



Cultural Center Plaza PAGE 3

Tigers Battle Warrenton PAGE 10

THE NEWS Guard

May 11, 2021

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Amanda Benjamin

Benjamin appointed to Circuit Court

THE NEWS GUARD

Governor Kate Brown announced today that she will appoint Amanda Benjamin to the Lincoln County Circuit Court, to fill a vacancy created by the retirement of Judge Thomas Branford.

Her appointment is effective immediately.

"Amanda Benjamin's dedicated service to Lincoln County as a full-time hearings referee and judge pro tem for the past two years makes her uniquely well positioned to hit the ground running," said Governor Brown. "I am pleased that Lincoln County will have another great judge joining the circuit court."

Benjamin earned her bachelor's de-

See COURT, Page 7



COURTESY PHOTO/FRANK CAVEZZA

The most common objections to STRs in residential neighborhoods — parking, garbage and noise — should be alleviated by reducing occupancy, Lincoln County Commissioners agreed.

CHERI BRUBAKER
Guest Contributor

After delays due to COVID and last year's wildfires, two public workshops with 275 participants and more than 200 public comments, Lincoln County Commissioners indicated agreement in their intent to make changes to the current Short Term Rental (STR) program. At the May 5 regular meeting of the Lincoln County Board of Commissioners, County

Counsel Wayne Belmont sought specific direction regarding amendments to the short-term rental code from the commissioners.

"There is no singular change you would make in the code that will have more impact on the ancillary issues that we have, which are parking, garbage and noise," County Counsel Wayne Belmont said of reducing occupancy.

Belmont cited the most recent census data showing 2.25 persons per household

in Lincoln County. Current STR regulations allow for an average of 8.3 persons in the approximately 585 STRs — 7.8 persons per dwelling in septic served areas, he told the commissioners. Reducing the number of persons in a home to closer to the average number of household size in the area should lessen the problems presented by STRs, he said.

Board Chair Doug Hunt, Commis-

See RENTALS, Page 7

Siletz Bay Music Festival makes its return in 2021

MAX KIRKENDALL
newsguardeditor@country-media.net

Like most events in 2020, the annual Siletz Bay Music Festival (SBMF) was canceled due to COVID-19. But with vaccines rolling out to the public, the Board of Directors for the SBMF are planning to bring the festival back with a full slate of concerts.

The Board met on May 3 to announce some of the preliminary details for the 2021 festival, which is scheduled for Sept. 4-12. Artistic Director Yaacov Bergman was on hand for the event to provide a presentation to the Board members.

"This was an un-

precedented reality that we've never been trained to deal with," Bergman said of the struggles the festival faced this past year. "One of the things for me personally that allowed me to deal with this COVID reality is the idea of hope. Siletz Bay was very central in that. Having the idea that we could have the festival again."

Bergman said the there wasn't much doubt that the Board wanted to do whatever they could to try to bring back the festival this year. However, they know there is still much uncertainty on what the guidelines and regulations will be come September.

"Obviously we will



NEWS GUARD PHOTO/MAX KIRKENDALL

The Siletz Bay Music Festival Board of Directors met at Beachcrest Brewing on May 3 to hear the latest update.

face some challenges," Bergman said. "We'll have the social distancing and other safety measures. But at the same time,

because of the vaccine, there's a wonderful light at the end of the tunnel."

Bergman, who is also the Director and Conduc-

tor of Portland Chamber Orchestra and Walla Walla Symphony, said he conducted his first concert in Walla Walla, Washington last week. After a year of pre-recorded performances, virtual events and more, Bergman said the emotion of playing in front of a crowd for the first time in over a year brought tears to eyes of many of the musicians and audience members. It was something Bergman had never experienced before.

"It was really special," he said.

This year's SBMF is tentatively planning for eleven events performed by musicians from across the United States and around the world. The

rough draft schedule includes six classical chamber music concerts, three jazz, cabaret, musical theatre and American song book concerts, two symphonic concerts, three free concerts including the traditional young people/family concert and one musical Tapas concert.

Bergman said there are still a lot of variables they are still working through such as venues, scheduling, housing artists and balancing a tighter budget. Bergman said the budget was cut 50 percent from what it normally would be, but he has developed a plan for how to adjust to that.

See FESTIVAL, Page 9



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WEATHER

TUE.	WED.	THU.	FRI.	SAT.	SUN.	MON.
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Virus on decline in Oregon, variants still a concern

ZACK DEMARS
Country Media

As COVID-19 cases stabilize across the state, Oregon health officials are continuing to encourage residents to get vaccinated against the virus.

Dr. Dean Sidelinger, Oregon's state health officer noted in a brief update Friday that the state's number of weekly cases has declined for the first time in five weeks, and that daily new cases and virus-related hospitalizations have fallen slightly from their mid-April peaks.

"Thank you Oregonians, for helping in these improvements, getting vaccinated and continuing to take precautions to reduce the spread: Wearing your mask, keeping your distance and limiting higher-risk gatherings," Sidelinger said.

Still, Sidelinger said highly transmissible variants of the virus were present in the state,



STOCK PHOTO

OHA reported around 600 of the 1.3 million in the state who received a COVID-19 vaccine have subsequently tested positive for the virus.

and that new cases tend to be among younger, unvaccinated individuals.

"We are seeing an increase in

people who get sick in the community and then attend school. Safety measures in place in school have limited the spread,

but students who are exposed need to quarantine in case they get sick, and this is disruptive to their education, particularly at a time when many just recently returned to in-person education," Sidelinger said.

He also noted a state report from earlier in the week, which showed that only around 600 of the 1.3 million in the state who've received a COVID-19 vaccine have subsequently tested positive for the virus.

"Any case of COVID-19 can be serious, but the report shows that a vast majority of the cases involved mild or no symptoms at all. This is a strong endorsement for getting the COVID-19 vaccine," Sidelinger said. "COVID-19 vaccines are safe and highly effective. They represent our best chance at defeating this virus."

Earlier in the week, Gov. Kate Brown announced the slowing rate of hospitalizations took the

state below the extreme-risk threshold, meaning 15 counties were eligible to move out of the state's highest level of virus restrictions.

The move meant, as of Friday, indoor dining was open statewide at limited capacity, with 24 counties (including Clatsop, Columbia, Douglas and Lincoln counties) in the high-risk category, four (including Coos, Curry and Tillamook) in the moderate-risk category and eight in the low-risk category.

Brown Thursday also announced some minor changes to the state's risk level framework, increasing the allowable capacity of indoor recreation and fitness establishments.

Those in moderate-risk counties may open to 20% or 100 people total (whichever is larger), and those in high-risk counties may open to 10% or 50 people total (whichever is larger).

LCSD joins Early School Success Partnership

THE NEWS GUARD

Children's Institute, a statewide advocacy organization working on behalf of children and families in Oregon, is pleased to announce that Scappoose, St. Helens, and Lincoln County School Districts will join the Early School Success partnership.

Lincoln County School District's Early Learning Coordinator, Lauren Sigman took part in the application process.

"It is so exciting to be selected for the Early School Success grant, it honors the hard work LCSD and our early learning staff has been doing to support young children before they enter

school," Sigman said. "It will also provide us a wonderful opportunity to work with and learn from the Children's Institute to continue to grow and align our programs in the district."

The Early School Success initiative (ESS) launched in 2019 with Beaverton and Forest Grove School Districts as



its first partners. As these two districts enter their third year, Children's Institute has sought to expand the program, which will bring ESS work into Oregon's rural context. District partners were chosen based on demonstrated commitment to early learning, the value of partnership, and existing work toward racial equity.

ESS is Children's Institute's response to

established and emerging research that finds that children have the best outcomes when they receive developmentally appropriate, aligned instruction from preschool through the elementary grades. Most education reform efforts and professional learning opportunities for educators focus on grades 3-12. However, student outcomes and closing opportunity gaps require a transformational shift in how we think about and approach education in the early years.

Dr. Katie Barrett, Director of Elementary Education at Lincoln County SD said, "The ability to work with the Children's Institute through the Early School Success grant is a tremendous

benefit to the Lincoln County School District. Through this collaborative work, we will be able to continue our intention to build a seamless and supported transition from early learning to the K-12 system. This will support all of our students from the moment they enter their very first preschool classroom until they cross the stage at graduation. We are incredibly excited about this partnership."

Partner districts are provided with consultation, professional development, and coaching to help them strengthen and align preschool and elementary learning experiences and develop deeper, more effective partnerships with families.

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Message of the Month

I'm vaccinated, so now what?

Now that many of us are receiving or have received our COVID-19 vaccinations, folks are curious about what to do with the vaccination card. Read on to find out how to protect the card - and yourself - as we begin to rebound from the pandemic.

At your first COVID-19 vaccine appointment you should receive your vaccination card. The card will show your name, date of birth as well as product name and manufacturer of the vaccine which was administered. The card will also show the date of the vaccination. An electronic record of your vaccination should be filed with the state by the whomever administered the vaccination. It's important to hold on to the card because you may need it in the future.

Keep your vaccination card in a safe spot in your home, for example, with your passport or other important papers. You can laminate the card, but it's suggested that you visit an office supply store like Staples and have the professionals do the lamination for you. You can also store the card in a plastic baggie if you prefer. If you lose your card or if you tossed it out after you completed your vaccination, you may contact the Oregon Health Authority and ask for a replacement.

Here's an important detail about the card - **don't share a picture of your COVID-19 vaccination card online or on social media!** Scammers are using the content you post, such as your date of birth or other personal details to steal your identity. If somebody contacts you to buy or sell a vaccination card it's a scam and illegal, you can report it to the Department of Health and Human Services by calling 800-447-8477.

Unfortunately, COVID-19 scams are everywhere so it's important to be careful about providing personal information. Social media, texts and emails hammer away at folks urging them to share information about their vaccination experience. Be smart about sharing any information...protect yourself first.

If you have questions about COVID as it relates to health or Medicare, feel free to send an email to me at charlotte@insurancestores.com or visit us online at www.charlottelehto.com. We want you to be safe and informed because WE ARE YOUR FRIENDS IN THE INSURANCE BUSINESS!



Charlotte Lehto

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LCCC invites public to participate in plaza project

THE NEWS GUARD

You may have seen the overhead design for the Lincoln City Cultural Plaza, the redevelopment project at 540 NE Hwy. 101 that is headed for Phase 1 construction in spring of 2022.

The nonprofit behind the Plaza, the Lincoln City Cultural Center, has spent the last three years planning the patios, the entrances, the retaining walls and all the other infrastructure that will turn the old Delake School grounds into a more useful and convenient space.

Now, it's time to have some fun.

For the next two months, the LCCC will be collecting words and imagery to be incorporated into public art projects on the Plaza's west side. Project planners are looking for images and ideas about life in our community, through the seasons of the year, that will become part of a 20-foot wide circular Lithomosaic called "The Lincoln City Cosmography."

In the same 60-day time frame, they'll be collecting poetry, original or quoted, that could be incorporated into the Plaza's 350-foot long meandering path, to the north and south of the Lithomosaic. The theme of the written work will be "The Tide," and the process will be led by Oregon's new poet laureate, Anis Mojgani.

"We will all be grateful for the practical improvements that the Plaza will bring, like better parking and easier access for those with mobility issues. But it's these artistic elements, the meandering path and the lithomosaic just outside the west entrance, that will make the Plaza remarkable and memorable. These elements will set the tone for

everything that happens here, for many years to come," said Cultural Center director Niki Price. "We don't need to import these ideas from somewhere else. We want these words and images to be meaningful to our community, our favorite things, our ways of living. We're inviting you, the public, to be a part of this creative process."

This community program is made possible by funding from Oregon Humanities, the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) and the federal CARES Act.

Public/Poetry/Plaza

The poetry writing effort began April 28 with a two-day workshop led by Oregon Poet Laureate Anis Mojgani. Participants met first on April 30, for a brainstorming session based on existing works, writing prompts, and the diagrams of the Plaza's meandering path. On the following morning, May 1, the collective brain moved to the beach, where wrote, drew and arranged words in the sand during a minus tide event. The tides washed those marks away, of course, but the words and photos will be saved, for eventual use on the meandering path.

The community writing work continues, as members of the public are invited to consider the theme, "The Tide," and respond individually to the materials in Mojgani's prompting packet. Those materials are available for anyone, in a printed packet now available at the Lincoln City Cultural Center. To receive a PDF version via email, write to lcccdirector@gmail.com. The public is invited to read the materials, then respond with ideas for poetry and placement. Those submissions are due back to

the LCCC, in person or electronically, by June 30, 2021.

The Lincoln City Cosmography

What is a cosmography? It's a general description of the world or of the universe, a storytelling or explanation device, often in the form of a circle. Our Lincoln City Cosmography will take a cue from ancient cosmographies that described the night sky, the weather or collective experiences by separating the circle roughly into seasons.

Creating a cosmography for the circular patio at the Plaza's west entrance was first proposed by Robin Brailsford, the public mosaic specialist who joined the Plaza design team last year. In June of 2020, Brailsford and her artistic partner, Wick Alexander, led a small group of Lincoln City residents in a virtual workshop on Plaza artistic elements last summer. Along with Jessel Champoux, of Shapiro Didway, the group spent several hours talking about life on the central Oregon Coast, and the ways that residents interact with their environment.

"There were hundreds of ideas generated that day," Price said. "We talked about who lives here, what we do here, and why. So we thought it would be interesting to approach the idea of WHEN. If you think about the when, you start to think about annual traditions, seasonal activities, harvests, your favorite weather, the way the sun moves along the horizon through the year. How can you describe your year, as a cycle or a circle? That's what the Lincoln City Cosmography will be."

The eventual artwork will be a 20-foot mosaic, laid into



COURTESY IMAGE

A rendering of the proposed Cultural Center Plaza Project expected to start spring of 2022.

the concrete just outside the historic west entrance of the Delake School building. For the next 60 days, the public is invited to contribute to the design. To take part, drop by the Cultural Plaza exhibit, next to the Fiber Arts Studio Gallery, inside the Lincoln City Cultural Center, 540 NE Hwy. 101. Next to the elevator, you'll find an exhibit dedicated to the Plaza project, including flyers, site plans, videos and examples of the lithomosaic process.

The exhibit's designer, Sara Haug, has mounted Brailsford's giant circular diagram on the wall. Next to a large circular diagram, you'll find small tags and pieces of paper, upon which you can place words or drawings. Attach them on the wall diagram, in the seasonal sector where they feel most appropriate.

Or, pick up one of Haug's Create Your Own Cosmography kits, which have diagrams, instructions and small items that you can glue, trace or reproduce on your own. Snap a photo, and share it via email (plaza@lincolncity-cultural-center.org) or via Instagram @lincolncityculture with the hashtag #myLCCCosmography. As the designers gather inspiration, they'll be showcasing submissions digitally in the exhibition.

About the Cultural Plaza Project

The Lincoln City Cultural Plaza project will transform the outdoor space around the historic Delake School into a

pedestrian-friendly attraction for residents and visitors to enjoy. Dedicated installments of public art, gathering spaces with seating and spaces for outdoor education will be connected by a meandering, accessible pathway. The redesigned traffic flow will include new parking areas with islands, adequate lighting for evening safety, and other upgrades required by city code.

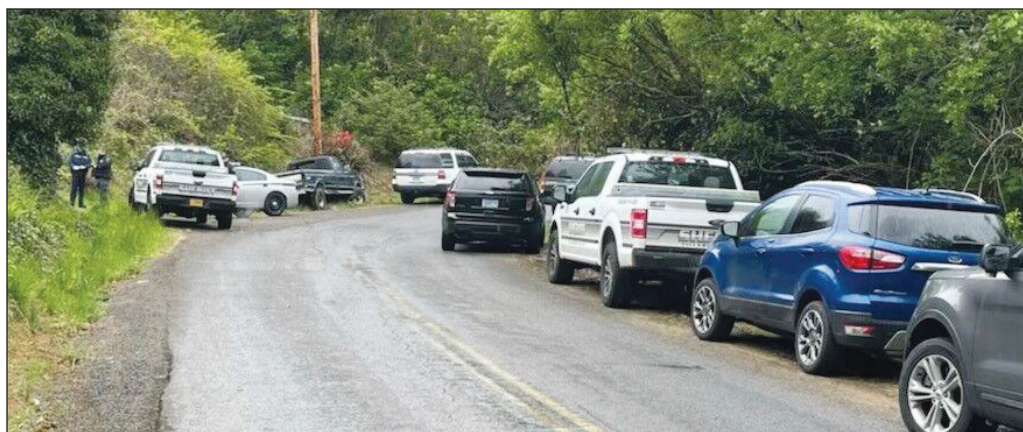
The LCCC Board of Directors has been working on the Plaza design since 2017, in cooperation with the Portland landscape architecture firm Shapiro Didway and Newport-based Civil West Engineering Services. The board has used a community based process to gather feedback and design comments from stakeholders, members, major partners and the general public.

This project was unfortunately delayed by the economic pressures of COVID-19,

but the Cultural Center was not forced to use any Plaza funds for operations in 2020. With the end of the pandemic in sight, the LCCC Board is moving the Plaza forward in two steps: Phase 1 (the pedestrian improvements on the west side) in Spring of 2022, with Phase 2 (parking lot improvements on the east side) in 2023. The total estimated budget is now set at \$2.5 million.

The Invest in Inspiration capital campaign met its original goal, \$250,000 in individual contributions in June 2020. The committee is still offering commemorative bricks, along with legacy benches, conifers and other opportunities. You can give online at <http://lincolncity-culturalcenter.org/plaza>, using Visa, MasterCard or PayPal. You may also mail a check to the following address: Cultural Plaza c/o The LCCC, PO Box 752, Lincoln City, OR 97367. Or, call 541-994-9994.

Homicide Investigation



COURTESY PHOTO

Tillamook County authorities responded to the Mt. Hebo Road area on May 8 to investigate.

THE NEWS GUARD

The Tillamook County Major Crimes Team is currently working a homicide investigation on Mt. Hebo Road, in Hebo, where two adult males were found deceased on the scene.

"This investigation is currently underway and family notifications are ongoing, therefore we are unable to release more information at this time. I can say that there are no suspects at large and there is no danger to the community," said TCSO Undersheriff Matt Kelly. "We will provide more information when it is possible to do so."

More information to follow.

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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 attorney for the personal representative. Dated and first published on May 11, 2021. Helen M. Smith, Personal Representative Dean H. Shade, OSB No. 811045 Attorney for Personal Representative 13765 NW Cornell Rd., Suite 250 Portland, OR 97229 Email: dshadelaw@gmail.com Tel: (503)644-5539/ Fax: (503)644-5970 Published May 11th, May 18th, and May 25th

NG21-73 Lincoln City Storage & Lighthouse 101 Storage 3796 SE Highway 101 Lincoln City, OR 97367 541-996-3555 The following units will be sold at Public Auction on May 26, 2021 at 1:00pm for non-payment of rent and other fees. Auction to be pursuant to auction rules and procedures for Truax Holdings III. Rules are available upon inquiry. Bidder registration day of auction required. Unit# LB19 Anna Johns, Unit# OS07 Russell Wirth.

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CryptoQuip

This is a simple substitution cipher in which each letter used stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Solution is accomplished by trial and error.

Clue: J equals F

LJ YZPBQZFC GZGEGHC WTX Y ZTG
ZJ QWBEGI PLXGY, SZTHF CZT YEC
IB'Y TX-SBWG-LJLBF?

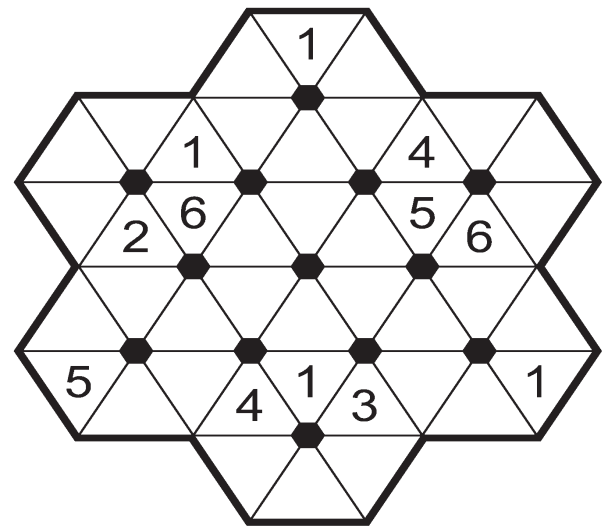
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More Fun & Games @ TheNewsGuard.com/games

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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NG21-75 IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE STATE OF OREGON FOR THE COUNTY OF LINCOLN Probate Department Case No. 21PB03517 NOTICE TO INTERESTED PERSONS IN the Matter of the Estate of JOHN PACHL, Deceased. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Helen M. Smith has been appointed as the personal representative of the above estate. All persons having claims against the estate are required to present them to the personal representative in care of the undersigned attorney at 13765 NW Cornell Rd., Suite 250, Portland, OR 97229, within four months after the date

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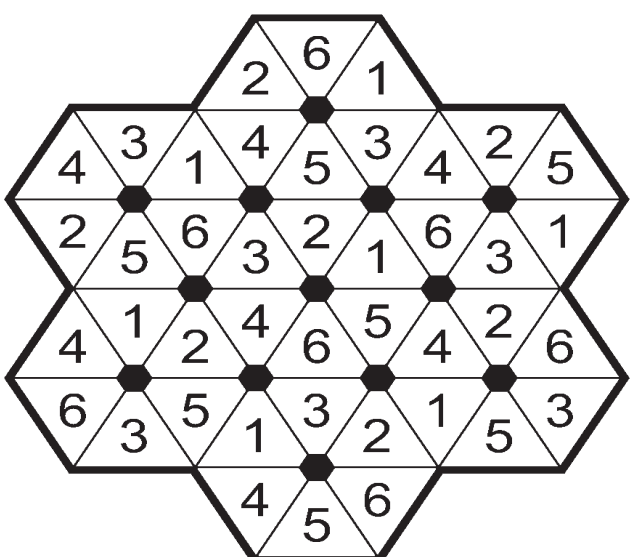
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Answers for Last Week's Puzzle

SNOWFLAKES solution



Answers for Last Week's Puzzle

Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

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

Answers for Last Week's Puzzle

Super Crossword

Answers

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

More Fun & Games @ TheNewsGuard.com/games

Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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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MAGIC MAZE ● **FIRST OR LAST NAME?**

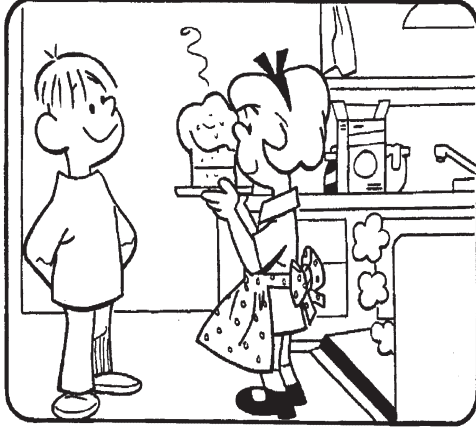
J C E Z W T Q N J G D A X U R
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C A X R V O T O R P N L J H F
S D R E U B J S Y Y Y X F V T
R E N G P O M E K L I C R E G
T D L O E D L M U B L Z A G X
W A U R S D T A R Q O E N R N
S V L Y A L P J J I G F K O T
D I C R A H E Y X W V T S E R
P D B O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

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

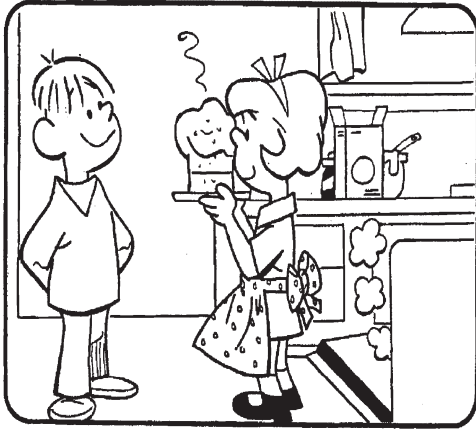
- | | | | |
|---------|---------|--------|-------|
| Bradley | Frank | Kelly | Rose |
| Charles | Gregory | Nelson | Terry |
| David | James | Norman | Tracy |
| Douglas | Joyce | Paul | |

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HOCUS-FOCUS BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Spoon handle is added. 2. Curtain is wider. 3. Box design is different. 4. Faucet is missing. 5. Bow is different. 6. V-neck is added.

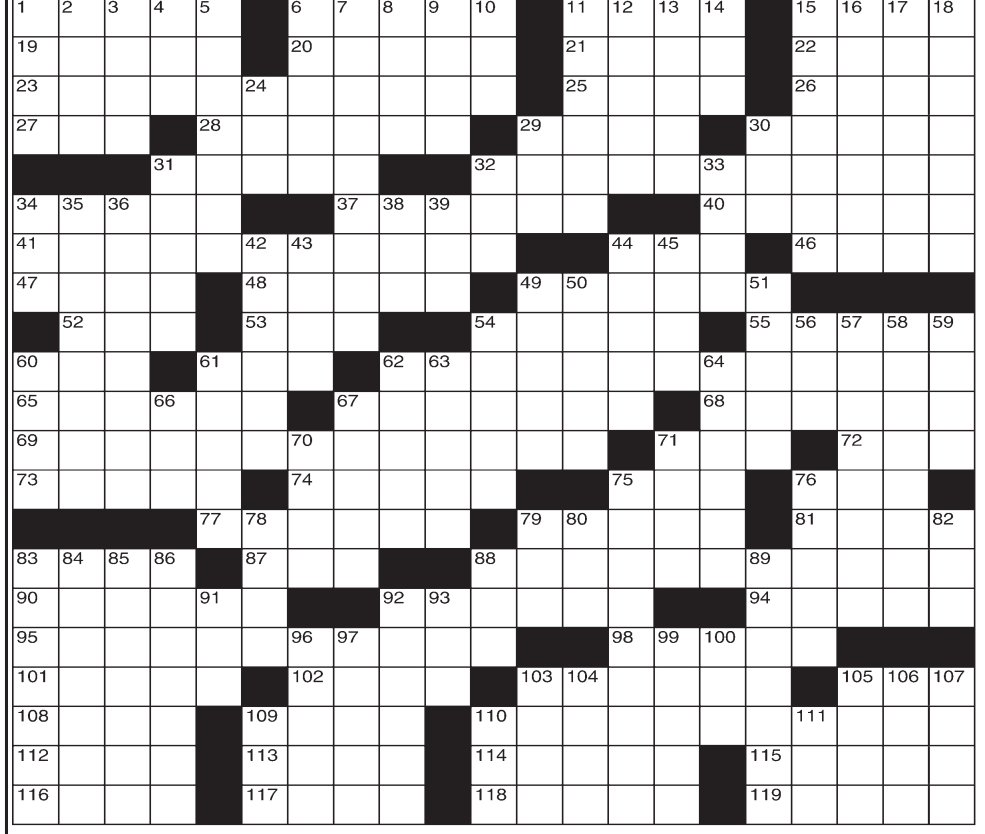
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More Fun & Games
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Super Crossword

REPEATED NOTES

- | | | | | | |
|-------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|
| ACROSS | 40 Flood zone protections | 77 "Goodness!" | 119 Repeated musical sequence in this puzzle | 34 Truck and SUV maker | 78 Violinist Hilary |
| 1 Synagogue leader | 41 Long strip of high-end shops along a road | 79 Singer Cole | | 35 Common painting medium | 79 Step in ballet |
| 6 Mojave plant | 44 —fi | 81 Meat cut | | 36 Suitable to be bartered | 80 Danish type |
| 11 Pinnacle | 46 Water swirl | 83 Magnetism | | 38 Diarist Anaïs | 82 Actress |
| 15 Czech-German river | 47 Pottery base | 87 Ireland's — Lingus | | 39 Aviate | 83 People showing sympathy |
| 19 — Island (former immigration gateway) | 48 Satire device | 90 Book before Jeremiah | | 42 Restricts neckwear | 84 Exhausting |
| 20 Carpentry rod | 49 "Beetle" of comics | 92 Semi engine | | 43 Journalist Burnett | 85 Milk sugar |
| 21 With 71-Across, act all-powerful | 52 Jewel box contents | 94 — beat (falter slightly) | | 44 Audible exhalations | 86 Analogized |
| 25 Glass sheet | 53 1986-2001 space station | 95 What you can hear from an audible clock | | 45 Musical symbol | 88 Actor Bruce |
| 26 Large mop | 54 Swell out | 98 Garbage | | 49 Donkey | 89 Electric current units |
| 27 Ruhr article | 55 Lock horns | 101 Put in a tomb | | 50 Writer Locke | 91 Be televised |
| 28 With gusto | 60 Mauna — Observatory | 102 Torchiere, e.g. | | 51 Swerved | 92 Chin feature |
| 29 Chilean money | 61 Uncles, e.g. | 103 Ineffective | | 54 Interweave | 93 Bratty tot |
| 30 Kagan on the high bench | 62 "Charlie's Angels" co-star | 105 Block of history | | 56 Big TV brand | 96 Small world? |
| 31 Big hit | 65 Notwithstanding | 108 Fashion's von Fürstenberg | | 57 Bighearted | 97 Less feral |
| 32 Collect deserved benefits | 67 Jungle jaunts | 109 Cakewalk | | 58 Knives, e.g. | 98 Oar wielder |
| 34 Crime boss John | 68 More cruel dir. | 110 Yoga pose with hands and feet on the floor | | 59 To be, in Arles | 100 "This — surprise!" |
| 37 Roll out, as a flag | 71 See | 112 Artful dodge | | 60 Make it | 103 Actress Chaplin of "Game of Thrones" |
| | 72 Turin-to-Milan | 113 Son of Adam and Eve | | 61 Little buddy | 104 Tease |
| | 73 Tendency | 114 Fuse | | 62 Animal life | 105 Saucy Aussie "Dame" |
| | 74 Like ruled paper | 115 "— Meenie" (2010 hit song) | | 63 Succeeding | 106 Stir up, as waters |
| | 75 Part of ABA | 116 Floored it | | 64 Ethically indifferent | 107 "The African Queen" scriptwriter |
| | 76 24/7 care ctrs. | 117 Nothing but | | 66 Ruhr article | 109 He-sheep |
| | | 118 Swamp critter | | 67 More artful | 110 Used a shovel |
| | | | | 70 Antique, quaintly | 111 Yr. ender |
| | | | | 71 Lassies | |
| | | | | 75 Made an intrinsic part of | |
| | | | | 76 "Popeye" cartoonist | |
| | | | | Segar | |
| | | | | Wiesel | |



SCRAMBLERS

Unscramble the letters within each rectangle to form four ordinary words. Then rearrange the boxed letters to form the mystery word, which will complete the gag!

- Grimace
- CLOWS
- Declare
- PEAKS
- Avoid
- WEECHS
- Rule
- GERNI

TODAY'S WORD

"Goodness no, we haven't even considered a verdict yet — we're still exchanging _____!"

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OPINION/OBITUARIES

THE NEWS Guard

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VOICES OF THE COMMUNITY

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 or 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@country-media.net or P.O. Box 848, Lincoln City, OR, 97367-0848. Letters can also be submitted at 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:

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.
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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.

Vote For Garza

I have thought long and hard about what makes a "Good" Mayor? I believe it is...

Someone who has the ability to "listen" to the residents of our city – to the people that work hard and pay their taxes – which are extremely high.

A person that can be the "voice" of the people of Lincoln City

Someone who can negate and work with current sitting council members

A person who knows finances and can budget our city properly, cut down on all unnecessary; and over spending

Two of the candidates have already been Mayor or on City Council – If you couldn't do the job the 1st or 2nd time why would I want to have you back in? I wouldn't

It is these very people that voted in items costing the City millions of dollars without even a single residents vote – how sneaky is that?

The past Mayors and City Council Members that are now running for Mayor – make it obvious to me that they Do Not Care about their constituents

Example: 87 million dollar urban renewal plan, increase in our garbage rates, etc. These items were put into place during Covid-19 and the Echo Fire, not one person got a vote – again sneaky.

What I know is that we need a person to be Mayor like Fernando Garza, I have met him, spent time discussing the issues and his ideas on how to address them.

Fernando Garza in my eyes is a very focused, extremely hard working candidate, who knows, understands; and loves this community.

Fernando knows finances, how to budget and "He Will" get all of this Reckless Spending under control.

Fernando "Will Have" townhall meetings because Fernando "wants" to hear the people of Lincoln City; and have us involved asking questions and giving ideas.

Fernando Garza is a "New Breath of Fresh Air" to this City and he is "My Choice" for "Lincoln City Mayor"

Lisa Corzine,
Lincoln City

This Is Not Your Father's Volunteer Fire Department

The fire service in America is, and has always had to deal with change and remain adaptable to the situation at hand to mitigate often life threatening incidents for their community. These incidents may involve family, friends, neighbors and co-workers. The one thing that does remain constant for the fire department is the need for volunteers! During a political season when people are running for the Fire District Board or perhaps a Town Council or City Council a platform for candidates will be that recruitment of volunteers must occur. This is an effort that is typically ongoing as the turnover rate for volunteer

firefighters is fairly high with the volunteers engaging for only 3 to 5 years on a national average. The NFPA indicates there are 1,149,300 firefighters in the united states and that of this number 808,150 or 70% are volunteer members. The communities of this nation are protected by a high number of volunteer or mostly volunteer fire agencies which comprise 87% of all departments in the U.S. (NFPA 2016).

The commitment to volunteer for the fire department comes with risks, and this sometimes will cause a potential candidate to choose another path of volunteerism which poses less risk and less time commitment than becoming a volunteer firefighter would. Opportunities are found in many operations that need volunteers to help the staff including libraries, hospitals, the American Red Cross, animal shelters even law enforcement agencies. Of these volunteer opportunities no other commitment faces the risks, training time, volunteer on demand requirement, time away from a career or work place and time away from family that the fire service requires of an individual. In our fathers volunteer fire department the members were predominately business owners, local shop managers or owners that could lock the door when the community fire siren activated to call them to a secondary duty of being a firefighter, this was acceptable practice when the fire department responded to primarily fire

calls that occurred 200 times a year, but demands for service have changed! The volunteer firefighter of today needs to be trained to provide EMS services, hazardous materials response, structure firefighting, wildland firefighting, in some instances marine firefighting on the water and aircraft rescue and firefighting such as Newport. In the fire departments of today we see a low volume response requirement hovering around 1,000 calls per year or an average of 83 calls per month, larger combination departments are responding to 2,500 or more calls per year in Lincoln County. Few employees of today would tolerate seeing an employee leave the work site 3 to 11 times per day to answer the fire call.

The National Volunteer Fire Council indicates that the best recruiters for the volunteer fire department are the volunteers themselves, not the fire chief, not a hired recruiter rather it is the personal interactions of the volunteer members that can communicate on a personal level about volunteering with potential new members. The Newport Volunteer Firefighters have found this to be a very accurate statement and use this approach to bring in new members. Our volunteers have worked hard to create a recruiting program and to bring in people they know to join the ranks! Across the United States the age of the volunteer members is becoming of concern as our volunteer force becomes older, thereby becoming challenged physically to do the

labor intensive work of being a firefighter. The dynamics to recruit volunteers on the coast is an additional challenge with a high number of retirees who have moved to the region for the golden years, or industries where the physically capable are working in a processing plant or spend a great deal of time in the fishing fleet operations which also takes time away from their families. The fire service and community are only borrowing the members from every other aspect of their lives, we must respect this and accommodate what commitment they can give us and the community, they deserve our respect! No, it is not my fathers volunteer fire department in the 21st century!

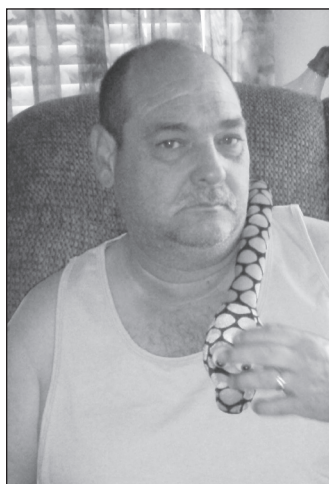
Robert Harvey,
Assistant Chief,
Newport Fire Department

From North Lincoln Fire and Rescue Chief Rob Dahman: I echo Asst. Chief Harvey's words. We always have applications ready to hand out. They apply and then comes background investigation (required by State of Oregon DPSST), drug testing, medical physicals. They need to have a valid Oregon Drivers license. All required. This washes out a considerable number. Then comes a considerable time commitment for training and responses. If anyone would like to apply, please...please...please.

Standing back and criticizing our lack of volunteers does not help, fill out the application or send people our way.

IN MEMORY

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



Steven Cronan

February 16, 1962 -
April 22, 2021

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of February 16, 1962. He is survived by his spouse, Sheree. Also parents-in-laws, Mike and Conde, sister-in-law, Anni, brother-in-law, David, brothers, Rod, David, and one sister, Karen. Nieces and nephews Monica, Luis, Adam, Morgan, Michael, great nephews and niece, Alex, Nicky, and Lucy, Baby Huds (new baby girl to be - Miss), nieces, Natalie, Chrissy, Jenny, and Faith. Steve had two sons, Allen and Aaron, one daughter-in-law, Amanda, and four grandsons from Allen and Amanda, Jesse, Ravin, Drake, and Damien. Best friends: Drew, and Linda. God Daughter: Ariel.

Steve worked and played hard. He achieved most of his dreams. The only things he did not get to have were his own house or airplane. Steve became ill and spent many years with pain and other issues, but he kept on truckin.

The arrangements are not yet ready for announcement.



Lincoln Wayne Flores

Lincoln Wayne Flores was born December 30, 1976 and passed on May 16, 2020.

He loved music (always had headphones

on). He really liked going to the casinos, walking on the beach & especially meeting & talking to people. He made many friends near & far.

Lincoln is survived by his wife Melissa Flores. They'd recently remarried on April 26, 2020. He is also survived by his mother Janice Flores, sister Lynita Flores-Keeley & nieces Jasmine (Zach & Braxton) Cromwell, Alliyah & Alexis Flores-Keeley & Xochitl Flores-Keeley-Martinez.

He has another sister Sara Bell Tellez & family. He is also survived by Uncle Rudy (Rocky) Flores, aunts Lin & Renee Flores, Glenna Gardner & Rosalee Johnston. He is also survived by his best friend Rusty Eaton & friend Angel Martinez.

He was preceded in death by his grandparents Eleanor & Rudy Flores, Aunt & Uncle Lolly & Paul Stratton, John Gardner & His father Delbert Bell.

He is survived by many - wife, family & friends, missed daily & on someone's mind. Rest In Peace with the others that have gone ahead.



Andrews Ersoff & Zantello
Attorneys at Law

www.AEZLawOffice.com

541-994-7350



Police Blotter

The police blotter relates the public record of incidents as reported by the Lincoln City Police. Information printed is preliminary and subject to change. See the full week's police blotter at thenewsguard.com.

LINCOLN CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT

MONDAY, MAY 3

2:12 a.m. Theft/Impound, 4101 NW Logan Rd. Caller reported theft of plants from in front of store. Female associated

with white pickup with Arizona plates was seen leaving the area on Logan Rd. Vehicle located, traffic stop initiated, Car Care responded for impound tow. Subjects permanently trespassed from Safeway. Plants returned.

2:48 p.m. Theft, 2114 SE Hwy 101. Report of a male in a black hoodie, jeans and baseball hat with a black shopping cart took a black Eddie Bauer jacket and left on Hwy 101.

TUESDAY, MAY 4

7:48 a.m. Criminal Mischief, 325 SW Hwy 101.

Caller reported stickers were placed on her car and when removed they lifted the paint.

10:17 a.m. Extra Patrol, NW 15h St. Caller reported a white convertible stuck on the beach. Multiple witnesses state it comes down the beach access almost daily around 5 a.m. and does donuts and drives on the beach.

11:15 a.m. Assist on Arrest, 1503 SE East Devils Lake Rd. Subject turned themselves into LCPD on

a failure to appear warrant out of Benton County. Cited and released.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 5

12:36 a.m. Driving While Suspended, SW 17th St./SW Fleet Ave. Traffic stop performed, driver was driving while suspended, had no insurance. Driver cited and released, vehicle impounded by Car Care.

4:31 p.m. Harassment, 95 NW Hwy 101, D River Wayside. Caller reported

that a male adult harassed her sons at the public restrooms. Officer responded.

8:58 p.m. Criminal Mischief, SW 15th St. Beach Access. Subject cited and released for criminal mischief after throwing a rock at a vehicle.

THURSDAY, MAY 6

2:06 a.m. Criminal Mischief, 4031 NW Hwy 101, Caller reported that a male threw a brick through their window.

9:41 a.m. Stolen Vehicle, 4031 NW Hwy 101. Caller reported a UHaul trailer was stolen.

1:29 p.m. Found Property, 1503 SE Devils Lake Rd., LCPD. Subject came into LCPD with a small purse and keys.

10:25 p.m. Warrant Arrest, 950 SE 32nd St. Caller advised a subject was outside their apartment being verbally aggressive. Subject taken to Lincoln County Jail.

Rentals

From page 1

sioners Claire Hall and Kaety Jacobson voiced support for reducing the occupancy in STRs located in unincorporated Lincoln County from three guests per bedroom plus two to two guests per bedroom plus two. Jacobson pointed out that occupancy needs to be connected to septic capability.

Belmont also sought direction from the commissioners regarding a cap or limit on the number of STRs.

"I am more in favor of an area-based cap than just an overall number," Jacobson responded. "I'm not a fan of having the license transfer to another owner," she added, also indicating a preference for a lottery rather than a waiting list.

"I would envision some kind of sub-area caps," Board Chair Doug Hunt agreed. "I would be in favor of some sort of percentage of STRs."

Hall also supported limiting STRs. "It is a basic law of economics. Anything that reduces the housing supply takes a home out of long term ownership or rental market can contribute to our affordable housing shortage," she said. "It's about quality of life in residential neighborhoods," she said emphatically.

"When you see the majority of a neighborhood become primarily non-owner-occupied homes, I think that has a lot of negative connotations."

Brian Crawford, Lincoln County senior environmental health specialist, told the commissioners that the failure rate for STRs is roughly 50 percent higher than that of residential septs. The main cause of failure, he

said, was hydraulic overloading — too many gallons per day per system.

"Those surge events can lead to groundwater contamination," Crawford said. He further explained that periods of no use followed by heavy use cause septic failure.

"I do want to see proposed changes in code regarding STR septic systems," Hall commented. "In a perfect world we'd be providing greater oversight to all septs... given the particular vulnerabilities to septs," she said.

"There are cases we don't even know what is in the ground," Planning Director Onno Husing told the commissioners. "Facts are clear that vacation rentals, for all sorts of reasons, place tremendous demands on (septic) systems."

Before requiring an existing system evaluation report and implementing an ongoing mechanism to review the system, Belmont was directed to inquire with service providers to determine their capacity.

Jacobson, who accompanied Crawford on recent septic inspections said, "I want to make sure that we create a rule that is able to be followed. With most of the unincorporated areas of the county using septic systems, Jacobson added that she would like the county to "get a better handle on septic systems on non-STRs."

The commissioners also indicated support for creating an administrative process to hear and address complaints in addition to code enforcement currently in place.

Action by the board is expected in June.

Court

From page 1

gree from the University of North Carolina, and earned her law degree with honors from the University of Tennessee College of Law. After graduating from law school, she began her legal career in Oregon, working in private practice in Medford, before moving to a law firm in Newport.

During that time, she worked as a child protective services worker with the Lincoln County Department of Human Services. She then served as a Deputy District Attorney in Lincoln County, with a brief period of time serving in the Malheur County District Attorney's Office, adding to her statewide perspective.

While with the District Attorney's Office, Benjamin worked extensively with community partners, and was recognized in 2016 with a Prosecutor

of the Year award at the Lincoln County Law Enforcement Banquet.

In January 2019, Benjamin transitioned to her current role as the full-time hearings referee and judge pro tem for the Lincoln County Circuit Court, where, in addition to managing a regular caseload, Benjamin established and leads the County's mental health treatment court.

Benjamin is active in the community, serving on the Oregon Judicial Department's Behavioral Health Advisory Committee and the Judicial Engagement and Leadership Institute, as a mentor through the Oregon State Bar, and as the leader of the Lincoln County Juvenile Model Court Team. In prior years, Benjamin served on the board of My Sister's Place and on the Children's Advocacy Center event planning committee.



A FOUNDATION OF ETHICS

The palm trees and sunset on his company's logo reflect his childhood on Oahu's leeward side. So does the name of his business, Paradise Carpet Cleaners. But after 33 years on the Oregon Coast, Michael Raines now considers Lincoln City his true paradise.

Just prior to his senior year in high school, Mike's parents moved his family to Lincoln City, where they served as pastors for the Church of the Nazarene. The water was unquestionably colder when he surfed, but Mike grew to love the community. After graduating from Taft High School, he stayed and worked construction. He then trained as a carpet cleaner, working for another firm. After two years of learning the business, he decided to open his own company.

Discussing Michael is impossible without discussing his wife, Hannah. They're truly a team. Besides managing the family business together, they homeschool their children and volunteer in the community together.

Hannah grew up in California's Bay Area, worked in nursing and sales, before moving to Portland in 2003 as a loan officer for a mortgage company. On a weekend trip to Lincoln City, she met Mike at the community pool. In 2005, Hannah said yes to his marriage proposal, knowing and appreciating the fact that Mike came as a package with his son, Samuel and daughter, Samantha. Two additional sons, Michael and Gabriel, joined the family a few years later. Five years ago, a granddaughter was born.

Twenty-three years ago, when he first opened Paradise Carpet Cleaners, Mike was adamant that all of his business decisions would be based on ethics. Each of the technicians who worked for him would receive IICRC certification, strict protocols would be followed, exact price quotes would be given before every job, and customers would receive an iron clad, risk free guarantee. Mike considered the guarantee to be so important that he had it painted on each of the company's vans: "The Most Thorough Cleaning or It's Free!" He meant it.

Besides providing carpet cleaning for homes and businesses, the company offers professional cleaning of upholstery and area rugs, as well as tile and grout. Paradise Carpet Cleaners, which provides service from Pacific City to Waldport, extends discounts to military service members, veterans, and senior citizens.

Mike attributes the growth of the company to hundreds of positive comments and referrals that they have received from their customers. In fact, Paradise Carpet Cleaners has earned an A+ Rating from the Better Business Bureau. In Hannah's words: "We don't want your carpet to just look and feel great, we want it to even smell fresh and clean!" Reviews from customers are equally as enthusiastic.

For years, Paradise Carpet Cleaners enjoyed steady growth and employed five, but the pandemic brought business to a standstill. Thanks to federal Paycheck Protection Program loans through Oregon Coast Bank, the company was able to resume growth last fall and employment is again building.

Even the relationship they have with their bank is rooted in community involvement. "We really got to know Jedd Fly, who manages our Lincoln City Oregon Coast Bank, through our children and Cub Scouting," points out Mike. "Jedd is the Charter Representative, Hannah is a Cub Master and I'm a Webelos Leader." "It's a relationship built on trust," adds Hannah. "Jedd made the PPP loans such an easy process."



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Water Improvement District purchases Blue Heron Landing

THE NEWS GUARD

The Devils Lake Water Improvement District (DLWID) is proud to announce the purchase of Blue Heron Landing. The property and building, which is located at 4006 NE West Devils Lake Road in Lincoln City, is the former location of Blue Heron Landing Marina. Starting this summer DLWID will have, for the first time, permanent lakefront access to Devils Lake.

"This is the single most important transaction that the District has made since its inception," says Board President Tina French. "Not only do we have our own lake access for the first time, but we also have a building where we can store our equipment and our customers can interact with staff. There is so much potential for this building to be an asset for DLWID and the community."

At the April 2021 DLWID Board Meeting, the Board directed staff to execute a contract between the District and the owner of Blue Heron Landing for the purchase of the property.



COURTESY PHOTO

The Blue Heron Property on Devils Lake Road will be utilized as a lake access point for the Water improvement District.

The District will agree to pay for the property, in monthly installments, over the course of several years.

District Manager Josh Brainerd says that the investment is worth it. "For over 30 years, the District has conducted operations on the Lake to ensure its health and safety," says Brainerd.

"However, during that same time, DLWID has never owned property on the Lake. This has made Lake access difficult, especially in emergency situations. Having district-owned property will allow staff to access the Lake easier and more efficiently, which will in turn allow us to continue providing quality services on the Lake."

The District has seen a dramatic turnaround in its finances since Brainerd's hiring in 2015. Brainerd, who is a Certified Lake Manager, upon being hired inherited a district budget in need of fundraising to meet increasing demands. In the course of four years, Brainerd has successfully implemented measures to bring the district budget, as well as the Lake, back to a healthy state.

"We really need to thank Josh for helping us get our finances back on track," says French. "It is because of his care with the budget that we were able to save up for the down payment on this purchase. Along with guidance from the Board, this was really a team effort."

Starting in July 2021, DLWID will take possession of the Blue Heron Landing property, along with the building and docks. For updates on the project, please go to the District's website at www.DLWID.org. Updates will also be posted to the District's social media channels, which are Facebook at [Facebook.com/DevilsLakeOR](https://www.facebook.com/DevilsLakeOR) and NextDoor.

The Devils Lake Water Im-

provement District (DLWID) was established in 1984 for the "restoration, maintenance, and enhancement of Devils Lake." In 1988, property owners in the watershed voted to financially support the District with a permanent tax base. This ongoing support is budgeted each year to accomplish specific objectives that seek to meet the overriding mission of the District listed below:

- Improve and maintain the water quality in Devils Lake.
- Develop the environment for fish, wildlife, and humans in Devils Lake and its watershed.
- Increase recreational opportunities in and on Devils Lake.
- Recover and maintain safe and efficient navigation through Devils Lake.
- Ensure public access to Devils Lake.
- Increase public awareness and public education of Devils Lake.

For questions about the Blue Heron Landing project, please contact District Manager Josh Brainerd at Josh@DLWID.org.

Unprecedented weather, drought fueled Oregon wildfires

MICHELLE KLAMPE
Guest Contributor

An unprecedented combination of strong easterly winds and low humidity coupled with prolonged drought conditions drove the spread of catastrophic wildfires in the Oregon Cascades last September, a new study has found.

"The individual wind and humidity conditions were rare but not unprecedented, but the combination of the two was," said Larry O'Neill, an associate professor in OSU's College of Earth, Ocean, and Atmospheric Sciences and a co-author of the paper.

"And individually, they were some of the worst conditions we've seen since we began keeping records from instrumented data."

The weather and fire forecasts for this coming summer are not looking particularly good, either, he said.

"The situation looks as bad or worse than last year," O'Neill said. "Drought conditions have not recovered from last year, particularly in southern and eastern Oregon. Soil moistures remain low, and the vegetation fuel moisture has not recovered."

From Sept. 7 to 9, 2020, an estimated 11% of the

Oregon Cascades burned in several large fires in western Oregon. The fires, which stretched from Clackamas County at the north to Douglas County at the south, burned more area of the Oregon Cascades than had burned in the previous 36 years combined and likely exceeded the area burned in any single year in at least the last 120 years, the researchers found.

Most large wildfires in western Oregon since 1900 have coincided with similar warm, dry summers and moderate or strong east wind events, said O'Neill, who is also the state climatologist with the Oregon



FILE PHOTO/MAX KIRKENDALL

The hazy air during the Sept. 2020 wildfires in Lincoln County.

Climate Service.

The findings reinforce the role compounding extremes may have when assessing wildfire hazard risks, O'Neill said. Understanding the meteorological and climate drivers of these kinds of fire events is important for management of forest lands and for recognizing the patterns and preparing for such weather events in the future, he said.

"Forecasters can look for that combination of easterly winds and extremely dry landscapes and know that the fire risk will be greater," he said. "That could allow for some preparation to reduce fire risk."

The findings were published recently in *Geophysical Research Letters*. The paper's lead author is John Abatzoglou of the University of California, Merced.

Co-authors are David Rupp of OSU's College of Earth, Ocean, and Atmospheric Sciences and Mojtaba Sadegh of Boise State University.

The researchers' collaboration began through conversations on Twitter as the fires were unfolding up and down the Oregon Cascades last fall, O'Neill said.

"The easterly wind event was so unusual, and it was so dry at the time," he said. "We wanted to document and describe the large-scale weather patterns that were most relevant to the fires' development and growth."

The researchers analyzed weather and climate data during last fall's fire periods and also studied historical weather and climate data related to 13 very large fire events in western Oregon since 1900.

They found that a series of climate and weather factors, including low humidity, high easterly wind speeds and extreme fuel dryness due to drought conditions in previous months enabled and drove rapid rates of fire spread in September.

They also found that 10 of 13 other very large fire events in western Oregon since 1900 were associated with hot, dry summers and all 13 fires were associated with strong easterly winds.

Based on current climate models, it does not look like the frequency or severity of easterly wind events will increase in Oregon due to climate change. But forecasters expect that climate change will contribute to a trend toward increasing air dryness in late summer and early fall in the future, which is a cause for concern.

"As the climate warms, the atmosphere will have a larger capacity to pull moisture from soils and forest vegetation than it does now, which will increase the severity of droughts and dryness of potential fire fuels," he said. "So when we do get these similar strong easterly wind events, those winds may be blowing over drier, more flammable fuels. The implication is that the fire risk throughout Oregon will probably increase significantly, and that we can also expect longer fire seasons, including in areas we typically think are not prone to extreme wildfire."

O'Neill is now looking into the historical trends of the easterly winds in Oregon and seeing how they might line up with other high-impact weather events, including fires but also events like the February ice storms that downed trees and electrical lines and left thousands without power for days.

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Fishermen's Wives prep for 2021 Blessing of the Fleet

MAX KIRKENDALL
newsguardeditor@countrymedia.net

On Saturday, May 15, the Newport Fishermen's Wives (NFW) will again be sponsoring a strong tradition in Lincoln County's fishing community called the Blessing of the Fleet.

The Blessing of the Fleet is a community ceremony honoring local fishermen and their families. The Blessing is open to any and all who wish to ask blessings on their fishing vessel, charter vessel, pleasure craft, or research vessel.

The Blessing of the Fleet began as an old-world Sicilian custom emphasizing faith and perseverance – qualities that have long fueled those who go to sea to earn their living. Since the 1950's Newport's Blessing of the Fleet has continued the custom of asking for prayers for protection at sea, bountiful catches, and peace of mind for the families at home.

Events will be starting at 10 a.m. with a Memorial Service



COURTESY PHOTO

The Newport Fishermen's Wives group will host the Blessing of the fleet.

at the Fishermen's Memorial Sanctuary at Yaquina Bay State Park. This service is meant to offer support and encouragement to the families and community while remembering Lincoln County fishermen lost at sea.

Next, the group will start the Boat Procession and Bless the Fleet, this takes place in the harbor and can be viewed from most locations on the Newport Bayfront.

The boat parade gets underway at 11:30 a.m., from the area

near the Port's international terminal. The United States Coast Guard Search & Rescue Helicopter (if available) and the motor lifeboats of Station Yaquina Bay signal the start of the parade. All vessels will follow the lead vessel from the international terminal heading west, turning just in front of the bridge before heading east to pass in front of the coast guard motor lifeboat, where local ministers will bless each vessel.

Vessel registration forms are also located at England and Schiewe Marine Supply on the Newport Bay Front. People can listen to the blessing as it is broadcast live on AM 1310 KNPT

NFW's will end this special day with a BBQ hosted by them at the Port of Newport parking lot at 1:30 p.m.

"We will be serving food and giving out our 2021 Blessing of the Fleet sponsor t-shirts and some comfortable cloth masks provided to us from the Oregon Dungeness Crab Commission,"

Taunette Dixon said. "We are looking forward to taking this time to re-engage with our community and give thanks for all of the support we have gotten throughout the last few years. This lunch, shirts and masks will be free of charge and is open to everyone in our community."

The event will take place at the Port of Newport, by the work dock. First come, first serve, as it is hard for NFW to estimate the crowd that they will get this year, so they will be serving food until it runs out, the same goes for their free shirts and masks.

"Sadly, we had to make the tough choices to postpone a couple of our events until after we get through this pandemic," Dixon said. "We won't be having our Highliner Competition and our Survival Suit races, we are doing everything we can to make this a safe, fun event for everyone despite these weird times we are in."

Festival

From page 1

"I looked into the budget, and decided that one thing I would like to try is to keep the heart of the festival intact, in terms of it being a multi-genre event with a variety of products together," Bergman said. "Even if it's a smaller festival, still, what makes this festival unique is the idea that we can bring together jazz, chamber music, symphonic music and more."

Bergman figured musicians would be able to take a 30 percent cut on their normal rate to perform in

order to keep in the budget. As he began contacting artists to gauge their interest in coming to the festival, Bergman was unsure of what the response would be.

"The return response was 'I'm coming,'" Bergman said. "So it was a very heartfelt experience because you can't even imagine what it means to a musician to play in front of a crowd after such a long time."

Several artists will be returning to the festival such as renowned jazz clarinetist Ken Pep-

lowski and Mei-Ting Sun, gold medal winner of the National Chopin Competition. In addition some of the festival favorites, Bergman said they will be adding several new artists to their lineup such as violinist Anthea Kreston, cellist Jason Duckles, pianist Martin Kennedy, vocalist Karla Harris and jazz artist Randy Porter.

"My vision every year is to do the same old, same old but continually making it more contemporary and more challenging... Things that will make everybody happy,"

Bergman said.

Tickets for the event will be going on sale in June as more details are set to be released in the coming months. Although there is still some uncertainty, there's no denying the excitement surrounding the annual event.

"I'm very excited about our program, it's a legitimate program that gives our musicians the energy to come no matter what reality we are dealing with," Bergman said. "There's a great deal of excitement within the artists."

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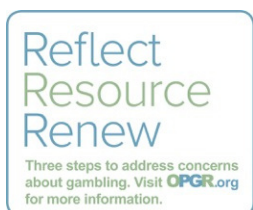
Most adults agree that people should expect to lose when they gamble.

Is gambling used to come with emotional or physical pain?

Most adults agree that people should not gamble to cope with emotional or physical pain.

Is gambling interfering with friends, family, work, or other worthwhile activities?

Most adults agree that gambling should not interfere with or be a substitute for friends, family, work, or other worthwhile activities.



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SPORTS

Taft baseball competes in thriller against Warrenton

MAX KIRKENDALL
newsguardeditor@countrymedia.net

After picking up their first win of the shortened season the prior week, Taft 7-12 baseball nearly pulled off a big win over a strong Warrenton team last Tuesday.

The Tigers, now 1-7 this season, welcomed the Warriors, who hold a 9-1 record, to Lincoln City on May 4. Warrenton finished runner up in the state championship game in 2019 and have been on a roll in the 2021 season.

Taft, however, was up for the challenge on Tuesday, scoring two runs in the opening inning to give the Tigers a 2-1 lead early in the game. The Warriors would respond in the next inning to even the score 2-2 going into the third inning.

In the fourth Taft scored a pair of runs to take a 4-2 lead, but once again Warrenton responded by

scoring three runs in the top of the fifth inning to gain a one run advantage. Taft would rally again in the bottom half of the inning, scoring two more runs to take a 6-5 lead.

In the top of the sixth inning, with one out and runners in scoring position, a fly ball to left field scored two for Warrenton as they regained the lead. The Tigers were unable to mount another comeback in the bottom of the sixth and seventh innings despite some big hits that the Warriors were able to corral in the outfield. Warrenton won 7-6.

The game was Senior Night for Taft, who honored its five seniors during the night, including Fco Ramos, Ethan Thomas, Darius Smith, Logan Christianson and Jose Flores.

The Tigers had another opportunity to steal a game from Warrenton last Friday, May 7, during a doubleheader at Warrenton. Unfortunately,

fortunately, the home town Warriors were able to find their offense and win a pair of games over Taft 17-5 and 10-3 respectively.

Taft has added a handful of games to their remaining schedule after last week was originally slated for the final week of the season. Taft will host Willamina today, May 11, starting at 4:30 p.m., then they will travel to Westside Christian on May 14.

The baseball team will wrap up the season with a pair of home games against Tillamook on May 17 (starting at 4:45) and May 18 (starting at 3 p.m.).

Softball

After dropping a pair of games to Clatskanie, the Taft 7-12 softball team bounced back last week with a series sweep of Warrenton.

On May 4, the Tigers traveled to Warrenton for an afternoon matchup. The Taft bats came alive in the first of three games as they poured in 15 runs to defeat the Warriors by six runs.

After a home game against Yamhill-Carlton on May 6, (Taft lost 15-1), the Tigers welcomed Warrenton to Lincoln City on May 7 for a doubleheader.

With the offense working again against the Warrior pitchers, Taft won both games 17-3 and 10-6 respectively. The wins brought Taft's season record to 6-6 overall and 5-5 against league opponents.

The Lady Tigers also added another game to their schedule as they travel to Monroe High School for what is likely to be their final game of the season.



NEWS GUARD PHOTO/MAX KIRKENDALL

Senior Fco Ramos pitched several innings against Warrenton during a 7-6 loss on May 4.



NEWS GUARD PHOTO/MAX KIRKENDALL

Junior Kaden Hindman takes a lead off of first base after getting a base hit against the Warriors.



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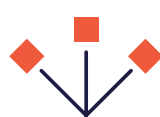
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