



# Lincoln County Leader

Wednesday, February 5, 2025 Lincoln County, Oregon \$2

## Toledo's interim city manager, interim fire chief resign

*Former fire chief brought back from paid leave*

**STEVE CARD**  
Lincoln County Leader

Toledo city administration has been in a whirlwind the past few months, and while there may be some light on the horizon, there will likely be more turbulence as they weather the storm. On Jan. 22, Toledo's interim city manager, the



The city of Toledo is facing some leadership shortages with the resignations on Jan. 22 of Interim City Manager Amanda Carey, Interim Fire Chief Ryan Harris, and Fire Training Officer Shannon Brecik. (Courtesy photo)



The owner of the Four Winds Inn in Depoe Bay was shot and killed with a handgun reportedly fired by a disgruntled employee at around 10:15 a.m. on Thursday, Jan. 30. (Courtesy photo)

## Depoe Bay man arrested for murder

*Police pursuit goes all the way to Benton County*

**STEVE CARD**  
Lincoln County Leader

A 29-year-old Depoe Bay man was arrested by a detective with the

Lincoln County Sheriff's Office on Thursday, Jan. 30, on charges that he shot and killed the owner

See **MURDER**, page A7

# Senator, representative hold town hall

**STEVE CARD**  
Lincoln County Leader

It was a standing-room-only crowd as hundreds of people gathered on Saturday, Feb. 1, at a joint town hall meeting held by U.S. Sen. Jeff Merkley and U.S. Rep. Val Hoyle. The event took place at noon in the commons at the Oregon Coast Community College Central County Campus in Newport. The legislators were introduced by Newport Mayor Jan Kaplan, and they took questions from the crowd using a lottery-based system, drawing random numbers that people had been given as they walked into the event. Many of the concerns raised by those in attendance



U.S. Sen. Jeff Merkley addresses hundreds of people who turned out for a town hall meeting on Saturday, Feb. 1, at the Oregon Coast Community College Central County Campus in Newport. (Photo by Steve Card)

## Fake robbery leads to arrest, trial, sentencing

**JEREMY C. RUARK**  
Lincoln County Leader

A former Lincoln City restaurant manager has been sentenced following her conviction for staging a fake robbery. After a three-day jury trial, Denali Cox was found guilty Jan. 24 by a Lincoln County jury of aggravated theft in the first degree and initiating a false report, according to Lincoln County District Attorney Jenna Wallace. "On the morning of July 31, 2023, Denali Cox, then manager of Pelican Brewery — Siletz Bay, called 911 to report that she had just been robbed. Cox alleged that she was walking to her car with a bank deposit bag with more than \$17,000 inside a paper sack when an unknown male jumped



An officer with the Lincoln City Police Department searches for a suspect on July 31, 2023, in what turned out to be a false robbery report. (Photo by Jeremy C. Ruark)

## Lincoln City mayor outlines city's needs at Oregon Legislature

**JEREMY C. RUARK**  
Lincoln County Leader

Mayor Susan Wahlke is hopeful, but not optimistic, that Lincoln City will receive a fair share of state funding during this year's legislative session. "Lincoln City, in particular Lincoln County, has received a lot of grants from the state, and we can't expect that to be ongoing," she said while leading a city delegation during the League of Oregon Cities City Day in Salem. More than 350 city officials, representing more than 120 cities throughout Oregon, participated in City Day at the Capitol on Tuesday,



Gov. Tina Kotek addresses the League of Oregon Cities members, including representatives from Lincoln City, during the City Day at the Capitol at the Salem Convention Center. (Photo by Jeremy C. Ruark)

Jan. 28. The event helps city officials advocate for their communities on priority issues. Of particular concern for Wahlke is funding for

See **MAYOR**, page A6



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**Weather**

**Wednesday:** High-42/Low-34  
Rain

**Thursday:** High-44/Low-33  
AM Fog/PM Clouds

**Friday:** High-44/Low-37  
Showers

**Saturday:** High-46/Low-33  
Showers

**Sunday:** High-46/Low-32  
Cloudy

**Monday:** High-45/Low-32  
Mostly Cloudy

**Tuesday:** High-44/Low-33  
Partly Cloudy

**Past Weather**

On the Coast

	Rain	Low	High
January 24.....	0.00.....	35.1 .....	48.4 .....
January 25.....	0.00.....	30.8 .....	51.3 .....
January 26.....	0.00.....	36.9 .....	54.9 .....
January 27.....	0.00.....	39.8 .....	43.2 .....
February 1.....	0.06.....	40.5 .....	49.8 .....
February 2.....	0.10.....	35.9 .....	45.5 .....
February 3.....	0.05.....	35.4 .....	39.7 .....
Total rainfall from Jan. 1.....6.71"			

**Tides Tables**

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

**WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 5**

High.....	5:00 a.m.....	9.3 .....
Low.....	12:13 p.m.....	0.8 .....
High.....	6:44 p.m.....	5.7 .....
Low.....	11:16 p.m.....	3.7 .....

**THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 6**

High.....	5:56 a.m.....	9.2 .....
Low.....	1:29 p.m.....	0.3 .....
High.....	8:25 p.m.....	5.9 .....

**FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 7**

Low.....	12:31 a.m.....	4.2 .....
High.....	7:01 a.m.....	9.0 .....
Low.....	2:39 p.m.....	0.0 .....
High.....	9:45 p.m.....	6.3 .....

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 8**

Low.....	1:56 a.m.....	4.4 .....
High.....	8:09 a.m.....	9.0 .....
Low.....	3:39 p.m.....	0.4 .....
High.....	10:41 p.m.....	6.7 .....

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 9**

Low.....	3:12 a.m.....	4.2 .....
High.....	9:13 a.m.....	9.2 .....
Low.....	4:31 p.m.....	0.7 .....
High.....	11:25 p.m.....	7.1 .....

**MONDAY, FEBRUARY 10**

Low.....	4:12 a.m.....	3.9 .....
High.....	10:09 a.m.....	9.3 .....
Low.....	5:15 p.m.....	0.8 .....

**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 11**

High.....	12:01 a.m.....	7.3 .....
Low.....	5:03 a.m.....	3.4 .....
High.....	10:58 a.m.....	9.2 .....
Low.....	5:53 p.m.....	0.8 .....

**Sunrise/Sunset**

February 5 .....	7:30 a.m.....	5:30 p.m.
February 6 .....	7:29 a.m.....	5:31 p.m.
February 7 .....	7:28 a.m.....	5:33 p.m.
February 8 .....	7:27 a.m.....	5:34 p.m.
February 9 .....	7:25 a.m.....	5:36 p.m.
February 10 .....	7:24 a.m.....	5:37 p.m.
February 11 .....	7:22 a.m.....	5:38 p.m.
February 12 .....	7:21 a.m.....	5:40 p.m.
February 13 .....	7:20 a.m.....	5:41 p.m.

**Lottery**

**Friday, January 31**  
Mega Millions  
9 • 28 • 48 • 56 • 63 • PB-2 • x2

**Saturday, February 1**  
Powerball  
23 • 29 • 32 • 49 • 61 • PB-8 • x2

**Saturday, February 1**  
Megabucks  
9 • 11 • 28 • 31 • 37 • 47

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# Advisory issued for commercial crab fleet

A fleet advisory for the commercial Dungeness crab fishery in all waters off Oregon was issued Jan. 30 by the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife’s Marine Resources Program.

A humpback whale entangled in multiple sets of commercial crab gear from Oregon was reported off the central Oregon coast on Jan. 6, marking the first humpback entanglement attributed by the National Marine Fisheries Service to Oregon commercial crab gear this year.

This follows a record high of four entanglements, involving three humpback whales and one fin whale, attributed

to Oregon commercial crab gear in 2024.

Given these events and the high number of crab lines in the water during the first months of the season, ODFW is issuing this fleet advisory. Crab fishing vessels should remain vigilant and move or avoid setting gear in areas where whales are transiting or foraging to minimize risk of entanglement as much as possible. This advisory is effective immediately and remains in effect through the end of the crab season or until superseded.

In its advisory statement, ODOT said, “We remind the fleet of the crab fishing best practices to help reduce risk

of entanglements at all times, but especially when entanglement risk is elevated during times of higher crabbing effort or when higher numbers of Endangered Species Act-listed humpback whales are present off Oregon.” Remember to:

- Remove any fishing gear you are not actively tending and promptly remove all gear from the ocean when finished crabbing for the season.

- Use the minimum amount of scope required to compensate for tides, currents, and weather.

- Adjust the length of buoy lines when moving pots to shallower water to maintain taut vertical lines.

- Minimize surface gear and ensure no excess line is floating at the surface.

- Avoid setting gear in the vicinity of large feeding aggregations of whales.

- Maintain gear to ensure lines and buoys are in good working condition and clearly marked.

- Bring derelict gear to shore in-season. If unable to retrieve, report the location of derelict gear to ODFW.

Crabbers are asked to share this advisory and reminders about crab fishing best practices to reduce risk of marine life entanglements. ODFW also asked them

to consider reporting whale sightings using the WhaleAlert app and sharing the locations of unusually high whale or sea turtle activity with ODFW and with other fishers.

All entangled marine mammals or sea turtles should be promptly reported by calling 1-877-SOS-WHALE (1-877-767-9425). Keep a safe distance and do not attempt disentanglement.

For more information, contact Brittany Harrington, 541-819-9246 or [Brittany.L.Harrington@odfw.oregon.gov](mailto:Brittany.L.Harrington@odfw.oregon.gov), or Kelly Corbett, 541-270-5083 or [Kelly.C.Corbett@odfw.oregon.gov](mailto:Kelly.C.Corbett@odfw.oregon.gov)

# Lincoln County Transit: three services, three brands

Lincoln County Transit has unveiled new graphic designs for its loop buses in Lincoln City and Newport, along with its Dial-A-Ride buses, to distinguish them from the InterCity Commuter. Dubbed “Three Services, Three Brands,” the purpose is to enhance route recognition, as well as identify city buses with the character of the communities they serve.

The discussion began in May 2024, when Lincoln County approached city staff in Newport and Lincoln City with a proposal to design distinctive graphics. Transit had heard from locals and tourists alike who believed commuter buses passed them as they waited at the stop when, in fact, the passing buses were Dial-A-Rides not making regular stops. Previously, graphics for all of Lincoln County Transit buses were of the same design, making their specific service difficult to identify.

The Greater Newport Chamber of Commerce and Explore Lincoln City took the lead on creating designs for their respective city routes. Newport produced a design featuring its status as the “Dungeness Crab Capital of the World,” while



Lincoln County Transit has new graphics on its buses to help people identify what service a particular bus provides, whether it is a city loop, InterCity Commuter, or Dial-A-Ride. (Courtesy photo)

Lincoln City opted to highlight its network of eight scenic hiking trails.

Dungeness crab is by far the most commercially important crab caught in the Pacific Northwest and helps drive the economy in Newport and along the Oregon coast. Commercial fishing makes up about 15 percent of the economy for Newport and surrounding Lincoln County. Income generated from Dungeness crab is more than 40 percent of the total value of all locally harvested seafood. Over 13 million pounds of crab were commercially caught and landed in Newport, valued at nearly \$40 million.

The Lincoln City Loop Bus highlights the city’s trails with the

advertisement “Hike Lincoln City.” The city’s scenic hiking trails are easily accessible via the loop bus. These trails are family and dog friendly, with hikes ranging from 1/3 mile to 3 miles in length. They include: Agnes Creek Trailhead, Devils Lake Boardwalk Trail, Friends of Wildwoods Trail, Regatta Nature Trail, The Knoll Open Space Trailhead and Trail Complex, Spyglass Ridge Trailhead, Spring Lake Open Space Hiking Trails, and Nesika Park Trail.

Lincoln City Transit operates two city loops — Newport and Lincoln City — which run circuits throughout the day with stops at main commercial and tourist locations. It

also operates commuter routes from Yachats to Lincoln City and to Siletz and Toledo. In cooperation with Benton Area Transit, it operates the Coast to Valley Express, which runs from Newport through Philomath and Corvallis to the train station at Albany and back. And its Dial-A-Ride service provides curb-to-destination transportation to any member of the community for just \$1 a trip.

Transit operates 20 buses and provides approximately 280,000 rides per year. Last year, its buses traveled more than 520,000 miles. During the next two years, the county will invest more than \$4 million in the system through the State Transportation

Improvement Fund.

Transit Director Cynda Bruce shared her excitement about the “Three Services, Three Brands” initiative.

“Staff at Lincoln City and Newport worked seamlessly with county staff and brought forth wonderful designs that perfectly represent their communities,” Bruce said. “These not only enhance the appearance of our vehicles but make navigating our transit system simpler with easily recognizable buses that correspond with their routes.”

To learn more about Lincoln County Transit, find routes and schedules, or to book a trip on Dial-A-Ride, visit [www.co.lincoln.or.us/361/Transit](http://www.co.lincoln.or.us/361/Transit)

# County welcomes Lennon Pierce as its new director of finances

Lincoln County is pleased to announce the hiring of Lennon Pierce to lead the finance department.

Pierce joins the county from Oregon Pacific Bank in Medford, where he served as vice president and trust officer. His previous positions include chief operations/finance officer at Memora in Sheridan, Wyoming; actuary at Bickmore in Medford; data scientist at AllCare Health in Grants Pass; and risk management specialist for Lithia Auto Stores in Medford.

The new finance director is a graduate of Rutgers University, where he earned a master’s degree in quantitative finance, and of Southern Oregon University, where



Lennon Pierce

he earned a Bachelor of Science in mathematics. He received his diploma from Crater High School in Central Point.

“As a fifth-generation Oregonian, I have very fond memories of the aquarium here and the kind community,” Pierce said. “And I wanted to be able to utilize and leverage my skills to enhance

this community around me because I find a lot of fulfillment in that. And, I love the Oregon coast, so this was a really good fit with who I am and my ethos.”

Pierce said he is still getting the lay of the land in the finance office, having only been on the job one week. His start date was Jan. 27.

“But I come with a background in being analytical, so I like to find optimization and efficiencies, and I’m hoping to be able to bring that lens and bring a little bit more fluidity to allow us to gain some capacity and see where I can start applying my skillset,” he said.

In addition to his skill with figures, Pierce is also an experienced chef.

# ODFW hosts online meeting on halibut season Feb. 10

The Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife will host an online public meeting Feb. 10 at 5:30 p.m. to get input on the number and timing of fixed and back-up dates for the central Oregon coast spring all-depth Pacific halibut season. All other area and season dates were finalized last fall.

ODFW fishery managers will also review the International Pacific Halibut Commission’s annual meeting and resulting recreational Pacific halibut quotas.

Meeting materials will be posted by noon Feb. 7 on the sport halibut webpage at [www.dfw.state.or.us/MRP/finfish/halibut/management.asp](http://www.dfw.state.or.us/MRP/finfish/halibut/management.asp) If you can’t attend the meeting, you can provide input by contacting Christian Heath at [christian.t.heath@odfw.oregon.gov](mailto:christian.t.heath@odfw.oregon.gov) or 541-867-4741.

To join online through Microsoft Teams:

- Go to <https://tinyurl.com/46kehy7w>

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Built in 1937, “The Lookout at Cape Foulweather” gift shop was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 2014 for its significance to early tourism along the Oregon Coast Highway and its association with the U.S. Coast Guard operations during World War II. (Courtesy photos)

# Otter Crest historic gift shop closed for restoration

The historic gift shop at Otter Crest State Scenic Viewpoint is slated for restoration starting this month to reinforce its structural integrity, preserve the building’s character and enhance accessibility.

The Cape Foulweather Gift Shop closed for the season in January and will remain closed through June for construction. There will be limited to no parking at Otter Crest during the work.

“The Lookout at Cape Foulweather” gift shop was built in 1937 and listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 2014 for its significance to early tourism along the Oregon Coast Highway and its association with the U.S. Coast Guard operations during World War II.

The first phase of the \$917,000 project will include:

- Exterior repairs and replacement of the roof, windows and siding to address an aging building envelope;
- Restoring the character of the facade with siding materials similar to those used on the original building;
- Structural repairs designed to strengthen the

foundation and walls;

- Enhancing safety and increase accessibility through improving entrances.

“Generations of visitors have stopped at this little shop to pick up souvenirs and take in the panoramic views from 450 feet up. This work will help preserve the historic building for generations to come,” said Historic Architecture Project Manager Jenny Wilder.

The second phase of the project will focus on accessibility and upgrades to the mechanical, electrical and plumbing systems inside the gift shop.

Oregon Parks and Recreation Department’s mission includes protecting and sharing historic structures like the Cape Foulweather Gift Shop for the enjoyment and education of current and future visitors.

Each biennium, the department spends some of its project funds on historic restoration and maintenance. Upcoming projects also include the Yaquina Bay Lighthouse and Hughes House at Cape Blanco State Park. For more information and updates about the project, visit the park page at <https://tinyurl.com/ypsermfb>

# Many apply for vacancy on county commission

**STEVE CARD**  
Lincoln County Leader

A total of 26 people have applied for an upcoming vacancy on the Lincoln County Board of Commissioners resulting from the recent resignation of Commissioner Kaety Jacobson.

On Jan. 10, Jacobson announced she was going to be stepping down from her position effective Feb. 14, with two years remaining in her term.

After that announcement, an online process was opened up for about two weeks to accept applications from those interested in serving on the commission. The application process was closed at 5 p.m. on Jan. 28.

Those submitting an application (in the order listed on the county’s website) are: Amy Williams, Lincoln City; Catherine Rigby, Newport; Sheahan Griffiths, Lincoln City; Ryan Parker, Newport; Amanda Cherryholmes, Lincoln City; Keith Barnes, Seal Rock; Dylan McEntee, Newport; Michael Dean, Tidewater; Mitch Parsons, Lincoln City; Eddie Townsend, Newport; David Hansen, southeast Lincoln County; John Heath, Gleneden Beach; Kevin Battles, Seal Rock; Stephen Lovas, Newport; Oscar Juarez, Waldport; Patricia Patrick-Joling, Newport; Rick Beasley, Depoe Bay; Walter Chuck, Newport; Scott King, Seal Rock; Jess Dolin, Yachats; Don Williams, Lincoln City; Christian Henderson, Newport; Christine Pebley, Newport; Chris Chandler, Newport; Riley Hoagland, Lincoln City; and John Rodriguez, Newport.

The two remaining county commissioners, Claire Hall and Casey Miller, will be responsible for selecting Jacobson’s replacement from among this list of applicants. Plans called for going through the entire list and ranking each one, and then selecting the top picks for an in-person interview. The names of those who will be interviewed had not been disclosed as of press time on Monday. At this point, interviews will likely take place during a work session on Wednesday, Feb. 12, with the appointment of the new commissioner being made official during the regular county commission meeting on Feb. 19.

# Burglary suspect arrested in Lincoln City

**JEREMY C. RUARK**  
Lincoln County Leader

A Lincoln City resident faces multiple criminal charges after being arrested during a business burglary investigation.

At approximately 5 a.m. Wednesday, Jan. 29, Lincoln City Police Department officers were dispatched to the report of a burglary alarm at Dutch Bros Coffee at 711 NW Highway 101.

“As officers responded to the scene, they saw a male with a large backpack and a large bag of cans riding away from the area on a bicycle,” LCPD Lt. Jeffery Winn said.

Officers arrived at Dutch Bros and found the storage unit for the business was open, despite the business itself being closed.

“The male previously seen riding a bike from the area was located and detained, and the investigating officers determined that the male, identified as 35-year-old Lincoln City resident Jesse Oglend, had entered the business, stolen several flats of “Rebel” energy drink, and taken a large bag of empty cans,” Winn said. “Officers also found a spring-assisted folding knife and a pipe containing methamphetamine on his person.”

Winn said the officers also learned that Oglend had a warrant for his arrest out of Linn County for failure to appear on a previous felony theft. Oglend was taken into custody and lodged at the Lincoln County Jail on charges of theft in the second degree, burglary in the second degree, giving false information to a peace officer, possession of weapons by certain felons, possession of a controlled substance, and an outstanding warrant.

According to Winn, the LCPD is encouraging everyone to be vigilant and lock their cars, residences, and business doors.

“We recommend the installation of motion-sensitive lights, cameras, or alarms to deter this type of crime,” he said. “Most burglaries and thefts from vehicles and buildings in Lincoln City occur when the locks are not secured, so a locked door or window can be a simple way to prevent this kind of crime from happening to you.”

# Newport terminates contract with attorney David Allen

**STEVE CARD**  
Lincoln County Leader

On Dec. 17, 2024, Newport’s city attorney, David Allen, was placed on paid administrative leave, which was scheduled to run through Jan. 31. And one of the items on the Newport City Council’s agenda for its meeting this Monday, Feb. 3, was ratification of a separation agreement between Allen and the city.

Allen began serving as the city attorney in 2020. Prior to that, he had served several terms as a member of the Newport City Council.

In the separation agreement, the city agrees to give Allen “\$52,675.40 representing severance pay, COBRA benefit payments and a discretionary payment of 40 hours of accrued vacation leave, pursuant to city policy.”

Also in the agreement, the city “acknowledges and agrees that employee did not resign his employment and agrees to inform the Oregon Employment Department that employee’s employment was terminated “without cause pursuant to contact.”

In exchange, Allen waives any and all future claims against the city. Allen signed the separation agreement on Jan. 29.

Newport communications officer John Fuller told the Lincoln County Leader, “In general, the city of Newport is unable to comment on personnel matters. David Allen served as a city council member for multiple terms and has been the city attorney since 2020. We greatly appreciate his years of service to the city in multiple roles, and we are thankful for the impact he has had on the city.”

Fuller also said the city is currently contracting for legal services so there are no interruptions to city business. “However, the city is planning to perform a search process for a new city attorney, and we are preparing to post an RFP (request for proposals) soon in order to begin that search,” he said.

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

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# School district reports 2024 graduation rates

In data released Thursday, Jan. 30, by the Oregon Department of Education, Lincoln County School Districts’ (LCSD) graduation rates across its high schools for the 2023-24 academic year showed several programs and student groups exceeding state averages and showing growth from the prior year.

LCSD’s overall graduation rate of 83.3 percent surpassed the state average of 73.6 percent by nearly 10 percentage points. This represents growth from the district’s 2022-23 rate of 79.9 percent.

“Our high school graduation data is a testament to the hard work our students, staff, families and communities are doing to support our students throughout their K-12 experience in Lincoln County,” said LCSD Director of Secondary Education Aaron Belloni.

“I am especially proud of the systems and processes that exist within our high schools to help students start high school strong and remain on track to graduate as they progress from freshmen to seniors.”

The district made significant progress in supporting students experiencing houselessness, with the graduation rate increasing from 65.2 percent to 75.5 percent district-wide. Newport High School particularly excelled in this area, with a 92.9 percent graduation rate for students experiencing houselessness, compared to the state average of 80.3 percent.

Newport High School achieved a 92.6 percent graduation rate, up from 82.1 percent in 2022-23. The school’s female students reached a 95 percent graduation rate, while CTE (Career & Technical Education) participants graduated at 93.2 percent,

both exceeding state averages.

Taft 7-12 High School saw a 93.8 percent graduation rate among CTE participants and a 90 percent graduation rate for Hispanic/Latino students, compared to the state’s Hispanic/Latino average of 82.9 percent. Female students at Taft graduated at 91.8 percent, showing growth from the school’s overall 2022-23 rate of 91.6 percent.

Toledo Jr/Sr High School reported a 93.3 percent graduation rate for students not experiencing poverty, improving from their 2022-23 overall rate of 80.0 percent. Female students achieved an 87 percent rate, surpassing the state average.

Students in Waldport High School’s CTE program showed an 84.4 percent graduation rate, while their English Learners achieved an 82.7 percent rate, considerably higher

than the state average of 68.0 percent.

**District-wide 2024 graduation rate highlights include:**

- English Learners: 86.2 percent (state: 68.0 percent)
- Hispanic/Latino students: 87.6 percent (state: 82.9 percent)
- Students with Disabilities: 79.7 percent (state: 75.8 percent)
- CTE programs consistently showing graduation rates above 85 percent

“I am consistently impressed with the work of our community partners to support graduation and post-secondary efforts in LCSD,” said Superintendent Majalisse Tolan. “Graduation rates do not improve in the school alone, although our schools work incredibly hard. Rates do improve when entire communities work together to help all students overcome any obstacle in their path.”

MEETINGS

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 5

**Lincoln County Board of Commissioners:** 10 a.m., commission meeting room, county courthouse, Newport. For info, go to [www.co.lincoln.or.us](http://www.co.lincoln.or.us).

**Lincoln City Library Board:** 3:30 p.m., Driftwood Public Library, 801 SW Highway 101.

**Newport Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee:** 5:30 p.m., council chambers, city hall.

**Toledo City Council:** 6 p.m., council chambers, city hall.

MONDAY, FEB. 10

**Siletz City Council:** 5:30 p.m., work session, city hall.

**Greater Toledo Pool Recreation District Board:** 6 p.m. Toledo Library meeting room, 173 NW Seventh St.

**Newport Planning Commission:** 6 p.m. work session, 7 p.m. regular session, council chambers, city hall.

**Lincoln City City Council:** 6 p.m., council chambers, city hall.

TUESDAY, FEB. 11

**Lincoln County School District Board of Directors:** 5 p.m. work session, 6:30 p.m. regular session, Toledo Jr/Sr School.

**Lincoln County Drainage District Board:** 7 p.m., Toledo Public Library, 173 NW Seventh St.

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 12

**North Lincoln Fire & Rescue District #1 Board of Directors:** 4 p.m., Bob Everest Station, 2525 NW Highway 101, Lincoln City.

**Lincoln City Public Arts Committee:** 4 p.m., public works conference room, city hall.

## TOLEDO

From Page A1

interim fire chief, and the fire department’s training officer all abruptly resigned their positions. The following week, on Jan. 29, the city council met in executive session for about an hour and a half, followed by an open special session during which they began trying to plot a course forward.

Last year, Toledo City Manager Doug Wiggins was placed on paid administrative leave, as was Fire Chief Larry Robeson, and there are ongoing investigations into these two individuals, the details of which haven’t been made public because they are personnel matters.

The city’s finance director, Amanda Carey, was appointed interim city manager, and Ryan Harris was appointed interim fire chief. Since that time, there has reportedly been considerable turmoil associated with both city administration and the fire department. A number of volunteer firefighters went on personal leave from the department last fall, and they were later terminated by Carey. Many of those have begun volunteering

with the neighboring East Lincoln County Fire District. There were also complaints made by some of those volunteers regarding actions by fire training officer Shannon Brecik.

Carey, Harris and Brecik were the three paid city employees who handed in their resignations on Jan. 22.

One of the first things the Toledo City Council dealt with during its special session on Jan. 29 was to authorize someone to sign certain city documents that had been the responsibility of the city manager.

City Attorney Mike Adams said, “There are definitely gaps in authorities. We would like to appoint somebody for a very short time or just authorize staff for signatures. There’s a lot of authority given to the city manager or the interim city manager, and there really is no mechanism for somebody to do that if the position is empty.”

Mayor Rod Cross said, “We could give a department head that signature authority ... to make sure the payroll and our bills get paid.” He said he would be happy with either Police Chief Mike Pace or Public Works Director Brian Lorimor

doing that. Ultimately, the council opted to use both of those individuals as signatories, to share the load, and the council unanimously voted to give them that authority.

The council then tackled the issue of the current lack of leadership at the fire department.

Adams told the council, “Siletz Fire Chief David Lapof is more than willing to help the city. There is also the possibility of reinstating Chief Robeson, subject to the next full-time city manager’s possible future conditions.”

Lapof, who attended the meeting, was asked if he would be comfortable working with Robeson to rebuild the fire department.

“We’ve established a pretty good relationship and friendship over the last few years, so one hundred percent we would be their support,” he said. “And that is actually my preference. I know I can speak for Tom Jackson, the president of the Lincoln County Fire Defense Board, that it would be our goal that Chief Robeson would get reinstated as the fire chief. It would make things just so much easier from the get-go.”

Lapof said there are

some things that would need to be addressed right away. East Lincoln County Fire District, with support from Siletz, has been covering the residents of Toledo, but he is concerned about response time. “We’ll be there as fast as we can, but there’s a geographic challenge. We are three small agencies that serve a large geographic community. There’s over 100 square miles between the three agencies.” He also said the rhetoric needs to go away for the ease of rebuilding of this group.

“Rebuilding the Toledo Fire Department is going to be a monumental task,” Lapof added. “Chief Robeson and I have talked about that. It’s hard, sometimes, for organizations such as this to almost ever come back to where they were ... but I don’t think it’s insurmountable. And with barriers and rhetoric removed, I think East Lincoln County and Toledo Fire will work together as a unified unit, and then we (Siletz Fire) will just go back north of the highway and be here whenever you need us.”

City Councilor Tracy Mix made a motion to reinstate Larry Robeson, along with Lapof, as co-chiefs of Toledo Fire, effective immediately, and instruct city attorney Adams to work out details surrounding this leadership arrangement. The motion passed unanimously.

Getting issues sorted out at the fire department is also critical in the city’s effort to consolidate

its 911 dispatch services with Willamette Valley Communications Center (WVCC) in Salem. Due to staffing levels and current finances, the city can no longer maintain its own dispatch center

Police Chief Mike Pace informed the city council last week that WVCC has suspended negotiations with the city. “They said they will not move forward with the consolidation unless four things are resolved,” he said. Those are:

- Resolution of all threatening, pending and/or existing litigation;
- Resolution of all property disputes including, but not limited to vehicles and structures related to assets;
- Resolution of all contract and/or agreement disputes;
- That the city of Toledo assures it has, at minimum, an interim department chief and minimum staffing members needed to respond to emergency calls.

“So the conflict between the city and East County Fire has caused us problems,” Pace said. “We cannot continue to function as a dispatch center with the aid that we have for an indefinite period of time, so those things need to be resolved as soon as possible, and that needs to come with the cooperation of the East Lincoln County Fire District.”

Several East Lincoln County Fire District firefighters, who had previously been volunteers with Toledo Fire, were seated in the audience. At the conclusion of the meeting,

some council members addressed them directly.

“We on the city council recognize that we owe our first responders that were terminated an apology,” said Mix. “While we on council may not have directly done that, we are still responsible for things that we manage, and we’re responsible for what the employees in the city do. Our promise as a council is that we are going to take the appropriate steps ... to start bridging the divide that has happened in our town.”

Councilor Jackie Burns said, “It’s been really difficult to see all of these things happen and wonder what we could have done. We’re not looking to point fingers and place blame other than to look at ourselves as your leaders and what can we do going forward, learning from our mistakes. Let us put the corrections in, and please forgive us.”

And Mayor Cross added, “Contrary to the popular belief on social media, we do not run the fire department. Know this, that if we could have done something at the time, within the rules, we would have, simply because we believe that there were many people wronged in all of this. And while we can’t rewind the clock and make everything be perfect again, what we can do is let you all know that we are sorry. It will be topmost in our resolve to get to the end of this and try to make us all whole again, and I want to welcome you back if you want to come back.”



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VIEWPOINT

We need a regional water system for Lincoln County

BY TERRY VAUGHN

This is a written response to recent planning meetings and newspaper articles regarding Big Creek Dam replacement. It appears that further discussion of the Big Creek Dam construction is over and the final decision has been made. However, several long-time professional colleagues over many years have expressed concern that the Big Creek Dam site is not the best solution to longtime water system needs in this area.

The Rocky Creek site, located two miles south of Depoe Bay, was identified and recommended for the regional water supply in the Fuller-Morris Engineering 1997 “Long-Range Water Supply” study completed for the city of Newport. Newport city officials contacted Lincoln City officials to propose a joint city council meeting to discuss the possibility of cooperating in the development of a regional water project. The possibilities and benefits of the Rocky Creek site were presented, and in short order, the cities agreed to make a joint water rights application to the water resources department for storage on Rocky Creek.

The effort to coordinate Lincoln County water districts in support of a regional water system had progressed to the point of formulating an intergovernmental agreement of all county water systems suppliers to support the effort to obtain the Rocky Creek water rights. This group, named “Central Coast Water Council” (CCWC), was formed in 2001. After that effort, interest subsided, and it appears the lack of support for the Rocky Creek solution is more than a lack of funding. The plan for Rocky Creek is one of those activities that has been shelved largely due to the inability to maintain support for the project by both parties of the joint water rights application.

Bringing this issue up to date, there is recognition among a group of concerned citizens of several issues with the proposed Big Creek Dam relocation and rebuild. Those serious issues are as follows:

1) Any dam/reservoir upstream from residential development brings additional and often changing regulatory oversight.

2) Any substantial increase in storage volume cannot be reliably filled by the relatively small drainage basin. More use of the Siletz pump station would be necessary. Winter pumping is not desirable because of the silt content in winter runoff and the damaging effect of that silt on pumps.

3) The stated plan for a roller-compacted concrete dam will require importing all embankment materials, which

by some independent estimates would be prohibitively expensive. The Rocky Creek Dam location is positioned between two steep basalt walls resulting in excellent support and anchoring for the proposed dam, widening into an expanded water storage area with reduced construction cost.

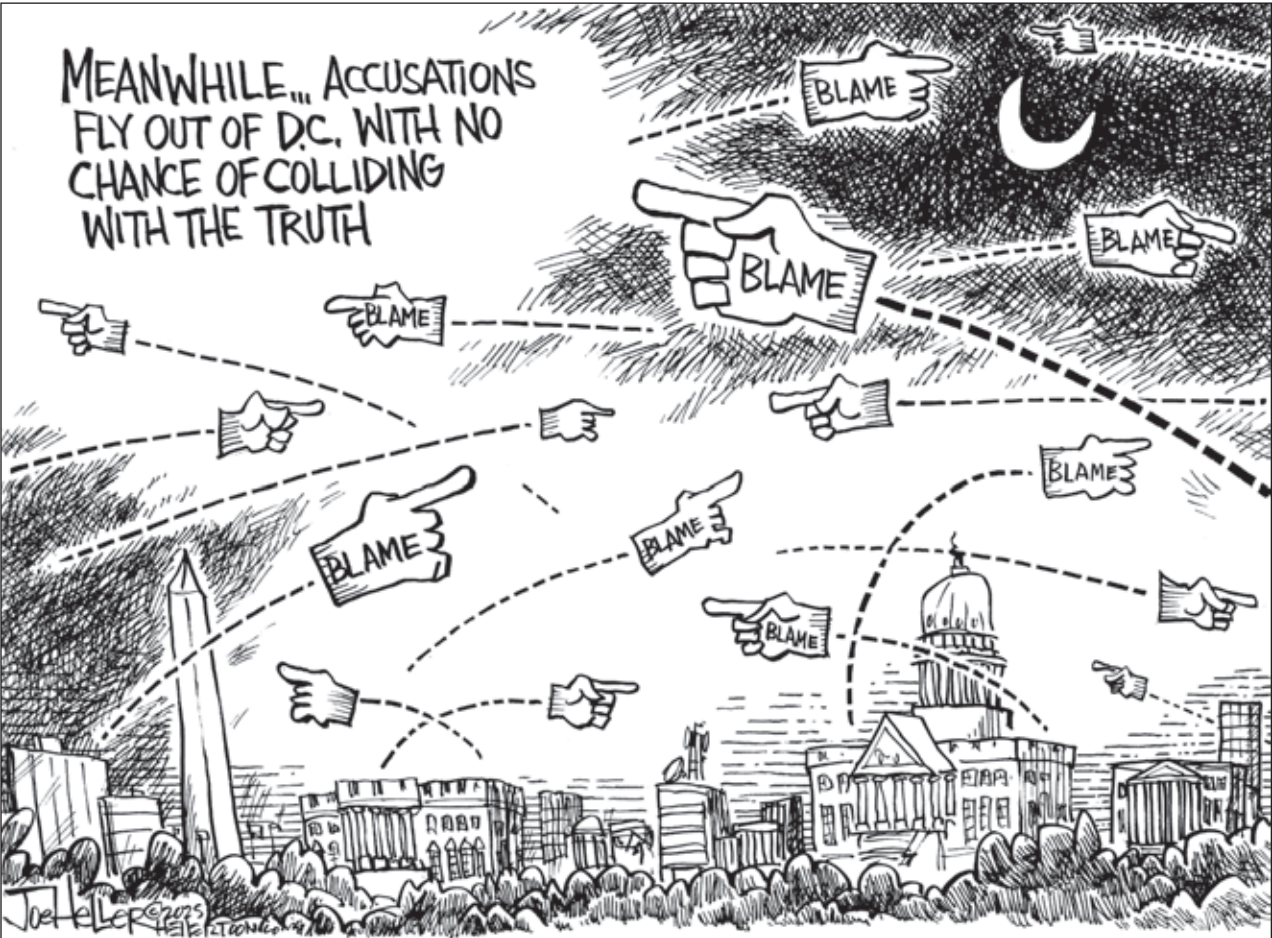
4) Much of the cost is because a good share of the dam won’t store water during the lengthy construction process because it will be in the excavation required to find an acceptable foundation for the dam.

The apparent bottom line is that Rocky Creek regional water supply for Lincoln County is dead — a lost opportunity to address future water needs in an environmentally responsible manner. Even with the final decision to focus only on Big Creek, there is an ongoing interest from concerned citizens that all must come together to find permanent solutions for our communities’ infrastructure needs. The engineering group I’m associated with all agree the Rocky Creek site appears to be more suitable than replacing the existing Big Creek dams. The Rocky Creek outflow drops 40 feet or more into the ocean and eliminates all possibility of a fish run. In addition, unlike the Big Creek site, there are no residential areas above or below the dam site that would be impacted by dam failure.

We believe there is a huge potential for capturing this generous outflow for a more effective regional water system. Fishery impacts due to diversions on salmon streams with inconsistent water quantity are ongoing issues, and will only worsen with increased population pressures. In the event the Rocky Creek Dam had been built at the time of all this activity to stop it, we would now have one regional water source from Rocky Creek Dam. This work, had it gone forward, would have benefited the potential fish populations and the environmental health of the Lincoln County coastal area by reducing the pressure on the existing water supply systems.

Communities up and down the central Oregon coast with individual water supplies have ongoing difficulty meeting local needs. Additionally, these sites impact fish runs and the quality of water in many ways, particularly the warming of coastal streams, including Big Creek. Prior to the final authorization of this project and based on the forgoing concerns, we recommend this decision be thoroughly re-investigated to safely meet the best long-term needs of Lincoln County.

Terry Vaughn is a resident of Newport.



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

WE ARE NOT AN ENCLAVE OF HATE

A couple of years ago, I attended the Terroir Writing Festival in Newberg and participated in a poetry workshop there. At the end of her presentation, the teacher gave us a writing prompt and a few minutes to compose a poem. The prompt was: “In the Republic of Gratitude.” This is the poem I wrote:

In the Republic of Gratitude

In the Republic of Gratitude farmers would put signs facing the highway proudly telling the people in passing cars what is growing in their fields.

In the Republic of Gratitude the people in the passing cars would notice the farmers’ signs and discuss the beauty and fragrance of what is growing in the farmers’ fields.

In the Republic of Gratitude the pickers bent over the fields would look up when they heard the passing drivers cheering their hard work and their fortitude.

In the Republic of Gratitude the pickers would return to their little houses after hard days spent picking and would sit in rockers by rushing rivers and listen and remember all the smiles and cheers they had gathered that day.

Yesterday I heard that there are people in parking lots here in town hassling Hispanic-looking families as per the Brown Roundup letter that appeared in retired Sheriff Curtis Landers’ mailbox and to which he called for compassion, reminding us Oregon is a sanctuary state.

I think we need to restore our honor and

show that we are not an enclave of hate here in Lincoln County.

Donni Kennedy  
Lincoln City

HAPPY VALENTINE’S DAY TO THE SUPER RICH

The Supreme Court 2010 decision known as Citizens United said that financial donations to political candidates should be considered a form of free speech. Well, happy Valentine’s Day to the super rich 14 years later. They now own our president, Senate and House of Representatives and write legislation to accumulate even more money than ever before in the history of the world.

The 2024 presidential campaigns by both Trump and Harris were extreme examples of over-the-top expenditures, and the 30 percent of eligible voters who didn’t vote in November might be excused if they thought their poor effort would be in vain.

But 64 percent of us true believers were left to decide the race, and the winner — Mr. Trump — took almost half of those votes.

One in three eligible American voters cast their vote for Donald Trump, giving incredibly rich people even more tax cuts on their mountains of money.

Government programs of the people, by the people, and for the people will have to be cut. Watch for fewer services, less Social Security, Medicaid, and other safety net programs.

The Supreme Court and its decision on Citizens United in 2010 gave away democracy to the super rich, leaving the rest of us with nothing to say about our government.

This year, Oregon passed campaign finance reform. Oregon state representatives are no longer for sale to the super rich.

Happy Valentine’s Day, Oregon.

Sharon Scarborough  
Newport

VIEWPOINT

Newport Farmers Market: many benefits

BY ERIC HANNEMAN

The Newport Farmers Market just celebrated its 46th year! The market is financially healthy, but the lack of an indoor winter space limits our ability to provide services to Newport’s residents and guests.

Historically, the market is the second oldest farmers market in Oregon after Eugene. The market is governed by a board of directors and has three part-time employees. About a dozen farms and over 60 craft booths participate in the market. The market has a significant impact on the economy and health of Newport and its residents, and supports farmers both large and small.

As recently as 30 years ago, there were only farmers. After moving around several locations, eight to 10 vendors settled at the fairgrounds, all selling produce. Craft vendors started in 2010. The market was also located at the armory, on the city hall lawn, and across Highway 101 on Seventh and Lee streets; during the winter it was inside at the fairgrounds. And the market moves

a lot of produce. Gathering Together Farms from Philomath has delivered over 70,000 pounds of produce to the market each year from 2021-2024, selling over 56,000 pounds of produce annually, and they are just one of a dozen farms at the market.

The Newport Farmers Market conducted a Dot Survey July 27, 2024 to get an idea of how many attend the market, how much they spend, how often they shop at the market, and how far they travel to get to the market. Approximately 2,250 total shoppers attended the market between the hours of 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. The average shopper at the market spent \$39; 40 percent of the customers shop at least twice a month; 52 percent of the customers were first time shoppers or visitors; 51 percent of the customers came from 20 miles or less; and 41 percent of the customers were from out of the area.

The survey revealed that 2,250 people spent nearly \$90,000. During the spring and fall, the market is smaller, but we estimate the daily economic impact of direct sales is between \$16,600

and \$90,000, an average of \$53,280. Multiply that times the number of markets during the months of March through November (35 markets) and the total gross sales for the year are approximately \$1,864,800.

The market also processes SNAP/Oregon Trail cards, providing access to fresh fruits and vegetables for those who qualify for this program. In addition, the market participates in the state supported Double Up Food Bucks Program, which doubles participants SNAP benefits up to \$20 per week. In 2024, the Newport Farmers Market processed \$24,324 in SNAP benefits and matched those benefits with \$20,135 in Double Up Food Bucks.

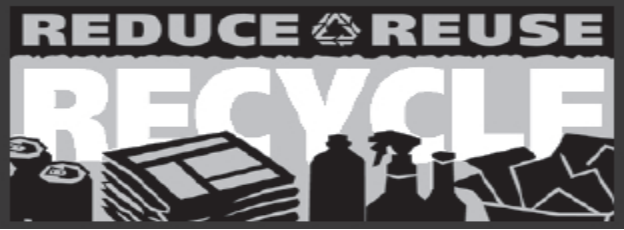
Prior to the pandemic, the market used a building on the Lincoln County Commons for a winter market. However, since then the market has not been allowed to use the building. The county is renovating the commons, tearing down six buildings, but not the one that the market used to use. Repeated attempts to reach out has not met with success. The market

has been unsuccessful in locating another winter market location.

Every dollar we spend has power. When we choose local farmers, we’re not just buying fresh nutrient dense produce, we’re encouraging sustainability, strengthening our community, and supporting families who pour their hearts into the land. The Newport Farmers Market offers more than groceries and crafts — we offer a connection to the Earth, the arts, and the people who nurture it. Customers not only shop, they also engage in conversations, meet neighbors for lunch, and enjoy the festive atmosphere with family and friends. Every purchase is an advance toward a healthier community and planet.

For our 47th year, please help the market find a permanent location and a space to have a winter market, so we can continue serving the community for another 47 years. We look forward to seeing you March 29!

Eric Hanneman is the manager of the Newport Farmers Market.









# This Week in HISTORY

LINCOLN COUNTY LEADER STAFF

*This is a brief look back at what made the news in Lincoln County during this week in history.*

## 25 YEARS AGO (2000)

### BUDGET CUTS MAY SPELL THE END FOR DELAKE SCHOOL

As if Lincoln City schools don’t have enough to worry about, an anticipated \$3.1 million budget cut is looming for the Lincoln County School District, and those cuts could spell the end for Delake Elementary School. A task force created to find ways of reducing the operating budget for the district has made preliminary recommendations to close Delake School and others in Siletz and Newport.

### SCHOOL BUS VANDALIZED IN WALDPORST

A school bus was vandalized during the weekend while it was parked in the Lincoln County School District’s bus lot in Waldport. Tom Correia, LCSD transportation coordinator, said rocks were thrown at the bus, breaking eight windows. Because buses have been vandalized in the past at this location, the district has requested that law enforcement personnel increase patrols in the area.

### NEW POLICE STATION NEARLY COMPLETE

Work on converting the former U.S. Bank building into the new Toledo Police Station is expected to be completed next week. The building is located near the corner of Business Highway 20 and A Street and will give the department room to grow. Police Chief Don Dennison expects to begin moving equipment to the new facility in the next few weeks.

### COUNTY ANTICIPATES DISASTER DECLARATION

For weeks, Lincoln County staff have been working to gather data that would lead to an economic disaster declaration by the state, and with Gov. John Kitzhaber traveling to the coast today, that declaration may be close at hand. The county is seeking the disaster declaration because of the massive slide at Cape Creek that kept U.S. Highway 101 closed between Yachats and Florence for more than a month. Kitzhaber will be in Lincoln County to discuss the Cape Creek slide with city and county officials.

## 50 YEARS AGO (1975)

### CRIME INVESTIGATIONS INCREASE FOR COUNTY

While the number of tenants at the Lincoln County Jail declined in 1974, the number of crime investigations was up, according to the annual report of Lincoln County Sheriff Everett Hokema. Released last week, the report shows the number of criminal investigations conducted and filed had increased from 1,004 in 1973 to 1,169 in 1974. Felony arrests decreased in Lincoln County from 96 to

79, while misdemeanor arrests soared from 272 to 369.

### BURGLAR LEAVES CUP UNSIPPED

Sheriff’s deputies and state police were investigating a burglary in South Beach Feb. 5. A neighbor reported that an alarm had gone off at a summer home in Surfland late Tuesday afternoon. When deputies arrived at the home, a cup of coffee was still steaming, hotdogs were cooking, and a TV dinner was in the oven. Broken windows and an open door were also found.

### YOUTHS UNTIE TWO BOATS FROM DOCK

Three Toledo juveniles admitted to police they were responsible for the untying of two boats at the Port of Toledo. Charles Graham reported the incident to the police at 3:10 p.m. Feb. 2 after discovering a 38-foot catamaran and a 22-foot Turnercraft sport boat “adrift about 200 feet north of where they had been tied to the floating dock.” A tug operated by Fred Hoffman was used to retrieve the two boats.

### LINCOLN CITY FESTIVAL WILL KICK OFF MONDAY

The seven-day Lincoln Festival celebration will begin at Monday noon. Activities over the seven days include a cabaret, bike marathon, buffet dinner, and several arts and crafts shows. The festival is a commemorative schedule marking the 10th anniversary of Lincoln City and 25th birthday of the 20 Miracle Miles Chamber of Commerce’s founding.

## 75 YEARS AGO (1950)

### CREW ELIMINATES BODY OF WHALE

Seal Rock’s whale no longer is a point of interest to that community as the state highway maintenance crew did away with the huge carcass. The crew burned it. The whale measured 42 feet long, according to W. W. Jones of Seal Rock, and was believed to have been a sperm whale. With the disposition of the body also went the strong odor that accompanies whales when they make a landing along the beach. It took the crew three days to burn the whale’s body, which was accomplished last weekend.

### VESSEL BURNS IN CEREMONY AT DEPOE BAY

Another page was added to the early history of Depoe Bay with the burning of the boat “Pauline B” on the banks of the bay Wednesday, Jan. 25. Among the crowd who witnessed the burning were many older residents who had seen the boat launched 24 years ago. Mrs. Fred Holfert, formerly Pauline Baird, ignited the vessel with a burning torch. She had christened the boat, which was named for her.

### CRAB FESTIVAL FOR THIS YEAR SAID IN DOUBT

Harv Curry, president of the Newport Chamber of Commerce, has announced that it appeared the citizens of Newport were not interested in having a 1950 Crab Festival.

Mr. Curry reported that in response to 350 cards sent out recently by the chamber of commerce, only 60 cards have been returned. Of these, 39 persons voted to have the Crab Festival and 21 voted not to have it.

### ‘BOMBS AWAY’ AT DEPOE BAY

The Japanese mine, which was washed ashore at Gleneden Beach Jan. 23, was disarmed Thursday by a five-man demolition squad sent from Inyokern, California. They disarmed the mine, took out the powder, and burned it in a ditch on the beach. The ditch was one foot deep, eight feet long, and contained 220 pounds of compressed powder. The powder burned gradually without explosion.

## 100 YEARS AGO (1925)

### THIEVES ENTER SOUTH SIDE OF SCHOOL HOUSE

Some time last Saturday or Sunday, some party entered the school house on the south side and stole a considerable number of fountain pens and ever-sharp pencils. The people over there have tabs on everyone who was there on those two days, but they are going to give the guilty parties a chance to make good. If the stolen goods are returned by next Sunday night, there will be no prosecutions.

### T. P. FISH TO LEAVE TOLEDO AFTER 40 YEARS

After 40 years residence in the city of Toledo, one of our most beloved pioneers is about to “pull up stakes” and depart to other fields, where he plans on spending the balance of his life taking it easy and enjoying the sites of the big city. T. P. Fish, proprietor of the Pioneer store and the man who opened the first store within the present city limits of Toledo, has sold his property here and plans to leave in about three weeks to make his home in Portland. Mr. Fish has witnessed Toledo’s growth from the one store and two houses to the present city of 2,250.

### CHAUNCEY HAWKINS PLEADS GUILTY TO THREE INDICTMENTS

Assuming the entire responsibility for the Western State Bank at Newport closing its doors on Wednesday, Nov. 5, Chauncey O. Hawkins, cashier of the institution, appeared before Judge G. F. Skipworth of the circuit court Friday morning and entered pleas of guilty to three indictments returned against him by the grand jury. Mr. Hawkins waved all rights of defense and asked to be sentenced at once.

### WORK PROGRESSES IN EXCELLENT SHAPE ON ROOSEVELT HIGHWAY

Road work of gigantic nature is being accomplished on the Roosevelt Highway between Otter Rock and Rocky Creek, a distance of three miles, which contains some of the heaviest construction work that will have to be done on the entire Roosevelt Highway, according to state engineer T. A. Rice. This heavy grading work and also the six miles between Otter Rock and Agate Beach will be completed by July 15, Mr. Rice believes.

## MURDER

From Page A1

of a Depoe Bay motel. At around 10:15 a.m. that day, sheriff’s deputies responded to a report of gunshots fired at the Four Winds Inn, located at 356 N Highway 101 in Depoe Bay. Further reports were called into the 911 center while the deputies were responding. They arrived within minutes and learned the suspect, Brennon Michael Neal, had fled the scene in a vehicle. At the motel, deputies found the business owner, Sarabjit Singh, 44, dead from multiple gunshot

wounds. They were told the suspect was driving a dark grey sedan, and an advisory was issued to other law enforcement agencies to be on the look-out for the vehicle. At one point, there was a comment made on the police radio that the suspect could be suicidal. At about 11:15 a.m., Sgt. Aaron Pitcher, with the Toledo Police Department, spotted the vehicle on Highway 20 traveling east. Lincoln County Sheriff’s Patrol Lt. Karl Vertner told the Lincoln County Leader, “To the best of my knowledge, Sgt. Pitcher was set up in the area

of the Highway 229/20 junction. We know from cellphone data he (Neal) went north out of Depoe Bay. That means he turned south onto 229, where he then went east on 20 when Pitcher saw him.” Several other law enforcement officers arrived to assist and a traffic stop was attempted, but the suspect vehicle continued east on Highway 20. Other vehicle traffic along the highway was reported by pursuing officers to be fairly light as they continued chasing the suspect. Law enforcement in Benton County was notified and responded near the Lincoln/Benton County

line to place “spike strips” in an effort to disable the car. The car ran over spike strips but traveled for several miles on damaged tires. Oregon State Police assisted with a “vehicle redirect maneuver,” which successfully stopped the vehicle. Neal was the sole occupant of the vehicle, and he taken into custody without further incident. Neal was lodged in the Lincoln County Jail on charges of murder in the second degree, assault in the first degree, unlawful use of a weapon, robbery in the first degree, and attempting to elude a police officer. According to a probable

cause affidavit filed with the Lincoln County Circuit Court, Neal was an employee at the motel where the owner, Singh, was shot. He reportedly had made statements to other people that he was angry with Singh over job issues and specifically said he was going to kill him, according to the affidavit. On the day of the shooting, another motel employee reported witnessing Neal and Singh arguing in the office, and the witness told investigators he saw Neal pull out a handgun and shoot Singh several times. Neal also reportedly took cash from

the register as he was leaving the office. Neal appeared via closed-circuit video from the jail for an initial hearing Friday afternoon, Jan. 31, before Judge Pro Tem Joseph Allison. A not guilty plea was entered on all charges. Allison scheduled a preliminary hearing for Neal for 4:30 p.m. on Feb. 7. The judge said that having reviewed the circumstances in this case as laid out in the probable cause affidavit, he was denying Neal’s release from jail, but he added the defense retains the right to request a release hearing at a future time.

## TOWN HALL

From Page A1

revolved around unknown changes coming through the new administration under President Donald Trump. Merkley said some of Trump’s actions go beyond presidential powers and are, in fact, unconstitutional. “We cannot have an imperial presidency,” he said. “We have a president, not a king.” He said many people are feeling helpless, but he urged

those in the audience, “Don’t curl up on your couch in a fetal position ... we cannot give up.” A special education teacher in the Lincoln County School District asked what is going to be done to protect children with some of the possible changes coming in terms of Trump’s attacks on DEI (diversity, equity and inclusion). “What are you going to do to protect children,” she asked. “I am scared, teachers are scared, transgenders are scared.”



**U.S. Rep. Val Hoyle addresses constituents during Saturday’s town hall meeting, with Sen. Jeff Merkley, left, and Newport Mayor Jan Kaplan looking on. (Photo by Steve Card)**

Hoyle said, “We will protect children in schools. I am going to vote to make sure we do protect our children. We will fight back. I can’t change who is president, but I sure as hell can protect people in this district.” Other topics included things like issues at the southern border and attacks on minority populations. Merkley also talked about the inequalities between the upper 1 percent of ultra-rich Americans versus the

middle class, saying, “We really are in a terrible place. The discrepancy ... is massive (and) the tax system is riddled with loopholes for the wealthy.” The atmosphere in general at the town hall meeting was one of concern mixed with fear, frustration, anger and not knowing what to expect. Hoyle said, “These are people who don’t uphold our values. They want us to be afraid. We have to keep hope. We have to keep fighting back.”



Getting a new look



The Money Saver Motel, located at 861 SW Coast Highway in Newport, is getting a major upgrade to its exterior. According to details in the building permit issued to owner Shree Vishwanath by the Newport Community Development Department, the \$375,000 project will include renovation and modernization of the existing motel exterior, site landscaping and parking lot improvements. Vishwanath said he hopes to have the motel back open by late May or June. (Photo by Steve Card)

New vacation rental company launched in Lincoln County

The founder of Vacasa, a vacation rental management company, is starting a new company in the vacation rental space called Fairly, and they're launching in Lincoln County.

"It's been four years since I ran Vacasa, and in that time, I experienced property management both as a guest and a homeowner. I'm not impressed with the direction the industry has taken," said Eric Breon, founder and CEO of Fairly. "Companies have been squeezing housekeeper pay while living costs grew. Excessive fees are rampant. And increasingly, when you call a property management company, you end up having your call routed to someone who isn't local."

Breon said local companies have started adopting the worst practices of large management companies, "like excessive guest fees, and outsourcing calls to virtual assistants who aren't familiar with the



The Fairly founding team, from left: Subechya Person, Eric Breon and Jeff Flitton. (Courtesy photo)

properties nor location. And across the board, companies are underpaying their housekeepers." Fairly isn't a property management company, at least not in the traditional sense. Breon describes it saying, "Fairly is a platform for empowering local professionals: specifically, real estate agents and housekeepers. We help them build their business." Fairly shares half of their fee with local partners: 25 percent to the housekeeper (in addition to the cleaning fee they

negotiate directly with the homeowner), and 25 percent to the advisor, typically a real estate agent who also helps clients get started renting. "We're excited to be partnering with local real estate agents. Real estate sales have been slow, and for most of us, it's hard to even imagine the 50 percent pay cut many of them have experienced in the past year," said Breon. "Exceptional local real estate agents are a tremendous resource for people looking to buy a vacation

home that they intend to rent. Historically, they've bowed-out as soon as the property closes. With Fairly, they take them one step further, helping their owner get started renting." Breon said he knows vacation rentals are a controversial topic in many towns. "We want to be a responsible partner on this front. With Fairly, more of the money stays local, and our rentals in Newport, Lincoln City, and South Beach can help support other businesses in the community, creating jobs and bringing in tax revenue." With Fairly's launch in Newport, Lincoln City, and South Beach, they are actively recruiting exceptional housekeepers that are interested in earning as a caretaker with Fairly, as well as real estate agents, especially those who frequently help buyers find vacation rentals. People can learn more about the business online at fairly.com



The Oregon Employment Department reports 2,084,954 employed and 92,561 unemployed in December. (Photo by Jeremy C. Ruark)

Oregon sees decline of 3,700 jobs

JEREMY C. RUARK  
Lincoln County Leader

A key Oregon economic indicator illustrates a slowdown in job growth across the state. Oregon's seasonally adjusted nonfarm payroll employment declined by 3,700 jobs in December, following a revised increase of 3,700 jobs in November, according to the latest Oregon Employment Department report.

GAINS AND LOSSES

December's gains were largest in health care and social assistance (+1,900 jobs) and government (+700). Declines were largest in leisure and hospitality (-1,900 jobs); manufacturing (-1,800); financial activities (-1,000); and retail trade (-900). Health care and social assistance continued its rapid, consistent pace of hiring, adding 18,100 jobs, or 6.2 percent, in the past 12 months. Within this industry, social assistance added the most jobs, gaining 9,200 jobs, or 12.2 percent, since December 2023. The three health care industries each added between 3,300 and 4,400 jobs during that time. December's growth in government also capped

off a year of strong performance. Its 7,000-job gain (+2.3 percent) was the second fastest growth over the year. Leisure and hospitality cut 3,200 jobs in the past two months. It employed 204,000 in December, which was 3,000 below its average during January 2023 through October 2024. Cutbacks of 1,500 jobs within semiconductor and electronic component manufacturing contributed most of the December employment reductions in manufacturing. Over the year, manufacturing dropped 2,500 jobs (-1.3 percent). Several durable goods manufacturing industries have shed jobs in the past 12 months: wood product manufacturing (-500 jobs, or -2.2 percent); machinery manufacturing (-300 jobs, or -2.2 percent); and transportation equipment manufacturing (-600 jobs, or -5.3 percent). Oregon's unemployment rate was 4.1 percent in December and 4.0 percent, as revised, in November. The rate has consistently remained between 4.0 percent and 4.2 percent since October 2023. The U.S. unemployment rate was 4.1 percent in December and 4.2 percent in November.

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Shops at Streetcar Village, located at the south end of Lincoln City, are included on the new Vintage Voyage Passport, which will help visitors navigate Lincoln City's antique shops and vintage boutiques.

# Lincoln City unveils week-long Retro Expo and new Vintage Voyage Passport

Lincoln City is excited to announce the transformation of its popular Antique and Collectibles Week into the newly revamped Lincoln City Retro Expo. Also this month, Lincoln City is launching its latest digital adventure offering, the Vintage Voyage Passport. Both initiatives expand upon Lincoln City's reputation as the Oregon coast's premier destination for antiques, vintage collectibles and other thrifted treasures. The Retro Expo will take place Feb. 8-17, with the launch and availability of the Vintage Voyage Passport to coincide with the start of the event. Lincoln City has previously been named one of the

*Revamped annual event and new digital passport celebrate vintage treasures and antique heritage*



Previously known as Antique and Collectibles Week, the newly revamped Lincoln City Retro Expo takes place beginning this Saturday, Feb. 8, and running through Feb. 17. Learn more at [www.explorelincolncity.com/events/annual/retro-expo](http://www.explorelincolncity.com/events/annual/retro-expo) (Courtesy photos)



During the Lincoln City Retro Expo, 100 Japanese antique-style glass floats will be hidden along the city's seven miles of public beach.



Brittany Blades, curator of marine mammals at the Oregon Coast Aquarium, is pictured training a sea otter, Oswald, to wave his paw. (Courtesy photo)

## The care and conservation of sea otters

Join MidCoast Watersheds Council for an inside look at the care and conservation of sea otters this Thursday, Feb. 6, from 6:30 to 8 p.m. at the Pacific Maritime Heritage Center, located at 333 SE Bay Blvd., Newport. The guest speaker will be Brittany Blades, curator of marine mammals at the Oregon Coast Aquarium. People can also watch the presentation online.

See **OTTERS**, page B2

## Quilters Guild meets Feb. 13

Oregon Coastal Quilters Guild (OCQG) hosts Jill Huntington, modern quilt designer, presenting a Trunk Show of her work at the regular guild meeting on Thursday, Feb. 13, from 1 to 3 p.m. at Atonement Lutheran Church, located at 2315 N Coast Highway in Newport. For Valentines Day on Friday, Feb. 14, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., Huntington will teach a class called "Improv Roses Galore." The cost of the class is \$40 for members and \$45 for nonmembers. Kits are available for \$20. Huntington's love

See **QUILTERS**, page B2

*'Improv Roses Galore' class offered on Valentine's Day*



Modern quilt designer Jill Huntington will speak during an Oregon Coastal Quilters Guild meeting in Newport on Thursday, Feb. 13, from 1 to 3 p.m. The next day, Valentine's Day, she will teach a class called "Improv Roses Galore." (Courtesy photo)

## Free chamber music concert in Newport



The University of Portland String Quintet will be the featured performers in a free chamber concert this Sunday, Feb. 9, at Atonement Lutheran Church in Newport. (Courtesy photo)

The University of Portland String Quintet will perform in a free chamber music concert beginning at 2 p.m. this Sunday, Feb. 9, at Atonement Lutheran Church, located at 2315 N Coast Highway in Newport. The quintet is comprised of students who are all part of the university's orchestra and chamber ensembles. Marshall Zhang, the

See **CONCERT**, page B3

## Float Odyssey' exhibit opening in Newport

"Float Odyssey," a traveling exhibit by the North Lincoln County Historical Museum in Lincoln City, will be on display for most of this year at Newport's Pacific Maritime Heritage Center. An opening reception for the exhibit, along with a Glass Float Identification Day, will take place this Saturday, Feb. 8, from noon to 3 p.m., at the Pacific Maritime Heritage Center, located on the Newport Bayfront at 333 SE Bay Blvd. This opening reception is free. The Float Odyssey exhibit was curated by Dr. Nick Simpson and the North Lincoln County Historical Museum's former director, Jeff Syrop, who is now the executive director of the Lincoln

See **FLOAT**, page B3



# Newport Rec Center earns ‘Sensory Inclusive’ certification

The Newport Recreation Center is proud to announce that it recently earned a “Sensory Inclusive” certification from KultureCity, a nonprofit organization dedicated to improving the quality of life for individuals with sensory processing needs.

This certification recognizes the recreation center’s commitment to providing an inclusive and welcoming environment for individuals with sensory challenges, such as those with autism, PTSD, and dementia.

To qualify for the certification, Newport Recreation Center staff members have been trained to recognize and respond to sensory sensitivities, ensuring that they are equipped to assist patrons in ways that enhance their experience at the facility. The certification also provides patrons with weighted lap pads and sensory bags available for checkout at the front desk, which include noise canceling headphones, fidget tools, strobe reduction glasses, and feeling thermometer cards.

The Newport Recreation Center will also feature “headphone zones” or “quiet zones” labeled by signage to allow visitors the opportunity to experience the facility’s amenities with individualized comfort. Additionally, the KultureCity mobile app will feature a social story highlighting the recreation center’s sensory inclusive initiatives, offering visitors a preview of their experience.

These enhancements are part of the recreation center’s ongoing effort to foster inclusivity and continue to create an accessible environment for individuals of all abilities.

For more information about the Newport Recreation Center and its sensory inclusive initiatives, visit [www.newportoregon.gov/dept/par](http://www.newportoregon.gov/dept/par). To check out a sensory bag, visit the Newport Recreation Center front desk at 225 SE Avery St.

# Drop-in pediatric vaccination clinic planned on Presidents’ Day

Presidents’ Day is a school holiday. This is a great time to get your kids’ routine and seasonal shots up to date at a drop-in pediatric vaccination clinic at Samaritan Health Center – Newport.

This vaccination clinic on Monday, Feb. 17, is open to infants and children ages 6 months through 18 years. Just stop by between 8 a.m. to noon, or 1 to 5 p.m.

The clinic is located on the second floor of Samaritan Pacific Communities Hospital, 930 SW Abbey St.

Appointments are not needed, and vaccinations will be given on a first come, first served basis while supplies last. Insurance will be billed. Vaccines will be covered for those without insurance by the Oregon Vaccines for Children Program.

## Support these Local Nonprofit Organizations!



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## Lincoln County Leader

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DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦


SUDOKU

数独

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers.

The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once.

# Siletz Library Birthday Bash



Enjoy free cake, punch and coffee during the Siletz Library’s 18th Birthday Bash from noon to 3 p.m. this Saturday, Feb. 8. There will also be books, baked goods, a rummage sale and more during the Siletz Valley Friends of the Library fundraiser. The library is located at 255 SW Gaither St. in Siletz. For more information, call 541-444-2855. (Courtesy photo)

# Bird Walk Saturday in Lincoln City

Seven Capes Bird Alliance welcomes birders of all abilities to enjoy a hidden gem of Lincoln City open space during a Bird Walk this Saturday, Feb. 8, from 9 to 11 a.m.

The walk will take place at the Friends of the Wildwoods Open Space. This is an easy walk through the forest right in the heart of Lincoln City. The group will look for year-round residents like the Downy Woodpecker, as well as wintering sparrows.

Meet at the trailhead on Northeast West Devils Lake Road. There is limited parking along the street at the trailhead.

This Bird Walk is sponsored by Lincoln City Parks and Recreation.

All Seven Capes Bird Alliance (SCBA) outings are free, family-friendly, easy to moderately easy, and open to the public; no pre-registration



Participants in Saturday’s Bird Walk may see birds like this white-crowned sparrow. (Photo by Ruth Shelly)

or experience is required. Binoculars and guidebooks are provided. Outings are held rain or shine; dress appropriately for coastal weather and muddy trails. Be sure to carry water. Look for the SCBA sign at the meeting site. For details and any cancellations, check their website ([sevendecapes.org](http://sevendecapes.org)) or Facebook (@sevendecapesbirds).

Seven Capes Bird Alliance was founded as Audubon Society of Lincoln City in 2005. A nonprofit membership organization and chapter of the National Audubon Society, SCBA is active in education and advocacy for protection of birds, other wildlife, and their habitats in Lincoln and Tillamook counties.

# OTTERS

From Page B1

To register for the link, go to at <https://tinyurl.com/5y5znkdm>

Sea otters, often described as charismatic marine mammals, are more than just a cute face. Attend this free talk to discover why they are the heroes of the near-shore ecosystems. The plight of the sea otter is an encouraging story about the recovery of a

near extinct species, a journey that continues to this day.

In Oregon, sea otters have long been absent from the shores as a result of centuries of intense hunting. The only places in Oregon where people are guaranteed to find one are the Oregon Coast Aquarium and the Oregon Zoo. Learn how Blades found herself immersed in a career caring for sea otters as well as getting involved with sea otter conservation

efforts. Hear personal stories of hilarious sea otter antics and discover actions you can take to help sea otters in Oregon.

Blades has worked with sea otters since 2008, getting her start with an internship at the Oregon Zoo, where she was inspired to focus on the care and conservation of sea otters. She has now cared for sea otters at the Oregon Coast Aquarium since 2011. In addition to managing care for sea otters, she collects

Washington sea otter foraging data, participates in the Washington Sea Otter Annual Census, and collects data on sea otters in California. She has always called the Pacific Northwest home, growing up in Washington and Oregon as a child and graduating from Oregon State University with a bachelor’s of science in biology. She recently took the next step in sea otter conservation by becoming a board member for Elakha Alliance.

# QUILTS

From Page B1

of textiles began at a young age. Inspired by “‘Twas the Night Before Christmas,” she made stocking caps for her family. Her first quilt, a wedding gift for her husband, provided the foundation for her life-long journey as a quilter. As owner of Huntington Quilt Design ([www.huntingtonquilt.com](http://www.huntingtonquilt.com)) she shares her passion

for “Creating Inspired Textiles” through unique quilt patterns, iron-on fabric stamps, lectures, and classes.

Inspired by the city of Roses, Huntington, a Portland native, envisioned fabric roses galore. Making these roses uses improv foundation piecing techniques, which she will teach during the class. Beginning students will enjoy adding a new skill to their toolbox, and experienced makers will appreciate

the open-ended possibilities that this fun technique offers. No pattern is required. Students can bring their own fabric, or they can purchase kits at the class.

For more than 30 years, boasting over 150 members, the Oregon Coastal Quilters Guild has served the Lincoln County area providing fellowship among quilters, promoting knowledge and appreciation of quilts and quilt making through educational programs

and meetings. Hundreds of quilts are gifted throughout the community through Community Quilts and through the Veterans Quilt project. The annual August Quilts by the Sea quilt show event draws quilters and enthusiasts from all over the country.

To learn more or to reserve a space in the class, contact Pamela Potter, program and workshop chair, by emailing [quilterOCQG@gmail.com](mailto:quilterOCQG@gmail.com)

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your source for news and information on the coast



## RETRO EXPO

From Page B1

country’s foremost undiscovered places for antique and vintage collectibles. The city is home to numerous vintage shops and used bookstores, and has long been considered an antiques hotspot on the Oregon coast.

First conceived in 1991 by June Minor, founder of the historic Rocking Horse Mall, the original Antique & Collectibles Week — now, Retro Expo — offers a nostalgic celebration of treasured artifacts and keepsakes. Lincoln City was formed in 1965 when the five historic towns of Oceanlake, Taft, Cutler City, DeLake and Nelscott united. Today, the community boasts the largest antique mall on the Oregon coast, with more than 80 dealers at the Little Antique Mall, alongside numerous other vintage shops and boutiques throughout the historic districts.

Retro Expo celebrates a broader range of vintage and antique experiences throughout Lincoln City. The 10-day event highlights the treasures, collectibles and other finds to be discovered at Lincoln City’s local antique shops, vintage boutiques, and used bookstores — from the iconic Robert’s Bookshop to exciting vintage retailers that have recently joined the community.

The event will feature thrifting adventures, special sales, and a themed Finders Keepers “drop,” where 100 Japanese antique-style glass floats will be hidden along the city’s seven miles of public beach, from Roads End on the north to Siletz Bay to the south. Floats will be placed above the high tide line and below the beach embankment — if someone finds a float, it’s all theirs, Finders Keepers style. Limit: one float per family per year.

“Introducing Retro

Expo enables us to further solidify our longtime reputation as a unique destination for antique and vintage enthusiasts,” said Kim Cooper Findling, director of Explore Lincoln City. “In 2025, we’re expanding our focus to include vintage boutiques alongside traditional antique shops to create an even more dynamic treasure-hunting experience. Launching the Vintage Voyage Passport will provide even more fun opportunities for people to participate via interactive check-ins year-round.”

The Vintage Voyage Passport joins Lincoln City’s popular collection of Adventure passports, which currently include the Art Trail, Tap & Brew Trail, and Hiking Trails Passport. This new digital guide will help visitors navigate Lincoln City’s antique shops and vintage boutiques throughout Lincoln City’s historic districts, offering a curated journey through the city’s most cherished vintage and antique shopping destinations.

Here’s how the Vintage Voyage Passport works:

- Sign up online: Go to [www.explorelincity.com/vintage-voyage](http://www.explorelincity.com/vintage-voyage) (link to go live by Feb. 8) to sign up for this free passport. There is no app to download.
- Explore the passport: This mobile-exclusive passport is a collection of curated shops and boutiques to explore during your stay.
- Redeem: When visiting a participating location, visitors should simply check in using their phone’s built in GPS.
- Current participating Vintage Voyage Passport locations include Better Days Vintage, shops at Streetcar Village and Beach Bum Vintage with many more locations added to the trail.

For more information about the Retro Expo, visit: [www.explorelincity.com/events/annual/retro-expo](http://www.explorelincity.com/events/annual/retro-expo)

## FLOAT

From Page B1

County Historical Society. This exhibit showcases beautiful glass fishing floats and their stories.

Odysseys are described as long and adventurous journeys, and the curators couldn’t think of a better word to describe the epic voyages that the fishing floats in this exhibit have endured. After being used and lost at sea by fishermen, these floats were caught in the circular Pacific currents for decades until large storms forced them ashore.

This exhibit follows extraordinary float odysseys, highlighting their place of origin, their use in the fishing industry, where and when they were found, and how they wound up in the North Lincoln County Historical Museum collection. Many of these floats originated in Japan, but the display also includes experimental American-made floats



“Float Odyssey” is the name of an exhibit coming to the Pacific Maritime Heritage Center in Newport, with an opening reception set for this Saturday, Feb. 8, from noon to 3 p.m. Also during this time, people can bring in their old glass floats for identification by experts. (Courtesy photos)

and more.

Learn all about glass fishing floats through the stories selected for this exhibit. The Lincoln County Historical Society will also include spectacular floats from its own collection, including repurposed World War II air tank floats used in soupfin shark fishing.

The Glass Float Identification Day being held in conjunction with the exhibit opening will be coordinated by float expert and exhibit co-curator, Dr. Nick Simpson, and fellow float expert, Ken Busse. They will be on hand to answer questions and to help identify floats.

People can bring in that old glass float they have hanging in their garage or from a tree in their yard to learn its history from experts.

## CONCERT

From Page B1

first violinist, organized the quintet for his senior recital. He is currently pursuing a double major in music and computer science and has been playing the violin for 15 years. He was part of the Guam Symphony Orchestra and played with the Honors Performance Series in Sydney, Australia.

Second violinist Emily Todd is currently pursuing a double major in music and civil engineering. Violist Rowan Lowery is doing a double major in music arts administration and theater sound design and has been playing viola for 15 years. Ian Carlos, first cello, is currently pursuing a degree in electrical engineering with a minor in music and has received many awards over his 12 years. Laney Mohr, cello, is a junior currently pursuing a degree in mechanical engineering with minors in music and physics.

The quintet will perform Franz Schubert’s String Quintet in C Major, Op. 163, Tchaikovsky’s String Quartet No.1 Op.11, Dvorak’s String Quartet No. 12, Op. 96,

plus selections by Manuel Ponce and Christopher Ducasse.

Opening the program will be the South Eugene Piano Trio of South Eugene High School. The trio, featuring Zoe Kramer, piano, Nina Vivek, violin, and Pearl Carter, cello, has been playing together for the past year. Each member has over 10 years of music experience.

In addition to playing as a piano trio, the members also participate in school orchestras, youth symphonies, chamber music institutes, and have competed at the state level in solo competitions and honor ensembles. The trio will perform Mendelssohn’s Piano Trio No. 1 in D minor Op. 49 and Piazzolla’s Four Seasons of Buenos Aires.

This chamber music concert is a presentation of the Oregon Coast Youth Symphony Festival and is free, with donations accepted at the door.

The chamber concert series is presented with support by the Chambers Family Foundation and the Siletz Tribal Charitable Contribution. The final two concerts of the 2025 season are March 16 and April 13.

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# Calendar of EVENTS

## WEDNESDAY, FEB. 5

**‘TIMBER & TIDES’ WEBINAR SERIES**  
“Managing Forests for Bird Conservation,” with Matthew Betts, is the final installment of the “Timber & Tides” webinar series from 6 to 7:30 p.m. The webinar is free, but pre-registration is required at [www.sevencapes.org/timberandtides](http://www.sevencapes.org/timberandtides)

**TRIVIA NIGHT**  
Enjoy Trivia Night from 6 to 7:30 p.m. at Beachcrest Brewing, located in suite E5 at the Salishan Marketplace, 7755 Highway 101, Gleneden Beach. Free. Show off your knowledge for the chance to win prizes. Teams of up to six allowed.

**LIVE MUSIC AT THE DRIFT INN**  
The Harlan Rivers Band performs from 6 to 8:30 p.m. at The Drift Inn, located at 124 Highway 101 N in Yachats. For information, call 541-547-4477.

## THURSDAY, FEB. 6

**WINTER LECTURE SERIES**  
Newport Parks and Recreation's Winter Lecture Series at the rec center (225 SE Avery St.) presents “Secrets of Tidepools,” with Parks and Rec Program Specialist Jenni Remillard. 6 p.m. Info: [www.facebook.com/newportparksandrec/events](http://www.facebook.com/newportparksandrec/events)

**DAVID ROGERS AT THE DRIFT INN**  
David Rogers performs a variety of music, including original compositions, from 6 to 8:30 p.m. at The Drift Inn, located at 124 Highway 101 N in Yachats. For information, call 541-547-4477.

**SEA OTTER TALK IN NEWPORT**  
The MidCoast Watersheds Council hosts Brittany Blades, curator of marine mammals at the Oregon Coast Aquarium, who will talk about her work in sea otter care and conservation. Free, 6:30 to 8 p.m. at the Pacific Maritime Heritage Center, 333 SE Bay Blvd., Newport.

**YACHATS BIG BAND**  
Join the Yachats Big Band from 7 to 9:30 p.m. at the Yachats Commons, 441 Highway 101 N. The band plays dances featuring big band classics on the first Thursday of every month. Admission is \$5 for adults, free for children under 12.

## FRIDAY, FEB. 7

**TEEN FRIDAY AT NEWPORT REC CENTER**  
Take part in Roller Pride during Teen Friday at the Newport Recreation Center, 225 SE Avery St. 4 to 7 p.m. In collaboration with Project Bravery, this event offers an inclusive space for teens to enjoy roller skating while celebrating diversity and community. Info: 541-265-7783.

### CALENDAR OF EVENTS

To submit an announcement for your event, email [community@newportnewstimes.com](mailto:community@newportnewstimes.com). Space is limited, so submissions may be edited for length.



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Consumer Disclosure/Award Rule: All participants who attend an estimated 40-90 minute in-home product consultation and choose to make a purchase will receive a \$50 Visa Card. Retail value is \$50. Offer sponsored by LeafGuard Holdings Inc. Limit one per household. Company proceeds, sells, and installs seamless gutter protection. This offer is valid for homeowners over 18 years of age. If married or involved with a life partner, both collaborating persons must attend and complete presentation together. Participants must have a photo ID and be legally able to enter into a contract. The following persons are not eligible for this offer: employees of Company or affiliated companies or affiliates, their immediate family members, previous participants in a Company in-home consultation within the past 12 months and all current and former Company customers. Card may not be extended, transferred, or substituted except that Company may substitute a card of equal or greater value if it deems it necessary. Card will be mailed to the participant via first class United States Mail or emailed within 30 days of receipt of the presentation form provided at presentation. Not valid in conjunction with any other promotion or discount of any kind. Offer not sponsored or promoted by Visa and is subject to change without notice prior to expiration. Except in the states of MD, NY and DC, where the gift card offer is limited to \$25. Offer not available in the states of CA, HI, PA and ME. Expires 2/28/25. LeafGuard operates as LeafGuard of Oregon or Oregon under license number 22337. \* Guarantee not to stop for as long as you own your home, or we will clean your gutters for free.

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**LIVE MUSIC AT THE DRIFT INN**  
A Touch of Gray performs classic tunes from 6 to 8:30 p.m. at The Drift Inn, located at 124 Highway 101 N in Yachats. For information, call 541-547-4477.

**MINI KISS AT THE PAC**  
The world-famous cover band, Mini Kiss, performs live at the Newport Performing Arts Center, 777 W Olive St. 7:30 p.m. Info and tickets: [coastarts.org/events/mini-kiss](http://coastarts.org/events/mini-kiss)

## SATURDAY, FEB. 8

**BIRD WALK IN LINCOLN CITY**  
Seven Capes Bird Alliance offers a free Bird Walk from 9 to 11 a.m. at Friends of the Wildwoods Open Space in Lincoln City. No experience necessary. Meet at the trailhead on Northeast West Devils Lake Road – look for the SCBA sign. There is limited parking along the street at the trailhead. Info: [sevencapes.org](http://sevencapes.org)

**‘FLOAT ODYSSEY’ EXHIBIT OPENING**  
Opening reception for “Float Odyssey,” a new exhibit coming to the Pacific Maritime Heritage Center, 333 SE Bay Blvd., Newport, from noon to 3 p.m. Free. Also during this time, people can bring in their old glass floats for identification by experts.

**SILETZ LIBRARY PARTY & SALES**  
Books, baked goods, a rummage sale and more during the Siletz Valley Friends of the Library fundraiser from noon to 3 p.m. at the library, 255 SW Gaither St., Siletz. Free cake, punch and coffee. Come celebrate the library's 18th birthday. Info: 541-444-2855.

**LIVE MUSIC AT BEACHCREST**  
Reb Conner Duo with Leon Cotter performs from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. at Beachcrest Brewing, located at the Salishan Marketplace, 7755 N Highway 101, Gleneden Beach.

**CHAMBER MUSIC AT THE COAST**  
Chamber Music at the Coast: Beethoven, Beach & Kapustin, performed by the Oasis Ensemble, at 7:30 p.m. at the Pacific Maritime Heritage Center, 333 SE Bay Blvd., Newport. Tickets and info at [www.coastarts.org/events](http://www.coastarts.org/events)

## SUNDAY, FEB. 9

**FREE CHAMBER MUSIC CONCERT IN NEWPORT**  
The University of Portland String Quintet and the South Eugene Piano Trio will perform in a free chamber music concert beginning at 2 p.m. at Atonement Lutheran Church, located at 2315 N Highway 101 in Newport.

**CHAMBER MUSIC AT THE COAST**  
Chamber Music at the Coast: Beethoven, Beach & Kapustin, performed by the Oasis Ensemble, at 2 p.m. at the Lincoln City Cultural Center, 540 NE Highway 101. Tickets and info: 541-994-9994 or [lincolncity-culturalcenter.org](http://lincolncity-culturalcenter.org).

**ARGENTINE TANGO**  
Learn Argentine Tango at Newport Tango's weekly Sunday lesson and practice. 5 to 8 p.m., South Beach Community Center, 3024 SE Ferry Slip Road. Info: [www.newportdancetango.com](http://www.newportdancetango.com) or [newportdancetango@gmail.com](mailto:newportdancetango@gmail.com)



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**PAPER FLOWER WORKSHOP**  
The next free “Arts for All” workshop offered by the Coastal Arts Guild will focus on making paper flowers. It will be held from 1 to 4 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 9, at the Newport Visual Arts Center, located at 777 NW Beach Drive. Paper will be provided, or bring your own. Info: 541-574-3364.

## MONDAY, FEB. 10

**LIVE MUSIC AT THE DRIFT INN**  
Lavina Ross performs from 6 to 8:30 p.m. at The Drift Inn, located at 124 Highway 101 N in Yachats. For information, call 541-547-4477.

## TUESDAY, FEB. 11

**BINGO NIGHT IN GLENEDEN BEACH**  
Enjoy an evening of Bingo from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at the Gleneden Beach Community Hall, 110 Azalea St., Gleneden Beach. Purchase two cards for \$5 (more available). Bring your own snacks. Info: [www.glenedenbeach.org](http://www.glenedenbeach.org)

## WEDNESDAY, FEB. 12

**TRIVIA NIGHT**  
Enjoy Trivia Night from 6 to 7:30 p.m. at Beachcrest Brewing, located in suite E5 at the Salishan Marketplace, 7755 Highway 101, Gleneden Beach. Free. Show off your knowledge for the chance to win prizes. Teams of up to six allowed.

**AXON AT THE DRIFT INN**  
Alan Chamberlain performs folk, blues, gospel, western and jazz from 6 to 8:30 p.m. at The Drift Inn, located at 124 Highway 101 N in Yachats. For information, call 541-547-4477.

## THURSDAY, FEB. 13

**QUILTING TALK IN NEWPORT**  
The Oregon Coastal Quilters Guild presents modern quilt designer Jill Huntington from 1 to 3 p.m. at Atonement Lutheran Church, 2315 N Coast Highway, Newport. All are welcome. Info: [www.oregoncoastalquilters.org](http://www.oregoncoastalquilters.org).

**WINTER LECTURE SERIES**  
Newport Parks and Recreation's Winter Lecture Series at the rec center (225 SE Avery St.) presents a mental health discussion with Helen Beaman. 6 p.m. Info: [www.facebook.com/newportparksandrec/events](http://www.facebook.com/newportparksandrec/events)

## FRIDAY, FEB. 14

**VALENTINE'S DAY SWEETHEART DANCE**  
The Lincoln City Cultural Center and the Lincoln Pops Big Band invite people to spend Valentine's Day with all their Big Band favorites. 7 p.m., Lincoln City Cultural Center, 540 NE Highway 101. Tickets and info: 541-994-9994 or [lincolncity-culturalcenter.org](http://lincolncity-culturalcenter.org).

## SATURDAY, FEB. 15

**TIPS ON WRITING PAGE-TURNING MOMENTS**  
Willamette Writers Coast Chapter gathers from 2 to 4 p.m. at the Newport Public Library, 35 NW Nye St. Author Kim Taylor Blakemore will present tips on mastering character goals, motivation and conflict. Free. Info: [newportoregon.gov/dept/lib](http://newportoregon.gov/dept/lib)

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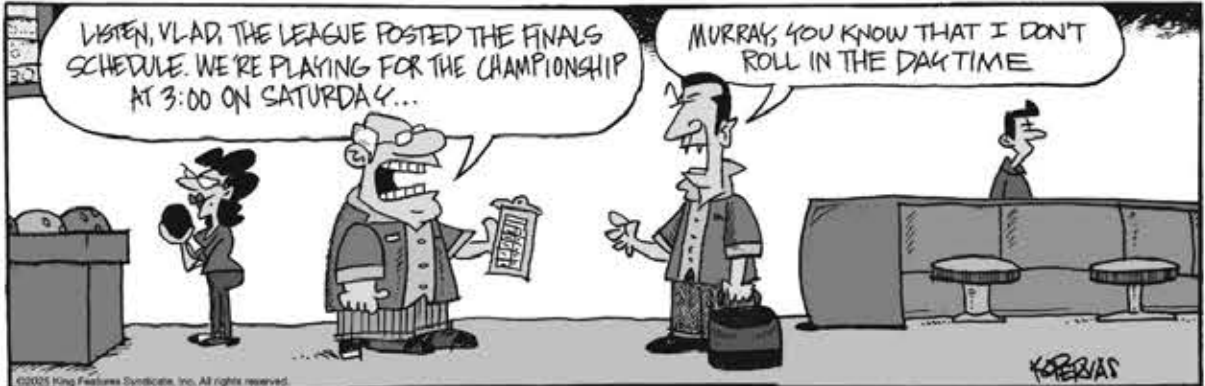




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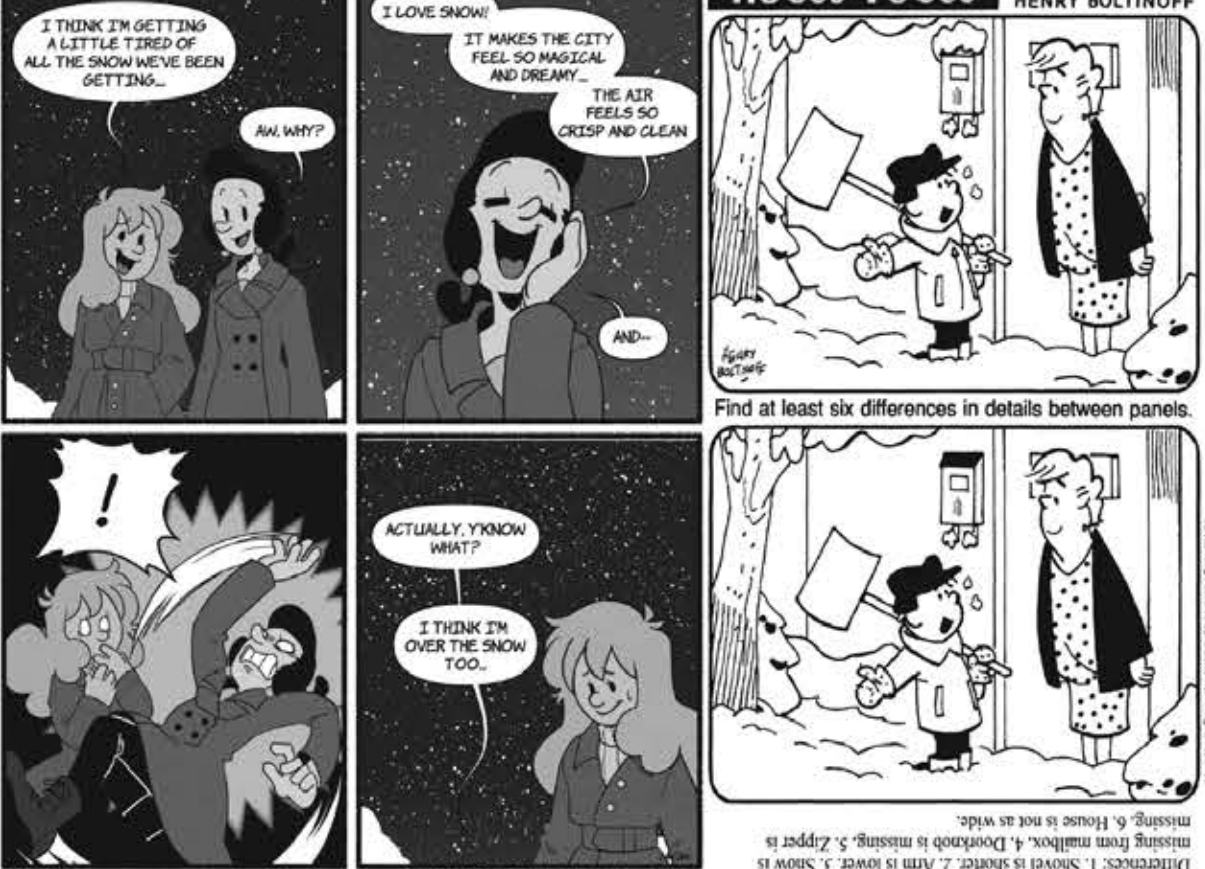
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CryptoQuip

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: G equals U

BFWZT FWTF NP COT G.M.  
QOTWT LTNLBT FBQFDM LGC  
PNWCO CNXM NP TPPNWC:  
COT ZWTFC LFXXM WTZYNX.

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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!

Facet  
CAPSET  
Cover  
LOCKA  
Shrink  
ITHREW  
Scant  
PASSER

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"Attention, everybody! This is our neighbor, Mr. Hinkler, who has a song of \_\_\_\_\_!"

WORD LADDERS

Can you go from SEARS to LAIRD in 6 words?  
Change one letter for each rung in the ladder.

SEARS

LAIRD

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Trivia test by Fifi Rodriguez

- TELEVISION: What is the name of the spaceship on the TV drama "Firefly"?
- GEOGRAPHY: What is the only tropical rainforest in the United States?
- LITERATURE: What is the title of author Oscar Wilde's only complete novel?
- MOVIES: What is the name of the killer in the movie "Silence of the Lambs"?
- SCIENCE: What are the three branches of science?
- AD SLOGANS: Which fast-food chain's slogan is, "What you crave"?
- GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: How many NFL teams are named after animals (including birds)?
- U.S. STATES: In which state is the U.S. Naval Academy located?
- ASTRONOMY: How many constellations are visible from Earth?
- ART: What is the Japanese art of arranging flowers called?

- Answers
- Serenity.
  - El Yunque National Forest, Puerto Rico.
  - "The Picture of Dorian Gray."
  - Buffalo Bill.
  - Natural Sciences, Social Sciences and Formal Sciences.
  - White Castle.
  - 14 (Atlanta Falcons, Arizona Cardinals, Baltimore Ravens, Carolina Panthers, Chicago Bears, Cincinnati Bengals, Denver Broncos, Detroit Lions, Indianapolis Colts, Jacksonville Jaguars, Los Angeles Rams, Miami Dolphins, Philadelphia Eagles and Seattle Seahawks).
  - Maryland.
  - 88.
  - Ikebana.
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CryptoQuip

Large area of the U.S. where people always put forth tons of effort: The Great Plains region.

SEARS, HEARS, HEIRS, HAIRS, LAIRS, LAIRD

WORD LADDER

SCRAMBLERS

Today's Word

1. Aspect 2. Cloak; 3. Wither; 4. Sparse

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LCL25-0039 IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE STATE OF OREGON FOR THE COUNTY OF LINCOLN In the Matter of the Estate of Patrick Hugh Cooke, Deceased. Case No. 24PB11489 NOTICE TO INTERESTED PERSONS NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Maureen Nightingale has been appointed personal representative. All persons having claims against the estate are required to present them, with vouchers attached, to the personal representative at 757 Blind Oak Circle Saint Augustine, FL 32095, within four months after the date of 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 lawyer for

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NEWPORT

From Page A8

Farias (second in 100 breaststroke last year) and Will Postlewait (sixth in 100 backstroke) and sophomore Jahan Eibner (fifth in 200 IM, seventh in 500 freestyle).

Farias, a member of Newport’s state champion cross country team, is outstanding in the breast-stroke but also could be a threat to contend in the

100 butterfly, 50 freestyle and 100 freestyle, if the situation dictates. He has “shown mass improvement” in the butterfly in the last few weeks, according to Swanson, and is strong in the 100 freestyle.

“He has the stamina to really come back that second 50,” Swanson said. “He’s come along beautifully this year. He’s put his head down and started working.”

Eibner fought through

injuries as a freshman last season to be a factor in the state meet. He showed his range of strokes with his efforts in the 200 IM and 500 freestyle.

“He’s a great distance swimmer, but he can also turn it on and really get at the sprints,” Swanson said. “He’s definitely matured mentally and has really been there for the team this year. He’ll definitely move up.”

Newport also is hoping for Will Postlewait to

help compensate for the absence of his brother.

“I think a lot of people are going to be surprised by Will this year,” Swanson said. “He is such a strong swimmer this year. All of the sudden he just stepped up and he had taken off. I think he’s really going to be a factor at state.”

In last year’s state meet, the Cubs won both freestyle relays and were second in the medley relay. They figure to be

a force again this year, considering they have five swimmers clocking under 55 seconds in the 100 freestyle and five under 25 seconds in the 50 freestyle. Hurty, Eibner and Will Postlewait are back from the winning 400 freestyle relay.

Newport’s girls team, which won its first state team title last year, is facing a difficult encore this season. The Cubs graduated their top scorer in Layla Bretz, who was

third in the 50 freestyle and 100 butterfly.

Sophomores Gwynn Postlewait (third in 100 breaststroke, sixth in 500 freestyle) and Ruby Perucci (fifth in 100 backstroke) are a solid foundation, but the Cubs will need other swimmers to emerge to have a shot at a repeat.

“I won’t discredit my girls,” Swanson said. “They have surprised me many, many times about stepping up.”

TAFT

From Page A8

kindergarten.”

Kol Tolan, a 6-foot-3 junior wing who was a first-team all-state receiver in football and a track state qualifier in the high jump, long jump and triple jump, is the team’s top scorer (14.2) and rebounder (6.0).

“He runs the floor probably the best,”

Lillebo said. “He is special.”

Taft’s other starters are senior guard Kai Bayer (10.1 points, 2.8 assists), junior guard Zack Hankins (8.0 points, 5.3 rebounds, 4.5 assists, 3.2 steals) and senior forwards JJ McCormick (8.0 points, 4.8 rebounds) and Jackson Nightingale (9.4 points, 4.8 rebounds, 2.7 steals).

The 6-1 Nightingale started the season slow

but has come on strong in recent games. He scored 26 points against Amity and 27 points against Scio in the last two games.

The rotation includes senior guards Ezra James, the PacWest football offensive player of the year as a quarterback and a first-team all-conference pitcher, and Trenton Battle.

The Tigers partially negate their lack of size

– Tolan and McCormick (6-3) are their tallest players – by scrambling on defense and converting in transition.

“They’ve really come into their own playing defense,” said Lillebo, a North Bend graduate who went 85-38 in five seasons as the Madras girls coach (2013-18) before arriving at Taft, where he also serves as athletic director and assistant principal.

Taft split its first six games, losing to Catlin Gabel 64-43, No. 6 Oregon Episcopal 63-50 and Scio 50-47. In the Tigers’ loss to Scio, their only conference defeat, they sputtered down the stretch, committing seven turnovers in a six-point fourth quarter.

“We really went away from our game,” said Lillebo, whose team got payback Monday with a 70-56 home win over

Scio (12-5, 6-4).

Taft built momentum Jan. 2-4 by winning the Sisters Tournament, beating Warrenton 66-54, Banks 54-26 and Junction City 65-49.

“That was huge because we had just lost to Scio the week before,” Lillebo said. “For my kids to bounce back, and travel three, four hours, I saw their confidence grow. Those were good, solid wins.”

SWIM

From Page A8

going to be some challenges and adversity. The rainy season often seems to bring seasonal sicknesses, and Taft has been battling that like all the other programs in the state.

“We’ve had some kids

come down with the flu this year, and I think that’s true across all of the teams. It seems like it’s hitting now. When we went to the Blanchet meet on Jan. 25, and there’s 11 teams there, eight of our kids were unable to go, and most of them were because of sickness,” Parker said. “But that’s going to be true for

everybody we compete against. It’s that time of year and it seems like that never changes very much.”

**LOOKING AHEAD**

As districts approach, Parker said she’s hopeful for the team’s prospects, but it will be tough to make the grade. One of the things the Tigers

have going for them is the versatility of their swimmers.

“We have a fair amount of talent in numbers. So, that is a matter of strategizing where kids are going to swim. We have enough kids that can do events that a lot of kids can’t do,” Parker said. “We have multitasking athletes that can do

all four strokes. But we shall see. It’s all based on numbers, and it means that every single swim counts if you make it in the top 12.”

Parker compared swimming to track and wrestling because it is still a team sport, even if it seems like an individual undertaking. Individuals can score points for the

team depending on where they place, so Taft’s depth is significant. Taft’s last regular meet will be the Last Chance Invitational at the Lincoln City Community Center Pool on Feb. 6. After that, it will be time for the District Championships, which will be Feb. 14-15 at the Astoria Aquatic Center.

Super Crossword

ACROSS

1 Hindu music pattern

5 Captivated

13 Kellogg's toaster treat

20 Missing GI

21 Sprinted competitively, perhaps

22 One shunning something

23 Best Actor nominee for "Mrs. Miniver"

25 Maximal-ebb phenomenon

26 Trauma pro in a hosp.

27 "Knives Out" actress — de Armas

28 No. in File

30 Japanese wheat pasta

31 Filmed again

33 American Ballet Theatre principal dancer beginning in 2015

39 Double Stuf cookies

42 Look for water with a divining rod

43 "Juno and the Paycock" playwright Sean

44 He played Otto Octavius in "Spider-Man 2"

48 Truth bender

49 Shifts body weight against

50 Pics to click

55 Series-ending abbr.

56 "Yes, Yvette"

57 "The Revolution Will Not Be Televised" poet

62 Jeff Bridges sci-fi film

65 Glockenspiel relative

66 Frosty film

67 Planet's path

68 Trying Jenny Craig, e.g.

70 Stands up

71 Midday time

72 Treaty result

74 Impacts

77 Apt retail establishment

80 "Kew!"

81 Daddies

83 Moose kin

84 These, in Spain

85 Alternative to laser tag

88 — buco

89 Apt item for 44-Across to keep files in?

92 Chief

95 Garlic mayo

97 Principal

98 Apt business

101 Mimicking a crow's cry

105 Sci-fi princess

106 Alias letters

107 Pal, to Yves

110 Former chief justice Roger

111 Carrier based in Tehran

114 Apt ingredient for 23-Across to make a jiggy dessert?

119 Guevara called "Che"

121 Assistant

122 Court period

123 Like the Zax and the Lorax

124 Gleeful cries

DOWN

1 Less refined

2 Au courrant

3 Top medals

4 Valved brass instrument

5 Make a gaffe

6 California wine valley

7 Have — with (be favored by)

8 Lady's title

9 Assn.

10 "Norma —"

11 Writer

12 IHOP competitor

13 Prefix with -lithic or -zoic

14 — -lacto

15 "Wham!"

16 From which a name is taken

17 Reebok rival

18 Made over

19 Au courrant

24 Tourist destination

29 Golf rarity

32 Ho-humness

34 Cruel Amin

35 Many an heir

36 Pan Am rival

37 Travel origin, generically

38 Virtual money

40 "— vincit amor"

41 Heavy drinker

44 Bar brew

45 "It's go time!"

46 Almanac, in large part

47 Ship's diary

48 Trent of

50 Slushy drink

51 — Rica

52 Accessory near a mouse

53 Real estate transaction

54 Individuals

58 "It's too hard for me"

59 Brought on

60 More crafty

61 Comic Idle

63 "— I a stinker?"

64 "I'd rather — there" ("That topic is off limits")

67 A while ago

69 Loch —

70 Ketchup ingredient

72 Belittled, informally

73 Study of insects, informally

75 Many a monk

76 Some unofficial sci-fi stories

78 Two-gender pronoun

79 Prefix with center

82 Camera variety, briefly

86 Swiss mount

87 Bowled over

88 Gas ratings

89 Floor cleaner

90 Styled after

91 Writer Anais

92 Partners

93 Capital of South Dakota

94 Laotians and

95 Just dandy

96 Likenesses

99 Leslie of "Lili"

100 "The Deep" director Peter

102 Delhi's land

103 Very poor

104 Whirls around

108 Short skirt

109 Old

112 "Do — say!"

113 Skater Midori

115 Adam and —

116 Actress Lucy

117 TV pitches

118 Signing tool

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CELEBRITY ANAGRAMS

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999 PUBLIC NOTICES

the personal representative, Traci P. McDowall, PO Box 1987, Newport, OR 97365. DATED AND PUBLISHED ON: February 5, 2025. /s/Traci P. McDowall, Lawyer for Personal Representative. PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE: Maureen Nightingale, 757 Blind Oak Circle, Saint Augustine, FL 32095, (503) 686-1426. LAWYER FOR PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE: Traci P. McDowall, OSB #184063, PO Box 1987, 380 SW 2nd St., Newport, OR 97365, T: (541) 272-5500 F: (541) 265-7633 traci@yaquinalaw.com

**LCL25-0038 IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE STATE OF OREGON FOR**  
THE COUNTY OF LINCOLN in the Matter of the Estate of VIRGINIA MORRIS, Deceased. Case No. 25PB00014 NOTICE TO INTERESTED PERSONS NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Johnnie Morris has been appointed personal representative. All persons having claims against the estate are required to present them, with vouchers attached, to the personal representative at 241 Broadway Street E., Amery, WI 54001, with five (5) days after the date of 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 lawyer for the personal representative, Traci P. McDowall, PO Box 1987, Newport, OR 97365. DATED AND PUBLISHED ON: February 5, 2025. /s/ Traci P. McDowall, Lawyer for Personal Representative. PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE: Johnnie Morris, 241 Broadway Street E., Amery, WI 54001, (651) 399-3080. LAWYER FOR PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE: Traci P. McDowall, OSB #184063, PO Box 1987, 380 SW 2nd St., Newport, OR 97365, T: (541) 272-5500, (541) 265-7633 traci@yaquinalaw.com

**LCL25-0037 PUBLIC LIEN SALE: U-STORE SELF STORAGE**  
Auction to be held online at storageauctions.com Auction will run from: 2/11/25 10am & ends 2/21/2025 10am 105 NE 73rd St Newport, OR 97365. Susan Brewer 435, James Horrod 134, Vicki Lanegan 528, Matthew Makken 330/541, Linda Pruett 247/306, Sherry Rocha 127/431, Guste Tallekpalex 461. GOODS OF EVERY DESCRIPTION SOLD BYSTORAGE LOT, CASH & CREDIT CARD ONLY

**LCL25-0036 SELF STORAGE PUBLIC SALE**  
Safe-Lock Storage 3639 SE Ash St South Beach, Oregon 97366 Saturday, 2/22/2025 @ 10:00am. C10 - Joshawa Klisch, C06 - Rich Roush, M20 - Ken Sexton, F25 - William Thomas. Sale Subject to Cancellation. Safe-Lock Storage reserves the Right to refuse any and all bids.

**LCL25-0035 PESUENT TO ORS CHAPTER 819**  
Notice is hereby given that the following vehicle will be Sold, for cash to the highest bidder, on 2/18/2025 The sale will be held at 10:00am by CAR CARE TOW INC 2795 SE 23RD DR LINCOLN CITY, OR 2018 GMC Acadia VIN = 1GKKNLVLS9J2181153

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Amount due on lien \$6032.00 Reputed owner(s) FISHER, RANDALL FIBRE FED CU

**LCL25-0034 ESTATE OF TED CLIFFORD LUND, DECEASED**  
Notice to Interested Persons (Case No. 25PB00251) In the Circuit Court of the State of Oregon for the County of Lincoln, Probate Department: Notice is hereby given that Karen Sue Lund 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 undersigned personal representative in care of the undersigned attorney at: 6500 SW Macadam Ave., Ste. 300, Portland, OR 97239-3565 within four months after the date of publication of this notice, as stated below, or such claims may be barred. All persons whose rights may be affected by the proceedings in this estate may obtain additional information from the records of the Court, the personal representative or the attorney for the personal representative. Dated and published February 5, 2025 Karen Sue Lund, Personal Representative Emma Crispin, OSB #223877 Law Offices of Nay & Friedenberg LLC Attorney for Personal Representative Portland, OR 97239-3565

**LCL25-0033 ESTATE OF LESLIE RENEE HALVORSEN**  
NOTICE TO INTERESTED PERSONS Case Number: 25PB00362 Notice: The Circuit Court of the State of Oregon, for the County of Lincoln, has appointed Angela Kaye Person as Personal Representative of the Estate of Leslie Renee Halvorsen, deceased. All persons having claims against said estate are required to present the same, with proper vouchers below, or they may be barred. All persons whose rights may be affected by this proceeding may obtain additional information from the records of the court, the Personal Representative, or Attorney for the Personal Representative. Dated and first published February 5, 2025. PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE: Angela Kaye Person, 195 Salem Heights Avenue S. Salem, OR 97302. ATTORNEY FOR THE PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE: Tony L. Aiello, Jr., OSB#203404, 181 N. Grant Street, Suite 212, Canby, OR 97013, within four months from the date of first publication of this notice as stated below, or they may be barred. All persons whose rights may be affected by this proceeding may obtain additional information from the records of the court, the Personal Representative, or Attorney for the Personal Representative. Dated and first published February 5, 2025. PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE: Tony L. Aiello, Jr., OSB#203404, 181 N. Grant Street, Suite 212, Canby, OR 97013, (503) 498-1777. Tony@RuralBusinessAttorneys.com

**LCL25-0032 NOTICE TO INTERESTED PERSONS**  
Notice is hereby given pursuant to ORS 113.155 that the undersigned has been appointed and has qualified as the personal representative of the ESTATE OF JEFFERY DEAN LISWIG, DECEASED. Lincoln County Circuit Court Case Number 24PB10984. All persons having claims against the estate are hereby required to present the same, with proper vouchers, within four months after the date of first publication of this notice, as stated below, to the personal representative

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at PO Box 1768, Newport OR 97365 or they may be barred. All persons whose rights may be affected by the proceedings in this estate may obtain additional information from the records of the court, the personal representative or the attorney for the personal representative. Date first published: February 5, 2025. John Kyle Liswig, Personal Representative of the Estate of Jeffery Dean Liswig, Gari Lynn Lovejoy, Attorney at Law, Attorney for Personal Representative, PO Box 1768, Newport OR 97365. F5 F12 F19

**LCL25-0031 PUBLIC AUCTION AT ANCHOR STORAGE**  
628 Painter Ln Depoe Bay Oregon 97341 Contact number is 541-921-9878. The following unit(s) will be sold at Public Auction on Feb 21st, 2025 Beginning at 11:00am for non-payment of rent and other fees. Unit #D31 Cristina Serabia. F5 F12

**LCL25-0030 IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE STATE OF OREGON**  
FOR THE COUNTY OF LINCOLN PROBATE DEPARTMENT In the Matter of the Estate of: RAY FRANKLIN NELSON. Deceased. Case No.: 25PB00194 NOTICE TO INTERESTED PERSONS Notice: The Circuit Court of the State of Oregon, for the County of Lincoln, has appointed Stan Butterfield as Personal Representative of the Estate of Ray Franklin Nelson, deceased. All persons having claims against said estate are required to present the same, with proper vouchers to the Personal Representative, c/o Stan Butterfield, Stan Butterfield, P.C., Attorney at Law, 605 SW Church St., Dallas, OR 97338, within four months from the date of the publication of this notice as stated below, or they may be barred. All persons whose rights may be affected by this proceeding may obtain additional information from the records of the court, the Personal Representative, or the Attorney for the Personal Representative. Date published February 5, 2025. Stan Butterfield, Personal Representative, Stan Butterfield, P.C., Attorney at Law, 605 SW Church St., Dallas, OR 97338. Telephone: (503) 623-2427. Email: stan@stanbutterfield.com F5

**LCL25-0027**  
Notice is hereby given that the Port of Newport claims a lien in the amount claimed below, pursuant to ORS87.152, for the reasonable and agreed charges for labor and materials, storage or services provided at the request of the owner or lawful possessor of the following described personal property: Personal property: Vessel: Emanicior: Official number: OR670LM; Reputed owner: Ivan Polk Emanicior; Last known address: 2150 Willamette Street, Eugene, OR 97405; Security interest holder: Ivan Polk-Hovskiy; Amount of claim of lien: \$19,544.10 (which includes storage of property and accrued late charges until sale date, and costs of lien foreclosure). The Port of Newport has retained the property for at least 60 days from the date when the charges for services provided were due. Notice is hereby given that unless the lien is paid prior to the date set forth for sale below, said property will be sold to the highest bidder. The successful bidder must pay 10% of the bid price in cash or certified check immediately upon being declared the successful bidder. The balance of the bid price is to be paid in cash or certified check within 24 business hours of offering the successful bid. The lien claimant may bid part or all of the lien amount claimed, plus storage and foreclosure sale expenses, which will be an offset against the lien amount. Minimum bid is \$10,479.55. Bids accepted until: February 25, 2025. Email bids to: mbrown@portofnewport.com OR drop bid off at: Port of Newport, 600 S.E. Bay Blvd., Newport, OR 97365. Bid forms can be found online at www.portofnewport.com or at the address listed above. The sale of the property will be "as is, where is" and there are no representations by the lien claimant as to the condition of the property or its title. Any person wishing to inspect the property prior to the sale may do so during normal business hours, by contacting the Harbormaster at 541-270-5557. F5 F12

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paid prior to the date set forth for sale below, said property will be sold to the highest bidder. The successful bidder must pay 10% of the bid price in cash or certified check within 24 business hours of offering the successful bid. The lien claimant may bid part or all of the lien amount claimed, plus storage and foreclosure sale expenses, which will be an offset against the lien amount. Minimum bid is \$6,818.86. Bids accepted until: February 26, 2025. Email bids to: mbrown@portofnewport.com OR drop bid off at: Port of Newport, 600 S.E. Bay Blvd., Newport, OR 97365. Bid forms can be found online at www.portofnewport.com or at the address listed above. The sale of the property will be "as is, where is" and there are no representations by the lien claimant as to the condition of the property or its title. Any person wishing to inspect the property prior to the sale may do so during normal business hours, by contacting the Harbormaster at 541-270-5557. F5 F12

**LCL25-0026**  
Notice is hereby given that the Port of Newport claims a lien in the amount claimed below, pursuant to ORS87.152, for the reasonable and agreed charges for labor and materials, storage or services provided at the request of the owner or lawful possessor of the following described personal property: Personal property: Therapy; Official number: OR 425 MP; Reputed owner: Robert Dejournette Sailboat Therapy; Last known address: 1406 NE Oceanview Dr, Newport, OR 97365; Security interest holder: None; Amount of claim of lien: \$14,922.51 (which includes storage of property and accrued late charges until sale date, and costs of lien foreclosure). The Port of Newport has retained the property for at least 60 days from the date when the charges for services provided were due. Notice is hereby given that unless the lien is paid prior to the date set forth for sale below, said property will be sold to the highest bidder. The successful bidder must pay 10% of the bid price in cash or certified check immediately upon being declared the successful bidder. The balance of the bid price is to be paid in cash or certified check within 24 business hours of offering the successful bid. The lien claimant may bid part or all of the lien amount claimed, plus storage and foreclosure sale expenses, which will be an offset against the lien amount. Minimum bid is \$10,479.55. Bids accepted until: February 25, 2025. Email bids to: mbrown@portofnewport.com OR drop bid off at: Port of Newport, 600 S.E. Bay Blvd., Newport, OR 97365. Bid forms can be found online at www.portofnewport.com or at the address listed above. The sale of the property will be "as is, where is" and there are no representations by the lien claimant as to the condition of the property or its title. Any person wishing to inspect the property prior to the sale may do so during normal business hours, by contacting the Harbormaster at 541-270-5557. F5 F12



# Depth a plus for Taft swimming

**WILL LOHRE**  
Country Media, Inc.

Things are going swimmingly for Taft High School's swim team this year, as the Tigers have competed well in events throughout the season, buoyed by a good turnout for both the boys and girls swim squads.

Longtime Tiger swimming coach Lissa Parker said that something the program has going for it is the depth that they have in the team.

"A lot of times, some of those kids might be getting third, fourth, and fifth places, but that still contributes to the overall scores, so that helps quite a bit," Parker said. "We've had some success. We got second at the Cheese Relays this year. In some instances, we've been pretty close to getting first place." Some of Taft's highlights

this year were two instances where the Tigers did come out first. Taft came away victorious at the Battle on the Beach dual with Newport on Jan. 16 and the Taft Invitational swim meet on Jan. 9.

"When we did the dual with Newport, which was the first year that we started that, we were able to win that, not so much winning individual events, but [with our depth]," Parker said.

Similarly, Parker credited the depth of the squad for propelling Taft to wins in both the boys and girls divisions at the Taft Invitational, when the Tigers beat out teams from Newport, Scappoose, St. Helens, Rainier, and Banks.

## TIGERS IN THE POOL

Some of the standout swimmers for the program are swimmers who have spent a lot of time in the pool,

including the program's seniors Abigail Nunes, Sierra Sanders, and Isaiah and Brendan Wilson. Though those are some of the fastest swimmers for Taft, Parker said all the seniors have stepped up this year. One pleasant surprise has been senior Hazel Fiedler, who just started swimming; despite being new, she's done well.

While the seniors are essential to the program, it does promise that there will be turnover in the future.

"The good thing and the bad thing is that out of all these kids, 14 of them are seniors. So, we're losing quite a few of them," Parker said. "We don't have that many eighth graders, but the more progress we make, the more we attract people. It just might take a couple of years to get these tenth graders and freshmen up to their potential."

Some of the younger swimmers to keep an eye on are sophomore Dylan Murphy, freshman Max Serrato, freshman Abby Halferty, junior Ellie Nightingale, and junior Blaik Gray.

The new kids in the program come from a variety of different backgrounds. Parker said some of the freshmen have worked with her for years, as she is also the coach of Lincoln City's club swim program. Other kids have come out because of connections on the team from other Taft High School sports. One thing most of the new athletes in the program do have is some experience.

"We don't have very many kids this year that came on that absolutely don't know how to swim, but we do have some that are novices, and fortunately, they're only sophomores, so that is helpful

in terms of future growth," Parker said.

The team is made up of 37 athletes, 19 female and 18 male. Parker said "it's been a while" since she coached this many, and it may be as far back as the "late 2000s." Part of the reason she believes it's been a while since there was a team of this size is that the numbers were still recovering from the pandemic.

On a personal level, one of the highlights for the longtime Taft coach recently has been working with different generations of swimmers.

"Having been there a long time, we have young kids whose parents have joined our board, and they swam for me as little kids and high schoolers," Parker said. "So that's pretty cool."

As with any season, there's

See **SWIM**, page B7

# Newport cheer clinches national championship

**WILL LOHRE**  
Country Media, Inc.

Newport is home to a group of national champions! The achievement results from a long journey and a lot of hard work for the Cubs cheer team, but the effort has paid off. Newport High School was crowned national champions at the School Cheer Nationals, hosted at the Orleans Arena in Las Vegas on Jan. 25.

The national championship is another trophy for a team that won the 4A Oregon state championship in February. Head Coach Jessica Arnsdorf said that winning a national championship with this team was "truly amazing," and described the team as "special."

"These girls wanted it so bad and put in the work to make it happen. I knew if there was a group that could do it, it would be them," Arnsdorf said.

The group is made up of 15 girls and is laden with experience; the team has seven seniors who the program relies on for their talent and leadership. Arnsdorf said the team's captains, Heidi Hackworth, Dorothy Semple, and Hailey Albino, have led this team over the last two years to "be the best they possibly can be."

Though winning on the national stage was something of a continuation of the work from last year, the 2024-2025 kicked off for the Cubs during the summer. Arnsdorf and the

team started the season in the summer when they attended a National Cheerleading Association camp at Oregon State University. The team garnered multiple awards at the camp, including "Top gun stunter, Top gun jumper, Top gun dancer, Top team, and leadership awards."

Off the back of their successful camp, the team decided they wanted to try and compete at the next level, and the level of work they put in reflected that goal.

"It was decided then that these girls wanted to push towards attending a national championship event. They put in the time and practice it takes, practicing three hours a day, five days a week, all while still cheering at sporting events for the school," Arnsdorf said. "They practiced throughout Christmas break to get us ready for our first competition in January."

## ON THE BIG STAGE

Talking about competing at a national event, Arnsdorf said it can be "very intimidating." It was just a week before the competition when Newport got a list of which other teams they would be going up against. As a result, Arnsdorf and her staff didn't have much time to prepare for their competitors.

In the end, they had to trust that what they were bringing would be "at the caliber needed to be successful."

"The girls handled every



The Newport cheer team competing at School Cheer Nationals in Las Vegas. (Courtesy photo from Jessica Arnsdorf)

situation with poise and confidence," Arnsdorf said.

Despite some logistic adversity, the team met every challenge. On the first day, Newport's first event wasn't until 9:40 p.m. Arnsdorf said that keeping the girls ready to go was a little challenging, but the team rose to the occasion, hitting a perfect routine.

The Cubs entered the finals on day two in first place. And though they were again given a competition spot at the end of the night, they knew what they needed to do: Hit another clean routine and give it their all.

"Which is exactly what we did," Arnsdorf said. "These ladies went in knowing this was going to be tough and that they needed to really bring their best performances. They really came together as a team and pushed one another. We had a saying: 'We fall as a team, or we hit as a team. We

are one on the mat!'"

And now they are not only "one on the mat," but number one in the country as well. Arnsdorf thanked the community who tuned in from home and the parents who traveled to Las Vegas for their support of the team as they chased their goals.

"In all my years of coaching, I have never had such a supportive group of parents," Arnsdorf said. "It's been amazing to watch!"

## JOB NOT DONE

Though winning a national championship would probably be enough winning for many programs, Arnsdorf and the Cubs aren't ready for the season to be over. They still have their sights set on defending their state championship from last season.

Newport's cheer team still has two more competitions left

this season, including a meet in Salem on Feb. 8, and then they will finish out the season at the OSAA State Cheerleading Championship Feb. 15 at Oregon City High School. Arnsdorf has her eye on Sweet Home as tough competition at state; after all, it was Sweet Home that the Cubs bested for their state title last season.

Though there are still a couple of weeks left in the Cubs' season, this season is still one that leaves a legacy for this generation of Cubs cheerleaders, and Arnsdorf couldn't be happier with this team.

"Coaching over the last 25 years Newport, I have seen a lot of teams, but there was just something special about this group," Arnsdorf said. "We talk about leaving a legacy for those to come after, but I like to say, 'They are the Legacy!' The coaching staff couldn't be more proud of these ladies!"

# Newport looks to repeat as state swim champs

**JERRY ULMER**  
OSAAtoday

One year after regaining its status as the state's top small-school boys swim team, Newport is intent on keeping it.

The Cubs – the 4A/3A/2A/1A champions in 2018, 2019 and 2020 and runners-up to Catlin Gabel in 2022 and 2023 – dominated the state meet last year, outscoring Catlin Gabel 72-47 for first place.

They graduated their top swimmer in Sam Postlewait, who won four individual state titles the last two seasons (two in the 50-yard freestyle), but their lineup is filled

with state-meet veterans.

"They're developed into that competitive mind frame," said coach Shayna Swanson, who also trains the Cubs as coach of the local club, Newport Swim Team. "They came into the season like, 'We want to be undefeated.' They are definitely setting their goals. They look at other teams' performances."

Senior Ben Hurty, who won the 100 backstroke and was runner-up in the 200 IM last year, sets the table for Newport's championship bid. He has placed in two events in each of the last three state meets, also winning a title in the 100

freestyle in 2023. All told, he has placed in five different events.

"He's just so versatile," Swanson said. "He's one of those swimmers you can put in almost anything and you know he's going to make finals at state."

With Postlewait gone, it's not certain that Hurty will swim the same events as last year's state meet.

"I'm kind of setting up for other considerations," Swanson said. "Losing Sam, I have to cover up those points somewhere."

The Cubs also feature state contenders in seniors Ivan

# Taft boys look to end long state tournament drought

**JERRY ULMER**  
OSAAtoday

It's been a while since Taft appeared on the radar as a state contender in boys basketball.

The Tigers of Lincoln City last appeared in the state tournament 27 years ago. Since that time, they have recorded only six winning seasons.

Last season, though, Taft showed signs of life by finishing 15-13, its most wins since 1998. This season, with all five starters returning, the Tigers are 15-3 and have risen to No. 4 in the OSAAtoday 3A coaches poll.

They stand alone atop the PacWest Conference

at 9-1, ahead of Dayton (11-8, 7-3), Amity (11-6, 6-3) and Santiam Christian (11-6, 6-3). They carry a 12-game winning streak into Wednesday's home game against Sheridan (5-10, 1-8).

Coach Zach Lillebo said Taft doesn't have a dominant player, "but I've got kids that step up each and every night. We're not great shooters, but we run the floor well and we see the open man. We play very unselfish. We're a fast-paced team. We want to get up and down the floor."

Lillebo said that when he took over as coach for the final eight games of the 2022-23 season,

the Tigers' offense often devolved into a "one-on-five type of mentality." With an emphasis on sharing the ball and capitalizing in transition, they have gone from averaging 47.1 points per game two years ago to 59.1 last season to 62.4 this season.

"Our offense starts with our defense," Lillebo said. "The thing that's going to get us by is our athleticism. I have athletes, and they've truly bought into the process. I'm not easy on them. They're mature and they see the process. They believe in each other. They've grown up together since

See **TAFT**, page B7

See **NEWPORT**, page A7