

# Seaside lukewarm on lodging tax hike for bridges

## Repairs are still a priority for City Council

By **BRENNA VISSER**  
The Daily Astorian

SEASIDE — While the City Council agreed making Seaside's bridges more seismically sound is a priority, most councilors are hesitant to use lodging tax dollars to pay for it.

At a workshop about tsunami preparedness Monday, City Councilor Tom Horning pitched raising the lodging tax by 2 percent to quickly pay for retrofitting seven bridges and build two pedestrian bridges over 20 years to withstand a Cascadia Subduction Zone earthquake.

Horning, a geologist, argues investing in bridges that will act as evacuation routes out of the tsunami inun-



Colin Murphey/The Daily Astorian

**Seaside is looking to improve bridges to help prepare for a devastating earthquake and tsunami.**

duction zone is the best way to save the most lives. The predicted 25-foot to 50-foot wave would destroy about 92 percent of Seaside's buildings, leaving about 20 to 30 feet of standing water throughout the town. The disaster could cause anywhere from 500 to 23,500 fatalities, depending on the

time of year and how prepared the town is to respond, Horning said.

Projected to cost about \$35 million, Horning sees lodging taxes as a quick way to raise about \$1 million a year to help finance bridge repairs.

While the sense of urgency resonated, some city coun-

cilors questioned the legality and feasibility of using lodging taxes.

State law requires 70 percent of lodging tax revenue be used for tourism promotion or property. Raising the lodging tax to pay for infrastructure improvements has been contested by hoteliers and the Oregon Restaurant & Lodging Association.

There was also concern about how it would pair with the lodging tax increase passed by Clatsop County that would fund operations at a new jail, and how steadily increasing hotel bills would affect the tourism industry.

Terry Bichsel, owner of Best Western Plus Ocean View Resort and Rivertides Suites Hotel, said as a lodging operator, he recognized the need for disaster preparation, but felt the cost should be shared by the community.

"The lodging tax is an easy target, but I would encourage

spreading the responsibility," Bichsel said.

Some councilors felt Seaside's lodging tax, which is 10 percent, is already reaching a breaking point. Seaside's rate is the third highest in the county, following Warrenton and Astoria, which sit at 12 percent and 11 percent.

"We have to stop looking at lodging taxes as a panacea," City Councilor Tita Montero said. "If we keep raising lodging taxes out of the norm, we will lose those tourists that we think will keep coming to fund this."

Some councilors, like Seth Morrissey, supported using revenue the county will share with cities from the new lodging tax for bridge projects in conjunction with other revenue sources.

Horning said he supports getting creative to find funding, but feels the impact of raising the lodging tax was being overstated.

"I don't like to raises taxes for nothing, but it's quite small in comparison to the need," he said.

The City Council discussed possibly floating a bond or road levy and lobbying the state for higher priority for funding given the town's unique status as the most vulnerable to a tsunami on the Oregon Coast. Other ideas included instituting a fee on resident's water bills to help fund an emergency preparedness consultant.

Some, like City Councilor Dana Phillips and Mayor Jay Barber, questioned whether more attention should be directed on resilience after the wave subsides.

But one consensus was reached: Something needs to be done — fast.

"We need to address this soon," Barber said. "We don't have an answer to funding, but once you're aware, you're responsible."

## ON THE RECORD

### Assault

• At 1:08 p.m. Monday, a 15-year-old boy from Woodland, Washington, was arrested by Seaside police on the 410 block of First Avenue and charged with second-degree assault. A group of juve-

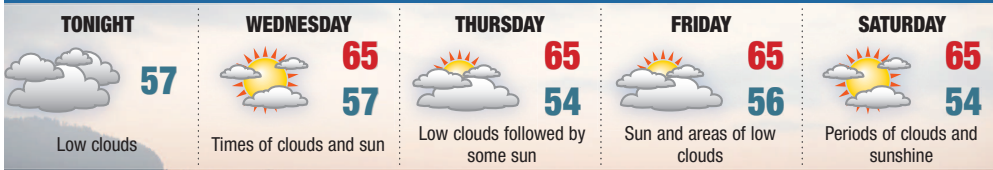
niles allegedly punched and kicked a man repeatedly in the parking lot of the Seaside Civic and Convention Center.

### DUII

• At 12:55 a.m. Sunday, Eric N. McKinnis, 34, of Portland, was arrested by

Astoria police on 30th Street near the East Mooring Basin and charged with driving under the influence of intoxicants, attempting to elude and reckless driving. His blood alcohol content was 0.18 percent.

## FIVE-DAY FORECAST FOR ASTORIA



## ALMANAC

Astoria through Monday.  
**Temperatures**  
 High/low ..... 65°/57°  
 Normal high/low ..... 68°/54°  
 Record high ..... 87° in 1908  
 Record low ..... 45° in 1949  
**Precipitation**  
 Monday ..... 0.00"  
 Month to date ..... 0.09"  
 Normal month to date ..... 1.01"  
 Year to date ..... 35.74"  
 Normal year to date ..... 36.92"

## SUN AND MOON

Sunset tonight ..... 8:47 p.m.  
 Sunrise Wednesday ..... 5:57 a.m.  
 Moonrise today ..... 10:54 p.m.  
 Moonset today ..... 9:39 a.m.



## UNDER THE SKY

Tonight's Sky: Mars' at perigee -- passing within 0.38 AU to Earth.

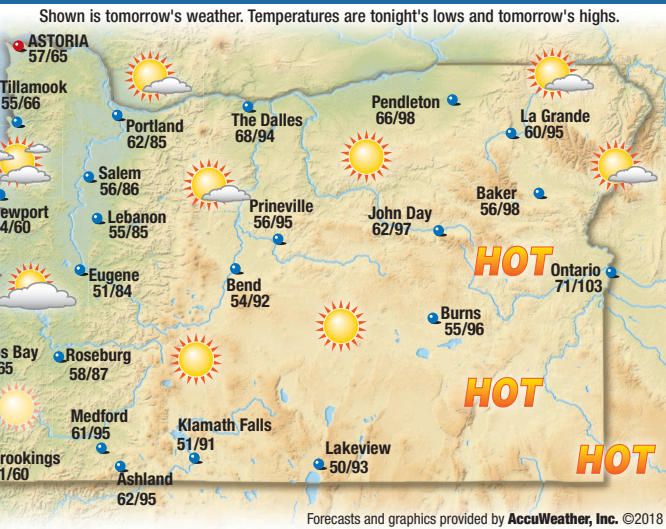
## TOMORROW'S TIDES

Astoria / Port Docks	Time	High	Time	Low
4:24 a.m.	7.5 ft.	10:54 a.m.	-0.1 ft.	
5:21 p.m.	7.5 ft.	11:24 p.m.	1.7 ft.	

## NATIONAL CITIES

City	Today	Wed.
Atlanta	84 70 t	79 67 t
Boston	83 70 pc	80 76 c
Chicago	81 63 pc	82 67 c
Denver	86 56 s	85 59 s
Des Moines	84 65 pc	86 65 s
Detroit	79 67 sh	81 66 sh
El Paso	93 74 t	97 74 pc
Fairbanks	83 60 pc	68 54 r
Honolulu	88 76 pc	87 76 pc
Indianapolis	77 65 r	76 63 c
Kansas City	81 63 pc	87 66 s
Las Vegas	106 88 pc	106 88 s
Los Angeles	89 70 pc	88 70 pc
Memphis	82 67 c	85 68 pc
Miami	89 77 pc	88 77 t
Nashville	86 67 t	84 66 pc
New Orleans	88 73 t	85 73 t
New York	81 72 pc	84 74 t
Oklahoma City	83 60 s	87 65 s
Philadelphia	83 74 sh	88 76 t
St. Louis	75 64 t	85 68 pc
Salt Lake City	99 74 pc	97 73 t
San Francisco	67 53 pc	66 52 pc
Seattle	83 57 s	78 57 t
Washington, DC	83 76 sh	89 77 t

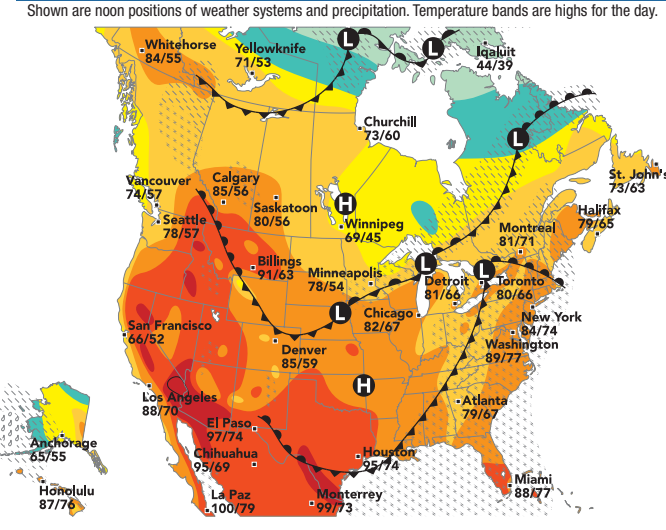
## REGIONAL WEATHER



## REGIONAL CITIES

City	Today	Wed.	City	Today	Wed.
Baker City	101 56 pc	98 51 s	Olympia	82 52 s	75 52 pc
Bend	96 54 s	92 50 s	Pendleton	101 66 pc	98 63 s
Brookings	63 51 pc	61 50 pc	Portland	90 62 s	85 60 s
Eugene	89 51 s	84 51 s	Roseburg	92 58 s	87 57 s
Ilwaco	64 57 c	62 57 pc	Salem	91 56 s	86 55 s
Klamath Falls	93 51 pc	91 46 pc	Seaside	68 56 c	65 57 pc
Medford	98 61 pc	95 58 pc	Spokane	99 67 pc	94 61 s
Newberg	89 55 s	85 55 s	Springfield	90 55 s	85 53 s
Newport	61 54 pc	60 55 pc	Yakima	88 58 s	84 57 s
North Bend	67 56 pc	65 56 pc			

## TOMORROW'S NATIONAL WEATHER



## OBITUARIES

### Doris Kosko Rusinko

Astoria  
 Sept. 2, 1926 — July 5, 2018

Doris Kosko Rusinko, 91, peacefully passed away to the Lord on July 5 at her home in Astoria, Oregon, with her family and friends at her side. She had been on hospice since February.

Doris was born in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania, to John Kosko and Mary (Kwochka) Kosko, on Sept. 2, 1926. She enjoyed playing clarinet and saxophone in the concert and marching band in high school. After high school, she graduated from Misericordia College in Dallas, Pennsylvania, as a teacher.

Doris briefly taught math in New Jersey before marrying Paul Rusinko, of Nanticoke, Pennsylvania, in September 1950. They moved to Niagara Falls, New York, to start a family and a new job. They had three children. Doris was a homemaker taking care of their son, John, who was born with spina bifida, and she was active in her Russian Orthodox Church, singing in the choir and making pierogies every week with the women's club to support the church.

Doris moved out to Oregon to be with her daughter in 2004. Her hobbies included reading biographies and history books. She was a

residential ambassador for other new residents at her assisted living facility, and she loved watching golf every Sunday.

Doris is survived by a son, Mark Rusinko, of Delaware; and a daughter, Susan Harrington and son-in-law, David Miller, of Astoria, Oregon. She is also survived by a granddaughter, Leah (John) Kulikowski, of Maryland. There are many nieces and nephews around the country.

Her husband, Paul; son, John; sister, Elaine (Bowanko); and daughter-in-law, Paula; preceded her in death.

A funeral service will be held on Saturday, Aug. 4 at noon at St. Brendan the Navigator Eastern Orthodox Mission Church in Hammond, Oregon, followed by a reception.

Graveside services will be held in Dallas, Pennsylvania, on Wednesday, Aug. 8, at 11 a.m. at Fern Knoll Cemetery.

Memorial donations may be made to St. Brendan the Navigator Eastern Orthodox Mission Church, in lieu of flowers.

Funeral arrangements are in the care of Ocean View Funeral and Cremation Service of Astoria.



Doris Rusinko

## LaMear to host monthly 'Meet the Mayor'

The Daily Astorian

LaMear will hold a "Meet the Mayor" meeting at noon Wednesday at City Hall.

The events are a chance for residents to ask LaMear about city policy issues.

## DEATH

July 27, 2018

ARQUETTE, Troy, 54, of Seaside, died in Seaside. Hughes-Ransom Mortuary is in charge of the arrangements.

## PUBLIC MEETINGS

THURSDAY

Northwest Oregon Housing Authority Board, 10 a.m., NOHA office, 147 S. Main Ave., Warrenton.  
 Seaside Parks Advisory Committee, 7 p.m., City Hall, 163 E. Gower St.

## LOTTERIES

### OREGON

Monday's Pick 4:  
 1 p.m.: 2-7-2-1  
 4 p.m.: 3-5-0-5  
 7 p.m.: 1-3-0-7  
 10 p.m.: 6-7-5-7  
 Monday's Lucky Lines: 01-06-09-13-19-24-28-30  
 Estimated jackpot: \$10,000

### Monday's Megabucks: 4-14-

34-41-44-46  
 Estimated jackpot: \$4.8 million

### WASHINGTON

Monday's Daily Game: 0-4-8  
 Monday's Hit 5: 04-09-10-35-36

Estimated jackpot: \$250,000  
 Monday's Keno: 01-07-20-22-23-32-34-36-44-46-47-49-51-55-57-62-67-69-77-79  
 Monday's Lotto: 02-06-15-22-40-48  
 Estimated jackpot: \$5.6 million  
 Monday's Match 4: 06-13-18-22

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Obituaries may be edited for spelling, proper punctuation and style. Death notices and upcoming services will be published at no charge. Notices must be submitted by 9 a.m. the day of publication.

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