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ONE DOLLAR

Twists and turns on The Way to Wellville

CEO, local partners speak to particulars of five-year effort



Rick Brush

By KYLE SPURR
The Daily Astorian

Rick Brush is the first to admit he and other organizers behind The Way to Wellville, a national five-year challenge to promote health across five communities including Clatsop County, could do a better job explaining the details behind their initiative.

Brush, the CEO of Health

Initiative Coordinating Council (HICcup), which created The Way to Wellville, said there has been some confusion since the initiative evolved from a competition for a \$5 million prize to a collaboration with no prize money, but a chance to share ideas and connect with investors for overall better health.

"Honestly, we have not been our best PR agency," Brush said.

"Our website is, as you know, very out of date. We are now talking to a Web designer and a communication consultant."

HICcup selected five communities under 100,000 in population in August for the challenge.

The other four communities selected out of 42 applicants are Greater Muskegon, Mich., Lake County, Calif., Niagara Falls, N.Y., and Spartanburg, S.C.

When the communities applied to be a part of The Way to Wellville, each was told the one that improves the most would win \$5 million at the end of the five-year challenge.

However, when representatives from each community met

Sept. 16 to 18 in Tampa, Fla., for a Way to Wellville introduction conference, the Wellville Five requested to shift the initiative so the communities could collaborate with each other.

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A BLAST FROM OUR PAST



JOSHUA BESSEX — The Daily Astorian

Astoria's Historic Landmarks Commission has filed an application to designate the property with the old White Star Cannery boiler as historic.

Iconic cannery boiler from fire might be historic

By DERRICK DePLEDGE
The Daily Astorian

The old White Star Cannery boiler, a stark and solitary reminder of Astoria's past, may get historic designation.

The city's Historic Landmarks Commission has filed an application to designate the property with the old boiler, a pile field and ballast rocks in the Columbia River west of Second Street as historic.

City planners are also exploring development restrictions over the river near the old boiler as part of the Bridge Vista phase of the

Riverfront Vision Plan that would keep building heights to the top of the riverbank.

Taken together, the historic designation and building height limit would essentially shield the property from development and preserve an unobstructed view of the river, the shipping lane and the Astoria Bridge.

Jill Stokeld, the owner of The Ship Inn, who pays \$4,750 a year to lease the property around the old boiler as view protection for her popular fish and chips restaurant, described the view as "priceless."

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JOSHUA BESSEX — The Daily Astorian

Jill Stokeld, owner of The Ship Inn, walks through dining room of the restaurant. The dining room has an expansive view of the boiler, the river and the bridge. Stokeld pays \$4,750 a year to lease the property around the boiler as view protection.

Another proposal afoot to change Port picks

Group wants voters to decide by district

By EDWARD STRATTON
The Daily Astorian

The Committee for Democratic Change at the Port of Astoria hopes to start collecting signatures soon for a ballot initiative in the May 2015 election or later that would make Port of Astoria Commission elections by district, similar to the Clatsop County Board of Commissioners.

The ballot initiative is a response to the recent initiative petition by the Committee to Restore, Revitalize and Reorganize the Port of Astoria. That group is collecting signatures for a possible ballot initiative in the May 2015 election or later that would ask voters in Clatsop County whether they want Port commissioners recommended and vetted by local governing bodies, but ultimately appointed by the governor of Oregon.

The Committee for Democratic Change at the Port of Astoria seeks to:

- Make Port commissioners elected by districts, similar to the county commission.
- Hold an election for all five Port commissioners in the May 2017 election.

"It is not appropriate to jettison democratic processes just because the current Board of Commissioners is not popular with some people" wrote Larry Taylor, chief petitioner in the effort, in a press release.

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Larry Taylor

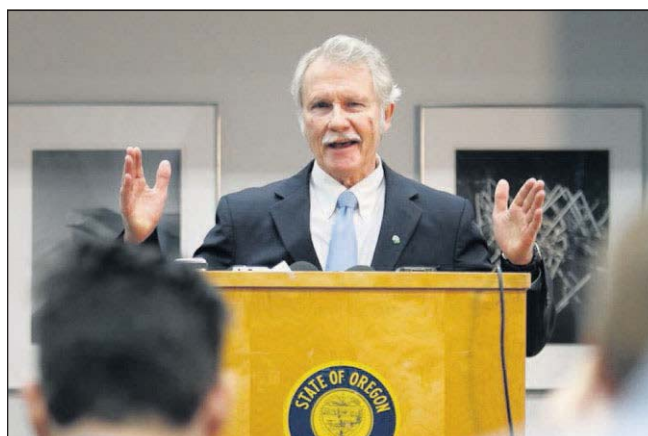
Kitzhaber unlikely to comply with calls to quit

Gubernatorial turnover is rare here, but not unprecedented

By HILLARY BORRUD
and PETER WONG
EO Media Group
Pamplin Media Group

SALEM — Democratic leaders in the Oregon Legislature said Thursday they do not want the controversy around Gov. John Kitzhaber and first lady Cylvia Hayes to distract lawmakers from important policy and budget work.

Lawmakers spoke out after The Oregonian editorial board on Wednesday called



Pamplin Media Group/Jonathan House

Gov. John Kitzhaber deflected questions about first lady Cylvia Hayes' tax returns during a press conference Friday in Portland. The Oregonian has called for Kitzhaber to resign.

for Kitzhaber to resign, and wrote that he is "now less a governor than a source of unending distraction."

Hayes accepted several paid jobs at organizations with an interest in the same state policy issues on which

she advised the governor, and The Oregonian reported this week that people involved in Kitzhaber's 2010 campaign helped Hayes secure two of those positions.

Kitzhaber does not plan to resign, and said in an emailed statement that "I was elected to serve the citizens of the state of Oregon and I intend to continue to do so."

Although gubernatorial turnover is common in some states, only four Oregon governors have resigned in the state's 155-year history. Nearly all did so in order to accept a different elected or appointed position.

"We're not Illinois, and we're not Louisiana," said Jim Moore, a political science professor and director of the

Tom McCall Center for Policy Innovation at Pacific University.

At the same time, Moore acknowledged the ethical questions Kitzhaber now faces are unprecedented for a sitting governor in Oregon. Former Gov. Neil Goldschmidt had been out of office more than a decade by the time Oregonians learned he sexually abused a teenage girl while he was the mayor of Portland.

Kerry Tymchuk, executive director of The Oregon Historical Society, also said Oregon governors resigned for mundane reasons.

"Oregon's been fairly clean in that respect," Tymchuk said.

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