

Local credit union supports hospital

ILWACO — TLC, a division of Fibre Federal Credit Union, has partnered with selected colleges and hospitals within its field of membership for a multi-year grant program. From 2018 to 2020, TLC will distribute \$87,000 in grants to four college foundations and eight hospital foundations. One of the grant recipients is the Ocean Beach Hospital Foundation.

Funding from TLC's multi-year grant will aid in the purchase of a new CT scanner, which delivers half the radiation as their old machine, which was the second oldest one in the state. Foundation Trustee Tammie Jefferies says, "We appreciate TLC's generous donation. Partnerships like this help ensure we can provide the best possible service to our patients."

Every year, TLC makes numerous charitable donations to community organizations through its Community Investment Program. This program is a focused effort to use financial contributions and volunteer efforts to improve education, health services, and quality of life within its service area. In 2018, TLC contributed \$221,409 community impact dollars. For more information about TLC's Investment Program, visit tlfcu.org.

Clatsop closing costs low, Pacific's high

ASTORIA — Clatsop County currently is the eighth-lowest home-purchase closing costs among Oregon's 36 counties, according to financial management firm SmartAsset.

The firm's fifth annual survey found that closing costs average \$3,392 or about 1.3% of the value of a median-price \$253,900 house. Going by percentage of home value, Clackamas is the lowest-cost county at 1.1%. Costs are highest in Gilliam County, running 2.6% of the median home price there.

In Washington state, which imposes a hefty excise tax on home sales, closing costs in Pacific County averaged \$5,888 in the latest survey, or 3.6% of the value of a median price \$163,400



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Shannon Cahoon, TLC community development manager (center), presents a donation check to Ocean Beach Hospital Foundation Trustee Tammie Jefferies (left) and Foundation Vice President Joan Porter (right).

house, SmartAsset said.

See survey details at <https://smartasset.com/mortgage/closing-costs#us>.

Oregon SAIF customers to receive \$160M in dividends

OREGON — In August SAIF's board of directors declared a \$120 million primary dividend to be paid to policyholders based on their premium, and a \$40 million safety performance dividend to be paid based on each policyholder's safety results.

This is the 10th year in a row SAIF has been able to offer dividends, and the 22nd dividend in the past 30 years.

"As a not-for-profit with a public mission to make workers' comp available and affordable, paying dividends is an important part of the value we offer Oregon employers," said Kerry Bar-

nett, president and CEO of SAIF. "SAIF is the only insurance carrier in Oregon that regularly returns dividends to policyholders at this level."

SAIF determines whether a policyholder dividend is appropriate based on capital levels, claim trends, and the overall economic environment. This year SAIF has seen strong investment returns and favorable trends in injury prevention and claim cost containment.

The safety performance dividend rewards policyholders for their claims experience for policies whose annual term ended in 2018, based on a scale ranging from zero to 10.6% of their standard premium.

"Our vision is to make Oregon the safest and healthiest place to work," said Barnett. "We appreciate our policyholders' efforts to ensure their workers go home

safely at the end of each day."

48,508 policyholders are eligible for SAIF's primary dividend. Of those, about 93.9% are also eligible to receive all or a portion of the additional safety performance dividend.

"In addition to dividends, we are proud to offer our customers some of the lowest rates, best-in-class service, and the largest network of workplace safety professionals of any insurance carrier in Oregon," said Barnett. "Our goal is to deliver workers' comp that really works."

Checks will be mailed in October to eligible employers.

IRS automatically waives estimated tax penalty

WASHINGTON, D.C. — The Internal Revenue Service is automatically waiving the estimated tax penalty for the more than 400,000 eligible taxpayers who already filed their 2018 federal income tax returns but did not claim the waiver.

The IRS will apply this waiver to tax accounts of all eligible taxpayers, so there is no need to contact the IRS to apply for or request the waiver.

Earlier this year, the IRS lowered the usual 90% penalty threshold to 80% to help taxpayers whose withholding and estimated tax payments fell short of their total 2018 tax liability. The agency also removed the requirement that estimated tax payments be made in four equal installments, as long as they were all made by Jan. 15, 2019. The 90% threshold was initially lowered to 85% on Jan 16 and further lowered to 80% on March 22.

The automatic waiver applies to any individual taxpayer who paid at least 80% of their total tax liability through federal income tax withholding or quarterly estimated tax payments but did not claim the special waiver available to them when they filed their 2018 return earlier this year.

"The IRS is taking this step to help affected taxpayers," said IRS Commissioner Chuck Rettig. "This waiver is designed to provide relief to any person who filed too early to take advantage of the waiver or was unaware of it when they filed."

EDC director is good sport for charity



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Jim Sayce, executive director of the Pacific County Economic Development Council, spent lots of time in the water earlier this summer at Long Beach's annual birthday celebration for Jake the Alligator Man. The dunk tank raises funds for good causes — this year, a skatepark for young people.

LB Dooger's becomes Drop Anchor Seafood and Grill

LONG BEACH — On Aug. 1, the former Long Beach Dooger's Seafood and Grill became the Drop Anchor Seafood and Grill. The Dooger's franchise, which at one point had locations in Cannon Beach, Warrenton, Long Beach and Seaside, is now down to its original location in Seaside.

In March of this year, the Warrenton location closed; the building, owned by Atlas Investments, remains unoccupied.

On the other hand, at the Long Beach location, opened in 1995 near the corner of Sid Snyder and Pacific, little has changed except the name. Long-time manager Barry Craft, who had owned the location since buying it from Dooger's franchise owner Doug Weiss in 2005, sold it to employee Cindy Hillard and her husband, Ed Hillard Jr, at which point the franchise relationship ended. The Hillards' son, Ed Hillard III, is running the restaurant and renamed it the Drop Anchor.

The original Doogers, which opened in Seaside in 1983, is now run by Weiss's son, Carnegie.