



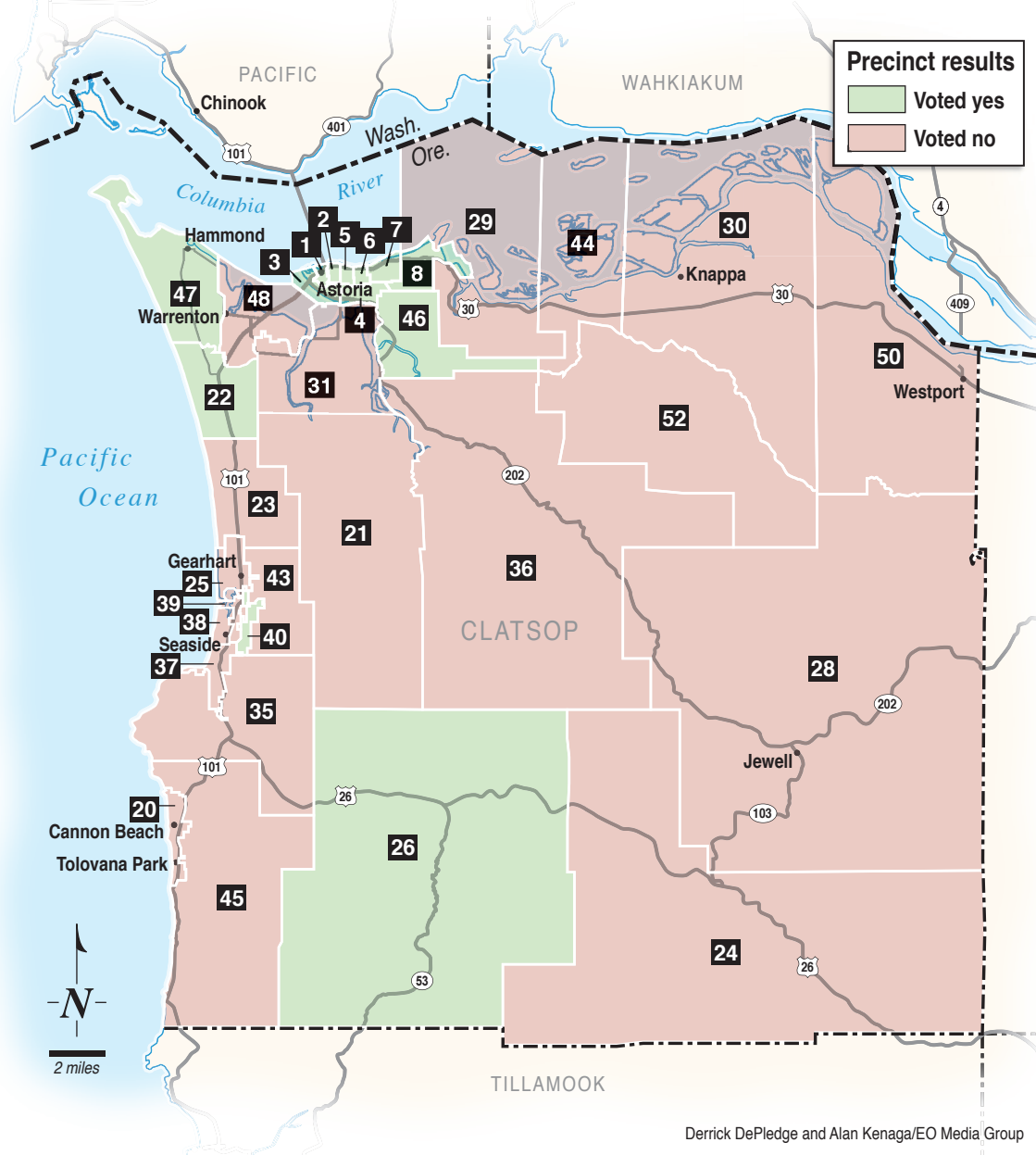
A geographic divide

A \$1.96 million bond measure to finance the expansion of Life Flight Network and other improvements at the Astoria Regional Airport failed in May in a 51 percent to 49 percent vote. A look

at the voter breakdown by precinct shows that most of the support for the measure was in Astoria. The voting pattern could be instructive for future bond measures.

Vote tally by precinct

Precinct/location	Yes	No
1 Astoria	123	104
2 Astoria	179	163
3 Astoria	206	159
4 Astoria	112	109
5 Astoria	228	174
6 Astoria	135	80
7 Astoria	184	151
8 Astoria	103	83
20 Cannon Beach	173	184
21 Chadwell	103	108
22 N. Clatsop	131	128
23 S. Clatsop	210	232
24 Elsie	20	26
25 Gearhart	179	192
26 Hamlet	32	29
28 Jewell	33	72
29 John Day	55	98
30 Knappa	167	218
31 Lewis & Clark	166	177
35 Necanicum	32	55
36 Olney	74	105
37 Seaside	145	179
38 Seaside	116	132
39 Seaside	133	153
40 Seaside	159	152
43 Stanley Acres	26	37
44 Svensen	76	121
45 Arch Cape	34	39
46 Walluski	101	68
47 Warrenton	356	343
48 Warrenton	119	127
50 Westport	48	65
52 Hillcrest	69	110
Total	4,027	4,173



Source: Clatsop County Elections Division

Derrick DePledge and Alan Kenaga/EO Media Group

Portions of coast open for clamming

South County beaches OK

By KATIE FRANKOWICZ
The Daily Astorian

For the first time this year, a portion of the Oregon Coast is open for razor clamming.

As of Friday, the beaches from Tillamook Head, south of Seaside, to Cascade Head, north of Lincoln Beach, have been open to diggers. This stretch of coastline includes Indian Beach in Ecola State Park and Cannon Beach.

High levels of the marine toxin domoic acid in clam meat kept digs closed until now, but three rounds of testing this summer revealed those levels had dropped below the threshold established by the Oregon Department of Agriculture. Unless toxin levels shoot back up, the areas open now will remain open.

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Vote on airport bond could foreshadow trouble for future area bond measures

By DERRICK DePLEDGE
The Daily Astorian

Voters rejected a \$1.96 million bond measure in May that would have helped finance the expansion of Life Flight Network and other improvements at Astoria Regional Airport.

The bond failed by a slim, 146-vote margin in a special district election where voter turnout was a paltry 35 percent. But a closer look inside the vote tally by precinct showed a pattern that could foreshadow trouble for future bond measures, like money for a county jail.

Precincts in Astoria favored the airport bond, while Warrenton was divided. The rest of Clatsop County, outside pockets of Seaside, North Clatsop, Hamlet and Walluski, went against the bond.

The geographic divide could be important if the county seeks a bond to turn the North Coast Youth Correctional Facility in Warrenton into a

larger county jail. County commissioners have ordered a study into whether the youth facility, which is closing because of state budget cuts, could be an alternative to the overcrowded 60-bed jail in Astoria.

The rejection of the airport bond by voters outside of Astoria suggests advocates for relocating the county jail would have to make a strong argument that a jail would benefit the entire county.

"People are concerned about the amount of taxes that they pay on their property. And I think that all bond measures, regardless of the benefit — for the most part — people are going to be skeptical," said Jim Knight, the executive director of the Port of Astoria, which backed the airport bond.

Trapped by infighting
Former Astoria Mayor Willis Van Dusen and

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Joshua Bessex/The Daily Astorian
Life Flight Network wanted financial help for a new hangar, while the other infrastructure improvements at the south end of the airport could have enabled future development at the regional hub.

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Jim Knight | the executive director of the Port of Astoria

Hunsinger slams Port over deal at Tongue Point

Calls agreement 'crony capitalism'

By EDWARD STRATTON
The Daily Astorian

Port of Astoria Commissioner Bill Hunsinger is drumming up opposition to the Port's exit from North Tongue Point.

The Port Commission voted earlier this month to send a letter to North Tongue Point owner Washington Development Co. seeking to prematurely end its lease, which runs through 2019, and allow Hyak Maritime to negotiate a purchase of the property to use as a shipyard. Hunsinger abstained, while Commission President Frank Spence and commissioners James Campbell and Dirk Rohne voted to send the letter.

"This private closed-door agreement to give all of the public investment and control of Tongue Point to private corporate interests

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Battle tested, career ready

Veterans often successful in job market

By JACK HEFFERNAN
The Daily Astorian

Clatsop County's low unemployment rate may be making life easier for job-hungry military veterans, who account for a relatively large percentage of the local population.

The county is home to 3,800 veterans, or about 10 percent of the population. Roughly 7 percent of all U.S. citizens, by comparison, are veterans.

From 2011 to 2015, the unemployment rate among veterans in the Clatsop County was 6.4 percent, according to the U.S. Census Bureau. Overall unemployment in the county was 7.1 percent. While up-to-date data about veteran joblessness is incomplete, the entire county recorded a much lower unemployment rate — 3.6 percent — this June, according to the Oregon Employment Department. If a similar trend held for veterans, it would mean a little more than 100 total veterans are seeking work.

Economists define an unemployed person as some-

one actively looking for work but who is unable to find it. Underemployment, however, is not as easy to quantify, said Patrick Preston, a disabled veterans employment representative for the Employment Department who served in the U.S. Army.

Unemployment statistics do not address the number of veterans who may not be seeking work or those who are employed solely on a seasonal basis. Therefore, even homeless veterans in some cases do not meet the criteria for unemployment.

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Colin Murphy/The Daily Astorian

Col. Dean Perez, left, was on hand at the veterans career fair in Astoria on Tuesday as a featured speaker. The event, sponsored by the Lower Columbia Human Resources Management Association, was designed to help connect veterans and area employers.

