Divide: 'Messaging is really important'

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state Sen. Betsy Johnson, two of the most well-known politicians in the county, led a political action committee for the airport bond. But the vote was called on relatively short notice, the amount of the bond was reduced for technical reasons just weeks before the election, and the merits of the infrastructure investment became trapped within the bitter infighting at the Port.

Knight believes several factors doomed the vote, from the unexpected opposition from some on the Port Commission to the lack of a voters' pamphlet. He also thinks some voters in South County were apprehensive about making another financial commitment so soon after the \$99.7 million in bonds they approved last November to move three schools out of the tsunami inundation zone.

Port commissioners all said they supported Life Flight Network, but Commissioner Bill Hunsinger attacked the airport bond as a giveaway to special interests, while Commissioner Stephen Fulton, who was running for a second term in the May election, called it speculative development that should be rejected. Fulton and his slate of Port candidates lost the election, but they may have influenced the narrow 51 percent to 49 percent defeat of the bond.

"I don't think any of us were really prepared for the negative position, or the antibond measure information that was being put out there," Knight said.

The airport bond and the Port Commission elections received extensive coverage in The Daily Astorian, but Knight and others believe a voters' pamphlet would have helped educate voters about the issues at stake. The county does not typically publish voters' pamphlets for special district elections because candidates have balked at paying fees for the service.

"In this particular case, I think the voters' pamphlet could have been one of the more helpful documents for the head macaura." Kright they decide to pursue a bond for a jail, will need to get fully behind a bond campaign.

"I think the real lesson here is the bond became an election issue more so than a bond issue," Balensifer said.

Sheila Roley, the superintendent of the Seaside School District, said she heard from people before the election who did not understand exactly why the Port was asking for the bond money.

Life Flight Network, which provides emergency medical flights, 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. Taxpayers would have paid an estimated \$12.35 a year for property assessed at \$100,000 as the bond matured over four years.

"I did hear quite a few people mention their misunderstanding of what it was and why would we be voting for something that's going to benefit Astoria," Roley said.

Three of the four precincts in Seaside rejected the airport bond, as did precincts in Gearhart and Cannon Beach.

Roley said there is always a little bit of South County versus North County sentiment, but she believes the failure of the airport bond does not cloud a potential bond for a jail. She said it is easier for voters to see how a jail would benefit the entire county.

"I think that was fairly issue specific," she said of the May vote.

'Messaging is really important'

Clatsop County could place a bond for a jail on the ballot as soon as next year, when there are primary and general elections that typically draw more voter interest.

Voters in May 2012 turned down a \$14 million bond measure to expand the jail in Astoria. The measure failed 56 percent to 44 percent despite evidence of jail overcrowding and appeals from law enforcement, led by Sheriff Tom Bergin. Voter turnout was 52.6 percent, significantly higher than the 35 percent for the airport bond in May. Scott Lee, the chairman of the county Board of Commissioners, favors putting bond measures on general election ballots where a broader slice of the electorate can decide. More importantly, the county would need to craft a compelling rationale to convince enough voters from Astoria to Cannon Beach to pay more in property taxes. "I think messaging is really important," Lee said.

Clamming: Low tides will occur next week

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People have yet to go out and dig their limit, however — the tides have not been low enough. These low tides will occur next week.

The areas that are open are not as popular for clam digging as Washington's Long Beach Peninsula or Clatsop County's wide, open beaches near Fort Stevens State Park. The beds are much smaller some are only 50-yards wide — and not as productive, said Matt Hunter, shellfish and phytoplankton project leader with the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife.

"They're nothing compared to what we find on the Clatsop beaches, but there are razor clams out there," Hunter said.

Harvest remains closed from Cascade Head south to the California border and from Tillamook Head north to the Columbia River. This last area, known as the Clatsop beach area, is always closed from July 15 through Sept. 30 for razor clam conservation regardless of whether or not biotoxins are present. The earliest that razor clamming could open there is Oct. 1, depending on domoic acid levels in clams.

Now the main concern is the lack of recruitment — or young clams — fishery managers are seeing up and down Oregon's beaches.

Öften razor clam demo-

graphics resemble a pyramid. Massive numbers of young clams form the wide base of the pyramid, but as you go up through the age classes, the number of clams starts to drop. A tiny collection of very old clams will form the pointed tip of the pyramid.

This season, those demographics resemble a diamond, Hunter said. The usual huge base of young clams isn't present at all, nor are there many old clams. Instead, 3- and 4-year-old clams make up the bulk of the population.

Washington shellfish managers have noted a similar drop in young clams in certain beaches along that state's coast. "So the good news is the clams you're going to find are big," Hunter said. "The bad news is" — in the areas open now — "there aren't very many of them."

Though the population shift appears particularly drastic this year, fishery managers have seen these kinds of dips before. They seem to coincide with the ebb and flow of large climate cycles like El Nino.

The Oregon Department of Agriculture plans to continue testing for shellfish toxins weekly as tides permit. The department requires two consecutive clean tests to reopen any area closed due to high domoic acid levels.



Colin Murphey/The Daily Astorian

Vendors await attendees at a career fair for veterans in Astoria on Tuesday sponsored by the Lower Columbia Human Resources Management Association.

Veterans: Only a handful attended career fair

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"It's a reflection of the general population," Preston said. "Those who want to work are working."

Career fair

The effects of low unemployment among veterans were on display Tuesday in Astoria.

After seeing other organizations take action a few months ago, Lower Columbia Human Resources Management Asso ciation board members tossed around ideas for an event to help veterans. The association, comprised of human resources professionals, decided to organize something it had plenty of experience with: a career fair. From 3 to 5 p.m. Tuesday, 16 local businesses and labor groups - including Fred Meyer, Lektro, Providence Seaside Hospital, Tongue Point Job Corps Center, Work-Source Oregon and Wauna Federal Credit Union — gathered in the Fort George Brew-



Colin Murphey/The Daily Astorian A career fair held specifically for veterans was held at Fort George Brewery's Lovell Showroom in Astoria on Tuesday. than other soldiers, typically have the hardest time finding employment.

U.S. National Guard Capt. Matthew Zedwick earned combat awards such as the Purple Heart and Silver Star from a deployment to Iraq. After a Land Rover SUV exploded, he jumped on top of his squad leader, saving the man's life and injuring himself in the process.

He met with local businesses at the career fair and pitched some of the employable traits veterans possess: leadership and teamwork abilities, work ethic, punctuality and the ability to operate under pressure. Throughout his career, Zedwick has also offered tips to fellow soldiers seeking employment. His main piece of advice is to learn skills that set job seekers apart. "People already have the expectation and stereotype of what a soldier is," Zedwick said. "What kind of attributes, skills and talents are you bringing to the table?"

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the bond measure," Knight said.

Unity

Warrenton Mayor Henry Balensifer, who works at Lektro, the aircraft tug maker at the airport, and who is a former chairman of the Port's Airport Advisory Committee, said the lesson from the airport bond is unity.

Subversion from within the Port Commission, the mayor said, likely confused and distracted voters. He said county commissioners, if ery's Lovell Showroom to connect with veterans looking for jobs. The problem: only a handful of veterans attended.

"It was really shocking, actually," said Stacey Brown, the communications director for the association.

Brown said while factors such as seasonal employment — higher in the summer — and the event's timing a weekday afternoon — may have played a role, she discovered Tuesday the situation for veterans seeking work is

relatively healthy.

Vietnam era

Roughly half of the veterans living in Clatsop County from 2011 to 2015 had served during the Vietnam War era. As those veterans hit retirement age, veterans of the first Gulf War are progressively becoming the largest demographic in the veteran workforce, Preston said. Younger veterans, due to lack of experience and a shorter transition time from war to civilian life

THE DAILY ASTORIAN	Evening listings THURSDAY
THURSDAY EVENING A - Charter Astorial/ Seaside - L - Charter Long Beach	AUGUST 17
A L 6 PM 6:30 7 PM 7:30 8 PM 8:30 9 PM	9:30 10 рм 10:30 11 рм 11:30
2 KATU (2) KATU News (N) World News (N) Jeopardy! Wheel of Fortune Boy Band (N) Net.Star "Cops vs. Sci-Fi/	
S KOMO (4) KOMO 4 News Wheel of Fortune Jeopardy! Boy Band (N) Net.Star "Cops vs. Sci-Fi/	
	erstore The Night Shift (N) KING 5 News (:35) Tonight Show
G KOIN 🕞 KOIN Local 6 (N) Evening News (N) Extra Ent. Tonight Big Bang Theory Kevin Can Wait Big Brother (N)	Zoo "Stakes on a Plane" (N) KOIN 6 News (N) (:35) Colbert
S KIRO (7) KIRO 7 News (N) Evening News (N) The Insider Ent. Tonight Big Bang Theory Kevin Can Wait Big Brother (N)	Zoo "Stakes on a Plane" (N) KIRO News (N) (:35) Colbert
	erstore The Night Shift (N) KGW News (N) (:35) Tonight Show
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TO KOPB 10 Mickela Mallozi Business (N) PBS NewsHour (N) Oregon Art Beat Outdoor Idaho The Inspector Lynley My	/steries "In the Guise of Death" Independent Lens "The Last Laugh"
Image: Second state	
Image: Style	Family Guy Family Guy American Dad! Cleveland Show
KCPQ 13 Modern Family Modern Family Big Bang Theory Big Bang Theory Beat Shazam "Episode Eleven" (N) Love Connection "Episode	
	Bang Theory Big Bang Theory The Guest (N) Conan (N)
KZJO 22 Last Man Standing Last Man Standing Friends Friends Friends Seahawks Training Camp Special Q13 News at 9 (N) Constraints Constrat	Big Bang Theory Big Bang Theory Two and a Half Two and a Half
29 ESPN 29 (5:00) NFL Football Pre-season Tampa Bay Buccaneers at Jacksonville Jaguars (L) SportsCenter (N) SportsCenter (N)	SportsCenter (N) SportsCenter (N)
ESPN2 30 ATP Tennis Western & Southern Open (L) WTA Tennis Western & Southern Open Round of 16 WTA Tennis Western & Southern Open Round of 16	The Fantasy Show Jalen & Jacoby (N) Champ.Drive "Path to the Playoff"
Image: Sign of the state of the s	Full House Full House Friends Friends i Mack K.C. Undercover K.C. Undercover Bunk'd Jessie
Image: Sign of	
	FXM Presents $\star \star \star$ This Is the End (2013, Comedy) Jonah Hill, Jay Baruchel, James Franco.
	e Night Live Watch real dates happen in cities across America. (N)
Gill Rect Card and Annual Annua	UEFA Soccer Champions League
So UFC Tonight Main Event "Holm vs. Shevchenko" (N) MLB Whiparound (L) Speak for Yourself	Skip and Shannon: Undisputed Opinions on the biggest sports topics of the day.
43 SPIKE (43) (4:30) *** The Blind Side ('09) Sandra Bullock. ** Remember the Titans (2000, Drama) Will Patton, Wood Harris, Denzel Washington.	The Mist "The Walking Dream" (N) The Fast and the Furious: Tokyo Drift
44 COM (44) (:15) Futurama (:50) Futurama "Mobius Dick" (:25) South Park South Park 1/2 South Park 2/2 Tosh.0 Tosh	
45 HIST 45 Pawn Stars Pawn Stars Pawn Stars Pawn Stars Pawn Stars "Pawn Stars "If the Pawn Don't Fit" (N) Alone "Flesh and Blood"	(N) (:05) Alone "Tales From the Island" (N) (:05) Truckers /(:10) Alone
46 A&E 46 The First 48 "Red Brick/ Last Kiss" The First 48 "Old Wounds" First 48 "Fatal Showdown/ Deadly Text" The First 48 "The Gravey	ard Shift" (N) Murder of Laci P "Missing in Modesto" (:05) The First 48 "1000 Cuts/ Draw"
🕢 TLC 🕢 Say Yes-Dress Say Yes-Dress My 600-Ib Life "Laura's Story" My 600-Ib Life "Angel's Story" My 600-Ib Life "Randy's	
	nt" Bo Cooper recovers from a near-death experience. (N) First in Human "Treatment"
(49) NGEO (49) South Africa "Land of the Giants" South Africa "Killers of the Kalahari" Life Below Zero "Burn the Midnight Oil" Life Below Zero "Over the	
EOD TNT (50) Bones "The Woman in the Sand" Bones "Aliens in a Spaceship" ★★ The A-Team (2010, Action) Bradley Cooper, Jessica Biel, Liam N	
AMC (51) (5:00) *** Pulp Fiction ('94, Cri) Uma Thurman, Bruce Willis, John Travolta. *** The Da Vinci Code (2006, Drama) Audrey Tautou, Jean Reno,	
52 USA 52 Law & Order: S.V.U. "Fallacy" Law&Order: SVU "Jersey Breakdown" Law & Order: S.V.U. "Betrayal's Climax" Law & Order: Special Vin	
G3 FOOD G3 Chopped "Jump For Bok Choy" Chopped "We Love Leftovers!" Chopped "Grill Masters: Battle Three" Chopped "Betting on the Start of the and t	
	or Flop House Hunters (N) House Hunters (N) Desert Flippers (N) Desert Flippers
Image: Sign of	Yahlberg. ** The Gambler ('14, Dra) Jessica Lange, Mark Wahlberg. Anderson Cooper 360 CNN Tonight With Don Lemon
CNN S7 Anderson Cooper soo CNN Finderson Cooper soo Anderson Cooper soo G3 FNC (58) The Five Hannity Special Report With Bret Baier The Five	Hannity Tucker Carlson Tonight
Git CNBC Git Shark Tank Special Report with Bret Sales Interve	
C3 BRAV (63) Flipping Out "Unagi You Didn't!" Flipping Out "What the Duck?" Flipping Out "The End is Nigh" Flipping Out (SP) (N)	Guide "Remember the Aquaduct" (N) WatchWhat Flipping Out
	40, Com) Rosalind Russell, Ralph Bellamy, Cary Grant. The Feminine Touch Rosalind Russell.
65 SYFY (65) ** Legion (2010, Action) Lucas Black, Tyrese Gibson, Paul Bettany.	
162) RFD (162) SF Machinery Small Town Rural America 'Live' (N) Steve Lantvit Rural Eve. News Market Journal GA F	Farm Monitor SF Machinery Small Town Time Life Library