

Winter: Sun expected to return in Clatsop County on Saturday

Continued from Page 1A

highs were 61 in Portland, 62 in Hillsboro and 66 in Salem.

Forecasters said the high pressure ridge responsible for the summerlike weather weakened enough by Wednesday for some clouds and a drizzle. The high pressure is expected to rebuild over the weekend and into next week.

In Clatsop County, the sun and warmer weather is expected to return Saturday for several days.

"Typically when there is a big ridge over the West Coast, it happens when there is a big trough over the East Coast. So when they get their bad weather, often we get the good weather," said Kirby Cook, a meteorologist for the weather service.

Mild temperatures have meant headaches for skiers and snowboarders. Nearly all ski resorts in western Washington have partially closed their operations or shut down completely. There hasn't been enough snow.

That's a result of El Niño, the weather phenomenon that warms the equatorial waters of the Pacific Ocean. Usually when El Niño is around, the Northwest gets drier winters and wetter falls.



A day off, plus a strong east wind, equaled good kite surfing conditions at Trestle Bay in Fort Stevens State Park Monday.

Although this year, Cook said El Niño went from weak to neutral. Still, the effect is felt throughout the region.

At a garden store in Seattle, foot traffic of eager gardeners has come early this year.

"Usually this time of the year in Seattle it's dreary and drizzly, we're pretty slow. But we've definitely been seeing a lot more inspiration in gardeners. Veggies are growing in the ground early. We're seeing plums and cherries are already in full bloom," said James Raebel, a landscape designer who works at the Magnolia Garden Center. That's good news for

Raebel's job, but as a passionate skier, this winter has also brought bummer news.

"It's been a terrible, terrible snow year. It's rough, but it's good, at least, in half of my life," he said.

Cook cautioned, though, that last year, the region also had a mild winter at the beginning.

"The weather can make up for shortfalls," he said.



A day off, plus a strong east wind, equaled good kite surfing conditions at Trestle Bay in Fort Stevens State Park Monday.



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ACCUWEATHER® FORECAST FOR ASTORIA

Astoria 5-Day Forecast

Tonight
Mostly cloudy with a shower in spots
43°

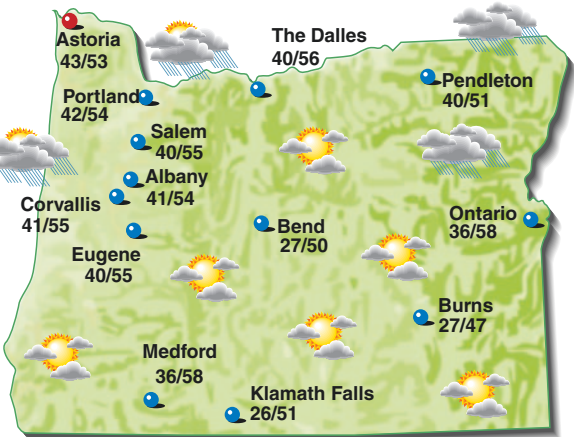
Friday
Variable clouds with a passing shower
53° 40°

Sunday
Plenty of sunshine
55° 33°

Saturday
Mostly sunny
55° 35°

Monday
Plenty of sunshine
57° 35°

Oregon Weather



Almanac
Astoria through Wednesday.
Temperatures
High 57°
Low 41°
Normal high 52°
Normal low 37°
Precipitation
Yesterday Trace"
Month to date 5.41"
Normal month to date 4.70"
Year to date 14.60"
Normal year to date 14.90"

Sun and Moon
Sunset tonight 5:46 p.m.
Sunrise Friday 7:11 a.m.
Moonrise today 7:24 a.m.
Moonset today 7:15 p.m.

Regional Cities

City	Today	Fri.
	Hi Lo W	Hi Lo W
Baker City	54 30 pc	49 29 c
Bend	54 27 pc	50 20 pc
Brookings	63 44 c	60 42 pc
Fairbanks	58 40 c	55 36 pc
Ilwaco	54 44 c	52 41 c
Klamath Falls	59 26 pc	51 23 pc
Medford	60 36 pc	58 31 pc
Newport	54 43 c	53 40 c
North Bend	58 42 c	56 38 pc

Under the Sky

Tonight's Sky: Nicolas Copernicus' birthday (1473).
Source: Jim Todd, OMSI

City	Today	Fri.
	Hi Lo W	Hi Lo W
Olympia	56 39 c	54 34 c
Pendleton	53 40 pc	51 34 c
Portland	54 42 c	54 37 c
Roseburg	58 42 pc	56 38 pc
Salem	58 40 c	55 37 c
Seaside	54 44 c	53 40 c
Spokane	44 31 c	46 30 c
Vancouver	54 41 c	53 35 c
Yakima	56 30 c	57 29 pc

Tomorrow's Tides

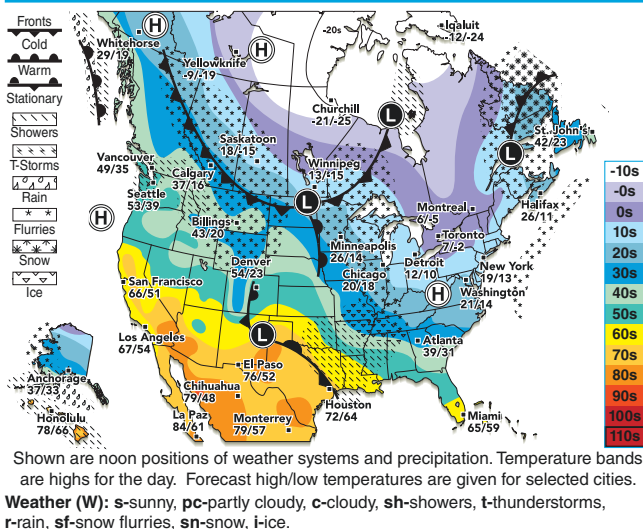
Astoria / Port Docks

Time	High	Time	Low
2:14 a.m.	9.4 ft.	8:20 a.m.	0.7 ft.
2:13 p.m.	9.7 ft.	8:41 p.m.	-0.6 ft.

National Cities

City	Today	Fri.
	Hi Lo W	Hi Lo W
Atlanta	30 17 s	39 31 c
Boston	27 2 sf	17 4 s
Chicago	5 -4 s	20 18 sf
Denver	59 26 s	54 23 pc
Des Moines	15 11 pc	34 26 c
Detroit	6 -10 sf	12 10 pc
El Paso	77 48 s	76 52 pc
Fairbanks	24 5 s	28 11 pc
Honolulu	82 70 pc	78 66 sh
Indianapolis	8 -6 s	19 17 c
Kansas City	21 15 pc	41 29 pc
Las Vegas	76 50 s	77 50 pc
Los Angeles	70 54 pc	67 54 pc
Memphis	27 20 pc	38 35 i
Miami	59 39 s	65 59 s
Nashville	19 7 s	31 28 sn
New Orleans	53 39 s	65 58 c
New York	20 4 sf	19 13 s
Oklahoma City	53 37 s	60 40 pc
Philadelphia	18 1 sf	15 7 s
St. Louis	18 11 pc	31 28 sn
Salt Lake City	60 35 s	52 33 pc
San Francisco	63 49 pc	66 51 pc
Seattle	54 45 sh	53 39 c
Washington, DC	22 4 s	21 14 s

Tomorrow's National Weather



Cutler: Resignation 'purely professional'

Continued from Page 1A

The board members accepted the resignation, expressing their regret that Cutler is leaving.

"We'll miss you. You know we'll miss you," board member Carol O'Donovan said.

Board Chairman Michael Hinton said Cutler's recently completed evaluation identified the work he's done as "highly commendable."

"I am proud of what the district has been able to accomplish under Cutler's leadership," he said. "He has proved himself a valuable member of our community and we will miss him and his family."

The board voted to use the Special Districts Association of Oregon for support and guidance in the recruiting and replacement process.

The board will pay the association about \$1,000 for help with accepting and prescreening applications, doing reference checks and other tasks on behalf of the board.

The board also approved small changes to the job description and compensation packet.

The board will accept applications for the position — now to be titled executive director — through March 16. The board then will interview candidates, accept finalists, conduct subsequent interviews and negotiate a contract with



Justin Cutler

Changes in Seaside

While under Cutler, who started as general manager June 2012, the district has seen changes in structure, atmosphere and personnel. During his tenure, a press release states, the district got a \$280,000 grant from the Oregon Community Foundation to expand after-school programs for middle school students, renovated the pool lobby, completed a long-term vision plan and conducted a facility audit to plan for capital improvements for the next 10 years.

Cutler said one of the best impacts he had on the district was developing the staff.

"We have a great team of people who are doing the best for Seaside and the park district," he said. "It's pretty amazing what they've accomplished."

He's confident their resilience will make the transition go smoothly. He also will make himself available to the staff during the transition period.

"I want this community to be successful," he said.

He recommended IT and Marketing Manager Darren Gooch to serve as interim general manager, a decision the board will make at the next board meeting in March.

The position will be posted on the district's website at www.sunsetempire.com and questions can be directed to Cutler at 503-738-3311, ext. 103.

Death

Feb. 18, 2015
O'CONNOR, Gurie Helen, 92, of Astoria, died in Astoria. Caldwell's Luce-Layton Mortuary in Astoria is in charge of the arrangements.

Public meetings

TODAY
Seaside Transportation Advisory Commission, 6 p.m., Seaside City Hall, 989 Broadway.

Lotteries

OREGON	Estimated jackpot: \$50 million
Wednesday's Pick 4:	WASHINGTON
1 p.m.: 7-6-8-1	Wednesday's Daily Game: 0-5-4
4 p.m.: 6-1-9-3	Wednesday's Hit 5: 14-15-20-22-34
7 p.m.: 2-0-9-5	Estimated jackpot: \$250,000
10 p.m.: 1-5-6-8	Wednesday's Keno: 06-15-23-26-35-
Wednesday's Megabucks: 06-36-38-39-46-48	38-39-44-46-47-50-53-57-59-62-65-70-71-72-73
Estimated jackpot: \$10.6 million	Wednesday's Lotto: 09-30-32-36-44-47
Wednesday's Powerball: 01-09-29-32-49,	Estimated jackpot: \$4.7 million
Powerball: 22, Power Play: 2	Wednesday's Match 4: 08-11-12-13

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