

Sales tax ballot measure is the most contentious

By **ANDREW SELSKY**
Associated Press

SALEM — A campaign in Oregon is being bitterly fought, with vast sums spent by both sides on TV and other ads, even more money than for the governor's race.

The titanic tussle is over a proposed tax that is aimed at the companies making the most sales in the state, but opponents — including major corporations — say every Oregonian will be affected.

Both sides have arrayed armies of experts who say the tax on companies' sales of more than \$25 million will trigger a rise in prices, or that such a scenario is bogus. The conclusions of the assessments, broadcast on TV and

blanketing social media, depend on whether the well-heeled campaigns are for or against Measure 97.

While it might be impossible to predict if companies will raise prices if the measure passes, this much is certain: Oregonians abhor sales taxes. Oregon is one of only five states in America that doesn't have them. Oregonians have rejected sales tax proposals nine times in nearly 90 years.

"Backers claim the \$6 billion from Measure 97 will all come from big, out-of-state corporations. Don't let them fool you. Measure 97 is a hidden sales tax," winery owners Rob and Jolee Wallace wrote in opposition. They stressed that their company doesn't

have even close to \$25 million in sales, but they asserted that the tax "impacts all small businesses and takes more money out of the pockets of every Oregon family."

Consumers would not be directly taxed by the measure, which is expected to increase state revenue by \$3 billion per year, not \$6 billion. Many businesses that have narrow profit margins feel threatened because sales would be taxed, not profits. The minimum tax for companies with more than \$25 million in sales in Oregon would be 2.5 percent of the excess over \$25 million, plus \$30,001.

The Legislative Revenue Office says the tax would wind up costing each Oregonian at least \$600 a year.

Warrenton stays in the swim with Seaside

By **KATHERINE LACAZE**
For EO Media Group

SEASIDE — The Seaside School District School Board unanimously approved a cooperative sponsorship agreement with Warrenton High School to allow the school's students to participate on Seaside High School's swim team. The agreement runs through the 2017-18 season. The district does this on a regular basis, Roley said at the district's

Oct. 18 meeting. The schools' two teams of students combined still fall within the 4A designation.

The board unanimously approved a memorandum of understanding to renew a partnership with Clatsop Behavioral Healthcare for a full-time practitioner to be in the Seaside schools to offer mental health services to students. This arrangement makes services more accessible to students than if they had to travel to Astoria. The agency pro-

vides the practitioner and the district loans the space, Roley said.

Gearhart Elementary School second-grade teachers Ami Hirsch and Emily Downes reported on a five-week trip they took to Querétaro, Mexico, in the summer of 2015 to study the language and culture. The program was paid for through a grant and is designed to better equip teachers to assist and instruct students in the English Language Development program.

Officials cancel razor clam dig due to toxins

Associated Press

BREMERTON, Wash. — State officials have closed razor clam digging at Twin Harbors in response to high levels of marine toxins.

The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife says it has canceled a razor clam dig planned for Fri-

day in the 10-mile clamming area between Aberdeen and Raymond.

The Twin Harbors closure comes after clam digging at Long Beach was shut down due to increased levels of domoic acid.

The naturally occurring toxin produced by marine algae can be harmful or fatal

if consumed in sufficient quantities.

Officials plan to reopen Long Beach and Twin Harbors on Nov. 12 if toxin levels subside.

Elevated levels of domoic acid forced the early cancellation of the razor clam season in spring 2015 and delayed the opening last fall.

Gone, But Never Forgotten

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- 5 John Noel LaVallee' 90
- 7 Ellen Marie Snook 87
- 9 Alta Jean Smith 87
- 12 Yo Anne Russell 75
- 15 Clarence William Ashbaugh 90
- 16 Michael William Dahl 37
- 18 Richard Charles Landwehr 74
- 28 Deanna Theresa Hunt Mark 72
- 28 Esther June Louise Lampi 88
- 29 Gerald Holmes Black Sr. 81
- 31 Raechel Renee' Goforth 87

Heaven's Honor Roll August of 2016

- 1 Carol Knapp Brown 80
- 3 Alice May Schmitz 87
- 7 Gladys "Rosalie" Rogers Nygren 84
- 10 Lois Lynne Kinsley 71
- 12 Thomas Ryan Greenhoe 57
- 12 Kathleen Isabel Fackler 93
- 14 Hugh James Mason Sr. 76
- 17 Beverly June Reed 66
- 17 Alvin Dempsey Akers 76
- 31 Glen William Parks 93
- 31 John Richard Harms 70
- 31 Marjorie Lavonne Hunt 95

Heaven's Honor Roll September of 2016

- 1 Sabrina Jeanette Diane Rainey 38
- 1 Jaden Kathleen Rainey 14
- 5 Joann Kennedy Fransen 94
- 5 Charles Michael Kakuska 22
- 6 Catherine Marie Keen 56
- 7 Cathy Ann Clifton 52
- 7 Ashlee Renee' Martens 25
- 10 Darrel James Ferguson 52
- 14 Joseph Achille Amicarella 90
- 15 Carl Victor Peterson Jr. 85
- 16 Lorraine Vera Gimre 95
- 18 Donald William Hanthorn 85

- 18 Carol June O'Donovan 72
- 21 Richard Sumy Mitchell 85
- 21 Christine Andrea Stanley 77
- 23 Cathleen Lou Griego 60
- 24 Dennis Erwin Olstedt 83
- 24 Michael Francis Donovan 87
- 25 Betty Lorraine Smith 90
- 27 Cain Allen 43
- 27 Loyd Knapp Thompson 82
- 29 Joann Marie Muller 71
- 30 Connie Kay Henry 59
- 30 Howard Daniel Vinge 71

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