North Coast

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\$2.00



The dock at the Tillamook County boat launch in Netarts had taken significant damage, including several sections blown away, by high tide around

Winds batter Tillamook as winter weather arrives

WILL CHAPPELL Citizen Editor

Repeated storm systems lashed Tillamook County with high winds and more than two inches of rain in the first week of November, also generating a waterspout off Oceanside on Wednesday and causing multiple power outages and damage.

Meteorological conditions were exacerbated by the season's first King Tides from November 5-7, which saw high tides peak at ten feet each day.

Storm systems began

See **WEATHER**, Page A2



PHOTO BY STEVE WECKS

The same high winds that generated Wednesday's waterspout in Oceanside also upended at least one trailer.

With SNAP in limbo, food bank braces

WILL CHAPPELL Citizen Editor

As funding for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Plan payments for November remains unsure amid the ongoing federal government shutdown, the Tillamook branch of the Oregon Food Bank and its partner food pantries are preparing for an uptick in demand.

Oregon Food Bank's Tillamook Regional Manager Julia Wentzel said that the uncertainty and potential lack of benefits was going to further strain a system that was already overburdened, and that looking ahead, the issues only promise to get worse as components of the Republican spending bill passed this summer come into effect in January.

"I think that it's important to think about this as a spike in an ongoing crisis," Wentzel said. "We were in a moment of pretty severe food insecurity before any of this happened and we are looking at permanent changes to SNAP that will have really dire consequences for SNAP families but also for our entire local economy."

The apparent status of Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Plans (SNAP) payments for November morphed throughout the week through a series of legal rulings. On Monday, a federal judge ruled that the Trump administration must disburse at least half of monthly payments to SNAP recipients, while another court ordered full benefit payment on Friday, though the administration challenged both

Oregon leaders, along with those in several other states, indicated early on Friday that they planned to send participants full November benefits, even in the face of the pending legal

In Tillamook County, about 15% of the population, or 4,5000 people, receives SNAP benefits averaging just under \$7 a day, Wentzel said. Under normal circumstances, the food bank and pantry system serves as a safety net for people waiting for

See SNAP, Page A5

Soup Bowl raises funds to support Tides of Change

WILL CHAPPELL Citizen Editor

Tides of Change hosted its 15th annual Soup Bowl fundraising event at Pacific Restaurant on October 25, raising more than \$20,000 to support their services to survivors of gender-based and domestic

At the event, attendees were able to select one of 150 bowls donated by a group of potters from Clatsop County and enjoy an all-you-can-eat soup buffet catered by more than a dozen local restaurants and individuals. Tides of Change Executive Director Valerie Bundy thanked eventgoers for their support and said that it was critical to helping her staff continue serving those in need.

See **SOUP BOWL**, Page A2



Soup Bowl attendees select hand-crafted bowls made by a group of Clatsop County potters.

New Fire Chief takes reins in Garibaldi

WILL CHAPPELL Citizen Editor

A lifelong drive and passion for fighting fires brought Randolph "Tad" Pedersen to Garibaldi in October, where he now serves as the chief of the fire department.

Pedersen said that he is looking forward to helping the department bounce back from a rough patch after former Chief Jay Marugg resigned in protest over the department's budget in May and that he has already been impressed by the community's support for the department.

"I think that the relationship between the community and the fire department here is exceptional and that excites me," Pedersen said.

See **FIRE CHIEF**, Page A5



Soup Bowl From Page A1

"Thank you all, it takes a community," Bundy said. "You know, we work every day, every week, and we could not do this without all of our community partners helping do this work, without all of you showing up and supporting us."

The Soup Bowl event began in the 2006, after the potters reached out to Tides of Change leadership about starting a fundraiser like one they helped facilitate for The Harbor, Tides of Change's sister agency in Clatsop County. After a four-year break during the coronavirus pandemic, the event returned last year, helping to raise unrestricted funds to support the varied needs of survivors who access the agency's services.

At this year's event, volunteers helped 120 attendees select their handcrafted bowl before the group dined on donated soups, breads and desserts. Downie's Café, Pacific Restaurant, La Mexicana, The Fern, Rendezvous Restaurant & Lounge, Sand Dollar Restaurant & Lounge, Corral Grill and Taphouse, Adventist Health, Buttercup Ice Creams and Chowders, Main Street Pizza, Bun-

NOV 14

NOV 21

ker Grille, Werner's Beef & Brew, Current Café & Lounge, Michele Bradley and Marina Godinez prepared soups ranging from elephant orange tomato crema to navy bean and ham. Alice's Country Kitchen, Pacific Restaurant, Sarasota's, Wanda's Café & Bakery, Wolf Moon Bakery and Grateful Bread contributed baked goods, while the Tillamook County Creamery Association topped dessert off with vanilla ice cream.

After dinner, Tillamook County Commissioner Mary Faith Bell, who sits on Tides of Change's board, addressed the crowd and thanked everyone for attending.

Bell then took a moment to eulogize Nancy Contolini, a former board member who passed away in September, and pay tribute to her contributions to the organization. Bell said that in addition to serving on the board, Contolini had

been a tireless booster for Tides of Change, helping to organize the Soup Bowl annually, sell tickets, staff the organization's outreach table at community events and even volunteering as a receptionist for the group.

"She was just indispensable to our board, and we miss her so much, she just left a massive void," Bell said. "We have great board

TILLAMOOK COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS

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Tillamook County Commissioner Mary Faith Bell addressed the group gathered at the Soup Bowl.

members, of course, but there's no one who compares to Nancy Contolini."

After leading a memorial toast to Contolini, Bell handed the microphone to Bundy who gave a brief update on the organization's recent and upcoming activities. In the past year, Tides of Change has helped almost 600 survivors, providing more than 11,000 individual services to them, according to Bundy.

Bundy highlighted a state-supported program that allowed Tides of Change to help 24 households find new, safe living arrangements in the past year, by providing rent assistance, gas vouchers, bus tickets, utility assistance and other supportive funds. Bundy said that the program had helped 49 survivors and their children and that funding was renewed for next year.

Between that funding and other sources, Bundy said that since her arrival in 2017, funds available



Eventgoers queue to sample soups donated by more than a dozen local restaurants and resi-

for survivor assistance had grown from \$8,000 to \$205,000 this year. Bundy said funding like this was even more critical as the organization's federal funding is at risk after becoming a political football in President Donald

Trump's administration's attempts to punish sanctuary cities and states.

Bundy concluded by praising her staff for their perseverance in doing hard work in the face of uncertain conditions.

"Our small staff do a

lot every day, and so I definitely commend all my advocates and counselors who are showing up and sitting alongside survivors and hearing really hard stories but also being able to help people figure out what's next," Bundy said.

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NOV 15

NOV 22

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per hour across the county. west-northwest of Ne-

tarts, which moved slowly northeast toward the beach,

A sailboat was grounded during the storms in Rockaway Beach.

before fizzling out near the shoreline. Rainfall totals were relatively low throughout the week in coastal areas of the county, with the National Weather Service measuring 2-2.5 inches at most of its low-lying posts from Monday through Friday, when showers became scattered before dissipating. However, monitoring stations in the coast range recorded significantly

higher rainfall totals, with a station near Foss on the

Nehalem River seeing 4.12

inches from just Monday

PHOTO BY MIKE KUKRAL

to Thursday. Netarts, Oceanside and the City of Tillamook experienced a multi-hour power outage on Wednesday afternoon, while residents from Garibaldi north to the county line were treated to the same on Thursday when Pacific Power's transmission line from Clatsop County was knocked offline.

From Page A1

moving across the county on Monday, November 3, but matters intensified on Wednesday, November 5, as wind gusts recorded by the National Weather Service climbed to 60-70 miles

Around 4:35 p.m., the high winds generated a waterspout roughly one mile

APY (Annual Percentage Yield) is effective as of 7/1/2025. Rates are subject to change daily. Fees may reduce earnings on your account. Minimum to open Consumer and Business Optimum Savings account is \$100, minimum to open Student Optimum Savings account is \$25? Monthly auto transfer amount required from active checking account to avoid monthly service fee.

Tillamook County Fair awarded

WILL CHAPPELL Citizen Editor

Tillamook County Fair Board Member Bob Larson and volunteer Richard Love were selected Fair Board Member of the year and fair supporter of the year at October's Oregon Fairs Association annual conference in Salem, while the fair's 2025 poster was selected as best fair poster.

Tillamook County Fairgrounds Manager Camy Von Seggern said that both volunteers contribute to the fair in multiple ways and extolled their contri-

Larson has been on the Tillamook County Fair's Board of Directors for 13 years, assuming the presidency this year. Von Seggern said that Larson consistently brought new ideas to the table, including adding three new carnival rides to the fair this year and that he was a jack of all trades during fair week, completing tasks ranging

from bringing water to announcers in the grandstand arena to coordinating with a neighboring farmer to use a field for 250 overflow parking spaces.

"He is just on top of things continually," Von Seggern said. "He's always looking for new ideas for the fairground, and our board is a working board, so they get out there as

Love is a longtime volunteer at the fairground, whose father once served on the board. During fair week, Love oversees the volunteer vendor lot, arriving at 6 a.m. daily and bringing donuts to gate crew volunteers. The rest of the year, Love chips in on projects around the property, including a renovation of the Tillamook County Pioneer Society's building.

"He's just done a lot, so we thought he was very deserving, and I guess the committee thought so too," Von Seggern said.



PHOTO COURTESY CAMY VON SEGGERN

Tillamook Fair Board President Bob Larson and Fairgrounds Manager Camy Von Seggern at the award ceremony where Larson was selected Oregon Fair Board Member of the Year.



Tillamook County deflection program update

WILL CHAPPELL Citizen Editor

With Tillamook County's deflection program just over a month old, program coordinators and outside experts hosted a forum for public outreach at the Tillamook County Library Main Branch on October 23.

At the forum, Guy Farina from the Treatment Alternatives for Safe Communities Center for Health and Justice discussed deflection generally before local leaders discussed Tillamook's program.

Farina, a former police officer with a history of substance use, explained that deflection is seeking to prevent justice system involvement for those with substance use disorders by connecting them with resources to treat those disorders. Farina said that the idea behind deflection is to meet people where they are and help them recover from the disorders and prevent them from resorting to criminality because of them reducing the strain on the criminal justice system.

Initial attempts at establishing a framework for deflection programs began in the mid-2010s and since then Farina said six different pathways have been developed to help put public health workers in contact with those experiencing substance use disorders instead of or in addition to law enforcement. Those pathways are self-referral, active outreach by community health workers, offering services in conjunction with naloxone distribution, officer referral, officer intervention and community

Farina showed data from programs in North Carolina and Illinois that showed double digit percentage declines in both overdoses and arrests after those programs' implementations.

Tillamook County Commissioner Erin Skaar then discussed the local situation, recounting that work towards a local alternative for helping those with substance use disorders began eight years ago when the emergency department at Adventist Health Tillamook was struggling to cope with the number of people being brought by law enforcement for holds due to intoxication. In response, the county applied for and was awarded grants that helped it to plan for and establish Opioid Use Response for Tillamook County (OUR Tillamook), which helps to coordinate

the public health response for those dealing with substance use disorders.

While OUR Tillamook was initially a consortium of the partner agencies, the passage of House Bill 4002, recriminalizing drug possession and directing jurisdictions to set up deflection programs provided funding for the county to hire Bridgette Hess as deflection coordinator. Skaar said this represented the last piece of the puzzle allowing OUR Tillamook to transition from relying on self-referrals through a hotline to conducting active outreach.

Tillamook Police Chief Nick Troxel, who has been leading the lawenforcement side of the

deflection effort, said that Hesse had been walking around areas of downtown Tillamook with high numbers of unhoused people weekly since the program launched on September 15, and that he had joined her on several occasions. Troxel said that he had worn plain clothes on those occasions and that he was pleased with the early returns, which have included several people agreeing to assessments.

Hesse then said that she had found collaboration and communication with law enforcement and community partners to be key in her work so far and that she had been learning about new resources every week. Tillamook County

Community Health Centers are offering same-day walk-in assessments as part of the program and Hesse said that there were detox centers available in neighboring counties.

Hesse said that the general shortage of treatment options in the county was challenging but that the next four years of funding provided by Measure 110 for behavioral health networks will be dedicated to building out local treatment options. Hesse said that the challenges in Tillamook were faced by rural communities across the country and that relying on faith-based and outpatient treatment options was important as further alternatives are developed.

Pirates end season on high note

BY MIKE WEBER For The North Coast Citizen

The Neah-Kah-Nie High Pirates capped their OSAA Class 2A football Special District 1 schedule with a 52-20 win over the Rainier High Columbians (1-5 SD1, 3-6 overall) October 31 on Senior Night at Neah-Kah-Nie High School in Rockaway.

Three Pirate seniors Noah Scovel, Brady Douma and Nathaniel Tinnes were honored for their contributions to the football program the last four years in a special pre-game ceremony while accompanied by their family members.

With the win, a muchimproved Pirate squad, guided by fourth-year Coach Alejandro Quintana, concluded the year with a 2-4 SD1 record (2-6 overall), taking fifth place in the seven-team league standings. A year ago, the Pirates won just one game and finished in last place in the league.

"Beating Rainier sure was a good way to end the year and it was a good way for our three seniors to conclude their career," said Quintana. "All year long, Brady did a great job of pulling the team together and all three of those guys were awesome. It was unfortunate that Noah had an injury in our first game and so he was only able to play in a couple of games this year."

The Pirates had a standout showing in the ground game versus the Columbians, amassing a total of 456 yards rushing. Junior running back Daniel Sargent led the Pirates offense with 14 carries for 269 yards rushing and scored

five touchdowns. Pirate quarterback Douma (4-for-4 passing) had a touchdown pass to sophomore receiver Gabe Lyons.

"The team is getting better, and our defense improved a lot this year," said Quintana. "Our offensive line was better this year and that was a big reason why we improved a lot on offense too. Defensively, we'll have some guys who can tackle really well that will be coming back next year."

In addition to the victory over the Columbians, the Pirates also notched a 53-6 win on the road over the Vernonia High Loggers (0-6 SD1, 0-9 overall) on October 3, setting seasonhigh point total.

In an October 17 home game versus the SD1 champion and No. 5-ranked Člatskanie High Tigers (5-0 SD1, 9-0 overall), the Pirates played outstanding for half of the contest, trailing just 19-13 at halftime, before the Tigers were able to take control of the contest in the second half for a 55-26 win.

"Our league had three teams (Clatskanie, Knappa, Nestucca) in our league that qualified for the state playoffs, so it's a real tough league to compete in," said Quintana. "We had Clatskanie on the ropes at halftime, and it was probably the best half that we played all season. We played really well in for half the game, but then we just couldn't do too

much in the second half." Noah Scovel, a wide receiver/linebacker suffered an injury early in the season and his absence was noticed in both leadership

and talent.

"We're really going to miss Noah and his leadership ability next year," said Quintana. "Unfortunately, he didn't play a whole lot this year, but he was still a big part of our team, while nursing an injury all year long. Brady was throwing the ball well all year long, so we're really going to miss him next year too. Nathaniel did a great job in helping improve our offensive line and he always caused trouble for our opponents on defense as well and we'll miss him.'

Beyond the improved play, the Pirates also had eight players who were selected for SD1 All League Awards. Those players included Daniel Sargent (Second Team running back/linebacker) and junior Ashur Ortman (Second Team offensive lineman). Douma (quarterback/punter), Lyons (receiver), freshman Levi Sargent (receiver), junior Everson Morton (defensive lineman), sophomore Patrick Hardy (linebacker) and sophomore Luke Scovel (kick returner) each earned Honorable Mention Awards. The Pirates also received the Sportsman-





Let's Stand Together

This Diabetes Awareness Month, let's stand together and make a difference. Whether you're living with diabetes, supporting a loved one, or spreading awareness, YOU play a vital role in creating a healthier community.

Diabetes affects over 38 million Americans, but with knowledge, early detection, and healthy choices, we can take control. Simple steps like eating balanced meals, staying active, and scheduling regular checkups can help prevent or manage diabetes.

Let's break the stigma, start conversations, and support one another on the journey toward better health. Together, we can turn awareness into action. If you have questions about your health reach out to your provider today. We are here to help.

> #diabetesprevention #awarenessmatters



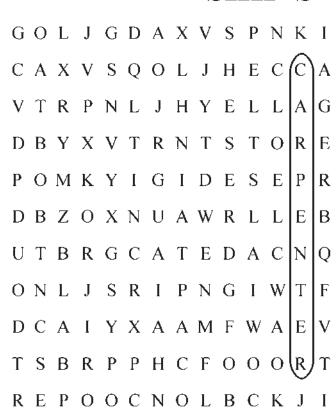
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CLASSIFIEDS

MAGIC MAZE ● SHIP'S —



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

Bell **Biscuit** Boat Boy

Captain Cargo Carpenter Chandler

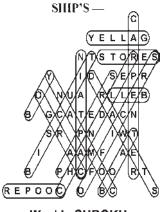
Company Cooper Galley Officers

Stewari Stores

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CryptoQuip answer

If two people are planning a conspiracy while golfing, are they on a collusion course?



Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

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

Word Spiral Answer

LAGNIAPPE

Super Crossword

55 Supersonic 1 Predicaments speed unit 9 Metallic car 57 Scissor cut 58 Fetuses-to-be 107 Ready to go. 60 Riddle, part 3 German cars 64 BLT offerer

20 Cosmos 65 Listen (to) 67 Post-workout 21 What a flushed discomfort person has 22 Uncommon 70 Queued up 23 Start of a 72 Comedic sort riddle

26 Advance, 77 Trattoria as money rice dish 27 Japanese 80 Wee bits pond fish 83 Riddle, part 4 85 Ottawa's 28 Bad with province

91 Marina -

Rey

92 Corrosive

93 Place to

94 Frat party

cleanser

input a PIN

dispenser

97 Language of

Pakistan

98 — Fridays

riddle

(restaurant)

musical 87 Seoul pitches 29 Lettersoldiers 88 "A little shaped dab'll girder

33 Feared fly 37 Wine barrels 38 Riddle, part 2 44 Before now 45 Indent keys 46 Poodle, e.g. 47 Org. fighting

trafficking

ACROSS

trims

16 Sporty

48 Particular mag. edition 51 Letter following 36-Down 52 Supports for

99 End of the broken arms

104 Father of Hector and Paris as a car 108 Actor Dick

109 Reaps 112 Spunk 68 Swelled head 114 Use a keypad 118 Riddle's

answer 73 Like the pope 125 Beef cut 126 Attacked with a jump 127 Refrigeration slows it down 128 Paguin of

"The Piano" 129 Intertwists 130 Tinkered (with)

89 Noisy napper DOWN

1 Two-in-one 2 Facts or stats (roused) 4 No matter whether

6 "Rocky III" actor 7 Bat wood 8 Try to find

9 Sailing outing 10 "You! Look

3 — fire under 5 Sea, to Jules

over here!

41 IRS datum

12 Frequently, poetically 13 Lusteriess photo surfaces

11 Nutrition fig.

14 Cave sound 15 Not hidden 16 Like many white gowns 17 Features of zebras' necks 18 Inflict, as

19 Medieval menials 24 Cousin of emo 25 Joe causing no jolt **30** Itsy- –

havoc

31 Like a clock with hands 32 Giovanni of "Avatar" 34 Roush of baseball

35 Albeit, for from ... 78 Really hot short 36 18th Greek 79 In the future letter 81 San — **Padres** 82 Not at all iffy compelitive 84 Made of a

38 Abhorred 39 Best effort, slangily 40 Surprised second look 86 Place for a

12 13

42 Like Popeye and Rambo 43 Former anesthetic

48 Apropos of 49 Knights, e.g. 50 1974 CIA spoof flick 53 Pop's Stefani 101 Simple putts 54 Big scissors 102 Greek Mars 56 "Plus" point 57 Hyundai

model

of ERA

63 Hem, e.g.

wood

car jack

59 The "R"

103 In fine — (doing well) 104 Big city in Penna 105 Betray by 61 College "Eli" blabbing 62 Bracelet sites 106 Novelist Shaw

"WHERE'S THE BEEF?"

90 "- Lips Are

Sealed"

93 "Bibleman"

star Willie

95 Nest nugget

96 "Aw, shucks"

99 Cuban capital

100 Sight-related

66 French spa 110 Store lure 111 Subsequently 69 "Nice one!" 113 "You! Look 71 Twelve p.m. over here! 115 Calendar unit 73 Key near Alt 74 Cry on a ship 116 Calendar unit 75 Samsung or 117 — out a LG product living (barely 76 "Where -

scraped by) 119 H.S. transcript stat 120 & so forth 121 "The

Simpsons" tavem keeper 122 Fed. cleanup certain sturdy group 123 DeLuise of "Silent Movie"

124 Drink a little 18 19

23 24 26 44 45 51 52 55 53 56 58 64 75 | 76 82 73 | 74 78 | 79 87 92 95 98 101 102 103 100 109 110 111 112 114 115 116 117 118 119 120 121 122 123 124 125 126 127

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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

Clue: Z equals P

EG MUJ ZAJZOA KWA ZOKIIEIP

K VJIXZEWKVT UDEOA PJOGEIP.

VJSWXA?

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Deadline for letters is noon Fridays.

The date of publication will depend on space.

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The North Coast Citizen has several options for submitting obituaries.

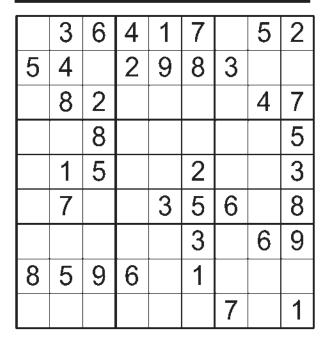
- · Basic Obituary: Includes the person's name, age, town of residency, and information about any funeral services. No cost. • Custom Obituary: You choose the length and wording of the
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- include multiple photos with a longer announcement, or who wish to run a thank-you. Cost varies based on the length of the All obituary announcements are placed on the North Coast Citizen website at no cost.

CryptoQuip

the puzzle. Solution is accomplished by trial and error.

KWA MDAT JI K VJOOSXEJI

Weekly SUDOKU



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

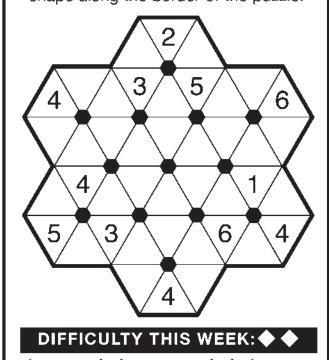
DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ◆

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♦ Moderate ♦ ♦ Challenging ♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

by Japheth Light

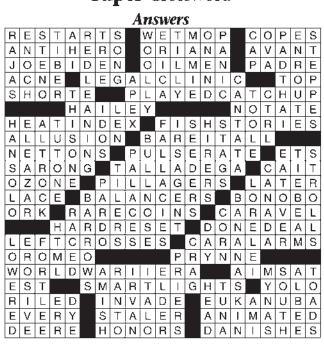
There are 13 black hexagons in the puzzle. Place the numbers 1 - 6 around each of them. No number can be repeated in any partial hexagon shape along the border of the puzzle.



Super Crossword -

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◆ Medium ◆ ◆ ◆ Difficult



FIRE CHIEF Garibaldi

From Page A1

Born and raised in Knappa, Pedersen started on the path towards becoming a firefighter by becoming an ambulance explorer scout when he was a freshman in high school before joining the local fire department as a volunteer when he was 18. Pedersen worked his way up through the volunteer ranks, becoming an assistant chief by 1996 and continuing to volunteer until his move to Garibaldi.

Pedersen started his work career with Medix Ambulance Service, where he spent 20 years, before moving on to the state fire marshal's office, staying there until 2020. He then became a division chief for Columbia River Fire and Rescue in St. Helens until 2022, when his position was eliminated because of budget issues, after which he moved to Cowlitz County's building depart-

Becoming a fire chief was always a goal, Pedersen said, but he had been waiting for the right opportunity, foregoing applying when the position in Knappa became available, before deciding to apply in Garibaldi because he was familiar with the community from his time as a fire marshal and believed he could help the department start a new chapter.

"I was one of the most active volunteers in Knappa and being an actual fire chief was kind of my ultimate goal," Pedersen said. "At the time Knappa was hiring a chief, I felt that they needed some outside influence, so I did not apply for that position, but when I saw this position, I kind of felt the same thing that here's an agency that would benefit from a different perspective, no preconceived ideas or opinions."

Now that he's in the role, Pedersen said that he has been impressed by the department, which currently has eight highly active volunteers and one parttime staffer in addition to Pedersen. Several long-time volunteers resigned alongside Marugg and Pedersen said that he will focus on training up the current volunteers, while actively recruiting new ones.

"There is still a good, solid, core group and that's going to be our primary focus is recruitment, retention, training and getting

that core group more experience," Pedersen said.

Pedersen encouraged community members interested in contributing to the fire department to reach out, stressing that running into burning buildings was not a requirement to volunteer. "There's 101 other jobs in the fire department that absolutely anybody can be part of. If people are interested in volunteering, they should contact us and we will find them a role," Pedersen said.

As he gets more settled into the role, Pedersen said that he would also like to expand the department's activities, starting with business inspections in conjunction with the state fire marshal's office.

Pedersen said that he would then like to increase the variety of medical calls that the department responds to from those for cardiac arrest incidents and car accidents to anything an ambulance responds to.

"I have a pretty long background in running medical calls and some of our other people work parttime on the ambulance, so they're very familiar with the ambulance system," Pedersen said. "So, I really think it'll be a positive thing and I think the community anticipates that's what our role is.'



Tad Pedersen

PHOTO COURTESY

From Page A1

SNAP benefits to begin, those without permanent legal status or as a bridge source of food at the end of the month. In an average month, 5,000 visits occur at local food pantries, though Wentzel said they do not have a way to identify repeat visitors.

In the last week of October, as the uncertainty around SNAP came into focus, Wentzel said that the food pantry saw a 30% surge in visits, with final data still being collected.

The uptick comes at a fraught time for the organization and its partners, as Wentzel said the food bank's statewide funding has been stagnant since 2017 while visits have doubled, a trend that has only accelerated in recent

"We've been in a state of crisis really for sev eral months. At this point, we're seeing unprecedented levels of visits to our pantries before the government shut down, before any of this was coming along," Wentzel said.

If November's SNAP benefits are further delayed from their normal beginning of the month distribution or reduced, Wentzel said that she expects the uptick in demand will only intensify.

CryptoQuip

If two people are planning a conspiracy while golfing, are they on a collusion course?

SCRAMBLERS

solution

1. Nudge 2. Lance; 3. Margin; 4. Avenge

Today's Word

ARGUE

Compounding matters further, the food bank's funding as well as food commodities received from the United States Department of Agriculture's **Emergency Food Assis**tance Program have also been reduced or not received, according to Wentzel. While the food bank also receives state funding, grants and donations from individuals, they cannot offset the losses in federal

When one pot of money, say the federal funding pot of money, starts to shrink, we can somewhat offset that," Wentzel said, "but at the end of the day the amount of food that's flowing through our network is way down."

Looming on the horizon are yet more storm clouds, as new provisions for SNAP passed in the Republican spending bill this summer are set to take effect in January, including more frequent reviews of participants' eligibility. The costs of that administrative work will fall to state governments, which

administer the program on behalf of the federal government, reducing the funds available to program participants.

While Wentzel said it was unclear how much those changes would reduce benefits for participants, she said that the shortfall could not be solved by food banks as SNAP is able to provide nine meals with the same funding the food banks need to provide one. Wentzel urged concerned residents to contact their federal legislators to encourage them to find a different path forward.

"It's really important to be candid about the fact that the food bank cannot be the solution to this problem," Wentzel said. 'This problem is absolutely beyond the capacity of a food bank network to solve, so that also means we are putting a lot of effort into encouraging people to advocate for healthy communities.

Beyond the impacts for those enrolled in SNAP, Wentzel also pointed out

that the program generated around \$500,000 in monthly revenue for local businesses, which is now also at risk.

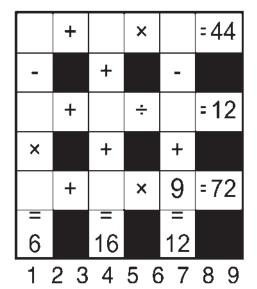
Wentzel encouraged residents to donate to the food bank or local pantries, saying that the food bank's buying power could multiply the power of cash donations, while encouraging residents who preferred to give food to buy a second of whatever item they purchased at the grocery store for themselves.

Residents needing to access food can find a local pantry at oregonfoodfinder.org and Wentzel said that while pantries are officially open to people earning up to 300% of the federal poverty level (around \$47,000 for an individual, \$63,000 for a couple or \$97,000 for a family of four) nobody would be turned away.

GO FIGURE!

The idea of Go Figure is to arrive at the figures given at the bottom and right-hand columns of the diagram by following the arithmetic signs in the order they are given (that is, from left to right and top to bottom). Use only the numbers below the diagram to complete its blank squares and use each of the nine numbers only once.

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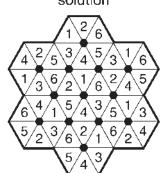
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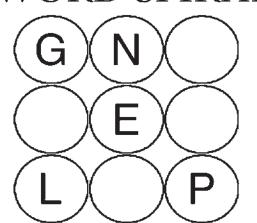
solution



Even Exchange

- 1 Spare, Spade
- 3. Branch, Brunch
- 6 Pasta, Paste 7. Easter, Faster 2. Donkey, Monkey
- 8. Stamp, Scamp 4 Train Twain 9 Beauty, Beatty 5. Sedate, Senate 10. Terse, Tense

WORD SPIRAL



Fill in the missing letters to reveal the nine-letter word that starts at one of the four corners and moves clockwise around the perimeter before ending in the center. ©2025 King Features Syndicate

Even Exchange by Donna Pettman

Each numbered row contains two clues and two 6-letter answers. The two answers differ from each other by only one letter, which has already been inserted. For example, if you exchange the A from MASTER for an I, you get MISTER. Do not change the order of the letters.

1. Bowling score	R _	Gardening tool	D _
2. Pack animal	D	Curious George, e.g.	M
3. Twig	A	Late morning meal	U
4. Steam engine	_ R	Sawyer's creator	_ W
5. Calm, quiet	D	Governing body	N
6. Linguini or ziti	A	Glue	E
7. Spring festival	E	Quicker	F
8. Postage sticker	_ T	Rascal	_ c
9. Attractiveness	U	Ned or Warren	T
10. Concise	R	Nervous	N

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Volunteers who contributed to the trail's renovation at work parties



Short Beach Trail upgraded

WILL CHAPPELL CITIZEN EDITOR

Nearly 100 volunteers contributed a combined

1,700 hours of work this spring, fall and summer to overhaul the path accessing Short Beach just north of Oceanside.

The project was spearheaded by the Oceanside Action Partnership and Trail Keepers of Oregon (TKO), who divvied up

work across 38 work sessions, with funding come from Tillamook County Public Works, who, along with the Netarts-Oceanside Fire District also added a rescue rope system for

beach evacuations. Progress toward the update began three years ago when the Oceanside community participated in a series of workshops with Tillamook County commissioners to discuss what was next for the village. The group decided that they wanted to follow Pacific City's lead and create a community group to create an investment plan for the community and identify desired projects to receive county funding.

Oceanside Action Partnership's (OAP) formation followed, and Bruce Jaeger, a member, said that a variety of projects were identified as priorities and assigned to teams including expanding cell coverage with an addi-

tional tower, creating a shared use path between Netarts and the Cape Meares Lighthouse passing through the community, improving wayfinding signage in the town and upgrading two existing trails, the one at Short Beach and the so-called Tire Trail to its north.

Planning to upgrade the Short Beach trail began in December 2023 and funding for the project's \$76,530 budget came courtesy of Tillamook County Public Works through an allocation from the Pedestrian and Bike Fund, which receives 1% of gas tax revenues that are earmarked for projects aimed at pedestrians and bicycles. \$25,000 of the budget went to materials, with the remainder paying for contract services with TKO for designing and permitting the trail.

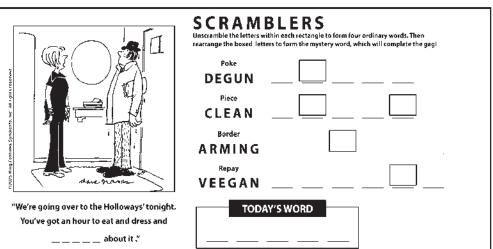
Work began on May 15, and by the time it was concluded on October 18, 43 OAP volunteers had contributed 852 service hours, with 55 TKO volunteers chipping in 848, a contribution Jaeger said was worth around \$90,000.

As part of the project, all material associated with an old trail at the site was removed and a new stairway built. Tillamook County Public Works also chipped in \$6,000 in labor when they helped Netarts Oceanside Fire District staff install a rescue rope system that will allow firefighters to lift injured people from the beach to the road and that also helped move material during construction.

In addition to OAP, TKO, the fire district and public works, Tillamook Coast Visitors Association, Oregon State Parks and Friends of Netarts Bay Watershed, Estuary, Beach and Sea helped with the project.



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