unexpected! I've had the pleasure of working with seniors in a myriad of ways, over the last 15 years. Prior to working with seniors I worked in the financial field for 10 years. I worked banker's hours, wore heels



Michelle O'Neil

every day and when I left the building I was done and had no worries. I don't wear heels anymore, I'm on call 24/7, and I'm always thinking of my residents. I love it

and would never trade it for anything!"

Memory care differs from assisted living in that assisted living team members provide assistance with activities of daily living (bathing, transferring, medication management, etc.), meals, and housekeeping for the elderly and/or disabled. Memory care offers highly supervised care to residents with cognitive impairment (Alzheimer's disease, dementias, etc.) in a secure setting, meeting the needs that are part of having a cognitive impairment and the very specific needs each individual resident.

"Memory care isn't easy," said O'Neil. "Holding the hand of a dying resident,

who has no loved ones to visit them, cleaning up blood, fecal matter and urine, working long shifts, and having to tell family members their loved one passed away. I'm a senior advocate and they need the dedication of people who have compassion for them. I've been able to hire and educate care staff on how to assist residents with their daily activities of living. I teach them how to dress, toilet, feed, bathe, transfer, give meds and all the other things that caregivers need to know. I unfortunately cannot teach them compassion, therefore I'm very picky about who I choose to be part of my team."

"Michelle is a fantastic

asset," said Jennifer Whitmyer, Executive Director of Lakeview Senior Living. "She's trained memory care directors and executive directors all over Oregon, Washington, and Colorado over the years. She's made a huge difference here, not just for our residents, but for their families and our staff, too."

Recent events have added to the challenges caring for those with cognitive impairment.

"Between the pandemic and the wildfires here, our staff and families have been deeply impacted," said O'Neil. "Our residents feel this impact as well and I want them to thrive. Just

because a person has dementia doesn't mean they're not a person anymore. The reward comes when you connect with that person and they come shining through. There's nothing sweeter."

Meanwhile, the work continues.

"Memory care is hard work. Very hard work," said O'Neil. "But I truly love what I do; the good, the bad, and the sad."

Lakeview Senior Living is proud to celebrate Michelle O'Neil and her work with her memory care residents. For more information on memory care and how it differs from assisted living call 541-921-8923.

## Local students honored

## THE NEWS GUARD

Eastern Oregon University named 564 students to the Dean's List for the 2020 fall term.

Qualifying students achieve and maintain a grade point average of 3.5 or higher on a 4.0 scale while completing a minimum of 12 hours of graded EOU coursework. Among the students to make the list was Madison Davis of Lincoln City.

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Discover the Eastern Edge at EOU. Visit [eou.edu](http://eou.edu) for more information.

## George Fox Graduate

Janelle Winn of Lincoln City was among the undergraduate, adult degree and graduate-level students who received diplomas from George Fox University in the fall of 2020.

Winn earned a bachelor of arts in illustration and earned the privilege of graduating with Honors.

Janelle was also among those who earned dean's list recognition at George Fox University for the fall 2020 semester. Traditional undergraduate students must earn a 3.5 grade point average or above on 12 or

more hours of graded work to earn a spot on the dean's list.

George Fox University is ranked by Forbes among the top Christian universities in the country and is a Christian college classified by U.S. News & World Report as a "Best National University." More than 4,000 students attend classes on the university's campus in Newberg, Ore., and at teaching centers in Portland, Salem and Redmond, Ore. George Fox offers bachelor's degrees in more than 35 majors, degree-completion programs for working adults, seven seminary degrees, and 13 master's and doctoral degrees.

## Artist featured in Depoe Bay

## THE NEWS GUARD

Oregon Coast painter and sculptor William Kucha has been named Artist in Residence at Fields of Peace, a peace education nonprofit headquartered in Depoe Bay.

Over a period of 40 years, Kucha's art has become nationally recognized for the compelling beauty of its vision, its depth and message. Kucha is also well known for a lifetime of nonviolent activism, his raised voice for peace and the survival of mother earth. His works can be seen locally at Freed Gallery, Lincoln City, and Yaquina River Museum, Toledo.

Fields of Peace, begun in Lincoln City in 2007, has a global mission to "Stop the killing of children in wars." This



William Kucha

work is carried out through partnerships with international organizations, including World Beyond War, War Prevision Initiative, and the Nuclear Age

Peace Foundation.

Kucha's signature painting, 600 Years, plus other works by him, can be viewed on the Art Page at [fieldsofpeace.org](http://fieldsofpeace.org).

## IN MEMORY

Submission deadline for Obituaries is 12 p.m. on the Friday before publication.

## Josephine Doris Phelps

Josephine Doris Phelps, 68, passed away February 9, 2021, after her long battle with cancer.

The lifelong Otis resident was born in Portland Oregon on December 31, 1952 to parents Gayton R. Phelps and Doris W. Phelps. Josie was one of six children.

Josie was preceded in death by her parents and sister Beverly (Phelps) Peters.

Josie graduated from Taft High school in 1971 where she excelled in sports and student council. She made many lifelong friendships in her years at Taft and thereafter playing community league softball.

Josie followed in her father's footsteps, working for the Postal Service. She retired after over 20 years of service as the Postmaster of Otis. She enjoyed her time there and made many more close friendships with her patrons.

Friendship was everything to Josie.

She enjoyed live music, festivals, laughter, parties and a good beer with friends.

Josie was survived by her children Amy Trute, Troy (Aimee) Trute, her grandchildren Dahlia, Azalea, Wisteria, Magnolia and Troy, her brothers David and Dennis Phelps, and her sisters Pamela Davis and Rebecca Phelps.

In lieu of flowers please donate to The Susan G. Koman Foundation. A community gathering to remember Josie's life will follow at a later date.



## Hobart 'Hobie' McCallum

July 29, 1938 - February 8, 2021

Hobie McCallum, 82, of Otis, passed away on Febru-

ary 8, 2021, at Good Samaritan Hospital in Corvallis, Oregon.

Hobie was born in Logsdon, Oregon on July 29, 1938, to Clarence ("Red") and Louise McCallum. Hobie served in the United States Navy from 1956 and was honorably discharged in the

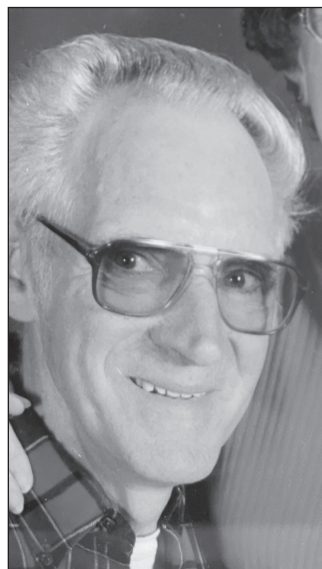
early 60s.

On October 8, 1960, Hobie married Janie Hughes. At the time of their marriage, Janie had three children from a previous marriage, Linda, Kenny, and Kristy. In 1965, Hobie and Janie had one child, Wendy. This last year was Hobie and Janie's 60th anniversary.

Hobie was employed as a log truck driver for over 30 years in Lincoln County. He later drove dump truck until his retirement. Hobie served

his community as a volunteer firefighter for North Lincoln Fire and Rescue, Otis Station for 52 years. He retired at the rank of Captain. The Otis Fire Station was unofficially referred to as the Hobie McCallum Fire Station to honor his many years of dedicated service. Hobie had also been a volunteer at the Salmon River Fish Hatchery for over 40 years.

Hobie enjoyed fishing in the drift boat with Janie, camping, and hunting



(Sherri) Hughes of Aberdeen, WA., and Kristy (Bud) Daley of Independence, OR.

He is also survived by six grandchildren, Zoe, Travis, Rhianna, Benjamin, Rebecca and Tyler, and 13 great-grandchildren. Hobie was preceded in death by his parents, and by his wife Janie, on October 22, 2020.

The family would like to thank Good Samaritan Hospital in Corvallis for providing comfortable care during Hobie's last days. They would also like to give a special shout out to Dr. LaFauce for being such a wonderful and caring doctor.

There will be a service announced later this year. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the ECHO MOUNTAIN FIRE RELIEF CORP. in care of Bollman Funeral Home 694 Main Street in Dallas, Oregon who is caring for the family. To leave an online condolence or share a memory with the family go to [www.dallastrIBUTE.com](http://www.dallastrIBUTE.com).

with family and friends in North Eastern Oregon. For many years Hobie and Janie enjoyed spending Friday evenings at Gallucci's Pizza with friends and family.

Hobie is survived by his sister, Norma French of Clatskanie, OR, his daughter, Wendy (Todd) Whitlow of Dallas, OR, Janie's three children, Linda Hughes Rouske of Lincoln City, OR, Kenny

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# Comedy on the Coast returns to Chinook Winds

**THE NEWS GUARD**

Gabe Rutledge headlines Comedy on the Coast at Chinook Winds Casino Resort Friday and Saturday, March 5 and 6.

Joining Gabe is featured comedian Lisa Alvarado with host DJ Sandhu.

A past winner of the prestigious Seattle International Comedy Competition, Gabe Rutledge has made television appearances on Comedy Central's Live at Gotham, Nickelodeon's Nickmom Night Out, and the nationally syndicated Comedy.TV and Comics Unleashed. He is also a frequent guest on the Bob and Tom radio show, heard in over 150 cities. Gabe has performed at the HBO/TBS Comedy Festival in Las Vegas, the Laughing Skull Comedy Festival in Atlanta, the Bridgetown Comedy Festival in Portland, and the Great American Comedy Festival held in Johnny Carson's home town of Norfolk Nebraska.

Lisa Alvarado is Tina Fey meets



COURTESY PHOTO

**Comedian Gabe Rutledge (pictured) will be joined by Lisa Alvarado and host DJ Sandhu for the shows on March 5-6.**

Sophia Vergara. She brings the funny with clever wit and a sassy fun attitude using her own life as the punch line. Lisa specializes in targeting her humor to her

audience through written material and impeccable Improv skills learned at Second City and Comedy Sportz. Lisa has performed all over the world in theaters, clubs, and

military tours. TV appearances include: NBC's Last Comic Standing, Nick at Nite's Funniest Mom in America 2, Harry Connick, Jr Talk Show, Comics Unleashed, Stand Up in Stilettoes on TV Guide Network, NuvoTV, Comedy.TV, and many more. Lisa also played Paul Rodriguez's sidekick on 20 episodes of Mis Videos Locos on the MTV Network. Ms. Alvarado was voted "Best Up & Coming Latino Comedian" by The LA Comedy Festival and her jokes have been quoted in The New York Times.

Buried deep within the most luxuriant beard in comedy lives DJ Sandhu's silver tongue just aching to get out and spread its diabolical thoughts.

From Sacramento, CA, Sandhu decided to break his parents' hearts by sharing his absurd opinions with strangers rather than going to med school like a responsible, well-adjusted adult. From the World Series of Comedy to the Edinburgh Fringe Festival and everywhere in between, Sandhu has worked with

some of the industry's legends including Sinbad, Bret Ernst, John Witherspoon, Michael Blackson, and Steve Byrne...all of which leave his mother incredibly disappointed that he didn't choose a better life path.

Comedy on the Coast doors open at 9 p.m. for this 21 and over event with a no-host bar. Show tickets are available at the box office for \$15. For tickets or further information, call the Chinook Winds box office at 1-888-MAIN-ACT (624-6228) or online at [www.chinookwindscasino.com](http://www.chinookwindscasino.com).

Chinook Winds Casino Resort, located at 1777 NW 44th St. on the beach in Lincoln City, Owned and operated by the Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians. Enjoy 24-hour Las Vegas-style gaming, 18 hole golf course, headline entertainment from some of the industry's most legendary stars, four full service restaurants, secure child entertainment facility and arcade, and a 243 room ocean front hotel.

## Four people pulled from bay after boat capsizes

**THE NEWS GUARD**

Four people have been pulled from the water after their 38-foot fishing boat capsized at the Tillamook bar entrance, according to the U.S. Coast Guard.

The incident occurred at approximately 4:40 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 20. Two of the four were responsive, two were unresponsive, according to the Coast Guard. All individuals were taken to local hospitals. The boat remained overturned on the south jetty at the Tillamook bar entrance.

The fishing vessel was being watched by Coast Guard personnel at a watch tower as it crossed the bar



COURTESY PHOTO

**Coast Guard crews near the Tillamook bar entrance.**

to return to port when it reportedly capsized. The watch tower crew immediately dispatched rescue crews from Tillamook in Garibaldi to respond to the overturned vessel.

The names of the

people rescued, and the identification of the vessel were not immediately available.

Two marine deputies from the Tillamook County Sheriff's Office assisted in the rescue.

## TLC supports local shelter



COURTESY PHOTO

Earlier this month, the Lincoln County Animal Shelter received a check for \$360, which will be used to purchase dog and cat food. Lincoln County Animal Shelter manager Laura Ireland (left) holds the donation check with TLC's Community Engagement & Financial Education Coordinator, Deb Dixon. Below is Cooper, one of the many dogs available to adopt at the shelter.

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## Message of the Month

### Health Insurance Expansion Helps Those In Need of Insurance

Are you among the many who have recently lost your health insurance or haven't had insurance in a while? There's good news! Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Biden administration issued an executive order to re-open health insurance enrollment beginning February 15. This is an important change because it means you or you and your family can purchase health insurance protection RIGHT NOW. But keep in mind this enrollment period ends May 15, 2021.

Many don't realize there is financial help available to them. If you meet certain income requirements you may enroll through the Federal Health Insurance Marketplace. Enrolling via the Marketplace can provide a subsidy from the Federal government which offsets the cost of your health insurance. Subsidies are based on household income and the number and ages of household members. For example, if the cost of your insurance is \$800 and you/your family qualifies for a \$600 per month subsidy, you will pay \$200 for health insurance.

Enrollment through the Marketplace is certainly worth exploring. Subsidy thresholds are generous – a household of four can have annual income up to \$103,000 (2020) and still qualify. If your income is greater than the subsidy allows, you can still apply but will have to pay the full cost of the insurance. Even then, we can help you find great coverage at reasonable rates.

The enrollment is happening quickly so it is important to ACT SOON. This enrollment period is special because if you enroll through the Marketplace, your coverage is required to take effect the first day of the next month. If you enroll on February 25, you will have health insurance on March 1. Enrollment direct with a carrier after the 15th of the month means you must wait longer for your insurance to become active, so enrolling via the Marketplace is advantageous.

Enrollment via the Marketplace can be a bit complex, but we have many new ways to help our customers we didn't have before. Whether you need assistance enrolling, evaluating financial assistance, or evaluating your current coverage we can meet with you over the phone, via Zoom, or in person to answer your questions about health insurance and assist with enrollment. Visit our website today at [www.charlottelehto.com](http://www.charlottelehto.com) to request more information or to book a meeting. Also there are Agents and Application Assistants available to help, for more information you can visit <https://healthcare.oregon.gov>.

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# OSAA returns Season 2 'culminating week' to schools

## THE NEWS GUARD

The Oregon School Activities Association (OSAA) has opted to forgo conducting state championships for Season 2, returning control of the sixth week of the season – or culminating week – to the schools.

The executive board, which reviewed the issue in a work session Wednesday, reached a consensus to return the week to the schools "to coordinate and execute local/regional culminating events at their discretion."

Season 2 – which includes traditional fall sports football, soccer, volleyball and cross country – begins with contests March 1 and ends with the culminating week April 5-11. Contingency groups from those sports provided input to the board.

"The board has spent a lot of time on this over the last couple months," OSAA executive director Peter Weber said. "The realities of trying to conduct large events, given where things stand right now, didn't seem advisable in their minds. A lot of different issues come into play."

Organizing state championship events during the COVID-19 crisis is riddled with complications. In a release, the board cited issues such as establishing equitable qualifying procedures, district-adopted travel restrictions, county gathering-size restrictions, and impacts from schools forming regional pods as key factors.

The board also noted that some schools will not be able to start their seasons on time, and others may have their seasons fragmented or shifted due to outbreaks.

The board said that it did not want to "put any undue pressure" on schools to compete in a state championship event that could have health risks for their students and community.

It cited recommendations from the Oregon Health Authority that advise against unnecessary travel between counties, especially those at different risk levels. The potential for overnight stays also was a concern.

"Criss-crossing the state at this point, or bringing a large group of people to one venue, just wasn't something that they were supportive of at this point," Weber said.

Weber said the board considered the different dynamic of a championship event for cross country, an individual sport, and the other team sports, which require more time for playoff rounds. But overriding factors remained.

"Part of it goes back to where things are in the state right now," Weber said. "The idea of schools staying local and regional for their regular season, then to turn around in the sixth week and say, 'OK, now we're going to put that aside and brings kids from all over the state to one location,' if we could even find a location to do that, just didn't make sense to the



NEWS GUARD FILE PHOTO/MAX KIRKENDALL

Last week OSAA decided against holding state championships for Season 2 sports, such as soccer.

board at this point."

Considering the season already has been shortened, the board views returning the sixth week to the schools as an opportunity for additional participation.

"That would include subvarsity, etc. They would be able to participate that week," Weber said.

The football contingency group has considered creating a "bowl week" of sorts since its

early discussions. For example, the sixth week could include crossover "bowl" games between nearby leagues.

Whatever the schools decide, the OSAA has pledged its support.

"Our staff is going to support schools as much as we can as they try to organize those things," Weber said. "We certainly want to help promote. But ultimately, that will be the local decision as to what they do."

The decision on Season 2 has no bearing on championship plans for Seasons 3 and 4. The OSAA will review options for those seasons in the coming months.

The board reaffirmed its support for conducting virtual events for cheerleading, dance/drill, solo music, band, orchestra, choir and speech. Those events will take place as scheduled on the OSAA calendar.

# Taft Tigers take advantage of free golf opportunities

MAX KIRKENDALL  
newsguardeditor@countrymedia.net

On Jan. 25, Taft 7-12 announced that golf would be returning for students one day a week.

With a goal of getting kids off their computer screens and into the outdoors, the Lincoln County School District launched a new golf program in 2020 designed to give students a break from their homework.

Since the onset of the pandemic, many students have been wondering when they can get back to sports. It's a question that Taft 7-12 athletic director Matt Hilgers said was asked almost daily when The News Guard interviewed him during the start of the golf program.

"We just started workouts on the field for other sports, and they're always asking me when they can get back to playing," Hilgers said in October. "They're really missing sports... and so are the adults."

The school district sifted through several ideas of how they can provide activities for students, while staying safe during the ongoing pandemic. They then turned to golf.

Five local golf courses, including Chinook Winds Golf Resort and Salishan Golf Links, agreed to open their courses to students during designated times for limited in person instruction. For students in grades 7-12, they can sign up and play for free.

"We had been looking for things for kids to do other than just sitting at a computer all day and some of the other stuff we couldn't make happen, but we were able to make this happen," Hilgers said.

Taft 7-12 had about 15 students sign up for the program the first week, which is considered a club activity that does not require a physical examination. Before students joined the program, they complete an online video and quiz about golf etiquette and rules. At



NEWS GUARD FILE PHOTOS/MAX KIRKENDALL

Taft 7-12 took to the Chinook Winds Golf Course during the opening week of the golf program in October 2020.

the course, coaches and volunteers provide some instruction.

"Some have played before, some have never played at all, but it's really about having fun," Hilgers said. "I think it's giving them something to do outside of the house."

Taft 7-12 will be taking advantage of Chinook Winds' indoor driving range, as well as Salishan's outdoor driving range when the weather permits it. The Oregon School Activities Association (OSAA) also donated dozens of golf balls to Lincoln County, and local volunteers have do-



nated several sets of clubs for kids who might need them.

As OSAA has prevented all schools from allowing students to use their facilities or equipment, Hilgers said kids have been looking for ways to participate in activities. Unfortunately, options are sparse on the coast.

"We're in a tough spot because there is not much around us," Hilgers said. "In the valley, they have clubs all over that kids can participate in, but that's not an option for most kids here. Over the next few weeks I think we'll start to get more kids out here."

# GO TIGERS!!!



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## Sports Registration

Taft 7-12 announced sign ups for Season 2 athletics for grades 9-12 in Football, Volleyball, Cross Country, as well as boys and girls soccer. Staff said that students will need the following to be cleared:

- 1) Updated physical on file.
- 2) Fill out the google form (If you have been participating you have already done this).
- 3) ImPACT testing.
- 4) On track to graduate.
- 5) Passed a minimum of three classes in quarter two.
- 6) Life of an Athlete.

Email Mr. Hilgers (matt.hilgers@lincoln.k12.or.us) with any questions.

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# Fate of full-contact football depends on virus risk category

**MAX KIRKENDALL**  
newsguardeditor@countrymedia.net

Last week the Lincoln County School District (LCSD) announced that school sports would be starting again Feb. 22. However, questions remained regarding the plan for full-contact football.

LCSD Superintendent Karen Gray provided further clarification of how the school district will respond when the county metrics change from 'High Risk' to 'Moderate Risk' in regards to COVID-19, which is possible Feb. 25 when the county makes its next risk category announcement.

"Our COVID numbers are down, and if this continues, we will bring back full-contact football for those schools wishing to do so," Gray said this week.

With sports scheduled to start Feb. 22, if Lincoln County is in Moderate Risk next week, LCSD plans to begin football practice with helmets and pads on Feb. 26. LCSD also has to option to participate in flag football starting Feb. 26 if they choose to. If Lincoln County is in moderate risk after Feb. 26, LCSD can move to 8 or 11 man football. Due to health, safety and size, 8 and 11 man football can be interchangeable.

When Lincoln County schools are allowed to begin contact sports, they will be required to complete the protective gear progression and nine days of on-field practice before competition against another school, according to the Oregon School Activities Association (OSAA). These two requirements begin on the same date. In short, it would be a mini-



NEWS GUARD FILE PHOTO/MAX KIRKENDALL

**If Lincoln County is in Moderate Risk this week, LCSD plans to begin football practice on Feb. 26.**

mum of nine days after LCSD begins contact sports before schools could play anyone.

As far as modifying the game to allow teams to use 8 and 11 player structures, OSAA stated they have no issues with that if it allows kids to participate. With that guidance, LCSD will have their first competition on March 12 instead of March 5. They would be able to have a 7 on 7 or flag football contest on March 5.

Gray provided further explanation of why the district does not feel it can "opt-in" when Lincoln

County is still in the "High Risk" category.

"Please keep in mind that it is up to each school district to decide whether to opt-in when your Risk category does not meet the Low or Moderate level," Gray said. "It is a fact that the numbers are still high enough here to have to stay at High Risk, so it is about safety. It is also about district liability and student privacy. A Bend high school (Summit) opened for full-contact football and then got COVID and then closed again. I would not want something like

that to happen to us."

Gray then provided information on both liability for the school district and privacy regarding COVID-19.

### Liability

Schools should contact their legal counsel, but schools and school personnel are likely to be entitled to immunity for claims of loss resulting from performing COVID-19 testing under the Public Readiness and Emergency Preparedness (PREP) Act, except

for acts of willful misconduct. For additional information about the PREP Act, visit <https://shared-systems.dhsoha.state.or.us/DHS-Forms/Served/le3529.pdf>, and <https://www.phe.gov/Preparedness/legal/prepact/Pages/default.aspx>.

"There is still an unknown risk to students and staff if we do this wrong," Gray said. "The district would like to stay in its lane as an education organization."

### Privacy

Student and staff test results, both positive and negative, shall be kept confidential. Student test results can be shared with the student and their legal guardian only. However, student and staff test results will be reported to public health, as required under ORS 433.004 and ORS 433.008.

As outlined in the Ready Schools, Safe Learners guidance, schools must train staff on confidentiality requirements under FERPA, HIPAA, and local policy regarding student and staff health information, including a COVID-19 diagnosis.

"We don't see how we would be able to keep the results private when a known action follows the results, pointing to the person(s) that took the test," Gray said.

At the end of January, LCSD football coaches met to outline plans for a 7 on 7 season if unable to play contact football this season.

"These plans will continue until we are categorized at a Moderate Risk level—hopefully, soon," Gray said.

# Cross country: New guidance 'baby steps' in right direction

**THE NEWS GUARD**

Cross country teams have some extra spring in their step after the state updated its COVID-19 guidance for outdoor sports last week.

Not only were several counties moved off the extreme-risk category, which caps gatherings at 50, but the restriction that limited meets to two schools was lifted.

It opens the door to bigger, more competitive meets. OSAA assistant executive director Brad Garrett, who oversees cross country, said the new guidance "took a burden off the small schools."

In many cases, a meet between two small-school teams might have as few as 10 runners, so not being able to have more teams created a barrier to staging meaningful meets.

"That didn't make much sense," Garrett said.

Eliminating the team limit not only makes scheduling much easier, but it

restores some authenticity.

"That instantly makes we way more excited about the season," North Salem coach Michael Herrman said. "That sounds more like real cross country when you're able to toe the line with more than just one team in a typical dual meet."

The biggest obstacle that remains is the gathering-size restrictions: 50 in extreme-risk counties, 75 in high, 150 in moderate and 300 in lower.

"There are still going to be modifications made, especially at larger events, to deal with gathering-size limitations," Garrett said.

Cross country coaches have met with Garrett in a contingency group throughout the school year to discuss best practices, strategies and potential options for the season. One issue the coaches have made clear is their desire to have a state championship.

However, the executive board met to decide the fate of the culminating

weeks for the sports in Season 2, which begins March 1. The board decided against any state championships.

Qualifying for the state meet would be complicated considering that schools in some areas have committed to compete only in regional "bubbles." If the usual district qualifying method isn't possible, an alternate plan would be required. It also could mean that teams might have to settle for a regional type of championship event.

Cross country teams were disappointed that Gov. Kate Brown and the Oregon Health Authority did not grant a request for a waiver of the mask requirement for runners. Athletes have worn masks during practices and competitions throughout Season 1 and it has been a burden for them.

"We made some ground last week, but we just didn't gain any in that area," Garrett said.

Johnson said the mask



NEWS GUARD FILE PHOTO/MAX KIRKENDALL

**The state announced last week that they would be lifting the restriction that limited cross country meets to two schools per location.**

requirement puts coaches in a difficult position.

"It's a tough place to be as a coach to ask kids to do something that's so uncomfortable," Johnson said. "It's really hard not

to tell the kids just to take them off. The problem is, once it's a rule, it's a rule, and you have to enforce it. It's a respiration type of sport, and not having all of your oxygen, it's not really

that fair." Regardless, cross country teams will find a way to make do. Looking at the bigger picture, having a season is a blessing in itself.

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